

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Edition 3– Term 2 2026

Vision

There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

Mission

Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered here today and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the culture and dreams of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Key Dates

May

- 19th – 22nd – Year 5 Camp
- 27th – Year 3–6 Division Cross Country

June

- 2nd – Japanese Day
- 5th – Curriculum Day
- 8th – Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- 9th – Year Prep – 3 Goldilocks excursion
- 12th – Future Leaders – Leadership afternoon
- 19th – School Disco
- 23rd – 25th – Parent Teacher Interviews
- 26th – Last day of Term 2 (2.30pm finish)

July

- 13th – Curriculum Day
- 31st – Year 3–6 House Cross Country

August

- 12th – STEAM Night
- 15th – P&F Trivia Night
- 17th – 19th – Year 4 Camp
- 24th – 28th – Book Week (Parade date TBA)

September

- 3rd – Year 3–6 District Aths
- 4th – Fathers Day Breakfast & Stall
- 11th – School Walkathon
- 18th – Footy Day & Last day of Term 3 (2.30pm)

October

- 8th – Year 3–6 Division Athletics
- 13th – 2027 Prep Transition Literacy
- 23rd – Grandparents Day
- 27th – Prep Transition Mathematics
- 28th – Year 3–6 Production Rehearsal
- 29th – Year 3–6 Production

November

- 6th – Year 3 Sleepover
- 10th – 2027 Prep Transition Specialist
- 19th – Graduation & whole school photo
- 24th – 2027 Prep Transition Sports Buddies
- 26th – Art Festival
- 27th – Curriculum Day

December

- 8th – 2027 Prep Half Day Transition
 - 10th – Carols on the Green
 - 18th – Final Day of Term 4 (1.30pm)
- Dates and events are subject to change – please continue to check the Compass Calendar

From the Principal

Genevieve Casonato

We're already halfway through Term 2 of 2026! So far this term, students, staff, and our wider community have participated in a variety of experiences, including:

- 3A/Elonera Preschool Buddy Program
- Prep Alphabet Parade
- 2027 Prep Information Evening
- Curriculum Day – Glen Pearsall: Classroom Dynamics
- Parkdale Teachers' Learning Walks in Year 6
- Parktone Parkade
- Japanese Information Night
- Year 11 VCE students production of The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe for Year 5 & 6 students
- Year 2 Zoo Excursion
- Junior Mayor Program
- Mother's Day Breakfast and Stall
- Years 3–6 Maths Challenge
- Kinder visits – Kingston Kids and Elonera
- Year 1 & 3 Cosmodone Incursion
- Year 4 Aquarium Excursion
- Year 5 Coonawarra Camp
- Critical Friend Mardi Gorman modelling Reading Fluency with P–6 teachers
- Whole school ANZAC Commemorations

Assesment & Reporting

We will be providing student achievement reports for Semester 1 this year as usual. The reports will be distributed on Monday 22nd June.

The reports will continue to provide important details about student learning attainment; however, full descriptive comments will not be included as a result of industrial action taken earlier this term by the Australian Education Union.

We will, of course, be pleased to discuss your child's progress at our upcoming parent-teacher interviews, scheduled from 23rd–26th June. As always, you are welcome to arrange a meeting with your child's teacher if these dates are not suitable.

 Don't forget to follow us on Instagram!

TERM 2

TERM 3

TERM 4

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From the Principal continued....

Kingston Junior Mayor

We are very proud of our students who took part in the Junior Mayor Program with Kingston Council. This inspiring initiative gave students the opportunity to engage with local democracy, share ideas, and represent young voices within our community.

Well done to Advait, Millie, Lily and Mia for representing Parktone so wonderfully, and thank you to Miss Panoussis for her support in preparing students for this annual event.



Absent Learning Plans

At this time of year, a number of our families look to escape the Melbourne weather and travel to warmer climates. If you are planning a holiday where your child/ren will miss more than five days of learning, please contact me via email at Genevieve.Casonato@education.vic.gov.au.

Upon receiving this information, I will initiate a learning plan with the class teacher to minimise disruption to your child's learning. Generally, students will be asked to complete Maths Online, maintain a holiday diary/photo journal, complete daily reading, and/or undertake teacher-specific tasks.

Every day counts. We want our students to achieve their true learning potential, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students attending school each and every day. When this is not possible, a learning plan assists in reducing the impact of absences on student learning.

Parktone Parkdade

During the Year 5 and 6 Design and Technology unit, students were inspired by the story of Caine's Arcade – a heartwarming story about a young boy named Caine who created his own arcade using cardboard and recycled materials from his father's junkyard.

Using Caine's creativity as inspiration, our students designed and built their own amazing arcade games. Throughout the project, students were proactive and demonstrated synergy and creativity. It was wonderful to see groups supporting one another by sharing ideas, offering feedback, and thinking 'Win Win' – all while working towards the shared goal of creating our very own PARKADE!

The biannual Parkade Night was a fantastic celebration of the hard work, dedication, and imagination students have shown throughout the term. Families and members of our school community joined in the fun by playing the student-created arcade games and competing for prizes, creating an exciting and memorable evening for everyone involved.

We sold over 2,000 tickets and raised much-needed funds that will be reinvested into the STEAM program to purchase new resources and equipment, helping us continue to make STEAM fun, engaging, and innovative for our students.

Thank you to our wonderful school community for supporting our Year 5/6 students and the STEAM program. Finally, congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 students for all of their hard work and dedication leading up to the night. It was truly a memorable event.

Japanese Study Tour

The Parktone Japan Tour is back!

Following our Information Night on Monday 2nd May, we are excited to have 20 students eager to participate in the tour. We are planning a 10-day experience for students, which will include some or all of the following experiences:

- Kyoto – Kinkaku Temple, Arashiyama Bamboo Forest, Toei Kyoto Movie Studio, and Zen Temple Shoringi
- Osaka – KidZania Studio and Universal Studios
- Hiroshima – Miyajima Tour and Peace Park
- Okayama – Korakuen Gardens and pottery experiences
- Tokyo – Shibuya and Harajuku tours, Nintendo, and Sunshine City
- A visit to our sister school, Nakao Elementary School

The tour will take place in August/September next year and will be supported by four teachers. Mrs Alakus will commence planning these experiences, as well as gaining DET approval. There is much work to be undertaken by both teachers and students before departure.

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From the Principal continued....

School Pride

At our last School Council meeting, several policies were ratified in preparation for our School Review, which will take place in Semester 4 this year. These policies included:

- [Student Dress Code Policy](#)
- [Child Safety Code of Conduct](#)
- [Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedures](#)

School Uniform

The focus of our School Uniform Policy is to instil pride in the way we wear our uniform and sports attire both in and outside of school. We can achieve this by continuing to wear the uniform with pride.

As we move into the winter months, it is important that hats, scarves, and coats are also in school colours. Examples of correct uniform for both Winter and Summer are below -



Girls' Uniform. Choose from the following range:

Summer

- Navy and white cotton check dress
- Royal blue cotton uni-sex shorts
- Royal blue cotton skirts
- Sky blue school logo polo shirt – short sleeves
- Royal blue school logo windcheater, bomber jacket or school hoodie

Winter

- Sky blue school logo polo shirt – long sleeves
- Sky blue skivvy
- Royal blue school logo windcheater, bomber jacket or school hoodie.
- Royal blue polar fleece vest.
- Royal blue tracksuit pants – plain or double knee
- Royal blue bootleg pants – cotton elastine
- Winter weight checked skirt or tunic with the option of navy-blue tights (These should only be worn during Terms 2 & 3).

Boys' Uniform. Choose from the following range:

Summer

- Sky blue school logo polo shirt – short sleeves
- Royal blue cotton uni-sex shorts
- Royal blue school logo windcheater, bomber jacket or school hoodie.

Winter

- Sky blue school logo polo shirt – long sleeves
- Sky blue skivvy
- Royal blue school logo windcheater, bomber jacket or school hoodie.
- Royal blue polar fleece jacket or vest
- Royal blue tracksuit pants– plain or double knee

Sports Uniform

- Parktone polyester short sleeve sports top
- Royal blue netball skirt uni sex-shorts or skirt for girls
- Royal blue uni-sex shorts for boys
- Blue leggings
- Royal Blue tracksuit pants
- Royal blue school logo windcheater, bomber jacket or school hoodie
- Runners

Hats

- Royal blue slouch hats with school logo are compulsory wearing during terms one and four.

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Principal continued....

Fundraising

Since our last newsletter, we have held several successful fundraising events. A small but dedicated group of parents has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to raise funds and provide memorable experiences for our students. Thank you!

Our most recent fundraising events were -

- Colour Run and Easter Hamper Draw - money raised to be communicated in the next edition.
- Mother's Day Stall - Coordinated by Tracey Kean, mum of a Year 2 student, with tremendous support from her family and a team of parents - money raised will be communicated in the next edition.

Our next major events are:

- School Disco - Friday 19th June, commencing at 4:30 pm. Keep an eye on COMPASS in early June for further details.
- Trivia Night - Saturday 15th August at 7:00 pm at the Mordialloc Bowls Club

Curriculum Day

On 29th April, we held a pupil-free Curriculum Day so our teachers could work with one of Australia's leading educational consultants, Glen Pearsall.

The focus of the day was to support teachers in building an effective toolkit for creating and maintaining positive and dynamic classrooms. We explored a range of practical responses to students who are 'off task', with strategies ranging from subtle, low-key reminders through to more overt directives.

The strategies explored included:

- Low-key interventions - quick techniques for subtly encouraging students to remain on task
- Giving explicit instruction - using brief verbal interventions to remind students of expectations
- The use of low-demand instructions - using declarative language to support students who are demand-avoidant
- Developing the art of pivoting - using scripts to avoid arguments and redirect students back to their learning

Teachers found the day invaluable in strengthening their teaching practice and have since implemented these strategies within their classrooms.

Aerobics

Parktone once again achieved great success in the first round of the Aerobics Competition for 2026. The results were:

- 1st - Diamond Divas - Primary Year 3/4 Phase 2 Team
- 1st - 8 Espressos - Primary Advanced Team
- 2nd - Parktone Passions - Primary Year 5/6 Phase 2 Team
- 3rd - Pink Bunnies - Primary Year 3 Phase 1 Team
- 4th - Terrific Ten - Primary Year 5/6 Phase 2 Team
- 5th - Blue Stars - Primary Year 5 Phase 1 Team

The next competition for the teams will be the State Championships on Saturday 6th June. Over the coming weeks, students will be fine-tuning their routines for the opportunity to qualify for Nationals.

Best of luck, Parktone!

Year 5 - Camp Coonawarra

On Wednesday, I returned from an overnight stay at Coonawarra with Pippa. The students were fully engaged in all activities and worked positively with their peers to achieve success and enjoy the full camp experience. The weather has been kind to the group, and each day has been full of action and adventure.

The campers certainly enjoyed plenty of quality food, ensuring they had plenty of energy to give their best during activities. Teachers have been impressed with the students' positive attitudes and willingness to give everything a go.

We will have some very tired but happy campers returning home this afternoon.



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Literacy at Parktone

Amy Sharman - Learning Specialist

This term in Literacy, students have been exploring the structure and features of informative texts through engaging mentor texts connected to their learning in Biological Sciences.

Our Year 3 mentor text was *The Wonderful Wisdom of Ants* while Year 6 explored *The Book of Bees*, to investigate how authors organise and present factual information. Through patterned writing activities, students identified key language features, text structures and sentence patterns before applying these skills to create their own informative reports about living creatures.

After publishing, students are looking forward to sharing their reports with one another across the year levels, with Year 3 and Year 6 students coming together to celebrate their learning!

In our Prep-2 learning spaces, students continue to engage in daily explicit phonics sessions to build strong foundational reading and spelling skills.

Our Prep students have been learning to transfer their knowledge of letter sounds to decode and read new words and also encode and spell words with growing confidence.

We are so proud of our awesome Preps and the enthusiasm they bring to their learning each day!



Students Rise to the Maths Challenge

Brett Sargeant - Learning Specialist

Selected students participated in the 2026 Maths Challenge, a national problem-solving program organised by the Australian Maths Trust for students in Years 3 to 6 with a strong interest in mathematics.

Across four sessions in Term 2, students will work on a series of challenging mathematical problems designed to develop persistence, logical reasoning, and creative thinking skills. Students synergise with peers and discuss strategies and ideas while independently completing their own written solutions.

The program provides students with an engaging opportunity to extend their mathematical thinking beyond the classroom and further develop their confidence and problem-solving abilities. Students' results were submitted to the Australian Maths Trust, with certificates awarded across a range of achievement levels.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Specialist News - P.E

Tom Scott

District Cross Country

Parktone Primary School's Cross Country team delivered an outstanding performance at the Mordialloc District Cross Country Carnival on Thursday 7th May, finishing 4th overall out of 11 schools. Our runners demonstrated determination, resilience and excellent sportsmanship throughout the day, with many students achieving personal best performances against strong competition.

The result was a reflection of the squad's commitment and hard work in the lead-up to the event. Since our House Cross Country Carnival, students have been dedicating their Tuesday lunchtimes to training sessions at Walter Galt Reserve, building their fitness and endurance together as a team. Their effort and enthusiasm at training was clearly evident on race day, and we are incredibly proud of the way all runners represented Parktone.

A special congratulations to our team captains, Alyssa M. and Flynn D., for their leadership and encouragement throughout the season.

We would also like to congratulate the following students who have qualified for the Division Cross Country Carnival on Wednesday 27th May:

- Olly D. – 6th, 9/10 Boys
- Aisling F. – 3rd, 9/10 Girls
- Sienna L. – 4th, 9/10 Girls
- Max P. – 4th, 12/13 Boys
- Flynn D. – 5th, 12/13 Boys
- Alyssa M. – 6th, 12/13 Girls

Well done to all students involved on a fantastic team effort!



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ANZAC Day Comemorations

Parktone Primary students proudly represented the school at the 2026 ANZAC commemorations in Mentone, joining community members and schools in honouring the service and sacrifice of Australia and New Zealand's servicemen and women. Students attended the commemorative service with great respect, participating in the ceremony and reflecting on the importance of remembrance, courage and community spirit.

Students were privileged to hear from Mr Danny Alakus, who spoke about the significance of ANZAC Day and the importance of remembering the courage and sacrifice of those who served.



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Preps on Parade!

Our Prep students proudly took part in a fun and colourful Alphabet Parade to celebrate all the amazing learning they have done with letters and sounds....all the way from A-Z.

Dressed in creative and colourful costumes representing a letter of the alphabet, students walked the red carpet with pride.

A big congratulations to our Prep students for reaching this important milestone in their learning journey. What a fun way to celebrate becoming confident young readers and writers!

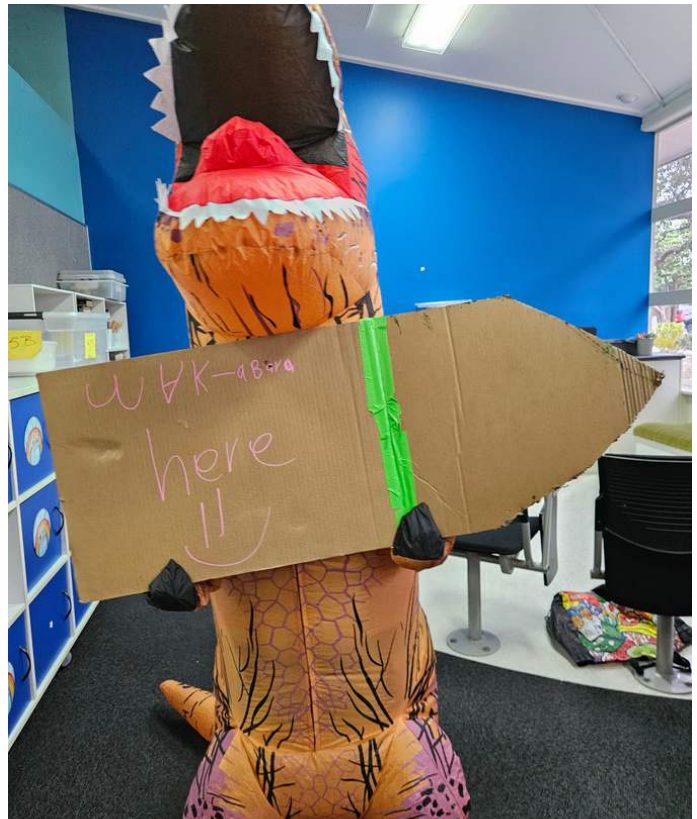


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Fun and Games at the Parktone Parkade

The school community enjoyed the ever-popular Parktone Parkade! Year 5 and 6 Students proudly showcased their arcade creations which they worked on throughout their Design and Technology unit.

Families and friends had the opportunity to explore and play a range of fun student-made games, celebrating innovation, problem-solving, and imagination across the school.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Parktone Leadership Afternoon



FUTURE LEADERS

Parktone's Home Learning Project

DREAM IT. LEARN IT. LEAD IT.

Parktone Primary School Leader in Me.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Great leaders begin with the end in mind! This project is all about setting goals for your future and taking steps to get there.

You will create a project about the career you would like to have when you grow up.

You will research, plan and present your learning to inspire others and help them dream big too!

This project is a great opportunity for parents to synergise and work with their child – learning together and growing together!

★ YOU WILL:

- Think about your future goals
- Learn about a real profession
- Share your learning with others

GET CREATIVE!

You can present your project in ANY way! Here are some ideas:

- MODEL
- INTERVIEW (with someone in the profession)
- POSTER
- REPORT
- ANY CREATIVE IDEA!

YOUR TASK

- WHAT DO I WANT TO BE?**
Name your chosen profession.
- WHY DO I WANT TO BE THIS?**
 - What interests you about this job?
 - What skills or passions do you have?
 - How will this job help others or make a difference?
- ABOUT THE PROFESSION**
 - What does this person do?
 - Where do they work?
 - What skills do they need?
 - What training or education is required?
 - What are the challenges and rewards of this job?
- HOW WILL I GET THERE?**
 - What steps will you take?
 - What can you start doing now?
 - What goals will you set?
 - Who can help or support you on your journey?

DUE DATE
WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE

YOUR PROJECT WILL BE DISPLAYED!
Projects will be displayed at the Future Leaders Expo for our school community to view on FRIDAY 12TH JUNE

FUTURE LEADERS EXPO

FRIDAY 12TH JUNE
JOIN PARKTONE FOR

LEADERS OF THE FUTURE

2026 LEADERSHIP AFTERNOON

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT WHERE STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO DRESS AS THE PROFESSIONALS THEY ASPIRE TO BE IN THE FUTURE. WE WELCOME ANY MEMBERS FROM OUR PARKTONE COMMUNITY WHO WOULD LIKE TO SHARE THEIR WORK AND THE PATHS THEY TOOK TO GET THERE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SPEAKING PLEASE CONTACT MISS SHARMAN

2:40 ASSEMBLY IN SCHOOL HALL
3:00 - 3:30 CLASSROOM VISITS AND PROJECT EXPO

Parktone Primary School Leader in Me

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Learning Under the Stars

To support the Year 1 and Year 3 Science and Inquiry units, students explored the weather, seasons, the sky, and sustainability on Planet Earth. Throughout the unit, they observed patterns in daily and seasonal weather, as well as the movements of the Sun, Moon, and stars. Students also investigated ways humans can care for water, land, and air, and learned about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge of seasonal changes and sky patterns, including how this knowledge has helped communities live sustainably for generations.

As part of this learning, students participated in an exciting incursion presented by Starlab Victoria. During the session, students took part in a guided lesson delivered by a qualified science professional inside an inflatable planetarium dome. The incursion connected closely with the current Inquiry Unit and supported the achievement of key curriculum outcomes.



Learning Under the Sea

Our Year 4 students had the exciting opportunity to participate in an excursion to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium. The excursion provided students with a valuable hands-on learning experience that supported their Inquiry unit, Web of Life.

Throughout the visit, students explored a range of fascinating marine environments and discovered the many ways living things are connected within ecosystems. They observed a variety of sea creatures up close, including sharks, rays, jellyfish, penguins, and tropical fish, while learning about habitats, food chains, and the importance of biodiversity.

The excursion encouraged students to think about how plants, animals, and humans rely on one another to survive and thrive. Students also learned about conservation efforts and the ways people can help protect oceans and marine life for future generations.

This engaging experience helped bring classroom learning to life and sparked curiosity and excitement as students prepared to begin their Web of Life Inquiry unit.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Parents & Friends Committee

Mothers Day Celebrations

Our Parktone Primary School was delighted to welcome mothers, carers, grandparents, and other special people to school for a wonderful Mothers Day celebration.

The morning began with a coffee and sweet treat, where families enjoyed spending time together and connecting with members of the school community. Following breakfast, our special guests were invited into classrooms to take part in a range of fun learning activities alongside the students.

Students visited the popular Mothers Day stall during the day to purchase a thoughtful gift for their mum or special person.

The event is not possible without the time and effort put in by our fabulous Parents & Friends Committee and the wonderful volunteers on the day. A sincere thank you to you all.

