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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

September

- 18th - Last Day of Term 3
 - Middle School Campus finishes at 1:45pm - Buses have been notified
 - Jnr/Snr School Campus finishes at 2:00pm - Buses have been notified

October

- 5th - First Day of Term 4

2026 Victorian school term dates

2026	Start date	Finish date
Term 3	13 July	18 September
Term 4	5 October	18 December

2026 Curriculum Days

Term	Date
Four	To Be Advised



Principal's Report

During this last week, Victorian schools have been celebrating Book Week. Students across the state have been attending school dressed as their favourite book character and bringing along the book that inspired them.

At this morning's assembly, our students and staff were dressed in character to celebrate their favourite book. It was a happy and exciting celebration!

There is no substitute for the importance of books in our lives. Libraries will always play a vital role in our communities. There is no doubt that reading a book is a personal experience that cannot be replaced by an electronic screen. I encourage all families to read a book together whenever possible.

Books encourage a deep appreciation of a story or a character. It is most important that young students are encouraged to participate in reading a book at an early age.

John Mooney

Principal



Value of the Fortnight

By Dianne Wright - Middle School Principal

We will continue our study of the value Kindness during the final days of August.

During the week we lost not only an amazingly talented singer and song writer, but also a very kind and thoughtful woman.

Ms Dolly Parton wrote a total of over 3,000 compositions. She wrote her first song at age six, called 'little Tiny Tassel top.' About 450 of her written songs were recorded.

The thing that I most loved about Dolly was her kindness, below is a list of all amazing ways Dolly showed Kindness to others.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library: Founded in 1995, this program has mailed over 300 million free, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five around the world.

The program sends a new, age-appropriate book every month to enrolled children.

Dolly was one of 12 children and came from a very poor family. She always thought that her father's life was very limited because he could not go to school and never learnt to read. Dolly said:" If you can read you self-educate yourself!"

The Buddy Program and Scholarships: Through the Dollywood Foundation, she provided \$500 to Sevier County students who finished high school (lowering the local dropout rate from 35% to 6%) and funded ongoing college scholarships.

Local Economy and Jobs: By opening Dollywood, she transformed her impoverished hometown of Sevierville into a thriving tourist economy, becoming one of the region's largest

employers.

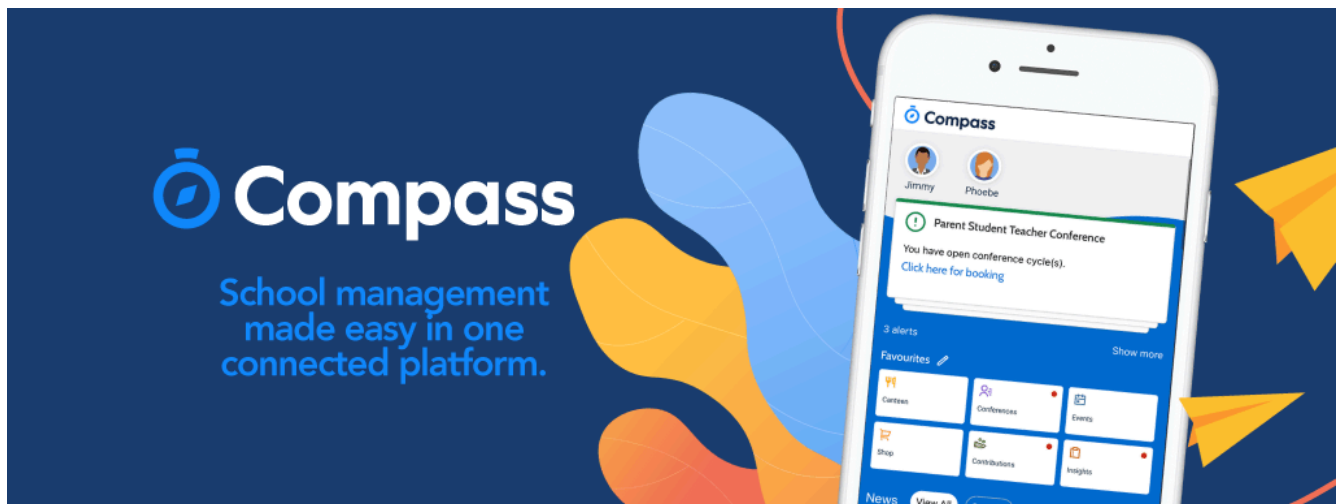
Employee Education Support: At Dollywood, her theme park covers full tuition, books, and fees for employees wanting to attend college.

My People Fund: Created in response to the devastating 2016 Gatlinburg wildfires, she distributed \$1,000 a month for six months to families who lost their homes.

Disaster Donations: She repeatedly gave \$1 million contributions to support recovery efforts after major floods and natural disasters in East Tennessee, including following Hurricane Helene in 2024.

Children's Hospitals: She donated millions to paediatric health, leading the East Tennessee Children's Hospital to rename a wing/facility in her honour.





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



Glasses for Kids Program

The Education Department and State Schools Relief have invited our school to participate in the **Glasses for Kids program** again this year.

Qualified optometrists will provide a vision screening, and if required further testing and glasses at no cost.

All screening and testing will be completed at school.

The program is available to students 5 – 10 years of age.

If your child already wears glasses they can participate and get a spare pair to keep at school.

Consent forms are being sent home this week. Please return promptly for organisation.

Please contact me if your student is older than 10 years and needs a vision screening.

Jenny La'Brooy
Assistant Principal.

How does the Glasses for Kids program work?

- GFK partners with qualified optometrists who will visit your child's school and offer your child initial vision screening and if required, further testing and glasses at no cost.
- All screening and testing sessions will be completed during school hours.

How can my child be part of the program?

- Please return the Consent Form and Optometrist Questionnaire to your school by the due date.

How do I get the results for my child?

- Your child will receive a letter about their vision screening outcome to bring home at the conclusion of our visit.

What if my child needs glasses?

- If the optometrist prescribes glasses for your child, GFK will provide them at no cost.
- Your child will have the chance to choose their glasses and be fitted on the day.
- Your child will be given a letter telling you why the glasses have been prescribed.

What if my child is nonverbal or from a non English Speaking background?

- They can still participate: the optometrists we partner with have resources and techniques to work with nonverbal or ESOI students.

Who can participate?

- Primary Schools: Prep - Year 3 students.
- Specialist Schools: Students aged 5 to 10 years old.

Can children who currently wear glasses be part of GFK?

- Yes, they can. If their glasses are less than 12 months old, please provide a copy of their latest prescription if available.

- If your child is already under the care of another optometrist, please share any relevant information on the Optometrist Questionnaire.

Do I have to return separate forms for each child?

- Yes, each student must have a signed Consent Form and Optometrist Questionnaire.

Do I have to provide Medicare details?

- It is preferred as any testing that may be required on the day of the visit may be bulk billed through Medicare. However, if your child does not have a Medicare card, they can still participate in the program.

What happens if the glasses are damaged?

- GFK will provide one (1) replacement pair at no cost, providing the initial pair is less than 12 months old.
- Parents or carers should contact their child's school to have a replacement pair ordered.

4 simple steps to be part of the Glasses for Kids program...

- 1 Read the information for Families Brochure
- 2 Complete the Consent Form and Optometrist Questionnaire
- 3 Give both forms back to school
- 4 Ensure that your child is at school on the day of visit





Announcements

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.

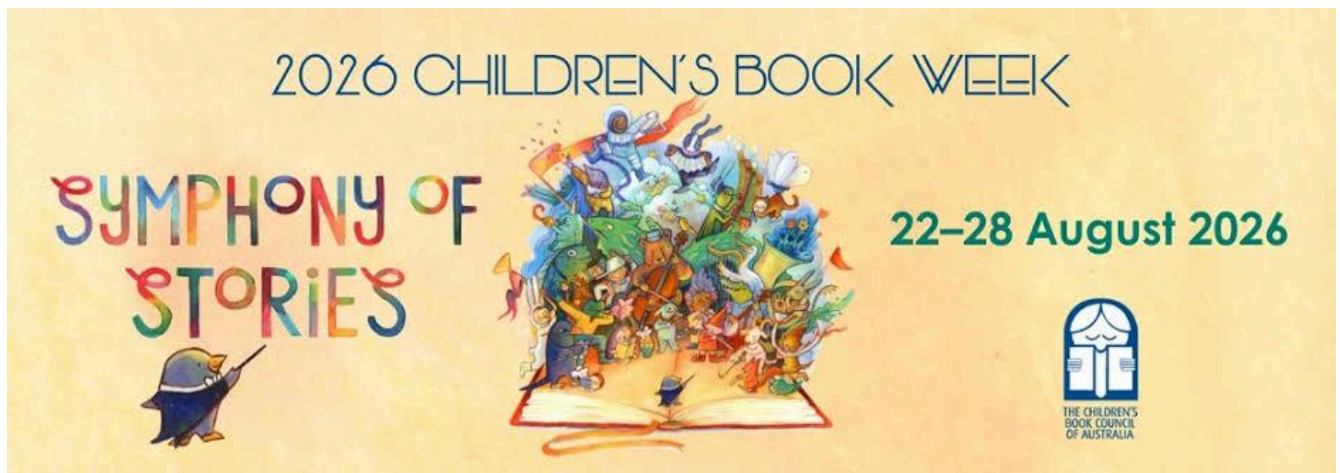
Compass keeps all information current which is best for your child for medical information, emergency contacts, etc. Compass makes it quick and easy for parents and staff. Please ask the office if you need help using Compass.

Kind regards,

Christine Marlow

Travel and Road Safety Education

Emerson School



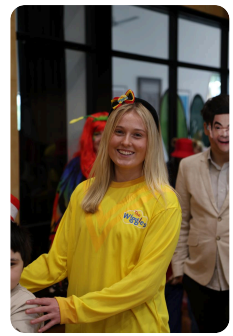
2026 Book Week

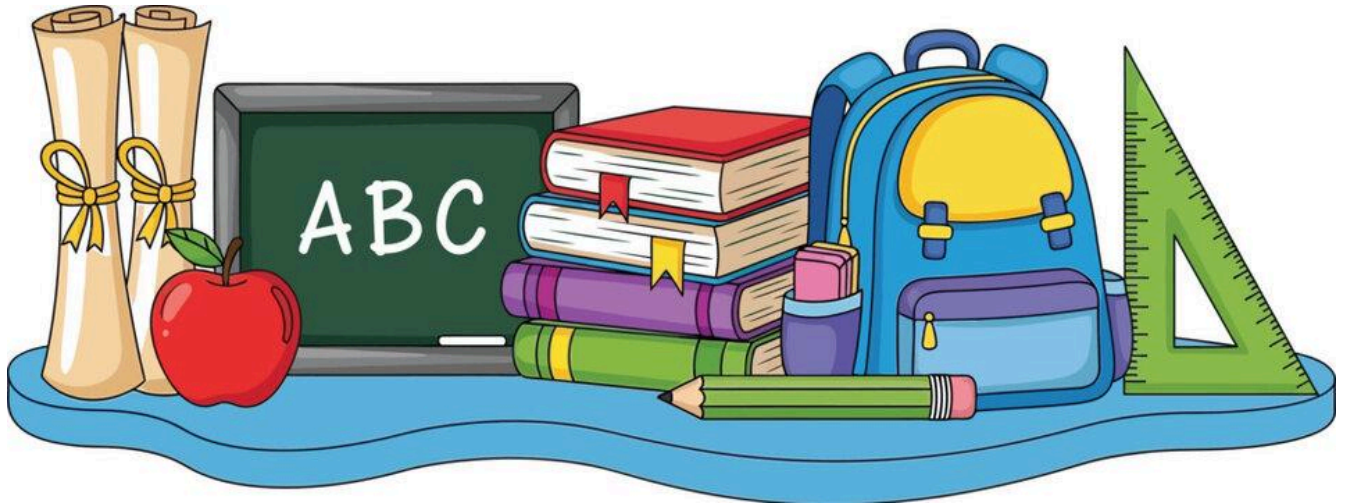
This year's Children's Book Week was celebrated from Saturday 22nd of August – Friday 28th of August.

Today Emerson had our whole-school dress-up, our students looked absolutely fantastic as they celebrated Book Week.

They embraced the spirit of the occasion by dressing up as their favourite book characters, bringing stories to life with their creative costumes and big smiles. It was wonderful to see everyone enjoying the celebration, sharing their favourite books and characters, and showing just how much they love reading.

Book Week was a fun and memorable day filled with imagination, creativity and plenty of school spirit!





Staff News

Emerson's favourite PE teacher Mr Hutching, recently received his Australian Citizenship.

He is a truly wonderful teacher from New Zealand whose kindness, dedication, and passion for education have touched the lives of many students and colleagues.

After making Australia his home, he has continued to inspire others through his generosity, wisdom, and commitment to his community.

Receiving his Australian citizenship is a proud and meaningful milestone, celebrating not only his journey and achievements but also the valuable contribution he makes to Australian society.

His new citizenship is a wonderful recognition of the life he has built here, and we warmly congratulate him on becoming an Australian citizen.





Important Reminders



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

Is your child/children being picked up and not needing to get on the School Bus? Please remember to inform reception as early as possible.

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.**



Faces of Emerson Blog

Another three articles are now up at the blog, including interviews with past student Sinai, staff members Janet D'Souza and Chris Winter (there's a fundraising link in Chris's article for those who'd like to support his efforts for Diabetes Vic).

Last week's stories included parent Melissa and her daughter, current student Phoebe, as well as staff members Chris Thompson and Mary Khawli.

Just a reminder to please check in each week for the latest stories featuring the staff, students, and families of Emerson. There are now dozens of stories at the *Faces of Emerson* blog, with more being added every Wednesday.

Grab a cuppa and read the most recent stories here:

<https://www.emersonsc.vic.edu.au/faces-of-emerson/>

Or just go to the school website's Home page, scroll down until you see the *Faces of Emerson* section and press the "View all stories" button.

Happy reading!

If you'd like your story to be included, please contact Research Officer, Jenni Campbell, at jenni.campbell@education.vic.gov.au or ask at the Junior/Senior campus front desk.



Emerson School Transport Code of Conduct for Students

Emerson School Bus Rules

Emerson students have the privilege of travelling to and from school on Government contracted buses that are provided free of charge to students. It is important that students appreciate this wonderful service by displaying politeness and good manners at all times while travelling on the bus. It is expected that all students will abide by the following rules to ensure a safe and happy journey is experienced by all.

BUS RULES

1. Students will stay seated in the seat allocated to them by the Supervisor.
2. Students will wear their seatbelt correctly.
3. Students will keep their hands and feet to themselves.
4. Students may talk quietly to the person next to them.

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Parents will arrange to pick up their child from the bus stop or ensure that it is safe to allow their child to walk home independently.
2. If for some unforeseen reason, parents are unable to be at the bus stop to pick up their child, they will ring both Emerson School and Ventura Bus Company to let them know.
3. If there is no one at the bus stop, the driver will bring the child back to the school.
4. Parents will be responsible for collecting their child from the school.

MANAGEMENT OF ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

Staff will elect 6 responsible students to be the Bus Captains. These people will write the names of well-behaved students in a raffle ticket book. All tickets will go into 6 clearly marked containers. One ticket from each bus will be drawn from the containers at assembly every Friday and the student named will be given a small prize. Records will be kept of every ticket issued and the person with the most tickets, on each bus, will receive a prize at the last

assembly of the year. The Ventura Bus Company management have very kindly offered to provide these awards and will be involved with the presentation of them at our final assembly for the year.

MANAGEMENT OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

The management of Ventura Bus Company and Emerson School will keep in regular contact to ensure that communication on bus issues is of the highest level. Unacceptable behaviour will be managed in the following way:

1. Unacceptable behaviour will be reported by bus staff to the school.
2. The named students will be spoken to and consequences will be applied.
3. Parents will be asked to collaborate with school and bus staff to ensure that inappropriate bus behaviour is eradicated.
4. If poor behaviour on the bus continues, an official warning will be given to the student's family indicating that the student is at risk of being suspended from the bus.
5. If poor behaviour continues, the student may be suspended from bus travel for **THREE DAYS**. This suspension will be invoked by the Bus Company and the school acting together.
6. **The Bus Company has an obligation to ensure the safety of all passengers and the vehicle. Consequently, the Bus Company has the right to exclude any passenger at any time, if that passenger is deemed to pose a threat to the safety of bus travel.**
7. If a student is suspended for three lots of 3 days in a calendar year, the school and Bus Company may suspend the student off the bus on a permanent basis. It is hoped that ongoing conferencing between the Bus Company, parents and the school would avoid this permanent expulsion.



After School Care Winter Holiday Program

Dear Parents/Carers,

TheirCare forms are now available for the Spring 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.

Bookings close Friday September 4th.

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



Social Media Laws

As of December 10, 2025, Australia introduced a law that prevents children under the age of 16 from creating or maintaining Social Media accounts.

Users under 16 can have their accounts locked, and then unlocked when they turn 16.

The law was introduced to help protect children from potential online harms, including cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and negative impacts on mental health.

There are no exceptions in the law and Parent consent does not allow children under 16 to have a social media account.

Emerson School is committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where staff, students, and parents work together to prevent all forms of disrespectful and unkind conduct. By following the Social Media laws, the school community sets a strong example for all current and future Emerson School students.

Student of the Week



Junior School Awards

JSA	Lucas G	Smile Maker
JSB	Kayhan B	Master Musician
JSC	Rocky E	Smile Maker
JSD	Hareer H	Miss Manners
JSE	Rahul S	Energy to Learn
JSF	Tane T	Positive Pal
JSG	Kingsley D	Terrific Teammate
JSH	Peyton R	Handy Helper
JSI	Kaiser E	Handy Helper
JSJ	Anagha A	Phonics Fanatic
JSK	Janidu N	Excellent Effort
JSL	Jet S	Positive Pal





Bus Awards

Term 3, Week 7 Awards

Endeavour Hills	Claire B
Narre Warren	Sofia F
Cranbourne	Layla M
Pakenham	Madeleine L-W
Noble Park	Mu A
Dandenong	Mustafa R

Congratulations!



Sports Stars

JSA	Harrison C
JSB	Jessie V
JSJ	Tahlia D
MSC	Benyamin T
MSJ	Braxton B
MSL	Kenny M
SSD	Alex H
SSE	Enamullah S
SSP	Madeleine L

