



THE NSEY BUZZ

The Official Newsletter of Northern Schools Early Years

Love a life of learning and living!



Sigi and some of our team members at our end-of-year 'Loving Learning Awards' celebration

Hello from our CEO

As we wrap up another incredible year, I'd like to give a big shoutout to our amazing educators, support staff, our Principals Network Group, our Board, our partners, the Department of Education, and our children and families at Northern Schools Early Years!

Everything we do is supported by our integrated Kindergarten to Grade 6 model, and along with the expertise and collaboration of our teams, we are proud to provide such valuable education and care for the children in our communities. It truly takes a village, and we're so grateful to work alongside all of you to 'Love a Life of Learning and Living'!

To the children and families who will be moving on to school in 2025, we are so grateful that you chose to spend your kindergarten years with us! We wish you all the very best for school next year as you continue on your learning journey.

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season and a safe and happy new year!

Sigi Hyett,
Chief Executive
Officer



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Enrolments are still open for 2025!

Kindergarten places are filling fast for 2025, so it's important to register as soon as possible!

- To enrol in a 3 or 4-year old program in the City of Hume: click [here](#) to go to the Council's website and complete the registration form.
- To enrol in a 3 or 4-year-old program in the City of Merri-bek: click [here](#) to go to the Council's website and complete the registration form.
- To enrol at Rothschild Road Kindergarten (Gisborne) or Molesworth Street Kindergarten (North Melbourne) contact the NSEYC Office on 9306 1662 or email us at office@nseyc.org.au.
- To enrol for long day care at Glenroy Hub Children's Centre, click [here](#) to go to the Merri-bek Council Central Registration website or call 9240 1111.

You can also pick up enrolment forms from our office, our kindergartens or school offices. If you need any assistance to register, please contact our office on 9306 1662.

School term dates for 2023 and 2024

Term 1, 2024	28 January - 4 April (kindergarten commences 30 Jan)
Term 2, 2024	22 April - 4 July
Term 3, 2025	21 July - 19 September
Term 4, 2025	6 October - 19 December

For more information about our services, for help with enrolling, or any other queries please contact us on 9306 1662 or email office@nseyc.org.au and we'll be happy to help!



Season's Greetings

On behalf of all of our teams, our Principals Network Group, and our Board of Directors, we wish our families and partners a very safe and happy festive season. Thank you for being part of the NSEY learning community in 2024!

Our office will be closed from the 23rd of December to the 6th of January.



Starting school

Back to school is an exciting time for students and families. It can be a big step – particularly for those starting prep. Here are some tips on how you can help your child have a positive start to school. The Department of Education shares the following tips to support children starting prep.

During the summer holidays

- Show your child where the school is and talk about how you will get there.
- Arrange play times with other families whose children will be going to the same school. It helps if your child knows another child at their school at the start of prep.
- Practise the things your child will need to do to get ready for school (e.g. putting things in their bag, remembering to take a hat).
- Confirm your before or after school care arrangements and explain these to your child.
- Be positive about starting school and enjoy your child's excitement.
- Visit your local library and read books with your child about starting school.



The first day of school

- Make sure your child knows who will take them to school and pick them up on the first day.
- Help your child to organise their clothes, hat, shoes and socks the night before.
- Help your child to pack their school bag with a snack, drink, lunch and a hat.
- Place a spare pair of underpants and a change of clothes in a plastic bag. Let your child know these clothes are in their bag in case of any accidents at school.
- Put sunscreen on your child in the morning if it's needed.
- Show your child where you will meet them at the end of the school day.
- At the end of the day talk to your child about what happened at school.

While your child is settling in to school

- Many primary schools have a buddy system for Prep children. They will partner your child with older students. This is to help your child have a welcoming experience from the very beginning.
- Find out about what your child is learning at school. By doing this, you can support your child's learning and find out how your child is adjusting to school.
- If your child is having difficulty at school, talk to their teacher. Your child can also say what they think might help them.
- Keep talking to your child about school. Ask them about their new experiences, what they like and what they find hard.
- If your child goes to care before or after school, find a way of sharing your child's school progress with the staff.
- Share feedback about your child's experience of starting school with the school and early childhood service.
- Organise time for your child and their new friends to play together outside of school.

Read more at <https://www.vic.gov.au/tips-starting-school>



Celebrating our teams' achievements

On the 13th of December we held our annual end-of-year celebration, to give our teams an opportunity to reflect on the year, acknowledge all that has been achieved, and have some fun! We gathered at the Northern Golf Club in Glenroy for our 'Loving Learning Awards' and a 70s disco-themed dance party. It was great to see so many of our team members bring their best moves to the dance floor!

2024 has been yet another year of growth and continuous improvement for the NSEY, and we are so proud of all of our teams and the positive impact they have had in our communities.

As part of the evening, we held our 'Loving Learning Awards', which are inspired by the Victorian Early Years Awards. We took nominations for each category from across our teams, with the final winners voted on by our Management Team. It was great to see many of our team members nominating other teachers and educators from across the organisation in recognition of the work they do. Special congratulations to the winners, as follows:

- **Improving Access and Participation in Early Learning** - Dallas Kindergarten
- **Supporting Parents to Build their Capacity and Confidence** - Molesworth Street Kindergarten
- **Creating Collaborative Community Partnerships** - Lorne Street Kindergarten
- **Promoting Children's Health and Wellbeing** - Glenroy Central Kindergarten
- **Continuity of Learning** - Moreland Kindergarten
- **Long Service Award** - Deepa Sehgal, Holy Child Kindergarten
- **Early Childhood Teacher of the Year** - Alison Fraser, Belle Vue Park Kindergarten
- **Early Childhood Educator of the Year** - Leonie Land, York Street Kindergarten
- **CEO's Award** - Rothschild Road Kindergarten

Congratulations and thank you to all of our educators, teachers, Family Support Workers and management team members for another great year!

