

**NEWSLETTER 20 September 2024 Issue 29**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

*"I'd like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land upon which we meet today, the Gunai Kurnai land and pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging as well as any Aboriginal people here with us today"*

<b>Dates to Remember Term 3 2024</b>				
9 September	10 September	11 September Grade 3/4 Camp	12 September Grade 3/4 Camp	13 September Grade 3/4 Camp
16 September	17 September LV Athletics	18 September Prep zoo excursion	19 September Footy day LUNCH rescheduled from 5 Sept	20 September PJ day No buses in afternoon 2.30 dismissal time
23 Sep School Holidays	24 Sep School Holidays	25 Sep School Holidays	26 Sep School Holidays	27 Sep School Holidays
30 Sep School Holidays	1 Oct School Holidays	2 Oct School Holidays	3 Oct School Holidays	4 Oct School Holidays
7 Oct Term 4 commences	8 Oct	9 Oct	10 Oct	11 Oct
14 Oct	15 Oct	16 Oct	17 Oct	18 Oct

**A word from Mrs Skee**

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe, relaxing and well deserved term 3 break! Thank you to all of our AMAZING teachers, Education Support, Administration, Grounds and Maintenance and external support staff for absolutely EVERYTHING that they do to make NEPS great.

Thank you also to our students who show up every day with the aim to constantly improve and take full advantage of the education and extra-curricular program that we are so excited to offer them. Last but by no means least, thank you to all of our families who do such an amazing job being their children's strongest advocates and reinforcing and supporting the very important work that we do as educators. When we are all working together our students really do have the greatest opportunities for success.

See you ALL back at NEPS on **Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of October.**

Warm Regards  
 Julie Skee

In support of Book Week at NEPS, students participated in a book week colouring competition. The winners were as followed:



**3-6 winner:** Djai Brooks **Prep-2 winner:** Riley Mills

**Cohort winners:**



**Cohort winners:** Prep: Millie Sultana 1/2: Tilly Ruecroft 3/4: Kaylee Edwards 5/6: Cooper Hecker

**Class winners:**

Prep KS: Jamo Farley Prep PF: Marley Black  
1/2RB: Karlarnie Davis 1/2KB: Kaiden  
Leslie 1/2RE: Alice Higginbottom 1/2KR:  
Cooper Valasek

3/4EJ: Tilly Frendo 3/4DR: Melody Brooks  
3/4KM: Lyla Lia 3/4SM: TBC

5/6AS: Dakota Dawson 5/6TH: Alexis  
Armstrong 5/6MD: Amelia Jasper 5/6NC:  
Emily St John 5/6JF: Rosalie Walsh

Congratulations to these winners and their  
work can be viewed in the library.





**Fairy Floss** A huge thank you to Mrs Dunn and Mrs Prestidge who, alongside parent helper Alyson Cruickshank and the NEPS Junior School Council, have raised enough funds to pay off the Fairy Floss machine. This machine was purchased in June 2023, and through many successful fairy floss days now belongs to Junior School Council.

The NEPS junior school councillors will meet with Mrs Dunn and Mrs Prestidge in Term 4 to determine where the further funds raised will be allocated.

Thank you NEPS community for continuing to support this sweet endeavour

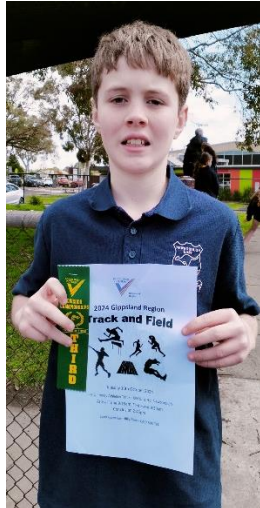


Thank you to for all your support this term as always it is greatly appreciated. Please support local when you can and say you're from NEPS. We hope all our students whom have received vouchers this year enjoy their prizes.

## Western Valley Athletics

On Tuesday our students competed in and represented our school exceptionally at the Western Valley Athletics. The students were great ambassadors cheering on their fellow teammates. We had many successful students qualifying for the next round in term 4 but all our students put in a great effort with many personal bests on the day.

Thanks to Mr Pullar and the parent helpers who made the day a huge success.



## Grade 3/4 Camp



Our Grade 3/4 camp was an amazing adventure where our students created unforgettable memories, demonstrating exceptional behaviour and personal growth. Over the course of the camp, students engaged in a variety of 'tribe' and individual activities, pushing themselves to new limits. Each tribe collaborated to think of Australian animal names and design flags that represented their group's spirit and unity. They certainly used these as they worked together and supported each other to 'stretch' themselves to 'Be Brave,' 'Have Fun,' and 'Make the Uncomfortable, Comfortable,' while trying not to leave camp wondering 'What if...,' as they embraced all the new experiences.

If your child described 'Tash's Ladder' and it sounded extreme, I've included photos to prove that it was! Watching students set a goal for how high they wanted to go, harness themselves up, cheer each other on, and achieve their goal (some surpassing it) was an absolute privilege. The Rock Climbing was also amazing; these provided a great opportunity for students to try new experiences within a safe, supportive space.

'The Cave' had students being courageous and facing any fear of the dark. Climbing down into pitch-black darkness and navigating an underground path had them taking deep breaths, digging deep, supporting each other, and feeling incredibly proud when they reached the end.

The excitement of the Mud Run—a thrilling obstacle course that left everyone covered in mud—also had them brimming with pride as they demonstrated their resilience and determination. The wet weather made it challenging to keep our rooms clean but definitely added to the fun and sense of achievement.

The adults are immensely proud of how the students handled themselves. The physical and mental challenges has undoubtedly left them feeling exhausted (the adults certainly are!), but we hope they feel a profound sense of accomplishment. They gave their heart and soul to make the most of their school camp experience, ensuring it will be a truly memorable part of their lives.



**Nurse Allison** has shared her happy news and a very well kept secret of twins. Congratulations to Allison and family on the arrival of Harrison Henly and Lillian Dawn



### **School Saving Bonus**

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or school uniforms and textbooks.

The School Saving Bonus is not available for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

### **Actions for parents and carers**

Before 18 October 2024, the Department of Education is asking parents and carers to:

- **Complete enrolment:** If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025. For more information, read about [Enrolling in School](#).
- **Check your contact information:** Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us. You can check this information by contacting us directly.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you twice:

- in October, to verify your email address
- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus and access to an online system.

Please check your junk mail regularly to make sure you do not miss an important email.

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus, download the [School Saving Bonus Information sheet for government school parents and carers](#) or visit [vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus](https://vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus).

### **Sun Protection Policy**

As we approach Term 4, we would like to remind all students and parents of our Sun Protection Policy. It is essential that students wear appropriate hats during outdoor activities to ensure their safety and well-being. Please ensure your child has a suitable hat for school. Our Sun Protection Policy has recently been endorsed by the School Council, and you can find the full details in the policy section of the NEPS website: <https://neps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Sun-protection-policy.pdf>.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe and protected from the sun.



# NEPS HAS TALENT

Do you have an amazing talent that you wish to share with the world. Can you sing, dance, juggle, play an instrument or make us laugh? We are looking for acts to perform in our first ever, NEPS has talent.

Acts need to be under 4 minutes in length and can be performed as an individual or in groups.

If you are interested, you need to complete an audition form and hand this into the office by Tuesday 8th October.

**Auditions and rehearsals begin in the first week of term 4 on Wednesday the 9th and Thursday the 10th October.**

**Lunchtime performances will begin Thursday 24th of November. Our Grand Final date will be determined by how many acts we have scheduled and will be held at a whole school assembly.**



**REGISTER NOW**

**NEPS Has Talent application form**

**Name of performers, grade and age:.....**

**Name of act:.....**

**Type of act. (singing, dance, instrumental, comedy, fire juggling, Llama taming etc):.....**

**What assistance would you like? We want you to look good, so we will do our best to assist in music backing, live or recorded. Do you need any special props or stage set up? (Unfortunately, we are unable to provide Llamas. You will need to supply your own).....**

**Auditions and rehearsals will be done individually so as not to spoil and surprises for the audience.**

**Parents, carers and friends will be welcome to attend lunchtime performances.**