30 Oct 2026 Vol 18

Preston North East PRIMARY

THE NAVIGATOR

CHARTING OUR JOURNEY AT PNE

PRINCIPALS REPORT



World Teacher's Day

All of us, (even the best of us), can take things for granted from time to time. Despite the best of intentions we can get used to something that is great, forget what the alternative could be and just plain don't realise how good we have it! Today is world teacher's day and on all days this is one in which PNE shouldn't take things for granted. We do have some of the best teacher's going at PNE.

If you were at assembly this morning you would have seen our children say that for themselves. Our teachers are "kind", "help us do our best" and "help me be resilient" were just some of the many kind words spoken about our staff. They are approachable, well-planned, organised and above all else passionate about teaching. They want the best for their students and put in long hours to ensure every student at PNE achieves their best.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for all their hard work and dedication to the profession and our students this World Teacher's day. Please, send a card, note or letter to your child's teacher and let them know how valuable they are. It will mean a lot more than you think.
Happy World Teacher's Day to the fantastic staff at PNE!

Australia will celebrate teachers on World Teachers' Day Today, Friday 30 October 2026.

You are invited to Shine a light on Australia's teachers who inspire, support, and empower our children and young people every single day.
From lightbulb moments to helping someone find their way, teachers make a difference in ways big and small. This World Teachers' Day, we're putting that impact in the spotlight. We'd love you to share a moment when a teacher made a difference in your life and help Shine a light on the amazing work they do.
If you're posting on social media, use #WorldTeachersDay2026 and tag @aitsl to be part of the celebrations.
Find out more and see how people are celebrating at www.worldteachersday.edu.au

John-Mark Gook — Principal



KEY DATES

2 Nov Curriculum Day No school

3 Nov Melb Cup - NO school

4-5 Nov F-2 Swimming

9 Nov F-2 Swimming

10 Nov Prep Transition starts

11 Nov Sports / Grad photos

12 Nov 2-4 immigration museum

16 Nov Maths Quiz 3-4

17 Nov Grade 5 Debating

18 Nov Maths night

3 Dec Prep Prom



FRIDAY 30.10.26



Enrolments for 2027 are well underway. If you have a child who is starting school next year please contact the office with any questions or to pick up an enrolment form.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL SPOT



Yarning Conference
Last Tuesday the Year 5s attended the Yarning Conference at Bundoora Park. It was a privelege to accompany the students who listened so respectfully to Indigenous community members. Speakers included Uncle Chris Hume, Wurundjeri Woiwurrung educator, and Uncle Travis Lovett, who told students about his National Walk for Truth to Canberra in May. Our students helped the rangers to plant indigenous trees at the park. Charlee and Arizona read our 5-line poem about truth-telling to the massive audience of 400 students, then Anna and Charlee were interviewed by journalists! You can see them on the Darebin Council Facebook page. It was a great day!





"I liked how Jason played the didgeridoo and brought the clouds to life!" ***Ali***

"I liked planting and painting on our hands." ***Aayah***

"I really liked the poems because it was nice to listen to other schools." Sophie

"I liked learning about Treaty because Victoria is the first place in Australia to have a Treaty." ***Dustin***





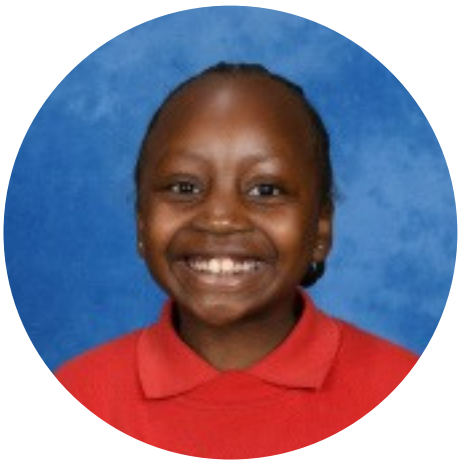


Enjoy the long weekend with your families!

Annie Neville - Assistant Principal

Preston North East PRIMARY

STORY OF THE WEEK



BY JORDAN MATOLA

Moving to Australia

When I was packing, I was thinking with a grudgey expression, "What is it like to live in Australia? "I thought about the food, the smell and the places. I didn't want to leave Zimbabwe and move to Australia because I kept watching these scary videos about koalas jumping on people's heads!

It was time to say my goodbyes. Goodbye house, goodbye walls, goodbye bed! I asked my dad, "Um, how long is the flight?"
My dad said, "Oh, we're leaving tomorrow."
I was annoyed. I didn't want to go. So, I asked, "Why me? Why me?!!!"
"So can you tell me what time we are leaving in the morning?"
"WE ARE LEAVING AT 3:00am," said Dad.
Why me, why me?

WOW!!! GREAT STORY

"Okay, how about this, I wake up at 8:00 pm instead?" But my dad hit me with a big fat NO! "It will be for your own good, Jordan!"

The next day, my alarm went DING! Ugh, why do I have to wake up like it is a Saturday morning? "Let's go, Jordan," said Dad.

I was feeling a bunch of sadness as we drove to the airport. I was going to miss my friends, my teachers, and the big trampoline that sat in the middle of my school. I was quiet in the back of the car, and I wrapped myself up in a blanket.

I didn't say much as we boarded the plane. I sat in the middle between my mum and my dad. My brother was on the other side of my dad and he threw up. I'd never been on a plane before and my ears hurt. I watched episodes of Little Lunch on the plane, and we ate crackers for the first half and then dinner which was rice and chicken.

I must have fallen asleep because then my mum woke me up and said, "Jordan, Jordan wake up we are in Australia!!!"

Preston North East
PRIMARY

2027 PREP TRANSITION

We are excited to invite the 2027 Prep students to join our five Transition Sessions. These sessions are designed to help children become familiar with their new learning environment, meet teachers and classmates, and build confidence for a smooth and happy start to school.



Tuesday
10th November
9:15-10:30
+
Parent Information Session

Tuesday
17th November
9:15-10:30

Tuesday
24th November
9:15-10:30

Tuesday
1st December
9:15-10:30

Tuesday
8th December
9:15-10:30
+
Parent Information Session

Please bring a water bottle and hat.
Please arrive at the office to sign in.

GETTING TO KNOW US!



How long have you been at PNE?
I first came to PNE in November 2025 for 4 weeks of work placement. I was lucky enough to get a job here, starting in Term 1 2026.

How would your friends describe you?
Cat loving, kind, funny and stubborn.

What's the first word that comes to mind that you think the kids would use to describe you?
Jelly!

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I love spending time in my garden, baking, or working on one of my many craft projects.

Do you ever eat anything really weird?
Not really. I have a slight obsession with custard though, which some people think is weird and gross.

Best (or worst) excuse a child has given?
I'm tired because the pregnant bird outside my bedroom window woke me up at 5am.

Fun Fact about Kelly.....

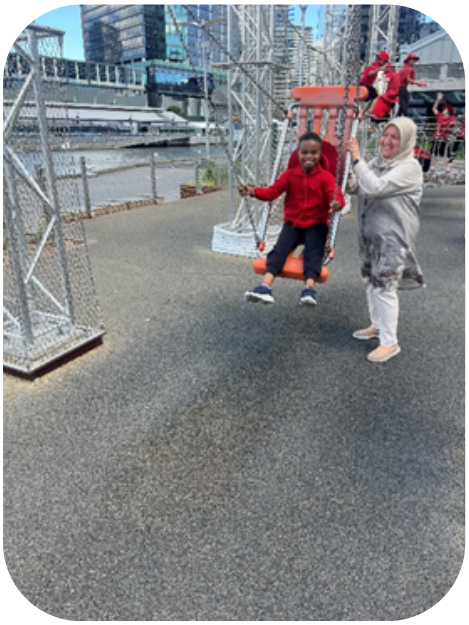
What is something we would be surprised to know about you?
I am the president of a cemetery friends' group and run tours at a local cemetery (I promise I'm not actually that weird!)

2-4 AREA

Our Year 2, 3 and 4 students enjoyed an exciting excursion to the Polly Woodside Maritime Museum! The students stepped back in time to learn about life aboard a historic sailing ship and discovered what it was like for sailors and convicts travelling across the seas in the past. They explored the ship, learnt about its history and gained a deeper understanding of Australia's maritime heritage and the first contacts to Australia. It was a wonderful hands-on learning experience that brought our history studies to life!













DISCOVER

POLLY WOODSIDE





2-4









4-6 CAMP

PHILLIP ISLAND ADVENTURE RESORT













Preston North East PRIMARY













4-6 CAMP






CYC
ADVENTURE


4-6
CAMP



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2026

MATHS NIGHT

Event is open to the community





Wednesday 18th November

4-6pm

COME ALONG

93 Tyler Street
Preston



EXPERIENCE

- Take-home ideas
- Prizes to be won
- Maths Games for all ages
- BBQ
- Lots of Fun

www.pneps.vic.edu.au

Preston North East PRIMARY

Canteen Specials Term 4

Good Food Happy Days!

Thursday Special

Thursday 5th November &
Thursday 12th November

Baked Potatoes

Baked potato with butter

$3.00



Add on:

Cheese	Sour Cream	Coleslaw	Corn	Bacon
50¢	50¢	50¢	50¢	$1.00

REMINDER

Icy Poles & Ice Creams Are Back!

STREETS®

Cool treats for the warmer days are here!

- Order and pay through the lunch order system.
- Collect and enjoy during **lunch break recess.**
- Check the Term 4 Canteen Menu for available choices and prices.

Cool Treats = Happy Kids!

Preston North East PRIMARY

EMILY GOODMAN
MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING LEADER

WELLBEING MATTERS



HEALTHY SCREEN TIME HABITS

Screen time can be part of a healthy lifestyle when balanced with other activities. Families can support children by setting clear limits, choosing age-appropriate content and modelling positive technology habits. Encourage regular breaks and make time for outdoor play, physical activity, reading, creativity and face-to-face interactions.





To support healthy sleep, avoid screens in the hour before bedtime and keep devices out of bedrooms overnight. Establishing consistent boundaries helps children develop a healthy relationship with technology while supporting their learning, wellbeing and social development.



SCREEN TIME GUIDELINES BY AGE

Children younger than 2 years: no screen time

Children aged 2-5 years: no more than one hour per day; less is better

Children and young people aged 5-17 years: no more than 2 hours of sedentary recreational screen time per day. This does not include required schoolwork. Less is better.

Source: Raising Children's Network and the Syndey Children's Hospital website.

PRODUCTIVE PATCH

Foundation M have finished three weeks in the Productive Patch and they have shown that small people can be great cooks and gardeners.

Students have planted corn, tomatoes, zucchinis, sunflowers, basil and capsicum. They have harvested broad beans, lettuce, herbs, carrots and beetroots. They've watered, weeded, swept and investigated bugs with microscopes. Students cooked focaccia, broad bean dip and green leaf salad.

We spoke to students about trying all the food and having a growth mindset around eating: we asked students to consider the taste and decide whether it was new and strange or new and not very nice. Consequently, lots of students ate broad bean dip, salad and fresh carrots. Everyone loved the focaccia.

Kat sent some dough home with students for families to bake focaccia and enjoy together.

The recipes for both are here. I hope you can try them with your children.











Preston North East PRIMARY

PRODUCTIVE PATCH



My kitchen garden

Broad Bean Dip

Season: Spring
Makes: 30 tastes or 6 serves at home

Fresh from the garden: broad beans, garlic, lemon, mixed soft-leaved herbs

Forests of giant broad beans are a spring delight. This easy broad bean dip makes good use of a bumper harvest. Serve with flatbread wedges or chopped raw vegetables.

EQUIPMENT

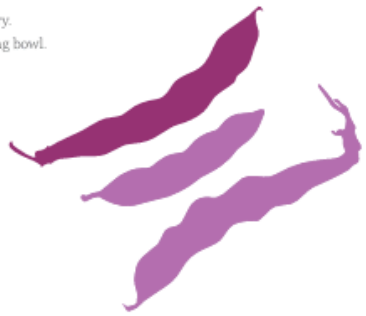
metric measuring scales and spoons
clean tea towel
chopping board
cook's knife
citrus juicer
saucepan
colander
mortar and pestle
spatula
serving bowl

INGREDIENTS

2 kg broad beans (in pods)
1 lemon, juiced
1 handful of mixed soft-leaved herbs
2 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
1 tbsp olive oil
salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

WHAT TO DO

- Put a saucepan of water on to boil.
- Prepare all of the ingredients based on the instructions in the ingredients list.
- Pod the broad beans.
- Boil the beans in water for 5 minutes, until tender.
- Drain the cooked beans.
- Add the beans to the mortar with the lemon juice, herbs, garlic, oil and a pinch of salt and pepper. Pound to a smooth paste with the pestle.
- Taste for salt and pepper and season if necessary.
- Using the spatula, scrape the dip into the serving bowl.





Focaccia Recipe

Ingredients



2 cups of baker's flour
1 teaspoon yeast
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon of olive oil.
200ml lukewarm water
some herbs (rosemary, thyme, or sage).
One zucchini, tomato or potato
extra olive oil.
Optional: some grated cheese.

Steps

Mix all the ingredients together in a big bowl. Leave to rest for 5 minutes.
Put onto a bench and knead until smooth. Make into a ball.
Cover with oil and put in a glass or metal bowl.
Cover with plastic wrap.
Rest in the fridge overnight or for 2 hours.



When you are ready to cook, preheat the oven to 220.
Turn the dough onto an oiled bench.
Divide into three parts with a knife or your hands.
Roll each part into a small, smooth ball.
Rest for ten minutes.

Stretch each ball of dough into an oblong shape.
Place on an oiled tray.
Put your choice of herbs on top (sage, rosemary, thyme on top) or vegetables (sliced zucchini, tomatoes, potatoes. Add some cheese, if you like).
Bake for ten minutes or until golden brown.

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Supporting our local community







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BLAKE STREET KINDERGARTEN

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3 year old kinder
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No cost to families
Building skills for a big year ahead

Learning through play and creativity every day at Blake Street Kindergarten

Experienced Educators
A degree-qualified teacher leads every session alongside other qualified educators, all dedicated to supporting your child's learning.

We know your child
Smaller, stable groups mean educators build real relationships with every child and family.

Learning through intentional practice
Every experience is intentionally planned to support children's social, motor, creative, and overall developmental growth.

Ready for school
Our structured program builds school readiness skills and introduces routines similar to primary school, helping children transition to Prep with confidence and excitement.

Community and belonging
Families are part of the journey — join events, committees, and a welcoming community.

All about kinder
Our whole environment, curriculum, and team exists for one purpose — your child's kindergarten year.

Consistent educators, every session — because familiar faces matter

Your child sees the same qualified educators session after session, building trust, security, and stronger learning outcomes.

NDCKA
North Darebin Community Kindergarten Association

Book a tour today
03 9478 8037
109 Blake St, Reservoir VIC 3073

ENROL NOW
Register via Darebin Council
darebin.vic.gov.au
LEARN MORE
blakestreetkinder.ndcka.org.au



Active Bystander Training

This workshop will help you build the confidence and skills to safely challenge gender-based discrimination and support gender equality in our community, as part of 16 Days of Activism.

Topics include:

- Gender stereotypes and intersecting discrimination, including racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and ableism
- Bystander action and practical ways to respond to backlash
- Real-life scenarios to build confidence and skills

Thursday 26 November

10.30am – 1.30pm (lunch provided)

East Preston Community Centre
7 Newton Street, Reservoir

Suitable for people aged 18+

Open to the Darebin community

Bookings essential
For more information and to book, scan the QR code or visit

EPCC16days.eventbrite.com.au

GenderWorks Australia
accelerating workplace gender equality

City of DAREBIN

East Preston Community Centre