



**Newbury**  
Primary School

#### Acknowledgement of Country

Newbury Primary School acknowledges The Wurundjeri People, who are the Traditional Custodians of Craigieburn and the land that our school stands on. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

#### Acknowledgement and Commitment to Diversity

Newbury Primary School acknowledges the many cultures represented in our school community and recognises the importance of the beliefs and traditions they hold.

We are committed to promoting an inclusive culture that encourages and promotes an understanding of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and identity within our school community.

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Students have settled well into routine including our Prep students who are slowly understanding what school is about and are feeling very tired. The school grounds are full of energetic students and happy and smiling faces.

Thank you to the families who have made Parent Payments. A reminder that only cash is accepted at the office, we do not have an EFTPOS facility. Payments can be made between 8:30am-3:45pm or by using the Qkr! app on your phone.

#### STUDENT FREE DAYS

The Department of Education grants schools four student free days per school year. The first day of the year (29<sup>th</sup> January) is compulsory for all schools to take. Council has approved the following student free days for 2024, to bring our total to four for the year. Please mark them on your calendar.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May (Professional Practice Day for staff)**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November** (day before Melbourne Cup Day)

Please note that TheirCare will be providing Out of School Hours care on these days. To register and book your child go to [www.theircare.com.au](http://www.theircare.com.au) and click on "Book Now" in the top right hand corner of the screen.

#### RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOURS WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY POLICY:

Schools do their best to provide a safe, welcoming and vibrant environment for all members of the school community. It is important for everyone to be respectful and kind to each other.

The Department of Education have released a policy entitled Respectful Behaviours within the School Community. You will see posters displayed around the school which outline what good relationships are based on and the types of behaviours that will not be tolerated which include threats, harassment and rudeness. Our staff work very hard to provide the best social, emotional and academic environment for your child. Please remember that we are human too and deserve to be treated with respect.

Learn more about the new Department of Education and Training policy - Respectful Behaviours within the School Community. [Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy \(education.vic.gov.au\)](http://education.vic.gov.au)

#### Important Dates

**Wednesday 6th March**  
School Photos

**Thursday 7th March**  
School Photos

**Friday 8th March**  
School Photos

**Monday 11th March**  
Labour Day Public Holiday

**Thursday 14th March**  
Forming Partnerships

**Friday 22nd March**  
Social Work Parent Information Session.

**Thursday 28th March**  
Last Day of Term 1  
Student Empowerment Fundraiser

**Monday 15th April**  
First Day of Term 2

**Thursday 25th April**  
Anzac Day Public Holiday

**Friday 26th April**  
Volunteer—Parent Information Session

For more important dates, please visit:  
[www.newburyps.vic.edu.au](http://www.newburyps.vic.edu.au)

#### Apps to Download

**Sentral:** Keep up to date with instant notifications to your iPad or phone.

**QKR!:** Make payments online using your debit/credit card for all school events requiring payment.

#### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday  
8.30am - 3.45pm

Friday

8.30am - 3.30pm  
03 8691 6900

202-226 Newbury

Boulevard

Craigieburn 3064

[newbury.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:newbury.ps@education.vic.gov.au)



#### TARGETED TUTORING:

The Targeted Tutoring program is based on funding received from DET as well as money from the school. This approach aims to target students who may have declined during the remote and flexible period.

To determine the students eligible for Targeted Tutoring, we looked at our reading and mathematics data from 2023 and identified students who were reading below their expected level and students were performing above the expected level in English and Mathematics; these are the students identified as being part of the Targeted Tutoring program.

We are very fortunate to have dedicated staff to run the following programs:

**PhOrMeS:** PhOrMeS is a program which focuses on word reading, spelling, phonemic awareness and reading fluency. It is designed to teach readers using short and simple phonetic regular words, progressing onto more difficult words as students master initial skills. Spelling is taught together with word reading. Students are taught to spell words by targeting words with the same graphemes, spelling rules and morphological concepts or etymological roots. Phonemic awareness is both integrated when reading, and also during spelling activities. Reading fluency is practiced daily as students progress through the program. We currently have 31 students in Years One, Two, Three and Four participating in the program.

**Read and Respond-** Read and Respond at Newbury Primary school provides an intensive reading intervention program. Tutors deliver the program using the Direct Instruction model provides sequenced lessons, which are carefully planned to ensure that students receive the structure and practice necessary to become fluent readers and empowered learners. The program offers students the opportunity to develop their vocabulary, writing and comprehension through modeling, guided practice and independent practice. We currently have 125 students in Years Three and Four participating in the program.

**Directive Maths –** Our Directive Maths program is designed to support students who require further consolidation with mathematical concepts. The program is organised into modules which focus on addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and fractions and decimals. The maths content is broken into small steps and students practice embedding skills, rules and strategies, efficiently and effectively. Tutors work on providing students with direct, explicit instruction to support critical maths skill development and concepts students need to understand. We currently have 74 students in Year Five participating in the program.

This is a total of 230 students.

#### NAPLAN:

Each year, students in Year 3 and 5 participate in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) as part of the National Assessment Program which is a Federal Government initiative. Students are assessed in conventions of language reading, writing and numeracy.

In 2024, NAPLAN will be held during Term 1 from **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March.**

#### BREAKFAST CLUB:

This is held each Friday morning from 8:00am-8:40am and is run by Salvation Army and school staff volunteers. Come along and get a hot and delicious toasted cheese sandwich and a delicious coffee from the coffee van.

#### END OF TERM FINISHING TIMES:

At the end of each term, Newbury Primary School students will be dismissed early.

**Terms 1, 2 and 3:** Students are dismissed at **2:10pm**

**Term 4:** Students are dismissed at **1:10pm**

Please mark these times and dates in your calendar.



#### HEALTHY AND NUTRITIOUS LUNCHES:

It is important to provide children with a balance of healthy and nutritious food to fuel their brain and body during the day. Please ensure that you provide our child/ren with something substantial to eat such as a sandwich, roll, wrap or salad as well as other tasty and healthy treats for morning tea.

#### SCHOOL VISION, MISSION AND VALUES:

At Newbury Primary School, we are proud of the educational setting that we have created; where students are nurtured, listened to, cared for and their wellbeing is of the utmost importance. We strive to ensure that each student feels a sense of belonging and pride in themselves and their school. Our vision, mission and values clearly demonstrate this.

##### *Our Vision*

To provide a dynamic learning community where all students are empowered to learn and achieve personal success.

##### *Our Mission*

At Newbury Primary School we are committed to creating a safe, secure, educationally stimulating, calm and nurturing learning environment underpinned by high expectations and the recognition of effort. We focus on the emotional, social and academic development of every student as an avenue of developing confident, creative, compassionate and informed citizens who are actively engaged in their community. The strong sense of community is evident in the continuous, honest and open dialogue between all stakeholders.

The core beliefs we advocate are:

- Student wellbeing and engagement is at the centre of all that we do
- A positive attitude to academic and social learning is essential
- Personal effort is to be recognised and valued

##### *Our Values*

The values that define our school community are:

**Respect:** Demonstrating care and consideration for ourselves and the feelings, opinions, belongings and expectations of others.

**Integrity:** Demonstrating honesty and trust through personal accountability and responsibility for our actions.

**Effort:** Demonstrating a positive attitude and the desire and determination to learn new skills, strive for improvement and be persistent.

**Community:** Demonstrating and promoting a sense of belonging, unity and connection that is strengthened by a clear understanding of the expectations of all members.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES:

All schools are required to have an emergency management plan which includes a variety of processes for handling an emergency. These vary greatly depending on the type of emergency and can include; evacuation offsite, evacuation onsite, lockdown and a zone lock out. We have a practice emergency drills each term to analyse our processes and ensure they are as efficient as they can be. Students have the process explained to them and are supported by the staff throughout the process.

Please note that in the event of the school having to enact one of the emergency management procedures, our number one priority is ensuring that all students are safe as per our duty of care. If you are concerned at any time that your child has been affected by one of these procedures, please let their classroom teacher know so that we can put some additional supports in place.



## LEARNING SPECIALISTS:

This year Newbury Primary School has five Learning Specialists who will be out of their classrooms two days per week, to work with staff on a range of areas. Learning Specialists are highly skilled classroom practitioners who continue to spend the majority of their time in the classroom delivering high-quality teaching and learning and have a range of responsibilities related to their expertise, including teaching demonstration lessons, observing and providing feedback to other teachers and facilitating school-based professional learning.

The staff assigned to these roles are as follows:

- Amy Kelso
- Sean Prien
- Vanessa Lane
- Tristan French
- Rebekah De Vuono

## INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS

### **SHUKRITI SHARMA- EDUCATION SUPPORT**

Hello everyone. My name is Shukriti Sharma. I am very excited to join the learning community at Newbury Primary School. I have a great passion and look forward to working with students in the upcoming year. In my spare time, I enjoy listening to music and meeting friends.



### **ELLIE VLAEMINCK- EDUCATION SUPPORT**

Hi everyone, my name is Miss Ellie and I'm very excited to be joining the Newbury community in Education Support. I'm looking forward to working closely with students and developing a close relationship. In my spare time, I play soccer for Preston Lions and also enjoy doing some shopping. I look forward to meeting everyone and can't wait for a fun year ahead.





## Newbury Primary School

### ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER:

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 [[https://www.newburyps.vic.edu.au/uploaded\\_files/media/photographing\\_filming\\_recording\\_students.pdf](https://www.newburyps.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/photographing_filming_recording_students.pdf)] 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 [[Microsoft 365/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 [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education], please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy — information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

### DROPPING OFF AND PICKING UP:

Please practice road safety at all times. It has been reported that a number of cars are double parking, parking on the roundabout or on the curb as well as asking children to cross the road without using our designated school crossings which poses a huge risk for students. Please be mindful of child safety on the roads around the school. Parking inspectors often visit schools and will issue parking infringements to anyone found posing a danger or parking illegally.

### BIKES AND SCOOTERS:

At Newbury Primary School, we promote health and fitness and it is terrific to see many students riding their bikes or scooters to school. Please make sure your child is wearing a helmet and that once they enter the school grounds, they walk their bike or scooter in. The bike sheds are located at the end of the building, near Classrooms 16 and 25

### OFFICE HOURS:

The office is open from 8:30am- 3:45pm. The Newbury entrance is for families before and after school, this gate will be shut during school hours. Enquiries can be made during school hours by entering the office on Grand Boulevard.

### SUPERVISION BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL:

Please note that supervision for students before school commences at 8:45am and after school until 3:25pm. Staff are not on duty beyond these times. Please do not drop off your child before this time or leave them waiting after school beyond this time as they will not be supervised.





**Newbury**  
Primary School

#### ABSENCES:

If your child is absent, please call the school number on 8691 6900 and leave a message to explain their absences. All absences must be accounted for.

Students must arrive at school by 9am. Classroom doors are open from 8:50am to allow students time to settle in and get themselves organised, ready to start instruction at 9am. Arriving at school late interrupts student learning and classroom instruction.

#### EARLY LEAVERS:

Please be aware that students are dismissed at **3:10pm**. We are finding that some students are being picked up just before 3:00pm, which will not be tolerated. Your child should remain at school unless they have an appointment that they need to attend. We also ask that where possible, you make appointments for your child/ren after school hours.

#### ALL DAY GRAZING:

At Newbury Primary School, we understand that students need food to fuel their brain and that they are hungry during the day. Therefore, we encourage students to bring along healthy snacks that they can munch on in class. Some ideas include: carrot sticks, cheese, rice crackers, fresh or dried fruit, yoghurt or vegetables. Please refrain from providing food that may affect any anaphylactic students. Classes with anaphylactic students will be notified this week.

We are so pleased that you are a part of our school community and thank you for choosing Newbury Primary School. We look forward to working together positively, so that together we can provide the best learning environment and supports for your child.

Principal Class Learning Community

Michelle Nunn

Cameron Traill

Kate Plant

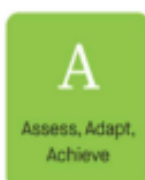
Belinda Rae



## Introducing Rolo

It is with great excitement that we are teaming up with Service and Therapy Animals Australia to launch the PAWS in Schools program at Newbury Primary School. This unique, innovative program has been designed to enhance the wellbeing of our students. The program will include the introduction of a puppy named Rolo. Rolo is a miniature Groodle who is looking forward to making lots of new friends at school.

A carefully planned, structured and consistent approach towards training is required when bringing dogs into school environments. We will work closely with Service and Therapy Animals Australia to follow the PAWS training model. This model uses the acronym PAWS as it is easy to remember and encompasses the key components of a successful School Therapy Dog program.



Well-trained, confident, happy therapy dogs can be an invaluable resource for supporting the social and emotional learning of students, as well as fostering a sense of community spirit.

### BENEFITS OF SCHOOL THERAPY DOGS:

- ✓ Provision of new social connections
- ✓ Develop a greater sense of community
- ✓ Meet social and emotional needs/facilitate a sense of belonging
- ✓ Context for teaching/instilling whole school values such as empathy, kindness, gratitude, respect etc
- ✓ Support for school refusal and reluctant learners
- ✓ Academic support: engage and motivate learners with special needs
- ✓ Emotional regulation and stress relief
- ✓ Means for sharing success/achievements and challenges
- ✓ Creates opportunities to develop social skills

We are excited to explore how proven animal assisted learning strategies and techniques can be incorporated into our existing wellbeing and intervention programs. Belinda Rae (Assistant Principal) will be the designated primary handler who will be responsible for the housing and welfare of Rolo. Belinda will complete the required training and manage the dog when he is on school grounds.

We can't wait to welcome Rolo on site as part of our community. Please let us know if you have any specific questions. Once Rolo is settled in, we are confident that everyone will just love getting to know him and enjoy sharing in this exciting journey.

# 5 tips to keep your family safe online



Parents and carers can use a combination of strategies to help young people build their digital technology skills and have safer experiences online.

## 1. Start the chat

Get into the habit of talking about online safety as a family, so your child feels comfortable coming to you if they ever need help working out an issue. It's never too early to introduce [good online habits](#) such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience. As your child grows older, eSafety's advice about [hard to have conversations](#) will help with some of the tricky topics like sending nudes, online pornography and contact from sexual predators.

## 2. Create a family technology agreement

Creating a Family Technology Agreement can help you and your kids decide together when and how digital technology will be used at home. As a family, brainstorm easy-to-follow rules and display them where everyone will see them. Your agreement could cover things like: time limits, apps your kids are allowed to use and online behaviour. Families with younger children can [download](#) a template to guide the conversation.

## 3. Set up parental controls

Parental controls let you monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. It's best to use them in combination with the other online safety strategies listed here. [Taming the technology](#) can help you understand your options. Grab a device and get started with our guides to setting up parental controls on [devices and accounts](#) or in [social media, games and apps](#).

## 4. Choose games and other apps carefully

Use eSafety's [App checklist for parents](#) to think about the positives and negatives when your child asks to download a new game or other app. The checklist covers things like age ratings, managing privacy settings and reporting abuse in-app. You can also use [The eSafety guide](#) to check and set up safety features with your child.

## 5. Use digital technology together

Exploring or playing on devices or online with your child can be a positive experience that promotes learning and development. Ask questions, be curious and get involved. To learn more, read our blogpost [How to encourage good screen practices for your child](#).

Published 05/2021



# NEWBURY COOKING KITCHEN RECIPE

## WARRIGAL GREENS TRIANGLES

### INGREDIENTS

1/4 Cup of  
uncooked Warrigal  
Greens or spinach



You MUST cook  
your Warrigal Greens

4 heaped  
tablespoons of  
Ricotta or other  
cheese



1 sheet of Puff  
Pastry



2 shakes of salt  
and Pepper



Canola Spray

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pre cook your Warrigal Greens by blanching in water or sauteeing in a pan. Chop them finely. Preheat your oven to 180 degrees (Fan)



2. Mix ricotta, cooked Warrigal Greens, salt and pepper together in a bowl.



3. Divide and cut your sheet of pastry into four quarters.



4. Divide your mixture into four.

5. Place 1/4 of the mixture onto 1/4 of the pastry.



6. Fold your pastry and filling into a triangle.



7. Place on a lined oven tray. Seal edges with fork. Spray with oil.

8. Cook for 20 minutes, or until golden.

# ENJOY!

# DONATIONS WELCOME

Please feel free to donate any unwanted school uniforms:  
Jackets, long /short sleeve polo shirts, summer/ winter dresses, backpacks, hats, beanies and headbands to our office.

## SECONDHAND UNIFORMS FOR SALE

We have a limited number of second uniform items for sale which can be purchased through the QKR app



Jackets, long /short sleeve polo shirts, summer/ winter dresses and backpacks

**\$5 each**



Hats,beanies or headbands

**\$2 each**







**TheirCare**  
Where Kids love to be!

**Newbury Primary School**

Social, enjoyable  
& fun experiences  
for children

Develop creativity, life  
skills & confidence  
through play

Qualified, caring &  
engaged staff

Exciting &  
thoughtfully  
developed programs

Healthy & Yummy  
food provided  
each day



Bookings now open!

	Monday - Friday Hours of Operation	Fees before Child Care Subsidy*	Out-of-pocket fees after Child Care Subsidy**
Before School Care (BSC)	6:30 AM to 8:50 AM	\$23.00	\$2.30
After School Care (ASC)	3:00 PM to 6:30 PM	\$27.83	\$2.78
Pupil Free Day	6:30 AM to 6:30 PM	\$72.63	\$7.26
Holiday Program***	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Standard fee costs before Child Care Subsidy / \*\* Standard fee costs after maximum Child Care Subsidy / \*\*\* Standard fee costs excluding incursions/excursions

### Cancellation Fees

(No Child Care Subsidy applied to Cancellation Fees)

**BSC/ASC within 48 hours** of session start time: **\$5.00**

**Holiday Program within 5 days** of session start time: **\$10.00**

**Same day cancellation fee is out-of-pocket session fee.**

### Late Booking Fees

(Child Care Subsidy is applied to Late Booking Fees)

**BSC/ASC within 48 hours** of session start time: **\$5.00**

**Holiday Program:** book less than **5 days** from  
the session start time fee is **\$10.00**

### Late Pick-up Fees

(Child Care subsidy does not apply to Late Pick-up Fees)

**\$1 per minute** after service close time.

**To register visit [theircare.com.au](http://theircare.com.au)**



Service Phone number:  
0477 718 066

Your service Coordinator will be  
available during session times.

Save up  
to 90% with  
the Child Care  
Subsidy!



**TheirCare** support team is available between 6.30am - 9pm weekdays (Eastern Standard Time)  
on **1300 072 410** or **[info@theircare.com.au](mailto:info@theircare.com.au)**

Interested in advertising in our newsletter?

Contact us on 8691 6900

Newsletter advertisements will be 1/4 of an A4 page or as close as we can position it depending on the advertisement provided to the school.

The cost of this advertisement is \$25.00 and the newsletter is distributed via the website.

Payment will need to be made at least 3 business days before the newsletter is published.

Interested in advertising in our newsletter?

Contact us on 8691 6900

Interested in advertising in our newsletter?

Contact us on 8691 6900

Interested in advertising in our newsletter?

Contact us on 8691 6900



# Help needed in your community. Paid positions available now.



**Want to give back to the community, and  
supplement your income?**

**Become a School Crossing Supervisor.**

**Multiple positions available, get in touch today**

**Call: 03 9325 3200**

**Email: [schoolcrossing@hoban.com.au](mailto:schoolcrossing@hoban.com.au)**

**HOBAN Recruitment**



HUME CITY COUNCIL PRESENTS

# CRAIGIEBURN FESTIVAL

Saturday 2 March

12pm – 9.30pm

Craigieburn ANZAC Park

FREE EVENT



Scan QR code to  
find out more!



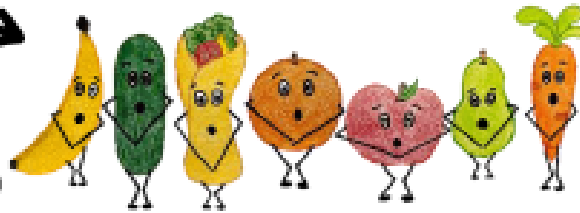
[hume.vic.gov.au/events](https://hume.vic.gov.au/events)

# WHAT IS



# WASTE-FREE WEDNESDAY?

Will you make  
your food **Nude**?



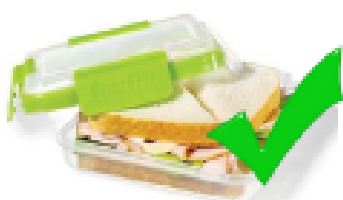
Every Wednesday we encourage all students and staff members to bring a Waste-Free lunch, also called 'Nude Food'

Did you know that plastics like cling wrap and zip lock bags can take up to 1000 years to decompose?

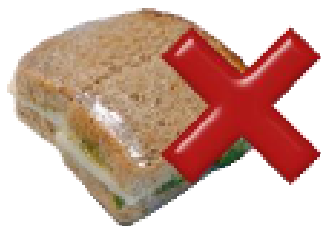


We challenge you to bring a waste-free lunch every Wednesday! You'll be:

- Choosing healthier options, like more fruit and veggies
- Spending less on lunchbox treats
- Environmentally friendly
- Helping to Keep Newbury Beautiful



Reusable  
Sandwich Box



Cling Wrap



Fruit, vegetables  
and crackers



Chip  
Packets





# Newbury Primary School Behaviour Expectations



	Learning Spaces	Outside	Toilets	Digital World
<b>Respect</b>  <b>We care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen and look</li> <li>Be aware of personal space</li> <li>Care for resources and displays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk on footpaths</li> <li>Think before speaking and acting</li> <li>Treat others fairly</li> <li>Line up on time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave our toilets clean</li> <li>Knock and lock</li> <li>Be aware of personal space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be mindful of the privacy of others</li> <li>Think and ask before posting</li> <li>Care for our devices</li> </ul>
<b>Effort</b>  <b>We try our best</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be the best we can be</li> <li>Celebrate every effort</li> <li>Be ready for learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan for play</li> <li>Play safely</li> <li>Be problem solvers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get in, get out</li> <li>Wash our hands</li> <li>Return to class quickly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay on task</li> <li>Be ready for learning</li> </ul>
<b>Integrity</b>  <b>We do the right thing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be good community members</li> <li>Make good choices</li> <li>Be resilient</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be honest</li> <li>Seek help if needed</li> <li>Keep our hands and feet to ourselves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leave the play for outside</li> <li>Be water wise</li> <li>Use the toilet during breaks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep it private</li> <li>Work and search responsibly</li> <li>Use school approved apps</li> </ul>
<b>Community</b>  <b>We belong</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute, care and share</li> <li>Be safe in our space</li> <li>Accept everybody</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include others</li> <li>Keep Newbury beautiful</li> <li>Be role models</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wait for our friends</li> <li>Keep our voice down when moving around</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speak up when things do not seem right</li> <li>Stay safe online</li> <li>Look out for others</li> </ul>



In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school per year. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6**.



# EVERY DAY COUNTS

## Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

### Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

### What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

**Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

**"Day off"** – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

**Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

**VICTORIA**  
AS A LEARNING  
COMMUNITY

# ROAD SAFETY



**Here at Newbury Primary School we take the safety of our students seriously. Please refer to the VicRoads information below and discuss with your children the importance of road safety.**

## **Crossing the road safely**

Pedestrians have to share the road with vehicles so it is important they take care when crossing the road. As a pedestrian, plan where you will walk and always choose the safest place to cross a road.

## **Stop, Look, Listen, Think**

Follow the safe road crossing procedure – STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK.

- STOP one step back from the kerb or shoulder of the road if there is no footpath.
- LOOK in all directions for approaching traffic.
- LISTEN in all directions for approaching traffic.
- THINK about whether it is safe to cross the road – when the road is clear or all traffic has stopped.

When crossing, walk straight across the road. Keep LOOKING and LISTENING for traffic while crossing. This information is particularly relevant to young people learning to cross roads. But it also provides a useful reminder to everyone particularly to those who may be distracted when crossing the road.



## **Crossings**

Even at crossings you still need to remain alert and check whether vehicles are stopping for you. Always make sure traffic has actually stopped before stepping onto the road.

Remember children's crossings are legally active only when the flags are displayed. If a school crossing supervisor is on duty, cross only when he or she indicates that it is safe.

## **Crossing the road at other places**

- Walk straight across the road – don't jay-walk.
- Keep checking in both directions to make sure the way is clear.
- Try not to cross the road from between parked cars or near trees and bushes as drivers may not see you.
- Avoid crossing near a bend or crest in the road. Give yourself a good chance to see vehicles coming from both directions.
- Avoid crossing on roundabouts, particularly multi-lane roundabouts as they are very busy and complex and cars are not required to give way to you, unless there is a pedestrian crossing. Find somewhere further away from the roundabout to safely cross the road.



# Wellbeing Support

At Newbury Primary School we value and acknowledge the wellbeing of all students, staff and community members. Below we have provided wellbeing support numbers that are accessible for everyone at any time when needed.



**Safe Steps 1800 015 188**

**Foundation House**  
9389 8900



**Foundation House**

The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

**1800RESPECT**  
NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC  
FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE

**1800 RESPECT**  
**1800 737 732**

**Lifeline 13 11 14**

 **Lifeline** Saving Lives  
Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.