



DIARY

Wednesday 22nd July

Prep Excursion: Bundoora Park
(PMR, PSB, PLA, PAG)

Thursday 23rd July

Prep Excursion: Bundoora Park
(PSC, PAR, PSF)

Friday 24th July

Year 6 Excursion: Sports Museum
and MCG
Parents Association Meeting
2:30pm

Monday 27th July

ICAS Registration Closes

Wednesday 29th July

Yr 1 Excursion Royal Gardens

Thursday 30th July

Year 2 & 3 Concert Rehearsal
Year 2 & 3 Concert (7pm)
Aeroschools Victorian Gymnastics
Primary Competition

Friday 31st July

Social Action: Big Group Hug Free
Dress Day

Monday 3rd – Friday 14th August

Prep Swimming Program

Monday 10th August

Assembly Senior Choir
Performance

Wednesday 12th August

Year 5 Excursion: IMAX

Monday 17th August

Assembly Junior Choir
Performance

Monday 17th – Thursday 27th August

Years 1 & 2 Swimming Program

Monday 24th August

Assembly Orchestra Performance

Monday 31st August

Parent Teacher Interviews
(Students not required to attend)

Friday 4th September

Father's Day Breakfast

Tuckers Road, Templestowe,
Victoria 3106

Telephone: (03) 9842 8182

OSHC: 0424 454 961

Email:

serpell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website:

www.serpellps.vic.edu.au

Serpell Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 21st July 2026

From the Principal

GEOGRAPHY EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY

Our Year 4 students recently enjoyed an exciting excursion to the Melbourne Zoo as part of their Geography learning this term. The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to bring classroom learning to life!

Throughout the day, students investigated the ways in which animals depend on their habitats for food, water and shelter, while considering how seasonal changes and human activity can influence wildlife and ecosystems. They also participated in an engaging Geography / Science education program, where they explored how animals adapt to survive in different environments and the role we all play in protecting our natural world. The excursion was an enriching learning experience that encouraged curiosity, deepened students' understanding of geographical concepts.

"I learnt that we are able to predict what animals live in what places by looking at the habitats." - Luke 4JB

"I learnt that Tasmanian Devils are endangered because of infections and habitat loss." - Jiewu 4RA

"I learnt that habitat destruction causes animals to become endangered. Animals must be protected for future generations." - Katina 4RP



ASSEMBLY

Due to the AusAlert happening on Monday 27 July at 2 p.m. Please note the following times for assemblies:

Years 2 – 3: 2.05 – 2.30 p.m.

Years 4 – 6: 2.30 – 3.00 p.m.

Prep – Year 1: 3.00 – 3.30 p.m.

We are also looking forward to an exciting Aerobics Competition dress rehearsal during the Years 4–6 assembly, where our talented team will showcase their routine ahead of the upcoming competition. Families will also be treated to a delightful performance by our Prep AR students, featuring the much-loved *Nellie Bear*. We look forward to celebrating the enthusiasm, confidence and talents of our students as they share their learning with our school community.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT NATIONAL EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEM ALERT

We've been advised that a national test of [AusAlert](#) will happen across Australia on Monday 27 July at 2 p.m. AusAlert is a new, national emergency warning system. It sends warning messages to compatible mobile devices during emergencies, to keep people informed so they can act quickly. The Australian Government plans to launch AusAlert in October 2026. On Monday 27 July at 2 p.m., all [compatible mobile devices](#) will receive a [Critical Alert](#). Compatible mobile devices include phones, tablets, smart watches, safety watches, and some vehicle devices. These will vibrate and make a loud, siren-like warning sound for about 10 seconds. This will happen even if they are on silent or do not disturb. The message will clearly state that it is a test. No action is required from the test.

To minimise disruption, student phones and smart devices should always be switched off and stored securely in bags during the school day. You may also wish to let your child know that if they see or hear the alert, school staff will support them. You can learn more at [AusAlert: children and teens](#). Information is also available in other [languages](#).

Kristele Efthimiou
Acting Principal

YEAR 2 & 3 CONCERT NEXT WEEK

Dear Year 2 and 3 Parents and Carers,

Please join us for the Year 2 and 3 Concert - *Stage Spectacular* on Thursday 30th July 7pm at the Besen Centre.

There are still a limited number of tickets available. If you have not yet purchased your tickets, please book in as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

To ensure all families have the opportunity to attend, tickets are limited to three per family. Ticket prices are \$20 each.

Tickets are available for purchase via the link or QR code below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DNEOO>



Please note:

- Performing students do not require a ticket.
- Children over the age of 2 must have their own ticket and seat.
- When selecting your seats, please avoid leaving single-seat gaps between bookings. This will help maximise seating availability and allow more families to attend the event together.
- You must bring your ticket on the night for entry.

If you are unable to collect your child after the performance and have arranged for another adult (such as a friend or family member) to do so on your behalf, please provide written notification to your child's class teacher **before** the day of the concert. This will help us ensure all students are safely dismissed.

We look forward to seeing you there and celebrating our students' performances.

STATE CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday 16th of July, brothers Andre (Boys 11) and Archie (Boys 10) competed in the State Cross Country Championships at the Yarra Glen Racecourse. The boys had to compete in various races leading up to this, including our Serpell school trials, District finals, Division finals, Regional finals, and finally the state championships. Andre finished 33rd out of 89 students, and Archie came 40th from a total of 94 students. What an amazing effort from both the boys, competing against the best Cross Country runners in Victoria. Andre and Archie displayed great endurance and mental toughness on the day, as well as throughout their cross country journey this year. They should be extremely proud and satisfied with their enormous achievements. We wish the brothers all the best in their future sporting endeavours.



ORCHESTRA

Orchestra will resume in Term 3 Week 3, July 31st. Many thanks for your continued support of our wonderful musicians during Term 2. Thank you also to the students who rehearse and perform with such enthusiasm and musicality. Congratulations for your wonderful performances at assembly on Monday 15th June.

Miss Sue Wuttke
Music Teacher

MIXED TEE BALL AND NETBALL ROUND ROBIN

Last Thursday, two teams of Year 6 boys participated in the Manningham Division Mixed Netball and Tee Ball Round Robin tournaments. Both teams produced some great results on the day finishing runners up in their competitions and doing our school proud.

Our Tee Ball team had plenty of success with outstanding communication and fielding being the key highlights during each of our games. This led to us playing in a final against Warrandyte. Although we fell short in the final, the whole team displayed a positive spirit and gave our best effort. We would like to thank Mr Matthews for his outstanding coaching on the day and Miss Xu for her excellent advice during our morning training sessions.

Ethan O- 6NT

Our Netball team achieved some great results winning 4 out of our 5 games on the day. Major highlights included our ball movement when passing, our ability to put up some big scores and ongoing resilience when faced with various challenges each game. We would like to thank Miss Nixon and Mr Thuys for their great coaching on the day and the support they showed during training sessions.

Marko S - 6LN

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A big thank-you to our amazing Class Representatives for strengthening the Serpell community! But we aren't done yet, the following five classes still need passionate Representatives.

Y2	2TL	
Y4	4CM	4JB
Y5	5BD	5KT

Ready to make a difference? Email me at serpellclassrep@gmail.com with your name, phone number, and your child's name and class. Let's work together! Thank you!

Karen Liu

Class Representative Coordinator
serpellclassrep@gmail.com

ICAS

ICAS competitions are open to all students in Years 2 - 6.

The tests will take place in year level classrooms in Term 3. This year, Serpell will offer the following assessments:

Subject	Sitting Date	Cost (AU\$)
Digital Technologies	3-7 Aug	\$21.95
Writing	3-7 Aug	\$25.95
English	10-14 Aug	\$21.95
Science	17-21 Aug	\$21.95
Spelling Bee	17-21 Aug	\$21.95
Mathematics	24-28 Aug	\$21.95

An announcement has gone out on Xuno with further information about registration, the letter has also been attached at the end of the newsletter.

Payments will need to be made direct to ICAS. Please note, **registrations will close July 27**. For any further information, please contact Mr Zubevich.

Mr Zubevich
Learning Specialist

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

We will be holding our next **Parents Association (PA) Meeting on Friday, 24th July, from 2:30pm to 3:30pm**. All parents and community members are warmly welcome to attend.

During the meeting, we will continue planning and contributing ideas for our upcoming **Father's Day Event**. Your input and support are greatly appreciated, and we look forward to working together to make the event a success.

Date: Friday, 24th July
Time: 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Everyone is welcome!

PARENT CLASSROOM HELPER PROGRAM



CLASSROOM HELPER TRAINING Morning Sessions Term 3

Parent training sessions for the Classroom Helpers Program will be offered on a **Wednesday morning** during Term 3 in the staff centre. 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, and you must commit to the whole four sessions.**

The following sessions will be held in Term 3 at 9.15 - 10:30 am:

Wednesday 5th August

Wednesday 12th August

Wednesday 19th August

Wednesday 26th August

Please fill out the return slip below if you are interested in attending this program and return it to the school office no later than **Tuesday 4th of August**. We will be in contact with you before the workshops begin to confirm that we have sufficient numbers to run these classes.

Daniel Packett
Assistant Principal

Parent Classroom Helper Program Sessions

- ☐ I would like to attend the Parent Classroom Helper Program sessions in Term 3.
Please print clearly-

Name:

Child's name:

Child's teacher:

Email address:



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We know our students are amazing, so we're giving them the opportunity to showcase and celebrate their talents in the world-renowned ICAS competition this year.

What is ICAS?

ICAS is an online academic competition that gives students the opportunity to challenge their higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in **English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling Bee, and Digital Technologies**.

ICAS results are in-depth and meaningful, and ICAS evaluates student performance against other competition entrants across the state and nation. The data reveals student strengths and weaknesses and can help you recognise and support your child's academic journey.

Learn more about ICAS [here: \(icasassessments.com/products-icas/\)](https://icasassessments.com/products-icas/).

ICAS results and certificate

Every student who participates is celebrated and recognised with a printed certificate in each subject area, and an online results report to track development each year. Top performers are eligible for one of the highly coveted ICAS medals.

Your child's ICAS certificates will show their results and the login details, "TAP ID and Pin". - Use these to enter the **Results Portal** (<https://orti.icasassessments.com/ortiStudent>).

How to participate in ICAS

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please go to the Parent Portal to register for your chosen subjects.

Direct login link

Use this link to log directly into the shop and start registering (DLN351 is the School Code):

<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/parent-payment/DLN351>

Registration for all subject areas closes on **Monday 27 July at 11:59pm**.

This year, our students can elect to sit the following assessments:

Subject	Sitting Date	Cost (AU\$)
Digital Technologies	3-7 Aug	\$21.95
Writing	3-7 Aug	\$25.95
English	10-14 Aug	\$21.95
Science	17-21 Aug	\$21.95
Spelling Bee	17-21 Aug	\$21.95
Mathematics	24-28 Aug	\$21.95



Please note, we cannot facilitate refunds or make alterations as all money is paid directly to ICAS Assessments.

Read the terms and conditions [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/icasa-terms-and-conditions/#icas-parents): (<https://www.icasassessments.com/icasa-terms-and-conditions/#icas-parents>).

Privacy collection statement

The following information is a privacy notification about how your child's data is kept private and secure.

ICAS Assessment is owned by Janison Solutions Pty Ltd (We, Us, Our).

*To deliver assessment products, Janison will require your child's School to obtain your consent to provide Janison with certain personal information of students. Janison will collect, store, use, disclose and otherwise deal with such personal information in accordance with its privacy policy (below). We are aware of our responsibility to protect personal information related to children and students from being disclosed when we deliver an ICAS Assessments product. Unless you, as the child's legal guardian consents, we **will not***

- collect any personal information or data of children other than the information we need for the successful completion of an assessment, test, or exam.*
- transfer any personal information we obtain from a child in the delivery of assessments and tests to any jurisdiction outside of Australia.*
- share any personal information relating to children with any third parties (except for those third parties necessary for us to carry out our Services or provide our Products e.g., medal engraving).*
- use any personal information or data relating to children for marketing purposes.*

You can view our full privacy policy at <https://www.janison.com/privacy-policy/>.

We may retain personal information and data relevant to a child for their future purposes or for research purposes by Janison for the duration of the school life cycle of the child. However, if you or your child at any time wish to have their personal information or data removed from our systems, they or you may opt out by simply contacting our Privacy Officer at privacy@janison.com or by contacting icasassessments@janison.com.

We are proud to be offering ICAS to our students this year and encourage you to consider entering your child. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Lachlan Zubevich
Director of Learning Innovation and Data Strategy

Book Club **LOOP**

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform.

It's easy to order and pay online for your child's Book Club order using your credit card. If your school is not yet in the **LOOP**, speak with your school's Book Club Organiser.

Head to **[scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP)**

or



Follow these **easy** steps!

1 Simply grab your child's Book Club catalogue and either **SIGN-IN** or **REGISTER** your account.

2 Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for), then select your **SCHOOL** and your **CHILD'S CLASS**.

Note: You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school.

Looking for **MORE** product information? Additional content such as videos and downloads are available for select titles. Select your issue and enter the item number to view information on titles and some great resources, such as videos and reviews.

[HOME](#) | [ABOUT](#) | [REGISTER](#) | [HELP](#)



LOOKING FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION?

7

ITEM NO.

FIND

3 Click on **ORDER** and enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue.

4 All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date.

That's it! There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school.

SCHOLASTIC





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: 24 July

For Years: Years 1 - 6

Location: Library

**ENROL
ONLINE
NOW!**

HURRY! Spaces are limited.



Book A Trial

How? Call or Email us!

Scan or
click the
QR code
to enrol
online!



1300 424 377

info@kidsunlimited.com.au



- * FUN
- * CONFIDENCE
- * SELF DEFENSE

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PRIMARY SCHOOL**



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LESSON**

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TODAY**

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