

NARELLAN VALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome to our last newsletter for Term 3 and as we know, it has been a very different term as we adapt to, 'Learning from Home'. Once again, thank you for your continued support in ensuring you are helping us to keep the students and staff safe by keeping your children at home wherever possible and minimising the numbers on site.

The NSW Department of Health and the NSW Department of Education's message remains strong. You are strongly encouraged to keep your children at home to engage in home learning. There have been recent increases in the number of cases in our local area and in an effort to be prepared for any positive cases, we seek your support in ensuring your email address is the most current and still in operation. You will receive an SMS from NVPS asking you to send back your current email. We thank you in advance for your prompt action.

The school Leadership team are currently developing a plan for a safe return to school which will be communicated early next term. No cohorts or classes are being asked to return to school at least until 25th October. When students do return to school, they are able to wear a face mask and there will be further guidance on wearing masks although this is optional for primary school children. All staff will wear masks at all times.

Last week, NVPS recognised the valuable work our School Support and Administrative Staff (SASS) do on a daily basis, as it was SASS Week across all NSW Schools. All of our Office staff, School Learning Support Officers, CLO Community Liaison Officer, Technical Support Officers and General Assistant play a vital role in ensuring NVPS is a great school-THANK YOU!

Have you been worried about your child's use of the computer and cyber safety? NVPS have registered to engage in Cyber safety lessons called Cyber Marvels. There are also many links and programs you may find helpful around this topic.

Please take some time out to rest, reflect and reset with your family over the school holidays. Enjoy the beautiful Spring weather and most importantly STAY SAFE!

Kind regards Michelle Sarjana PRINCIPAL





The recent General Assistant vacancy selection process was conducted and we are pleased to announce the successful applicant was Craig Hasler who is now appointed to this position on a permanent basis. Mr Hasler has been filling this position

in a temporary capacity. Congratulations Craig!

Our school went through the Uniform Shop tender process and we are pleased to confirm that our current supplier Ranier have once again been the successful tenderer. The Uniform Shop will be upgraded in the coming months and we look forward to enhanced procedures. Congratulations Ranier.

SCHOOL UPGRADES

In previous newsletters I have communicated the upgrades that were planned for NVPS. The cabling upgrade is near completion and we expect it to be finalised at the end of this week. This upgrade is long overdue, and we can't wait to have all classrooms and offices operating at a much faster speed with seamless connectivity!

The School Canteen upgrade begins in the holidays and should be completed in six weeks. We are very excited about this upgrade too. We are hoping that when school returns later in Term 4 that our canteen will be back in operation!

CHANGE OF DETAILS



If you are moving out of the area and do not intend to have your child at NVPS in 2022, please let us know as soon as possible.

TELL THEM FROM ME



A reminder that the Tell Them from Me Survey is open and in the final weeks. Please help us by completing the survey. A copy of the link will be sent via Skoolbag. Students in Years 4,5 and 6 are also asked to complete the survey and we ask that the responses are their own. All of this data helps us with our planning and future directions.

NAPLAN



NAPLAN Years 3 and 5
Assessments were
conducted in May this year
and the results have arrived.
We will be mailing out the

envelopes to parents/carers this week. Should you have any questions about your child's NAPLAN results, please make contact with your child's teacher.

THANK YOU



Thank you to the P&C under the leadership of the P&C President Mrs Sharyn Brooks for their recent initiative, 'Random Acts of Kindness'.

Parents are able to nominate families and a random generator chooses one family a week to receive a voucher to help them out. The random generator and selection is captured on video and is a fair process. Thank you for reaching out to our school community at this time of need.

2022 ENROLMENTS

We are beginning to plan for our staff and classes next year so if you have a child who has turned 5 or will be



turning 5 before the 30th June, 2022 and are ready to start school, then please complete an online enrolment form or contact our school office on 46475291 for help.

Getting started with parental controls in social media, games and apps



Many social media sites, games and apps now come with parental controls. The eSafety Guide has advice on safety features that can be useful for parents and carers, including how to use the settings to protect personal information and report online abuse.

Here are some examples of the parental control features included in popular social media, games and apps.

Roblox

Roblox is a game creation platform that allows users to design games, play together and chat. Using built-in parental controls, parents can manage the way their children use the game. These features include a 'restricted' mode that prevents access to chat and inappropriate games.

Find out more about Roblox safety settings in The eSafety Guide or Roblox account restrictions.

TikTok

TikTok is a social media app for creating and sharing short videos. TikTok has a feature called Family Pairing that allows parents to link their Tik Tok account to their teen's account. Family pairing lets parents set controls like how much time their child spends on TikTok, the content they can see and their privacy settings.

Find out more about TikTok's safety settings in the The eSafety Guide or TikTok for parents.

YouTube Kids

YouTube Kids is a filtered version of YouTube. Parents can create a separate profile for each child in their household. YouTube Kids uses a mix of automated filters, human review and parent feedback to limit the content that kids can see on the platform. Parents can also manually approve videos for their kids to watch, block videos and set screen time limits.

Find out more about YouTube Kids in the The eSafety Guide or YouTube Kids.

Facebook Messenger for Kids

Messenger Kids is a free video calling and messaging app owned by Facebook. Parents can monitor their child's activity and control their contact list using a Parent Dashboard. Parents can sign up on behalf of their child, and it doesn't require the child to have Facebook account. Messenger Kids does not show advertising or offer in-app purchases.

Find out more about Facebook Messenger for Kids in The eSafety guide or Messenger Kids.

5 tips to keep your family safe online



Parents and carers can use a combination of strategies to help young people build their digital technology skills and have safer experiences online.

1. Start the chat

Get into the habit of talking about online safety as a family, so your child feels comfortable coming to you if they ever need help working out an issue. It's never too early to introduce good online habits such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience. As your child grows older, eSafety's advice about hard to have conversations will help with some of the tricky topics like sending nudes, online pornography and contact from sexual predators.

2. Create a family technology agreement

Creating a Family Technology Agreement can help you and your kids decide together when and how digital technology will be used at home. As a family, brainstorm easy-to-follow rules and display them where everyone will see them. Your agreement could cover things like: time limits, apps your kids are allowed to use and online behaviour. Families with younger children can download a template to guide the conversation.

3. Set up parental controls

Parental controls let you monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. It's best to use them in combination with the other online safety strategies listed here. Taming the technology can help you understand your options. Grab a device and get started with our guides to setting up parental controls on devices and accounts or in social media, games and apps.

4. Choose games and other apps together

Use eSafety's App checklist for parents to think about the positives and negatives when your child asks to download a new game or other app. The checklist covers things like age ratings, managing privacy settings and reporting abuse in-app. You can also use The eSafety guide to check and set up safety features with your child.

5. Use digital technology together

Exploring or playing on devices or online with your child can be a positive experience that promotes learning and development. Ask questions, be curious and get involved. To learn more, read our blogpost How to encourage good screen practices for your child.

App checklist for parents



Checklist

The aim of this checklist is to help you navigate the app world and give you the tools to ensure you and your family enjoy safe and positive online experiences.

Do your research

- The eSafety Guide is a good starting point.
- Other sources include <u>Common Sense Media</u> and <u>ConnectSafely</u>, which review the most popular apps.
- Search for recent reviews from Google Play and Apple Store.
- Discuss the benefits and risks with family or friends who use the app.

eSafety tip: Check whether the app can be used for content sharing, photo and video sharing, messaging and online chat, voice chat, video calling, live streaming, gaming, in-app purchasing, online relationships, location sharing and encryption.

Check the age rating and requirements

- Apps usually state a minimum age for users in their terms of use but they don't all have verification requirements.
- The eSafety Guide includes the stated age for many popular apps.
- Common Sense Media makes an independent assessment of provides age recommendations.
- Check the advice on the eSafety Parent page Are they old enough?

eSafety tip: When deciding if an app is suitable for your child, think about their level of maturity and judgement as well as the age recommendation.

- Consider privacy read the terms and conditions and ask yourself these questions:
- What information does the app request?
- · Does the app provide privacy protections?
- Can you restrict who sees your profile?
- · Who can find you in a search?
- · What information can people see about you?

eSafety tip: See the eSafety page <u>Connecting safely – Apps</u> for more advice. <u>The eSafety Guide</u> contains links to information about how to adjust privacy settings in popular apps.





Check the permissions and other settings – read the community guidelines and ask yourself these questions:

- · What permissions does the app request?
- What information the app collect?
- Does the app need microphone and/or video camera access to perform its functions?
- What are the default settings?
- Do you need to change default settings, initially and after each update?
- Does the app allow in-app purchases?

eSafety tip: See the eSafety Parents page <u>Taming the technology</u> for advice on using parental control and safe browsing tools.

Safety check

- Can you report things in the app? (For example: online abuse, impersonator accounts, offensive or illegal content).
- Is the in-app reporting process easy and clear?
- Are the in-app reporting options limited or can you report a wide range of safety concerns?

eSafety tip: Let you child know they can come to you for help if anything makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe and they won't be in trouble. You can help them <u>report serious online</u> <u>abuse</u> to the eSafety Commissioner.



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Getting started with parental controls on devices and accounts



Many digital devices and accounts now come with parental controls.

Here are some examples of the parental control features included in common devices and accounts.

Your home wi-fi network

Some wi-fi routers and accounts with internet service providers (ISPs) come with software that allows you to set up parental controls across your whole network. However, you don't always get as much control and monitoring as you get from the tailored software installed on each device. If you would like to learn more about controlling content using your wi-fi network, contact your ISP provider.

Apple devices

Apple allows parents to set up family sharing accounts. Family sharing enables parents to share purchased apps and manage their child's device. You can find out more about setting up parental controls at <u>Apple families</u>. The <u>Apple Support</u> YouTube channel has videos that provide step by step advice.

Follow these steps to get started:

- 1. In your settings, select your Apple ID and account info.
- 2. Go to family sharing and click on '+Add member' to add a new account for your child.
- Go to Screen Time settings to set limits on apps, block websites and restrict purchases – whenever you change this it will update on your child's device.
- **4.** On your child's device, activate the account.



Andriod devices

Google Family Link allows parents to use an app to manage their child's device. You can find out more at <u>families.google.com</u>.

Follow these steps to get started:

- 1. Set up an account for your child using your Google account.
- 2. Download the Family Link app to your phone or tablet.
- 3. Verify your child's account.
- **4.** Go to Digital Wellbeing and Parental Controls and use the settings to set limits on apps, schedule downtime and see what your child is doing online whenever you change this it will update on your child's device.
- 5. On your child's device, activate the account using the passcode or by pairing their device to yours.

Wearables

Wearable technology such as iWatches, Fitbits and Virtual Reality headsets can be fun and provide benefits such as being portable. Some of these new technologies have parental control options that limit use to specific times, schedule downtime or hide your child's location from others. It's worth looking at the options available before buying any wearables.

Find out about staying safe while using wearables and other new technologies in the eSafety Gift Guide.



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