



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 Term 1 Week 8 20 March 2025

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays Lunch Orders

Tuesdays STEM and Music Specialists

Wednesdays Food Tech and Art Specialists

Fridays Swimming Lessons | Assembly 3:00pm

Week 8

Friday 21st March

- Harmony Day Activities 9:00
- Orange Clothes Dress Up

Week 9

Wednesday 26th March

- Somers Camp Students Return

Week 10

Thursday 3rd April

- School Cross Country 9:30
- Free PNC Coffee Van for Families 8:30

Friday 4th April

- Final Day of School for Term 1

TERM 2

Monday 19th May

- School Photos

Thursday 22nd May

- Biggest Morning Tea

Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 4:00pm

Friday 9:00am to 3:30pm

Clean Up Australia Day

Students participated in a late Clean Up Australia Day rubbish pick up. Students worked together in their house groups to clean around our school. In just 10 minutes students removed 2.9kg of rubbish from our yard!

The weights and points awarded per house were:

Green - 285 grams - 3 points

Blue - 527 grams - 5 points

Red - 666 grams - 7 points

Gold - 1429 grams - 14 points

Thank you to all the students who chose to join in during part of their lunch time to improve our school environment.



Upcoming At PPS

We have many upcoming events and special days for the end of term coming up.

HARMONY DAY - Friday 20th March

Harmony Day is a day to promote respect and inclusion across cultures. The theme for 2025 is EVERYBODY BELONGS. Students will participate in fun activities in the morning. They can wear either clothing from their own culture, or orange if they bring a gold coin donation.



HELMETS FOR HOUSE POINTS - Monday 24th to Friday 28th March



As a part of our school value SAFETY focus we will be promoting helmet wearing when riding to and from school for all of Week 9. Students who bring their helmets to the office in the morning as proof that they wore a helmet will receive a point for their house. Please speak to your child about the importance of wearing a helmet and encourage them to wear their helmets to win house points!

FREE COFFEE FOR PARENTS / FAMILIES - Thursday 3rd April

Courtesy of the Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre, free coffee will be available for parents, guardians and families before Cross Country. The coffee van will be at the basketball court from 8:30 to 9:30. Come along for a free coffee and to gain connections with others in the school family and with the PNC.



CROSS COUNTRY - Thursday 3th April

Our Cross Country is Friday 4th of April. Students in all classes and age groups are participating. Every student who participates will earn a point for their house, with further points given for those who place in their races. We would love to see families and friends come along to cheer students along. Students will be starting to practice their courses at school.



School Saving Bonus

Families are aware that the Vic Government has provided a one-off \$400 payment for children enrolled at Government schools. This \$400 can be used for uniforms and school activities. A lot of our families have already been making use of this bonus.

SSB and School Activities.

For those families who are wishing to use the \$400 for school activities - this needs to be allocated to the school. This can be done via the portal. The portal web link is;

<https://www.schoolsavingbonus.vic.gov.au/s/>

If you have misplaced your access code and not sure which email address, please speak with Lauren or Kerry in the office.

For those families who enrolled at Paynesville PS during 2025, we have been advised that email links will be sent to families during March.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Funding

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides a \$154 payment for eligible students to attend school camps, excursions and applicable sporting programs.

Those that are eligible to apply for the CSEF are:

- families holding a [valid means-tested](#) concession card eg: Health care card, pensioner concession card, temporary foster carer or eligible beneficiary of Veterans affairs gold card
- A special consideration category also exists for refugee and asylum seeker families and students placed in temporary care.

Eligible means-tested cards - means-tested concession cards must now be valid on either:

- the first day of Term 1 – 28 January
- the first day of Term 2 – 22 April

The full list of eligible concession and health care cards is available on the [Services Australia](#) website. Cards that are not financially means tested are not accepted.

Application forms are available in the office or via;

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/CSEF-2025-application-form.docx>

Families who have previously applied for the CSEF through Paynesville PS do not need to reapply. A new application is submitted on your behalf. If you are unsure, please contact Lauren or Kerry in the office.

Measles alert

Please be advised of the following health alert from Dr Tarun Weeramanthri the Chief Health Officer. March 4th 2025.

There has been two new cases of measles has been reported in Victoria that have not travelled overseas, and have no known links to recent cases of measles. These cases were infectious at multiple locations in Greater Bendigo and metropolitan Melbourne. This means there is now local transmission of measles in the community.

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can lead to uncommon but serious complications, such as pneumonia and brain inflammation (encephalitis). There have been 8 cases of measles identified in Victoria in 2025.

A number of populations in Victoria are susceptible to measles, including anyone who is unvaccinated, infants under 12 months of age, immunocompromised people and adults who were born between 1966 and 1992 who may not have received two MMR vaccines in childhood.

Symptoms include fever, cough, sore or red eyes (conjunctivitis), runny nose, and feeling generally unwell, followed by a red maculopapular rash. The rash usually starts on the face before spreading down the body. Symptoms can develop between 7 to 18 days after exposure.

Initial symptoms of measles may be similar to those of COVID-19 and flu. If a symptomatic person tests negative for COVID-19 and/or influenza but develops a rash, they should be advised to continue isolating and be tested for measles.

Infectious period People with measles are considered infectious from 24 hours prior to the onset of initial symptoms until 4 days after the rash appears. Measles is highly infectious and can spread through airborne droplets or contact with nose or throat secretions, as well as contaminated surfaces and objects. The measles virus can stay in the environment for up to 2 hours.



A typical measles rash

Anyone who develops symptoms of measles should seek medical care and testing for measles. Call your GP beforehand to advise that you may have been exposed/have measles symptoms. You will be given

instructions on what to do next.

<https://www.health.vic.gov.au/health-alerts/new-measles-case-in-victoria-4>

The Prep/One class in Food Tech & Art!





Grade 1/2

S P O R T

This week Grade 1/2 students began exploring all the different kinds of tricks and moves they can do with hoops as part of our PE unit. Thank you to our sports leader—Jobe—who helped to run this activity.



Grade 3/4 Classroom Report

During Reading, students have been developing their comprehension skills by making predictions, and using context clues to support their understanding. As a class, we have also set a goal to expand our vocabulary, encouraging students to identify unfamiliar words and their meanings to deepen their understanding of texts. Next week we will incorporate punctuation and how it is important in reading and writing.

In Mathematics, students have been engaging in hands-on learning with Caroline on Tuesdays, focusing on telling time to half past and o'clock. On other days, they have been investigating multiplication, building confidence and fluency in their number work. Regular practice at home will further support their progress.

In Writing, we have started our persuasive writing unit, exploring how to construct convincing arguments. Additionally, students have been working with similes and planning for their Big Writes, which take place every Thursday. They love the calm atmosphere, complete with quiet background music, as they immerse themselves in their writing.

Our afternoons are dedicated to a mix of learning areas. During Sport and Respectful Relationships, students focus on positivity, teamwork, and building strong peer connections. In Geography, we have been learning about Australia's neighboring countries and continents, broadening our understanding of the world around us.

Students are constantly engaging with their learning which is fantastic to see, can't believe we are already in week 8!



GRADE 4/5

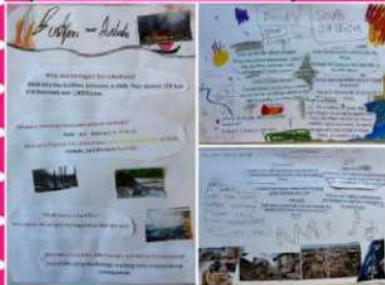
Reading

IN READING STUDENTS HAVE BEEN LOOKING INTO WHERE A STORY IS SET AND ALSO CHARACTER TRAITS. CHARACTER TRAITS INCLUDE WHAT SOMEBODY IS LIKE INTERNALLY AND ALSO EXTERNALLY. WE ARE JUST STARTING ON OUR NEW TEXTS FOR READING GROUPS, WHICH IS EXCITING!



Writing

WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON NARRATIVE/FICTION TEXTS OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS. STUDENTS HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT FRACTURED FAIRY TALES AND HOW CHANGING ONE SMALL THING AROUND CAN MAKE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STORY!



Maths

IN MATHS WE HAVE LEARNT ABOUT DIVISION! THE KIDS COMPLETED A PRE AND POST TEST FOR THIS TOPIC AND EVERYBODY IMPROVED HUGELY - WITH SOME PEOPLE IMPROVING UP TO 80% MORE! THEY SHOULD BE VERY, VERY PROUD OF THEMSELVES.

Humanities

WE ARE NOW LEARNING ABOUT NATURAL DISASTERS AND WHICH ONES OCCUR ON DIFFERENT CONTINENTS. STUDENTS ARE STUDYING BUSHFIRES IN AUSTRALASIA, EARTHQUAKES/TSNAMIS IN ASIA, TORNADOES IN NORTH AMERICA AND FLOODS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

NAPLAN - much to the relief of my year 5 students, Naplan testing is coming to an end. they have all worked & tried very hard and should be commended on their attitude to the testing!

Respectful Relationships & Anything Else

IN 4/5 WE ARE
HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS!

IN OUR CLASSROOM WE HAVE INTRODUCED THE TERM 'HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER' AND TALKED ABOUT WHAT THIS IS. STUDENTS HAVE MADE POSTERS TO DISPLAY SHOWING THINGS STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO - SUCH AS QUIET CLASSROOMS TO LEARN IN, FEELING SAFE IN THE YARD AND MANY OTHER THINGS. WE'RE EXCITED TO BE THE FIRST CLASS TO SHOWCASE BEING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS AT SCHOOL!

Grade 5/ 6 Classroom Report

It continues to be a busy time for our Grade 5/6 students. Many of our students have been training hard for the upcoming Lawn Bowls. We have also started to train for our upcoming cross country. The Grade 5 students have completed NAPLAN and can be very proud of their efforts.

In reading sessions, students have been focusing on asking questions that deepen their understanding and using their inferring skills to predict a possible answer to their question.

Students have finished writing their persuasive pieces and we are now reviewing narrative again. Students are working on creating their own chapter book.

We are continuing to work on multiplication and learning strategies to recall times tables and to multiply large numbers. I encourage students to practise their times tables at home. Many students decided to take a poster home to help with this. Going over their times tables facts from 1-12 is important. You could time them to see how fast they can recall their facts for a certain times table or ask random questions to see if they can answer.

Students have been working on their typing and coding skills during ICT lessons. Last week they enjoyed creating their own game.





Grade 1/2



Grade 3/4

S.T.E.M

THIS FORTNIGHT WE
HAVE INVESTIGATED
SURFACE TENSION,
FRICTION,
CAMOUFLAGE AND
SPRINGS



Grade 4/5



Grade 5/6



Prep/1

Healthy Eating



This week in Food Tech we started looking at the Australian Healthy Eating Pyramid. We had some beautiful apples and passionfruit

donated—THANKYOU to the McGrath and Brocchi families!!

Using this seasonal fruit, our junior classes made Apple Twists, learning how to grate safely and roll up pastry while our upper grades made Mini Passionfruit Cheesecakes!

We learnt about the nutrition benefits of apples and sorted our ingredients onto the Food Pyramid.

Did you know there are over 4000 varieties of Apples in the world?! WOW! Most of the nutrition benefits in apples is in the skin, so munch munch!



Preps began learning how to use graters safely while the upper grades practised using a whisk.



This Weeks Recipe Apple Twists

2 apples, whole with skin on, washed.

1 sheet puff pastry

1 teaspoon castor sugar mixed with 1/4 tsp cinnamon

1. Set oven to 180 deg Celsius.
2. Grate apple
3. Cut puff sheet into quarters
4. Spread apple evenly across each quarter and sprinkle with cinnamon sugar
5. Starting from one edge, roll up firmly
6. Cut down the centre of the roll, leaving one end joined
7. Twist the two pieces over each other carefully
8. Place on baking tray and cook until golden



School Wide Positive Behaviour

At the beginning of 2024 we began the implementation of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework. SWPBS aims to develop a safe, positive, and supportive culture to support the academic, social, and emotional needs of students, staff and families.

As a part of our SWPBS implementation in 2024 we received a Blue Award, acknowledging the hard work of our school staff and wellbeing team in developing an Action Plan, data collection systems and a range of resources to support SWPBS at our school. This includes our positive behaviour awards and rewards, our expected behaviour table, and our flow chart of ways to respond to negative behaviours.

For more information about how SWPBS is implemented at Paynesville, please check out our display in the office.



HOUSE POINTS

The current scores are:

Yellow - 48

Blue - 45

Red - 31

Green - 28

Students can continue to earn points for their house by receiving PB Tokens, Value Awards or by participating in school events.

Resource for Parents

From the founder of The Resilience Project, this letter / podcast is a beautiful reminder of the struggles that are very real in lots of families every day. Have a listen, with the hope that you feel seen, understood and supported.

<https://www.theimperfects.com.au/episode/an-open-letter-to-parents-of-neurodivergent-people/>

Values Award Winners for Week 7 and 8

Students identified by staff to be demonstrating **SAFETY**

George Molinaro - always making sure people are feeling safe

Claudia Holland - helping to pick up a safety hazard in the classroom

Vera Cooper - always looking out for the safety of others

Titan Beams - remembering to walk safely with scissors

Amelia Longey - always looking out for others' safety

Liam Wood-Laird - keeping the veggie garden safe and secure

Jaxson Collins - remembering to walk on the concrete

Louise Collins - always looking out for others' safety

Bea Campbell - clearing a mess so that no one tripped over

Nate Carpenter - always acting in a safe manner

Nathan McGrath - always looking out for the safety of his peers

Zoe Wyntjes - looking out for others safety

Ted Oates - helping to pack up sports equipment

Rosie Pertzelt - always looking out for others safety

Bradie Henery - asking permission to leave the room

Paige Lewis - handling scissors safely

Ellie Tuck - using a grater safely in Food Tech

Mackayla Rowed - wearing a helmet when riding

Hunter Randell - working cooperatively in the kitchen

Shayla Davis - cleaning up rubbish to protect our environment and wildlife

Ricky Rowed - wearing a helmet when riding to and from school

**Well done to all these students that have worked to display
actions showing our value of SAFETY**



Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre



FREE COFFEE MORNING !!

Come and meet the Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre team and see how we can support you and your family

Thursday 3rd April

8.30 - 9.30 am (before Cross Country Running)

Paynesville Primary School (basketball courts)

Brought to you by Paynesville Neighbourhood Centre

www.pnc.vic.edu.au

