Nanneella Estate Primary School

Newsletter: Term 3 Week 6

August 19th, 2026

From the Acting Principal—Sandi Spittal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and productive time at Nanneella Estate Primary School. It is wonderful to see our students continuing to grow in confidence, independence and their learning. As a small school, we are very fortunate to have a close and supportive school community where every student is known, valued and encouraged to do their best.

Teaching and Learning

Our students have been working hard across all areas of the curriculum. We continue to focus on building strong foundations in reading, writing and mathematics, while also encouraging students to become confident and independent learners. Our teachers are working together to ensure learning is purposeful, engaging and meets the individual needs of our students.

Student Wellbeing

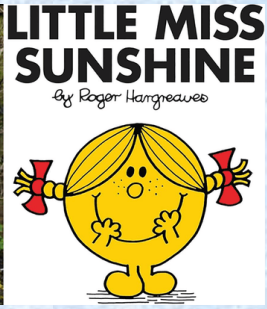
Student wellbeing continues to be an important focus at Nanneella Estate Primary School. We are continuing to incorporate the Resilience Project into our school routines, with students developing their understanding of gratitude, empathy, mindfulness and emotional literacy.

Our school values of being **Responsible, Courageous and Considerate** continue to guide the way we work and interact with one another. It is lovely to see students demonstrating these values in the classroom, during play and as they support one another.

Book Week Dress Up Day – Monday 24th August and Friday 28th August

We are excited to celebrate Children's Book Week on Monday 24th August and Friday 28 August. Students are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character for the day.

Children's Book Week is an annual celebration of books, reading, Australian authors and illustrators, and the joy that stories bring to children. It is a wonderful opportunity to encourage a love of reading and to celebrate the many characters and stories that capture our imaginations.



Book Dress Up Parade will be at 10.30am followed by morning tea finishing at 11.30am

We can't wait to see the school filled with characters from some of our favourite books!

SCHOOL VALUES: Considerate, Responsible, Courageous

2026 TERM DATES

TERM 1

Tuesday 28th January—
Friday 2nd April

TERM 2

Tuesday 20th April—
Friday 26th June

TERM 3

Monday 13th July—
Friday 18th September

TERM 4

Monday 5th October —
Friday 18th December

OUR SUPPORTERS IN 2026

Nanneella General Store
Apex Club Echuca/Moama
Moama Bowling Club
Brady Electrical
Firepits R Us Kyabram
Sports Power Rochester
Bridgestone Echuca
Bunnings Echuca
Lions Club Rochester
Rotary Club Rochester
Rochester RSL
Breakfast Club
James Anderson—Tree Salvage Victoria, Rochy
Jim's Mowing—Echuca/ Moama

School Hours

8:45am to 3:00pm

Parents should contact the school to discuss alternative arrangements if needed.

We acknowledge the Bangarang / Yorta Yorta People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered.

We welcome all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to our school.

Attendance Update

Attendance Matters
Every student. Every day.

Regular attendance is very important and makes a significant difference to student learning. In Victoria, all children aged 6 to 17 are required to attend school every day unless an exemption has been granted, and parents and carers must provide an explanation for any absence.

Every day at school provides students with opportunities to learn, connect with their friends and participate in the routines and experiences of school life. Thank you to our families for supporting regular attendance and helping our students make the most of their learning opportunities.

Student Wellbeing – The Resilience Project

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

Student wellbeing continues to be an important focus at Nanneella Estate Primary School. This year, we have been incorporating The Resilience Project into our school routines and learning. The program provides students with practical strategies and skills to help them manage emotions, develop positive relationships and build resilience when faced with challenges.

The Resilience Project focuses on four key areas: Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy. Through classroom discussions, activities, stories and everyday experiences, students are learning to recognise and understand their emotions, appreciate the positive things in their lives, show kindness and empathy towards others, and develop strategies to manage difficult feelings and situations.

These skills are particularly valuable for children as they navigate friendships, learning challenges, changes and the many different emotions they experience as they grow. The program encourages students to understand that it is okay to experience difficult emotions and, importantly, helps them develop strategies to respond to these emotions in positive and constructive ways.

The Resilience Project also complements our school values of being Responsible, Courageous and Considerate. Together, these provide students with a strong foundation for developing confidence, positive relationships, emotional awareness and resilience.

We look forward to continuing our Resilience Project journey and building these important life skills into our everyday school environment.

DATES TO REMEMBER – 2026	
TERM 3	**August**
Monday 24th—29th	Book Week Dress up Monday 24th Parade—10.30am Morning Tea— 11.00 (normal class starting @ 11.30) Dress up Friday 28th
	September
Wednesday 16th	Cluster Science Day @ Elmore Primary School
Friday 18th	Last day of Term 3—Footy Colours Day Lunch provided—Finish 2.00pm

Children's Book Council of Australia (CBCA)

Shortlisted Books 2026

The theme of this year's Children's Book Week is 'Symphony of Stories'. Book Week is held during 22nd – 28th August. Below are all the shortlisted books in each category.

Helen McLaren

(MARC Librarian)

ONE STEP AT A TIME PROGRAM: PARENT SUPPORT FOR CHILDHOOD ANXIETY

Swinburne Psychology Clinic

Parents / guardians:

Do you have a primary school-aged child experiencing symptoms of anxiety?

Clinicians at Swinburne University have developed a program to help parents manage childhood anxiety in children aged 6-11 years.

Does your child experience any of the following?

- Difficulties sleeping at night due to worries
- Fears and phobias
- Difficulty separating from you or worrying about parental safety
- Trouble sleeping alone in their bed
- Fear of the dark
- Scared of lifts, trains, and people
- Fear of dogs and other animals
- Excessive worry and constant reassurance seeking
- Fear of germs and other health problems

The One Step at a Time Program involves:

- Comprehensive psychological assessment of your child's anxiety
- Seven sessions of online counselling through video conferencing
- Parent-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) skills to help you manage and support your child's anxiety
- Two combined parent-child sessions
- Reflective parenting strategies
- Access to a website with self-help materials to supplement therapy.

Cost

$20 per session/assessment. Treatment consists of seven therapy sessions plus one assessment session.

Contact us

Referrals and enquiries can be made by contacting the Swinburne Psychology Clinic at:

Telephone: 03 9214 8653

Email: psychprojects@swin.edu.au

OR, by accessing the online registration form by using the QR Code or the link below:

https://forms.office.com/r/kxjjie5YcM

Child Safety and wellbeing at Nanneella Estate Primary school

Information for families and the school community

The Victorian Government has announced new Child Safe Standards to further strengthen child safety across organisations, including schools. The new standards recognise the critical importance of families and the broader school community in maintaining and promoting child safety and well being.

Nanneella Estate PS has reviewed and updated our child safety policies and procedures to ensure they meet the requirements of the new standards. These are available to view on our school website, via uEducateUs, and the general office @ school.

We are committed to continuous improvement in our approach to child safety and wellbeing and welcome feedback from families and members of our school community on ways we can further strengthen our child safety policies, procedures and practices.

If you have any suggestions, comments or questions, please contact Nanneella Estate PS at nanneella.estate.ps@education.vic.gov.au or by phone on 03 5484 5395.

There are 11 Child Safe Standards:

Standard 1: Culturally safe environments – Establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued.

Standard 2: Leadership, governance and culture – Ensure that child safety and wellbeing are embedded in school leadership, governance and culture.

Standard 3: Child and student empowerment – Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.

Standard 4: Family engagement – Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

Standard 5: Diversity and equity – Equity is upheld and diverse needs are respected in policy and practice.

Standard 6: Suitable staff and volunteers – People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice.

Standard 7: Child-focused complaints processes – Ensure that processes for complaints and concerns are child focused.

Standard 8: Child safety knowledge, skills and awareness – Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training.

Standard 9: Physical and online environments – Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.

Standard 10: Review of child safety practices - Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved.

Standard 11: Implementation of child safety practices – Policies and procedures that document how schools are safe for children, young people and students.

FOUR CRITICAL ACTIONS FOR SCHOOLS

Responding to Incidents, Disclosures and Suspicions of Child Abuse

YOU MUST TAKE ACTION

As a school staff member, you play a **critical role** in protecting children in your care.

- You **must** act, by following the Four Critical Actions, as soon as you witness an incident, receive a disclosure or form a reasonable belief * that a child has, or is at risk of being abused.
- You **must** act if you form a suspicion/ reasonable belief, even if you are unsure and have not directly observed child abuse (e.g. if the victim or another person tells you about the abuse).
- It is strongly recommended that you use the ***Responding to Suspected Child Abuse template*** to keep clear and comprehensive notes, even if you make a decision not to report.

** A reasonable belief is a deliberately low threshold. This enables authorities to investigate and take action.*

1 RESPONDING TO AN EMERGENCY

If there is no risk of immediate harm go to **Action 2**

If a child is at immediate risk of harm you **must** ensure their safety by:

- separating alleged victims and others involved
- administering first aid
- calling **000 for urgent medical and/ or police assistance** to respond to immediate health or safety concerns
- identifying a contact person at the school for future liaison with Police.

Where necessary you may also need to maintain the integrity of the potential crime scene and preserve evidence.

2 REPORTING TO AUTHORITIES / REFERRING TO SERVICES

As soon as immediate health and safety concerns are addressed you **must** report all incidents, suspicions and disclosures of child abuse as soon as possible. Failure to report physical and sexual child abuse may amount to a criminal offence.

Q: Where does the source of suspected abuse come from?

WITHIN THE SCHOOL

VICTORIA POLICE

You **must** report all instances of suspected child abuse involving a school staff member, contractor, volunteer or visitor to Victoria Police.

You **must also** report **internally** to:

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or leadership team
- Employee Conduct Branch
- DET Incident Support and Operations Centre.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or leadership team
- Diocesan education office.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or school chairperson
- Commission for Children and Young People on **1300 782 978**.

All allegations of 'reportable conduct' **must** be reported as soon as possible to:

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

- Employee Conduct Branch

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- Diocesan education office

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

- Commission for Children and Young People on **1300 782 978**.

WITHIN THE FAMILY OR COMMUNITY

DHHS CHILD PROTECTION

You **must** report to DHHS Child Protection if a child is considered to be:

- in need of protection from child abuse
- at risk of being harmed (or has been harmed) and the harm has had, or is likely to have, a serious impact on the child's safety, stability or development.

VICTORIA POLICE

You **must also** report all instances of suspected sexual abuse (including grooming) to Victoria Police.

You **must also** report **internally** to:

GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or leadership team
- DET Incident Support and Operations Centre.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or leadership team
- Diocesan education office.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

- School principal and/or chairperson.

For suspected student sexual assault, please follow the **Four Critical Actions: Student Sexual Offending.**

OTHER CONCERNS

If you believe that a child is not subject to abuse, but you still hold **significant concerns** for their wellbeing you **must** still act. This may include making a referral or seeking advice from:

- Child FIRST/The Orange Door (in circumstances where the family are open to receiving support)
- DHHS Child Protection
- Victoria Police.

3 CONTACTING PARENTS/CARERS

Your principal **must** consult with DHHS Child Protection or Victoria Police to determine what information can be shared with parents/carers. They may advise:

- **not to contact** the parents/carer (e.g. in circumstances where the parents are alleged to have engaged in the abuse, or the child is a mature minor and does not wish for their parent/carer to be contacted)
- **to contact** the parents/carers and provide agreed information (this must be done as soon as possible, preferably on the same day of the incident, disclosure or suspicion)
- **how to communicate** with all relevant parties with consideration for their safety.

4 PROVIDING ONGOING SUPPORT

Your school **must** provide support for children impacted by abuse. This should include the development of a ***Student Support Plan*** in consultation with wellbeing professionals. This is an essential part of your duty of care requirements.

Strategies may include development of a safety plan, direct support and referral to wellbeing professionals and support.

You **must** follow the **Four Critical Actions** every time you become aware of a further instance or risk of abuse. This includes reporting new information to authorities.

CONTACT

DHHS CHILD PROTECTION

AREA

North Division **1300 664 977**
South Division **1300 655 795**
East Division **1300 360 391**
West Division (Rural) **1800 075 599**
West Division (Metro) **1300 664 977**

AFTER HOURS

After hours, weekends, public holidays **13 12 78**.

CHILD FIRST

https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/referral-and-support-teams

ORANGE DOOR

https://www.vic.gov.au/familyviolence/the-orange-door.html

VICTORIA POLICE

000 or your local police station

DET INCIDENT SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS CENTRE

1800 126 126

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT UNIT

1800 126 126

EMPLOYEE CONDUCT BRANCH

(03) 9637 2595

DIOCESAN OFFICE

Melbourne **(03) 9267 0228**
Ballarat **(03) 5337 7135**
Sale **(03) 5622 6600**
Sandhurst **(03) 5443 2377**

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS VICTORIA

(03) 9825 7200

THE LOOKOUT

The LOOKOUT has a service directory, information, and evidence based guidance to help you respond to family violence: http://www.lookout.org.au

Family violence victims/survivors can be referred to **1800 Respect** for counselling, information and a referral service: **1800 737 732**.

PROTECT