

Pascoe Vale North Primary School

Prep Term 1 2026

Newsletter and Curriculum News

Welcome to Pascoe Vale North Primary School!

We are very excited to welcome you to our school as we begin our learning journey together. This term will be a great term where we get to know each other, learn school expectations and values, familiarise ourselves with routines and the general school environment and introduce students to learning at PVNPS. We will develop relationships and aim to build a solid foundation for a great year of learning and fun!

The Prep Team:

Prep A - Amy Gagliardi **Team Leader** (Room 4)

Prep B - Josie Stocchero (Room 3)

Housekeeping

We would like to kindly remind all families to please make sure your student's belongings are **clearly labelled** in the case of lost property. This includes: hats, jumpers, jackets and any removable clothing.

Soft start

Between 8.50am and 9.00am students will be able to come into the classroom and get themselves ready for the day. This routine will involve getting out a drink bottle, hat and any notes for the classroom teacher. Students will then begin an activity prior to the bell ringing at 9.00am. This could include name tracing or letter tracing.

Dismissal

Starting from Week 3 (Monday 9th of February), Prep Students will be dismissed from the 'Prep dots', until the end of Week 5 (Friday 27th of February). This is the area outside the Prep buildings and drink taps. We will then send communication via Compass about arranging a meeting place for your child. This will be sent out during Week 5 in preparation for dismissal from the Prep classrooms in Week 6 (beginning Monday 2nd of March). Please ensure you are present and ready to pick up your child at the end of each school day.

Please remember that before and after school are a busy time for your child's teacher. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, please make an appointment after school by emailing using Compass. This allows them to give you more time to discuss your questions or concerns.

We thank you for your support!

Amy Gagliardi (Team Leader) and Josie Stocchero

Important Dates for Term 1, 2026

Dates	What's on?
Thursday 29th January	Preps First Day
Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th February	Meet the teacher nights- 3:30pm - 7:15pm (Book fair in the library)
Monday 2nd March	Preps begin full-time at school from this week!
Monday 9th March	Labour Day - No school
Tuesday 31st March	Cultural Afternoon (community invited)
Wednesday 1st April	Teddy Bear Picnic with Grade 6 Buddies on the oval (beginning at 2.30pm)
Thursday 2nd April	Last Day of Term 1 - 2:30 finish (Easter/Funny Hat Parade)

Please note:

Prep students do not attend school on Wednesdays for the month of February as there is individual English and Mathematics testing for each child (1 hour sessions). If you have misplaced your testing time letter, please see your child's teacher for another copy of the assessment note.

Prep students will begin PMP (The Perceptual Motor Program) in Term 2. PMP helps students to improve sensory function and gross motor skills. We will require some parent volunteers to help run this program. Please keep this in mind for next term if you would like to help out with this valuable program. More information will be sent out on Compass later in the term.

LITERACY

This term students will be introduced to PLD (our school approach to Structured Synthetic Phonics). This is known by the students as Word Study. This program combines literacy, oral language and movement and motor skills to help students develop literacy skills.

In Reading, topics covered include:

- Exploring different text types, both digital and physical
- Listening to, acting out and participating in rhymes, chants and songs
- Concepts about print (text direction, return sweep, spaces between words, pointing to words)
- Looking at different comprehension strategies in order to deeper understand books

In Writing, students will be introduced to sounds of the English alphabet and practise letter and sound knowledge each day. They will be introduced to the correct way to form both upper- and lower-case letters. We will develop students' fine motor skills by engaging in activities to strengthen our fingers and hand muscles to hold a pencil correctly. Students will also develop their concepts about print through writing where we will experiment with the correct direction of print and using spaces between words when writing. Correct name writing will also be a major focus for this term.

MATHEMATICS:

In Term 1, students will be introduced to the key mathematical strands of Number, Algebra, Measurement, Space, and Statistics. Students will be learning to name, represent and order the numbers 0-10 for the majority of the term. They will be exploring concepts such as comparing and sequencing, subitising, estimating and partitioning. This will create a solid number knowledge which will help with mathematics learning for the rest of the year. We will be learning to count forwards and backwards. Students will experiment with a range of hands on materials to help them learn about and represent numbers up to 10.

In Term 1, students will also begin exploring Algebra concepts based around patterns. They will learn about repeating, creating and continuing various patterns.

DISCOVERY

In Term 1, Prep students will begin to participate in their 'Play Based Inquiry Unit'. Our overarching theme will be 'Weather and the seasons'. Through this unit, we will be exploring the concepts of recognising and expressing emotions, developing resilience, developing positive relationships and understanding diversity and collaboration. We will be focusing on working together, learning from each other and exploring elements through child directed learning. Some play experiences will include dramatic play set ups which may include farmer's market, puppet theatre and dress ups, dolls, cars, dinosaurs, duplo, arts and craft and playdough as well as incorporating student interests.

HOMEWORK

Reading - engage in at least 10 minutes of reading a night – students will be provided with 1 picture story book (with comprehension questions to discuss each night) and 1 decodable book (Please note home reading will begin in Week 3. Additional information about the home reading program will be sent home on Compass).

High-Frequency Words – these will be sent home in week 3, along with your child's testing day.

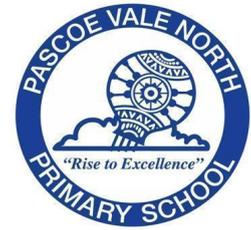
Counting checklist - this will be sent home to families in week 3. This will cover various counting skills for you to cover at home with your child.

Name writing - have your child write their name using a capital letter for the first letter of their name and lowercase letters for the remaining letters. Focus on correct pencil grip.

Letter name/sound recognition - have your child practise the letter name and sound of the letters that are sent home.

Homework will be stuck in a homework book. This will be sent home each Monday along with home reading. These are to be returned to school by Friday of the same week.

FEEDBACK ON THE NEWSLETTER



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Name:

Child's name:

Child's grade:

Did you use the Term 1 newsletter? If so, was it helpful?

Any additional feedback.

*Please return to your child's teacher