

NORRIS ROAD NEWS FOR FAMILIES



Our vision is to help children grow into kind, responsible and courageous individuals who care for others, never give up, and always try their best to include and respect everyone and the environment.

Calendar of Events

Term 1 Week 6

Monday 2 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Cross Pillowcase workshop – Year 4
Tuesday 3 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Choir 1st break First Nations Students – Deadly Choices
Wednesday 4 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming make up lesson for 2WL, 4ST, 4KM and 4CM (Final swim) Senior Choir 2nd break Senior assembly 1.45pm
Thursday 5 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Friday 6 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Term 1 Week 7

NAPLAN begins Wednesday 11 March

Monday 9 March	
Tuesday 10 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Choir 1st break First Nations Students – Deadly Choices Junior assembly - 1.45pm in the hall
Wednesday 11 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Choir 2nd break
Thursday 12 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Friday 13 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Date Claimers:

20 March – Harmony Day whole school assembly – see below flyer

2 April – P-2 Easter Hat Parade - more information to come

From the Principal:

P&C Annual General Meeting:

Our P&C AGM was held on Monday evening, and we appreciate the support of the four parents who nominated for executive roles: **Tamiya (President)**, **Karl (Vice President)**, **Richenda (Treasurer)**, and **Maree (Secretary)**. Their willingness to take on these positions strengthens our P&C's capacity to fundraise and provide valuable support for our school.

A HUGE thank you to our outgoing P&C President, Cassie Pearson for her leadership during 2025. Cassie was instrumental in rebuilding our P&C Committee and leading fundraising events across the year. She will be greatly missed.

NAPLAN 2026:

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3 and 5, designed to provide valuable information about how children are progressing in literacy and numeracy. This year, NAPLAN will commence on **Wednesday 11 March 2026**.

NAPLAN testing begins in **Week 7**, with the first day of testing scheduled for **Wednesday 11 March**. NAPLAN assessments occur across several days, covering:

- Writing
- Reading
- Conventions of Language (Spelling and Grammar)
- Numeracy



We will ensure all students have the time, support, and encouragement they need to do their best over these days.

While NAPLAN is only one part of our assessment program, children can sometimes feel nervous about the upcoming tests. Here are some practical ways you can support your child both the night before and on the day of testing.

The Night Before:

- **Keep routines calm and predictable:** A relaxed evening helps set the tone for a positive test day.
- **Ensure a good night's sleep :** Adequate rest is one of the biggest contributors to focus and wellbeing.
- **Prepare school items early:** Pack bags, lay out uniforms, fill water bottles - minimising morning stress helps keep children settled.
- **Offer reassurance:** Remind your child that NAPLAN simply shows what they already know and what they're learning at school.

On the Morning of Testing:

- **Provide a healthy breakfast :** Foods like fruit, yoghurt, wholegrains, and plenty of water help with sustained focus.
- **Arrive at school on time:** A calm, punctual start helps your child settle before the test.
- **Keep pressure low and positivity high:** A simple "try your best" goes much further than "do well on the test."
- **Avoid last-minute cramming:** NAPLAN assesses skills developed over time, not what can be memorised overnight.

NAPLAN is just one way we track student learning, but it does provide valuable insight into progress and areas for future support. Most importantly, we want students to feel confident, prepared, and supported—never stressed. If you have any questions about NAPLAN or how to best support your child, please contact your child's teacher. We're here to help every step of the way.

Harmony Day Celebrations:

We warmly invite you to join us for our Harmony Day celebrations on Friday, 20 March. This special day is an opportunity for our school community to come together and celebrate the rich cultural diversity that makes our school so vibrant and unique.

Our Harmony Day Assembly will begin at 9:00am in the school hall. The event will include:

- Guest speakers sharing messages of inclusion and belonging
- Student performances showcasing cultural pride and creativity
- A special guest appearance to help us mark the occasion

Students are encouraged to wear their national dress or the colour orange in recognition of Harmony Day. We kindly ask for a gold coin donation, with all proceeds supporting Multicultural Australia.

We look forward to celebrating this meaningful day with you and your family as we embrace the theme of *Everyone Belongs*.

Annual Implementation Plan:

We are pleased to share that our 2026 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) has now been formally approved by our School Supervisor. This plan was developed in consultation with our school community and outlines the key priorities that will guide our teaching, learning, and improvement work throughout the year.

This year, our school will continue to focus on two core improvement priorities, both designed to strengthen classroom practice and ensure every student experiences success.

- **Priority 1: Reading Success for All**

Our first priority aims to strengthen and embed consistent, high-quality Tier 1 instruction so that every student can grow as a confident, capable reader.

What this means for students:

- Students engage in consistent phonics, vocabulary, and reading routines that build strong foundational skills.
- They take part in well-designed reading lessons, aligned to the Australian Curriculum and supported by evidence-based practice.
- Students develop confidence and automaticity in decoding, comprehension, and vocabulary, helping them transfer learning into long-term memory.
- Through strong instructional routines, our goal is for at least 80% of students to meet or exceed reading benchmarks.

- **Priority 2: Evidence Powering Instruction**

Our second priority focuses on establishing consistent, timely, and actionable data inquiry practices across the school, ensuring teaching is responsive to student needs.

What this means for students:

- Students benefit from targeted, responsive teaching, with teachers using data and ongoing monitoring to guide instruction.
- Support is strengthened through our Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), ensuring students receive the right help at the right time.
- This approach aims to ensure steady growth across all levels of support, with fewer students needing intensive intervention over time.

With our AIP now approved, our staff are committed to delivering consistent, evidence-based practice across every classroom. Together, with our families, teachers, and community partners, we will continue creating the best possible learning environment for all students.

If you would like more information about this year's AIP or how our priorities support your child's learning, please contact the school office.

Supporting Your Children:

At school, it's normal for children to experience moments of conflict in the playground. While we would love a conflict-free environment, learning to manage disagreements is part of growing up. **However, any conflict that results in a student being physically hurt or verbally abused is not acceptable at Norris Road SS.**

To help us support your child, you can:

Encourage them to report issues straight away

Please remind your child to speak to the staff member on duty at the time of the incident. This allows us to address the problem immediately and helps your child learn that support is available.

If they didn't report it at the time

Ask your child to let their class teacher know the next day. The class teacher will follow up or, if needed, pass the concern to the Deputy Principal.

If the issue is serious

Please contact your child's teacher or the Deputy Principal directly. In some cases, your message may be the first time the school has been made aware of the situation.

We want to be clear: physical harm or verbal abuse is never okay. Students play an important role by reporting these incidents as soon as they happen.

Back to School Boost Option Form – Reminder:

We are currently finalising our Back to School Boost option. We still have **136 out of 587** students who still **do not** have an option/s selected. If you have not yet completed the Back to School Boost Option Form, please do so as soon as possible. The option form has been sent directly to you via QParents.

Why QParents is important - QParents is the main platform we are using to send important consent and permission forms. Families who are not registered may miss important consent forms, including the Back-to-School Boost option/s.

If you are not yet connected to QParents, we strongly encourage you to sign up as soon as possible.

What you need to do:-

- Log in to QParents and complete the Back to School Boost Option Form
- If you are not yet registered, please begin the registration process today. <https://qparents.qld.edu.au/landing>
- If you are having difficulty accessing QParents, please contact the school office for assistance
- Your prompt attention ensures we can correctly prepare resources and support your child

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support.

From the P&C:

Hi Families,

Firstly, we apologise for the delay in communicating updates about our uniform shop. With the recent committee changes and the busy start to the school year, this was unfortunately overlooked.

At the end of 2025, after many years our convenor finished up at NR, and the uniform shop is currently operating solely with volunteer support. We are in the process of preparing to advertise for a new convenor and hope to return to normal operations as soon as possible. Please email uniforms@norrisroadss.eq.edu.au if you have any questions.

In the meantime, we kindly ask for your patience as we learn new procedures and processes. We will process orders as quickly as we can and will communicate any changes to shop hours via the school's Facebook page.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the outgoing P&C committee for their hard work and dedication throughout 2025. Their efforts have greatly supported our school community.

A warm welcome and thank you as well to the incoming executive team, we appreciate your willingness to step in, and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

If any issues arise or you have any questions, we are only an email away at pandc@norrisroadss.eq.edu.au.



If you require any more information or clarification, please phone the office on 3261 0777 or email admin@norrisroadss.eq.edu.au Thank you!

Please note: Notices and/or events in this calendar may have to be altered or changed. If this occurs, wherever possible, notice will be given.