



DIARY

**Monday 17th – Thursday 27th
August**

Years 1 & 2 Swimming Program

Tuesday 18th – Friday 21st August
Prime Minister's Spelling Bee (see newsletter for year level dates)

Monday 24th August
Assembly Orchestra Performance

Monday 24th – Friday 28th August
Book Week

Friday 28th August
Book Parade

Monday 31st August
Parent Teacher Interviews
(Students not required to attend)

Tuesday 1st September
Year 2 Excursion: Melbourne
Museum and IMAX (2TL, 2TH,
2SD)

Wednesday 2nd September
Year 2 Excursion: Melbourne
Museum and IMAX (2MR, 2MF,
2KJ, 2JA)

Thursday 3rd September
District Athletics

Friday 4th September
Father's Day Breakfast

Monday 7th September
Year 6 China Exchange Departs

Friday 18th September
Last day of Term (2:30pm Finish)

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 18th August 2026

From the Principal

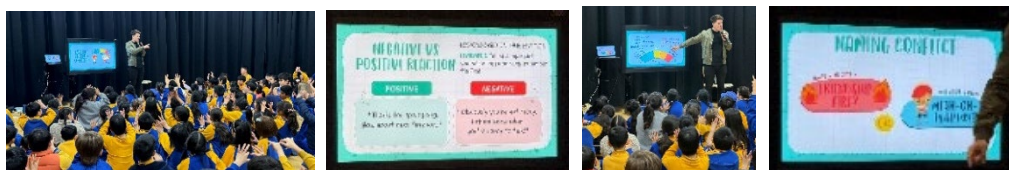
2026 PARENT / CARER OPINION SURVEY

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Carer Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Carer Opinion Survey will be open online from Monday 17 August to Friday 18 September 2026. All families are invited to participate in the survey. The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. Results will be used to inform and direct our future school planning and improvement. We ask you to please take the time to complete the survey as your opinions are important to us and will contribute to the future management and organisation of our school. Parents have received the survey link and the password via Xuno. Please respond at your convenience by the final day of this term.

WELLBEING AT SERPELL

Our Years 1–6 students recently took part in engaging URSTRONG Friendship Workshops, building the skills and confidence to develop healthy, respectful friendships. Students explored the four Friendship Facts, used the Friend-o-Meter to reflect on their friendships, and learned practical strategies for managing conflict, both in person and online. They also explored the difference between everyday Friendship Fires and Mean-on-Purpose behaviour, helping them navigate friendships with greater empathy, trust and respect. We encourage parents to chat with their children about what they learned and invite them to share some of the strategies they can use to build strong and positive friendships.



JUNIOR CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Our Junior Choir delighted us with a beautiful winter-themed performance of Snowdrop and Jack Frost at assembly. Their lovely singing brought a touch of winter magic to the stage, and we are incredibly proud of their confidence and enthusiasm. We look forward to the Orchestra performing at assembly next week. We encourage families to join us and enjoy another wonderful showcase of our students' talents.

Assemblies will be held at the following times:

Years 2 – 3: 2.00 – 2.30 p.m.

Years 4 – 6: 2.30 – 3.00 p.m.

Prep – Year 1: 3.00 – 3.30 p.m.



Kristele Efthimiou
Acting Principal

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Semester 2, 2026

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held online via **Webex** on **Monday 31st August**, from **9:00am to 3:30pm**.

Booking Details

- **Bookings open:** Monday 10th August at 10:00am via Xuno.
- **Bookings close:** Friday 21st August at 4:00pm.
- **Webex links:** Your child's teacher will email you their Meeting Room Webex link on Friday 28th August.

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 Hellene.Nicolaides@education.vic.gov.au with your child's name, grade, and preferred time. She will then confirm your booking by replying to your email.

We look forward to connecting with you.

YEAR 5'S EXCURSION TO IMAX MELBOURNE

On Wednesday, the Year 5 students went to the Melbourne Museum to watch two IMAX films. The children enjoyed watching *A Beautiful Planet* and *Wild Asia*, both of which were shown in 3D. These films connected with our Geography unit by showing students different continents and environments, both from space and from the perspectives of the animals we share our world with. They also learnt about conservation and explored ideas related to sustainability.

"I made a text-to-world connection about climate change during the part about the melting ice. I also liked how the panda was hugging its mum in Wild Asia."

"A part of the movie that I can relate to is when the filmmakers said, 'I am freezing but there's a snow leopard in front of me.' That reminds me of when I climbed a mountain and it was freezing and windy, but the view was amazing."

"I felt a connection with how the astronauts were feeling when they were in space. Sometimes I feel very small compared to Earth. Next, we watched Wild Asia. (...) It was interesting and showed me many things I didn't know before, like how sea bunnies can be toxic because of the sea sponges they eat."

Bailey, Ocean and Alyssa from 5CZ



MARIO KART SUCCESS

Last Wednesday 12 August, the Year 6 Mario Kart team represented Serpell at Genazzano FCJ College in Kew to compete in the FUSE Cup. There were 72 competitors across 10 schools all competing in the Melbourne Metro Primary School Division. All our 8 Serpell competitors made the top half overall and some of us made the finals but it was Darshan who scraped through the semi finals on a tiebreak and go on to finish equal 2nd in the final. Thank you to Mr Thuys, Mr McIndoe and Mr Saviane for coaching us. Also thank you to Mrs Culton for giving us the opportunity to compete in this competition.

Royce L 6NM



PRIME MINISTER'S SPELLING BEE

Year Level	Date
3	Friday 21 st August
4	Thursday 20 th August
5	Tuesday 18 th August
6	Wednesday 19 th August

ICAS ASSESMENT DATES

Year	Spelling	Maths
2	Wed 19 th August	Wed 26 th August
3	Mon 17 th August	Wed 26 th August
4	Wed 19 th August	Mon 24 th August
5	Thurs 20 th August	Mon 24 th August
6	Thurs 20 th August	Tues 25 th August

BOOK WEEK



Book Week Monday 24th – Friday 28th August 2026 "Symphony of Stories"

Book Week is fast approaching, and we are looking forward to celebrating our love of reading in the library, classrooms and with our annual costume parades. The theme for Book Week this year is "Symphony of Stories"- a great theme for creative costumes and of course, wonderful reading!

Three fabulous Australian authors will be visiting Serpell P.S to inspire our young readers.

Monday 24 th August	Tuesday 25 th August	Wednesday 26 th August
Coral Vass with Prep, Year 1 and 2 students	Rachel A. Spratt with Year 3 and 4 students	Damian Callinan with Year 5 and 6 students

Our costume parades will be held on **Friday 28th August**. Children are encouraged to come to school dressed as a book character, and to bring a copy of the book their character is from.

Looking forward to a great Book Week!

Library Staff
Hellene Nicolaides and Sam Pratt

PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE

Well done to the students who have already completed the Premiers' Reading Challenge for 2026. If you are participating in the Challenge, you have until the 4th September to finalise your book lists. Keep up the good work and read, read and read some more. Certificates will be delivered in Term 4.

Of course, you don't need to stop reading once you've finished the Challenge. Why not immerse yourself in the wonderful world of books in preparation for the PRC 2027.

Ms Gardner
Library

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Father's Day Breakfast Volunteers Needed

The Father's Day Breakfast is only a few weeks away, and we need a few more helping hands to bring this special event to life.

Each year, hundreds of families attend to celebrate fathers, grandfathers and special role models in our children's lives. Behind the scenes, this event is made possible by volunteers.

At the moment, volunteer numbers are lower than we had hoped. If you have some spare time on the morning of **4 September**, we would be deeply grateful for your support.

No special skills are required. Whether you can help for part of the event or the entire morning, your contribution will help create a warm and memorable experience for our families. Please consider signing up today and helping us show what makes the Serpell community so special.

Volunteers are needed for:

- Event setup
- Food and drink service
- Ticket checking and punching
- General assistance during the event
- Pack-up after the event

Sign up via the MySchool Connect App or website. Please see further instructions on Volunteer Sign-up at the end of this newsletter.

Thank you for helping us create a memorable morning for our families.

Dawei Li

Serpell Primary School Parent Association

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

We are seeking Class Representatives for the following five classes.

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

To volunteer, please email me at serpellclassrep@gmail.com with your name, phone

number and your child's details. Thank you for supporting our school community!

Karen Liu

Class Representative Coordinator

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to Angelina from 2TH on her results at the Jump Dance Challenge – Melbourne Groups 2026!

She achieved 2nd Place in the 8 Years & Under Lyrical Large Groups and 4th Place in the 8 Years & Under Jazz/Commercial Jazz Large Groups. Well done on these achievements!



Congratulations to Hayley from 2MR who performed on violin at the Monash Music Festival competition on Saturday 15 August and achieved 1st Prize. Well done on your achievement!



MISMATCHED SHOES

We have had two mismatched black Skechers shoes, sizes 3 and 2, handed in after a student appears to have accidentally taken home another child's shoe.

Could parents and carers please check their child's shoes to ensure they are wearing matching shoes and that they have not mistakenly brought home a shoe belonging to another student.

If you find a black Skechers shoe that does not belong to your child, please return it to the school office. Thank you for your help.



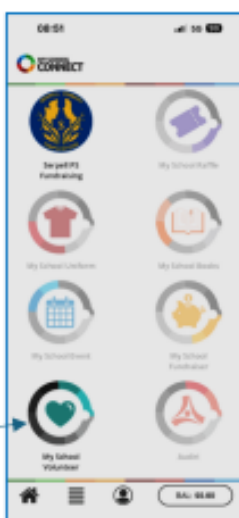
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP INFORMATION



Serpell Primary School Parents' Association Fundraising App EVENT VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these quick & easy steps to get started:

<https://myschoolconnect.com.au/register?t=parent>

Step 1. Log in to your 'My School Connect' app Select the 'My School Volunteer' icon at the bottom of the screen		Step 2. My Rosters page will appear. You can now select 'View * sign-up'	
Step 3. Select the 'Sign up' time you are able to volunteer and complete the details. <i>Remember to include your Working With Children Check number</i>		Step 4. You will receive an automated reminder 7 days prior to the event and another reminder 2 days prior to the event.	

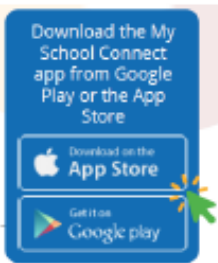
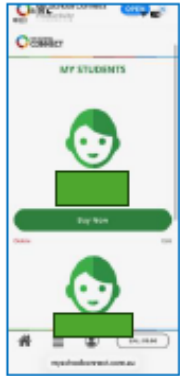
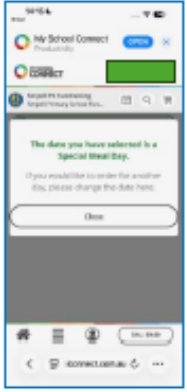
TICKET INFORMATION



Serpell Primary School Parents' Association Fundraising App

Follow these quick & easy steps to get started:

<https://myschoolconnect.com.au/register?t=parent>

Step 1. Download the My School Connect app from your app store or visit		Step 2. Create your account & register your Serpell student/s	
Step 3. Select Serpell Primary School Fundraising		Step 4. Select date from Calendar (Friday 4th September)	
Step 5. Ticket Sales MUST close Friday 28th August.		Step 6. Select Menu, Father's Day Breakfast Order for each Adult and each Student attending	



Bulleen Templestowe Basketball Club Junior Community League (Spring 2026)

Results 10 August – 13 August

	SERPELL TEAM	SCORE		OPPONENT
1/2 Girls	Serpell Shimmer	14	2	Mariners - Sparkling Bears
	Serpell Swans	18	0	The Great ThunderCats
1/2 Boys	Serpell Slam Dunk	14	4	Mariners - The Slam Clam
	Serpell Skyhawks	14	2	Marwal Magic 5
	Serpell Super Pikachu Power	10	9	Tempy Park Bears
	Serpell Spartans	10	14	Tempy Park Lions
	Serpell Super Sonic	8	7	The Great Panthers
3/4 Girls	Serpell Stars	14	4	Boroondara Park Bears
3/4 Boys	Serpell Sevens	11	33	Serpell Seekers
	Serpell Samurai	6	18	OLOP Rebels
	Serpell Shooters	15	20	Serpell Scorpions
	Serpell Scorpions	20	15	Serpell Shooters
	Serpells Seekers	33	11	Serpell Sevens
5/6 Girls	Serpell Snipers	20	6	Mariners - The Mighty Saints
	Serpell Storm	2	22	Serpell Storm
5/6 Boys	Serpell Spiders	11	10	OLOP Sonics
	Serpell Savages	26	19	The Great Sonics



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SAVE \$25 Use coupon code **FLYER25** at checkout

Supported by  **W GROUP**

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

or  GET IT ON 

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?

- 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



KARATE AT SERPELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every Wednesday Evening
6:00 - 7:00pm

Call or email Robert
For a free trial class
0404 846 166
robertsck@hotmail.com



SCK
SHUJI CHIKARA KARATE

Doncaster Little Aths



2026

COME & TRY DAY

SUNDAY 13TH SEPT
2:30 - 4:30 PM

Ages 5 to 17
All abilities welcome



 doncasterlac.org.au/come-try-day-2026

Tom Kelly Athletics Track
Rieschiecks Reserve
125 George St, Doncaster East, VIC 3109