



Diary

Wednesday 4th February

First Day of School for
Prep (3:00pm Finish for Prep)

Thursday 5th February

Secondhand Uniform Shop
(9am - 9:30am)

Wednesday 11th February

Year 1 Incursion: Puppet
Kerfuffle

Monday 9th March

Public Holiday: Labour Day

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Serpell Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 3rd February 2026

From the Principal

WELCOME TO THE 2026 SCHOOL YEAR

What a wonderful week we had last week for the start of the school year. The children arrived at school ready to go last Wednesday with their books, new uniforms and eagerness to commence learning and to play with their friends. Congratulations to all parents for having the students here on time and so well prepared. All classes have reported that the students are focussed on learning and striving to do their best.

READY, SET, GO PREPS TOMORROW

After a week of individual testing of concepts in literacy and numeracy, the Prep students are starting classes tomorrow. Welcome to all new Preps and their families and we wish you all an outstanding educational journey at Serpell in the coming years.

A reminder to existing parents that the morning drop off tomorrow may be busy with new Preps having photo opportunities and large family gatherings celebrating each very special child.

Preps will finish for the month of February at 3pm. Parents in other year levels are asked to keep the carpark clear for Prep parents until after 3pm.

NEW STAFF

We welcome several new staff members to our school and hope that they feel part of a very vibrant and highly skilled team. Welcome to:

Chelsea Reid Year 1	Timothy Lin Year 2	Ashley Trask Year 4
Karmern Tong Year 5	David Blackburn PE	Gary Guan Mandarin
Katrina Maisano Aide	Mark Clark OH&S	Trevor McLaughlin Facilities

NEWSLETTER EACH TUESDAY

The newsletter is distributed to all families each Tuesday electronically via Xuno. Keep up to date with school events and important dates by checking the newsletter each week.

MORNING ARRIVAL TIME

Classrooms are open for students at 8.45am, ready for a 9am start. Teachers are on duty in the playground and on the front crossing from 8.45. Realistically, parents are arriving with their children and watching them play from around 8.30. Students in senior classes may also be involved in sports training in the early morning and are supervised by PE staff. However, if you need to be at work early, Camp Australia offers Before Schol Care. It is not safe for children to be left unsupervised in an empty playground.

WILMA CULTON PSM

ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#) and the [Schools' Privacy Collection Notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

CHILD SAFETY AND WELLBEING AT SERPELL PRIMARY SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES AND THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Serpell Primary School is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety framework includes policies, codes and procedures that explain how we support and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students and protect them from harm. These documents are available on our website. We are also committed to continuous improvement of our child safety framework. We are currently reviewing our child safety policies and practices to ensure they are up-to-date and effective.

Our students and families are important partners in this process. We welcome your feedback or ideas on ways we can improve our approach to child safety and wellbeing.

If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Kristele Efthimiou (Assistant Principal) at kristele.efthimiou@education.vic.gov.au.

2026 PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS

All families received their 2026 Parent Contribution Information paperwork.

- The contribution per child is \$200 which includes their authorised year level stationery supplies that are used in class (delivered to your home), online subscriptions used in class and classroom consumables for Art, Mathematics, English and Sport.
- Excursion/Incursion Levy (\$100 Prep to 6). This payment covers all the excursions and incursions students participate in during the year and will be published on Xuno for payment in February.
- Senior School Sport Levy - \$60 (year 6 only). This covers the bus transport for year 6 students participating in the Inter-school sport program in Semester 1. This amount will be published on Xuno for approval and payment in February 2026.
- Swimming and Camp are additional costs and will be published on Xuno for approval and payment at the time of the event.

Health Care Card (CSEF - Camp Sport & Excursion Fund)

- For families who have a Health Care Card, you are required to submit a new 2026 application along with your current Health Care Card. You can download the form from XUNO or pick up a paper copy from the office.
- The amount each child receives from the Government's CSEF is \$400. This payment comes directly to the school and will be held in credit against your child's account for the duration of their time at Serpell until it is all used. It can only be debited against the Camps, Sport, Swimming and Excursions.

School Saving Bonus (SSB)

- The SSB was a one-off payment for 2025 by the State Government. Any unspent money will sit on your child's school finance account until it is all used up. As previously advised, this can only be used towards Excursions, camp and swimming. You can no longer use it to purchase uniforms.

Note: All families with a Health Care Card and/or left over SSB funds will have these amounts debited from the Excursion Levy, Senior Sport Levy (if applicable) and future swimming and camps until it is all used up. If you have an amount to pay, we have already deducted any unused funds from the amount.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

There will be a second-hand uniform sale this Thursday 5th February at 9:00 am to 9:30am in the Canteen Foyer area at the back of the school.

NAMING UNIFORMS

At the end of last year, we had several bags of un-named uniforms at the office which have been donated to the 2nd Hand Uniform Shop. To avoid this please remember to write your child's name on their uniform labels. If you have purchased second hand uniforms and they already have a name on the label, please cross it out and write your child's name on it. Named uniform items will be returned to the child's class if lost.

SERPELL ORCHESTRA

Any student who learns an Orchestral instrument (not piano), is welcome to participate in the Orchestra. They should be able to read music and have a good level of sight reading. I will NOT be including percussion this year due to the repertoire chosen. Please see Miss Wuttke or email Susan.Wuttke@education.vic.gov.au if you would like further information or advice.

Rehearsals for Orchestra will start on Friday 13th February (Week 3) from 2:30pm – 3:30pm in the Hall. Students will be dismissed at 3:30pm from the Hall. There will be many opportunities for performances at assemblies throughout the year.

SENIOR CHOIR

Ms Carol Zhong will be conducting the Senior Choir again this year. She brings a great deal of experience and skill to this role. Any student from Year 3 to Year 6 is welcome to participate. Please see Ms Zhong in the 5CZ room or email her at Carol.Zhong@education.vic.gov.au if you would like further information. Rehearsals are on Tuesday lunchtimes from 12:30pm to 1pm in the Music Room. There will be many opportunities for performances at assemblies throughout the year.

JUNIOR CHOIR

Miss Wuttke will be conducting a new Junior Choir this year. Students from Year 1 and Year 2 are welcome to participate. Rehearsals will be on Monday lunchtimes from 12:30pm to 1pm in the Music Room. Please see Miss Wuttke or email Susan.Wuttke@education.vic.gov.au if you would like further information or advice. There will be many opportunities for performances at assemblies throughout the year.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

As we commence the 2026 school year, we extend our warmest wishes to all families for a positive and inspiring start. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the dedicated Class Representatives of 2025. Your unwavering support has been an invaluable pillar of our school community. Whether assisting with events, strengthening communication among families, or offering your time whenever needed, you have exemplified the values that define Serpell: respect, responsibility, kindness and community spirit.

Looking ahead, we strongly encourage more parents to join our Class Representative team in 2026. Becoming a Class Representative is a meaningful and rewarding way to engage more deeply with your child's class and to contribute to the life of the school. Class Representatives are responsible for preparing and distributing the Class Friendship List, helping to promote connections among students and families. In addition, each Class Representative is encouraged to organise at least one social activity per term to strengthen the sense of belonging within the class.

While many classes have traditionally had a single volunteer, our aim is to appoint two representatives per class to ensure balanced support and shared responsibilities. If your child is in any of the classes listed below, we warmly invite you to consider taking on this role. The time commitment is modest, yet the positive impact on our school community is significant.

<i>Prep</i>	PMR	PSF	PSB	PAR	PSC
Y1	1SW	1HS	1BR	1CR	
Y2	2KJ	2TL	2SD	2JA	2TH 2MR
Y3	3TS	3LD	3RC	3SW	
Y4	4CB	4SM	4CM	4JB	4NH 4RP 4RA
Y5	5ZH	5CZ	5LF	5BD	5KT
Y6	6SS	6NT	6LN	6JX	6NM 6RM

If you are ready to contribute to the vibrant spirit of Serpell, please contact me at serpellclassrep@gmail.com with your name, phone number, and your child's name and class. Together, we can continue to build a strong, connected and supportive school community. Thank you!

Karen Liu
Class Representative Coordinator
serpellclassrep@gmail.com



PARENT CLASSROOM HELPERS PROGRAM

CLASSROOM HELPER TRAINING TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN EARLY YEARS LITERACY

LEARNING: Morning sessions Term 1

Parent training sessions for the Classroom Helpers program will be offered on a **Wednesday** morning this term. These sessions are designed around the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening. If you are interested in assisting in the Prep, Year One or Year Two classrooms, attendance at the four training sessions is essential. If you would like to learn more about the way your child learns literacy skills, you are most welcome to attend. **There are four sessions each of approximately 90 minutes duration. You must commit to the whole four sessions.**

The following sessions will be held this term:

Wednesday 11th of February

Wednesday 18th of February

Wednesday 25th of February

Wednesday 4th of March

Time: 9.15-10.45am

Location: Staff Centre Administration building

No pre-school children please.

Please fill out the return slip below if you are interested in attending this Literacy Education Program and return it to the school office by **Tuesday the 10th of February**. We will be in contact with you before the workshops begin to confirm your place.

Daniel Packett
Assistant Principal

Parent Classroom Helper Program Sessions

I would like to attend the Parent Classroom Helper Program sessions this term.

Please print:

Name:

Child's name:

Child's teacher:

Email:

Contact Number:

A Year of Victory

Here is a photo collection of all our basketball teams' achievements from the past season.



Champion

Winning 12 games straight this season

Serpell Spiders
Coach: Yennie Khoo & Chris Gravina
Chelton Chan, Aiden Wang, Lachlan Li, Daniel Zhang, Reagan Chen, Harrison Lim, Bennett Keung and Jeremy Chow



Semi finalists

Serpell Sparkles
Coach: Sin
Chloe Huang, Noor Alalawy, Aurora Fei, Jackie Xu, Bianca Wen, Elise Li, Cassie He and Jaylin Xu



Serpell Super Pikachu

Coach: Sin

Aiden Hour, Austin Liu, Jasper Chan, Leo Li, Zachary Wang, Damon Andalib, Elias Louis Gaidatzis Donovan and Lucas Li



Serpell Sliders

Coach: Jackie Liu

Timothy Dong, Andrew Chen, Yankai Zhao, Issac Chen, Radman Haghighi, Aubrey Liu, Max Luo and Hauke Hu

Runner Up



Serpell Super Star

Coach: Michael

Mia Wang, Audrey Zhang, Annika Jeyarajah, Evelyn Hour, Mia Wong, Angelina Qin and Nideda Bimkam

Runner Up



Semi finalists

Serpell Superpower
Coach: Gary Magee
Davie Mak, Evan Magee, Hussain Al alawy, Casper Mak, Jayan Silvalingam, Joshua Sun, Qaidan Adapon and Adrian Li



A Year of Victory

Here is a photo collection of all our basketball teams' achievements from the past season.



Serpell Sevens

Coach: John
Ethan Chung, Eric Jacob, Calix Wong,
Marcel De Angelis, Alaa Kuwatli, Eden Syafiq and
Wilson Li



Serpell Spartans

Coach: Anthony Liu & Jared Rees
Elias Ng, Edward Wen, Noah Varghese,
Leo Rees, Jayden Win, Aaron Liu,
Akira Wijesuriya, Ethan Jia, Heath Clarke,
Roy Kim and Kingston Shi



Serpell Seekers

Coach: Mao
Max Wang, Ethan Shi, Ethan Huang, Bennett Su,
Henry Chen, Alex Hu, Isaac Zhou and Jerry Tang

Semi finalists



Serpell Super Sonic

Coach: Michael & Tim
Aston Pang, Rigved Bimkam, Kyle Leung,
Alexander Tan, Evan Chew, Reno Zhang,
Robert Yu, Aaryan Nayak and Charlie Eid



Serpell Scorpions

Coach: Sy Tran
Kayden, Sasha, Jeffery, Ryan, Nigel,
Agam, Jiewu, Christian and Dario

Semi finalists



Serpell Samurai

Coach: Sy Tran
Dennis Chen, Evan Tran, Charlie Tran, Sam Shafaie,
Ryan Kim, Moyi Xiao, Zack Kei Ting Vu, George Wang
and Adrian Kowsar

Champion

A Year of Victory

Here is a photo collection of all our basketball teams' achievements from the past season.



Serpell Slum Dunk

Coach: Michael

Marcus Huang, Jonas Li, Andrew Shao, Jayden Wong, Lucas Zha, Leo Zhang, Harden Wang and Alonzo Valdivia Wang



Champion

Serpell Strikers

Coach: Dave Lu & Ivan Chen

Jayden Lu, Henry Cai, Jeffrey Zhang, Matthew Han, Ocean Song, Max Wang, Yiwen Chen and Kyle Liu



Semi finalists

Serpell Snipers

Coach: Joey Lettieri & Sy Tran

Olivia Lettieri, Isabelle Truong, Pahal Bhambhani, Serena Tran, Olivia Li, Scarlett Tan, Thea Paik, Jieyu Wong, Deniz Seisanisian and Hana Khan



Semi finalists

Serpell Supernova

Coach: Michael

Chole Hu, Carol Narang, Lydia Wu, Hayley Yu, Angelina Qing, Chole Kim, Mia Wong and Bella Mak



Serpell Shimmer

Ellie, Aanya, Isla, Reyna, Aria, Ashley, Christina and Aishi



Champion

Serpell Seals

Coach: Aaron Chen

Ryan Chen, BingRui Xu, Colin Gao, Ryan Liang, Nathan Song, Zimo Ni and Jasper Chen





Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club Junior Community League (Spring 2025)

Grand Final Results 08 Dec – 11 Dec

SERPELL TEAM	SCORE		OPPONENT
Serpell SuperStars (1/2 Girls)	20	22	OLOP Starlets
Serpell Sliders (1/2 Boys)	12	43	Mariners – Rebound Warriors
Serpell Seals (1/2 Boys)	9	8	DG Supersonics
Serpell Samurai (1/2 Boys)	19	7	OLOP Rebels
Serpell Strikers (3/4 Boys)	33	30	Marwal Magic 2
Serpell Spiders (3/4 Boys)	20	16	SFX All Stars



Guiding children's growth

Newsletter

Date: 2/2/2026



A Message from your Coordinator

Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone to term one and a very special welcome to all the preps and families that are new to Serpell and Camp Australia.

A little bit about Camp Australia, for those who know us we are here to provide a supportive outside of school hours space for children to play, learn and grow through the experiences we provide.

We had an amazing time on our Rocketeers program. The children enjoyed many different experiences whether that was out on our many excursions.

Term one has just started, and we couldn't be more excited for the year! Our back-to-school theme made sure to get everyone back into the rhythm of school building good relationships amongst the children, as well as many different fun and exciting activities we have planned. If you book your child for after care and he/she is not attending or has extra activity and plan to come later that day, please inform us the same day before 3:30 P.M.

- Farnaz and Team

Activities Coming Up

- All about me activity
- Know yourself reflection
- Peer-to-Peer Survey

What's on the Menu?

Sandwiches
Fruit- veggies
Pasta



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT Serpell PS



why learn **CHESS** with us?

Chess is more than just a game — it's a powerful tool for learning!

Our program helps kids:

- ✓ Build problem-solving and critical thinking skills
- ✓ Improve focus, patience, and decision-making
- ✓ Learn sportsmanship and strategic thinking
- ✓ Boost confidence in a fun and supportive environment

Whether your child is a beginner or already knows the basics, our sessions are designed to be interactive, exciting, and age-appropriate.

Chess



Day: FRIDAYS

Time: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Cost: \$195 for 8 weeks

Starts on: 6 February

For Years: Years 1 - 6

Location: Library

**REDUCED
PRICING
IN TERM 1!**

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ONLINE
NOW!**

HURRY! Spaces are limited.



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How? Call or Email us!

**Scan or
click the
QR code
to enrol
online!**



1300 424 377

info@kidsunlimited.com.au



CODING

It's after-school fun at your school!



Get creative using design, code and logic
to build your own games!



Wednesday 4 Feb - 1 Apr
3:45PM - 5:00PM



Serpell Primary School



Years 2 - 6

www.codecamp.com.au/serpell

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Give Your Child the Gift of Music

Learn a Musical Instrument

here at school

Come and join in the fun of learning to play keyboard, flute, clarinet, violin, here at Serpell Primary School.

Creative Music for Schools conducts a music program here at school each week.

Small group classes or one-to-one lessons of up to 30 minutes give children an excellent grounding in music where they will learn to read music and play their chosen instrument.

Enrolments are now being accepted for limited places in term 1, 2026.

Interested parents should call Samantha during office hours on 9818 2333
or via email: samantha@creativemusic.com.au

 **Creative Music**
www.creativemusic.com.au

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AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

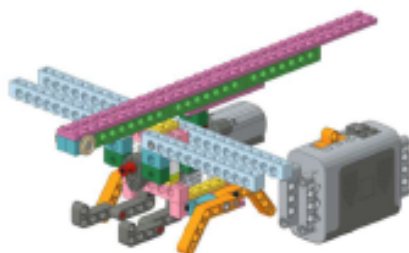
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Dragonfly ■



- **Motorised Technic**
- **Junior Robotics**
- **Advanced Robotics**

**COME FOR A FREE TRIAL
LIFE SCIENCE THEME for TERM 1**

SERPELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

MONDAY 3:45PM – 5:15PM

COST : \$25 per session

We will pick up the PREP students from their class when they finished at 3:30pm

Enrol Online at

<https://bricks4kidz.au/boroondara/>

For more information

Contact Derick Chong

p.0402 945 599

hychong@bricks4kidz.au

Personal Fan ■



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B4KMM

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