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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

## November

- 17th - Emerson Market Day
- 18th - Curriculum Day - No Students at School

## December

- 3rd - Big Day Out House Day
- 7th - Seniors Graduation Dinner
- 17th - Last Day of Term 4 for Students
- 18th - Last Day of Term 4 for Staff

## 2026 Victorian school term dates

| 2026 | Start date | Finish date |
|---|---|---|
| Term 4 | 5 October | 18 December |

## 2026 Curriculum Days

| Term | Date |
| --- | --- |
| Four | Wednesday November 18th |




# Principal's Report

**Important Dates and Upcoming Celebrations at Emerson School**

There is plenty to look forward to at Emerson School as we approach the end of another busy and rewarding year!

**Emerson School Market Day – Tuesday 17 November**

We warmly invite our school community, families and friends to join us for our annual **Emerson School Market Day** on Tuesday 17 November, from **11.00 am to 1.00 pm**.

Market Day is always a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the creativity, talents and hard work of our students and staff. There will be delicious food, interesting stalls, and a fantastic range of handmade arts and crafts created by our talented children and staff.

Everyone is welcome, so please come along, support our school community and enjoy what promises to be a fantastic event!

**End-of-Year Graduation Celebrations**

As we approach the end of the school year, we also look forward to celebrating the achievements, growth and milestones of our Junior, Middle and Senior School students.

Our graduation ceremonies are very special occasions, providing an opportunity to acknowledge the hard work, dedication and progress of our

students as they prepare for their next chapter.

Our Graduation dates are as follows:

- **Senior School Graduation Dinner:** Monday 7 December
- **Junior School Graduation:** Tuesday 8 December
- **Middle School Graduation:** Monday 14 December

These celebrations are a wonderful opportunity for students, families and staff to reflect on the year that has been and recognise all that our students have achieved.

We look forward to sharing these special occasions with our Emerson School community!

***David Walsh,***
***Campus Principal, Junior/Senior Campus***



# Value of the Fortnight

By Dianne Wright - Middle School Principal

At 11.00am on next Wednesday 11 November we will commemorate Remembrance Day.

I have a printed a copy of the transcript of the then Prime Minister, Mr Paul Keating's address on Remembrance Day 1993. In it he talks about the courage of the Unknown Soldier.



**Remembrance Day 1993: commemorative address PM Hon Paul Keating MP**

We do not know this Australian's name and we never will. We do not know his rank or his battalion. We do not know where he was born, nor precisely how and when he died. We do not know where in Australia he had made his home or when he left it for the battlefields of Europe. We do not know his age or his circumstances – whether he was from the city or the bush; what occupation he left to become a soldier; what religion, if he had a religion; if he was married or single. We do not know who loved him or whom he loved. If he had children we

do not know who they are. His family is lost to us as he was lost to them. We will never know who this Australian was.

Yet he has always been among those whom we have honoured. We know that he was one of the 45,000 Australians who died on the Western Front. One of the 416,000 Australians who volunteered for service in the First World War. One of the 324,000 Australians who served overseas in that war and one of the 60,000 Australians who died on foreign soil. One of the 100,000 Australians who have died in wars this century.
He is all of them. And he is one of us.

This Australia and the Australia he knew are like foreign countries. The tide of events since he died has been so dramatic, so vast and all-consuming, a world has been created beyond the reach of his imagination.

He may have been one of those who believed that the Great War would be an adventure too grand to miss. He may have felt that he would never live down the shame of not going. But the chances are he went for no other reason than that he believed it was his duty - the duty he owed his country and his King.

Because the Great War was a mad, brutal, awful struggle, distinguished more often than not by military and political incompetence; because the waste of human life was so terrible that some said victory was scarcely discernible from defeat; and because the war which was supposed to end all wars in fact sowed the seeds of a second, even more terrible, war - we might think this Unknown Soldier died in vain.
But, in honouring our war dead, as we always have and as we do today, we declare that this is not true.

For out of the war came a lesson which transcended the horror and tragedy and the inexcusable folly.
It was a lesson about ordinary people – and the lesson was that they were not ordinary.

On all sides they were the heroes of that war; not the generals and the politicians but the soldiers and sailors and nurses – those who taught us to endure hardship, to show courage, to be bold as well as resilient, to believe in ourselves, to stick together.
The Unknown Australian Soldier we inter today was one of those who by his deeds proved that real nobility and grandeur belong not to empires and nations but to the people on whom they, in the last resort, always depend.

That is surely at the heart of the ANZAC story, the Australian legend which emerged from the war. It is a legend not of sweeping military victories so much as triumphs against the odds, of courage and ingenuity in adversity. It is a legend of free and independent spirits whose discipline derived less from military formalities and customs than from the bonds of mateship and the demands of necessity.

It is a democratic tradition, the tradition in which Australians have gone to war ever since.
This Unknown Australian is not interred here to glorify war over peace; or to assert a soldier's character above a civilian's; or one race or one nation or one religion above another; or men above women; or the war in which he fought and died above any other war; or of one generation above any that has or will come later.
The Unknown Soldier honours the memory of all those men and women who laid down their lives for Australia.

His tomb is a reminder of what we have lost in war and what we have gained. We have lost more than 100,000 lives, and with them all their love of this country and all their hope and energy.

We have gained a legend: a story of bravery and sacrifice and, with it, a deeper faith in ourselves and our democracy, and a deeper understanding of what it means to be Australian.

It is not too much to hope, therefore, that this Unknown Australian Soldier might continue to serve his country - he might enshrine a nation's love of peace and remind us that in the sacrifice of the men and women whose names are recorded here there is faith enough for all of us.

The Hon. P.J. Keating MP
Prime Minister of Australia (1991-1996)




# Social Media Laws

The Australian Government is protecting young Australians at a critical stage of their development, through world-first social media age restrictions. These restrictions are now in effect.

As of 10 December 2025, age-restricted social media platforms need to take reasonable steps to prevent Australians under the age of 16 from creating or keeping an account.
It is eSafety's view that Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Threads, TikTok, Twitch, X, YouTube, Kick and Reddit are age-restricted platforms, among others. This list may change in the future.

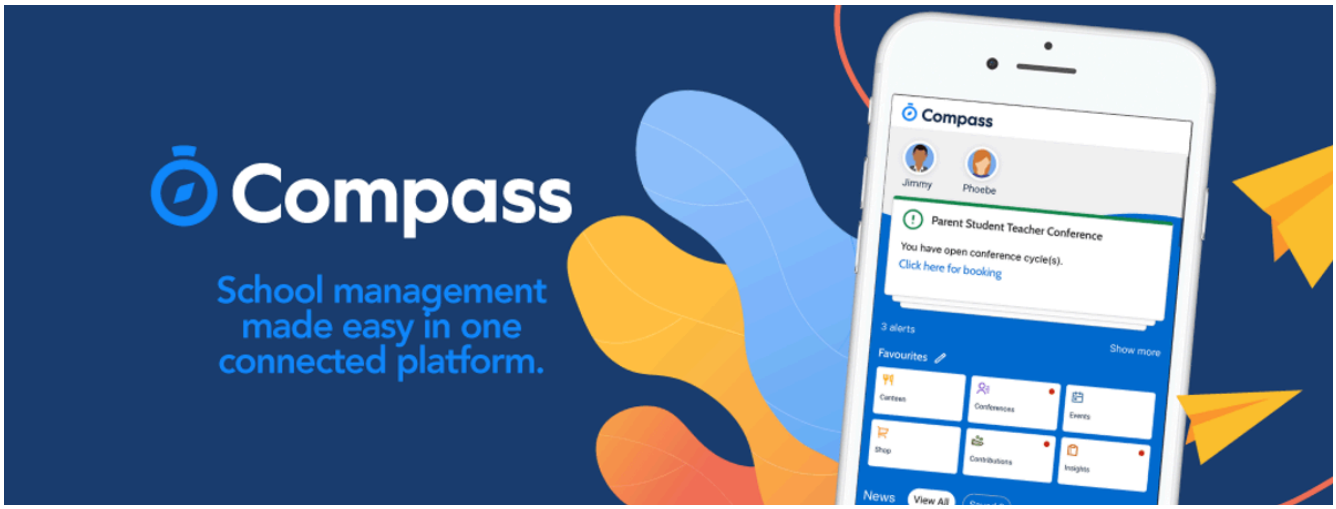
The social media age restrictions aim to protect young Australians from pressures and risks that users can be exposed to while logged in to social media accounts. These come from design features that encourage them to spend more time on screens, while also serving up content that can harm their health and wellbeing.

PLEASE NOTE:  Parents cannot override the law or give formal permission for their under-16 child to hold an account on banned platforms.

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

health.

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.




# 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.

GET IT ON Google Play  Download on the App 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



# Dandenong Community Food Bank

Foodbank will operate a "Mini Supermarket" from North Dandenong Neighbourhoood 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, 41Menzies Ave, Dandenong North.

Dates:

- Thursday, November 12th, 2026




# Remembrance Day Poppies

Support veterans and their families by purchasing a Poppy or Poppy items at Reception of both Campus's until November 11th. Cash only.
All funds raised go directly to the Poppy Appeal, supporting veterans and their families through wellbeing services, financial assistance, advocacy and recovery programs.






# 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 usir Compass.

Kind regards,

Christine Marlow

Travel and Road Safety Education

Emerson School



# JSA Assembly Performance

JSA performed a delightful skit on '**Determination'** during the Junior School Assembly this week. This original story followed a tiny seed buried deep in the ground, determined to push its way out and grow. Despite the challenges, it never gave up and, with the warmth of the sun and the nourishing rain, finally blossomed into a beautiful plant.

Our students were the stars of the performance! They acted exceptionally well, displaying wonderful expressions, enthusiasm and confidence. Each student played their part beautifully, bringing the story and its message to life.

A big thank you to our ES staff member Masha Balasooriyage for helping create the beautiful props from scratch and gathering the costumes, and to Daisy Bendle for her valuable help during the performance. Well done, JSA!

Janet D'Souza – JSA Class teacher.







# Senior School Summit Camp

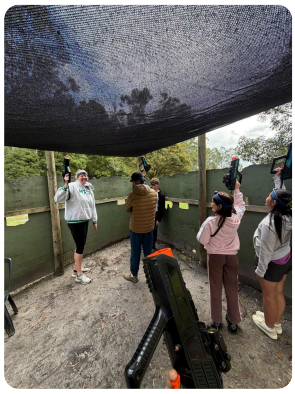
Our Senior School students recently embarked on an exciting adventure to The Summit Camp, where they took part in a range of thrilling outdoor education activities that challenged their courage, teamwork and resilience!

Throughout the camp, students stepped outside their comfort zones and embraced new experiences, including the Giant Swing, caving, walking on nails and even getting up close and personal with a snake!
Each activity provided opportunities to overcome fears, build confidence and encourage their peers along the way.

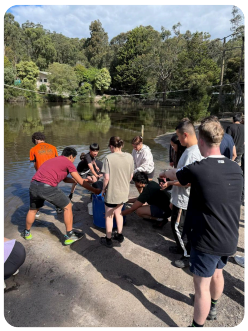
The absolute highlight of the camp was undoubtedly the MUD RUN!
Students tackled a monster obstacle course filled with challenging obstacles, plenty of mud and lots of laughter!
The course tested everyone's determination, endurance and teamwork, with the entire group completing the challenge in just under an hour!
It was fantastic to see students supporting one another, pushing through challenges and getting absolutely covered in mud!

The Summit Camp was an unforgettable experience filled with adventure, personal achievements and plenty of memorable moments!
We are incredibly proud of the way our students embraced every challenge, demonstrated resilience and encouraged one another throughout the camp.

Well done to all students and staff involved in making The Summit Camp such a fantastic experience!



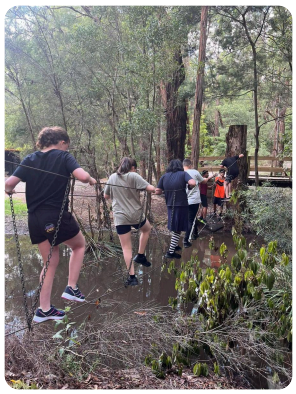


















# Emerson Market Day 2026






# 2026 Dandenong Show

Emerson School Students have over 100 entries in the Art, Craft and Cookery section of the Dandenong Show this year.






# Faces of Emerson Blog

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.*




# Junior School Awards

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| JSA1 | Kayhan B | Excellent Effort |
| JSA | Benny N | Colourful and Creative |
| JSB | Jessie V | Creative Kid |
| JSC | River C | Excellent Effort |
| JSD | Winston H | Impeccable Improvement |
| JSE | Kelis K | Positive Pal |
| JSF | Justin C | Amazing Artist |
| JSG | Elsie C | Red Hot Reader |
| JSH | Henry N | Excellent Effort |
| JSI | John S | Positive Pal |
| JSJ | Erin U | Fabulous Friend |
| JSK | Janidu N | Math Fact Finder |
| JSL | Imran H | Never Gives Up |


WELL DONE!




# Bus Awards

## Term 3, Week 10 Awards

| | |
|---|---|
| Endeavour Hills | Julian V |
| Narre Warren | Masuma R |
| Cranbourne | Riaan G |
| Pakenham | Kenzie S |
| Noble Park | Zoe S-H |
| Dandenong | Marwa S |






# Sports Stars

| | |
|---|---|
| JSB | Zayd H |
| JSF | Sia I |
| JSF | Harley D |
| MSB | Rueben R |
| MSE | Elijah R |
| MSJ | Jasmine T |





# 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 th 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




# Reminders




## Reminder Emerson is a Sun Smart School

It is compulsory for students to wear hats in Term 4.
We 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.
Please label ALL hats with Students name.

## 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 da
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<br>Lunch Eating Time 12:30pm - 12:45pm<br>Outside Play 12:45pm-1:30pm |

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

| Senior School | |
|---|---|
| Monday | Recess 10:30am - 11:00am<br>Lunch Eating Time 12:30pm - 12:45pm<br>Outside Play 12:45pm - 1:30pm |
| Tuesday - Friday | Recess 11:15am - 11:45am<br>Lunch Eating Time 1:15pm - 1:30pm<br>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**.