



Diary

Monday 2nd March

3:30pm Finish Time for Prep begins

Friday 6th March

Yr 6 Captain Presentations
Assembly (9:30am)

Monday 9th March

Public Holiday: Labour Day

Wednesday 11th March

Year 3 & 5 Writing NAPLAN

Thursday 12th March

Year 3 & 5 Reading NAPLAN
Year 3 & 5 Conventions of Language
NAPLAN

Friday 13th March

Year 3 & 5 Numeracy NAPLAN

Tuesday 17th- Wednesday 18th March

School Photos

Friday 20th March

Colour Run

Monday 30th March

Parent Teacher Interviews (via
Webex)

Ready for Approval and/or Payment on XUNO

Excursion Levy

Senior Sport Levy (Year 6)

*Photography, Filming and Recording
Students – Consent Form*

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Serpell Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 24th February 2026

From the Principal

SERPPELL SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS – NOMINATIONS OPEN

Below is the official notification of the 2026 School Council election. School Council is responsible for the policy development and implementation in the school, the financial accountability for more than \$12m per year, the facilities planning, acting as the official “voice” of the school and delivering the long-term aspirations for our community.

The Serpell Primary School Council is an elected body comprising up to 15 members: 8 parents, 4 DET employee members, 1 Parent Association representative, 1 possible co-opted member and the principal as Executive Officer. The term of office is 2 years. Each year, half of the Council comes due for election. The School Council is a legally formed body that has the power to set the key policies and directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing so, the School Council is able to influence the quality of education that the school provides for our students.

School Council meets at 7.30pm on the third Monday of each month. In addition, it operates subcommittees in Finance, Education, Facilities and Major Projects, which all involve councillors in at least one additional meeting per month. We encourage all parents to consider providing valuable community service by nominating for School Council. Nominees must hold a Working with Children check., which can be applied for online.

I hereby call for nominations for the Serpell Primary School Council.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each category open for election are as follows:

Parent Members

No. of positions: 4

Term of Office: 2 years

DET Employee Members

No. of positions: 2

Term of Office: 2 years

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office and must be lodged by 4.00pm on Tuesday 3rd March 2026. Following the close of nominations, a list will be posted at the front of the school. If nominations exceed vacancies, we will hold an election. The timeline is as follows:

February 24 th	Call for Nominations
March 3 rd	Nominations Close 4pm
March 10 th	Ballot Distributed
March 17 th	Poll Closes at 4pm
March 18 th	Declaration of the Poll

HOUSE CAPTAINS ELECTED

Congratulations to the following students who have now been elected House Captains in a democratic process by their peers and join the School Captains in beginning the leadership journey for 2026. A special assembly will be held on Friday 6th March to officially recognise their achievements.

	Captains	Vice Captains
School	Zoe Cheong (6SS) Kallen Ye (6NM)	Areesha Bhatti (6SS) Branev Kousihan (6RM)
Anderson	Hiranya Srikanth (6JX) Lucas Tan (6NM)	Chloe Yu (6RM) Jay Nathoo (6NM)
Blackburn	Yannie Yap (6RM) Carson Fan (6RM)	Aya Khalafalla (6JX) Harry Le (6LN)
King	Celine Chen (6RM) Daniel Shihata (6LN)	Cindy Huang (6NT) Eason Lau (6LN)
Reynolds	Hana Khan (6SS) Lucan Wang (6RM)	Bella Zhang (6LN) Ethan Oakley (6NT)

LUNAR NEW YEAR ASSEMBLY

Yesterday’s whole school Lunar New Year Assembly was an absolute sensory feast of colour, sound, movement and celebration. Congratulations to our Chinese teaching team for their leadership and organisation of such a wonderful assembly.



WILMA CULTON PSM

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2026

School photos for 2026 will be held on **Tuesday the 17th of March and Wednesday the 18th of March.**

All photo orders are placed online, to allow for easy tracking and record keeping. To order your school photos this year:

Go to www.leadingimage.com.au
Click on Order School Photos
Enter the school **access key: CY8DTXZ6** with your information.

All students will receive the same **Serpell Primary School Access Key: CY8DTXZ6**
Individual and family photos can be ordered with the same access key.

FAMILY PHOTOS: Get your family photo order in this week!
Family photo orders must be placed no later than **Monday the 16th of March at 4 p.m.** This deadline is fixed, please get in early so you don't miss out!

Family photos are restricted to current Serpell students only, unfortunately we cannot accommodate family members.

The schedule for photo day will be published closer to the event, taking into account timetabling and school requirements. Exact times will not be provided.

Please note that your child's preferred name will appear on the School Photo for 2026.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email kristele.efthimiou@education.vic.gov.au

Scan to order!



PREP FINISH TIME

A reminder that Prep students will be finishing at **3.30pm from Monday, 2nd of March.** If your child attends After School Care, they will continue to be picked up by a Camp Australia staff member from our classroom.

2026 NAPLAN TESTING INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Years 3 and 5 will sit the tests on the following days:
Writing: Wednesday morning, March 11th
Reading: Thursday morning, March 12th
Conventions of Language: Thursday morning, March 12th
Numeracy: Friday morning, March 13th

Catchup tests for those who miss the scheduled testing will occur on Monday and Tuesday the following week (March 16th and 17th) *Please see attached for the NAPLAN Parent Information Brochure*

JUNIOR CHOIR PERFORMANCE MARCH 2ND

On Monday 2nd March, the Junior Choir, which comprises Year 1 and 2 students, will be performing at Assembly. They will sing at 2pm for the Year 2/Year 3 Assembly and at 3pm for the Prep/Year 1 Assembly. We hope you will be able to come to support these young, enthusiastic singers.

Miss Wuttke, Music teacher

2026 EXCURSION/INCURSION LEVY

Thank you to the families who have made their payment on XUNO for this year's Excursion and IncurSION Levy. As we have already commenced incursions and are about to start excursions, if you are yet to make your payment your attention to this is appreciated. Any carry over SSB or CSEF has been applied to your outstanding balance.

2026 Swimming Program Dates

Prep	3 rd August – 14 th August
Year 1 & 2	17 th August – 27 th August
Year 3 & 4	11 th May – 22 nd May
Year 5 & 6	25 th May – 3 rd June

2026 Camp Dates

Year 3 Weekaway	19 th October – 20 th October
Year 4 Phillip Island	26 th October – 28 th October
Year 5 Rumbug	4 th November – 6 th November
Year 6 Howqua	30 th November – 4 th December

INTERSCHOOL SPORTS RESULTS
Thursday 19/2/26

Round 2	Serpell Blue		Milgate PS
Cricket	114	Def	64
Hot Shots	16	Def	2
Rounders - Girls	17	Def	5
Rounders - Mixed	17	Def	5
Softball - Girls	8	Lost	14
Softball - Mixed	19	Def	16
Round 2	Serpell Gold		OLOP
Cricket	76	Def	44
Hot Shots	12	Def	0
Rounders - Girls	17	Def	3
Rounders - Mixed	4	Lost	18
Softball - Girls	12	Def	9
Softball - Mixed	No Result	-	No Result

AGM

We recently held our Annual General Meeting and were thrilled to see so many parents in attendance. Thank you for joining us and for your ongoing support!

During the meeting, we discussed:

- The many ways parents can volunteer and connect with their children’s learning
- Opportunities to contribute to the wider Serpell community
- The role and responsibilities of class representatives, presented by our Class Representative Coordinator, Karen Liu
- A special presentation on the school’s IT education and STEM program by Mr. Nick Thuys

The meeting concluded with the election of our new committee members. After four years as President, I am stepping down. It has been a privilege to work with such a dedicated team and to help organise events that bring positive outcomes to our community. Thank you for your support. The newly appointed committee members are as follows:

- President – Dawei Li
 - Vice President – Rameesha Humayun
 - Treasurer – Sheila Christina
 - Secretary – Jasmin Li
- Congratulations to the new team.

Colour Run

Get ready for first and most fun event for the year. The event is organised by Fitnessworx and is scheduled for the

20th of March. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.

Parent volunteers

The Parents Association welcomes parent volunteers at all events. If you’d like to help with the Colour Run, registration details will be posted on XUNO soon. Please note you’ll need a valid Working with Children’s Check (WWCC) registered with the school before the event. For information on obtaining a WWCC, visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>. If you have any questions or inquiries, please write to president.serpell@gmail.com

Hafsa Malik, Parents Association

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

It is with profound gratitude that we extend our sincere thanks to the parents who have already reached out and graciously volunteered to serve as Class Representatives. Your readiness to offer your time, your goodwill and your steadfast commitment to nurturing the unity of our school community stands as a shining testament to the spirit that defines Serpell. As we continue to weave a supportive and connected network across every year level, we remain in search of more Class Representatives for several classes. If your child is in one of the classes listed below, we warmly invite you to consider stepping forward.

<i>Prep</i>	PMR	PSF	PSB	PCS
Y1	1SW	1HS	1CR	
Y2	2KJ	2TL	2SD	2TH
Y3	3TS	3LD	3RC	
Y4	4RA	4RP	4CM	4JB 4NH
Y5	5CZ	5LF	5BD	5KT
Y6	6SS	6NT	6LN	

The role is centred on cultivating connection, encouraging communication among families, supporting class-based initiatives, and liaising with the Parents’ Association to enrich the life of our school. The time commitment is modest, yet the impact is far-reaching, touching the experience of every child and family within our community. If you feel able to take up this meaningful and valued role, please contact me at serpellclassrep@gmail.com with your name, phone number, and your child’s name and class. Together, let us continue to strengthen the fabric of our school community, ensuring that every family feels supported and included. Thank you!

Karen Liu
Class Representative Coordinator
serpellclassrep@gmail.com

BASKETBALL RESULTS



Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club Junior Community League (Autumn 2026)

Results 16 Feb - 19 Feb

	SERPELL TEAM	SCORE		OPPONENT
1/2 Girls	Serpell Shimmer	8	0	Mariners-Sparkling Bears
	Serpell Swans	15	0	OLOP Firecrackers
1/2 Boys	Serpell Slam Dunk	30	2	Temp Valley Vipers
	Serpell Skyhawks	6	9	THPS SAINTS
	Serpell Sharks	0	36	Temp Valley Thunders
	Serpell Super Pikachu Power	10	11	Temp Park Lions
	Serpell Spartans	20	0	Temp Park Bears
	Serpell Super Sonic	0	23	Tempy Park The Rookies
	Serpell Seals	Bye		
3/4 Girls	Serpell Sassy	2	73	Tempy Park Leopards
3/4 Boys	Serpell Sevens	6	32	Mariners - Rebound Warriors
	Serpell Samurai	24	3	OLOP Rebels
	Serpell Shooters	43	0	OLOP Raptors
	Serpell Scorpions	32	13	THPS SWISH
	Serpells Seekers	33	0	Mariners - SC Sonics
	Serpells Slammers	1	28	Belle Vue Titans
5/6 Girls	Serpell Snipers (5/6 Girls)	23	15	DG Eucalyptus
	Serpell Storm (5/6 Girls)	11	26	OLOP Stars
5/6 Boys	Serpell Strikers (5/6 Boys)	37	11	THPS TORNADOS
	Serpell Spiders (5/6 Boys)	17	29	Tempy Park Piper
	Serpell Savages (5/6 Boys)	22	21	Boroondara Park Ballers

NAPLAN 2026

Information for parents and carers



Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum, and allows parents and carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content aligned to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the [National protocols for test administration](#).

Schools should work with parents, carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), and our [series of videos](#) where parents, carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. However, it is not necessary for parents and carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP – Public demonstration site](#).

How is my child's performance reported?

NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling.

Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school. If further assistance is required, you should contact your relevant state or territory test administration authority. ACARA cannot provide individual student reports.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students, parents and carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at myschool.edu.au.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy.

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. **The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 11 March 2026 and finishes on Monday 23 March 2026.** Schools **must** schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students must do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing tests must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing on day 1, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are given an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	To be completed after the writing test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.



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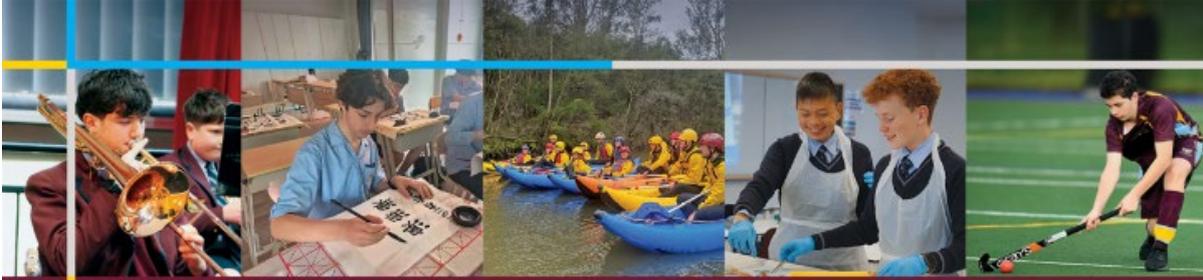
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SUNDAY, 15 MARCH | 11am–3pm

Principal's Address 11am, 12pm and 1pm

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