

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Dear Friends and Families,*

*Today we hit the halfway point for Term 2. As our School Captains mentioned today at assembly, our students have already undertaken many different experiences, some of which include — SEDA clinics for 3-6 classes, Mother's Day breakfast and activities, Ballarat High School students visiting the Junior Unit, Grade 1 and 2 classes embarking on a History Walk and visiting Sovereign Hill, and students participating in cross-country and division soccer and football competitions. Plus this week our Year 4 students went on their first school camp. A big thank you to the parents who helped their children dress up for our Back in Time casual clothes theme day today. We have raised another \$210.00 towards new Chromebooks.*

### **5/6 Writing competition**

It was an absolute pleasure to award the winners of the 5/6 writing competition today with their certificates and prizes. We would like to thank Collins books for donating the prizes to our school for the students. Please find that over the coming newsletters we will be sharing the winning pieces of writing with the school community for them to enjoy. Starting today with the piece completed by Andy who won first place for his visual story.

### **Support Staff**

It was wonderful to see most of our students wearing their silly socks last Thursday in recognition of the support staff we have in our school. These members of our staff are very much valued for the work they do to support students and teachers every day. The role of a support staff member can vary greatly from one person to the next, and our team does a wonderful job working together.

### **Reports this semester**

We will be providing student achievement reports for Semester 1 this year as usual. The reports will be distributed on Thursday, June 25th. The reports will continue to provide important details about student learning attainment, but full descriptive comments will not be included as a result of industrial action taken earlier this term by the Australian Education Union. We will be pleased to discuss your child's progress with you at our next parent-teacher interviews scheduled for Term 3 or, as always, you can contact your child's teacher to arrange a meeting.

### **2027 Enrolments**

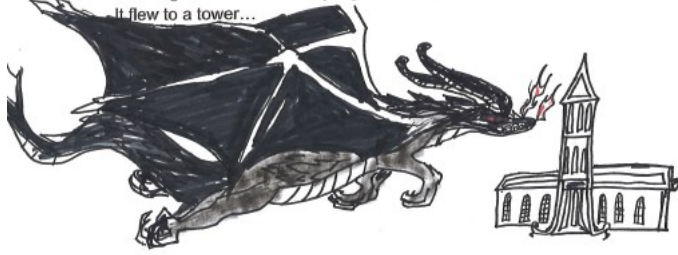
We are now taking enrolments for 2027. If you have a sibling of a current student or live in our zone please be sure to collect an enrolment form and return to us as soon as possible. We have proudly had a lot of interest outside of our zone and are currently taking tours for these families as well. In Term 4 our transition program will commence for our 2027 Foundation students.

Kind Regards  
Sam Streeter



«The dragon, hero and magic»

It all began on a dark stormy night, a red-eyes-black-dragon appeared.  
It flew to a tower...



The next day, the news about 'dragon robbing princess Alimita' spread to the kingdom.

The king mustered the heroes to rescue Alimita.

He waited in vain. Finally, weeks later, Caelia arrived.

The excited king let the most powerful wizard in the kingdom teach Caelia magic spells.

After three days, Caelia set off.

Before she left, the wizard told her,

"Some things aren't as you think."

Caelia was confused but she still left.

Three days later,

she reached the dragon's castle.

Caelia stormed into the castle. Before her loomed a hill-sized dragon.

Without a word, she unleashed the forbidden spell: "Gladius-iudicii-supremus!"

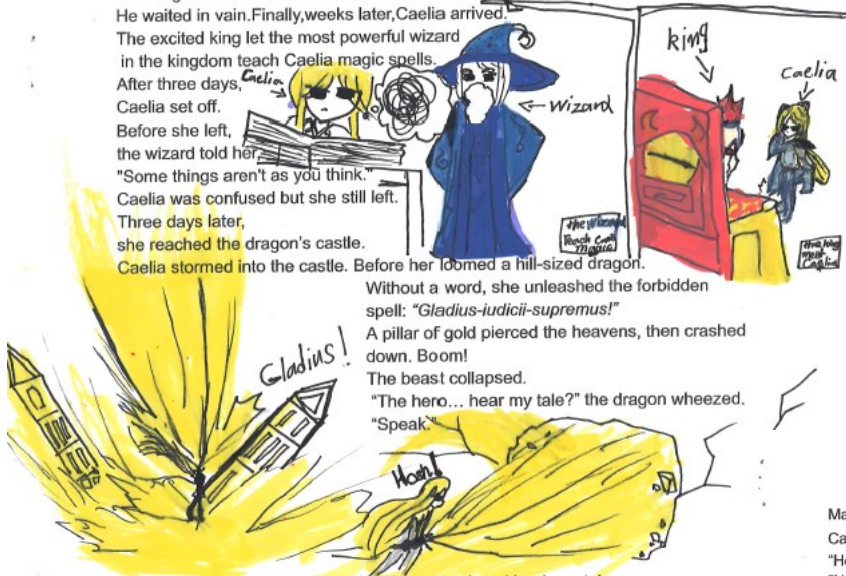
A pillar of gold pierced the heavens, then crashed down. Boom!

The beast collapsed.

"The hero... hear my tale?" the dragon wheezed.

"Speak."

"I was Light's prince. Then the dark king razed my kingdom, stole my sister—Alimita, and cursed me into this form."



# 5/6 Writing

# competition

Congratulations Andy

Winner of the visual story

Magic-check my memories to trust."

Caelia read his memories. She found that it was true.

"Help me avenge, take my treasures."

"No need. It's my responsibility."

.....



Caelia burst into the silent castle. The King waited.

"So, you know, hero."

"Enough talk."

Big W's hand rose. "The-fury-of-sun!" White lights swallowed everything.

Dust settled. The King stood unscathed.

Suddenly, a shadow struck, it's the wizard.

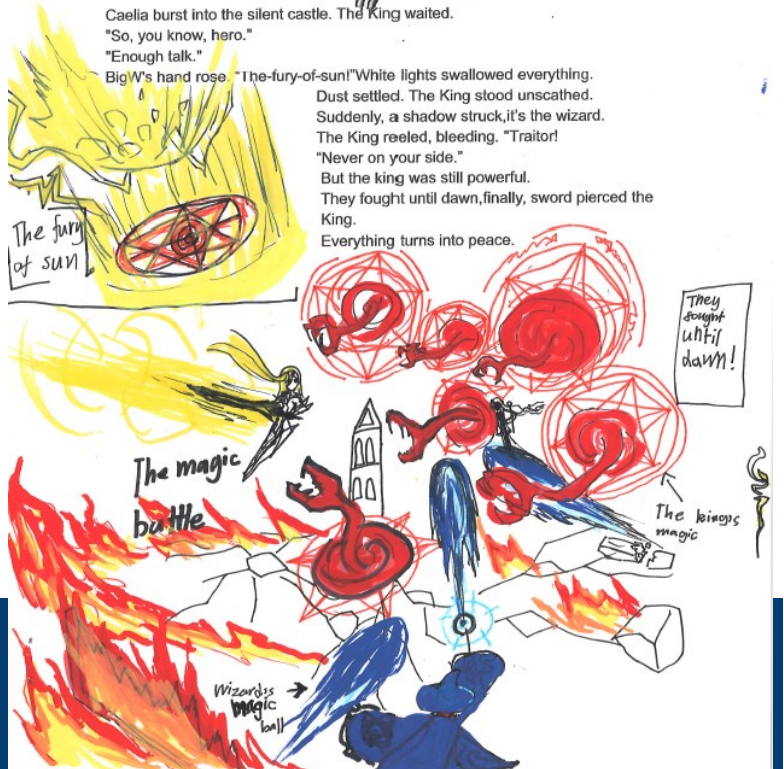
The King reeled, bleeding. "Traitor!"

"Never on your side."

But the king was still powerful.

They fought until dawn, finally, sword pierced the King.

Everything turns into peace.



PHONE: 533 05 400

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日本語

Japanese : Mr. Paxton

Konnichiwa!

What an exciting and busy Term 2! It's Japanese Day on Thursday May 28th, and we have been busy organizing activities in preparation for the biggest day on our Japanese school calendar.

**\*\*Please remember to get your Sushi orders in!**



**TERM 2 - 2026: What are we learning?**

**Foundation :** Students are consolidating their understandings of **basic greetings, numbers, colours, body parts and basic actions**, including "fast / slow / sit down/ stand up". After Japanese Day, students will be learning the names of **animals** in Japanese. Students have begun to read and write **Hiragana** (basic Japanese script).

**Grades 1/2:** Students continue to work on improving their **fluency**. They will learn to talk about **animals** later in Term 2. Students are also revising and learning to **read and write** some new **Hiragana** characters.

**Grades 3-4:** Students have been consolidating their ability to **read and recall classroom objects, basic greetings, making requests** in Japanese to go to the toilet or ask for a drink, **counting**, and talking about their **age**. We will soon begin a unit on **animals / pets**, with a focus on **adjectives** to describe them.



**2026 Japanese Day  
Thursday May 28th**



Newington PS students are excited to celebrate the language and culture of Japan with a range of activities organised by our Grade 5/6 students.

Students throughout the school can enjoy **sumo, origami, Japanese food, manga, toys and games, Ikebana (flower arranging), karaoke, onigiri restaurant, a ninja warrior course & other surprises!**

There will also be competitions, photos with Pikachu, and Japanese art & craft activities to make!

**\*WHAT TO WEAR\*\*\*** *Reminder: Japanese day is NOT a free dress day.*

Students are encouraged to wear anything Japanese, be it a kimono, pikachu onesie, or karate outfit. Even a white t-shirt with a red circle representing the Japanese flag! **No need to worry if time is an issue:** Students will be making Japanese Hachimaki (headbands) to wear!

**WANT TO ATTEND?**

Parents and other family members are welcome to join students who will be participating in Japanese activities run by Grade 5/6 students.

12:30 – 1:25 Grades FD, 1W, 2BW, 3/4Q, 3/4T, 5/6WH,  
2:10 – 3:05 Grades FCH, 1E, 2DW, 3/4P, 5/6CB, 5/6D

Location: **Hiroba** (Grade F, 1 & 2 building).

**\*Please sign in at the office**

**\*JAPANESE DISPLAY TABLE\***

If you have any Japanese items that could be put on display for the day please bring them along!

All items need to be clearly labelled with your child's name and class.



**JAPANESE FOLK TALE PERFORMANCE**

We are excited to welcome back Anne Norman to our school, performing the classic Japanese Folk Tale, *O-Musubi Kororin*

*O-Musubi Kororin*  
Riceball tumble tumbling

Mukashi mukashi in Japan,  
lived an old lady and an old man...



# WE ARE STEMS

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS • SUSTAINABILITY

Curious Minds. Creative Solutions. A Better Future for All!

## GRADE 3 & 4 Young Scientists in Action!

We are...

- ✓ exploring exciting chemical reactions
- ✓ learning safe science practices
- ✓ making predictions and observing changes
- ✓ working together and sharing our ideas
- ✓ becoming confident creators and communicators!

CHEMISTRY IS FUN!

WE USE STEMS TO DISCOVER, CREATE AND UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AROUND US!

TWO YEAR LEVELS. ONE GOAL.  
A BETTER PLANET FOR ALL!

## GRADE 5 & 6 Positive Change Makers!

We are...

- ✓ investigating real world problems
- ✓ designing sustainable solutions
- ✓ exploring renewable energy and reducing waste
- ✓ thinking creatively about our impact
- ✓ using STEMS thinking to make a difference!

PLANT MORE TREES!

CLEAN UP OUR RIVERS & BEACHES!

USE RENEWABLE ENERGY!

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE!

STEMS helps us...

- ASK QUESTIONS
- SOLVE PROBLEMS
- THINK CRITICALLY
- WORK TOGETHER
- MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT

TODAY'S LEARNERS,  
TOMORROW'S LEADERS,  
STRONGER TOGETHER!

WHAT WE LOVE MOST:

- Being curious
- Experimenting
- Creating solutions
- Helping our planet
- Having fun!

SMALL IDEAS. BIG IMPACT. TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!



# ART

In the art room this term Foundation, grade 1 and 2 students have been very busy painting and mixing Primary Colours. We are creating our own self-portraits. In grade 5/6 CB we have been challenging ourselves using textiles. Learning to sew with needles and thread. We are designing our own character. We will continue to build on our knowledge, skills and correct technique over the semester.

## Much Needed Donations for the Art Room Please

Material or Fabric (any colour, size or pattern)

Needles, thread or sewing items (buttons, sequins, ribbons, wool)

Newspapers

Egg cartons

or long sleeve, button up shirts are much appreciated



Thanks from Miss Devlin

## Performing Arts - Term 2 - 2026

We are continuing our adventures in the Music Room with students right across the school in Term 2. If you walked past our space recently it is likely you would have heard performances coming to fruition!

In Foundation we have been investigating how music can express our thoughts ideas and feelings. We have listened to music and used our bodies (along with scarves and ribbons) to show how we feel. We are also thinking about and exploring how composers CAPTURE and REPRESENT their musical ideas – by recording them in all sorts of ways.

Grade 1s have been composing their own rhythm pieces using the RHYTHM MONSTERS to help them organise their ideas. We have performed these pieces to our classmates on a percussion instrument.

Grade 2DW has been busy increasing their vocabulary about the MUSICAL ELEMENTS and discussing many different versions of the well-known song TWINKLE. Then in groups they created and performed their own versions with great success! Grade 2BW are busy preparing for their **Grade 2 Violin Graduation Concert**, which will be held in **Week 8, Wednesday 17/6/2026 2.30pm in the HIROBA**. We hope 2BW families will be able to join us to celebrate their violin achievements this semester before they return their violins for 2DW to take their turn.

Grade 3/4 students have continued to build their Ukulele skills, and now know a great range of 1,2,3 and 4 chord songs which they perform in class each week. They are using the ukulele to dive deeper into their throughline by considering how the past influences today both in culture generally and in music specifically. Starting with an investigation into pentatonic scales, they will write and perform their own blues song later this term.

Our Grade 5/6 students have now formed class bands with members of the class selecting an instrument - piano, bass, guitar, drums, ukulele and marimba - and playing it in class each week. They can play several songs together and are working towards creating a performance in Week 8 for a group within our school community!

The choir perform “Alone in the Universe” at assembly in Week 5 and are busy learning their repertoire for South Street performances in August. And of course, the whole school will be PERFORMING in

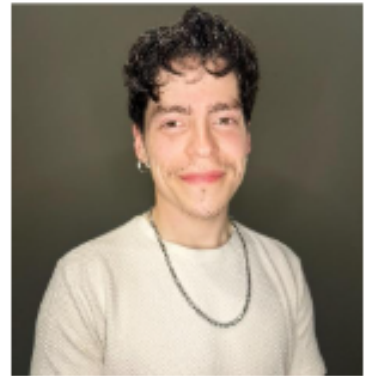


the Concert next term. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available! See you soon, in the Music Room!

## Instrumental Music - Term 2 - 2026

Thanks to all of the visiting Instrumental Music teachers we have a fabulous program of learning happening in our school each week. The newest member of our team is Mr. Felipe Naranjo.

**Felipe Naranjo** is a guitar player working and living in Ballarat. He moved to Australia from Chile 1.5 years ago. Although he's been playing guitar since 9 years old, he started formal musical training at 18 years old on Instrumental Performing at Escuela Moderna de Música, graduating in 2024. He has a strong passion for improvised and experimental music, composing his own music and playing extensive jazz repertoire back in Chile. He is currently in a local acoustic covers band called "The Home Road" and will also be playing in the pit for "Frozen" the musical coming soon to Ballarat!



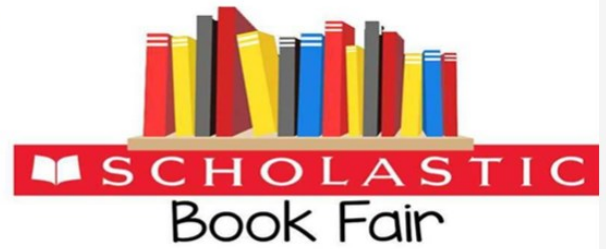
**Just a few reminders for families taking advantage of the opportunity to take instrumental lessons at school:**

- If your student is going to be **away from school** on the day of their lesson for whatever reason (camp, excursion, family holiday, illness etc) **PLEASE CONTACT** your teacher **PRIOR** to the date of their lesson, as a courtesy to them. They will try and arrange a make up lesson if they have been given notice or at least adjust their day to reflect the absence. (If you **don't** let your teacher know in advance, you will be expected to pay for the lesson even if you don't attend.)
- If you decide to cease lessons at the end of a term, please remember to give notice to both the teacher and the school in writing confirming this. Lessons will continue to be organised and charged if you don't let the school/teacher know that you are wanting to stop.
- If you want to adjust the lesson grouping for your child, please contact the teacher directly to discuss this. Groups are arranged based on the students preferences, but a group cannot be formed if there is no-one to partner with. If you have any concerns, please contact Mrs. Allen via the office.

**The Book Fair is coming  
to Newington Primary School!**

Open from Tuesday May 26 until Tuesday June 2<sup>nd</sup> in  
the staffroom.

Come by from 8:35am - 9:15am  
or 3pm - 3:30pm  
and support our school whilst getting your hands on  
the best new children's books!



**Still seeking!!**

We are wanting the school's logo on some aprons.  
We are asking any clever community member that may know how to go about this to contact Elisabeth on - 0418 651 223

**An update from the 'Chromequest Team'  
A call out for help!**



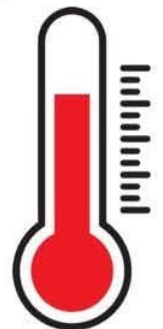
We are seeking a DJ to sponsor our school disco.  
If this is you or you have any connections please contact Tiara on - 0408 992 639



**Term 2 dates to remember:**

- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle June 20th
- School Disco June 24<sup>th</sup>

**Nearly \$20,000 raised!  
Thank you!**



## KEY DATES FOR TERM 2

Date	Event
Wednesday May 27 <sup>th</sup>	Staff Professional Practice Day - Student Free day
Thursday May 28 <sup>th</sup>	Japanese Day
May 26 <sup>th</sup> - June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Book Fair event - information to come
Monday June 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Kings Birthday (Public Holiday)</b>
Friday June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Newsletter and Whole School Assembly
Wednesday June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Excursion to see a play at Mt Rowan
Wednesday June 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>After School Student Disco</b> - Information to come
Friday June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Open classrooms and celebration of learning - 12:30pm Whole School Assembly - 1:00pm Newsletter sent home <i>Students conclude the school term today at 1:30pm</i>
<b>Monday July 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>First day of Term 3 for all students.</b>

# - Save the Date -

# Newington Primary

# School Concert

# August 13th 2026

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