

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Edition 6- Term 3 2026

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram!

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.

TERM 4

Key Dates

October

- 8th - Year 3-6 Division Athletics
- 13th - 2027 Prep Transition Literacy
- 23rd - Grandparents Day

November

- 6TH - Year 3 Sleepover
- 12th - Year 3-6 Production
- 18th - 2027 Prep Transition Session 1
- 19th - Graduation & whole school photo
- 24th - 2027 Prep Transition Session 2
- 26th - Art Festival
- 27th - Curriculum Day

December

- 3rd - 2027 Prep Transition Session 3
- 7th - Year 6 Life Saving
- 7th - 2027 Prep Parent Information Evening
- 8th - 2027 Prep Final Transition - Half Day
- 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

As we reach the final week of Term 3, it is wonderful to reflect on another busy and successful term at Parktone. Our students have embraced a wide range of learning opportunities, activities and events that have supported their academic, social and emotional development. Since our last newsletter, students have participated in:

- Living & Growing Program – Years 5 & 6
- Division Athletics
- Prep to Year 2 Swimming Program
- Special Person Afternoon – A Symphony of Stories
- Year 3 Ballroom Dancing Showcase
- Prep Incursion – The Drama Toolbox
- Hooptime Day – Level 6 students
- Year 4 Phillip Island Camp
- District Basketball
- ICAS Mathematics
- Book Fair & Book Parade
- Years 4–6 House Sport – Round 2
- Year 6 Market Day
- Tennis Playoffs
- Father's Day
- Gateways – Mathematics
- Year 6 Students and Teachers Basketball Match
- Walkathon
- Footy Day

Student Voice

Student Voice is encouraged at Parktone, and we have a student that has used theirs for a positive improvement.

Advait is our school captain and truly listens to his peers when they have a need. He had some students approach him to say it would be a good idea to have some drinking taps near the oval, and he took this suggestion and ran with it. Advait used his Student Voice and presented his proposal to the leadership team, who in turn put him forward to present to School Council. All parties were so impressed and on board that his suggestion this week turned into a reality.

Parktone now has drinking taps on the oval, and the response has been one of gratitude and thanks.

Well done Advait.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Principal continued....

Year 4 Camp

Our Year 4 students had a wonderful time at the Phillip Island Camp. The staff who attended were extremely impressed with the way our students represented Parktone and the way they supported and connected with one another.

The students embraced the challenges of camp with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. They encouraged their classmates to participate in all the activities and demonstrated the resilience and independence we love to see in our students.

Pip and I stayed overnight on the first night and I was pleasantly surprised to discover that everyone was asleep by 10.30 pm!

I am not sure we will see quite the same bedtime routine at our upcoming Year 3 Sleepover on Friday 6 November!

Book Week

Book Week is always a special event on the Parktone calendar, with both students and staff going above and beyond with their costumes. I was particularly impressed by the creativity and imagination shown in the many costumes, which the children wore with such pride and enthusiasm.

In the week leading up to Book Week, students, parents and special friends also had the opportunity to purchase books for themselves and/or the school library. As a result of the fantastic support from our community, the school received additional funds from Scholastic to purchase further reading material for our library.

This is a wonderful way for our community to support a love of reading while also adding new and exciting books to our school collection.

Trivia Night

What a fantastic night!

Our annual Trivia Night was a great success, raising close to $9700. This is an outstanding result and a wonderful reflection of the generosity and enthusiasm of our Parktone community.

The venue was very well received, and our host, Toby, a Parktone dad, kept everyone entertained while ensuring the evening ran smoothly.

A dedicated team of helpers worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organise and deliver the event. A huge thank you to everyone involved for their time, effort and commitment. The money raised will make a valuable contribution to supporting our students and school.

Fathers Day Celebrations

Our dads and special friends were welcomed to Parktone for a Father's Day Breakfast, providing an opportunity to enjoy a coffee and something to eat while celebrating the important men in the lives of our students.

The morning was a lovely opportunity for dads and special friends to catch up with one another, as well as spend time with the students. There were plenty of activities to get involved in, including some very competitive games of Four Square!

To conclude the morning, dads and special friends had the opportunity to spend some special time with their child or children in their learning environment.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the morning such a positive and memorable occasion.



2027 Prep Enrolments

We have received confirmation that 36 Prep students will commence at Parktone in 2027. This is an increase on this year's enrolment and is very pleasing. It reflects the work we have undertaken to raise the profile of our school and showcase the wonderful opportunities we provide for our students and families.

Our 2027 Prep Transition Program will commence on 18 November with a one-hour Literacy session in the classroom.

The remaining transition dates are:

- 24 November – Mathematics in the Classroom
- 3 December – Meet the Specialist Teachers
- 8 December – Final Transition Half-Day Program

An Information Night for parents will be held on Monday 7 December. This session will provide parents with information about how they can support and prepare their child for the commencement of their educational journey at Parktone.

We are looking forward to welcoming our 2027 Prep families and beginning this important transition into school life.

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From the Principal continued...

School Uniform Update

Our school uniform plays an important role in building school pride, identity and a sense of belonging. When students wear a uniform, they feel connected to their school and recognise that they are part of a wider community.

As we continue to build pride in our school, we believe it is timely to review and refresh our current uniform. The aim is to develop a uniform that reflects the strong identity of Parktone Primary School, is practical and comfortable for students, and is something our students feel proud to wear.

Any changes to the uniform are carefully considered, with school council input. We want to ensure that the updated uniform maintains the traditions and identity of Parktone while providing a fresh, contemporary look that our students can wear with pride.

Our uniform is more than simply what students wear to school — it is a visible representation of who we are as a school community.

Below is the anticipated look of the refreshed school polo and bomber jacket (bottoms remain unchanged) which will be available for purchase for the 2027 school year. More information on the transition period and final designs will be communicated in Term 4.

If you have any questions please contact me via email- Genevieve.Casonato@education.vic.gov.au





Aerobics Highlights

Last week, our Parktone Aerobics teams travelled to Queensland to represent our school at the FISAF Australia Sport Aerobics National Championships on the Gold Coast.

The Aerobics Coordinator, Jessie Radford, shared the following reflection:

I could not have been prouder of our Parktone Aerobics Squad. Across the entire weekend, they performed incredibly well, supported one another wholeheartedly and represented Parktone with such pride, positivity and enthusiasm.

While we didn't come away with any podium finishes this year, that certainly didn't take away from what was an incredibly successful and special Nationals experience. The girls gave everything they had on stage and, more importantly, genuinely enjoyed every second of the experience. Watching them cheer for one another, celebrate each other's performances and enjoy being part of the Parktone team was a real highlight.

A special mention must go to our Year 3/4 team, who competed at their very first National Championships. Reaching Nationals at such a young age is a fantastic achievement, and they handled the experience brilliantly.

At the other end, it was a particularly special weekend for our Year 6 team as they competed at their final Nationals representing Parktone. It has been wonderful watching them grow through the program, and they should be incredibly proud of the way they finished their Parktone aerobics journey.

The students were an absolute credit to the school, and I feel very lucky to be able to work with them.

Results

- Diamond Divas – Year 3/4 Team: 10th
- Terrific Ten – Year 5 Team: 6th
- Parktone Passions – Year 6 Team: 8th
- 8 Espressos – Year 6 Team: 7th

Congratulations to all of our students who represented Parktone so proudly. We are very proud of your dedication, teamwork and commitment throughout the season.

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NAPLAN & Attitude to School Survey

We are incredibly proud of the outstanding results our students achieved in the 2026 NAPLAN and Attitude to School Survey (AtoSS).

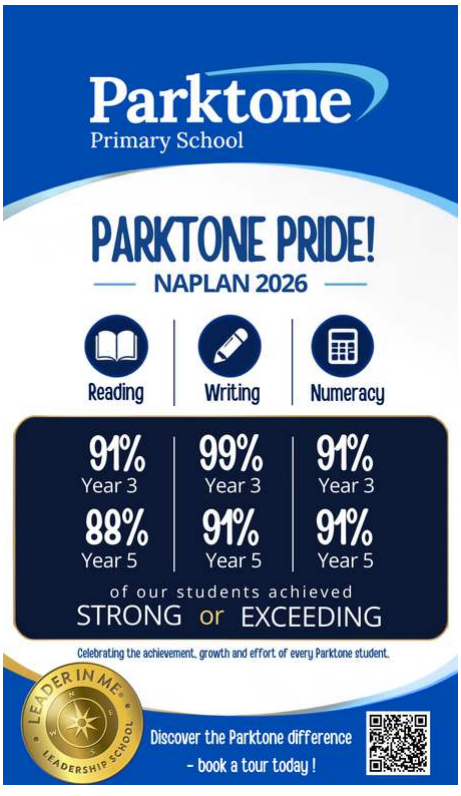
These results reflect the hard work of our students and staff, our ongoing professional development and initiatives such as School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support. Our tailored learning programs are supporting students to thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

There are many factors that contribute to our continued progress, with the quality and dedication of our teachers being particularly important. Over the past few years, we have refined our approach to teaching and learning and deepened our understanding of the Science of Learning. It is pleasing to see the impact of this work reflected in our results.

Our Tutor Learning Program has also played an important role in supporting students who require additional assistance with their learning.

While we are very proud of these achievements, we know that our work does not stop here. We will continue to reflect, refine and work hard to ensure that every Parktone student receives the high-quality education they deserve.

To celebrate our NAPLAN results, we have placed a billboard at the corner of the school highlighting the achievements of our students. It is wonderful to be able to celebrate their hard work and success with the wider community.



From the Principal continued...

Leader in Me Artwork

Over the term break, Sarah's artwork will be installed on the wall of Block B.

I am very excited to see these unique Leaders in Me pieces displayed within our school and shared with the wider community.

The artwork will be a wonderful addition to the school and provide a lasting representation of our Leaders in Me work and the values we seek to develop in our students.

I look forward to seeing the finished installation and watching our students enjoy the artwork for many years to come.



Term 3 Finale

The final day of Term 3 was filled with plenty of Footy Day fun!

Following our Footy Parade, our Year 6 students ran a range of activities on the oval for the rest of the school. There was plenty of energy, enthusiasm and school spirit as students enjoyed the final day of the term together.

It was a fantastic way to finish what has been another busy and productive term at Parktone.

As you are reading this newsletter I will be on a 9-day trip in Peru. Mrs Bach has been away for the last week as she is on a 3 week trip with her mum seeing the sights of New York and San Francisco as well as cruising parts of Canada.

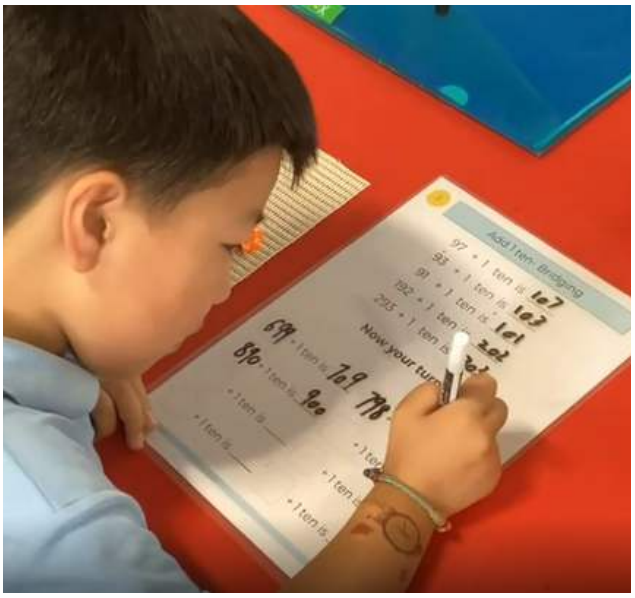
We look forward to welcoming everyone back after a well-deserved two-week break on Monday 5 October.
We hope you can take the opportunity to relax and recharge, and most importantly, stay safe.

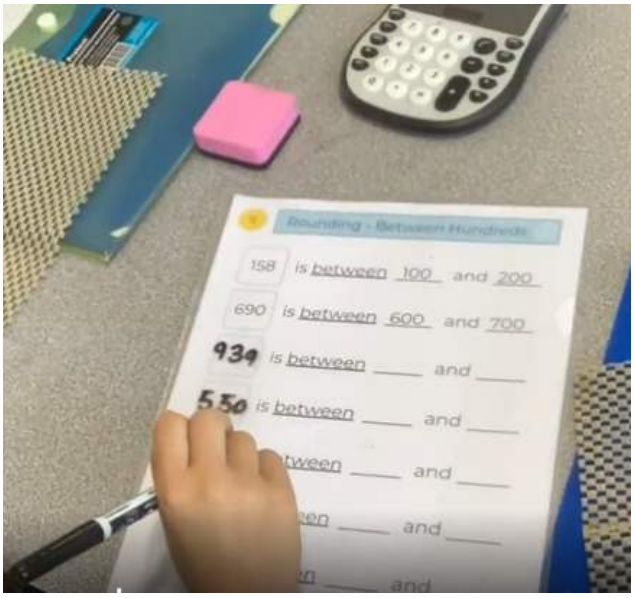
Enjoy the holidays!
Cheers,
Genevieve

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Classroom Update

Mathematics - A Busy Term of Learning





It has been another busy and rewarding term of Mathematics at Parktone, with a continued focus on strengthening mathematics teaching and ensuring that every student is supported and challenged at their point of need.

The term began with a whole-school Mathematics professional learning day led by Ange Rogers. Staff explored the important role of concrete materials and manipulatives in developing deep mathematical understanding, with a particular focus on the CRA approach – Concrete, Representational and Abstract. This approach supports students to first explore a mathematical concept using hands-on materials, then represent their thinking through pictures, diagrams and models, before moving to abstract numbers, symbols and equations. Importantly, this approach is used across all year levels at Parktone. Concrete materials are not just for our younger learners; they continue to be valuable in the upper primary years when students are exploring increasingly complex mathematical concepts. Providing opportunities to see, touch and represent mathematics helps students make connections, explain their thinking and understand why the mathematics works, rather than simply learning a procedure.

Teachers also explored the use of the Bar Model as a powerful visual representation that can support mathematical thinking across all year levels. For example, if students are asked to find ¼ of 36, a bar can represent the whole of 36 and be divided into four equal parts. Students can visually see that each part represents 9, helping them understand the relationship between the numbers before moving to the calculation.

Our whole-school Number Fluency Program continues to be an important part of Mathematics learning at Parktone. The program allows students to work at their individual point of need, developing the foundational number knowledge and strategies required for increasingly complex mathematics. As students work through a fluency level, they practise and demonstrate proficiency across all of the skills within that level before progressing to the next. This systematic approach ensures that important skills are consolidated rather than skipped, while allowing students to experience success and progress at an appropriate pace. Teachers regularly monitor student achievement to identify when students are ready to move forward.

Alongside our classroom programs, we continue to provide additional targeted support for students who need it. A number of students have participated in our Mathematics tutoring program, working closely with our Education Support staff to consolidate important skills and build confidence. Mr Sargeant and Mrs Bach have also continued to run our Maths Early Bird Program before school. It has been particularly rewarding to see not only the improvement in students' mathematical skills, but also the growth in their confidence and willingness to tackle mathematics.

Students have also had opportunities to extend and challenge themselves. This term we conducted the Australian Mathematics Competition through the Australian Maths Trust, with some outstanding results that we look forward to sharing and celebrating with our school community in Term 4. A number of students also completed the ICAS Mathematics assessment, again achieving some excellent results.

From developing strong foundations and providing targeted support, through to challenging students to extend their mathematical thinking, it has been a very productive term. We look forward to continuing this work in Term 4 and supporting all of our students to grow as confident and capable mathematicians.

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Classroom Update

Literacy at Parktone

As another busy term comes to an end, we are proud to celebrate another wonderful term of learning in the Literacy space at Parktone. Across the school, students have continued to build their skills and confidence as readers and writers, engaging with a wide range of texts, developing their vocabulary, sharing their thinking and strengthening their understanding of how authors use language to communicate ideas.

Next term, we are excited to continue strengthening our whole-school approach to reading, with a particular focus on reading fluency. Reading fluency routines will be implemented across the school, giving students regular opportunities to practise reading with accuracy, appropriate pace and expression.

During reading sessions, our Year 4–6 students will also take part in novel studies, providing a shared reading experience where students can explore rich texts in greater depth. Through reading aloud, class discussions and purposeful responses, students will build comprehension, vocabulary and fluency while analysing characters, themes and the choices authors make.

Our Term 4 novels will be:

- Year 4: Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo
- Year 5: Tigg and the Bandicoot Bushranger by Jackie French
- Year 6: Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief by Katrina Nannestad

We look forward to another exciting term of reading, discussion and discovery as our students continue to grow as confident and thoughtful readers.







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Year 6 Market Day

Our school community came together for Market Day, with students across the school having the opportunity to visit a range of student-run stalls. As part of their Economics and Business Inquiry unit, our Year 6 students planned, created and operated their own businesses, offering a variety of products and services for their fellow students to enjoy.

Market Day was a wonderful opportunity for students to put their learning into action while developing skills in teamwork, communication, creativity, budgeting, money management and making informed consumer choices. Students from across the school enthusiastically participated as customers, making choices about how to spend their money and supporting our Year 6 entrepreneurs.

It was fantastic to see the our students enthusiasm and creativity throughout the day. Thank you to the students, staff and families for helping make Market Day such a successful and enjoyable experience for everyone!









2026 Walkathon

Last Friday's whole-school Walkathon was a huge success! The perfect weather provided the ideal conditions for a fun-filled day of laughter, energy and plenty of walking.

This year, we combined the Walkathon with R U OK? Day, which was held on Thursday. Students came to school wearing a splash of yellow and, during the walk, had the opportunity to connect with their peers through conversation. It was great to see students enjoying each other's company — although I must admit, I was surprised by just how quickly some of our students can walk!

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our school community in collecting sponsorships, we raised just over $10K. This is a fantastic achievement and we thank all of our families for their generosity and support.

Special congratulations to our top three fundraisers:
1st – Alex 1A, 2nd – Sophia 4B, 3rd – Manny 4B

We would also like to recognise the wonderful efforts of all our fundraisers, in particular - Lukas M, Roy P, Joshua A, Mae M, Indie L, Imogen H, Paige H, Marla, T, Oscar W and Lucia M and 1A winning the class prize. Students were presented with their prizes at our final assembly of the term.

A huge thank you to Cath in the office for coordinating the Walkathon for the second year running. Events like this take considerable organisation, and we greatly appreciate all the work that went on behind the scenes to make the day such a success.

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Parktone on Parade

2026 Footy Day

What a fantastic way to finish the term! Our Parktone Footy Day was filled with plenty of fun, friendly rivalry and school spirit. Students enjoyed activities in the brilliant sunshine, including the Longest Kick, Handball Competition and a fantastic Team Parade.

It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, cheering each other on and showing off their footy skills. A huge thank you to our staff and students for making it such a fun and memorable final day of term!











PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Parktone Pride

Welcome back Class of 2020

Last year, we welcomed a group of former Parktone students back to school to reflect on their primary school experiences and share what they had achieved since leaving Parktone. The visit was very well received, so this year we invited the 2020 Year 6 cohort to return.

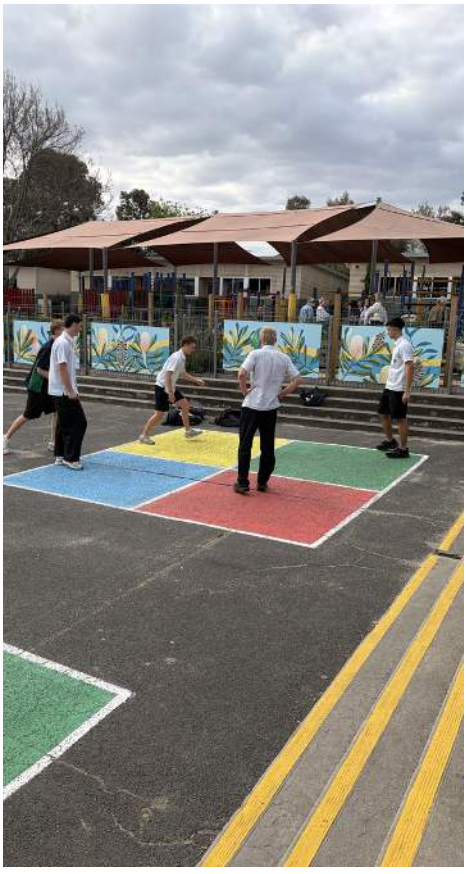
It was wonderful to see approximately 30 former students attend and be recognised at our Friday assembly. They enjoyed reminiscing about their time at Parktone, walking around the school grounds and reconnecting with some of their former teachers.

It was lovely to hear their memories and see how excited they were to return to their primary school. For our current students, it was also a wonderful opportunity to see where their Parktone journey can lead them.

A special thank you to Mrs Waack, Mrs Northcott, Miss Kelly and Mrs Gibson, who returned to attend this special event. Their presence helped make the occasion particularly memorable for our former students.











PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Parktone Parents & Friends

Toby's Terrific Trivia

A fabulous night was had at Mordialloc Bowls Club for our major parent fundraiser, the Parktone Trivia Night. Huge thanks go to Marla and Lenny's dad Michael (AKA Toby) who brought together our school community for a night full of friendly competition and plenty of fun. The vibe was fantastic, with everyone getting into the spirit of the evening and enjoying a great night together. It was wonderful to see our Parktone families connecting and throwing their support behind our wonderful school.

Nights like these are not possible without our amazing Parents and Friends Committee. Their hard work in putting this event together ensured a hugely successful night with $9700 raised for our

Thank you to all who joined in the fun. If you missed out this year, make sure you get in quick next year — Parktone Trivia is not to be missed!





