



TERM 4 2025

NEWSLETTER

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE





December 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I retire from my position as Principal of Hume Valley School on the 27th January 2026, today is my last workday onsite, and I would like to take this final opportunity to acknowledge and thank you all for your support for your sons and daughters and your support for our staff and our school.

I commenced my teaching career in 1972 and following several years in primary education, I decided my passion was to teach students with special needs. I commenced at Hume Valley School (then Broadmeadows Special School) in 1978 and have had the great privilege of leading this school community, as principal, for 23 years.

Throughout my career I have greatly valued the opportunity to work closely with our school community and to form such positive relationships with our students, our families, and the staff.

Our school is highly regarded across the education system for its positive culture and its high-quality educational provision.

Throughout the years it has been a great honour and privilege to work alongside so many committed educators, school council, and the school community, to establish a welcoming and positive culture where all our students are valued, supported, and celebrated for their achievements and strengths.

I would like to commend our staff for the incredibly special work they do, each day, in providing high quality teaching and learning programs and wellbeing and therapy support for our students, and the support they provide for families.

The opportunity to lead Hume Valley School as Principal for 23 years has been the most rewarding stage of my career. I am deeply proud of all we have achieved together as a school community.

In my retirement I will miss the special relationships I have with students, their families, school council, and staff. I will, however, treasure the many wonderful memories of my teaching career and principalship at this school and the wonderful community in which I have worked.

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all students, their families, our education support and teaching staff and members of the school leadership teams, for the positive interactions, support, and commitment you have provided throughout my time at Hume Valley School.

On behalf of myself, the students, and the school community I would like to congratulate and thank Emma Lawless for her outstanding leadership of the school from term 4, 2025, in her role as Acting Principal. In closing, I am extremely proud of all we have achieved together as a school community and wish you all the very best into the future, under the outstanding leadership of your newly appointed principal, Emma Lawless. I know the educational environments and culture we have established will continue to support optimal teaching and learning for our students and inspire our community for many years to come.

Thank you once again.

Kind regards,

Diane Bassett

Message from the Acting Principal

Dear families and carers,

As we move into the final day of the school year, there is a real sense of anticipation across Hume Valley School as we prepare for a well-earned summer break. This term has been a busy and productive one, and it has been wonderful to see our students continue to engage positively in their learning right through to the end of the year.

Transition Week has been a success, with students settling into their 2026 classes and staff supporting smooth and thoughtful transitions across all campuses. Strong routines remain in place, and meaningful learning continues to occur in classrooms each day.

End-of-Year Arrangements

The final day of school for students in 2025 will be **Friday 19 December**. Students will return to school on **Thursday 29 January 2026**.

Thank you to our families for your ongoing partnership and support throughout the year. We look forward to finishing 2025 on a positive note and wish everyone a safe, restful, and enjoyable holiday period.

Kind regards,

Emma Lawless

Acting Principal

Hume Valley School

Achieving Potential Together



Junior

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

Juniors have been enjoying fun, hands-on teaching and learning strategies throughout Term 4.

Some of our classes have been taking advantage of the sunny weather and using the traffic safety area. Students have been enjoying riding bikes and scooters while practising the road safety rules and remembering to stop at the red light.

Our students have had the opportunity to do some shopping at Mini Woollies. Everyone had a fantastic time carrying their baskets, choosing fruit items such as apples and oranges and paying the cashier with play money. Back in the classroom, we enjoyed our new fruit snacks.

We have been having fun learning this term with a range of hands-on activities, including counting, adding and subtracting, procedural writing, and phonics.

We have some exciting events coming up in Juniors over the next couple of weeks, including International Day of People with Disabilities celebrations on Friday the 5th of December, our excursion to We Rock the Spectrum on Wednesday 10th of December, and our Teddy Bear Picnic on Friday the 12th of December.





Primary

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

It has been lovely to be welcomed by the students and staff at the Narrun Campus this term. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our students, seeing them in their learning environments, and watching them grow and learn. It has also been wonderful to see our students living our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience each day.

In Science this term, students explored Biological Sciences with a focus on life cycles. They engaged in hands-on activities examining the life cycles of various living organisms. Students conducted simple experiments, such as growing grass heads, to observe each stage of development and its characteristics. A highlight was watching a butterfly emerge from a chrysalis, sparking curiosity and deep connections to their learning.

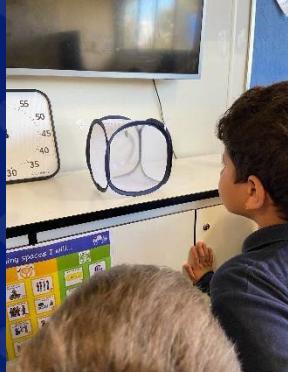
I was pleased to be part of the Primary Swimming Program this term. Students participated in weekly lessons, where they had the invaluable opportunity to develop their water safety skills and swimming techniques under the guidance of trained instructors. Swimming and water safety education are essential components of the Health and Physical Education curriculum.

Our weekly assemblies have continued to be a highlight. Each assembly was hosted by different classrooms and focused on positive behaviours, important dates on the school calendar, celebrated outstanding behaviour aligned with our school values, and recognised students with the highest number of positive points.

Our Athletics Day was another standout event. Students showcased their skills across a range of sports, including long jump, relay, shot put, the 100-metre run, and the ever-popular javelin rocket throw. Students were awarded ribbons for their efforts and enjoyed an icy pole to conclude the day. Congratulations to the Blue Team, who earned the most points overall.

Finally, our Awards Ceremony was a special celebration and a highlight of the term. Both the Middle and Primary Schools came together to recognise the hard work and achievements of every student. It was lovely to see so many families join us to celebrate their children's learning and success. Each acknowledgement was a testament to our students' dedication and commitment throughout the year.

Well done to the Primary team on a successful and fun-filled year! *From Susanne, Primary Sub-School Leader*





Middles

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

Term 4 has been an exciting and memorable finish to the year, filled with learning, celebration, and important milestones for our students.

Academically, we are proud of the effort and progress shown across all literacy, numeracy and social capabilities. Students have continued to challenge themselves, demonstrate resilience, and apply their skills in increasingly confident and independent ways. Their achievements this term reflect not only their hard work, but the strong support from families and teachers throughout the year.

A highlight for the grade 6 students this term has been our transition days to the secondary sub-school. These days have helped build excitement and ease any nerves as they prepare for the next chapter of their educational journey. Middles Camp was also another highlight where students showed a great amount of resilience, completing tasks such as the flying fox and rock climbing.



In Science, students explored life cycles through hands-on learning. The unforgettable moment of watching a real butterfly emerge from its chrysalis sparked curiosity and wonder, bringing classroom concepts to life right before their eyes.

We concluded the term by celebrating our Grade 6 Graduation, which was an emotional and proud occasion for students, staff, and families. We congratulate our graduates and wish them every success as they move forward into the secondary sub-school and beyond.





Secondary

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

In 2025, the Secondary Sub School provided a rich, engaging learning experiences that supported students' growth, independence, and connection to the wider community. A highlight of the year was the Blackwood Camps, where students developed resilience, teamwork, and confidence through outdoor challenges and shared responsibilities. These experiences encouraged students to step outside their comfort zones while strengthening peer relationships and independence skills. Bike Camp was another standout program, promoting physical wellbeing, road safety awareness, and perseverance. Students worked collaboratively to build stamina, practise problem-solving, and celebrate personal achievements, fostering a strong sense of pride and accomplishment.

Interschool sports further enriched the program, offering opportunities for teamwork, sportsmanship, and positive social connections with peers from other schools.

Community Connection programs remained a cornerstone of the Secondary Sub School. Partnerships with SYN Radio gave students authentic opportunities to develop communication skills, self-expression, and confidence in real-world settings. Equine programs supported wellbeing, emotional regulation, and responsibility through structured interactions with horses. Attwood House provided meaningful art experiences focused on life skills, independence, and community participation.

We sincerely thank all staff, families, community partners, and organisations whose dedication, planning, and commitment made these experiences possible and ensured a successful and rewarding year for our students.





Year 9

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

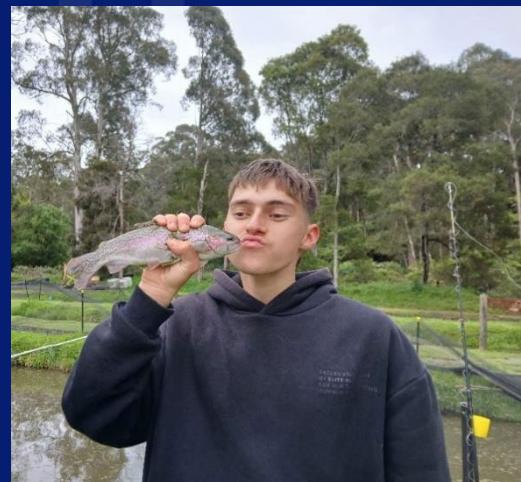


Term Four in Year Nine has been full of learning. In our Maths unit on shape, we studied basic geometric shapes and designed animal figures and self-portraits using basic shapes. We also looked at positional language and describing where things were located in three-dimensional spaces. We finalised our Science unit on animal classification by visiting the Melbourne Zoo and looking for all the animals we'd completed research projects on.

We celebrated the International Day of People with Disability with a disco, including a student-selected playlist, lights and a smoke machine. Our School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support winners ate halal burgers to celebrate their achievements in being Respectful, Responsible and Resilient.

At the end of Term Four, a group of intrepid outdoorsmen from Years Nine and Ten went fishing, returning with their catch, which we cooked and ate. It's been a big term, and an even bigger year.

Congratulations to all the staff and students for making the term so jam-packed with fun and learning. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all; we look forward to seeing all our students in 2026.





Pathways

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

Term 4 has been an exciting and productive term for our Pathways Program, with students engaging in a wide range of hands-on learning experiences across the school and community. Our Mosaics, Canteen, and Marketplace electives continued to thrive, with students showing creativity, teamwork, and independence as they produced high-quality work.

A major highlight this term was the rollout and setup of our Mini Woolies program. Pathways students played a key role in establishing the space, organising stock, and learning retail-ready skills such as customer service, money handling, and workplace routines. Their enthusiasm and pride in contributing to this whole-school initiative has been a standout achievement.



Students also enjoyed several community-based excursions, including visits to Melbourne Zoo, the National Gallery of Victoria, Prahran Market, and Helping Hands. These experiences supported their independence, social skills, and understanding of the world beyond school.

Term 4 has showcased our student's growth, resilience, and readiness for future pathways. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to continuing to build meaningful learning opportunities in the year ahead.





VPC

Sub school newsletter

Term 4 2025

The VPC sub-school's term centred around the Year 12 graduation held at Melrose Receptions, which was a memorable evening for our school community. Students proudly celebrated the completion of their schooling, with many achieving their VPC and Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificates. The night was made especially meaningful by several moving speeches, as students reflected on their time at Hume Valley School, shared personal growth stories, and expressed gratitude to staff, families, and peers. It was a fitting celebration of their achievements, resilience, and the strong sense of community they have built during their years at the school.



In addition to graduation celebrations, the VPC sub-school demonstrated strong community spirit this term by raising funds for Foodbank through a range of student-led initiatives, including bake sales, sausage sizzles, an ice bucket challenge, and a food fight. Students also took part in celebrating the International Day of People with Disability and enjoyed a magic performance incursion, which provided an engaging and inclusive experience for all involved.



Specialist

Team newsletter

Term 4 2025

Term 4 has been a busy and exciting time in Specialist. Students participated in a wide range of engaging learning experiences across Visual Arts, Physical Education, Outdoor Education, Music and more. Below are some highlights from a very full end to the year.

Visual Art

Our annual Art Show was a wonderful celebration of creativity across Hume Valley School. Students proudly showcased a range of work including paintings, sculptures, prints and mixed-media pieces. Their imagination and hard work were on display throughout the gallery.

It was fantastic to see so many families attend, connect and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere. Thank you to Fiona, Phoebe, Rachel and Chloe for organising an incredible event, and to our school community for supporting the 2025 Art Show.

PE

Hume Valley School held its annual Athletics Day at Sprint Athletics Track in Craigieburn, bringing the whole school together for a fun and active celebration of movement.

Students participated enthusiastically in a variety of events, showing great teamwork, resilience and school spirit. Congratulations to all students for their positive attitude, and thank you to the PE team—Dylan, Marcell and Matt—for organising such a successful day.



Outdoor Education

Two Outdoor Education camps provided students with memorable hands-on learning experiences:

- **Blackwood Super Ride**

Students completed a supported cycling journey through the scenic bushland of Blackwood, building teamwork, resilience and safe riding skills.

- **Blackwood Expedition – Wilsons Promontory**

Students embarked on a multi-day hiking expedition at Wilsons Prom, developing independence, cooking camp meals and embracing the challenges of outdoor living.

Music

The Drum and Karaoke Showcase celebrated music, confidence and creativity. Students performed a range of drumming pieces and secondary students took to the stage for karaoke versions of their favourite songs, bringing enthusiasm and energy to the event.

The atmosphere was relaxed and supportive, with students encouraging one another and confidently performing in front of their peers—a great way to finish the term on a positive note.



Student Wellbeing

Team newsletter

Term 4 2025

Term 4 has been an exciting and meaningful term for our Student Wellbeing Program, with a strong focus on building connection, celebrating diversity, and promoting positive mental health across our school community. Throughout the term, we acknowledged several important whole-school events including World Mental Health Day, Teachers' Day, World Kindness Day, and International Day of People with Disability. Each event provided opportunities for students and staff to reflect, show appreciation, and engage in activities that encouraged empathy, inclusion, and understanding.

This term also saw the continued delivery of the Seasons for Growth program at both our Koroit and Narrun campuses. Seasons for Growth supports young people in understanding and navigating change, loss and transitions through small-group learning, discussion, and creative activities. Students participating have shown increased confidence in expressing their feelings and developing healthy coping strategies.

Across the school, our wellbeing program has continued to provide individual support, proactive check-ins, and a range of group programs to help students stay engaged and supported as we head toward the end of the year. We are incredibly proud of the resilience, kindness, and growth our students have demonstrated throughout Term 4 and look forward to continuing this important work in the year ahead.





Allied Health

Team newsletter

Term 4 2025

Speech Pathology

This term, the speech pathology team have been wrapping up our work with Disability Inclusion referrals across the school. Throughout the year we have implemented communication adjustments for students across all campuses and have seen fantastic outcomes for their learning and participation. Well done team, staff, and students.



We are excited for the new year ahead, preparing and planning for our upcoming programs. In the last few weeks of this year, we will be busy preparing our tier one visual supports, ensuring all classes are well equipped to have a great start to 2026.

We'd like to thank all staff and students who we have had the opportunity to work with this year. We wish everyone a safe and relaxing holidays.



Occupational Therapy

This term, the Occupational Therapy team continues to support disability inclusion profiles across the school, focusing on students' ongoing toileting, sensory, fine motor, and gross motor needs. Our work through the disability inclusion profiles seeks to ensure all students can thrive at school with the right supports in place.

We are pleased to welcome Tina Nguyen back from maternity leave, and we have also been fortunate to have OT student Rhys join the team while completing his third-year placement. The team thank you to all staff and students for warmly welcoming Rhys to the school.

This term our Allied Health Assistant, Amy, has also been running sensory activity rotations at Narrun which focuses on supporting fine motor skill development and sensory exploration. We also welcome Katherine to the occupational therapy team, who brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise having previously worked under the governments School Readiness. The team look forward to our future projects as we continue to expand our team!

