

Principal Report

Dear parents and carers,

What is a School Council and what do they do?

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission.

School Council Nominations

If you are one of the many parents of our great school community who like to be involved with many aspects of Poowong Consolidated School - we'd love to have you join us on the School Council. The School Council meets twice per term.

Those with a desire to work with other enthusiastic and creative parents to help shape our School's future are keenly sought after and encouraged to nominate (or be nominated) to become a member of our School Council.

Nominations are now open for three parent member vacancies on our School Council including School Council President. If you are an enthusiastic parent interested in getting more involved and having a say in what our school is doing, or know someone who is, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for people who are committed to improving the educational outcomes for all our students.

Effective councils have a broad range of experience, skills and expertise. Face-to-face and online training is also available to help councillors develop the skills and knowledge for the job. Parents find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of connection to our great school.

Nominations close on Friday 7th March at 4pm. A Nomination form is enclosed in this issue of the newsletter, or alternatively, are available from the school office.

Participating as a School Council member is a rewarding and challenging experience. The School Council supports us to provide the best possible educational outcomes for our great students. More information is available by following the link below:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/school-council-powers-and-functions/policy>

Absences – Sick OR Extended Holiday

If your child is going to be absent, please record the date(s) and reason through Compass.

If you don't have access to Compass, please call the office on 5991 3600 so we can help get you set up. If your family is taking an extended holiday (longer than 5 days), parents should contact the office.

Regards

Michael Smethurst

Principal

michael.smethurst@education.vic.gov.au

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

2025

24th February

Student Free Day

25th February

Reading Information Night

(Prep to Grade 2)

25th February

Free Hot Lunch Day

Harvest Festival

26th February

Grade 5 Mediation

27th February

Grade 6 Mediation

28th February

Division Swimming

MARCH

2025

10th March

Labour Day Public Holiday

12th—24th March

Grade 3 & 5 Naplan

27th March

House Athletics

APRIL

2025

4th April

Last Day of Term 1
(2.30pm Finish)

21st April

Easter Monday
Public Holiday

22nd April

Term 2 Starts

25th April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

30th April—2nd May

Grade 3 –6 Camp
The Summit



POOWONG
CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL



Bus Travellers

This week, bus travellers at PCS were reminded of how important it is to travel safely on our buses.

- Get on and off bus quietly & calmly
- Make sure your bag is under your seat
- Put your seatbelt on
- Sit quietly & calmly in your seat
- Be considerate and kind to others
- Listen to the bus captain and driver



Poowong OSHC

COME AND JOIN US AT POOWONG OSHC

The hours we have on offer are 7am-9am and 3:30pm-6pm

We have a lot of smiling faces when we are completing group and individual activities!

This week in Before School Care we have 'danced it out' to some of our favourite songs to ensure we have smiling faces to start our day. In After School Care we have looked at BUBBLES, this included blowing bubbles and making bubble paintings! Come past and have a look at the amazing paintings hung on the window at the library! We also painted our own mugs to take home for someone special!

If you have any questions about how to enrol, please feel free to come and ask away!

Can not wait to see some more smiling faces!



Get to know our staff...

EAST FIVE
?

with Mr Smethurst



Favourite food – Chicken Parma

Favourite sport – All sports but if I had to say one, AFL

Favourite weekend activity – playing golf

Favourite movie/tv show – Blindsight

Favourite thing about being a Principal – Seeing students and staff learn to believe in themselves.

Student of the week



TERM 1—WEEK 2 AWARDS

Back Row L to R: Neveah, Hugo and Liv.

Front Row L to R: Darcy, Axton and Paige

TERM 1—WEEK 2 AWARDS

Back Row L to R: Jennifer, Lucas and Elijah.

Front Row L to R: Levi, Leila and Baylen.



Form 3: self-nomination form for parent member category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name

Residential Address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

Statement	Yes <i>(Mark with an x)</i>	No <i>(Mark with an x)</i>
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school.		

I am prepared to serve as a parent member of the above-named school council. I hereby declare that:

- I am not and have not been insolvent under administration within the last three years
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of Candidate

Date:	
--------------	--

You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on: 56592356
--

*If you choose not to give some, or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.
If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.*