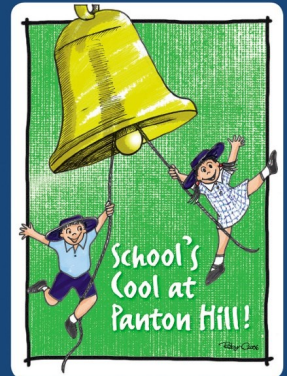




*A Rich Past,  
Present & Future*

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th December, 2025  
Term 4: Week 10



## DIARY DATES

### **Friday 12th December**

Christmas Rotations

### **Monday 15th December**

David Skinner Dance 9.15am

Grade 6 Graduation 6.30pm

### **Friday 19th December**

Final School Assembly and  
Xmas Raffle draw

1.10pm—1.30pm finish

## **2026**

### **Tuesday 27th January**

Staff return—Student free  
day

### **Wednesday 28th January**

Students 1st day Term 1

### **Wednesday 4th February**

Prep Testing

### **Monday 16th February**

School Council 7pm

### **Tuesday 10th March**

Curriculum Day

### **Monday 23rd March**

School Council 7pm

### **Thursday 2nd April**

Last day of Term 1

### **Monday 20th April**

First day of Term 2

### **Wednesday 29th April**

School photos



## **Principal's Report**

As communicated today via Xuno, it is a privilege to continue leading Panton Hill PS as Acting Principal for the first two terms of 2026. Over the past ten and a half months, I have been so impressed by the very special school community we have here. The students, families, staff and everyone involved in our school contribute to make this school the amazing place that it is and I am looking forward to everything we can achieve together next year.

### **CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY DAY**

Today we held our PHPS Christmas Activity Day. Our students worked in multi-age groups during the day and rotated through different activities with our staff. It was an amazing way for us to have some fun together, strengthen our relationships across the school and live our value of Co-operation. Well done to everyone for their planning, organisation and participation throughout the day.

### **SCHOOL CONCERT**

Congratulations to everyone for the amazing school concert held last Thursday 4th December. It was a wonderful way to celebrate as a community and our students did a fantastic job performing on the evening.

Thank you again to Mrs Jeness for all of her planning and organisation for this event. As I mentioned on the evening, Mrs Jeness is an asset to our school and our students are very lucky to have her guidance when learning and preparing for an event like this.

Thank you also to Mrs Howard for all the work she does supporting our students while creating the spectacular artwork that is auctioned on the night. The auction is always so much fun and raised a total of \$2,350 for our school.

It was great to see so many people attend the event and the art auction at the end of the evening was definitely one of the highlights.

### **END OF YEAR EXCURSIONS**

Over the past week our students have participated in their end of year excursions. Our Grade 4-6 students attended the Latrobe University Sports Centre and our Prep-Grade 3 students attended the Melbourne Zoo. It has been great to see everyone involved have amazing learning experiences at these two excursions.

**585 Main Rd. Panton Hill – Ph: 9719 7202**  
**[www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au](http://www.pantonhill.vic.edu.au)**

This week, our school received an email from a member of the public who was very impressed with our students while at the Melbourne Zoo. The email is included in this newsletter. It makes us so proud to receive communication like this. Well done to all of our students, staff and volunteers! Our students consistently represent our school extremely well when attending incursions and excursions and we often receive positive feedback from people running these activities for us.

## FINAL DAVID SKINNER DANCE LESSON

We warmly invite you to attend the final David Skinner dance session on **Monday 15th at 9.15am** in the Panton Hill Hall. Our students have been practicing a variety of dances over the past Monday mornings and ready to impress you with their fancy footwork. Later on the day, our Grade 6's will be participating in their **Graduation dinner at 6.30pm** followed by **Graduation at 7.30pm**.

## 2026 CLASSES AND STAFFING

On Wednesday 10th December our school held our final Prep Transition session and our Meet the Teacher session, where all students met their 2026 teacher and class. We look forward to welcoming our Prep students and families next year. They are most definitely ready for school, after the way they have participated in their transition sessions.

Our students transitioning into Grades 1 to 6 next year also did a great job during the Meet the Teacher session. There is always a lot of change when moving classes, learning spaces and teachers as we prepare for a new year at school and we are looking forward to a fantastic 2026 at PHPS.

The teacher for each class and our current staffing for next year is listed below:



Prep B – Stephanie Brindley

Prep G – Amie Grisold

1/2P – Justine Puls-Welsh

1/2T – Merron Thompson

3M – Danah McMillan

4/5K – Briony Kane

5/6H – Stafford Hurst

PE, Music & STEM – Natika Jenes

Art – Anne Howard

Italian – Maree McLaughlin

Support/Tutoring – Maya Lingard

Education Support – Kirsten Renouf & Bethany Anderson

Art Therapy – Naomi Williams

Student Wellbeing – Susan Bannister

Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader – Samantha Fitzgerald

Learning Specialist – Stephanie Brindley

Business Manager/Administration – Leanne Cleary

Acting Principal – Matthew Dunstone



In 2026, Merron Thompson will be sharing her grade with another teacher as she has done this year. Our school has a teaching position advertised for 2 days each week currently. Mrs Thompson will be teaching her 1/2 class full time at the start of the year if we are unable to find a suitable teacher for this position before the start of Term 1.

Rose Draffin, our current tutoring coordinator, will be finishing her position at the end of this year. Rose has been instrumental in designing and organising our tutoring program here at PHPS. Her experience, knowledge and skills have been invaluable and we would not have achieved the results we have achieved from our tutoring approach without her involvement. We thank Rose for everything she has contributed to PHPS during her time here and wish her all the best for the future.

**Statement of Commitment** PHPS is committed to Child Safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect children, as well as staff and volunteers.

## 2026 VOLUNTARY FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Dear Parents/Guardians,

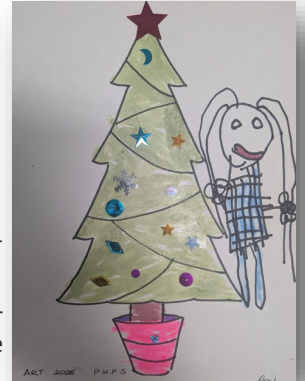
Panton Hill Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Panton Hill Primary School's Voluntary Financial Contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support will allow us to:

- Offer a wider range of subjects and special curriculum experiences for our students across all year levels
- Ensure the upkeep of our computer devices to enhance learning opportunities
- Purchase of new library books to encourage student borrowing and reading
- Continue to stock our classroom libraries for all year levels
- Investment in new Numeracy and Literacy resources
- Offer effective First Aid for all students
- Ongoing grounds and building maintenance as required and further new ground improvements.

An event on Xuno can be viewed for your consideration. For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy, please see the overview attached on the event or contact the office.



## NEW SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR

Nillumbik Council have notified us that Karen will be the permanent School Crossing Supervisor moving forward for Panton Hill Primary School. Give her a wave or say hello.

Our School-Crossing Supervisors are our eyes and ears around our schools, and they've got some important tips to share on how we can all drive safely near schools.

- ⚠️ Slow down.
- 🚦 Stop at the flags.
- 🚗 Park safely.
- 🚶 Use the crossing every time.

These small actions set a great example and help everyone stay safe.

Keeping everyone safe around schools is a shared responsibility. Be sure to observe all school speed zones and parking restrictions. Patrols around school zones, which are done in conjunction with Victoria Police help keep our children and community safe.

Nillumbik Shire Council's Community Safety Team have provided the below link to learn more about crossing safety.

<https://youtu.be/-TvZtoflRHI?feature=shared>

## CAN DEPOSIT SCHEME FUNDRAISER

Did you know you can help our school simply by returning your cans and bottles? By choosing our school as your nominated fundraising partner through the Can Deposit Scheme, every eligible container you return becomes a small donation that makes a big difference! Getting involved is easy, simply follow the steps provided.

Your refund goes directly to supporting our students and programs. Thank you for your ongoing fundraising support.



## Value Award Winners

**Congratulations to:**

**Cedric Reale & Monty Weeding**



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Email received after the recent Zoo excursion:

To Panton Hill Primary School,

I wanted to send a short note after a visit to the zoo yesterday with my four year old. We happened to be there at the same time as a group from Panton Hill Primary School, and I was really taken by how they carried themselves.

The children were calm, curious and clearly enjoying the day. They interacted with their teachers in such a warm and comfortable way. A few of them even chatted briefly to my daughter as they walked past, offering a smile, a hello and a high five. They were small interactions, but they said a lot.

It left me thinking that Panton Hill Primary must be a special place, and that the families, staff and students should feel proud of the environment they're creating.

I'm not normally one to send unsolicited feedback like this, but after many trips to the zoo and witnessing a broad range of school excursions in action, Panton Hill Primary stood out and I wanted to pass that on.

Kind regards :)

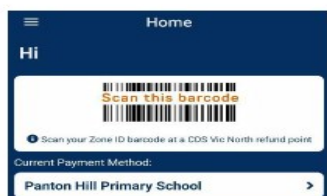


## Donating to PHPS through the CDS

**Step 1:** Download the CDS NORTH app via your google or apple store.

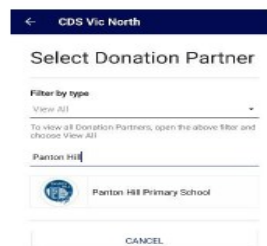
**Step 2:** In the main screen of the app select the 'Donations' tab

**Step 3:** Search for Panton Hill Primary School and select 'Update' for donations to be allocated to the school.



**Step 4:** Visit your closest Reverse Vending Machine and scan your unique barcode.

**Step 5:** Start earning 10c an item for your school!!



### Closest Reverse Vending Machines to PHPS

Open (7:00am - 8:00pm)

**St Helena Marketplace**  
214 Aqueduct Road, St Helena, 3088

**Greensborough Plaza Lower Carpark**

The Cct, Greensborough, 3088

**Laurimar Town Centre Doreen**  
101 Hazel Glen Drive, Doreen, 3754

**855 Plenty Road South Morang**  
855 Plenty Road, South Morang, 3752

**Greensborough Plaza Upper Carpark**  
86 Church Street, Greensborough, 3088

**Eligible**

- ✓ Aluminium cans
- ✓ Plastic bottles
- ✓ Glass bottles
- ✓ Paperboard cartons (under 1L)
- ✓ Steel bottles/cans

Most beverage containers (between 150mL and 3L) made from aluminium, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard are eligible.

**Ineligible**

- ✗ Wine and spirit bottles
- ✗ Milk containers
- ✗ Paperboard cartons (over 1L)
- ✗ Cordial bottles

Don't throw these out! Ineligible containers may still be placed in your kerbside recycling bin.

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Hello Everyone,

Our little OSHC building has been a buzz of excitement with lots of Christmas activities over the past two weeks. The children have thoroughly enjoyed creating a very Christmasy atmosphere. Wow! hasn't the year flown? I'm starting to become very sentimental as I realise that some of my children will be leaving the school and I will most probably never see them again. To those special grade six students, it has been an absolute honour and a blessing to have had you in my life and my service since you were in prep. Fly high and wide and stay safe and remember always, you are welcome back here any tick of the clock.

I'm leaving the photos of our gorgeous fairy garden this time to remember what it looked like before it was vandalised. One of the children looked at me and said "What are we going to do now Ella?" We will start again. It will be bigger and better next time.

### SUN SMART

The weather has most certainly warmed up for term 4, so please make sure that the children have their hats and sunscreen. We have plenty of sunscreen here for the children, but, if you feel that they may have a reaction to our sunscreen, then by all means, please send along their own personal supply.

### HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The theme of our Summer Holiday Program is Galactic Circus. Make sure to book online so you don't miss out on the amazing amount of fun that we will have!

We look forward to having a fantastic fun time over the holiday program with all of you! Book in but do remember to bring a hat, your own sunscreen if you need it, a water bottle, sensible shoes (no thongs) and your bubbly fun personality!

### Cancellations –

If you know that your child will not be attending ASC and you have already booked them in, please give us a call. Let us know especially if you yourself have collected them from their classroom. Can we also please ask that for BSC, you book your children in as early as possible on the evening before care is needed. It would help us greatly with our staffing and ratio.

### Panton Hill OSHC hours of operation:

BSC 6:45am-8:45am      ASC: 3:20-6:00pm

Pupil Free Day: 7:00am—6pm.

Holiday program: 7:00am - 6:00pm

Ella and the Panton Hill Their Care team!

Contact: 0419 179 948

Email: [pantonhills@theircare.com.au](mailto:pantonhills@theircare.com.au)



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OF YOU! STAY SAFE AND WELL AND LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER! BOUN NATALE AND FELICE ANNO

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\*With the maximum CHILD CARE SUBSIDY \*\*Without the CHILD CARE SUBSIDY Please note all prices are current at the time of printing and may be subject to change without notice.

Excursion & Super Excursion days: Arrive at the service by 8:00 am. Pick-up after 3:30 pm - please note this is an indicative time only, check with service coordinator to confirm pick-up times. Wear runners & socks.

## There are 2 types of Child Care Payments.

### 1. Child Care Subsidy

### 2. Additional Child Care Subsidy

Claim these subsidies  
via myGov

Up to  
**90%**  
of Child Care costs  
can be covered  
by Child Care  
Subsidy!

For more information, call TheirCare on 1300 072 410

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
 <b>19 JAN</b>  <b>Circus Pop Slime Fest</b> Get ready for a day of creativity, silly fun! Create your own popcorn slime and watch it pop. Then join the circus excitement with popcorn, foam, craft amazing hanging acrobats, balance your way through the tightrope challenge, test your aim to pin the nose on the clown, and make beautiful paper clown creations.  From as low as \$22.42** Full Fee \$24.52**	 <b>20 JAN</b>  <b>STEMlastic Fair</b> Step into a world of discovery at TheirCare's very own Science Fair! Experience hands-on fun with DreamCity Robotics, Supreme Slime Science, and a thrilling Ice Science Show! Then back at service the fun continues as we test our reflexes with the noodle and noodle group game, and 2000 building challenge!  From as low as \$24.22** Full Fee \$24.22**	 <b>21 JAN</b>  <b>Little Champs Open</b> Game, set, match! It is time to get active with Robot Tennis, Word Tennis, and a Handball Tournament! We will also craft our own Paper Tennis Rackets before reliving together for a day of teamwork, laughter, and sports challenges made for champions!  From as low as \$22.84** Full Fee \$24.52**	 <b>22 JAN</b>  <b>SpongeBob Cinema Splash</b> SpongeBob's journey to the ocean depths to face the Flying Dutchman's ghost, encountering challenges and uncovering marine mysteries. The fun continues back at service with beachies, bridges and beach group game and wall dough-oh-lio!  From as low as \$22.42** Full Fee \$24.52**	 <b>23 JAN</b>  <b>Galactic Circus</b> Blast into a galaxy of fun space where! Test your wall control in a group game of 'Try not to Laugh', master juggling skills in the Group Juggling Challenge, and create your own DJ! Fortune teller to predict the future! Aim for the stars with Solstice Ring Toss, then blast off in Race to the Galaxy!  From as low as \$22.84** Full Fee \$24.52**	 <b>26 JAN</b>  <b>Service closed!</b>	 <b>27 JAN</b>  <b>Summer Vibes</b> Soak up the Summer Vibes with a day full of colour, creativity and outdoor fun! We will paint bright Summer Geometry masterpieces, craft Butterfly Sun Catchers, and get active with DJ Hopscotch and Skip Hop Tag! Then we will wrap up with The Great Outdoor Treasure Hunt for the ultimate summer adventure!  From as low as \$22.84** Full Fee \$24.52**	 		



## BRIGHT SPARKS THERAPIES

PLAY AND CREATIVE ARTS THERAPY - PANTON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Play and Creative Arts Therapy is an evidence-based therapeutic approach that provides children with the opportunity to express themselves through play and the creative arts. These are easy, natural forms of expression for children that allow them to work through challenging or traumatic experiences with the gentle support and guidance of the therapist. Children also learn to understand and accept themselves, developing a sense of inner strength, empowerment and resilience.

### WHO CAN BENEFIT?

Sessions are beneficial for children who experience a wide range of social, emotional or behavioural difficulties, such as: low self-esteem, relational difficulties, anger and aggression, anxiety, depressive symptoms, parental separation, grief and loss, gender identity issues, ASD and ADHD.

Please contact the front office for more information or if you'd like your child to be considered for the program

Naomi Williams (M. A. Arts Therapy, M. A. Social Work) is a therapist with over 18 years experience facilitating play and creative arts therapy sessions, creative workshops and resilience programs for children. Naomi currently offers sessions at Thornbury Primary School, Briar Hill Primary School, Panton Hill Primary School and at her private practice in Briar Hill.



## FACE PAINTING by Naomi

Hi, I'm Naomi!

I am thrilled to be offering professional face painting for Children's Parties, Special Events, Markets, Festival, Community Events and any other event requiring children entertainment.

A backyard party, local park, or play centre, I come to you!  
Book today!



Add a little sparkle to your child's day through the fun of face paint.

0447885210

facepainting\_by\_naomi

