PCS Bulletin

Poowong Consolidated School Issue 12: Friday 7th August 2026

Principal Report

Dear Poowong Consolidated School Community,

The Importance of Regular School Attendance - Every Day Counts

At **PCS**, we prioritise regular school attendance. We will work with families to ensure students are in class with their peers and teachers and enjoying all the benefits that brings.

Attending school every day means experiencing what counts – the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape your child's future.

We understand that there are times when your child will need to miss school but to ensure minimal disruption to their education, please consider scheduling family holidays or medical/dental appointments outside of school hours. If your child is well enough to attend but is worried about friendships, schoolwork or exams, please encourage them to come to school. Avoiding school can make these feelings worse and can create a negative pattern of absence that can become harder to overcome.

If your child is having difficulty attending school, please talk to their teacher or school leadership about getting support.

We know that parents and carers can be juggling challenges daily to get your children to school. If your child must miss school, please notify us as soon as possible via the ***Compass app*** so we can work together to support them.

Remember, **Every Day Counts.**

TERM 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Average
Week 1	96	92	93	93	86	92
Week 2	91	88	88	86	91	88.8
Week 3	85	72	86	90	84	83.4
Week 4	80	86	84			83.33333333

Emergency Management Procedures

All schools are required to have an emergency management plan which includes a variety of processes for handling an emergency. These vary greatly depending on the type of emergency and can include evacuation offsite, evacuation onsite, lockdown and a shelter-in-place. We have a practice emergency drill each term to analyse our processes and ensure they are as efficient as they can be. Students have the process explained to them and are supported by the staff throughout the process. Our next scheduled drill will be the lockdown drill on Thursday 20th August.

Principal Report continued.....

No Entry to School Staff Car Park

For the safety of everyone in our community, the school staff car park is for staff only. The only exception is for drivers with a valid disability permit.

Personal mobile phone/smart watch use

In accordance with the Department's Mobile Phones — Student Use Policy issued by the Minister for Education, personal mobile phones must not be used by students at Poowong Consolidated School during school hours, including lunchtime and recess, unless an exception has been granted. Student mobile phones must be handed into the office at the beginning of the day where they will be stored securely until home time.

For the purpose of this policy, "mobile phone" refers to mobile phones and any device that may connect to or have a similar functionality to a mobile phone such as smart watches. Please refer to the link below.

https://poowongcs.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Mobile-Phones-Policy-1.pdf

Foundation Enrolments for 2027

We are welcoming families to tour our school for Foundation enrolments for 2027. This year, our school uses the Department of Education's secure digital enrolment system called VicStudents. This means you can submit your Foundation (Prep) application online and receive updates through the system. Visit https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/ and sign in with a Service Victoria account to complete the online application form. If you have any questions about the online enrolment process, please contact our school office.

If you know of any families who have a child starting foundation in 2027, please encourage them to book in for a tour: https://poowongcs.vic.edu.au/enrolment/

Regards
Michael Smethurst
Principal
michael.smethurst@education.vic.gov.au

Principal's Day

HAPPY PRINCIPAL'S DAY

Australian Primary Principals Day is celebrated on Friday, August 7, 2026, honoring school leaders for their dedication, mentorship, and community building.

We would like to thank Mr Smethurst for the guidance, leadership and support he shows our school and wider community.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST 2026

17th—21st August
Book Week

19th August
RACE Incursion

21st August
Book Week Costume Day

25th August
District Athletics

28th August
District Basketball

SEPTEMBER 2026

2nd September
Kinder Excursion

9th September
Grade 6 Night of Notables

11th September
Division Athletics

14th September
Footy Day

16th to 18th September
Grade 6 KSC Transition Days

18th September
End of Term 3
(2.30pm finish)

OCTOBER 2026

5th October
Term 4 Starts

12th and 13th October
Dental Van visit

16th October
Prep Transition Session 1

29th October
Grade 1 Dinner
Grade 2 Sleepover

30th October
Grade 2 Activity Day
Prep Transition Session 2

Student of the Week Awards

TERM 2—WEEK 10 AWARDS

L to R: Shyla, Jenni, Grade 1/2, Sam and Paige.

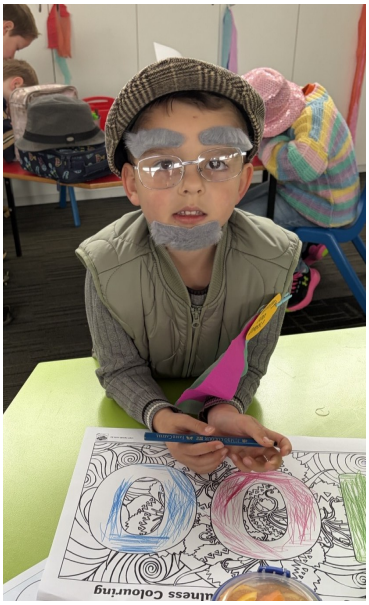
100 Day of School

Last Friday, Prep to Grade 2 celebrated 100 days of School.

Students were given the opportunity to come dressed in a costume that represented 100. There were so many fantastic costumes.

The students enjoyed a morning of fun activities and engage in a small parade in the shed.

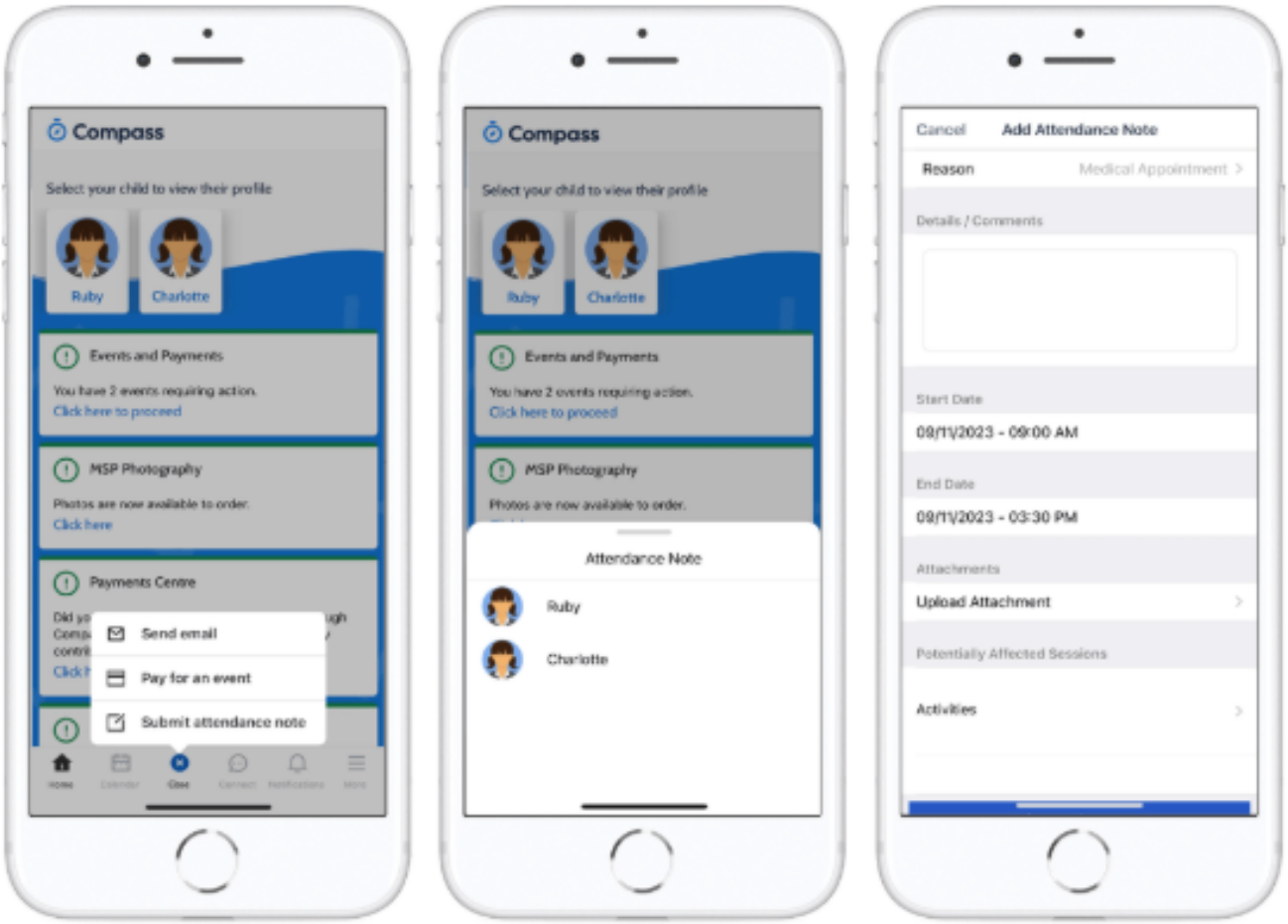
HAPPY 100 DAYS of SCHOOL!



Entering an Attendance Note

Using the Compass App

1. From the homepage, click on the blue shortcuts button from the bottom taskbar
2. Click on 'Submit Attendance Note'

- Select the reason
- Enter a brief description of the absence
- Select the start and finish time
- Click the 'Save' button

Where possible, attendance notes should be entered prior to the absence occurring.