



Serpell Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 2nd September 2025

From the Principal

Diary

Mon 25th August – Fri 5th September

Prep Swimming Program

Wed 3rd September

Badminton Primary School Championships

Thurs 4th September

Year 2 Excursion: Schramms Cottage 2MR, 2TH, 2MF, 2NH

Thurs 4th September

District Athletics

Fri 5th September

Father's Day Breakfast

Mon 8th September

Parent Teacher Interviews via Webex (**Students are not required at school**)

Tues 9th September

China Exchange Departs

Tues 9th – Thurs 18th September

Years 3 and 4 Swimming Program

Thurs 11th September

Year 2 Excursion: Schramms Cottage 2SD, 2LL, 2JA

Fri 19th September

Last Day of Term
(2:30pm Finish)

FATHERS' DAY BREAKFAST FRIDAY

We are looking forward to seeing all dads, grandfathers, uncles and their children at the Father's Day Breakfast this coming Friday morning. It will commence at 7am and run through until 8.45, when the students can show their families their classrooms. Come along in your favourite sporting colours – as simple as a scarf or tie to the full uniform. Prep Dads will have their very own tie made by the students for the event. There will be a photo booth as well as coffee and food delights. The students are always so excited to have their fathers at school. There is nothing that you need to do except maybe chat to other people wearing the same colours about the football finals or sporting heroes.

OFF TO CHINA NEXT WEEK

Next Tuesday morning sixty Year 6 students and nine teachers will fly to China for a two-week exchange experience of world-renowned tourist attractions and school life. First stop will be Beijing, where they will visit the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, Qianmen Street, the Temple of Heaven, the Science and Technology Museum and the Hutongs for some shopping. Next, they will travel via bullet train to Lianyungang, to reunite with the students who visited us here in July. They will also visit the Monkey King's hometown of Huaguo Mountain. Then they are off to Nanjing for the formal sister school event between the Jiangsu Education Bureau and the Victorian government and including primary and secondary schools from across Victoria. We are anticipating that very senior officials will be present at this dinner. The next day they will visit the Nanjing Confucius Temple and Laomendong before travelling again by bullet train to Suzhou. Here they will visit our sister school, the Jin Chang Foreign Language Experimental School and catch up with their buddies at the Kunshan Yufeng Experimental School. After a visit to the Suzhou Gardens and Ping Jiang Road, the group will travel to Shanghai by bus and visit Nanjing Road, Shanghai Market, the Bund for a Huangpu River Cruise and then finally an all-day experience at Disneyland before flying home.

For students with no Chinese background, this is a trip of huge cultural and linguistic learning and enrichment. For student with Chinese backgrounds, it is a deeply enriching opportunity to connect with the stories and language of their grandparents and be immersed in the history, language and culture of their ancestors.

Thank you to the teachers volunteering to support the program. It certainly is not a vacation, and we appreciate them giving of their personal and family time. Thank you also to the Jiangsu Education Bureau and the Victorian government for their ongoing and generous support of this program, which has been in place since 2011.

WILMA CULTON PSM

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serpell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website:

www.serpellps.vic.edu.au

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Semester 2, 2025

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held online via **Webex** on **Monday 8th September**, from **9:00am to 3:30pm**.

Booking Details

- **Bookings open:** Tuesday 2nd September at 10:00am via Xuno.
- **Bookings close:** Thursday 4th September at 4pm.
- **Webex links:** Your child's teacher will email you their personal Webex link on Friday 5th September.

Important Information

- **Each interview is limited to 10 minutes per child.** If you need more time, please arrange a follow-up appointment with your child's teacher.
- **Interpreter services:** If you require an interpreter, please select this option when booking through Xuno.
- **Specialist teachers:** If you would like to meet with your child's Specialist teachers, please email Mrs Nicolaides Hellen.Nicolaides@education.vic.gov.au with your child's name, grade and preferred time. She will confirm your booking.

We look forward to connecting with you!

FROM THE NURSE

INFLUENZA A and B, COVID and RSV

At this time of year, we have higher rates of influenza A and B, covid and RSV in the community.

Symptoms:

Typically, symptoms are fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue. Some people, especially children, may also experience vomiting and diarrhea.

Treatment:

Most people recover with rest, fluids, and over-the-counter medications to relieve symptoms. Antiviral medications may be prescribed in some cases, particularly for individuals at higher risk of complications, such as young children, the elderly, or those with underlying health conditions. It's important to consult a healthcare professional if symptoms worsen or do not improve.

Children must stay home until all symptoms have resolved.

Mary Zito
School Nurse

PRIME MINISTER'S SPELLING BEE

PRIME MINISTER'S **SPELLING BEE**



This year, over 82,000 students across Australia took part in the prestigious Prime Minister's Spelling Bee. From this huge field, only 200 students per reading level in each state and territory advanced to the State Finals. The competition is incredibly tough, often decided by just thousandths of a second.

We are thrilled to share that 23 Serpell students have earned their place in the State Finals! These outstanding spellers will compete this week for the chance to progress to the National Finals later this year.

Year 6	Year 5	Year 4	Year 3
Johnny W	Kyle H	Richard C	Ashane S
Terrance D	Sophie L	Zahran K	Alison C
Andrew S	Braney K	Miranda Y	
Zarin P	Kevin Z	Ian L	
	Bella Z	Chenbin Y	
	Irfaan T	Lawrence R	
	Yannie Y	Sohpia G	
	Athena W	Isabelle L	
		Feiran T	

Congratulations to all students who participated in the first round and good luck to all the students participating in the state finals this week!

Nick Thuys
STEM Learning Specialist

FROM THE LIBRARY



This is the final reminder to all students participating in the Premiers' Reading Challenge.

You have 3 more sleeps before the Challenge finishes this Friday 5th September.

No students can be verified after this date so please return your completed Challenge list promptly. In the meantime, keep enjoying those books!

Ms Gardner

PARENT HELPER COURSE

Congratulations to all the amazing parents who attended and completed the Parent Helpers Course this term. We look forward to seeing you all in the classrooms assisting with our various learning programs. We are very grateful to all our parent volunteers and your support in the school is valuable and much appreciated.

Daniel Packett
Assistant Principal



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Emma Bao from 5LZ who came first in the Girls under 12 Saber Championship at the Joseph D'Onofrio Challenge hosted by Fencing Victoria on the 30th of August. Well Done!



The Serpell Parents Association invites
Students, their Dads, Grandads or Special People
to celebrate

FATHER'S DAY 2025

Raffle Draw



- ♦ High Tea for 2 at the Parliament House
- ♦ An Entertainment Book Membership
- ♦ Cadbury Chocolate Hamper
- ♦ Other exciting prizes

Friday, 5th September

Time - 7:00AM - 9:00AM
Venue - Serpell Stadium

Enjoy a Delicious Breakfast



Barista Coffee
Hot Jam Doughnuts
Sausage Sizzle
An Assortment of
Pastries, Fruit &
Beverages

\$25 per family
(* maximum 2 adults)
Pay via XUNO by 31st August

Dress in your favourite
footy/club colours



Snap a FUN photo at
the Photobooth

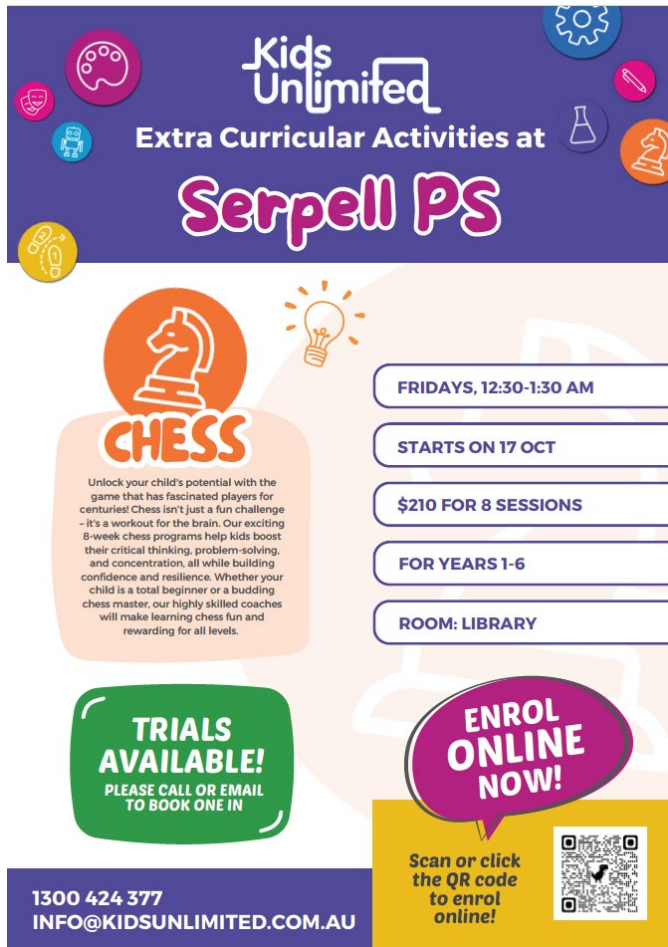
Volunteers Needed

Thurs 4th Sept
3.30-4.30PM
Fri 5th Sept
7.00-9.15AM
Please register via XUNO

Entertainment Membership

Father's Day Promotion
Available to sign up on site





Kids Unlimited
Extra Curricular Activities at
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CHESS

Unlock your child's potential with the game that has fascinated players for centuries! Chess isn't just a fun challenge - it's a workout for the brain. Our exciting 8-week chess programs help kids boost their critical thinking, problem-solving, and concentration, all while building confidence and resilience. Whether your child is a total beginner or a budding chess master, our highly skilled coaches will make learning chess fun and rewarding for all levels.

FRIDAYS, 12:30-1:30 AM

STARTS ON 17 OCT

\$210 FOR 8 SESSIONS

FOR YEARS 1-6

ROOM: LIBRARY

TRIALS AVAILABLE!
PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL TO BOOK ONE IN

ENROL ONLINE NOW!

Scan or click the QR code to enrol online!

1300 424 377
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Kids Unlimited

FREE! END OF TERM COMPETITIONS

Each term at Kids Unlimited, we run exciting competitions, and Term 3 is no exception! With Chess, Coding, and Robotics challenges on offer, there's something for everyone.

CHESS	CODING	ROBOTICS
JOIN THE ONLINE CHESS TOURNAMENT! ★ Date: Saturday, 20th of September ★ Time: 10:00 AM - 2:15 PM ★ Platform: Torneo ★ Categories: Years Preps to Year 2, Years 3 to 6 OPEN TO ALL KIDS UNLIMITED CHESS STUDENTS Deadline: We are accepting entries until Thursday, 18th of September REGISTER HERE	TO CREATE A GAME THAT USES THE THEME "THE TOWER" ★ Judged across two divisions: • Junior (Beginner/Intermediate) • Senior (Intermediate/Advanced) ★ Judging criteria: Originality, Code, and Fun! Deadline: We are accepting entries before 5pm Friday, 26th of September 2025 SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT HERE	DESIGN A ROBOT THAT COULD HELP PEOPLE THAT ARE INJURED Each entry has three parts: • Firstly, draw your robot. • Secondly, tell us about its features and what makes it unique. • Thirdly, tell us how your robot helps at sea and why its function is important. Deadline: We are accepting entries until 5pm Friday 26th of September 2025 EMAIL YOUR ENTRY TO FLYING@KIDSUNLIMITED.COM.AU

EXCITING PRIZE AWAITS!

JUMP ONLINE TO CHECK OUT GUIDELINES AND ENTER NOW
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3x Oceania Champions
7x NZ National Champions

Contact
Karen Li: 0469 603 606
Soloman: 0430 653 688
Email: karenlitabletennis@gmail.com
WeChat: karenli68
Messenger: Karen Li

10am to 1pm
22-26 September 2025
Monday to Friday
6-16 Joseph Street
Blackburn North

Please bring bat, water and snacks

We also offer school term classes on Tuesdays