

Edition 1 6th February 2026



IN THE LOOP



Welcome back, superstars! The 2026 school year has begun, the school is buzzing, and a brand-new year of possibilities is officially here. Whether you're returning with confidence or stepping in with butterflies (or both), this year is all about curiosity, growth, and showing up as your best self. New goals, new friendships, new memories—and plenty of moments to shine along the way.

Acknowledgement to Country

We are learning on Wurundjeri Country and in the spirit of reconciliation, Lalor North Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we are learning. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Important Dates

Week 3, Term 1

Monday 9th February – Grade 3 & 5 NAPLAN Practice
Tuesday 10th February – Macedonian Storytime 10am – 11am
Wednesday 11th February – Prep Assessments
(Prep assessments – preps with appointments to attend only)
Wednesday 11th February – Playgroup 9am – 10am
Thursday 12th February – Breakfast Club begins
Friday 13th February – Interschool Sport Trials
Friday 13th February – Fundraising Committee Meeting 2.30pm
Friday 13th February – Berry Street ELF Program 9am -12pm

Week 4, Term 1

Monday 16th February – Home Reading begins
Monday 16th February – Grade 3 & 5 NAPLAN Practice
Monday 16th February – Greek Storytime 10am – 11am
Tuesday 17th February – Macedonian Storytime 10am – 11am
Tuesday 17th February – School Council Meeting
Wednesday 18th February – Prep Assessments
(Prep assessments – preps with appointments to attend only)
Wednesday 18th February – Playgroup 9am – 10am
Thursday 19th February – Breakfast Club
Friday 20th February – Interschool Sports
Friday 20th February – Berry Street ELF Program 9am -12pm
Friday 20th February – Newsletter

Week 5, Term 1

Monday 23rd February – Grade 3 & 5 NAPLAN Practice
Monday 23rd February – Greek Storytime 10am – 11am
Tuesday 24th February – Macedonian Storytime 10am – 11am
Wednesday 25th February – Prep Assessments
(Prep assessments – preps with appointments to attend only)
Wednesday 25th February – Playgroup 9am – 10am
Thursday 26th February – Breakfast Club
Thursday 26th February – Prep Coffee and Chat 9am – 10am
Friday 27th February – Interschool Sports
Friday 27th February – Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
Friday 27th February – Berry Street ELF Program 9am -12pm

Our School Values

Honesty

We communicate openly and work together to solve problems. By demonstrating honesty and acting with integrity we build trust, which enables us to collaborate, to take greater risks with our learning and to be more resilient when things go wrong.

Respect

We respect ourselves, our school and each other, and understand that our attitudes and behaviour have an impact on the people around us.

Unity

We have many languages, come from many backgrounds and are a school of many differences, but we speak with one voice, as one school. We develop a sense of connection and belonging within each part of our school, and across the whole school.

Success

We help each other learn so that everyone experiences success every day. Success means doing new things, learning new skills, finding new ways of thinking and solving interesting, complex and challenging problems.

Resilience

We know trying new things, experiencing challenges and bouncing back from adversity are central to life and to learning. Only by building our resilience can we experience strong levels of growth.



Principal's Message

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fun and restful break. We are all so excited to see our school community come back together again for another wonderful school year at Lalor North Primary School. Our classrooms are ready, our teachers are eager, and we can already see the smiles, laughter, and learning each day. What a great start to 2026!

This year will be full of new discoveries, friendships, and opportunities for every child to grow and shine. At our school, we believe that learning works best when students, families, and staff work together. Thank you for your continued support and partnership, it truly makes a difference to our children's success. Whether this is your first year with us or you are new to our school or maybe even returning, please know that you are an important part of our school family.

We are looking forward to a joyful, safe, and exciting year ahead.

We extend a warm welcome to all new staff, students, and families joining Lalor North Primary School this year, with a special welcome to our new prep students and their families.

Our prep students commenced last Thursday and have made a fabulous start to their school journey.

Their first day was filled with excitement and a little apprehension, as new routines, structures, and learning environments began to take shape.

A big thank you to our parents and carers, who have clearly done a wonderful job preparing our newest students for school. It's evident they arrived ready and eager to begin. Amazing!



Staffing Update

While our staffing remains largely consistent with last year, we are excited to welcome thirteen new members to our team. Welcome to Louise Taylor, Elena Kalantzis, Simone Rafferty, Taylor Gaspari, Kim Sharpe, Nikolina Andonovski, Daniella Edwards, Melanie Oliveira, Reine Ismail, Chris Moed, Laura Troost, Angus McLaughlin and special welcome back to Kaelee Judd.

We are very excited to have you join the Lalor North Primary School community.



Morning Routines

It's been wonderful to see such enthusiasm from students about coming to school. In fact, some students are arriving very early due to their excitement to start the day.

Students who arrive **before 8.30am** must be enrolled in TheirCare or be supervised directly by a parent or carer. The same applies **after 3.45pm**, when any students not collected are asked to report to the office.



We ask all families to register online with TheirCare (theircare.com.au) or call 1300 072 410. Registration is free, and even if you never plan to use the service, it provides peace of mind for those unexpected moments, traffic delays, or last-minute changes, allowing you to easily enrol your child in after school care without added stress.

Routines at home can help....

Strong routines at home can support children as they settle into school life and help create a sense of predictability and security. The connection between home and school partnerships by working cohesively together really support our students to experience success.

**Consistent sleep routines*

Regular bedtimes and wake-up times support emotional regulation, concentration, and energy levels across the school day. Where possible, keeping sleep routines similar on school days and weekends can help children feel more settled.

**Clear morning routines*

Predictable morning steps (such as getting dressed, eating breakfast, and packing bags) reduce stress and support independence. Visual reminders or checklists can be helpful for some children.

**Regular check-ins*

Short, intentional conversations – for example, asking what went well during the day or what they're looking forward to tomorrow – support emotional awareness and connection. Keep it positive!

**Moments of connection*

Shared time, even in small amounts, helps children feel valued and supported. This might look like talking on the way to school, sharing a meal, or a calm moment before bedtime.

**Modelling calm strategies*

Children learn how to respond to stress by observing adults. Modelling strategies such as deep breathing, taking pauses, or naming emotions supports children to develop their own coping skills.



Annual Reminders



Annual Privacy Reminder for our School Community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' privacy policy and the Schools' privacy collection notice.

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy is on our school website. This policy describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

Student Accident Insurance/Ambulance Cover Arrangements

Families are reminded that the Department of Education does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and carers of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. You can purchase insurance policies from commercial insurers.



We'd also like to remind families and staff that the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property.



Sun Safety – Reminder for Hats and Sunscreen

From mid-August to the end of April, UV levels are often high during the school day. Too much sun exposure can damage children's skin and eyes and increase the risk of skin cancer later in life, even on cloudy days.

To help keep students safe, please ensure your child comes to school with a sun-protective hat (bucket, broad-brimmed or legionnaire) and SPF50+ sunscreen applied before school. Students are encouraged to use shaded areas when outdoors, and children without an appropriate hat will be asked to play or work in the shade. The school provides sunscreen and reminds students to apply it during the day. Thank you for supporting sun safety at school. Please read the school policy on our website.



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

We would like to remind everyone of our school's mobile phone policy, which is designed to support a positive and focused learning environment for all students. As part of this policy, all student mobile phones must be handed in to the front office at the beginning of the school day. Phones will be securely stored and returned to students at the end of the day.

This policy is in place to minimise distractions during class time and help students stay focused on their learning. Mobile phones can easily disrupt lessons and reduce opportunities for meaningful engagement with teachers and peers. By keeping phones out of classrooms, we aim to foster better concentration, face-to-face interaction, and overall academic success. We appreciate the support of parents and carers in reinforcing this message at home and encouraging students to follow the guidelines each day. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us create an environment where learning comes first



School nurse - Rachel Taylor

This week, Prep students brought home an envelope containing information about the Victorian Primary School Nursing Program.

This program is a free health assessment service provided by the Department of Education and Training and is offered to all children in their first year of primary school. The assessments will take place onsite at Lalor North Primary School, and the program aims to see all Prep students. The school nurse will assess vision, hearing and dental health.

Free health, wellbeing and development checks for prep students

The Primary School Nursing Program is a free health and wellbeing service offered to all Victorian students in their first year of school.

The program aims to assist with the early identification of children with potential health, wellbeing or development concerns which may impact on their education and offers screening which may include:



The Primary School Nurse also provides advice, information and referrals to other health and support services.

Please remember to complete:

The Online School Entrant Health Questionnaire (which can be accessed through this QR code or link on your mobile device or computer) students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/sehq/s/



Before completing a School Entrant Health Questionnaire for your child on the Vic Students portal you must register for a parent/carer account. If you need help, talk to your school or school nurse.

Families can support their child's participation by completing the online School Entrant Health Questionnaire.

Thank you to the families who have already completed the questionnaire for their prep child. If you haven't yet had the chance, please use the QR code included in the information sent home to access the questionnaire. It can be completed online using a mobile phone, computer or tablet.

If you would prefer to complete a paper copy of the questionnaire, please contact the school office.

If you require any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN 2026 will be held from **Wednesday 11 March to Monday 23 March** for our students in **Years 3 and 5**.

NAPLAN helps schools, teachers and education systems understand how students are progressing in key learning areas, such as reading, writing, language skills and numeracy. It provides a snapshot of student learning at a point in time and helps teachers identify strengths and areas where extra support may be needed. NAPLAN results also help schools review their teaching programs and ensure they are meeting students' learning needs, while giving parents information about their child's progress in relation to national standards.

During this time, students will complete assessments in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), and numeracy. The writing test will take place on the first day only (Wednesday 11 March), with all other tests scheduled across the remaining days. Catch-up sessions will be available, if needed during this period.

Practice sessions and assistance with the computer skills have begun to help students feel prepared and are continuing this term. Families are asked to avoid extended absences during this period, unless the absence is related to illness. Specific dates and details will be provided closer to the time. If you have any questions or concerns about NAPLAN, please don't hesitate to contact the Assistant Principal (3-6), who will be happy to support you and provide further information.

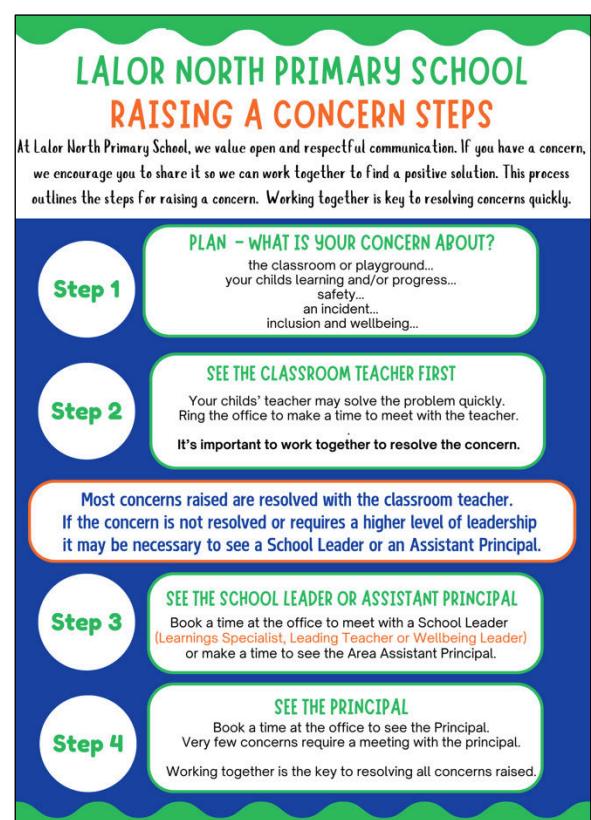
Our Process for

Raising a Concern – Follow the Steps !

At Lalor North Primary School, we value open communication and strong partnerships with our families. To make it easier for parents and carers to raise any concerns, we've introduced a new simplified process that clearly outlines each step to follow.

This process is designed to ensure that all concerns are handled promptly, respectfully, and with transparency, so families know exactly who to contact and what to expect at each stage.

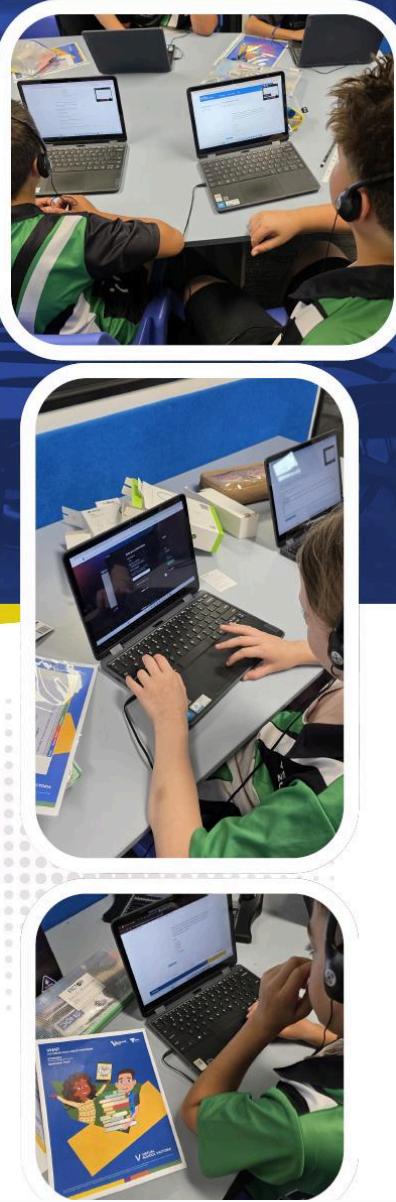
We will be using this process immediately and supporting our families to follow our new consistent streamlined process.



The Victorian High Abilities Program (VHAP) began on Wednesday 4th of February for selected grade 5/6 students.

Congratulations to the following students for being selected and are already participating in the program this term!

Ivy C
Aria G
Isabella S
Hristiyan D
Matej J
Damjan M
David M
Vasilij T
Darian



VHAP
Victorian High Abilities Program

The Victorian High-Ability Program (VHAP) began for our students on Wednesday 4 February, with this term's focus on English. Delivered by Virtual School Victoria, VHAP is an exciting ten-week online program for high-ability students in Years 5–8 across Victorian government schools. Students participate in live Webex classes and can also explore learning materials independently through VSV Online.

In VHAP English, students explore the connection between real life and stories, helping them build confidence and try new ideas. Students can work at a pace that suits them or choose extra challenges.

VHAP helps students develop teamwork, confidence and resilience in a safe and supportive learning space.

MACEDONIAN STORYTIME

Macedonian Teachers Association of Victoria in collaboration with Lalor North Primary School has reading sessions for preschool children aged 1 to 5 years.

Every Tuesdays 10am to 11am



THESE SESSIONS ARE FREE AND WILL TAKE PLACE AT LALOR NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 2 DERNA CRESCENT LALOR 3075

Come along and join us!



Macedonian Storytime begins on Tuesday 10th February at 10am

Come along and join in the fun and meet other families.

ПРИКАЗНИ НА МАКЕДОНСКИ

МАКЕДОНСКОТО УЧИТЕЛСКО ДРУШТВО НА ВИКТОРИЈА ВО СОРАБОТКА СО О.У. ЛАЈОР НОРТ ОРГАНИЗИРААТ СЕСИИ ЗА ЧИТАЊЕ СЕКОЈ ВТОРНИК ОД 10 ДО 11 ЧАСОТ

ЗА ДЕЦА ОД ПРЕТШКОЛСКА ВОЗРАСТ ОД 1 ДО 5 ГОДИНИ



Сесиите се бесплатни и ќе бидат во О.У. Лалор Норт на 2 DERNA CRESCENT LALOR 3075

Повелете и придружете ни се!



Lalor North Primary School Celebrates World Greek Language Day

UNESCO Recognizes the Importance
of the Greek Language

Monday 9th
February, 2026

Celebrated every year on **9 February**



UNESCO

Dear Parents/Guardians,

UNESCO has officially declared February 9 as World Greek Language Day.

The day celebrates the Greek language which has a major role in shaping philosophy, science, medicine, and many modern languages, as thousands of words used come from Greek.

The students in the Greek Bilingual Program will be participating in a variety of activities to mark this special day.

Your child will be receiving a worksheet to bring home to also discuss with you why they love learning Greek.

Please complete the work with your children and return it to school on Monday 9th February.

More to follow in our newsletter.

Thank you,

Greek Bilingual Program Teachers



Our next **Prep Parents Coffee and Chat** is coming up soon. Parents of Preps are encouraged to come along and enjoy time together. Its an opportunity to ask questions and gain clarity on how children learn and engage in the school environment. Kim and I will be in attendance and discuss end of year planning for grade one as well as other things related to the prep year.

Thursday 26th February 9am to 10am...See you there!

Elizabeth Bryan, Amanda Lee and Kim Rotondi

From the Office

Welcome back to all students and families to the 2026 school year!!

CSEF Applications

Applications can now be made through the office for the 2026 Camp, Sports and Excursions Fund. To be eligible, families can present their valid Health Care or Concession Card to office staff who will provide the application form. Further information is provided in this newsletter.

2026 Swimming Program

Notices for the LNPS Swimming Program have been sent home. This activity will take place in Term 2 over 7 sessions between 22nd April – 14th May. Payment and consent are to be received by Tuesday 31st March to secure your child's attendance at this activity.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club commences on Thursday 12th February, all students are welcome to attend, please ensure that permission slips are completed and returned to the office ASAP.

Interschool Sports - Grades 5 & 6

Students in Grades 5 & 6 must return the consent form and payment for the 2026 Interschool Sports Program by Friday 13th February. Round 1 begins on Friday 20th February. Summer sports include Rounders, Hot Shots Tennis and Cricket.

2026 Local Excursion Consent Form

In 2026 Lalor North Primary School may take students outside of school grounds to undertake educational activities in the local area. Local excursions are excursions to locations within walking distance of the school and do not involve 'Adventure Activities'.

Please read the notice that has been sent home for further information and return the consent form to the office ASAP.

Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Consent

All students who have commenced recently or have not had their consent/non consent recorded during 2025 will receive the Photography, Filming and Recording Students Consent form this week. Please read this form carefully and indicate your consent for the three options by using the tick boxes and return the form to the office ASAP.

Any family who wishes to remove consent where previously given can contact the office in person or in writing to the school email address

Lalor.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Diana, Liz and Barbara



TERM 1

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS
ART CLUB
11:15am Art Room
with Ms Mascia

TUESDAYS
FUTSUL
2:00pm Hall
with Mr Mac



TUESDAYS
P-6 CHOIR

11:15am Italian Room with Ms Teresa



 **WEDNESDAYS**
TALENT SHOW
11:15am Stage area
Hosted by students

THURSDAYS
STEAM CLUB
11:15am STEAM Room
with Mr Chris



MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
GARDEN CLUB



11:30am with Ms Laura

INVITATION TO ALL PREP - 6 STUDENTS

*Do you love to sing and perform?
Would you like to make new friends?*



Join our...

LALOR NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHOIR!

**SIGN UP AND FIRST REHEARSAL:
TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY
at Lunchtime in the Italian Room!**

**Have fun with friends as you
develop your singing skills!**

**Rehearsals take place EVERY TUESDAY
at LUNCHTIME in the ITALIAN ROOM**

THIS YEAR WE WILL BE PERFORMING AT:

- Our school assemblies and whole school events
- Bethel Aged Care Home visits
- Epping RSL ANZAC Service (to be confirmed)
- Epping RSL Remembrance Day Service

LALOR NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

TERMS 1 & 4

YOU'RE THE STAR

Talent Show

IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE!

PERFORM SOLO
OR
WITH FRIENDS!

ENTERTAIN OUR AUDIENCE BY
SHOWCASING YOUR AMAZING TALENT
IN ANY LANGUAGE!

EVERY WEDNESDAY
LUNCHTIME
Outdoor Stage Area



TO REGISTER: SEE OUR STUDENT LEADERS & MS TERESA AT THE BEGINNING OF LUNCHTIME

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.



MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund eligibility

Applications must be submitted to the school as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2.

Where a school or family is unsure if the concession card is eligible, they are encouraged to submit the application into the CSEF system for validation.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Those who are eligible to apply for the CSEF must meet both of the following two criteria or be eligible for special consideration.

Eligible means-tested cards

Only financially means-tested cards are eligible.

Eligibility date

Eligibility will be subject to the parent/carer's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink (refer to the department's policy, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\)](#)), on either the first student day of Term 1 or Term 2.

Criterion 1 – General eligibility

The applicant must be one of the following:

- a parent or carer who is the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card
- a student over 16 years who is considered a mature minor and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card). Applicant to use the 16 and over application form. For guidance on assessing whether a student is a mature minor, refer to the department's policy on [Mature Minors and Decision Making](#)
- a parent or carer whose child is 16 or over and the beneficiary of a financially means-tested card but are not considered a mature minor. Applicant to use the 16 and over parent consent form.

For students over 16 years of age and where the eligible card is in the name of the student, the fund is only granted to that student, not their siblings.

Criterion 2 – Be of school age and attend a Victorian school

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a registered Victorian school.

CSEF is not payable to a student attending pre-school, kindergarten, TAFE or who are home schooled.

Special Consideration

A special consideration eligibility category exists to assist families and students in certain circumstances. Applications should be made through this application form. For more information, refer to: [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Eligibility](#).

Payment amounts

The CSEF is an annual payment paid directly to the school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. Please refer to the department's policy for the current rates and more information, [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund \(CSEF\): Payment amounts](#).

How to complete the application form

Note: all sections must be completed by the applicant.

1. Complete the APPLICANT DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible and no later than the end of Term 2. [Privacy Statement](#)

The Department of Education is committed to protecting your privacy. All information collected will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Data and Protection Act 2014 (Vic) and the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic). This personal information is collected to assess your eligibility to receive a CSEF payment. Your data is securely managed and only shared with Centrelink and DFFH when necessary for business operations or legal compliance. By submitting this form, you consent to our data practices. For more information regarding correction to your personal information or the handling of personal information please email csef@education.vic.gov.au. For more information about the departments privacy policy, please visit: [Schools' privacy policy | vic.gov.au](#)



Lalor North Primary School

Respect Honesty Unity Success Resilience

Student Free Days for 2026



Term 1

Tuesday 27th January – Curriculum Day 1

Wednesday 28th January – Curriculum Day 2

Tuesday 10th March – Parent Teacher Meetings 11-8pm (Student Free)

Term 2

Wednesday 13th May – Curriculum Day 3

Friday 5th June – Report Writing Day

Term 3

Wednesday 5th August – Curriculum Day 4

Wednesday 16th September – Parent Teacher Meetings 11-8pm (Pupil Free)

Term 4

Monday 2nd November – Report Writing Day

Friday 18th December – Curriculum Day (2027 Planning Day)

Please Note:

The Days were selected that would pose the least amount of disruption to the student teaching and learning focus. Consideration of spreading things out evenly across the school. Also maintaining our ability to report to parents each term of the year as follows:

- Term 1: Parent Teacher Student Meetings
- Term 2: Mid-Year Reports released
- Term 3: Parent Teacher Student meetings
- Term 4: End of Year Reports released



School Crossing Supervisor Safety Awareness Day

School Crossing Supervisors do a wonderful job maintaining safety around schools and we wish to remind drivers to slow down in their workplace.

On Friday, February 6th, 2026, School Crossing Supervisors will wear ribbons in honor of Brian Beach from Wodonga, who tragically lost his life while on duty at his school crossing in 2024.

This gesture also serves to commemorate all current and former supervisors and to recognize the vital and commendable work they do.