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Emerson Newsletter

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Junior & Senior Campus

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Welcome to Emerson School's iNewsletter

Dates to Remember

March

- 9th - Labour Day Public holiday
- 17th - School Photo Day
- 26th - Investiture of School and House Captains

April

- 2nd - Last Day of Term 1
 - Middle School Campus finishes at 1:45pm - Buses have been notified
 - Jnr/Snr School Campus finishes at 2:00pm - Buses have been notified

2026 Victorian school term dates

| 2026 | Start date | Finish date |
|--------|------------|--------------|
| Term 1 | 28 January | 2 April |
| Term 2 | 20 April | 26 June |
| Term 3 | 13 July | 18 September |
| Term 4 | 5 October | 18 December |

2026 Curriculum Days

| Term | Date |
|------|----------------------|
| One | Tuesday 27th January |
| Two | To Be Advised |

| | |
|-------|---------------|
| Three | To Be Advised |
| Four | To Be Advised |



Principal's Report

By John Mooney

Labour Day Public Holiday – Monday, 9th March, 2026

On next Monday we celebrate our Labour Day holiday in Victoria. We have been celebrating this holiday since 1879.

In 1856, a recognition of an eight hour working day was achieved. Prior to that 12 or more working hours per day were commonplace. This pioneering achievement supported the balance of 8 hours work, 8 hours sleep and 8 hours recreation in every day.

We can thank the Victorians of 1856 (170 years ago) for this long weekend.

John Mooney

Principal



Value of the Fortnight

By Dianne Wright - Middle School Principal

Value: Cleanliness

We will continue our study of the value, Cleanliness, next week. There are many ways we can help keep our environments clean. Teachers have been talking about the importance of REDUCE. REUSE. REPAIR. RECYCLE. RECOVER.

We make very little use of the resources we already extract when we could be feeding them back into the resource loop, preventing litter from entering the environment and waste going to landfill.

Here are some of the waste challenges facing us: Balloons, Batteries, Bottled Water, Cigarette Butts, Drink Containers, E-Waste, Fast Fashion, Food Waste, Junk Mail, Packaging, Plastic Bags, Plastic Straws, Single -Use Coffee Cups, Tyres and Vapes.

Please log into this site to see what you can do to make a difference.

<https://www.cleanup.org.au/waste-challenges/>





Koorie Kitchen Experience

On Tuesday March 3rd, our Koorie students, alongside Mrs William, cooked up a storm in the kitchen, celebrating traditional flavours and cultural learning through food.

The menu featured a beautiful selection of berries, leafy greens, and root vegetables — ingredients that reflect the rich food sources traditionally gathered from the land.

For protein, students prepared kangaroo, chicken, and duck, seasoned with native spices including lemon myrtle and saltbush, along with other traditional flavourings. Some dishes were carefully improvised to closely represent the foods that would have originally been sourced and cooked.

The students embraced the experience with enthusiasm and curiosity — and there has already been talk of trying crocodile in a future session!

To finish, we enjoyed stewed blood plums, a close representation of Gubinge (also known as Kakadu plum). While staying true to tradition, we may have indulged just a little — whipped cream was available for those who wished to add a modern twist.





2026 School Photos

MSP Photography will be onsite on Tuesday, 17 March for Emerson School Photo Day.

What's being photographed

- Class photos
- Individual portrait photos
- Sibling photos (for families who request them)

Please ensure students arrive in full school uniform. Late arrivals or early pickups may prevent your child from having their photo taken, as students are expected to be present all day.

Sibling photos will also be available for families who have requested them.

A **Backup Photo Day** is scheduled for **Wednesday, 25 March**.

If you would like to order School Photos, an ordering envelope was sent home with Students on Wednesday March 4th, you can follow the instructions on the envelope to order online or return payment and order in the envelope to Emerson.

Student of the Week



Junior School Awards

| | | |
|-----|------------|--------------------|
| JSA | Eli A | Positive Pal |
| JSB | Timur B | Smile Maker |
| JSC | Eric T | Friendliest Friend |
| JSD | Deana B | Handy Helper |
| JSE | Mannat O | Excellent Effort |
| JSF | Amelia E | Caring Heart |
| JSG | Yahya D-W | Math Wizard |
| JSH | Michael K | Excellent Effort |
| JSI | Victoria H | Amazing Artist |
| JSJ | Tyler T | Math Wizard |
| JSK | Jordan G | Creative Kid |
| JSL | Henry L | Most Curious |



Student of the Week



Middle School Awards

| | | |
|-----|------------|---|
| MSA | Indie A | For following all instructions and doing her best |
| MSB | Isabella E | For following instructions and doing all of the activities in class |
| MSC | Rashidul R | For always trying his best in class |
| MSD | Daniel F | For always having a positive attitude with all work tasks |
| MSE | Miley C | For doing all of her classwork with a high standard |
| MSF | William E | For having such lovely manners and doing his office job so well |
| MSH | Harshita P | For working well independantly in class |
| MSI | Layla M | For displaying resilience during Ramadan |
| MSJ | Angelia T | For showing leadership and being responsible and respectful in and out of the class |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Artists of the Week | Ashton MSB, Xavier MSI, Jasmine MSJ and Cameron MSK |
| ESO Student of the Week - ESO Lanka | Dallas MSA, For doing great work in literacy lessons |
| Principals Award | Imran MSK, for helping 2 students work through their conflict |



Milkshake Awards

Indie A

Isabella E

Rashidul R

Daniel F

Miley C

Malisa A

Harshita P

Layla M

Angelia T

Cameron S

Dallas S





Sports Stars

| | |
|-----|-----------|
| JSF | Teish F-B |
| JSF | Justin C |
| JSK | Janidu N |
| MSK | Zar J |
| MSK | Domenic P |
| MSL | Josh T |
| SSI | Jake W |
| SSP | Elina G |
| SSV | Ben B |





Bus Awards

Term 1, Week 6 Awards

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Endeavour Hills | Cameron S |
| Narre Warren | Rylee E |
| Cranbourne | Joshua N |
| Pakenham | Madeleine L |
| Noble Park | Mu A |
| Dandenong | Kaiser E |

Congratulations!



Their Care Autumn School Holiday Program

Their Care's upcoming holiday program will run from 7 April to 17 April,

Please find below links to the flyer, a priority form, and booking form.

The priority and booking form must both be completed and returned to Their Care.

Hard copies are also available in the reception of both Campuses.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, 20 March 2026.

Program

Manager

Vildan Dede Agca



Announcements

Foodbank Mobile Supermarket

Foodbank will operate a "Mini Supermarket" from North Dandenong Neighbourhood Centre, providing much-needed food relief to Emerson School Families.

Families can choose from a selection of dairy, bread, fruit, vegetables and other healthy food staples.

Emerson Families can pick up a voucher from the office of either Campus, the voucher will need to be presented at the Foodbank Mobile Supermarket.

The Mobile Supermarket will be held at the Dandenong North Neighbourhood Centre, 41 Menzies Ave, Dandenong North.

Dates:

- *Wednesday 4 March*
- *Tuesday 19 May*





CSEF Applications are now open for 2026.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provide payments for eligible students to attend activities like school camp or trips, swimming and school organised sport programs, outdoor education programs and/or excursions and incursions.

Parents with an eligible government Pension, Veteran Affairs or Health Care Card can apply. If you have already claimed CSEF at Emerson, you will not need to re-apply in 2026.



2026 Youth MYKI Card

During 2026, select students will participate in the Travel Education Program. Students will travel on PTV and require a MYKI card.

\$5.00 annual Youth MYKI cards are available to all students under 18 years old. Families will be required to purchase a MYKI card for each child.

Click on the following [Youth Myki link](#) to purchase the MYKI online, OR, go to a manned Train Station to purchase the card. Once purchased, all travel is FREE. If you order the MYKI online the Myki card will be posted to your home with your child's name printed on the card. This saves confusion of who the card belongs to.

If you are having any challenges with buying a MYKI card or registering the MYKI please email Christine.marlow@education.vic.gov.au and I would be happy to make a time to assist you.

Remember to check the Compass portal for permissions for your child to attend excursions.

Compass keeps all information current which is best for your child for medical information, emergency contacts, etc. Compass makes it quick and easy for parents and staff. Please ask the office if you need help using Compass.

Kind regards,

Christine Marlow

Travel and Road Safety Education

Emerson School



EMERSON SCHOOLSCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION 2026

At Emerson School we have a School Council of 15 members.

- 8 Parents who are not employed by the Department of Education (Two year terms)
- 4 Department of Education employees (Two year terms)

- 1 School Principal
- 2 Co-opted Community Members (Two year terms)

TOTAL: 15 MEMBERS

Every year the terms of office of half of the parent members and half of the Department of Education employees expire. Retiring councillors are eligible for re-election if they still qualify as a parent of the school or are a Department of Education employee according to the conditions of category membership.

PARENT MEMBERS

In March 2026, the terms of office of four parent members will expire. Akila Buddhipala, Emma Hill, Carmel Webster and Adeel Ahmed have declared themselves available for re-election.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

The terms of office of two councillors in this category will expire in March 2026. Jenny La'Brooy and Pam Mohan have declared themselves available for re-election.

KEY DATES

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Friday, 20th February, 2026 | Call for nominations |
| 2. Friday, 27th February, 2026 | Close of nominations |
| 3. Friday, 6th March, 2026 | Distribution of ballot papers if required |
| 4. Friday, 13th March, 2026 | Close of ballot |
| 5. Tuesday, 17th March, 2026 | Declaration of Poll |
| 6. | |

Nomination forms for the above positions are available from our Business Manager, Mel Nicholson.



JOHN MOONEY, PRINCIPAL AND COUNCIL ELECTION RETURNING OFFICER

20th February, 2026



Important Reminders

School Start and Finish times

We kindly remind all parents and guardians to please ensure that children are dropped off and picked up within our school's operating hours. Arriving on time helps children settle into their day, attend all of their classes, and maintain continuity in their learning.

Timely pick-up at the end of the day is equally important, as it allows us to operate safely and responsibly within our scheduled hours. Your cooperation plays a vital role in supporting your child's education and ensuring a smooth day for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

| JNR/SNR Campus | | Middle Campus | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Monday | 9:00am - 3:00pm | Monday | 9:00am - 2:45pm |
| Tuesday | 9:00am - 3:00pm | Tuesday | 9:00am - 2:45pm |
| Wednesday | 9:00am - 3:00pm | Wednesday | 9:00am - 2:45pm |
| Thursday | 8:50am - 3:00pm | Thursday | 8:50am - 2:45pm |
| Friday | 8:50am - 3:00pm | Friday | 8:50am - 2:45pm |

**Please note—THURSDAY morning is Houses and FRIDAY morning is Assembly
Both ARE held at the MIDDLE SCHOOL Campus**

Reminder to wear Hats for Term 1

It is compulsory for students to wear hats for Terms 1 & 4.

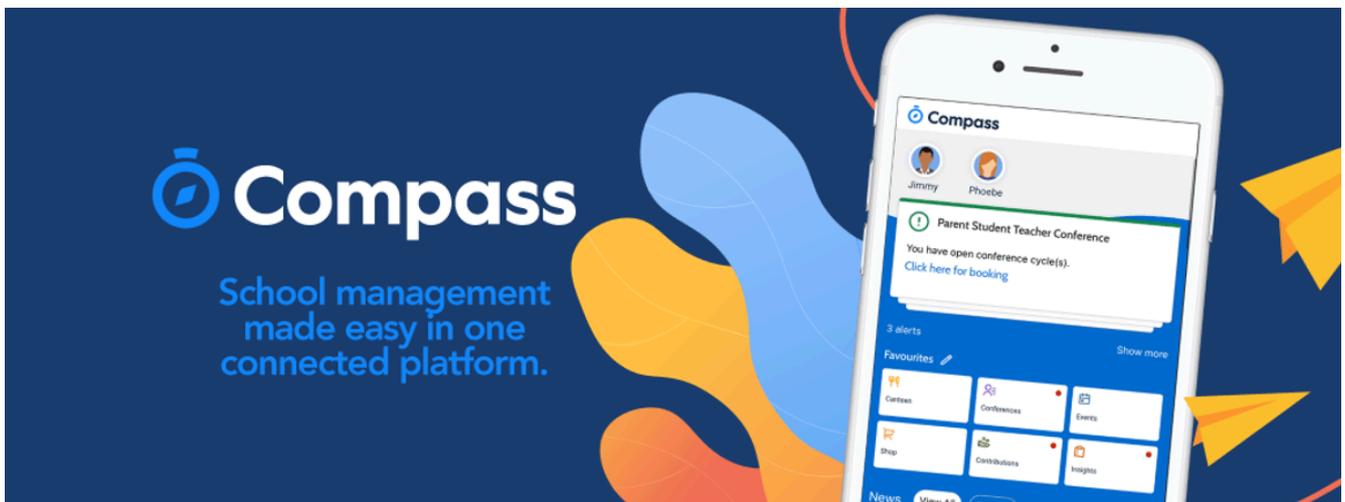
We also strongly suggest that sunscreen is applied and a water bottle is brought to school to keep hydrated.

Students are not permitted to wear hats depicting offensive or illegal logos.



Subway orders are available to students each week on a Wednesday.

There are special Subway envelopes available at the office of either campus. Please fill in details with the correct money included and hand these to the Office any time before **Tuesday 10:00 am each week.**



Compass

Emerson School will be no longer sending home paper consent forms and instead will be using the Compass Management System.

All Parents and carers of Emerson School now have access to the Compass School Management app and can now access the following features.

- Monitor your child's attendance, and enter an explanation for absence or lateness
- Download and view your child's academic reports
- Pay and provide consent for events such as excursions and camps, and pay school fees

You can download the Compass App on Apple iOS and Android devices, simply search for Compass School Manager in the store.



Access the website via the Emerson School [Website](#) page.

Access the website by searching the following link in your browser,

<https://schools.compass.education/>

Please contact the school if you need assistance with replacement log in details, logging in or resetting your password.

Jnr / Snr School - 9791 8900

Middle School - 8762 6466