

**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**

**Tuesday 29th  
October**

NDIS Information  
Exchange Meetings:  
9am-12pm

**Tuesday 5th  
November**

Melbourne Cup  
Public Holiday

**Friday 29th  
November**

Curriculum Day—No  
students to attend  
school on this day.

**Friday 6th  
December**

Student  
Graduation—Jan  
Lake Centre

**Thursday 12th  
December**

End of Year Concert

**Thursday 19th  
December**

Last Day of 2024  
School Year for  
school-aged  
Students



**Wednesday 29th  
January 2025**

First Day of 2025  
School Year for  
School-aged  
Students

# BAYSIDE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 14

23 OCTOBER 2024



**Bayside**  
Special  
Developmental  
School

Bayside SDS Acknowledges the Bunurong Peoples' of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and Custodians, and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging

### ***Principal's /Assistant Principal's Report***

This final term of the school year is often the busiest, packed with assessments and reporting, preparations for end-of-year events and our school review. With so much going on, the weeks tend to pass by in a blur, and before we know it, the school year will be over. While it can be challenging, it's also an exciting time as we wrap up the year and reflect on all that's been accomplished. We are most looking forward to celebrating with our graduating students.

### **Bayside SDS Parents and Carers**

We all recognise that COVID significantly impacted many aspects of our lives, including our engagement with school communities. For this reason we are looking to reestablish family engagement—something that Bayside had previously done so well.



Our Bayside SDS Parents and Carers group aims to promote community engagement and provide a forum for peer support. The plan is to achieve this through activities such as:

- Regular coffee catchups
- Termly family events (play centres, park catchups, school-based events), and
- Parent learning/resources/engagement events – guest speakers/sharing a focus (for example, post school options).

Parents and carers for the 2025 school year will receive a flyer with further details and a link to a What's App group, and details of parent reps. Please take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to be an active part of our school community.

### **Hydro**

As you know, we have faced a number of challenges with our hydro pool ever since the construction of the new school. This year, the heater was replaced, and a leak was found and repaired. Our latest challenge has been finding appropriate staff to meet the regulatory requirements. A main goal here is to support students that require hydrotherapy as apposed to land based exercises, through Physiotherapy.

It is disappointing that we are not presently able to use the hydro facility to benefit our students, but we hope to have positive news shortly.

### **Farewell**

This week we said farewell to Physiotherapist Brigid McNamara, who has been working with us through Noah's Ark. Brigid has been a fantastic asset to the school, so we were sad to learn that she had accepted an opportunity to move to Japan for 12 months to provide services for holidaymakers at an island resort (although we are obviously excited for her and the amazing opportunity). We would certainly love to see Brigid back at Bayside after her adventures.

**BAYSIDE SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL**

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### New 15-Minute Parking

Kingston Council has provided us with a new 15-bay parking area available between 8AM and 4PM. This was requested to support families during drop-offs and pick-ups throughout the school day. The location of the parking area (to the east of the front entrance) was chosen to avoid the need for reverse parking. We appreciate Kingston Council's quick response.



### Sun Smart

We ask that students have SPF50+ applied before school as we approach Summer and UV levels increase. Staff will support further applications during the school day, and encourage students to access shaded areas where appropriate. Please also provide a suitable hat for sun protection. Staff will encourage students wear these when outside.

### Survey

Thank you to those that were able to complete the Parent google survey. It was great to be able to ask some questions that are more specific to our school and receive some feedback about the work we do. We will definitely look to do similar again next year to supplement the department's survey.



### Parenting Program

Envisage is a program for parents raising children with developmental delay or disability from birth to 8 years old.

Here's what families have said about the program:

- ♦ *"It helped me to improve my relationship with my children."*
- ♦ *"Envisage gave me the confidence to trust my instincts. I know my children best."*
- ♦ *"I loved connecting with other mums, it made me feel less isolated."*



Envisage programs are running in Term 4. They are free for families and are funded by the Australian Government. For more information visit <https://envisage.community>

### Changes to NDIS

There are changes to the NDIS in place from October 3, 2024. The first change is included as a list of NDIS supports. This list will make it clear what NDIS plans can and can't be spent on. [The NDIS website](#) is the best place to find accurate information on what is changing.

Bayside is looking to employ an NDIS Navigator to support families through the complications of accessing NDIS. Hopefully positive news on this front shortly.

### School Bus Service

Thank you to participating families that have submitted requests for the 2025 bus service. In some cases, we have received the request only, without the mandatory travel plan. A travel plan is required for all bus users. Another copy of the plan can be sent home as required.

Justin & Tania

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## EEP ~ Ka Ling & Natasha

Welcome back to Term 4! Firstly, we need to have a big welcome to Allen who has joined Early Education Program on Tuesdays this Term! Allen has settled in nicely with the Tuesday group and it has been great watching him engage with his peers.

This term, the Early Education Program is working on a food theme, and what better storybook to get us started than a classic: 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We have been reading the book and exploring the different foods. We will be tasting and smelling the different fruits and food from the book, and students have been supported to identify if they 'like', or 'don't like', the food. It has been such fun watching students try different foods, and seeing the facial expressions or reactions to foods they like or dislike.

Lastly, we celebrate Brooke's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday this week! Happiest of Birthday's Brooke!

## Room E4 ~ Carly, Llywela & Anouk

**It's SunSmart time!** Heading into sunny spring and summer, E4 have been getting into the habit of applying our sunscreen first thing in the morning during morning circle, and then again before we head out to lunch time play.

During circle time we apply by looking into mirrors, following a sequence on our screen, and bobbing along to a song from Jack Hartman, "Put on your Sunscreen!" Everyone has a go first in covering noses, cheeks, ears and arms, and staff support by getting the small bits that may get missed. Usually after lunch, after completing any personal care, sunscreen is further applied.

In the playground, E4 staff are encouraging the wearing of hats, by setting our own good examples—so we ask you to send in hats that can easily be left in school tubs, if you can.

Some more of our photos this week are taken from a special visit we paid to the *All Abilities Playground*. Our timetable doesn't lend itself to getting there too often, but this was a day that everyone chose to pick inside activities over lunchtime, then needed to move by 2pm ... so we wound up there to end our day. It was lovely!

## Room E5 ~ Lulu & Neena

Welcome back to term 4! Crazy to think that we're in the final term of 2024!!

This semester, a class favourite continues to be the juicing program. The students have spoken, and this term our juice is carrot, apple and celery juice.

Xavier enjoys helping to set up the juicing program ensuring every student has a chopping board, knife and something to cut. Paddy has shown his amazing knife skills to cut the celery. Tida and Mamoud sit down and cut carrots and apple with no prompting from staff. Taiga shows his preference for cutting the apples. It is great to see E5 students working together to produce a fantastic end product.

This term we also welcome back Mitchell who is settling back into the classroom well and enjoys greeting his peers as part of morning meeting each day.

## Room E6 ~ Cheryl & Alina

Last week we finished our shared reading story – Going on a Dino Hunt! Yes, Khizr, Isaac, Khang, Naila and Nicholas were walking through a forest of cats in trees, a river of leaping frogs, a yard of yapping dogs, and a deep dark cave. The repeated verse was full of actions that include going over, under and through ending with, (the fun part pressing the BIGmack switch). “I’m not scared!” Did we find a dinosaur? Let’s just say our dinosaur story prop was a bit scary with teeth, claws and big feet!

As part of the integrated curriculum, the E6 class have been exploring the green zone—what it looks like to be engaged and happy. Extending to include trying new things and giving something a go, our sensory play session has introduced something, cold, sticky, gooey, slushy, sweet, wobbly and very colourful—Jelly! A set jelly, with small dinosaur toys, was placed onto the light panel to explore with the first flavour, ‘Raspberry Red.’ We have also added a variety of instruments to explore, through banging, tapping, hitting or shaking to produce different sound effects. Yes, just come past on a Wednesday afternoon and you can hear the impromptu ‘band’ music.

Happy Birthday to two boys who share the same birthday! Khizr turned 8 and Isaac turned 6!

## Room N1 ~ Marshall & Kayla

It’s hard to believe we’re already in the third week of term four! Time has flown by, and it’s been wonderful to see our N1 students return from the holidays, eager to dive back into their learning and spend time with their friends.

One exciting addition to our schedule this term is our weekly trips to Thomas Street Park in Hampton. This outing has quickly become the highlight of the week, with students eagerly asking about “park” and “bus” every day. They’re absolutely loving the flying fox, hamster wheel, and the big castle.

In speech therapy, we have been looking at identifying ‘who’, through a series of games and activities, as well as describing what they are doing with action verbs, such as running, jumping, swimming, eating and lots more! One of our games involves taking turns to act out an action picked out by chance. The actions are followed by lots of laughs and cheers, it has been such a fun way to learn!

Here’s to a fantastic term filled with fun!

### *Bayside SDS Values:*

*Teamwork—Working in teams offers a greater sense of belonging. By emphasising the value of teamwork and the importance of collaboration we achieve better outcomes for our students.*

*Respect—Respect means that you accept somebody for who they are, even when they are different from you or you do not agree with them. Respect in your relationships builds feelings of trust, safety, and wellbeing.*

*Opportunity—We are committed to providing services, resources and encouragement that equip students and families for better outcomes, new futures, new hope and dignity.*

*Compassion—Compassion means temporarily suspending judgment so that you can appreciate others' perspectives or situations when they are different from your own. To be compassionate you need to be genuinely concerned about the other person or people's needs.*

*Community—Respect for the rights, differences, and dignity of others. Honesty and integrity with all members of the community. Accountability for personal behaviour*



### **Southside Café Program.**

On Wednesday 18 September, we had our end of Term 3 Crew Member Party. We were able to thank and acknowledge all our incredible senior students who worked so hard to make Southside Café such a success in Term 3. Each student received a certificate outlining the skills worked on throughout the term. Thanks too to the dedicated staff who have supported students in their various roles.

A big congratulations to all of our wonderful students who have received the following awards:

#### **Customer Awards:**

**Aiden**—For making choices, purchases and receiving his café item independently.

**Aaliyah**—For waiting her turn, making a prompt and direct choice of chips and putting them in her bag.

**Patrick**—For doing an excellent job following the steps at the café and making a delicious choice

#### **Crew Member Awards:**

**Meckenzie**—For staying with the group and helping pick the produce while shopping for the café.

**Charlotte**—For outstanding customer service this term and for greeting customers with lots of smiles and giggles!

*And a very special category ....*

#### **CASUAL Café Crew Member of the Week Award:**

**Archer and Franco:** For stepping up in the absence of senior crew members to successfully manage and run the Southside café. Well done boys—the future of the café is in good hands!

## Multi-Sensory Therapy Report—Jo Robinson

### Multi Sensory Therapy—Juniors

The juniors all enjoy interacting with various apps projected through the Magic Carpet and using a big red switch to turn the Bubbles in the Bubble Columns on and off.

I thought you would like to see some of the other sensory items students enjoy.

The star carpet is a soft black carpet with tiny little lights which turn on and illuminate the carpet like stars in the dark sky, students have liked touching the carpet and looking at the twinkling star lights often utilising their motor skills to touch the individual tiny lights.

The Infinity Disk is a portable visually intriguing item which has a spiral of coloured lights creating the illusion of a tunnel of lights which lead to end point when you look at it.

Meeting our new AI responsive robotic dog Meta Dog has also been a highlight. Students have liked patting him and feeling his soft fur—his ears and paws particularly popular. His silicone tongue and paw pads have also created a lot of interest. However, when he barks and makes different sounds and moves his head, wags his tail and his eyes move the smiles, engagement and interaction are wonderful to experience!

**25 October 2024**

## WORLD TEACHERS' DAY



**THANK YOU TO ALL  
VICTORIAN TEACHERS**

**TEACH THE FUTURE**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

