

Altona Primary School Newsletter

AUGUST 2025: TERM 3 WEEK 4



Principal's Report

What a fabulous few weeks we have had at APS. A highlight has been seeing our Prep cohort celebrate their 100th day of school. This is always a great milestone to recognise for both our learners and their parents/carers. The rest of the term is set to be busy, so please make sure you take note of important dates ahead.

NAPLAN RESULTS

Earlier this term, NAPLAN results were released. We are incredibly proud of our students' performance and their commitment to aspiring to achieve their best across each of the tests. Our school continues to see a HIGH level of performance across all assessments, out performing similar schools, network schools and state averages across all of the assessments. The percentages of students demonstrating a proficiency of 'exceeding' has increased from 2024 results, with our Grade 3 performance being well above averages of similar schools. A credit to our staff who ensure that learners are extended at their point of need across all curriculum areas. A snapshot of our data appears later in the newsletter.

BUSINESS MANAGER – Welcome Amy

This week we have welcomed Amy Hayes to our staff. Amy will be working as our new Business Manager as part of our administration team. We currently have Kim Fortune as our Acting Business Manager and she will provide continued support to Amy over the next two weeks.

DUE DATES/DEADLINES for SCHOOL EVENTS

Staff who have administrative duties to plan events are working within a timeline with the due dates in mind. We give as much notice as possible and plan accordingly for the administration that follows. This often involves submitting numbers, actioning payments, creating schedules and planning for students. It is imperative that if a due date is set, consent or payment is attended to by that date as we will not accept this after that time and children will then unfortunately not be accounted for as attending the event. If you are experiencing any difficulty attending to an event or paying for this on time, please get in touch with the school prior to the due date so that we are aware of this.

Dates to Remember

11th – 15th August

Science Week

Bullying No Way week

12th August

Prep Excursion

Grade 1 Excursion

13th August

Divisional Athletics

18th – 22nd August

Book Week

18th August

Book Week Dress Up Day and
Parade @ 9am

20–22nd August

Grade 4 Camp

28th of August

Time Capsule display

2nd September

11th September

2026 Prep Early Transition

19th September

Last Day of Term 3

2.30 dismissal

6th October

Term 4 commences

3rd November

Curriculum Day – no students
attend school

See our whole school calendar
on our website for all dates

We acknowledge the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of the land.

We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

We are grateful for the land that we live, learn and play on every day.



www.altonaps.vic.edu.au



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is essential to support every child's learning and wellbeing. Attending school every day means experiencing what counts – the learning, friendship, fun and opportunities that can shape your child's future.

So far this year (semester 1), students at APS have missed on average 15 days of school. This equates to four school terms (1 whole year) over their primary schooling. This disruption to their education may have an impact on their outcomes and connections to their peers.

Of course we understand that there are times when your child will need to miss school due to illness, however if your child can be at school, they should be at school. If your child is having difficulty attending school, talk to their teacher or a member of our leadership team about getting support.

For more information about the importance of everyday attendance, see [Attendance and Missing School](#).

Remember, EVERY DAY COUNTS!

COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

Our teachers strive to provide our students and families with the best possible support, both in and out of the classroom. However, due to the demands of teaching and other school responsibilities, they may not always be able to respond to your emails and inquiries immediately. Teachers have incredibly busy schedules and are often not accessible by email during the day. When they are teaching, they are unable to check emails and when they are not teaching, they are often in meetings and attending to other duties. Teachers are also legislated to have the 'right to disconnect', so are not expected to be reading and responding to emails outside of their work hours, including the weekends.

Please understand that while teachers will read emails in time, they are not be able to respond immediately. If there is information that needs to be known within a specific time, particularly during the school day, please contact the office or chat with your teacher at drop off or pick up if you are able to.

Below are some common communications teachers have been receiving that will be better directed elsewhere:

- Information around **attendance can be put directly into Compass** as an explained absence. The teacher does not need to be emailed separately about this.
- Information around **changes to pick up arrangements can be communicated through the office** and teachers will be made aware.
- **Medical information should be communicated through the office** and teachers will be made aware of this.
- Following up about **lost items should be through the office** as this is where lost property is located.
- Information about **wellbeing needs can be communicated face to face with the teacher at drop off, or alternatively through the Principal team**. If a more lengthy discussion is needed, we can arrange a meeting time.

If you wanted to communicate with your teacher to advise them about how your child is presenting at school in the morning, please try to speak to them at drop off, or you can call the office before school and they will relay this information, or connect you with the teacher if they are available. Emailing this information through is still something you can do, but please be aware that teachers may not have the chance to read that prior to school beginning that day.

Rest assured that every message is important, and staff will get back to you as soon as they can. Your understanding with this will ensure our team are able to remain focused on delivering the highest quality learning experience for your child.



VICTORIAN TEACHING AND LEARNING MODEL

In our last newsletter, information was shared about the new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model (VTLM) and the work we are undertaking at APS to align our practices to this model. A recent publication from the Academy of Teaching and Learning provides parents with further information about this and appears further in our newsletter.

ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FUNDRAISER

You may recall we had an out of uniform day on the last day of term 2. This was initiated by our student voice leaders, with a gold coin donation to raise funds for their charity of choice. With great pride, our voice leaders and community raised \$600 which we have donated to the RCH.

COLOUR RUN IS COMING

Keep your eyes peeled for future communications... the COLOUR RUN is coming, early in Term 4!!

I extend my thanks to our community for a great start to Term 3. If you have any feedback or concerns at any stage, don't hesitate to arrange a time to meet with either myself or an Assistant Principal and as always, please feel free to come over for a chat at drop off or pick up.

Sarah

Student Voice LEADERS

PM – Connor
PH – Tami
PR – Audrey
PS – Tyler
IT – Jordan
ID – Isha
IC – Marlee
2W – Sienna
2B – Oakley
2R – Lexi



34G – Natalia
34S – Max
34F – Coen
34C – Willis
34P – Jake
34B – Aaron
5V – Alistair
5M – Archer
5H – Michael
6M – Levyn
6L – Kunal
6A – Mira

Congratulations to our Semester 2 Student Voice Leaders who were announced at our assembly last week and presented with their badges by our Semester 1 Voice Leaders.

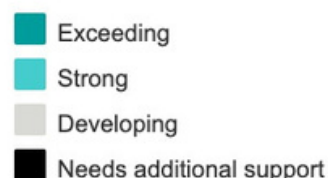
Across the school there were a number of students in each grade who expressed interest in this position. It is great to see the commitment our learners have to supporting our school improvement and representing their peers.



ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL NAPLAN PERFORMANCE 2025

We are very proud to share our NAPLAN results.

Below are the percentages of student performance across each of the proficiencies: Exceeding, Strong, Developing or Needs additional support. Across all tests we have a large percentage of students with proficiency levels of Exceeding or Strong which is indicated in orange.



YEAR 3 PERFORMANCE

Domain	Your School		State
Reading	91%	9% 38% 53%	71%
Writing	97%	70% 27%	80%
Numeracy	97%	62% 35%	67%
Spelling	84%	15% 52% 32%	64%
Grammar and Punctuation	87%	13% 53% 34%	58%

YEAR 5 PERFORMANCE

Domain	Your School		State
Reading	89%	9% 48% 41%	75%
Writing	86%	13% 60% 25%	73%
Numeracy	85%	15% 57% 28%	70%
Spelling	84%	12% 63% 21%	69%
Grammar and Punctuation	78%	20% 51% 27%	65%

Percentage of students achieving a proficiency of Exceeding or Strong

	GRADE 3				GRADE 5			
	APS	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State	APS	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State
Reading	91%	83%	75	71%	89%	87%	81%	75%
Writing	97%	89%	82%	80%	86%	82%	81%	73%
Numeracy	97%	81%	72%	67%	85%	82%	76%	70%
Spelling	84%	71%	70%	64%	84%	76%	77%	69%
G & P	87%	71%	65%	58%	78%	79%	72%	65%

Percentage of students achieving a proficiency of Exceeding

	GRADE 3				GRADE 5			
	APS	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State	APS	Similar Schools	Network Schools	State
Reading	53%	34%	31%	24%	41%	32%	28%	13%
Writing	27%	11%	14%	9%	25%	15%	19%	15%
Numeracy	35%	20%	22%	14%	28%	19%	23%	

There is no comparative data for Spelling and Grammar-Punctuation in the Exceeding proficiency.

Similar schools are schools from across Melbourne that have a similar socio-economic demographic and enrolment size to ours. Network schools are those within the Hobsons Bay network.



Altona Primary School Time Capsule Display

Did You or Your Child Attend Altona Primary School in 1999?

You might have written a letter that was sealed in a time capsule, safely stored away for 25 years!

The capsule has now been opened and its contents will be on display!



Join us for a special event celebrating the
Opening of the Altona Primary School Time Capsule

Altona Primary School

Thursday, August 28th – 2:15pm

Staffroom (1999 Grade 6 Classroom) – Afternoon Tea Provided



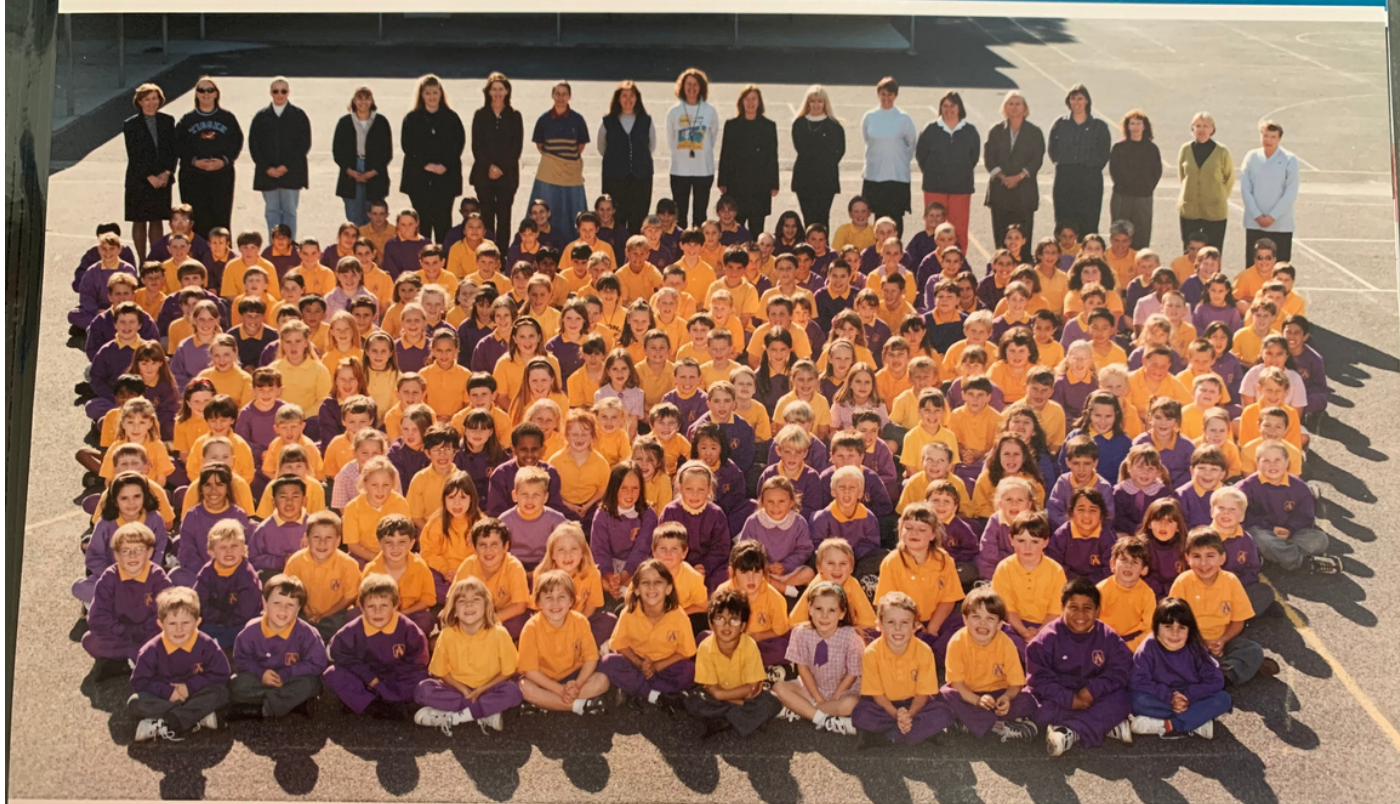
To assist with setting up please **R.S.V.P.** School Office - 9398 - 2925 or
email: altona.ps@education.vic.gov.au

The time capsule was originally entombed at the **100 Steps of Federation, Altona Meadows**, alongside many others from local Hobsons Bay schools. It has now returned home to Altona Primary and we're inviting past students, families, and staff to come and take a look back in time.



Letters, drawings and memories from 1999 will be on display, come and see if yours is among them!
We'd love to see you there! - Enter and sign in via school office - Blyth Street.

ALTONA PRIMARY SCHOOL



CLASSIC STUDIOS VICTORIA. (03) 9670 8374



STUDENTS & STAFF - 1999





SPORT UPDATE

FROM MR FAVA
HOBSON'S BAY DIVISIONAL FINALS

Boys Soccer Team

Last week our boys competed in the Hobsons Bay Divisional round. They played three games at Barnstoneworth United Football Club. They lost the first game to Saltwater Primary 1 -0 but regrouped and won the next two, 4-3 against Seabrook PS and 3-0 against St Marys Altona PS. Well done to the team and coach Mr Mac for finishing 2nd place overall. I know the boys loved the experience.



AFL Girls Team

Last week our girls AFL team competed in the Hobsons Bay Divisional Round. With two teams unable to play, our girls played a sudden death match against Saltwater P-9. Our girls came out on fire and had a good lead at half time. Saltwater in the second half rallied to make it close but our girls responded late to win 58 to 30. Congratulations to our girls' team and coach Mr Jim for becoming Hobson's Bay Divisional Champions. They will now progress to the regional round in early August. Exciting times for this great group of girls and the school. We wish you all the best going forward.

VALUES AWARDS



WEEKS 2 & 3



Every day counts

Attending school every day means experiencing what counts - the learning, friendships, fun and opportunities that can shape their future.

Helping every child succeed: VTLM 2.0

The new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model (VTLM) 2.0 enhances the work of teachers, and the changes will help every child succeed on their learning journey.



Why are things changing?

Schools are updating their teaching practices to align with the best evidence about how students learn.

The VTLM 2.0 is based on years of research and experience about the most effective teaching strategies.

The new model focuses on 2 components

Elements of learning

Elements of teaching

Elements of learning: how students learn

The elements of learning are based on research into how the brain learns:

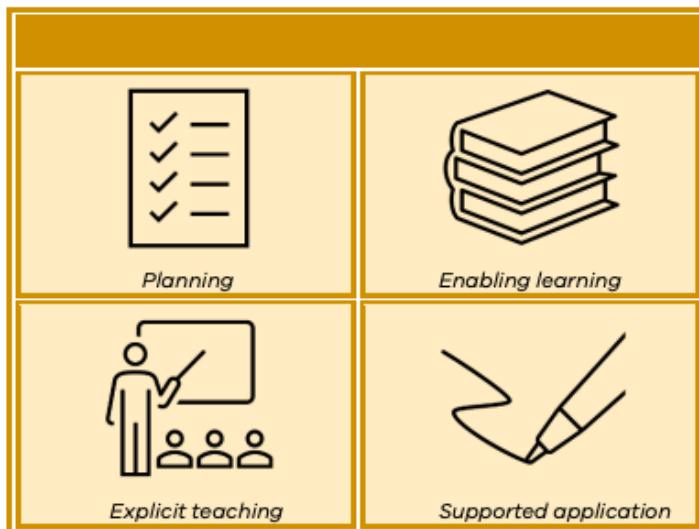
1. **Attention and focus** – learning starts when students are engaged and focused. Teachers create environments that reduce distractions and help students pay attention.
2. **Knowledge and memory** – new learning builds on what we already know. Teachers help students remember previous lessons and link them to new ideas.
3. **Retention and recall** – practice makes permanent, but only when done correctly. Teachers use strategies like spacing, quizzing, and revisiting key concepts to help students remember more over time.
4. **Mastery and application** – students learn best when they can apply knowledge in real-world ways. Teachers ask open-ended questions, problem solving, and peer collaboration to help students apply learning.

Learn more:

[Victorian teaching and learning information for parents and carers](#)



Elements of teaching: how teachers teach



Schools are focusing on step-by-step or explicit teaching and apply this approach to help students understand, use and remember what they learn.

This means teachers generally start each lesson by clearly explaining what students will learn and why it matters. They break content into smaller steps and actively check for understanding.

Students then practice what they have learnt using different ways over time. This helps them retain information in the long term and apply it with confidence.

How can families support their children's learning?

Schools are investing in proven strategies that support all learners. As a parent or carer, you can play a key role by asking some questions at home.

10 Questions to ask your child about their learning:

- 1 What was a learning goal in class today?
- 2 Can you explain it to me in your own words?
- 3 What helped you understand it better?
- 4 What examples were shared with the class?
- 5 What's one mistake you fixed today?
- 6 How did you practice what you learned?
- 7 How would you explain your learning to others?
- 8 What did you review or remember from earlier lessons?
- 9 How do you know if you're getting better at something?
- 10 What's a question you still have about today's learning?

The Academy is grateful to Parents Victoria for their expert advice in producing this guide.

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Choose a Main Course item, then select 1 or 2 Items from the Snack/Drink Menu to make up a 2 or 3 Course Lunch Pack

Main Course Menu

BAKERY All items freshly baked this morning!

	2 Course Lunch	3 Course Lunch
Cheese and Vegemite Scroll (M)	\$6.45	\$8.95
Savoury Bite 'Little Frank' Roll	\$6.45	\$8.95
Topped with Only Cheese Roll (M)	\$6.45	\$8.95
Cheese and Bacon Roll	\$7.45	\$9.95
Scroll with Ham and Cheese	\$9.95	\$12.85
Frankfurt 'in a blanket' with Sauce & Cheese (2)	\$10.95	\$13.65

PIZZA / SAUSAGE ROLLS / GOZLEME / PASTIZZI / QUESADILLA / PUFF PARCEL SERVED AT ROOM TEMPI

Ricotta & Spinach Pastizzi (2) (M)	\$7.45	\$9.95
Margherita Pizza TWIST (M)	\$8.95	\$11.45
Sausage Roll with Sauce	\$8.95	\$11.45
Margherita PITA Pizza (M)	\$8.95	\$11.45
Quesadilla (Chicken) served with Sour Cream (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65
Tandoori Chicken Puff Parcel with Mango Chutney (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65
Ham & Pineapple Pizza Slice	\$10.95	\$13.65
BBQ Chicken Pizza (H)	\$10.95	\$13.65
Lamb and Beef Gozleme (H)	\$13.45	\$15.45
Mushroom and Spinach Gozleme (Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45
Spinach and Cheese Gozleme (M)	\$13.45	\$15.45

SUSHI HAND ROLLS (2pc) Soy Sauce (GF) Provided

Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Crispy Chicken (Schnitzel) Hand Rolls (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (GF)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Avocado Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Cucumber Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Vegetarian Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Tofu Hand Rolls (GF, V)	\$11.50	\$13.75

RICE PAPER ROLLS (2pc) (Wed, Thu, Fri)

Chicken Rice Paper Rolls (GF, H)	\$13.45	\$15.45
Vegetarian Rice Paper Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45

SANDWICHES / ROLLS / WRAPS / SOFT SHELL TACOS

Strawberry Jam Sandwich (1.5) (Vg)	\$7.45	\$9.95
Vegemite Sandwich (2) (Vg)	\$8.95	\$11.45
Soft Shell Chicken Taco with Salsa, Cheese & Salad (2)	\$9.95	\$12.85
Plain Cheese Sandwich (2) (M)	\$9.95	\$12.85
Cheese and Salad Roll (M)	\$10.95	\$13.65
Wholegrain Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65
Roast Chicken and Salad Roll (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Roast Beef, Chutney, Cheese & Lettuce Roll	\$11.50	\$13.75
Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Mild Salami and Salad Roll	\$11.50	\$13.75
Wrap with Chicken, Tzatziki, Lettuce, Tomato & Cucumber (H)	\$12.75	\$14.95

SALADS / PICNIC BOXES / POKE BOWLS

Fresh Fruit Salad - Main Course Size (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Ham Picnic Box (GF)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Vegetarian Picnic Box (GF, V)	\$11.50	\$13.75
Greek Style Salad with Feta and Olives (GF, V)	\$12.75	\$14.95
Poke Bowl with Teriyaki Chicken (H)	\$13.45	\$15.45

GF SANDWICHES & WRAPS

GF Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65
GF Cucumber & Ham Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65
GF Wrap - Ham and Salad	\$12.75	\$14.95

Snack/Drink Menu

FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES

Apple pieces, Lemon juice, Cinnamon & Brown Sugar	+\$1.00
Cantaloupe and Honeydew Pieces	+\$1.00
Fresh Fruit Combo	+\$1.00
Freshly Chopped Orange Segments	Included
Freshly Chopped Watermelon Pieces	Included
Whole Fruit - Apple	Included
Whole Fruit - Banana	Included
Whole Fruit - Mandarin	Included
Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum	Included
Celery and Carrot Sticks with Sultanas	Included
Cherry Tomatoes, Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers	Included
Corn Wheels & Lightly Steamed Broccoli	Included
Edamame (Lightly Salted)	Included
Sugar Snap Peas, Beans and Cherry Tomatoes	+\$1.00

BAKERY - SWEET

Choc Chip Cookie	Included
Finger Bun with Sprinkles	Included
Lamington	Included
"Not Cross" Bun	Included
Cinnamon Doughnut	Included
Cornflake Cookie	Included
Choc Cup Cake (GF/DF/Vg)	+\$1.00
Blueberry Muffin	+\$1.00
Jam Drop Biscuit (GF)	+\$1.00
Carrot Cup Cake (GF/DF/Vg)	+\$1.00

SUSHI

1pc Tuna Sushi (GF)	+\$1.00
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POPCORN / HARVEST SNAPS

Popcorn - Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted	Included
Popcorn - Lightly Salted	Included
Harvest Snaps (GF/DF/Vg)	Included

DRIED FRUIT

Dried Fruit Medley with Yoghurt Sultanas	+\$1.00
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DIPS WITH MINI RICE CAKES / CORN CHIPS

Tzatziki Dip with Mini Rice Cakes	+\$1.00
Spring Onion Dip with Mini Rice Cakes	+\$1.00
Spicy Capsicum Dip with Mini Rice Cakes	+\$1.00
Avocado Dip with Mini Rice Cakes	+\$1.00
Corn Chips with Salsa (GF)	+\$1.00

YOGHURTS / BOWLS

Strawberry Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers)	+\$1.00
Classic Vanilla Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers)	+\$1.00
Chia Bowl with Banana, Coconut & Strawberries	+\$1.00
Stewed Rhubarb and Apple with Custard	+\$1.00

DRINKS

Apple Juice (Nippy's)	Included
Orange Juice (Nippy's)	Included
Chocolate Milk (Nippy's)	Included
Strawberry Milk (Nippy's)	Included
Full Cream Milk	Included



ORDER NOW

GF = Gluten Free, DF= Dairy Free, H= Halal, V= Vegetarian, Vg= Vegan

Descriptions, dietary and allergen information available on our website.

www.classroomcuisine.com.au