



JOHN MONASH  
SCIENCE SCHOOL

# Primary School Outreach

## 2026 Handbook



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# Primary School Outreach in 2026

## What is JMSS Primary School Outreach?

As one of our flagship initiatives, JMSS Primary School Outreach is dedicated to expanding the reach of our specialised STEM education to younger students in the Metro Melbourne area. JMSS students provide mentorship to primary-aged students, teaching them a variety of concepts from science, maths and digital technology.

## Who is it for?

This initiative is designed for high-ability students in Grades 5 and 6, who have a strong interest in STEM subjects, from state primary schools across the Metro Melbourne area.

*(Participating schools should consider priority cohorts, such as indigenous students, disadvantaged students, and girls, etc.)*

## When does it run?

There are six programs to choose from throughout the year. Each includes four 90-minute sessions, which run from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm on Wednesdays.

*(see timetable below for dates)*

## What subjects are offered?

In 2026, there will be three subjects running in each program:

- two *Little Scientists* (class 1 & class 2)
- two *Mini Mathematicians* (class 1 & class 2)
- one *Spike Prime-ARY* (class 1)

**'Little Scientists'** explores topics such as the physics of flight, the pH of household goods, and cells, adaptation and anatomy. Meanwhile, our **'Mini Mathematicians'** tackle math through hands-on problem-solving games, puzzles, and kinetic challenges. Finally, our all-new robotics **'Spike Prime-ARY'** subject uses Lego robotic kits to engage students in coding through fun and exciting challenges.

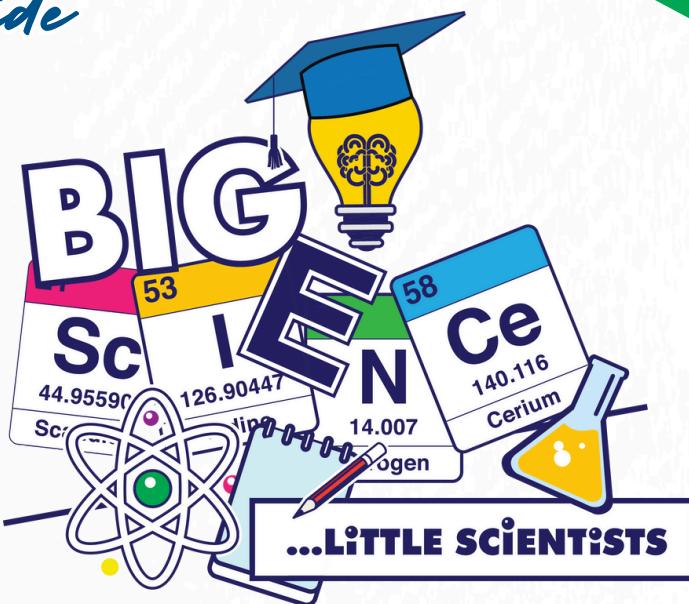
*(See pages 4-5 for further subject details)*

# 2026 Subject Guide

## 'Little Scientists

Pairs our students with groups from primary schools as they work through experiments and content ranging from biology to nanotechnology.

Students will explore different fields of science and take part in a variety of fun experiments;



Physics – Students will look at flight, build paper planes, and craft an egg parachute.

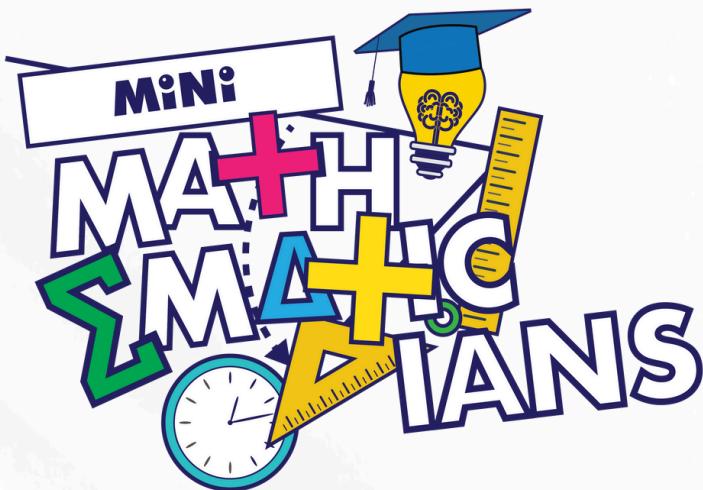
Chemistry – Students will investigate the properties of acids and bases, explore the pH scale, and create indicators to identify the pH of different substances.

Biology – Students will observe cells under a microscope, identify similarities and differences in the adaptations of animals, and explore links between anatomy and engineering by making a robot hand.

Exploring science – is thinking about what are some sciences that are within our everyday life. Student will have fun creating bubbles and combining it with food and materials science. Time to get messy!

Students undertaking Little Scientists are also tasked with conducting their own research project post-program and are given the **opportunity to present** their findings alongside JMSS students at one of our School Science Exhibition Nights.

# Subjects on offer in 2026



## Mini Mathematicians

The content for Mini Maths was revised and delivered in 2025.

It pairs JMSS students with groups from primary schools as they work on hands-on, problem-solving games, puzzles, and kinetic challenges, all with a healthy dose of mathematics!

## Spike Prime-ARY

**\*\*NEW robotics subject in 2026\*\***

Spike Prime-ARY was designed as a precursor to the *Robocup Australia Maze Rescue Challenge*.



In this challenge, primary students are to build and code a fully autonomous robot that needs to be sent into the hazardous maze to locate victims so that the humans know where they are.

Spike Prime-ARY uses the LEGO Spike Prime robotics platform to teach coding and problem-solving skills to students.

JMSS students will work alongside primary school students to introduce foundational skills, combining LEGO with simple electronic components and an easy-to-use coding language based on Scratch.

Over the four sessions, the skills increase in complexity, introducing more advanced hardware such as sensors, and more advanced coding challenges, requiring teamwork, creativity and out-of-the-box thinking.

# 2026 PG Outreach Timetable

Program 1	Session	Term, Week	Program 2	Session	Term, Week
11 Feb 26	1	1,3	11 Mar 26	1	1,7
18 Feb 26	2	1,4	18 Mar 26	2	1,8
25 Feb 26	3	1,5	25 Mar 26	3	1,9
4 Mar 26	4	1,6	1 Apr 26	4	1,10

Program 1	Session	Term, Week	Program 2	Session	Term, Week
22 Apr 26	1	2,1	15 Jul 26	1	3,1
29 Apr 26	2	2,2	22 Jul 26	2	3,2
6 May 26	3	2,3	29 Jul 26	3	3,3
13 May 26	4	2,4	5 Aug 26	4	3,4

Program 1	Session	Term, Week	Program 2	Session	Term, Week
12 Aug 26	1	3,5	9 Sept 26	1	3,9
19 Aug 26	2	3,6	16 Sept 26	2	3,10
26 Aug 2026	3	3,7	7 Oct 26	3	4,1
2 Sept 26	4	3,8	14 Oct 26	4	4,2

# 2026 Logistics

## Apply to participate

The application form for the 2026 initiative is now open to all state primary schools. Schools must **complete the application form** and **nominate a liaison teacher**, who will be responsible for liaising with the JMSS primary school outreach team.



Scan the QR code to apply

## Accept your offer

If you have received an offer for program 1 or 2 you must submit your acceptance, **in writing** by **5/12/2025**, to secure your place. For those offered places in program 3-6, acceptance will be required in 2026 (final dates for each program TBC).

*(Liaison Teacher will also be required to attend an online briefing before your students can participate – further information on page 8)*

## Select your students

Each school will select a maximum of **four** students per group.

The names of these students must be submitted as part of our new JMSS PS outreach **enrolment form**, along with **two emergency contacts** from the School.

# Logistics information



20 November 2025

**Application** forms due for program 1 and 2 participation



24 November 2025

Program 1 and 2 **offers** sent out to schools from JMSS



5 December 2025

Program 1 and 2 **enrolment** form due back to JMSS



Term 1, Week 6, 2026

Program 3 application close



Term 2, Week 6, 2026

Program 4 application close



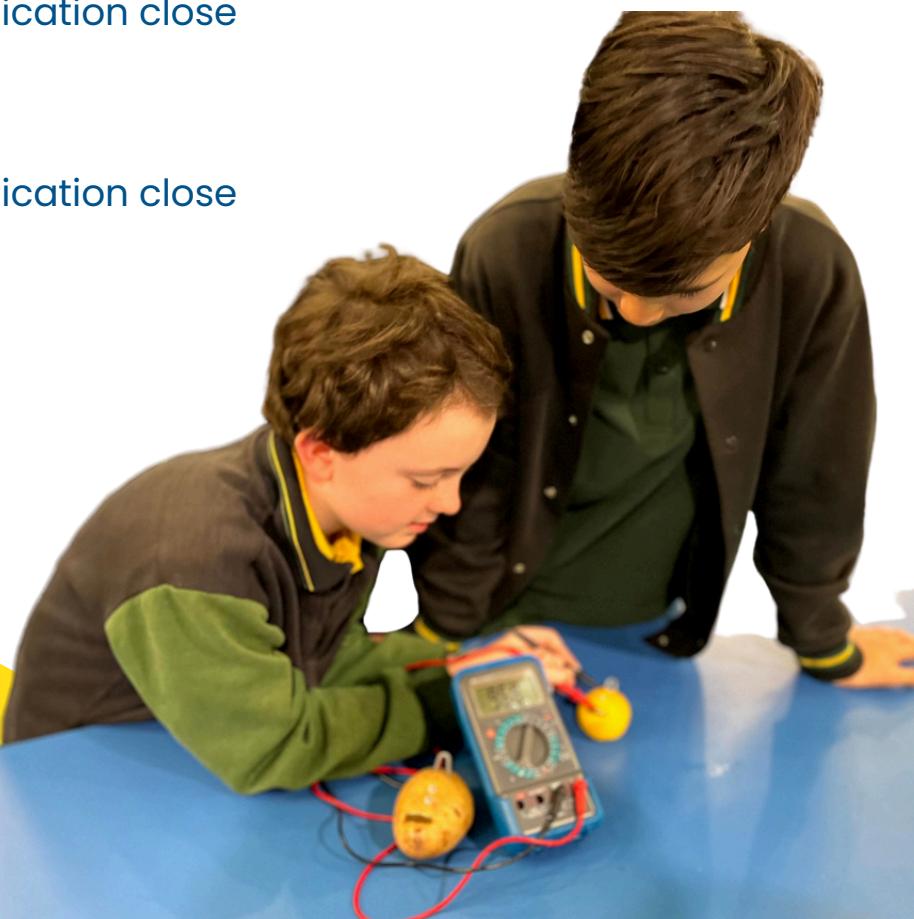
Term 2, Week 9, 2026

Program 5 and 6 application close



Term 3, Week 4, 2026

Program 5 and 6 application close



# *School roles and responsibilities*

## **Role of the liaison teacher**

The liaison teacher is responsible for communicating with the JMSS outreach coordinator during the program, regarding any of the following:

- accessibility requirements
- absences
- inform JMSS of students wishing to opt out of photography and filming
- assist Little Scientists in their post-program research
- RSVP your Science Fair attendance (for Little Scientists)
- feedback (a short survey will be emailed at the end of each program)

The liaison teacher will coordinate the travel to/from JMSS, and will select and appropriately brief ALL WWCC-certified chaperones who must accompany each group during the program (i.e teachers, ES staff, parents, guardians).

**The PS liaison MUST also attend an online  
briefing session before participation in any  
JMSS Primary School Outreach programs.**

# School roles and responsibilities

## Role of the on-the-day chaperones

Each school must have **at least one teacher in attendance** per session. Schools with multiple groups attending a session can send additional chaperones with **valid WWCCs** (e.g. a staff member, a parent, etc.) to supervise additional groups, instead of additional teachers.

Teachers/chaperones must provide **active supervision** of their students at all times while onsite. Where schools have more than one group of students participating (i.e. 4 students in Mini Maths, and 4 students in Little Scientists), there must be at least one teacher/chaperone present in each room.



# *School roles and responsibilities*

## **Role of the on-the-day chaperones continued...**

Each Wednesday, school should aim to have all their students and their supervisors (teachers and chaperones) arrive between 1:00 pm to 1:15 pm after parking.

Upon arrival, teachers and chaperones must;

- Sign in at the Compass kiosk
  - Must have **WWCC card** on hand
- Provide the JMSS Outreach Coordinator with their name and mobile phone number (in case of emergency)
- Ensure that all their students:
  - Are marked present at the PS Outreach desk
  - Receive a class badge from the Outreach Coordinator
- Actively supervise their students in the waiting room before session

During each session, teachers and chaperones will join their students in their classroom. Finally, at 3:00 pm, before departing from JMSS, **teachers/chaperones must ensure that their students are all accounted for** and have transport back to their school/home.

## **Duty of Care**

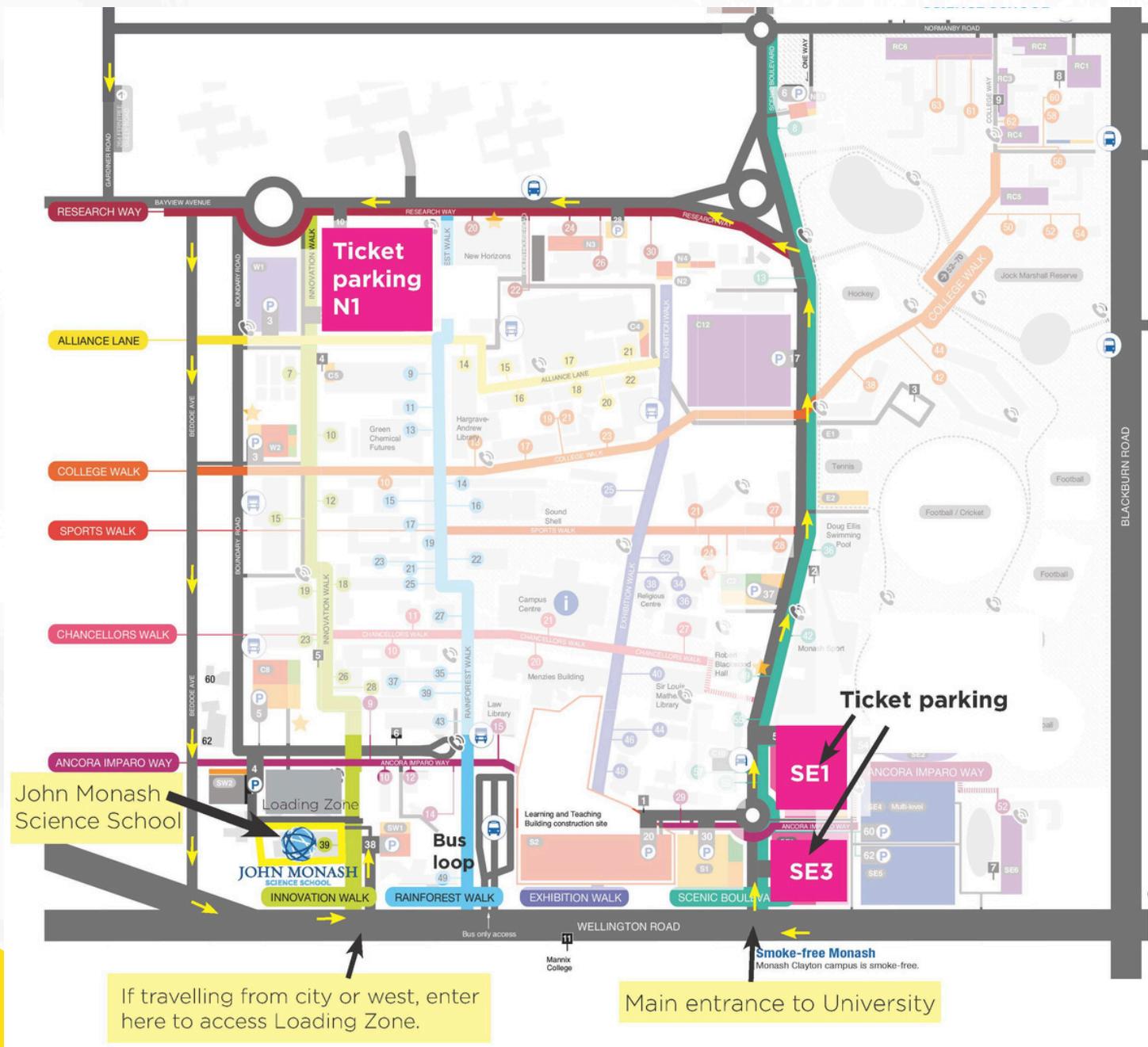
Schools remain responsible for their students while at JMSS, and the teachers/chaperones present on the day are expected to supervise and intervene regarding safety and behaviour concerns of their students. Please treat your allocated program as you would any other excursion.

# Parking

While there is NO parking onsite at JMSS, there are multiple options for you and your groups to use.

**Option 1 – Use the paid Monash University Visitor Parking**, shown in pink in the image below. Pay via the **CelloPark** app. (approx. \$4/hr)

- Full details can be found on the [Monash Uni parking webpage](#).



# Parking continued...

**Option 2 – Utilise free parking (see image below) offsite at either**

- the **Monash Uniting Church**
- **public parking lot** behind the Glenbrook Ave shops (Princes Hwy service Rd/Glenbrook Ave)



**Option 3 – Schools travelling via **mini bus** can park in front of JMSS **upon request** – must be booked before arrival each week to secure a spot**

