Edition 11 - 2025



Dillbadin PRIMARY SCHOOL

Growing through learning



From our Principal

Penelope Harris

I hope all families had a lovely school holiday break, enjoyed Easter, and didn't eat too much chocolate!

We've had a fantastic start to Term 2 – calm, settled, and full of positive energy across the school. It's shaping up to be a busy and exciting term, with many events and learning opportunities ahead. Please check the *Important Dates* section at the end of the newsletter so you don't miss anything coming up!

New Specialist Star Awards

We're thrilled to introduce our brand-new Specialist Star Awards! Each week, Mrs. Blake, Miss D, and Miss Gange will select students from across the school who have demonstrated excellence in their specialist subjects. Our traditional Values Awards will no longer be given separately. Instead, they will be incorporated into the Star Student Awards, with each award linked to our school values.

We look forward to celebrating our students' fantastic achievements in new and meaningful ways!

Mothers Day Stall

The Mother's Day (or Special Person) Stall will be held on Thursday, May 8th. Students can bring up to \$10 to spend on a gift at the stall. We're also hosting a special afternoon tea at 2:30 p.m. that day—don't forget to RSVP! If possible, a gold coin donation would be greatly appreciated for the afternoon tea. Thank you!



The stall will have a variety of gifts with a range of prices, nothing over \$5.

Students are invited to bring up to \$10 to spend.



At 2:30pm we invite all Mums, Step Mums, Grandmothers, Aunties, Foster Mums, or special persons to our Mother's Day afternoon tea.

Scones with jam and cream and tea and coffee will be provided.

Easter Raffle



A big thank you to everyone who donated items or purchased tickets for our Easter Raffle. Your generous support helped us raise over \$300 for our school—what a fantastic result!

Congratulations to our lucky prize winners: Ivy, Oscar, Ollie, and Harvey! We hope you enjoyed your Easter surprises.

Curriculum Day

A reminder that Wednesday, 7th May is a Curriculum Day. No students are required to attend school on this day. Our staff will be participating in professional learning at other school sites.



School tours

Dillbadin PS warmly invites prospective parents to join school tours from Monday, 5th May to Friday, 9th May (excluding Wednesday). Tours begin at 9:30am—please meet at the school office, located at 25 Tormore Road, Boronia. This is an excellent opportunity to see learning in action and discover the exceptional educational experiences our school provides.

Please spread the word!



Special Lunch

This week's special lunch was a big hit with our students—lots of happy faces and full tummies!

A big thank you to everyone who helped organise and support the event.

We're excited to let you know that four more special lunches are scheduled for this term. These lunches are a great way for students to enjoy something different and fun during the school day.

Please note the upcoming dates (on the next page) and ensure that payments are made by the Tuesday before each lunch day so we can confirm orders in time. Late payments may result in your child missing out.

With the introduction of our new phonics curriculum, we're pleased to share that funds raised from these lunches will go directly towards supporting classrooms with additional phonics-based resources. Your support is helping us make a real difference in students' literacy learning.

Thanks again for your continued support—we can't wait for the next lunch day!

IT'S HERE TO STAY!!

Our Special Zunch Days are here

to stay!





ORDERS DUE IN
EVERY TUESDAY
FOR THE
FOLLOWING
THURSDAY

Dillbadin PS are holding some special lunch days as a school fundraiser.

Lunches will be fortnightly and can be purchased upfront foe the term if it is easier. NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE PROCESSED. Dates and menu are as follows:

THURSDAY 15[™] MAY: THURSDAY 29TH
MAY:

Pizza

Party pies and sausage rolls

THURSDAY 12th
JUNE:

THURSDAY 26TH
JUNE:

Chicken nuggets and Potato Gems

Pasta Bake

Each order will also have:

- 1x baked sweet treat (muffin/ cookie etc)
 - 1x juice box

HOW TO ORDER

Orders need to be placed EACH TUESDAY, for the special lunch on Thursday of that week. No late orders will be accepted.

Please send \$8 in an envelope/ sandwich bag/ brown paper bag with your child's name written on the front. You can add dietary requests on to the bag/ envelope (halal/ vegetarian) if required. You can also pay by credit card at the office.

Year 6-7 Transition

Starting secondary school is one of the biggest steps in your child's life. As there are a variety of options for your child's secondary education, choose a school to suit your child's needs. You may want to make a list of things that are important to you and your child or visit the schools you are interested in; they welcome enquiries and will organise a time to visit.

An important step is to involve your child in deciding which secondary school they will attend. The following questions may assist you as you consider which secondary school will best benefit your child:

Will the school cater for your child's needs and interests? How does the school support children with additional needs? How important is it that your child knows other children at the school? Does your family have a connection to a particular school? Do you have older children already attending a secondary school?

It is important that families read this information carefully and adhere to the timeline provided. All enrolment forms for Year 7 were sent home early this week to all Grade 6 students and need to be returned to school by NO LATER THAN FRIDAY MAY 9.

The Department of Education has a website that will help you to identify your local public school online. By clicking on the following link and entering your home address, you will see the school catchment area in which you live. www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au

Enrol now for 2026 Foundation

We are currently receiving high interest for our 2026 Prep enrolments The priority of placement for new students dictates that children who reside in the designated school zone and those who are siblings of current students have the highest priority. We ask that families within our community who have a child who is due to commence Prep in 2026 please enrol as soon as possible.

This year enrolments are completed online https://www.vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep

Thank you to those of you who have already completed your enrolment

Support Boronia - Shop Local & Help Our School!

We're excited to be part of the Shop Local – Support Boronia campaign! By simply collecting receipts from small businesses in Boronia and dropping them into the collection box at school, you can help us go in the running to win **\$2000** for our school.

It's a great way to support local businesses and give back to our school community at the same time. Every receipt counts—so whether it's a coffee, a haircut, or groceries from a local store, make sure to save your receipt and bring it in!

Let's get behind our community and aim for that \$2000 prize!



Boronia Shop Local: Win for your school!

Support your school and boost local businesses by participating in our exciting campaign!

HOW IT WORKS:

Shop Local: Shop at small businesses in Boronia (excludes major chains and franchises).

Collect Receipts: Submit eligible receipts for your school.

Win Big! The school that collects the most receipts, scaled to student numbers, during the campaign will win a \$2,000 sports prize for their school!

CAMPAIGN DATES:

Start: 28 April 2025 End: 9 June 2025

WHY PARTICIPATE?

Support Local Businesses: Help boost the local economy and support the small businesses that make our community strong.

Strengthen Community Bonds: Connect with other families and local traders, and work together for a common goal.

Incentives for Schools: Enhance your school's programs with the chance to win fantastic prizes!

Find out more at: www.knoxbiz.com.au



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The Big Six

Research has shown that there are six key components to successful beginning reading. Because of their importance, they have become known as 'The Big Six': oral language, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

Last newsletter we learnt about Phonics this week we are looking at Fluency.

Fluency Vocabulary Vocabulary Comprehension Phonics Phonics

How does fluency contribute to reading success?

Reading fluency refers to the ease with which children read. When reading aloud, fluency is affected by accuracy, rate and expression. To assist children to practise reading fluently in the early years of school, teachers often ask them to read aloud easier or familiar books. This lets children read confidently as they automatically and accurately recognise words, read at a rate that sounds more like spoken language and use a range of expression, intonation, pauses and rhythm.

Fluency makes oral reading more lively and allows the author's message to be communicated more clearly. Being able to read fluently gives young readers confidence in their own ability as readers and helps them to be interested, motivated and enjoy reading.

What can parents can do at home to encourage fluency?

The best thing parents can do to encourage fluency at home is to demonstrate it.

- Read and reread favourite books.
- Read aloud with emotion in English or your first language.
- Invent sound effects when reading.
- Use different voices to indicate the characters and narrator.
- Change your voice volume, tone and pace as you read different parts of a book; perhaps slow down at a scary bit or speed up at a tense point.
- Have fun and enjoy yourself and your child will enjoy themselves too.
- Listen to audio books together with your child. Many children's books can be downloaded in audio form from your local library.

Library Visits Continue!

Finally, we're excited to announce the continuation our wonderful partnership with Boronia Library! Each fortnight, our students will walk to the library to take part in a dedicated session that includes exploring the space and borrowing books to enjoy at school or home.



These visits help foster a love of reading and build valuable library skills. Please check the Important Dates section for the scheduled visit days.

Thank you for a wonderful week and for your continued support—it makes such a difference in our school community. Have a safe and enjoyable weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday for another great week of learning!



Wellbeing Wrap-Up

Neisha Gange - Assistant Principal

Mental Health in Primary Schools: A Step Forward for Student Wellbeing

At Dillbadin Primary School, we are committed to ensuring the mental health and wellbeing of our students is prioritised.

With the Victorian Government's new initiative to promote mental health in primary schools, we are excited to play an active role in fostering a supportive and nurturing environment for all our students. This initiative aims to equip schools with the necessary resources and support to address the mental health needs of students, ensuring they have the tools to succeed both academically and emotionally.

As part of this initiative, we are focusing on connecting our school community with local service providers that specialise in mental health support.

Families will have access to valuable services and resources, ensuring that all students and parents can find the help they need. Local providers focused on counselling, mental health support, social skills and making connections will be instrumental in assisting our school community. By linking families with these providers, we aim to create a seamless network of support, helping to ensure the wellbeing of both students and their families.

We are also updating our wellbeing curriculum to meet the evolving needs of our learners. Our revised curriculum will include a strong focus on emotional regulation, resilience, and mindfulness, with activities designed to help students develop healthy coping strategies and positive mental health habits. It will also focus on understanding ourselves better, our similarities and differences, to form a strong sense of self.

By integrating these skills into daily learning, we aim to empower our students to better manage their emotions, understand their mental health, and seek support when needed. This curriculum will complement the work being done by local service providers, ensuring that students are well-equipped to navigate both their academic challenges and personal growth.

At Dillbadin Primary, we are excited about the positive changes taking place through the Mental Health in Primary School initiative. By connecting families with expert services and updating our wellbeing curriculum, we are creating a strong foundation for all our students' mental health and success.

Together, we can help foster an environment where every child feels supported, valued, and ready to thrive.



Star Student Awards

JUNIOR

Amity for using her amazing research skills to find koala facts.

MIDDLE

Rubee for being a learner by always showing enthusiasm in her learning.

SENIOR

Cooper, congratulations, you have been making a huge effort even when the work is challenging!



Star Student Awards





Specialist Star Awards

MRS BLAKE

STEM:

Sebastian for showing great leadership skills with his team for the STEM challenge.

MISS D

Performing Art:
Jozee for demonstrating enthusiasm,
respect and brilliant acting skills in

Performing Art.

MISS GANGE

PE:

Charlie for showing good sportsmanship in the staff verses students dodgeball game in PE this week.



Specialist Star Awards





Middle Class



Our students show great enthusiasm during morning Phonics lessons. Here, our Middle students are actively engaged in phonics games.







Premiers' Reading Challenge



The Premiers' Reading Challenge begins on the first Monday in March each year and ends on the first Friday in September.

2025 Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open.

The Challenge encourages children and students to read a set number of books over the year and record their efforts online.

Please speak with your child's classroom teacher for more information.



Important Dates

Date	Event
Every Friday	3:00pm School Assembly
Monday 5 th May	Boronia Library Visit
Wednesday 7 th May	Curriculum Day – no students at school
Thursday 8 th May	Mother's Day Stall and Afternoon Tea
Thursday 15 th May	School Council – 9am
Monday 19 th May	Boronia Library Visit
Wednesday 21st May	Simultaneous Storytime at Boronia Library
Friday 30 th May	2.30pm Information Reports open session
Monday 2 nd June	Boronia Library Visit
Wednesday 4 th June	Incursion – Musica Viva
Monday 9 th June	Public Holiday – King's Birthday
Thursday 12 th June	School Council – 9am
Monday 16 th June	Boronia Library Visit
Wednesday 18 th June	Middle - NGV Excursion
Monday 30 th June	Boronia Library Visit
Friday 4 th July	Last Day of Term 2 – 2.30pm finish



School Wide Positive Behaviour



Our students earned 5 leaves in the past week, which is 500 acknowledgements of positive behaviour.

Amazing work everyone!



5 STEPS TO ENROL

BOOK A TOUR WITH OUR PRINCIPAL AND LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT DILLBADIN PS HAS TO OFFER

ATTEND A TOUR WITH OUR PRINCIPAL. IT IS A GREAT WAY TO SEE LEARNING IN ACTION. YOU CAN ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

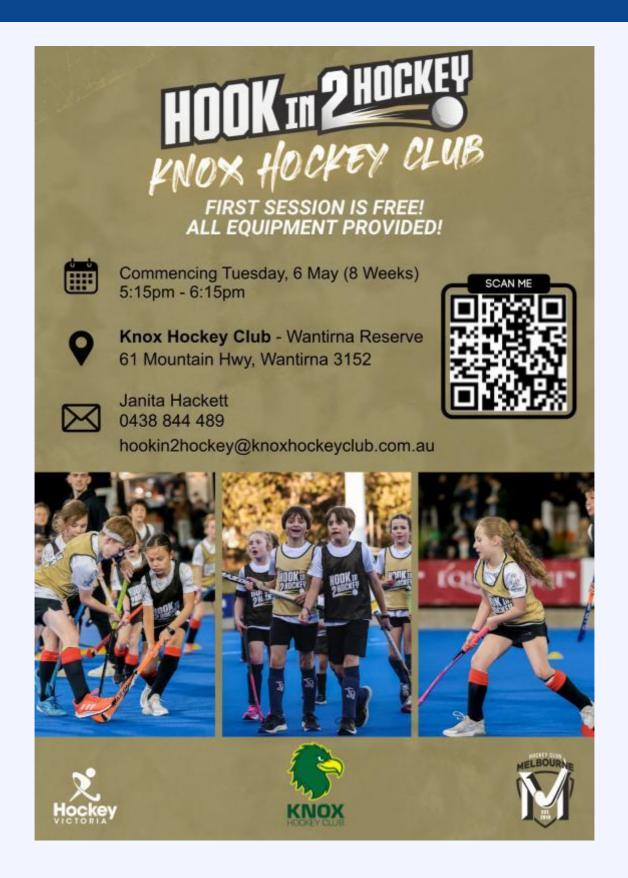
FILL IN AN APPLICATION FORM OR COMPLETE AN ENROLEMT FORM ONLINE

ATTEND OUR STEP INTO PREP PROGRAM IN TERM 4.
A TRANSITION PROGRAM DESIGNED HELP NEW CHILDREN FEEL HAPPY AND SAFE AT SCHOOL

START YOUR LEARNING JOURNEY WITH US IN AN EXCITING AND ADVENTUROUS PLACE WHERE LEARNING IS ENGAGING AND FUN!



Advertisers

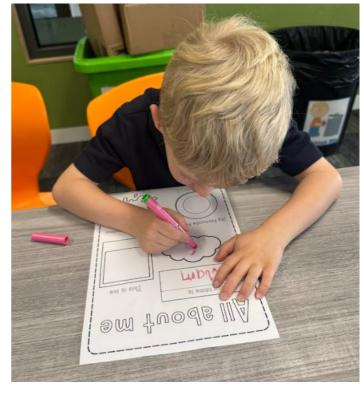




For more information regarding enrolling your child in primary school in 2026 including timelines please click on the link below:

Enrolling in primary school for 2026









Department of Education

Digital Enrolment Parent/Carer Quick Reference Guide

Enrolling your child is quick and easy using your laptop or desktop

Before you begin



Google Chrome is the recommended browser



Ensure your listed Emergency contact is someone **other than** Adult A or Adult B



Use of a laptop or desktop is recommended



Check your details are complete **before** submitting

You can't edit after submission



Use the **Save** button if you need to walk away



Have all your digital documents ready as they must be uploaded to your application

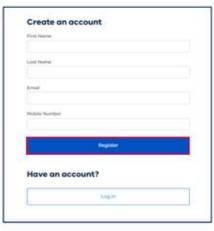
e.g. Birth certificate, Proof of Address, Proof of Residency

Finding your designated neighbourhood school

Use <u>Find My School</u> to view a map of available government schools in your area, including your designated neighbourhood (local) school.

Register for an account

- Click the following link: https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/
- 2. Scroll down and select Register
- 3. Read the acknowledgement and select Continue
- 4. Enter the requested details
- 5. A verification email will be sent to your inbox (check spam folder)
- 6. Click the link that has been emailed to you to complete registration
- 7. You will be prompted to set a new password
- 8. Select Change Password
- 9. You will land on the portal homepage





Ongoing access to the portal

- 1. Select the following link: https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/
- 2. Enter your credential details
- 3. Select Log in
- When logging in on a new device, you will be prompted for a verification code
 - check your email for the code
 - · enter code and select Verify
- 5. You will land on the portal homepage
- 6. To log out, navigate to the drop-down menu and select Logout





Submitting an application

- 1. From the portal homepage, select Apply
- 2. Enter new school application details
- 3. Read the privacy notice and then select Continue
- 4. Enter details for each section (including documentation upload)
- Read Review and Declaration and check all details have been provided and are correct

Note: Once an enrolment enquiry is submitted, enrolment details cannot be edited via the Portal

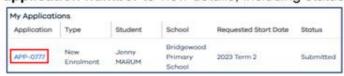
- Select Submit
- 7. The Application Submission screen will appear and then select Close
- 8. You will be taken to your application list

Start a new application Enquire and apply directly to local schools in your area

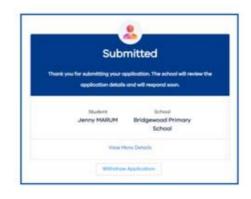


Viewing, withdrawing or adding files to an application

1. In the portal, select application number to view details, including status



- You can monitor the application status along the top status bar, view application details, withdraw the application or view and upload files
 - To withdraw: select Withdraw Application, enter a reason and the application will be closed
 - To add files: select Add Files at the bottom of the browser and follow instructions



Accepting or not accepting an enrolment offer

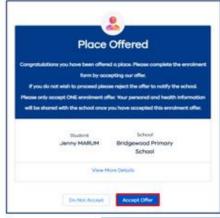
IMPORTANT NOTE: Please only accept ONE enrolment offer. All enrolments **must** be accepted via the portal.

- When a school makes an offer of enrolment, you will be notified by email and the status in the portal will be updated
- Select the link in the email, and you will be redirected to the portal
- 3. In the portal, My Applications will display Place Offered
- Select application number
- Select Accept Offer to accept the enrolment offer (only accept ONE) and you will be prompted to provide additional information
- 6. Read the privacy notice and select Continue to proceed
- 7. Enter details for each section (including documentation upload)
- 8. Click Submit
- When the school finalises the application, you will be notified by email notification and the status in the portal will be updated
- 10. If you received multiple enrolment offers, or you no longer wish to proceed with your enrolment application:
 - select Do Not Accept (for each offer to be declined)
 - enter a reason and the application will be closed

NOTE: Your personal and health information will be shared with the school once you have accepted an enrolment offer.

We are here to support you

If you have any questions regarding your enrolment, please contact your school. For information about this process, visit https://www.vic.gov.au/how-choose-school-and-enrol.







FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- · \$154 for primary school students
- \$256 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments**: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit: https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund



1 | Department of Education