

NOLLAMARA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

Dear Families, Staff, and Students,

As we step into autumn, we continue to experience the warmth of Bunuru, the Noongar season of the second summer. The days have remained hot, reminding us of the beauty and diversity of the land that we share.

This morning we held our first assembly of the year, and it was wonderful to see so many parents in us to celebrate our students' achievements. Thank you for taking the time to be part of this special occasion – it means so much to the children to have your support. A big thank you to Room 18 and 19 for leading the assembly with such confidence and enthusiasm. Your efforts set a fantastic example for the rest of the school, and we appreciate all the hard work that went into making the assembly a success.

Today, we also had the joy of celebrating the Bhutanese New Year. It was wonderful to see our school filled with the vibrant colours of yellow and orange, reflecting the rich culture and traditions of our Bhutanese community. A special highlight has been hearing our Bhutanese students speaking Dzongkha over the PA this week, sharing their language and heritage with us all.

We also acknowledge that many of our families will soon begin observing Ramadan, a time of reflection, prayer and community. We wish them a peaceful and meaningful month ahead.

A big thank you to all the parents who attended our first P & C meeting. Your involvement is invaluable in shaping the school experience for our children. We would love to see even more parents join us at future meetings – your voice and participation truly make a difference. As always thank you for your continued support.

Terese Morse
Principal

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LITERACY UPDATE

In 2025, we continue to prioritise Literacy learning for all students. Literacy is the foundation for a child's entire educational journey. It provides the skills necessary for children to access knowledge, express thoughts and feelings, and communicate effectively. Long after children leave Primary, and even Secondary education, Literacy levels have a significant impact.

This year we continue to embed programs such as the Morning and Home Reading programs, as well as having a structured evidence-based Literacy Block in all classrooms. Students have the opportunity to be explicitly taught concepts such as complex vocabulary and reading. All students in Years PP-6 are participating in the 200 Days of Reading Challenge and we encourage parents to ask your children about their reading and provide opportunities at home for children to read.

We have also seen an incredible uptake in our new Literacy programs. Let's Decode is being rolled out across our classes from Kindergarten through to Year 2, and also all of our Intensive English Classes. Let's Decode is an approach to teaching phonological awareness and systematic decoding instruction and takes approximately 15-20 minutes per day to implement. Our Years 2-6 have been participating in Spelling Mastery Lessons four times per week and the engagement of all students in these lessons is commendable! If you have any questions in regards to our new programs, please reach out to your child's teacher.



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NAPLAN

In Weeks 6–8, all students in Years 3 and 5 across Australia will be expected to sit the NAPLAN assessments. NAPLAN assesses students' ability in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and mathematics. All assessments, with the exception of Year 3 Writing, will be done online. Our classes have been busy preparing for the assessment period, including practise tests and having a look at the NAPLAN platform. An assessment timetable will be provided to students completing the tests at the end of next week.

If you would like any additional information on NAPLAN, please see the public website on <https://nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

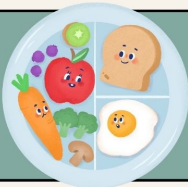
Please see below how you can assist your child to prepare for the NAPLAN testing period.



Tips to prepare for NAPLAN

Take care of yourself

Get a good night's sleep each night and eat a nutritious breakfast to help you focus!



Focus on your test

Read over each question carefully and, if it's the Writing, plan your answer. Don't think about what others are doing, pay attention to your work.



Try not to worry

If you get stuck on a question, move on to another one and come back to it if you get time.



Attend school every day!



Some of the tests are scheduled in the morning. To avoid unnecessary stress, arrive at school on time at 8:30am each day. If your child is sick, please notify the office in the morning.

For more information, parents can visit <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/for-parents-carers>

or check out the NAPLAN Public Demonstration site at <https://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/public-demonstration-site>

WWW.NOLLAMARAPS.WA.EDU.AU

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PARKING

We understand that parking is very difficult at the school. Over the holidays, the City of Stirling have started to put in a Kiss and Drive on Harrison Street. The road signs are not finished, however the idea of a Kiss and Drive is that you don't have to find a parking space. In a Kiss and Drive you just pull in and your children get out of the car and a staff member supervises the students walking in to school. I have attached a map for you to see where the Kiss and Drive is. If you want to park your car and walk inside the school, please don't park here. You can park further up Harrison Street, Mayfair Street or at the park on Constance Street. Please do not park or pull up on the verges of the school or the surrounding houses. I have seen a lot of parents drive up on to the footpath and this is very dangerous for children who are walking and riding to school.

There is always plenty of room to park if you come to school between 8 and 8:20am. It gets busy after this time and can become difficult to find parking. Please be patient and kind to others. After school if your children are older you may decide to wait and collect them between 3 and 3:10pm as there is always parking in front of the school at this time.

We have duty teachers out the front of the school supervising students until 3:15. If you haven't collected your children by then they will ask the children to come inside, and we will call you to see where you are.



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START AND FINISH TIMES

Our school gates open at 8am in the morning. Between 8 and 8:30am there is supervision for the students in the undercover area. Whilst here they can have some breakfast and do their reading with our Education Assistants. At 8:30am the bell will go to indicate that students should go to class. At this time they can organise their materials and commence some pre-learning activities. At 8:45am instructional learning commences and your child should be in class. The gates remain open till 9am so if your child arrives before 9am they can go straight to class. At 9am all gates around the school are closed and attendance is taken by the teacher. Any students arriving after 9am must go through the front office and receive a late note.

At the end of the day our school gates are opened for parents and carers at 2:45pm. The final siren of the day will go at 2:50 and student will be released from their class at this time. Students in Kindy to Year 1 must be handed over to a parent. If you would like an older sibling to pick up your child then you need to give a note to the teacher or office. Any children not collected by 3pm will be taken to the front office. Students in Kindy and Pre-primary will wait in the front office. This is a very small space so all other students will wait outside the office building with a duty teacher. If you are going to be late to pick up your child, please let us know. It is not ok to get your child to wait for you for more than 20 minutes. At this time there is no duty teacher, and the office will call you.

THEIRCARE – OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

We are very lucky to have Out of School Hours Care at Nollamara. TheirCare run a program in our undercover area and senior block and parents can bring their children to the program from as early as 6:30am and pick up as late as 6pm. If you know you are going to be late to collect your child everyday, then this could be a very good option for you. After school TheirCare provide a nutritious afternoon tea and will care for your child until you are able to collect them. For more information, contact 1300 072 410 or info@theircare.com.au



TheirCare
where kids love to be!

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P&C

Election day volunteers needed!

Election day is fast approaching, and everyone loves a sausage when they come to Nollamara Primary School to vote. It's a great fundraiser for us but we need lots of people to make it happen.

If you can come down for an hour or two to help cook or hand out sausages, then we'd love to see you there.

If you're available to volunteer on Saturday 8th March, then please let me know on 0438 590 731 or nollamarapandc@gmail.com. I'll be there all day from 7am – 4pm so come on down and join in.



CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class group chats on ClassDojo are a fantastic tool to get messages out and we'd love one person per classroom to become a P&C class representative to help get the conversations going. If you don't mind chatting to people and getting important messages to other parents in your child's classroom, then please put your hand up to be a P&C Class Rep.

There's no obligation to do a lot of work for the P&C, it would just be good to connect with a few more parents. We have a fantastic community around this school that help each other out and it would be great to expand on that.

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CHILD AND ADOLESCENT COMMUNITY HEALTH INFORMATION

Undescended testes

Screening for undescended testes is recommended for boys at school entry, typically around 4 to 5 years of age. Sometimes, the testes (also known as testicles) are in the scrotum at birth but may move up into the groin or abdomen at around 4-10 years of age. This happens because the cord that attaches the testis to the abdomen doesn't grow at the same rate as the child.

Undescended testes do not fully descend into the scrotum and can affect one or both testes. Parents or guardians can encourage older children to check for absence of testes in the scrotum themselves. The condition is not painful but can lead to complications such as twisting of the testis, a groin hernia, reduced fertility, and testicular cancer.

For further details on undescended testes, see [Raising Children Network](#).

If you have any concerns, please contact your General Practitioner for advice.

Scoliosis

Early detection of scoliosis is crucial for managing child's spinal health and ensuring the best possible outcomes. Scoliosis is a condition where the spine twists and curves sideways. It is more common in girls than in boys and typically becomes noticeable during growth spurts.

Most cases of scoliosis develop in otherwise healthy children, and the exact cause is often unknown.

Parents and children can look for signs such as uneven shoulders, uneven shoulder blades, a slightly tilted head, a noticeable curve in the back, or one hip being higher than the other. These can be spotted with a simple examination of your child's back.

For more details on scoliosis and how to check for it, please see [Raising Children Network](#).

If you have any concerns, please contact your School Health Nurse, (insert name here) on (insert number here) or General Practitioner for advice.

Colour Blindness

It's good to know if a child is colour blind, as they may struggle in school with activities that use colours, such as drawing and sorting blocks.

Colour blindness might become obvious after the age of 4 years and is more common among boys. Children who are colour-blind can see as clearly as other children but cannot tell the difference between some colours or see colours differently from other children. This usually happens with reds and greens, and sometimes with blues and yellows.

If your child is colour blind, it's good to inform their teacher about the condition. This will allow the teacher to choose activities that don't involve spotting colour differences.

For further details, please see [Raising Children Network](#).

If you have any concerns, colour vision testing can be performed by some General Practitioners (GP), eye specialists or optometrists. You can also contact your local School Health Nurse, (Jo Luplau) on (0400 896 949) for advice.

NOLLAMARA PRIMARY SHOOOL NEWSLETTER

MOVIE NIGHT

* A FUN EVENING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY *

FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2025

BALGA SHS, 2 MARKHAM WAY, BALGA

GATES OPEN FROM 6:30PM - MOVIE STARTS AT 7:15PM

BYO CHAIRS OR BLANKET TO WATCH A MOVIE UNDER THE STARS



**Door
Prize
GIVEAWAY**

HOT DOGS, POP CORN, CHOCOLATES, COFFEE AND COLD DRINKS FOR SALE

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT [BALGASHS.AU/MOVIE](https://balgashs.au/movie)

PAYMENT ON ENTRY TO EVENT

NOTE: ALL STUDENTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT / CARER



P&C
ASSOCIATION
stronger together

TICKET PRICES

Adults	\$5
High School Student	\$5
Primary Student	\$2

RESERVE TICKETS



[BALGASHS.AU/MOVIE](https://balgashs.au/movie)

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL, DRUG, SMOKE & VAPE FREE EVENT

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Mathematics and Physical Sciences After School Program Since 2001

FOR STUDENTS AGE 10 AND UP

Physics Primer

🕒 Mondays 4:30 – 6:30pm

💰 \$225 per student each term

Students perform calculations to solve problems of motion, including gravity and then other forces in the universe. Students may also train for the Australian Science Olympiads Examination for Physics and/or the Open Universities Australia units *General Physics* and/or *Principles of Physics*.

Chemistry Primer

🕒 Thursdays 4:30 – 6:30pm

💰 \$225 per student each term

Students perform calculations to learn about atoms, molecules, elements and compounds and progress to calculations in topics such as gases, specific heat and chemical solutions. Students may also train for the Australian Science Olympiads Examination for Chemistry and/or the Open Universities Australia unit *Fundamentals of Chemistry*.

Mathematics Primer

🕒 Fridays 4:30 – 6:30pm

💰 \$225 per student each term

Students consolidate their Arithmetic and are introduced to Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry, followed by Calculus and other areas when required. Mathematical topics are taught at each student's pace, and students learn mathematical conventions and techniques.

The Murdoch University After School Program in Mathematics and Physical Sciences has been running since 2001.

All sessions are at Murdoch University, South Street Campus, Building 450, Floor 3, Room 001. Parking available in carpark 4.

Sessions are tailored to each individual student and students may begin at any time during the term. Refund will only be given if course is cancelled by our Program.

Sessions commence the second week of each school term and do not run on public holidays. All subjects require pen or pencil and notebook, and may require a scientific calculator. Bottled water is permitted in classrooms and students should bring a healthy snack.

Payment made be made online:
payments.murdoch.edu.au/PrepCourses

To enrol

To obtain enrolment information provide the age of the student and email:

**AfterSchoolProgram@
murdoch.edu.au**

**or phone 0427 864 740
(afternoons and evenings).**

If you are having financial difficulties, please call our Coordinator on the number provided.

Ngala kwop biddi.
Building a brighter future, together.

CRICOS Provider Code 00125J | TEQSA Provider ID: PRV1263
(Australian University) | CA5E01443221 03/24

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DATES TO REMEMBER

3 March - Labour Day - No school for students

12 March - 24 March - NAPLAN testing

14 March and Monday 17 March - School Photos

21 March - School Assembly

If you have any queries please see your child's teacher or email our office staff Nollamara.ps@education.wa.edu.au or call the school on 9413 1550.

Terese Morse
PRINCIPAL
28 February 2025

Thank you for reading!