



Killara Primary School

Our Best – Every Child, Every Day
Respect, Resilience & Accountability

Newsletter 13

September 5th 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 8th September	Fathers Day Coffee Van—7.00am to 9.00am Staff carpark, Compliments Complete Kids Brainstorm Productions—Being Brave
Thursday 11th September	Year 5/6 Understanding Ourselves—Session 2 CFA Prep Visit
Friday 12th September	Year 5/6 Parliament Process Incursion Year 1/2 Dinner and Year 2 Sleepover
Wednesday 17th September	Celebration of Learning
Thursday 18th September	Year 5/6 Understanding Ourselves—Session 3
Friday 19th September	Footy Colours Day Canteen—Special Lunch Order Day

LAST DAY OF TERM 3—SCHOOL FINISHES AT 2.30PM

Monday 6th October	Term 4 commences
Friday 10th October	Year 5/6 Cricket Gala Day
Monday 20th—Friday 24th October	Prep Swimming Program

FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

FATHER'S DAY

Sincere thanks to our amazing office staff, Emily & Michelle, for all your efforts in organising this year's Father's Day stall and many thanks to our parent volunteers, Emma, Rachelle, Erin and Charmaen who helped with our stall. Your support is extremely valued, and we are very appreciative. It was wonderful seeing excited children putting so much thought and care into selecting a gift for that special person at home.

Congratulations to Kora (2A) & Bonnie (Prep C) on winning the 'monster' Lucky Door prize at our Father's Day / Special Person's Card Making evening. It was wonderful to see so many of our students and their siblings come along with a parent, grandparent or family friend to our card making evening to create a masterpiece for the special person in their lives.

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff - Anne, Michelle B, Michelle R, Narelle, Tyla, Mr D, and Miss Surgeon for giving up their time to ensure our Killara families had this experience.



PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Each year the Department conduct an online Parent/ Caregiver/Guardian Opinion Survey for parents to provide feedback to schools regarding a range of school operations. A random sample of our families were selected via CASES21 to participate in this year's survey.

A huge thank you to those families who have already responded (55% as of today). Your opinions are really important to us. Students are encouraged to return the slip of paper indicating completion of the survey, so that we can thank them with a novelty prize. Please ensure all surveys have been completed before **Friday September 19**, as the results will go towards informing future school planning and improvement measures.



PJ DAY

Congratulations to our Student Leadership Team, and Miss Paige Surgeon, for their organisation of our recent Pyjama Day! It was a huge success, and everyone certainly felt very warm and cosy coming to school in their PJ's! The generosity of our school community by donating food items and toiletries for CareWorks SunRanges was overwhelming. We feel very proud to be part of a school that has empathy and compassion for those less fortunate



and a willingness to give back to our local community. Well done to everyone concerned for demonstrating such kindness towards others.

PREP ENROLMENTS

Please remember that if you have yet to submit a **2026 Prep enrolment** application or know of someone who is yet to do this, can you do so as soon as possible so that we can begin to plan accordingly. If you have any questions regarding 2026 Prep enrolments, please contact Michelle in the office on 9744 6432.



BRAINSTORM PRODUCTIONS

On Monday September 8, all students from Prep – Year 6 have the opportunity to participate in a live theatre show at school presented by Brainstorm Productions. This year's production is titled, 'Being Brave' and is an important part of our school's social, emotional and wellbeing curriculum. The live theatre in education program uses song, dance and storytelling to provide students with

Brainstorm Productions

positive messages and strategies to cope with their emotions or ability to adapt to change in their daily lives.

CAMPING PROGRAM - YEAR 1/2

A very important part of our school's Camping Program is coming up on Friday September 12. Year 1 & Year 2 students have the opportunity to have a taste of 'school camp' in an environment that they are very familiar and comfortable with, and one which supports developing their confidence and independence away from home. It is also an opportunity to make special memories with their peers and teachers. The program involves our Year 1 students having dinner at school with their teachers and friends, before joining in the fun of an incursion conducted by Fitnessworx. Our Year 2 students will also be participating in the dinner and incursion conducted by Fitnessworx, but their program is extended to include a sleepover at school with their teachers and classmates. We wish our Year 1s and Year 2s a fun filled and memorable time!



PLANNING WEEK

Next week is 'Planning Week', where teams of teachers are released from classroom duties on one day to work collaboratively with the school-based learning leader to plan the scope and sequence of learning for the upcoming term. In order to facilitate this, students will have their Specialist classes on one particular day, instead of being spread out across the week, so that

teachers can plan together. Team planning in Numeracy will be further supported at an after school professional learning session where teachers will work with our external Numeracy consultant, Nicole Thompson, to develop a 'Number' unit to be explicitly taught in Term 4 using current student data.

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Don't forget to keep **Wednesday September 17** free from approximately 2:45 – 3:20pm to attend our Term 3 'Celebration of Learning'. These afternoons are wonderful ways for family and friends to join in the learning and celebrate the great things investigated during Inquiry this term. The curriculum focus this term encompasses the learning areas of History, Geography or Civics & Citizenship.



IMPORTANCE OF BEING AT SCHOOL AND BEING ON TIME

1. Consistent Learning:

- Each day of school builds on what was learned the day before. Missing school can create learning gaps that are hard to catch up on.
- Students who continually arrive late to school are missing the **explicit teaching** that happens at the start of every lesson (approximately, the first 15 minutes of each lesson at Killara is when the explicit teaching happens). If your child arrives at school after this occurs, they have missed not only the teaching but also the explanation of the independent task that follows. This can have a detrimental impact on their ability to understand the learning and engage in class activities.
- Arriving on time means students are present for important morning routines which assist in setting a positive tone for the day and helps students make the most of their learning.



2. Skill Development:

School teaches more than just academics—it also builds important life skills like communication, teamwork, resilience and problem-solving.

3. Social & Emotional Growth:

- School is a key place to form friendships, build social skills, and learn how to work with others respectfully and effectively.
- Arriving at school after instruction has commenced can also draw unwanted attention to a child who has to walk into class when everyone else is already participating in the learning. This often causes undue anxiety for children who can feel rushed or disconnected.
- Over time, irregular attendance can lead to feelings of loneliness, exclusion, and disconnection from classmates, increasing the risk of social isolation. This can negatively affect a student's emotional wellbeing, confidence, and even academic performance.
- Each morning, our 'Getting Ready to Learn' provides students with the opportunity to interact with their classmates **BEFORE** instruction commences promptly at 9am.
- Arriving on time also shows responsibility and respect for teachers and classmates, helping to build good habits for the future.

For further information, please see the flyer attached by Australia's leading child development and parenting educator, Michael Grose.

NAPLAN - A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

At Killara, we continue to strive for excellence in providing each and every student with a high-quality education in a caring and supportive learning environment. We are very proud of our student's achievements across a broad range of endeavours, including their learning growth (no matter what the student's starting point may be, it is about how much learning growth has been made over time).



The Department of Education and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority have recently released further NAPLAN data which highlights the positive impact our commitment and investment in strengthening our curriculum knowledge and adopting evidence-based instructional practices. Improvement measures

such as employing external Literacy and Numeracy consultants to work with teachers, together with our school-based coaching program are making a real difference to our students' learning growth.

We are excited to share with you the 2025 NAPLAN Relative Growth data which measures the progress or learning growth Year 5 students have made since Year 3 in literacy and numeracy, rather than just their absolute achievement.

Thank you to our hardworking teachers for their dedication towards embracing new learning in order to improve student learning outcomes!

2025 NAPLAN HIGH & MEDIUM RELATIVE GROWTH
(2025 Year 5 - 2023 Year 3)

	Killara Primary	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State
Reading	80%	73%	73%	75%
Numeracy	82%	69%	75%	74%

The table above shows the percentage of students in Year 5 this year who have made high or medium growth from when they were in Year 3.

SPORTING NEWS

Best wishes to our Grade 5/6 Sports' Teams who will represent Killara at the Sunbury District Sports Association's Summer Sport competition today. Our talented and eager students have been training hard and will compete against other Sunbury schools in Volleyball (at Boardman Stadium), Basketball (at Boardman stadium), Tennis (at Sunbury Courts) and Lawn Bowls (at Sunbury Bowling Club).

Cricket will be played next term. Good luck everyone!



THE SUNBURY DISTRICT ATHLETICS TEAM

Congratulations to the following Killara students who have qualified for the Woodlands Division Athletics Championships on Tuesday September 16 at Meadowglen International Athletics Stadium: Lucas (5/6D), Dino (5/6C), Eva (5/6A), Isabella (5/6B), Sophia (5/6D), Leah (5/6B), Luc (5/6A), Lincoln (3/4B), Piper (3/4B) and Dylan (3/4A).

Your efforts at the Sunbury District Athletics Carnival were inspiring and we all wish you the very best of luck for the next stage, as you represent the Sunbury District.



FOOTY COLOURS DAY

The last day of term, Friday 19 September is Footy Colours and the

canteen will be offering a special footy lunch order day. Footy Colours celebrates all footy codes - whether you follow Aussie Rules, Rugby, or Soccer, wear your favourite footy colours proudly. There will be a footy parade starting in the gym at 9:15am. All parents / carers are welcome to attend.



Students will then participate in activities led by our wonderful 2025 Student Leadership Team and super keen teachers! Our canteen is also offering a special lunch order on the day, with notes having already been sent home (copy attached).

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

All schools have been requested to once again remind their school communities of the Ministerial policy formally issued by the Minister for Education under section 5.2.1(2)(b) of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) outlining the regulations related to mobile phones and devices, including watches during school hours.

Students are encouraged not to bring a mobile device to school at all, but we understand that there are times when a phone or device is needed for after-school communication with parents. All mobile phones and devices are required to be handed in to the front office each morning as soon as students enter through the school gates, where they will be securely stored and collected after-school each day.



Schools have been directed by the government to enforce the order, as a growing number of incidents related to student mental health, cybersafety and wellbeing are being reported. We ask for your support in helping us keep all of our children safe from online incidents / inappropriate behaviour when using mobile phones or devices, by keeping phones and devices at home or ensuring phones / devices are handed in to the office on arrival at school each day.

ROAD SAFETY REMINDER

Children need the important adults in their lives to provide them with plenty of supervised practice in the real road environment to help them develop their understanding of these ideas.

Stop!

Show them how some traffic can take a long time to stop.

Watch traffic stopping at road signs or crossings. Show your children that traffic doesn't always come to a complete stop, and it is important to always check that traffic has stopped completely before crossing the road.

Look!

Look for vehicles reversing from driveways. Talk about the 'clue' that tells you that a vehicle might appear.

Point out the traffic signs, signals and road markings and talk about what they each mean.

Listen!

Do a car and truck sound the same?

Do some vehicles sound fast or slow?

Are some vehicles harder to see and hear?

Think!

Do you think we have time to cross the road?

Do we have a long way to walk to cross the road?

Have you looked everywhere for traffic?

For more information visit roadsafetieducation.vic.gov.au



Best wishes, Sue & Anne

Parenting *ideas* INSIGHTS

Building parent-school partnerships

WORDS Michael Grose



It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem.

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day—and gets there on time.

It sounds simple, but it's true. The correlation between school attendance and children's achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers tell me, it's often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools—and much of it is parent-condoned.

It's hard to get an accurate picture across the country but it would appear that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year, with parent-condoned absenteeism highest among young primary-aged children.

That adds up to a year's lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today's highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

That's not a reason to be away!

It's now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling's birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a

sports day or special school event.

This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don't really value learning or their children's school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. They spend more time asleep than they do at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time.

Being late is not okay either

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.

more on page 2 >>



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's **NEW Parentingideas Club** today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.



... It's not okay to be away ... nor to be late to school...

It takes strong parenting ...

As a parent myself I know how persuasive children of all ages can be when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes a strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card with comments such as "It's not fair that I have to go school today because Aunty is coming to visit!" Nice try. But the answer should be "No!".

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of the school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm.

It's reassuring to know that you increase their chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with NO EXCUSE.

AS A PARENT:

- ✓ Commit to sending kids to school every day.
- ✓ Make sure kids arrive at school and class on time.
- ✓ Inform the school when they are away, sending medical certificates and other evidence of genuine absence.
- ✓ Consider catching-up on missed work.
- ✓ Make kids who are away stay in their bedroom – that is where ill kids should be.



Stay one step ahead of your kids with great ideas & expert advice from Michael Grose. Join Michael's NEW Parentingideas Club today at parentingideasclub.com.au. You'll be so glad you did.

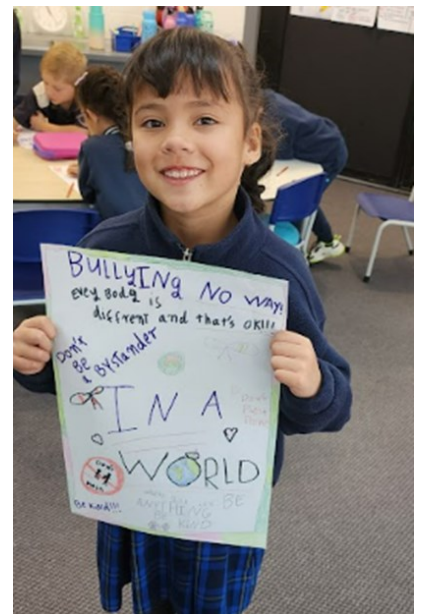


BULLYING NO WAY

BULLYING NO WAY WEEK 2025

Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up.

It takes courage to spark change. Bullying is everyone's responsibility. It takes a community to be brave and address bullying behaviours, within and beyond the school gate. There are many ways to Be Bold. Be Kind. Speak Up. Last week our students have focused on exploring ways be bold, kind or speak up to help prevent bullying. Please enjoy seeing some of the work we have done this week.



Complete Kids

Father's Day Coffee Van – Killara Primary School

Monday 8th September 7.00am – 9.00am

Free Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate
for parents / carers / guardians,
after you have dropped off your
child/ren to OSHC or School

The Coffee Van will be located
in the Carpark near the KPS Gymnasium



WEEK ONE

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER **22**

CIRCUS SKILLS WORKSHOP

- juggling balls
- circus tent construction
- clown windmills

INCURSION
\$114.50



TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER **23**

BALLARAT WILDLIFE PARK

- Aussie fauna collage
- tug of war



EXCURSION 1.
\$140.00

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER **24**

BUILD-A-BEAR –A-RAMA DAY

- beary biscuits
- dancing bear puppets
- teddy bear relay races



INCURSION
\$114.50

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER **25**

GRAND FINAL CELEBRATION DAY

- felt footy fans
- footy game
- DIY footballs



LUNCH PROVIDED

THEME DAY
\$114.50

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER **26**

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

SERVICE CLOSED

WEEK TWO

MONDAY
SEPTEMBER **29**

MEET THE RAINBOW SERPENT

- snakes alive
- sugar glider kite making

INCURSION
\$125.00



TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER **30**

NINJA HEADQUARTERS

- scare crow, figgy
- ninja hearts



EXCURSION 2.
\$140.00

1 WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER

INFLATABLE WORLD

- charades
- inflatable chickens



EXCURSION 3.
\$130.00

THURSDAY
OCTOBER **2**

TAY TAY DAY

SHAKE IT OFF TO ALL THE ERAS

- friendship bracelets
- paper rings



THEME DAY
\$104.00

FRIDAY
OCTOBER **3**

MOVIE DAY

- button art frames
- movie trivia
- drawing a movie scene



EXCURSION 4.
\$140.00

Bookings via School Stream app.
Click on FORMS and select
Booking Form
P: 03 9740 2111 (press 3)
E: oshc@completekids.net



SPRING 2025

PUPIL OF THE WEEK TERM 3—WEEK 5

Prep

For being resilient and respectful.

PA	Will T & Dulcie-Rose J
PB	Aria K & Azariah D
PC	Hamish S & Bonnie L

Year 1

For making positive choices in the classroom.

1A	Harlow M
1B	Logan H

Year 2

For displaying our school value of accountability in their learning.

2A	Olivia R
2B	Sophie H

Year 3/4

For displaying our school values.

3/4A	Spencer S
3/4B	Jai L
3/4C	Tashnoor B

Year 5/6

For demonstrating school values while competing in region netball.

5/6A	Emmanuel C
5/6B	Ava J
5/6C	Willow D
5/6D	Henry T

SPECIALISTS

Phys. Ed.	Lachlan B (3/4C) for demonstrating outstanding skills and effort throughout our net and racquet unit, excelling in tennis, badminton and pickleball while always trying his best.
Vis. Art	Phoebe W (3/4A) & Anita M (3/4B) for their water colour paint work enabling them to capture movement and mood in their Hokusai inspired artwork.
Perf. Arts	Noah M (3/4B) for demonstrating a positive and resilient attitude.



PUPIL OF THE WEEK TERM 3—WEEK 6

Prep

For engaging and exploring capacity and mass during maths.

PA	Ryott S & Mellanie H
PB	Caleb B & Isla C
PC	River S & Levi W

Year 2

For using a growth mindset during our reading sessions.

2A	Georgia C
2B	Lachlann W

Year 3/4

For being a focussed learner during independent reading.

3/4A	Arlo H
3/4B	Haixi Z
3/4C	Charlie C

Year 5/6

For responsibly and respectfully participating in our bike education program.

5/6A	Yuri W
5/6B	Billy H
5/6C	Dino D
5/6D	Connor A

SPECIALISTS

Phys. Ed.	Parker R (1B) for showing outstanding focus and respect during our first ball bounce lesson.
Vis. Art	Archer V (2B) & Logan T (2B) for creating detailed collagraph prints.
Perf. Arts	Kora L & Oliva R (2A) for being accountable with their learning time and helping others to finish their projects.



INQUIRY 'CELEBRATION OF LEARNING'

You are invited!



Parents / friends of Killara PS are invited to join us to celebrate the amazing learning our students have participated in this term as part of their Inquiry units in History, Geography or Civics & Citizenship learning areas of the Victorian Curriculum.

When: Wednesday 17th September

Time: 2:45pm onwards (approximately 3:20pm)

Year	Inquiry Unit	Victorian Curriculum Learning Area/s	Location	The learning that will be showcased – what will parents see/hear/share in?	Other information parents might need to know
Preps	'Once Upon a Time ...'	History/Geography - How have stories from the past be told and shared over time? - How are people connected through stories, myths, traditions and beliefs?	Prep Classrooms	<i>Student fairytales and puppets</i>	
Grade 1s	'My Community, Then & Now'	History/Geography - How the present, past and future are signified by terms indicating and describing time - What is the history of a significant person, building or site in the local community and what does it reveal about the past? - What is the significance today of an historical site of cultural or spiritual importance?	Grade 1 Classrooms	<i>My Time Capsule</i> <i>Sunbury Community Booklets</i>	
Grade 2s	'Where in Australia are We?'	History/Geography - How places can be spatially represented from local to national scales, the representation of Australia as states and territories and Countries and Places, and Australia's major features and places - Locate and name the states and territories in Australia, along with their capital cities	Grade 2 Classrooms	<i>Australian state flipbooks</i>	
Grade 3/4s	'Window on a Changing World'	History/Geography/Civics & Citizenship - What role did people of diverse backgrounds play in the development and character of the local community and/or other societies? - Why are some places are special and some places important to people and how they can be looked after? - How has my identity been shaped by the groups in my community to which I belong? - What are the different cultural, religious and/or social groups to which they and others in the community may belong?	Grade 3/4 Classrooms	<i>Newspaper articles</i> <i>Poetry books</i> <i>Timelines</i>	
Grade 5/6s	'Australia as a Nation'	History/Civics & Citizenship - Why and how did Australia become a nation? - What and who were the key figures and events that led to Australia's Federation, including British and American influences on Australia's system of law and government? - What are the different experiences and perspectives of Australian democracy and citizenship, including the status and rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, migrants, women, and children? - What is democracy in Australia and why is voting in a democracy important? - How are laws developed and enforced in Australia? - What are the values, principles and institutions that underpin Australia's democratic forms of government and how is this system influenced by the Westminster system? - What are the roles and responsibilities of the three levels of government? - What are the key features of the Australian electoral process?	Grade 5/6 Classrooms	<i>Killara Votes!!</i> <i>(Students conduct a voting process related to lunchtime resources / equipment)</i>	



Wellbeing
Martial Arts

KARATE



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

**KILLARA
P.S.**

THURSDAY'S

- Kid's class 4:00pm
- Junior class 5:00pm
- Adv. Junior class 6:00pm
- We operate 6 days a week
- KID'S - JUNIOR'S - ADULT'S

SEE WEBSITE FOR TIMETABLE

www.wellbeingmartialarts.com.au

Email - bree@wellbeingmartialarts.com.au or,
geoff@wellbeingmartialarts.com.au

Ph - 0419 364 320

KILLARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Phone: 9744 6432

Killara.ps@education.vic.gov.au

website www.killaraps.vic.edu.au

