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Emerson Newsletter

Issue 17 · 05 Jun 2026

Junior & Senior Campus

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Welcome to Emerson School's iNewsletter

Dates to Remember

June

- 8th - King's Birthday Public Holiday
- 18th - SSG Meetings
- 26th - End of Term 2
 - Middle School Campus finishes at 1:45pm - Buses have been notified
 - Jnr/Snr School Campus finishes at 2:00pm - Buses have been notified

July

- 13th - First Day of Term 3

2026 Victorian school term dates

2026	Start date	Finish date
Term 2	20 April	26 June
Term 3	13 July	18 September
Term 4	5 October	18 December

2026 Curriculum Days

Term	Date
Two	To Be Advised
Three	To Be Advised
Four	To Be Advised



Principal's Report

There have been many topics of discussion amongst students and staff this week.

One has been about the World Soccer Cup that is starting in the USA on the 11th of June with the final being played on 19th July. This will be an exciting opportunity for students, families and staff to track the performances of the 48 participating countries.

Another topic has been the conclusion of the Giro D'Italia in which Jai Hindley from Western Australia finished in third place. The Giro is one of the three 21 day cycling events for men and women in the world. The other two are conducted in France and Spain.

Another point of discussion has been the very cold weather. However, it would appear that an El Nino weather condition is forming over the Pacific Ocean. This could lead to a very dry Winter and Spring that will be followed by a drought in Summer. Let's hope that this is not the case!

It is very good to have discussions on matters such as these. It enables our students to make active contributions to verbal conversations and social interaction.

King's Birthday – Public Holiday – Monday, 8th June, 2026

I would like to wish everyone a relaxing long weekend that celebrates the King of England's birthday. In actual fact, King Charles' actual birthday is 14th November 1948. However, we celebrate his birthday on the first weekend in June.

John Mooney

Principal



Value of the Fortnight

By Dianne Wright - Middle School Principal

We will continue our study of the value Purposefulness next week.

When you are being purposeful you can achieve just about anything. Motivation comes easily because you know why you are doing something.

Without purposefulness it is easy to become distracted, and nothing gets accomplished. You never really finish anything.

Today we were very purposeful in raising funds for Neale Daniher's fight against MND. We wore our FREEZE beanies and donated to his fight.

Neale's purposeful attack on MND has raised over \$140 million. We will continue to carry on Neale's fight until we defeat the 'BEAST'!





FIGHT MND Fundraising

"Neale once said, 'When all is said and done, more is said than done. Let's **DO** something to fight MND."

On Friday June 5th, will be Emerson School's chance to **DO** something, we will be fundraising for The Big Freeze and Fight MND, in honour of Neal Daniher.

A limited number of Big Freeze Beanies are still available for purchase from the Middle School Front Office, with all proceeds going to the FIGHTMND charity.

Beanies are \$25 each and will be cash only. Available until Friday June 12, 2026.





Koorie Students and SSD Class Attend Reconciliation Event

Our Koorie students and SSD class recently attended the Dandenong ALL IN Reconciliation Event at Springvale Town Hall, hosted by the City of Greater Dandenong Council.

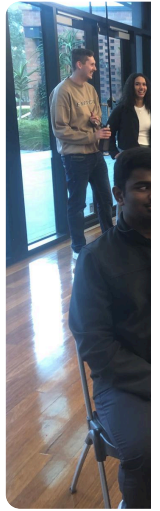
The day began with a Welcome to Country and opening proceedings by Uncle Mark Brown, followed by an address from the Mayor. These presentations highlighted the importance of reconciliation, respect, and strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community.

Students enjoyed a range of cultural experiences throughout the event, including an engaging performance by Indigenous Outreach Projects, traditional dance performances, and the opportunity to sample bush tucker. They also contributed to a community art project, joining others in creating a shared piece that reflected the spirit of connection and reconciliation.

The event provided a valuable opportunity for students to learn more about Aboriginal culture and history while celebrating the rich traditions and contributions of First Nations peoples. It was a meaningful day of learning, reflection, and community engagement, and our students represented the school with pride and respect.

We thank the City of Greater Dandenong Council and all organisers for providing such a welcoming and memorable experience.

Christopher Thompson
Educational Support Officer





Senior School Production

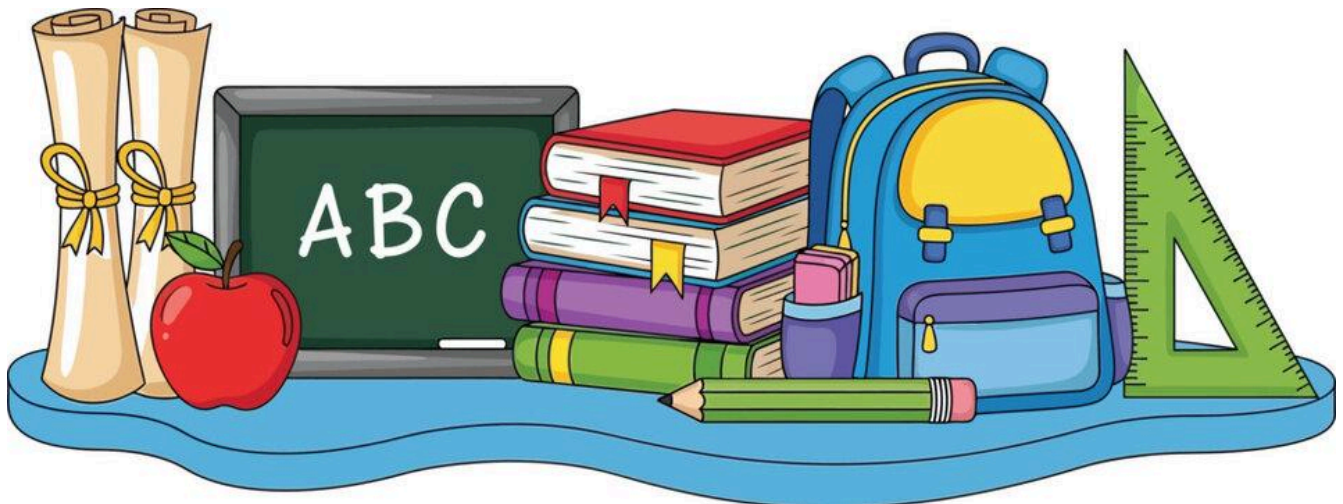
On Wednesday, Senior School production students, along with Mr Bowen, Miss Chong, Miss Orr and Sandy, participated in a supernatural participatory theatre show for teenagers.

The show titled Monsteen, explored several different themes relevant to teenagers in a fun and immersive environment. Taking place in a small theatre room in the city, Emerson students took on the role of their own characters and became a part of the show and story.

We learnt so much through guiding and supporting our students in a partly improvisational theatre performance, working with professional actors, and a full production team at Melbourne's RISING festival. Our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and fully embraced co-building a world together and getting into character.

These learnt skills and tricks of the trade will be invaluable when applied to future school productions for all involved staff and students.





Senior School Information

JOBSUPPORT

Employment for people with intellectual disability

SESSION HOST:
Jobsupport

Jobsupport is a non-profit organisation committed to improving employment outcomes for people with intellectual disability.

Jobsupport works to achieve this in two ways:

1. Providing employment services for people with moderate intellectual disability
2. Sharing information about 'what works' in achieving employment for the broader population of people with intellectual disability

Jobsupport's current 'What Works' initiatives include:

- Organising information sessions that share the available Government information on the employment outcomes achieved by each Disability Employment Service for people with intellectual disability. The information sessions are intended to assist people with intellectual disability in making an informed choice between services.
- In 2020 Virginia Commonwealth University (U.S.A.) and the University of Sydney finalised a world-wide review of the evidence-based practice literature on achieving employment for people with an intellectual disability. The review was commissioned by Jobsupport and the report is available on the 'What Works' page of the Jobsupport website.
<https://jobsupport.org.au/what-works/>
- Jobsupport is now working with Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Sydney to produce a series of videos about what works. The first video is on job customisation and will be available shortly on the Jobsupport website on the 'What Works' page.

PRESENTER:
Peter De Natris

Peter De Natris has had a lifelong career focuses on employment of people with disability.

From 2002 to 2014 Peter's work with Ageing, Disability and Home Care in NSW focused on early intervention programs. He was a key driver and architect of the very successful Transition to Work program administered by the NSW Government from 2004 until the implementation of the NDIS. This program supported over 500 people with disability a year, who were leaving school to explore their own journey to employment.

In 2014, Peter joined the National Disability Insurance Agency as a strategic adviser to continue his work in employment and was a key figure in continuing the focus of employment for school leavers as a major part of the National Disability Insurance Scheme early intervention approach. Peter has worked in, around and with all levels of Government on policy, strategy and programs, to improve life outcomes for people with disability, with a focus on early intervention that builds the capacity and capabilities of younger people to try work.

Driven by a passion to see the Australian commitment to rights of people with a disability realised, he recognises the possibilities of employment for school leavers as a key enabler to a more independent and happy adult life.

JOBSUPPORT

Employment for people with intellectual disability

School to Work - Make an Informed Choice

Jobsupport invites parents and teachers of school leavers with intellectual disability to hear about Employment Assistance/School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) funded by the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Jobsupport is committed to sharing information about what works according to up-to-date evidence. Peter De Natris will present the information sessions. *More info about Jobsupport and Peter on page 2.*

Why should you attend?

School leavers with intellectual disability can work in the open workforce when they get the right support.

The forum will provide information about:

- Best support practices linked to employment outcomes
- What you can do to get ready for Employment Assistance/SLES funding
- How to choose a provider
- Give you the opportunity to ask questions

Feedback from previous years:

- "Most useful information yet"
- "Thank you, Peter: a most informative presentation"
- "Excellent - great information"
- "Information that made sense at last"

These FREE sessions aim to inform all school leavers with intellectual disability, not just those eligible for Jobsupport's services.

When and where?



These free information sessions will be held in-person and online via Zoom.

Register using the QR code, or by calling Dani or Mikaela on 0488 550 612

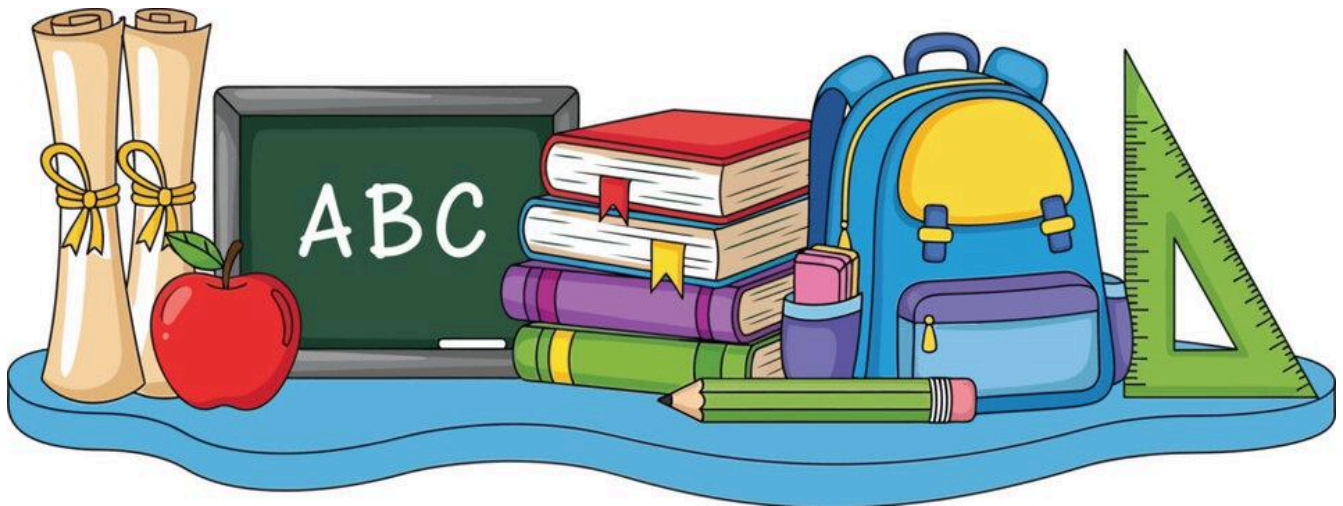
Monday to Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm
A meeting confirmation will be provided after registration.

Places remain for the following Zoom Sessions

Wednesday 3 rd June 9:30am - 11:00am	Thursday 11 th June 9:30am - 11:00am	Thursday 11 th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday 16 th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Wednesday 17 th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm	Thursday 18 th June 6:30pm - 8:00pm

In-Person Sessions Available

<p>Wednesday 10th June 10:30am - 12:00pm Mackenzie State Special School 26 Vivaldi Place, Mackenzie QLD</p>
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School News

Mr John Taylor and SSH have grown a very impressive pumpkin and staff were given the opportunity to guess the weight.

The pumpkin has officially been weighed, and the final weight was 13.9kg!

A huge congratulations to Christine McEvoy, whose guess of 13.8kg was the closest. Well done, Christine, on winning ownership of your brand-new pumpkin!

Now the hard work begins, you can start carving your horse-drawn carriage ready for the Emerson School Graduation!

Thank you to everyone who entered and supported the activity.



Student of the Week



Junior School Awards

JSA	Asma G	Best Buddy
JSB	Ha My T	Tech Wizard
JSC	Noah K	Wonderful Writer
JSD	Zara K	Colourful and Creative
JSE	Rahul S	Fabulous Friend
JSF	Sia I	Smile Maker
JSG	Yahya D	Amazing Handwriting
JSH	Sarah T	Amazing Writing
JSI	Kaiser E	Always compassionate, kind and has energy to learn
JSJ	Erin U	Wonderful Writer
JSK	Jordan G	Earth Hugger
JSL	Malkit S	Budding Artist



Student of the Week



Middle School Awards

MSA	Indie A	For doing her absolute best everyday and allowing others to have their turn
MSB	Minhaj A	For always being positive
MSC	Naksh S	For always showing enthusiasm during group discussions
MSD	Jesse M-E	For excellent participation in all classroom activities
MSE	Olivia K	For improving communication skills in MSE
MSF	Kyon W	For his improvement in his conversation skills and asking lots of questions
MSH	Tyson B	For an excellent first two days at Emerson
MSI	Alisa T	(from MSF) For cheering and applauding during Cross Country
MSJ	Braxton B	For sharing his creations from Youtube
MSK	Dylan K	For paying attention, listening carefully and answering questions in class
MSL	Kobi U	For making smart choices and showing respect to his friends

Woodworker of the Week	Indujaa - MSK, For having sustained effort and concentration whilst gluing her chair and clamping it with sash clamps
ESO Student of the Week	Kenzie - MSD, For remaining focussed and completing all class tasks
ESO Smitha	



Milkshakes Awards

Indie A

Minhaj A

Naksh S

Jesse M-E

Olivia K

Tyson B

Alisa T

Braxton B

Nathanial K

Dylan K

Kobi U

Indujaa M

Kenzie S





Bus Awards

Term 2, Week 7 Awards

Endeavour Hills	Jihad B
Narre Warren	Indego T
Cranbourne	Jaxon M-Q
Pakenham	Campbell D
Noble Park	Rashidul R
Dandenong	Ezra K

Congratulations!



Sports Stars

JSF	Scarlett J
JSK	Ephrain K
JSL	Albert W
MSA	Mohamed L
MSE	Olivia K
MSF	Paul T
SSB	Rylee C
SSE	Tiarnee J
SSS	Hassan H





After School Care Winter Holiday Program

Dear Parents/Carers,

TheirCare forms are now available for the Winter School Holiday Program.

Copies are available at both campus's as well as on Compass.

Please complete all forms and return to TheirCare or your child's campus.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOCATED THE FULL TWO WEEKS ATTENDANCE DUE TO LIMITED SPACES.

THINGS TO DO

Community Activities, Events and Tickets



PRE-LOVED TOY DONATION

If you have any unwanted, preloved toys at home, we would love to give them a second life! We are specifically looking for toys that could be used in the junior school for outdoor play in the sandpit, mud kitchen (plastic only please), dinosaurs, cars, animals etc.

Please drop them off at the front office at Junior/Senior Campus.

thank you



Open to performers aged 12-25

DANDY'S GOT TALENT PERFORMER APPLICATIONS

Keen to perform live? We are currently accepting performer applications from singers, rappers, dancers and bands. Applications close 31 May.

Final showcase: Thursday 9 July 2-30pm - 7pm
The Castle 61 Princes Hwy Dandenong

Prizes to be won

Apply to perform here

Greater Dandenong

AMLEY CITY RIDDIM

Apply to perform here

Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services
1900 001 1000
1900 001 1000
1900 001 1000

ELVIS CHARITY FUNDRAISER

LIVE MUSIC BY ANDREW PORTELLI

SILENT AUCTIONS, DOOR PRIZES, RAFFLES AND MORE!

SATURDAY 25 JULY 2026 6.30PM TO 12AM

TICKETS: \$75 PER HEAD INCLUDES BUFFET DINNER

BOOKINGS: 03 9595 1111

SANDOWN GREYHOUNDS RACING CLUB, VIEW ROAD, SPRINGVALE VIC
THROUGH THE ARCHWAY IN THE CAR PARK UP THE ESCALATORS

TO BOOK TICKETS PLEASE TEXT FULL NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING
ELVIS BOOKING ON 03 9595 1111 OR 03 9595 1111

For ages 12-25

CITY OF GREATER DANDENONG

AMPLIFY COMMITTEE

Facilitate about music, events, or performing arts!

Get backstage experience like:

- Stage and performance management
- Sound and technical production
- Planning and delivering community events

Thursday evening school term
4.30pm - 6.30pm
39 Clow Street, Dandenong

Formerly Fibre2A

For Ages 12-18

DIVERGENT DRAMA

Are you a neurodivergent young person who is passionate about sharing your story and developing drama skills?

Program running 4.30pm-6.30pm on Wednesdays during Term 3 in Dandenong
 Applications close July 8 2026

Develop drama skills
 Share your stories
 Make new friends

Program running 4.30pm-6.30pm on Wednesdays during Term 3 in Dandenong
 Applications close July 8 2026

Holiday Activities Committee

Tuesdays starting 25 August 2026
 4.30pm-6.30pm
 Youth Services Office, 39 Clow Street, Dandenong

Develop your talents
 Make new friends
 Become a Peer Leader

DANDY'S GOT TALENT

For 12-25 year olds and their friends and families
 Watch the performances by singers, dancers, and bands
 Free BBQ and snacks

Thursday 9 July
 2.30pm - 7pm
 The Castle
 451 Princess Hwy Dandenong

Performing bands: \$5
 On the door entry: \$10

BOOKING INFORMATION

- Bookings can be made via the Youth Services website: youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au
- Bookings for activities at 39 Clow Street Dandenong (by appointment only). Call Monday to Friday 9.30am - 5pm to make an appointment. To attend these activities you must live, study, work or have a significant connection to the City of Greater Dandenong and be aged between 12 to 25 years.
- Book in early as some activities will sell out. An online registration form must be completed with the young person's details and payment made to secure booking. Spots cannot be held.
- For activities that include a waiver, Youth and Family Services staff will assist with your registration. The waiver must be completed and returned to Youth and Family Services and/or the activity provider prior to the activity day.
- All booking cancellations must be made at least 48 hours prior to the activity for a refund unless otherwise stated. Please advise Youth and Family Services.
- Bookings are non-refundable under any circumstances.
- Activities are subject to weather conditions and may be cancelled if necessary or alternative activities arranged.
- Activities may be cancelled where booking numbers are low.
- Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to bus departure for activities. If you are late, the bus may leave without you.
- Young people must follow staff instructions at all times. Offensive or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated and may result in young people being asked to leave the activity and possibly not attend the rest of the holiday activities.
- Please bring your lunch and water bottle.
- There will be no time to buy lunch during activities.
- All activities and events are strictly no smoking, no vaping, no drugs, and no alcohol.
- Carers are welcome to assist young people with additional needs. Carers need to arrange their own transport. Please contact Youth and Family Services for further details.

GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES PRESENTS

WRITE IT OUT

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

REGISTRATION DATE	AGE CATEGORIES	PRIZES TO BE WON	PLUS
Friday 17 July	12 - 14 years 15 - 19 years 20 - 25 years	Kindle e-readers Prizes to the Emerging Writers' Festival Book packs from Readings	Enter the optional Illustration Competition

Scan here for more information

Follow us on Instagram: @greaterdandenongyouthservices
 Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/gd.youthservices

Locations for bus pick up and drop off points:
 D = Youth and Family Services, 39 Clow Street, Dandenong
 N = Noble Park Aquatic Centre, Memorial Drive, Noble Park
 S = Springvale Library, 5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale

Wheelchair accessible activity and/or venue.
 Please call 857 1620 for further details.

For further information about holiday activities and events, or if you have any referral enquiries, please contact Youth and Family Services on 857 1620, or visit us at youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services presents

Winter CHILLS

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES 2026

Scan here to register
 Bookings open Monday 18 May 10.00am and events For young people aged 12-25 years



Announcements

Middle School Bus Lanes

Due to several recent safety concerns, cars will no longer be permitted to use the bus lanes at the front of The Middle School Campus.

This includes dropping off and picking up students.

Cars can use the 2 car parks that are located on either side of The Middle Campus.



Student ID Cards

Student ID cards will be provided to all Emerson School students in the coming weeks.

The primary purpose of ID cards for Victorian Students is to support public transport concession eligibility and identity verification.

It can also be used with retailers, cinemas (like Village or Hoyts), museums, and software providers (like Adobe or Spotify) to unlock student pricing and deals.

CSEF Applications are closing 26th June, 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



Important Reminders



Please remember to label your child's school jumpers and jackets this winter season. It makes returning lost property easier.

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

Collecting Students during the day

We kindly remind all parents and guardians to please ensure that you avoid collecting your child/children during the below recess and lunch times.

Junior School	Junior School
Monday - Friday	Recess 10:30am-11:00am Lunch Eating Time 12:30pm - 12:45pm Outside Play 12:45pm-1:30pm

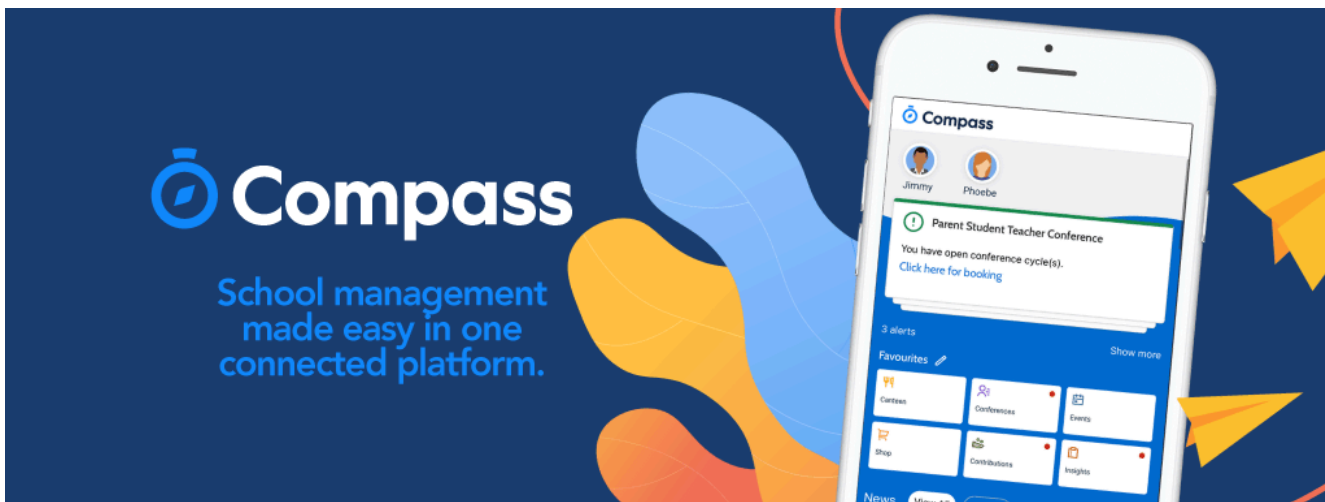
Middle School	
Monday - Friday	Recess 10:30am-11:00am Lunch Eating Time 12:30pm - 12:45pm Outside Play 12:45pm-1:15pm

Senior School	
Monday	Recess 10:30am - 11:00am Lunch Eating Time 12:30pm - 12:45pm Outside Play 12:45pm - 1:30pm
Tuesday - Friday	Recess 11:15am - 11:45am Lunch Eating Time 1:15pm - 1:30pm Outside Play 1:30pm - 2:15pm



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