



2026 TERM 1 EDITION 4

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 12th March 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

11th, 12th,
13th Mar

Year 3 & Year 5 NAPLAN

Wed 18th Mar

YLAA Melbourne Primary Dream
and Lead Conference - Year 6

Fri 20th Mar

Wear a touch of orange for
Harmony Week

Mon 23rd
Mar

WPSC Discovery Day
Year 6

Thurs 26th
Mar

Summer Lightning Premiership
Years 4, 5 & 6

Tues 31st Mar

Year 5 & Year 6
Life Saving Day

Thurs 2nd
April

End of Term - 2:30 pm
dismissal

Principal's Message



A focus on our values

At Hastings Primary School, we remain committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for all students, staff and members of our community.

We proudly promote and celebrate our school values of Caring, Respecting and Learning, which guide the way we interact, learn and grow together each day.

We recognise and value the strong and productive partnerships between our school and parents and carers, as we work together to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing.

Our Statement of Values and Philosophy can be found on our website.

NAPLAN

Our Year 3 and Year 5 students are completing their NAPLAN assessments this week.

We know how hard our students work in their learning each day, and we are confident they will approach the assessments with a positive attitude and do their best! NAPLAN provides a snapshot of student learning in literacy and numeracy and is just one of the many ways we monitor progress.

Later in the year, families will receive their student reports. By continuing to work together, we can support every student to reach their full potential.



Tu Toa, Kia Kaha
Stand Strong, Have Strength
Mrs. Simone McDonald Principal 

SCHOOL COUNCIL – PARENT REPRESENTATIVES

School Council – Parent Representatives

Thank you to our parent representatives **Amme Batson, Dave Gardner, Rosie Hermanek, Jenna Sparkes and David Yates** for their ongoing support and commitment to Hastings Primary School. We greatly value the time and perspective our parent members bring to School Council and the important role they play in supporting school decision-making.

We currently have **two parent vacancies** on School Council. If you are interested in being part of this important group and contributing to the future direction of our school, please pop into the office and speak with our administration team.

We warmly welcome parents and carers who would like to be involved in supporting our school community.

CAR PARK SAFETY

Carpark Safety: Let's Keep Our Kids Safe!

As we move through the school year, it's important to remember that safety in the carpark is a shared responsibility. Whether you're a parent, carer, staff member, or student, we all play a role in keeping our community safe, especially when it comes to the safety of our children.

Reminder for Parents and Carers:

The carpark can be a busy and often chaotic place, and the safety of our children is paramount. Please ensure that your child is always closely supervised when crossing the street, whether they are walking to and from the car or entering the school grounds. Even though the carpark might seem like a quick stop, there are moving vehicles, and young children can be harder to see.

Pedestrian Safety Tips:

Always hold your child's hand when walking through the carpark area.
Teach your child to look both ways before crossing.
Be patient and alert when driving, and avoid rushing in or out of parking spots.

For Drivers:

If you're driving into or out of the Victoria St Ext carpark, please take extra care, especially during peak drop-off and pick-up times. Slow down, be on the lookout for pedestrians, and give yourself enough time to safely park or leave. Parking spaces may fill up quickly, but it's better to take a moment to find a safe spot than risk putting a child in harm's way.

Remember, it's not just about following the rules—it's about showing consideration for others and taking extra steps to ensure everyone's well-being.

Let's work together to ensure our carpark is a safe place for everyone. Whether you're driving or walking, always prioritize safety. Together, we can protect our children and create a safer environment for our school community. Let's be safe!

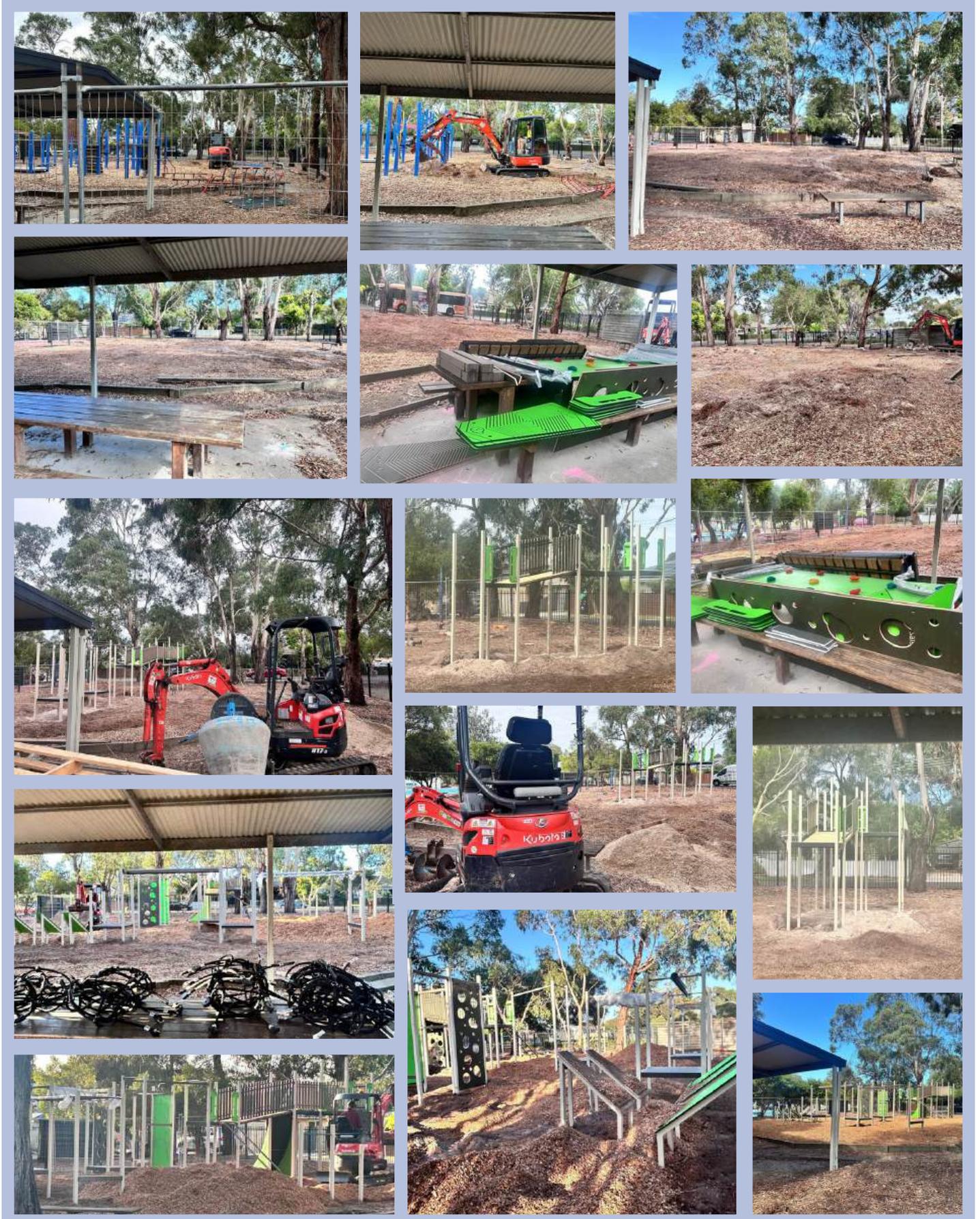


Play Ground Progress

The wait is over ... the new Yr. 4-6 playground is finished and looks amazing!

We're excited to officially open the play ground this Thursday [we are patiently waiting for the temporary fencing to be removed].

We know it's going to be a favourite spot for years to come!





Modelling Resilience at Home:

Resilience is the ability to bounce back from setbacks, manage big emotions, and keep trying, even when things are hard. Children learn this best by watching the adults around them.

Simple Ways to Model Resilience:

1. Talk Through Challenges Calmly
 - Let your child hear you problem-solve: "I'm frustrated the iPad isn't working. I'll take a deep breath and try a different approach."
2. Celebrate Effort, Not Just Outcomes
 - Praise persistence: "I saw you keep trying, even when it was tricky. That's fantastic!"
3. Show Self-Compassion
 - Mistakes happen! Model how to respond kindly to yourself: "I didn't get it right this time, but I'll keep practicing."
4. Practice Simple Coping Strategies Together
 - Take slow breaths, stretch, or pause for a moment when feeling stressed. Doing this together teaches children useful tools.
5. Maintain a Positive Outlook
 - Emphasize what can be learned from challenges, rather than focusing only on setbacks.

Why It Matters:

Children pick up on your reactions. Seeing adults handle challenges calmly and confidently helps them feel safe, capable, and ready to tackle their own frustrations.

Even small, everyday moments are opportunities to teach resilience by example.



Attendance:

A reminder to all families that our school day begins at 8:50am. Being on time helps students start the day calmly, join their classmates for morning routines, and not miss important learning time.

If a student arrives after 9:00am, they are considered late and must go to the school office to receive a late pass before heading to class. Please note that arriving late is recorded and counts as half a day late.

I understand that mornings can be busy for families, so here are a few practical tips to help make the start of the day smoother:

- Set alarms a little earlier to allow plenty of time to get ready.
- Lay out school clothes the night before to avoid the morning rush.
- Pack lunchboxes the night before so they're ready to grab in the morning.
- Come along to Breakfast Club at 8:40am for a relaxed start to the day and a chance to eat with friends.

Easter Raffle:

Our Easter Raffle is coming up and we are inviting families to help us create some fantastic prize hampers! Raffle tickets will be sent home soon.



Donations do not have to be chocolate - we welcome a variety of Easter-themed or family-friendly items. Some great ideas include:

- Easter craft kits or activity books, Small toys or games, Easter decorations, Plush toys or bunnies, Baking mixes or baking items, Colouring books and stationery, Board games or puzzles

All donated items will be combined into Easter hampers for our raffle prizes.

Thank you in advance to our FOHPS (Friends of Hastings Primary School) Team who will be putting these hampers together!

Mrs Rebecca Legge
Assistant Principal



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge

Harmony Week

This year the Student Leadership team is organising the celebration of Harmony Week. Harmony Week is a vibrant celebration of Australia's multiculturalism, focusing on inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for all, regardless of background

Harmony Week activities will occur in the classroom and the yard, designed to foster understanding and appreciation of different cultures and backgrounds. These activities are not only fun but also enriching, providing students with the opportunity to learn about and embrace the rich tapestry of our school community.

We will finish up with **students wearing a touch of orange on Friday 20th March**, to show their support for inclusivity and diversity. This vibrant color symbolizes harmony and mutual respect, values that we cherish and celebrate during this special week.

Let's all come together to make Harmony Week a memorable and meaningful experience for everyone!

NAPLAN

Congratulations to all of our Year 3 and 5 students who have approached NAPLAN with a calm confidence.

Thank you to all of the families who have reminded their students that it is nothing to worry about, and to give it your best shot!

Year Six!

We are going to The Youth Leadership Academy Australia [YLAA] Student Leadership Conference. It concentrates specifically on training students for their role as School Leaders. At Hastings Primary all Year 6 students are expected to be upstanding role models for their younger peers. The style, topics, and content of this conference all focus on what the students can do.

Today is the final day to make payments and give permission.

Payment can be made using CSEF if available.

Please make sure you have given permission on COMPASS.

Miss Michelle Aldridge
Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au



DETAILS

- Wednesday 18th March, 2026
- Meet at Frankston Station 7:15am [on the shops side]
- Collect at Frankston Station 4:15pm [on the TAFE side]
- All Year 6 students

CHECKLIST

- Permission and payment on Compass [CSEF can be used]
- Transport to and from Frankston Station Organised
- MYKI organised
- Snack and Lunch Packed
- Water Bottle
- Pen
- Wear school uniform

More info:

- Michelle Aldridge
- 0359791517
- hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au





STUDENTS of the WEEK



PA	Jordan Thompson	You have worked so hard settling into school - you are now saying goodbye bravely, coming into the classroom independently, and following our daily routines like a star!
1/2A	Elijah Fitzpatrick	Elija, your efforts in maths have been inspiring. You are being a great role model. Keep up the great work!
1/2A	Dwayne Pyke	Dwayne, your ability to solve problems has not gone unnoticed. In maths you have shown some really great thinking. Way to go Dwayne!
1/2B	Chloe De Guzman	Way to go Chloe! You have shown determination and a positive attitude towards challenges. You work hard to develop your skills, listen carefully to feedback, and always strives to do your best. Your commitment to learning and growing is something to be proud of!
3/4A	Monica Goodacre	Monica you always treat other students with respect and give everything your best shot! Keep up the good work!
3/4A	Eliza Maree	Eliza you always try to do your best in the classroom and the playground. Keep up the good work!
4/5A	Zaiden Wright	Zaiden, well done on maintaining focus during writing sessions and taking responsibility for your learning. Keep it up!
5/6A	Aneeta Grant	Aneeta, well done on a fantastic start to Year 6. You always give everything a go and take on new challenges with confidence. Be proud of your effort and positive attitude!

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

SPECIALIST SUPERSTARS



Sieon Lee, Leeroy Cousins,
Dylan Alexander,
Eli Tauhore, Lilly Holland &
Aria Ford

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

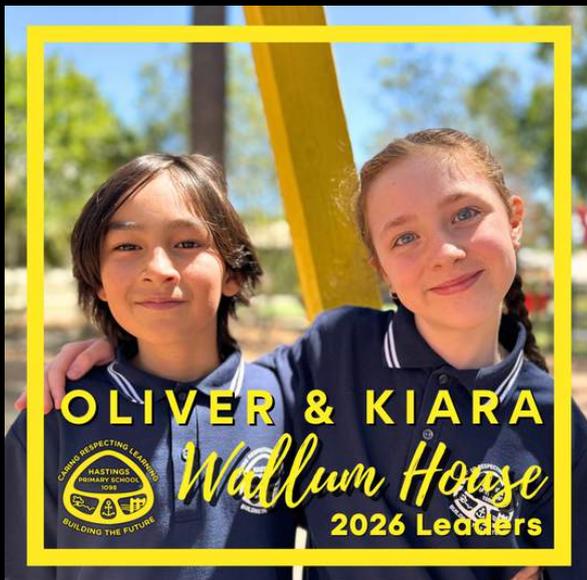


Grade 45A

Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning

HOUSE POINTS



WALLUM
229



WARADA
191



MURUMBIDGEE
160



BUNYA
139

FORTNIGHTLY MARKET



Angling Shop

FRI
MAR
6

FRI
MAR
20



After
assembly

3:15 -
3:45pm

See
you
there!

The Angling Shop runs during the first half of lunchtime every Monday.

Students can enjoy:



Popcorn



Icy poles



Sour straps

Please note there is a \$2 limit per student.

Don't forget to bring your coins and come along!

All money raised goes towards the Year 6 Graduation.

- Fresh Produce
- Worm Wee
- Books
- 2nd Hand Uniform
- Icy Poles

HASTINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL - UNDER THE BREEZEWAY OF THE SOUTH BUILDING, NEXT TO THE DRINK TAPS



RUGBY TOPS



\$65 EACH

Year
4-6
Students

Sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 & 20
in stock now.
Available at the office



2027 FOUNDATION TRANSITION



Come and Try Sessions - all welcome

Time: 2:30 pm - 3:00pm

Friday 5th June

Friday 12th June

Friday 19th June

2027 Student Transition Sessions

Time: 2:15pm - 3:00 pm

Wednesday 5th August

Wednesday 2nd September

Thursday 15th October

Thursday 12th November

Statewide Transition

Time: 9:00am - 10:30am

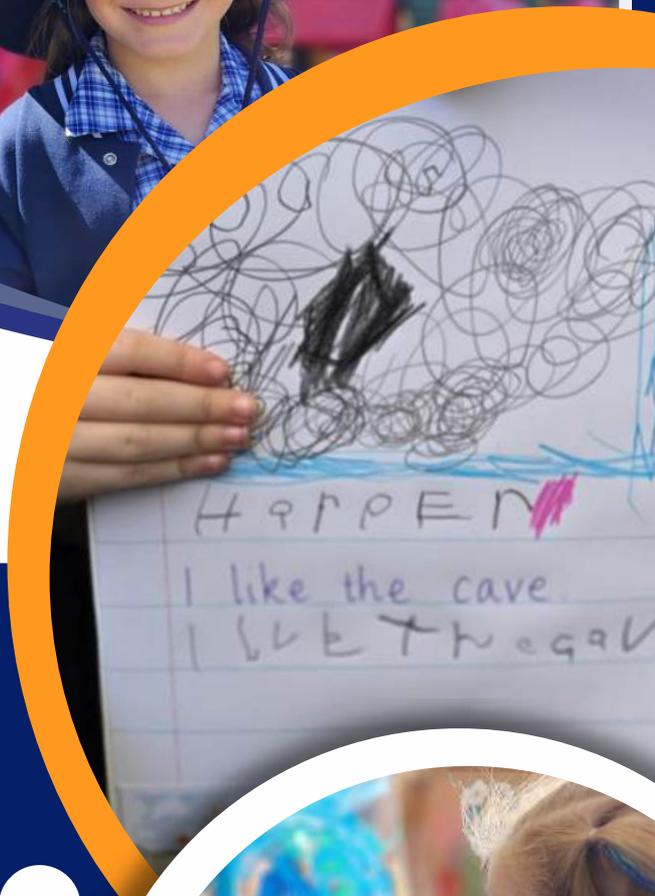
Tuesday 8th December



5979 1517



hastingsprimary.vic.edu.au



2027 TOURS AVAILABLE NOW

NAPLAN 2026

Information for parents and carers



Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum, and allows parents and carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content aligned to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics. All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials. To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for all Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students. ACARA supports inclusive testing, so all students have the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program.

Information on adjustments available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs is provided in the National protocols for test administration. Schools should work with parents, carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the National protocols for test administration (linked above), NAPLAN public demonstration site, the Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN, and our series of videos where parents, carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN test days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. However, it is not necessary for parents and carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers. See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP – Public demonstration site](#).

How is my child's performance reported?

NAPLAN results are reported against proficiency standards. There is a standard for each assessment area at each year level. Proficiency standards provide clear information on student achievement. They are set at a challenging but reasonable level expected of the child at the time of NAPLAN testing, based mainly on what has been taught in previous years of schooling.

Student achievement is shown against 4 levels of proficiency: Exceeding, Strong, Developing and Needs additional support.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school. If further assistance is required, you should contact your relevant state or territory test administration authority. ACARA cannot provide individual student reports.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students, parents and carers use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [myschool.edu.au](#).

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](#)
- visit [nap.edu.au](#)

To learn how ACARA manages personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](#).

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may not have the capacity to complete the tests in a shorter time frame. The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 11 March 2026 and finishes on Monday 23 March 2026. Schools **must** schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students must do the writing test on paper on day 1 only. Years 5, 7 and 9 writing tests must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing on day 1, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations).	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are given an idea or topic called a writing stimulus (or prompt) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing).
Reading	To be completed after the writing test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts, and then answer related questions.
Conventions of language	To be completed after the reading test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Students are assessed on spelling, grammar and punctuation.
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test.	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students are assessed on number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability.