



# Killara Primary School

*Our Best – Every Child, Every Day*

**Respect, Resilience & Accountability**

Newsletter 01

January 29th 2026

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 2nd February	School Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 3rd February	2026 Prep Students Commence
Tuesday 17th February	Meet the Teacher 2.30pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 19th February	School Photo Day
Wednesday 25th February	District Swimming
Thursday 5th March	Division Swimming
Friday 6th March	House Cross Country—Year 3 to 6
Monday 9th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 11th March	NAPLAN testing begins
Friday 20th March	NAPLAN testing concludes
Wednesday 25th March	House Athletics Day—Year 3 to 6
Wednesday 1st April	Celebration of Learning 2.45pm
Thursday 2nd April	Last Day of Term 1—school finishes at 2.30pm
Monday 20th April	Term 2 Commences

### FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM



A warm welcome back to our Killara school community! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday break and had the opportunity to spend quality time with family and friends. It has

been fantastic to see how quickly and smoothly everyone has settled back into class this week. There is a very positive and happy feeling around the school, and we are truly looking forward to an exciting year together.

We are also delighted to welcome many new faces to Killara this year, and we extend a very special welcome to the new students who have joined our school this week across Years 1 to 6.

A big Killara welcome to:

Ellerslie	Klara	Charlie	Jeremy	Ryan
Mackenzie	Xander	Amelia	Alican	Hudson
Annabelle	Davina	Adhya	Erin	Uthman

We are excited to have you join our school and look forward to getting to know you and your families. We would also like to wish our new Prep students who commence on Tuesday, a wonderful start to their Primary School years! Many thanks to our Prep teachers who have been busy conducting the Department of Education & Training school entry assessments.

### TEA & TISSUES FOR PREP PARENTS



Parents of our Prep students are invited to the staffroom on Tuesday morning after dropping off your child at the Prep classrooms for a 'Tea & Tissues' catch-up. This is a nice way for the parents of our newest students to celebrate their child's first day of school. I promise to have tissues on hand if needed!



### 2026 BELL TIMES

**8:45:** 'Getting Ready to Learn' – students are able to enter classrooms anytime between 8:45am and 9:00am under teacher supervision. This is an important time where they can prepare for the day ahead including organising their belongings or other organisational tasks (collection of notes, money etc), change take home books or catch-up with their friends or teacher prior to the commencement of learning at 9:00am.



<b>9:00am:</b>	Session 1
<b>10:00am:</b>	Session 2
<b>11:00am – 11:10am:</b>	Students eat in the classroom under their teacher's supervision
<b>11:10am – 12:00pm:</b>	Outside play
<b>12:00pm – 1:00pm:</b>	Session 3
<b>1:00pm – 2:00pm:</b>	Session 4
<b>2:00pm – 2:30pm:</b>	Afternoon recess & outside play
<b>2:30pm – 3:30pm:</b>	Session 5
<b>3:30pm:</b>	Bell rings for dismissal

## 2026 STAFF

In addition to welcoming our new students to Killara this year, we are delighted to introduce our new teachers — Sarah, Charelle, and Danah. We are also pleased to welcome our new Education Support staff — Fiona, Trish, and Melanie — who have joined us this year and will play an important role in supporting student learning and wellbeing. We are thrilled to have all of them as part of our team of dedicated and caring staff and are confident they will make valuable contributions to our school community.

<b>Principal Team</b>	Sue Muir Anne Killeen	Principal Assistant Principal (Wellbeing Leader)
<b>Leading Teacher</b>	Kim Pezzano	(Curriculum Teaching & Learning Leader)
<b>Learning Specialist</b>	Jennifer Jones	(Mental Health in Primary Schools)
<b>Administration</b>	Emily Healey Michelle Baker	Business Manager Office Administration
<b>Prep</b>	Hayley Mitchem Danah Wood Jenelle Stancombe	PA Room 1 PA Room 1 PB Room 2
<b>Year 1</b>	Jenna Hubbard Megan Bennett Laura Giles	1A Room 19 1B Room 17 1C Room 23
<b>Year 2</b>	Susan Moloney Narelle De Young	2A Room 9 2B Room 10
<b>Year 3/4</b>	Charelle Zammit Michael Dullard Mitchell Boyd	3/4A Room 15 3/4B Room 14 3/4C Room 16
<b>Year 5/6</b>	Sarah Lohmann Ashley Harry Paige Surgeon Rebecca Oliver	5/6A Room 5 5/6B Room 8 5/6C Room 6 5/6D Room 7

**Specialist Team** Tyla Evans, PE/Tutor Learning Initiative  
Lauren Kirkpatrick, Performing Arts  
Jessica Stevens, Visual Art  
Stephanie Chartomatsidis, STEM

### Integration Support Team

Lisa Harris Fiona Icelly Melanie Murphy  
Patricia Owens Natasha Reid Katie Ross

**Chaplain** Jean Carmichael

**Technical Support** Steve Vasica

**CONDOLENCES:** We extend our heartfelt condolences to Sue and her family on the passing of her mum. Our thoughts are with her during this very difficult time, and we send our sincere sympathy and support from our school community.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM & HATS

Our School Uniform and Sun Protection policies are available at the office for parents to view. The purpose of these policies is to outline Killara Primary School's requirements for student dress and SunSmart practices. The student uniform policy aims to foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop



school pride. In Term 1 students are required to wear our summer uniform consisting of:

- Navy shorts, skort or navy tracksuit pants
- Killara polo top
- Killara windcheater / fleece
- Killara dress
- Killara sunhat
- Closed toe shoes



A reminder that it is part of our Sun Protection policy that students wear a school sun protective hat during Terms 1 and 4. Please make sure your child is equipped with a Killara school hat for times outside, otherwise they will be asked to stay in a shaded area of the playground and observe our 'No hat, No play' policy.

### STUDENT SUPPLIES - BOOK PACKS

All book packs orders placed with Maxim Office Group by Friday 19 December have been delivered to your child's classroom.

Any orders placed after this date will be delivered to school in the coming weeks.



For families yet to organise their book packs, orders can be placed with Maxim up until Friday 30 January, via the following link - <https://www.maximbooklists.com.au/> using the code KILLARAPS.

### COMMUNICATION

We endeavour to use a variety of platforms to communicate with and reach our entire school community. Each fortnight, the school newsletter will be sent electronically via Compass to all families to access up to date information, celebrate achievements and share school news. In addition, Compass posts are sent via SMS to parents across the school or even within a cohort, depending on the nature of what is being shared. Our school's official Facebook page, is also another valuable tool we use to promote events, acknowledge student learning and share news. Team newsletters are also sent out to families as a paper copy at the beginning of each term, with relevant news related to that particular team, including information about the curriculum being taught that term and any dates for special events.

Please keep an eye out for any communication from the school, as it certainly helps build a strong school-home partnership.



### READING AT HOME

As a school, we continue to highlight and emphasise the importance of reading at home. Encouraging reading aloud daily and reading to and with your child, helps them with their literacy skills and builds a love of reading.



Consider having a comfortable reading space at home and remember, that most books sent home with your child to read will be at a level that your child can manage to read independently to help promote fluency, but importantly, so that reading is a positive and enjoyable experience.

All classes will start home-reading programs within the next week. Please be sure to read any information sent home with your child and assist by using the reading record diaries.



## BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL

All students should arrive at school between 8:45am and 9:00am and proceed straight to their classrooms. High performing schools maximise student learning time and as such, begin with a 'soft start' to the school day or a 'Getting Ready to Learn' approach. This means that when students arrive at school anytime between 8:45am and 9:00am, they head directly to their classroom, where their teacher will be on duty. This time provides students with the chance to greet their classmates, unpack their school bags, change their take-home books and organise the materials or equipment they will need for the day. This approach supports classroom instruction commencing promptly at 9:00am.



Arriving after 9:00am causes disruption to the learning programs which have already commenced, and students miss critical parts of the lesson. Specialist classes also commence promptly at 9:00am and students can often become unsettled if they arrive and find their class has already left for one of our Specialist classes in different areas of the school.

If any student needs to be onsite **before 8:45am**, please make arrangements to have them booked into Before School Care (operated by Complete Kids) or make alternative plans. Teachers are **not on duty** at school until 8:45am and the grounds are



not supervised until then. We sometimes have maintenance being carried out onsite before school commences with workmen in the grounds and under Child Safe Standards, children should only be on the school grounds under teacher supervision.

After school, the school gates are supervised by teachers from 3:30pm until 3:45pm and it is important your child is collected by then, as teachers have work commitments & meetings to attend. If any child has not been collected by 3:45pm when the teacher finishes their duty, they will bring them inside to the office area to wait for you or for office staff to phone your emergency contact.

There are times that you may need to collect your child early from school and we ask that you keep these occasions to an absolute minimum, as it does cause disruption to their learning and the learning of other students. Please also understand, that during outside play (11:10am – 12:00pm and 2:00pm – 2:30pm) it is extremely difficult for students to hear announcements outside to come to the office ready to go home when they are outside playing. Teachers have yard duty responsibilities during break times and may not be able to go and unlock classrooms or supervise students collecting their belongings if they need to leave early.

## ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER 2026

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy (<https://www.killaraps.vic.edu.au/source/Photographing-filming-recording-students-policy-2024.pdf>), describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Google Workspace for Education](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. This information is available on our website under Digital Technologies. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns

regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

## PERSONAL PROPERTY

A reminder to parents and guardians that the school and the Department of Education 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.

Parents are advised to restrict the items that students bring to school and ensure that items of value are not brought to school.

## CANTEEN

Our school canteen is privately operated by 'Peppa's Pantry' and is open for lunch orders and counter sales at recess and lunch times. Lunch orders can be purchased via the Flexischools App or using the traditional brown paper bag method!

We kindly ask that parents do not send children to school with large amounts of money to spend at the canteen. We experienced some concerns last year with students having an excessive amount of money and purchasing treats from the canteen for their many friends. As part of our school policy, students cannot share food with each other nor purchase items from the canteen for anyone except a sibling/s.



Please refer to the Peppa's Pantry Facebook page for more canteen news.

Due to the high temperatures expected this coming Monday and Tuesday, the Canteen will be open for students to purchase a snack or icy pole at lunch time.

## 2026 TERM DATES

- Term 1: Wednesday 28 January to Thursday 2 April
- Term 2: Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June
- Term 3: Monday 13 July to Friday 18 September
- Term 4: Monday 5 October to Friday 18 December

## MOBILE PHONES / WEARABLE DEVICES

It is both Department of Education and Training and school policy, that all students who bring either a mobile phone or wearable device such as a smart watch to school are required to hand these into the front office on arrival to school each morning, where they will be stored securely. Students will be able to come to the front office after the 3:30pm bell to collect their device.



## TRAFFIC SAFETY

As a school community, ensuring the safe arrival and departure of everyone from school is the responsibility of us all when dropping off or collecting students in either Phillip Drive (2 minute drop off zone only) or Rees Road.

It is important that we all model and reinforce safe road safety practices.



Please encourage

children to follow road rules – in particular, to use school crossings to safely cross roads. Even if you are with your children, they should be shown that crossing at the school crossings is the way to go.

When driving and parking around the school, road rules must be followed for the sake of all concerned and, most importantly, the safety of our students. Parking will be at a premium if everyone tries to park directly outside the school. Families can assist by walking, not driving, if that is feasible. If you need to drive, please be patient and consider parking a little away from our school and then walking.

There is **NO PARKING** in the staff carpark. Please do not enter. This includes for drop off and pick up for out of school hours care.

Please also be considerate to our neighbours, by not parking over driveways and being aware of their rights. The area around the school is patrolled regularly by the Hume City Council authorities and fines will be issued for misdemeanours.

Thank you for your understanding and support on this matter.

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provides payments for eligible students to attend school camps, excursions, and sports and outdoor education programs.

If you have a Health Care Card or Pension Card, you may be eligible to receive government assistance.

Applications are open for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). The CSEF helps eligible families cover the cost of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

Payment amounts for eligible families this year have increased to \$400 for primary and secondary school students. This is up from \$154 and \$256 respectively.

This amount will be held against each eligible child's name and utilised accordingly.

Forms can be picked up from the office if needed.

If you applied last year at our school, then you don't need to fill another form out this year, your application will go through automatically.

Best Wishes  
Sue and Anne

## THE 2025/26 SPORTS AID GRANT PROGRAM - HUME CITY COUNCIL (SAGP)- BATCH 1 IS STILL OPEN!

This year's program features updated guidelines aimed at attracting a broader and more diverse range of applicants, with a strong emphasis on increasing female participation in sport and physical activity.

The SAGP continues to support Hume City Council's commitment to fostering inclusive and engaged communities through accessible sporting opportunities.

Designed for young people aged 24 and under living in Hume, the program provides financial support to encourage participation in sport and physical activity.

**Sport Pathway Grant:** The [Sport Pathway Grant - Hume City Council](#) grant support and encourage sports athletes throughout their sporting journey (Grants up to \$1,000)

Who can apply:

1. Hume City residents that are 24 years and under.
2. Individuals competing in a sport that has a recognised National Sporting Organisation.
3. Individuals selected to participate at a regional, state, national or international championship or event.

How to apply: Click on [Sports Aid Grants - Pathway 2025-26 - Hume City Council](#)



**Sport Play Grant:** The [Sport Play Grant - Hume City Council](#) grant encourages individual community members who are facing financial hardship to be more active in the community.. (Grants up to \$250)

Who can apply:

1. Hume City residents that are 24 years and under
2. Individuals that are participating in sport, leisure or physical activity that has a physical or wellbeing outcome based in Hume.
3. Applicants must be named on one of the following issued and valid:
  - Australian Government Concession Card (Health Care Card).
  - Temporary/Provisional Visa Grant Letter or VEVO Check.
  - Other documents that affirm a person's refugee or asylum seeker status. Eg. Immi Card or an official support letter from an agency.

How to apply: Click on [Sports Aid Grants - Play 2025-26 - Hume City Council](#)

*Note: To ensure equality across all sports and activities, the SAGP will open twice (September and February) during the financial year until funds are exhausted.*

Please do not hesitate to contact [sportgrant@hume.vic.gov.au](mailto:sportgrant@hume.vic.gov.au) or 0477 446 685 for more information.

# PHOTO DAY

# COMING SOON!

Thursday, 19th February 2026

Head to our website to view the available packages and to place your order

VISIT OUR WEBSITE & ENTER THIS CODE:

**EV5YHVKX**

