



Respect, Integrity,
Curiosity, Determination

Pender's Grove Primary School Newsletter

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Issue 9

14th May 2025
(next newsletter 11/6)

Diary Dates 2025 - Term 2

This week: Reconciliation Week

- 9/6 Public Holiday - Kings Birthday
- 16/6 Assembly (Fdn E presenting)
- 17/6 School Council
- 20/6 Winter Sports Gala Day (Year 5/6 interschool sport)
- 23/6 School Photos
- 30/6 Assembly (12L&N presenting)
- 3/7 Semester 1 reports sent home
- 4/7 End of Term 2 (2.30pm finish)

Leadership Team Report

This week is National Reconciliation Week which gives Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people the chance to come together and share the steps to-wards reconciliation. This is a time when we celebrate and build on the relationships shared be-tween Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. It is also a great opportunity to reflect on our shared histories, contributions and achievements. This week teachers and students have been exploring this via their classroom programs and will continue this work into next week.

Some advance notice for families this week that in the last two weeks of this term we will be trialling a slightly different structure for our school day than the one we have been using for the last few years. The new structure will contain the same amount of classroom time, sessions and total break time but use two longer breaks during the day, a longer morning session (before Break 1) and shorter afternoon session (after Break 2).

Session 1-3: 9.00-11.30

Break 1: 11.30-12.20pm
(including lunch eating time)

Session 4-5: 12.20-2.00pm

Break 2: 2.00-2.40pm

Session 6: 2.40-3.30pm

End of day: 3.30pm

We are trialling this new structure for a couple of weeks based on feedback from both teachers and students. Students have told us that they would like longer to play outside and teachers are aware that the mornings, and in particular the start of the day, are the most productive time of the day. This changed structure lengthens the time outside and gives longer time in class between breaks. We are aware that some students may need additional food or brain breaks during the longer morning session and teachers will be mindful of this. At the start of Term 3 we will go back to the old structure and then gather some feedback as to what the pros and cons have been. We will give a further a reminder before we try this at the end of term.

A reminder for parents of students that are starting with us in Foundation next year that enrolment forms are available from the office and on our website for siblings of students already at the school or for students that live in our enrolment zone. We are also more than happy to receive applications for enrolment from new families outside our zone so if someone you know would like to have a tour of the school regarding Foundation next year please get in touch with our office to make a time. Please also don't forget about our weekly Community Storytime session for pre-Foundation students which is on every Thursday from 9.00-9.45am in our library.

Welcome to Vicki Dong who started with us this week to cover our Performing Arts position for the rest of the year. Vicki will also be working with students in the tutor learning program. Lauren Turner finished up with us last week to begin her family leave and we wish her and Andrew all the best for the birth of their third child in a few weeks time. Also, parents of students in 34W would be aware but Wendy will be away on leave for the next few weeks. Welcome to Briony Gorst who will be filling in for her during this time. Dayle Manley has replaced Lauren in 34W one day a week but this will now be a Tuesday (rather than Monday).

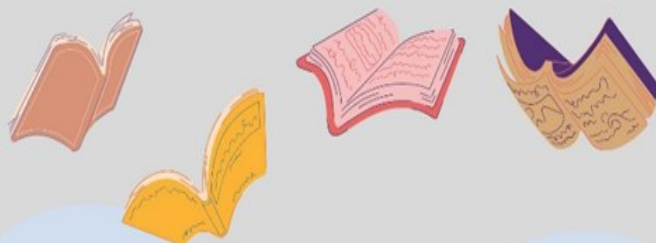
Thanks to everyone that came along to our literacy and numeracy open classrooms last week. It is always great to have parents and families learning with students in the classroom and we always appreciate everyone who is able to come along to these events!

Thanks and have a lovely end to your week.

Douglas and Tessa

Library Helpers

We are finally able to invite parent helpers into the library!



Parent helper tasks:

Book covering

Reshelving

Shelf sorting

Class borrowing

(specific times across the week)

If you are interested in joining us, please
contact Trish by email:

trish.lunt@education.vic.gov.au



COMMUNITY STORYTIME

**THURSDAYS FROM
9.00-9.45AM**

**0-5 AGED CHILDREN AND
PARENTS/CARERS WELCOME. PLEASE
CALL THE SCHOOL FOR MORE DETAILS.**

**PENDER'S GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL
370 VICTORIA ROAD THORNBURY
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School Savings Bonus - Time to allocate your funds!

Please note it is time to allocate your School Saving Bonus (**SSB**) for any Uniform Purchases

It seems that some parents have received an error when trying to allocate \$ amounts to uniforms on the portal. This is to do with the school having its own in-house uniform shop and a glitch with the portal thinking we have an external uniform shop.

As a way to get around this we are asking families to log into the portal and choose to allocate the full \$400 funds to the school activities option. The \$400 will come into your family account as a credit and we will be able to process the funds to either uniforms, contributions or activities, whichever you choose at the time. Eg if you purchased \$100 worth of uniforms at the start of next year, \$300 balance will be sitting in your account as remaining credit to use for perhaps contributions a camp/excursion or activity for your child later in the year.

Uniform purchase will be available until June 2025, from July any balances of SSB will only be able to be used for excursions and activities.

If you have already made uniform purchases, please access your portal and allocate your SSB to the school.

If you are having any other issues or questions about the SSB you can email

school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au