



Nar Nar Goon Primary School

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WELCOME BACK FOR 2025!

To all returning families, we welcome you back to our school and hope that you have had a wonderful break. To our new families, we hope you settle in quickly and feel proud to be in our school community. Our students have begun the year brilliantly, with a settled and happy playground and purposeful classrooms. Our Golden Rule of making sure we "*Treat others as you would like to be treated*", is taken very seriously here, and we work hard to create a respectful and supportive environment for all members of our community.

We welcome some new staff to the school – teachers Mia Burridge in Year 1/2, Asta Richards in Year 3/4 and Emily Harris in Year 5/6. We also have 5 new Education Support staff – Mukta Sharma, Sophie Ferrari, Aleisha Bailey, Dora Martinucci and Sarah Petterson. They join our already fabulous group of ES staff who work individually and with small groups of students. We also welcome Yvonne Pinkster our Chaplain to our school, as a member of staff. We are looking forward to having these ladies and their expertise in our school. Keira Vukovic is working 1 day and will teach Auslan to the F-Year 2 students. We are happy to be offering music to our students in Year 3-6 with Jules Vines. Kerri Forster, our Fairy Godmother (Wellbeing Coordinator) is working 4 days this year and will not be here on a Friday. The rest of the full-time staff are very jealous!

The beginning of each year is an important time to set up expectations, routines and begin relationships. Our program Bright Beginnings is enacted across the school and allows all classrooms to work with rigour on our school values, our Play Is The Way Philosophies, our Behaviour Education Process and our Respectful Relationships programs. Our students will be learning about how to learn, and work with others in the best ways, as well as how to manage themselves in all kinds of situations. This work is ongoing but in the first few weeks, we spend a great deal of time setting up the ideal conditions for students and staff. Central to this for 2025 is our embedded Berry Street Education Model program, and all our new staff will be fully trained by the end of this term.

This is a long issue, as there is some important information included. Next issue, we will meet our School,

House and SRC Captains. There is a calendar of term events in this issue and every issue moving forward. Keep checking on this.

Our first School Council is booked for Monday 17th February and I will be posting some information on Sentral regarding the AGM and the School Council members for 2025. There is a term planner in this issue.

I am looking forward to another fantastic school year!

Jacqui, and the staff 😊



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
**Music Lessons
Available
After School**
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Music, Music, Music

A BIG musical 'Hello' to everyone. My name is Ms Jules from Musicjewels4kids and I have the privilege of teaching music specialist classes to Gr 3/4 and Gr 5/6 here at Nar Nar Goon Primary School during Term 1.

Music specialist classes will be held on Thursdays, generally in the library with some activities rehearsed outside if the weather is kind.

This term, there is a focus on preparing vocal performances for various assemblies throughout the term, as well as teaching the students to write some original compositions, including developing a new school song, devising some rhythmic chants for the four Houses: Hughes, Threadgold, Byrne and Collins and learning some bushdancing skills, in line with their enquiry unit on First Australians and Settlers.

I am able to offer a few private instrumental lessons after school on a Thursday at the following times.

3.45 - 4.15pm

4.15 - 4.45pm

4.45 - 5.15pm

5.15 - 5.45pm

Guitar, vocal and violin will be offered in the first instance, as keyboard lessons are available through the school already.

Please note Students must have their own instrument.

By all means please get in touch via email to enquire re prices and enrolment if interested. E. musicjewels4kids@yahoo.com

As we start the school year, I would like to remind you of the following important information:

ABSENCES

Student absences must be reported to the school before 9:00 am on the day of absence with an explanation for the absence. This is a legal requirement, and staff will follow up daily any families who have not reported their child's absence to us. Please do everything you can to avoid both student absences and late arrivals/early departures. The best place to record absences is Sentral. When submitting online absence forms please ensure you provide us with details to enable us to determine whether or not they will be reported to the Regional Office as "school approved".

School Approved – Illness/medical, Religious/cultural observance, Bereavement, Family holiday (with principal approval), Unforeseen circumstances, Ill family member.

School Unapproved- No explanation provided by parent. Student absent due to participating in leisure or social activities such as shopping, a child's birthday, visiting relatives or friends. A day off for no valid reason. No approval given by principal to attend family holiday (requires an absence learning plan with Principal's signature).

PLEASE REFER TO THE NAR NAR GOON PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY LOCATED ON THE 'ABOUT US/POLICIES' TAB ON OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

BUS TRAVEL

As in previous years, ALL EXISTING bus travellers for 2025 must reapply for travel on the PTV School Bus Program. New travellers will also need to apply online. Bus travellers will not be able to use the bus service unless applications are approved.

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-bus-program/resources>

If your child is not travelling home by the bus, PLEASE notify the office so we can mark them off.

CURRICULUM PROGRAMS FOR 2025

Aside from our Literacy, Numeracy, Inquiry, ICT and Play Is The Way/Wellbeing classroom focus, all our students receive specialist classes each week on the following: ART, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AUSLAN (F-2), MUSIC (3-6) and STEM. Our Tutor Learning Program will continue this year with Elise Adams, Rachael Kent and Candice Walton supporting our F-2 and 3-6 students in Numeracy and Literacy.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Schools are places where technology is used as a resource and as such the children will be working

through numerous discussions and activities in class to raise their awareness of how to be safe on the internet. We are also organising some incursions for the children to take part in later in the term through the “Kids Helpline” organisation.

I would like to remind all parents that we have a very stringent ICT Code of Conduct in place for students whilst accessing ICT at school. However, there have been occasions in past years, where students have accessed ICT social networks/messaging at home and have caused great emotional upset by texting inappropriate messages to each other. We rely on your support as parents to please monitor your child’s computer/handheld device use to ensure ICT is being utilised responsibly at home, thus avoiding problems that inevitably spill into the school yard between friends. I always tell the children not to text/post on social media anything to anyone that you would not say to them face to face. There are helpful links on our website to support parents in keeping children safe online under the “Links” tab. (Please keep in mind that it is illegal for a child under the age of 13 to have a Facebook page.)

LOST PROPERTY

You will find our rack of lost property just outside the office in the playground. We keep lost items for a month, then send the unclaimed items to charity. Any named items are returned to the classroom teacher. Please ensure all of your child’s items are clearly named.

MOBILE PHONES

It is Education Department policy that Mobile Phones are not to be used by students at school. This includes on excursions, after school events, camps and whilst waiting for the bus. All mobile phones **MUST** be brought to the office at the beginning of the school day and collected at the end of the day.

PERSONAL GOODS BROUGHT TO SCHOOL

Personal property is often brought to school by students and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. Students should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

PRIVACY INFORMATION

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or, where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy. Please take time to remind yourself of our school's collection notice, found on our website www.narnargoonpsvic.edu.au For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy—information for parents on the Victorian Education Department website. This information is also available in nine community languages.

SCHOOL HATS/SUNSMART

As a SunSmart school the children are expected to wear a wide brimmed bucket hat in a dark navy-blue colour (school logo optional) during the Daylight Savings months (September 1st-May 1st). This is in line with our School Council Uniform policy. Any child without a school approved hat will be required to play in a shaded area of the school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is our school's policy that all students wear school uniform.

Our school uniform is:

Summer

Girls: Blue check dress, navy blue shorts, pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt.

Boys: Navy blue shorts, pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt

ALL STUDENTS MUST wear a wide brimmed bucket hat in a dark navy-blue colour (school logo optional) from October 1—April 30.

Winter

Girls: Navy blue track suits, navy blue windcheater with pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt or skivvy

Boys: Navy blue track suits, navy blue windcheater with pale blue or navy-blue polo shirt or skivvy.

Our uniform is available from Beleza, Bald Hill Road, Pakenham 5941 4989.

As a cheaper alternative we have iron on school logos in blue or white available for purchase (\$1.00 each) from the office, if required.

Denim jeans and other coloured tops are not acceptable. Dangly earrings and false nails are not acceptable as they pose a danger to students.

Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times -toeless shoes are not permitted.

STUDENT MESSAGES:

If you have a message for your child that needs to be communicated to them before the end of the day, could you please do so BEFORE 3:15pm. We only make one call over the PA for children who have messages to come over to the office in our efforts to *minimise interruptions to the classrooms*. This occurs at 3:15pm and if left any later, there is no guarantee that we can deliver your message. If you need to deliver a forgotten lunch box/drink bottle or other item, please contact the office and the staff will happily organise for your items to be taken over to the classrooms.

STUDENT INSURANCE

Please be aware that the Education Department does not cover students for accidents in the school grounds, nor does it cover for Ambulance costs should the need to call an ambulance be necessary. I would therefore encourage all families, to please consider making personal insurance and ambulance cover arrangements for all their children.

VISITORS

All visitors, including parent helpers, MUST visit the office and sign in the visitor's book before they visit classrooms or other places within the school.

All volunteers in the school must have a Working with Children Check. They are free of charge for volunteers and are a requirement for all adults entering our school buildings. To apply for a WWCC please use this link <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Following is an explanation of our Traffic Management Plan-

Drive into Spencer Street (keeping in mind there are designated "No Standing" Zones in specific areas). Drive to the second driveway that leads to the football ground, turn right into this carpark and exit from the top driveway back into Spencer Street. If everyone follows this plan, the traffic (including buses) will move smoothly in a loop. The carpark across the road at the football ground is a designated parent parking space. Please be patient and remember to look out for all children as they move in and around traffic. Please Note: The bowl of the court should not be used for pick up and drop off.

Under no circumstances should a car drive into the first driveway. Please do not park near the entrance and exit driveways as buses find it hard to enter and leave the driveways.

All school community members must use the school crossing to model expected behaviours. You

CANNOT park in No Standing zones or within 20 metres of the crossing. There is a 40kph speed restriction in place around the school and there are "No Parking" signs that must be adhered to. Parking officers from the Cardinia Shire and Police are also contacted to support our endeavours to keep our students safe.

The bus parking areas, which are clearly signed, must be kept clear during drop off and pick up time.

TRAFFIC FLOW: BLACK ARROWS INDICATE TRAFFIC FLOW. IE: DRIVE EAST DOWN SPENCER STREET AND LOOP THROUGH THE RECREATION RESERVE CARPARK. NO STANDING ZONES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN RED.



The procedure in place for parents dropping off/collecting children from school, is to drive Eastwards down Spencer Street and park on either side of the road on Spencer Street *before the school crossing*. There are **NO STANDING** clearways either side of the school crossing and **NO STANDING** zones on both sides of the road immediately outside the school. (see red lines in diagram above.) Drive to the second driveway that leads to the football ground, turn right into this carpark and exit from the top driveway back into Spencer Street. Do not proceed into the bowl of the court. The carpark across the road at the football ground is a designated parent parking space and the designated staff park is outside the Scout Hall carpark.

Thank you for following this traffic management plan and helping to keep our students safe in and around traffic.

TERM 1 DATES

Calendar Dates for this term – 29th January – 4th April – 10 weeks

February

Wednesday 5th – Big Sister Experience for Year 4-6 girls

Friday 7th – Inter-School Sport begins for Year 5/6 students and **continues each Friday until 7th March**

Tuesday 11th - History Box Incursion – all classes – no charge to families

Monday 17th - School Council Meeting AGM at 4.45 in the Staffroom – **information to be sent on Sentral Portal**

Tuesday 18th - School Photos – More information to come. All ordering is done online through www.spargophoto.com.au

Tuesday 18th – Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival to Pakenham Pool – **more details to come**

Tuesday 25th – ****PROPOSED 2025 Welcome BBQ Night **** - **more details to come**

Wednesday 26th – District Swimming Carnival (for qualifiers only). QUALIFIERS only will be notified.

March

Mon 10th - Labour Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 11th – Division Swimming Carnival (for qualifiers only). QUALIFIERS only will be notified.

Wednesday 12th - NAPLAN for Years 3 and 5 begins (runs until Monday 24th)

Monday 17th – Year 3/4 Beach Day Excursion - **more details to come**

Wednesday 19th - Year 5/6 Beach Day Excursion - **more details to come**

Friday 21st – Year 5/6 District Lightning Premiership Summer Sports - **more details to come**

Friday 21st – Harmony Day - **more details to come**

Thursday 27th – Year 1/2 Excursion to Old Gippsland Town - **more details to come**

Friday 28th - **** Curriculum Day – NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL **** **Their Care will be operating.**

April

Wednesday 2nd – Year 5/6 Holocaust and Immigration Museum Excursion - **more details to come**

Thursday 3rd – COLOUR RUN - **more details to come**

Friday 4th – Last Day of Term 2.30 finish

You will notice that there are many details yet to be finalised for our events this term. We are hoping to move to a fully digital excursion and event communication using Sentral. We will keep you posted.

Teams will be sending out newsletters for each area via Seesaw so make sure you get on. Teachers should be inviting new parents this week.





CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Nar Nar Goon Primary School is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers. We are committed to the safety, participation, and empowerment of all children.

We have zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated very seriously and consistently with our robust policies and procedures. If you would like more information please go to the 'Wellbeing' or 'Policies' tab on our website where you will find our Child Safe Policy and/or further information and resources go to: <https://www.vic.gov.au/protect>

FEEDBACK

Your feedback is important to us. If you have a concern or would like to raise a complaint as a parent, please speak to the classroom teacher in the first instance, PLC Leader in the second instance (ie: Foundation: Jodie Williamson, Years 1-2: Rebecca Kotzur, Years 3-4: Daniel Mason, Years 5/6: Yolande Kerin).



Medications at School

Our Medications Policy states that for any child requiring medication at school, a Medication Form needs to be filled in. This form is for when your child requires 'incidental' and short-term medication at school—eg antibiotics, pain relief

These forms are available at the office to fill in and hand to your child's teacher.

No child is to keep medication in their school bag.



If you have not already downloaded the Sentral App for parents, please do so from the Apple or Google Play store.



STUDENT SUPERVISION – Please be aware that staff are on yard duty in the playground from 8:45 am before school and until 3:45 pm after school. Students travelling on late buses are supervised in front of the office until the final bus leaves. For your own child's safety, it is recommended that children do not arrive at school before 8:45 am.

Lunch Orders

When filling in your lunch orders please remember to clearly mark the envelope with the child's name and their class.

It is preferred that you send your child's lunch order via the school rather than directly to the shop. No lunch orders will be accepted after 10.30am.

Bell Times

9am - School Starts

11am -11.30- Recess

1.30pm-1.40pm- Children eat inside

1.40pm—2.20pm Lunchtime

3.30pm - Children are dismissed

At both recess and lunch times, students are given time to eat inside.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

We would respectfully ask that every person who comes onto the school grounds between the hours of 9:15am and 3:15pm does so through the main office to ensure that we know who is on the school grounds at all times.

If you have a message for your child or an item that needs to be delivered to the classroom that you ask the office staff to pass it on rather than interrupt the class and/or the teacher during instruction time. Without a WWCC lanyard or Visitors badge, anyone on the property will be redirected to the front office.

If your child is absent, legally, we MUST have a reason and we will notify you EVERY day your child is not at school. Please respond to our messages through the **Sentral Parent Portal** so we can accurately track student attendance.



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WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

All volunteers in the school must have a Working with Children Check. They are free of charge for volunteers and are a requirement for all adults entering our school buildings. To apply for a WWCC please use this link <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Thank You