This year we are looking forward to working with our 2015 School Captains—Isaac B (Deputy Captain), Holly B (School Captain), Riley C (School Captain), Grace M (Deputy Captain).

School Fees and Levies
Notices were sent home last week for contributions by way of school fees and levies. It is through these contributions we are able to purchase learning materials as basic as books and pens and as complex as ipads. **All monies are carefully managed and wisely invested in providing high quality learning for your children.** Please show your support of our work by contributing in this way. By comparison our school fees and levies are considerably lower than local schools and only a fraction of metropolitan schools. (Please have correct money when paying cash at the office)

**Student Free days 2015**
January 28 – Teachers commence work
TBA—Student-led conferences
August 4 – Professional Learning Day
December 18 – Last day of the year
School Diaries
This year we have introduced Newtown Primary School diaries. These diaries will streamline communications between home and school. The foldback clip is a vital part of this new initiative. Notes and newsletters will be clipped into the diary to ensure all communications arrive home safely. Return notes should also be clipped into the diary.

Bunnings BBQ—Fundraiser
Newtown Primary School will hold a ‘Sausage Sizzle BBQ’ at Bunnings North Geelong on Sunday, March 1 from 8am—4pm. This is a great way to raise additional funds for our school from outside our immediate community.
Are you able to help out before the day, ordering and collecting meat and bread?
Are you able to help out on that day?
A roster will be available in next week’s newsletter. We will need about 4 people for each 2 hour shift.

The Arts
I’d like to take the time to introduce myself to the Newtown Primary School community. I am very excited to be joining the team at Newtown Primary School. I have already had the pleasure of meeting all of the students who have been very welcoming and I look forward to exploring Visual and Performing Arts with them throughout the year.
If you have a particular skill or talent in the Visual or Performing Arts area, I would love for you to come and introduce yourself and have a chat about how we can share your skills within our school community and enhance the learning for our students. I will be at school all day every Tuesday, Wednesday and in the mornings each Friday.
Can I please ask that students, particularly in the Junior grades, bring an art smock to school. An old t-shirt or shirt would do. I prefer not to send students home with paint on their new school uniforms as this can be avoided by wearing an art smock.
Looking forward to seeing you in the school yard and having a chat
Thank you, Alisha Sadowy

Parenting Ideas Magazine
Follow the link to Parenting Ideas Magazine www.parentingideas.com.au/Parents/Parenting-Magazine

EMA:
From 1 January 2015, the government will provide extra financial support directly to Victoria’s neediest schools instead of providing the Education Maintenance Allowance directly to parents.
Parents will not be able to apply for the Education Maintenance Allowance in 2015.
The money will be allocated to eligible schools through schools’ core operational funding mechanism, with the neediest schools receiving the most funding. Not all schools will be receiving funding in 2015.
This change to how the money is distributed was required by the funding agreement with Commonwealth government to make sure Victorian schools receive increased funding that will benefit all students and, in particular, those from schools with concentrated disadvantage.
Birthday Treats
We often get requests for students to share treats for birthdays. **We do not encourage the sharing of food** as families have varying ideas about food preferences and we also have many students with food allergies.
If you do wish to share a treat, consider options other than food, such as a sticker.

2015 Bellarine and North Geelong Divisions Primary School Swimming Championships
Entries are being called for students interested in competing in the swimming competition to be held at Kardinia Aquatic Centre on Friday, March 6.
Entry forms are available at the office and need to be returned to Ms Hay no later than Monday, February 16.

Canteen news!
Zebra Foods has arrived!!
**Who?** Two foodie school Mums...one a Nutritionist.
**What?** Lots of yummy food made on-site.
**When?** Starting Friday 13th February 2015, operating each Friday during term time.
**Where?** Newtown PS’s clean and sparkling, newly relicensed canteen.
**Why?** We love to prepare and share great tasting, real food.
**How?** Menu and order forms are attached to newsletter. Extra order forms available from the office.
Place correct money and completed order form in a sealed envelope and deliver to office by Wednesday 9am SHARP.
**No late orders can be accepted.**
Line up and pay for delicious home-made food at snack break and after school.

Uniforms—take home book satchels
Beleza has introduced a new ‘take home book satchels’. The satchels, bearing the school logo, is a sturdy addition to our uniform. Bags will be used by students right through primary school. Bags will be available at the end of the month.

K-ROCK visits Newtown Primary School
Last Thursday K-ROCK visited our school to capture the spirit of the first day at school. Follow the link below to hear young Jack tell why he is looking forward to coming to school. Thanks to Jack, Leo, Nellie and Ms Smith for participating in this opportunity to celebrate all the great things about school!
https://soundcloud.com/michelle-tucker-12/jack-newtown

**HELPER NEEDED:** We are in need of a parent to help out at the uniform shop each Thursday morning. Please let us know at the office if you can assist us.

**RUGBY WINDCHEATERS SALE—HALF PRICE AT $15!!**

Breakthrough Music is now taking enrolments for Term 1. Please call Louise on 0412 712 701.
Uniform

School uniform is compulsory at Newtown Primary School and consists of:

Polo Shirt Pale or navy blue with or without collar and logo (also available in house colours).
Windcheater Navy only. Hooded or crew with or without logo.
Trackpants To be trackpant style (made of fleecy knit, cord, cotton drill - navy).
Hat Wide brimmed navy or pale blue compulsory in Term 1 & 4
Bomber jacket Available from school.
Kilt Pleated kilt. A bib can now be purchased to suit.
Socks To be pale or navy blue, white or grey.
Backpack Navy, two pocket with or without logo.
Tights Navy.
Shoes Strong shoes, no thongs.
Shorts Navy.
Dress Navy/white gingham check.
Hair Shoulder length hair to be tied back with blue or white ties. This applies to both boys and girls.

A current list of items for sale is available at the office. Uniform sales are available on Thursdays only from 8.50-9am. Please call at office if you are unsure of where to go.

Please note:
- The wearing of thongs, open-toe sandals and tank tops is not permitted
- All clothing should be clearly named
- It is not safe to wear earrings at school
If a t-shirt is worn under the school polo, please ensure that they are blue or white in colour.