

The West Express

Warrnambool West Primary School

'WWPS is a Child Safe school'



On behalf of Warrnambool West Primary School, we would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which this school is built, and we recognise their connection to the land and community. We respect the stories, traditions, and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We respect the Elders past, present and emerging on this land, as we continue our learning journey together.

HARMONY week IN 5/6G

This week in 5/6G, we have been celebrating and recognising Harmony Week. Harmony Week is a special time in Australia where we celebrate the many different cultures that make up our country. It is about bringing people together, learning from one another, and making sure everyone feels welcome, respected, and valued.



NO MATTER WHERE WE COME FROM, WE ALL BELONG.



35 Hoddle Street Warrnambool 3280 Ph: (03) 5561 3161

Email: warrnambool.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au Web: warrnamboolwestps.vic.edu.au

SAILING TOWARDS SUCCESS



From the Principal

Ms Karen Holdsworth

Dear families,

It was wonderful to see our school community come together yesterday for our Athletics Day, held at Brauerander Park. A new venue for Warrnambool West brought with it a sense of excitement, fresh energy, and the opportunity for new achievements across all year levels.

Days like these highlight the strength of our community, students supporting one another, staff working collaboratively, and families joining us to celebrate participation, effort, and success. There was a real sense of connection and pride, with students embracing challenges and experiencing both accomplishment and joy throughout the day. It was a fantastic day out, and one that reflects the values of our school, community, connection, and celebrating every student's success.

A sincere thank you to Mr Fitz for making this event a reality for our students. The planning, organisation, and dedication that went into the day ensured everything ran smoothly and provided such a positive experience for all involved.

Thank you also to our families who assisted and supported throughout the day, and to our staff who committed themselves fully to each event. Your teamwork and enthusiasm made the day truly special.

This week we proudly celebrate **Harmony Week**, recognising the values of unity, inclusion, and freedom that sit at the very heart of our school community. It is a time to reflect on the richness of our diverse backgrounds and the importance of belonging for every student and family. At our

school, these are not just words, they are lived every day through the way we learn, connect, and support one another.

We also acknowledge our students' efforts in **NAPLAN** this week. Following an unexpected interruption to the Year 5 writing assessment on the first day, our students demonstrated remarkable resilience. They approached the situation with calmness and maturity, returning the following day ready to refocus and do their best.

This is a true credit to our teachers, whose consistent support and preparation have built both the skills and confidence of our students. I would also like to acknowledge our Learning Community 1 staff, who have played a significant role in laying the foundations of our students' learning journey. Together, this collective effort ensures our students are well prepared, not only for assessments, but for life beyond the classroom.

I would like to remind families that our school grounds, including playgrounds and outdoor spaces, are not open for public access outside of school hours, including weekends. The safety and care of our environment is very important to us. Our school is monitored by CCTV, and unfortunately, recent footage has shown instances of individuals not treating our facilities with respect. This has resulted in some damage to our grounds over the past few weeks.

We ask for your support in speaking with your child about not accessing the school site outside of school hours and reinforcing the importance of respecting our shared spaces. Maintaining a safe, clean, and welcoming environment is a responsibility we all share as a community. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing support.

A reminder to all families that **head lice** can be an ongoing issue in school settings. We ask that you regularly check your child's hair and take prompt

action if lice or eggs are detected.

In line with Department of Education Victoria guidelines, students do not need to be excluded from school if head lice are found, but treatment should begin immediately. This includes using an appropriate treatment product and continuing with regular combing to remove eggs.

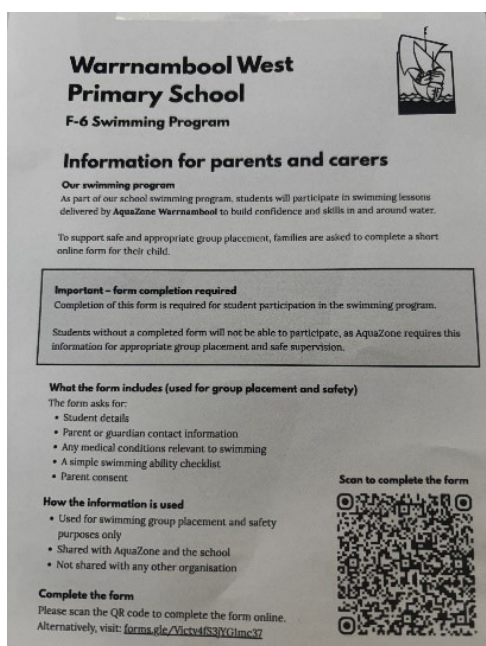
We appreciate your support in managing this across our community by:

- Checking your child's hair regularly
- Treating promptly if lice are detected

Tying back long hair where possible

Working together helps minimise the spread and ensures all students remain comfortable and ready to learn. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Over the next two weeks, our Years 3–6 students will be participating in the **school swimming program**, with our Foundation–Year 2 students scheduled to take part next term. To support this program, please ensure you scan the QR code provided to complete the swimming ability form. This is not a consent form, but a requirement that provides instructors with important information about your child's current swimming level. It is a legal requirement for participation in school swimming programs.



Warrnambool West Primary School
F-6 Swimming Program

Information for parents and carers

Our swimming program
As part of our school swimming program, students will participate in swimming lessons delivered by AquaZone Warrnambool to build confidence and skills in and around water.

To support safe and appropriate group placement, families are asked to complete a short online form for their child.

Important – form completion required
Completion of this form is required for student participation in the swimming program.

Students without a completed form will not be able to participate, as AquaZone requires this information for appropriate group placement and safe supervision.

What the form includes (used for group placement and safety)
The form asks for:

- Student details
- Parent or guardian contact information
- Any medical conditions relevant to swimming
- A simple swimming ability checklist
- Parent consent

How the information is used

- Used for swimming group placement and safety purposes only
- Shared with AquaZone and the school
- Not shared with any other organisation

Complete the form
Please scan the QR code to complete the form online.
Alternatively, visit: forms.gle/Vicv4fSSWGlmc37

Scan to complete the form

A reminder that the Australian Education Union has scheduled industrial action on Tuesday 24 March.

Our school will remain open, and classes will continue with some minor adjustments to staffing. We remain committed to ensuring continuity of learning for our students, while also respecting the rights of our teachers. A parent letter will be distributed this week.

Please also note that Wednesday 25 March is a pupil-free day. Staff will be attending professional learning at Deakin University, focusing on mathematics. This is a valuable opportunity for our teachers to deepen their knowledge and continue delivering evidence-based, high-quality maths instruction for our students. Unfortunately, our school care program will not be available on this day, so we ask families to make alternative care arrangements.

Looking ahead to upcoming events:

- **This Friday:** Harmony Week celebration and Down Syndrome awareness dress-up day. Students are encouraged to wear orange and/or multicoloured socks, with a small donation appreciated.
- **Easter Hamper Raffle:** We are seeking donations (e.g. Easter eggs or small gifts) to help create our hampers. Raffle tickets have been distributed, and additional books are available from the office. Please return sold tickets and money promptly.

Hot Cross Bun orders: Please ensure all orders are returned by tomorrow, Friday 20th March. No late orders will be accepted. This is always a special treat for our students as we approach Easter.

Thank you for your ongoing support in making these events and opportunities possible for our students.

Kind regards,

Karen Holdsworth

From The Office

Easter Raffle Donations

We are seeking donations to help create our hampers for our annual Easter Raffle. Please drop any donations (Easter eggs, arts and craft activities, small gifts) at the office. We appreciate your help with this.

School Photos 2026

School photos for 2026 has been scheduled for Monday 30th March. Photos are available to order online through Compass. Alternatively, envelopes have been sent home for cash payments. Orders placed after 30th March will incur a \$20 late fee.

Family photo envelopes are available at the school office.

Grade 6 Jumpers

Class of 2026 jumpers have arrived at school. The cost of the jumper is \$62, this is now payable. Once payment has been received, students will receive their jumper. To discuss payment options or set up a payment plan, please contact Chelsea at the school office.

CSEF Applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps, and sporting activities. If you have a valid, means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card, or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$400 for eligible school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, forms are available from the front office.

Parent Payment Contributions

Parent Payment Contributions for 2026 will be \$290.00 per student. The ongoing financial support of our families ensures that we can provide the excellent range of resources and facilities for your child/children.

We are now receiving payments by bPay, Direct Deposit, CentrePay, Cash or Eftpos. Please call into the office to organise payment arrangements.

Asthma and Allergy Action Plans

If your child/children have asthma or allergies, we require an Action Plan to be completed annually. Copies of these forms are available at the office, these should be completed by doctors. This is important information to keep up to date in the case of an emergency.

Please also provide medication to the school with a completed Medication Authority Form for any allergies or Ventolin if your child has asthma.

Uniform Donations

If you have any pre-loved uniform that your child has grown out of, please feel free to bring it into the office. We always appreciate any uniform items donated to school.

BIG LIFE

Weeks 7 & 8: Body Cues for our Zones

This fortnight in Big Life we are talking about how the different Zones feel in our bodies. Our bodies gives us important clues about which emotions we are feeling, and these clues can help us notice and manage our tricky feelings.

Possible Blue Zone Signals:
Heavy limbs
Slow heartbeat
Foggy Head

Possible Green Zone Signals:
Relaxed Muscles
Steady breathing

Possible Yellow Zone Signals:
Warm body
Quick heartbeat
Butterflies in tummy

Possible Red Zone Signals:
Heart Racing
Tense muscles
Sweating

Talking with your child about these body signals helps them recognize their emotions and develop tools to manage them. Encourage your child to name what they feel and where they feel it - this builds emotional awareness and self-regulation skills.



Foundation students played a game about emotions

Big Life with Mel

On Wednesday of Week 7, Mel worked with small groups of F-2 students.



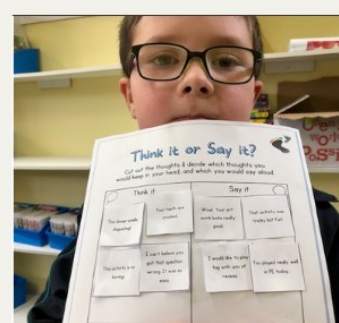
Grade 1 & 2 students discovered their strengths



Jerami & Evie spotted each other's strengths



One group talked about what makes them feel calm



Another group learned about the Social Filter.

Important Dates

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 8 16th - 20th March	NAPLAN 16	Glasses for Kids 17	Whole School Athletics Day 18	9:30 Toddle on Hoddle 19	Harmony Day Ride to School Day 2:45 Assembly 20
Week 9 23rd - 27th March	3-6 Swimming 23	3-6 Swimming School Photos 24	Staff PD - Pupil Free Day 25	Toddle on Hoddle 3-6 Swimming 26	3-6 Swimming 2:45 Assembly 27
Week 10	School Photos 3-6 Swimming 30	3-6 Swimming 31	3-6 Swimming 01	3-6 Swimming Dress Up Day Hot Cross Buns Last Day of Term 2:30pm dismissal 02	Good Friday Public Holiday 03
5th - 19th	School Holidays				
Week 1 20th - 24th April	20	21	22	23	24

Lunch Orders

Warrnambool West Primary School

LUNCH ORDER LIST 2026

Hot Food

Nibble Pie (GF available)	\$2.70
Half Sausage Roll (GF av)	\$2.70
Sausage Roll	\$4.50
Plain Pie	\$6.00
Steamed Dim Sim	\$1.60
GF Steamed Dim Sim	\$2.80
Chicken Nuggets	\$1.00
GF Chicken Nuggets	\$1.50

Sandwiches, Rolls & Toasties

Ham & Cheese Sandwich	\$5.90
Roll	\$6.80
Ham, Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$5.90
Roll	\$6.80
Chicken, Cheese & Mayo Sandwich	\$5.90
Roll	\$6.80
Chicken & Cheese Sandwich	\$5.90
Roll	\$6.80
Extra salads 50c each (Tomato, beetroot, carrot, cucumber, onion, avocado, cheese, lettuce)	

Snacks

Finger Bun	\$3.50
Mini Slice (hedgehog, jelly, caramel, lemon)	\$2.50
Gluten Free Slice (lemon, hedgehog, caramel, strawberry cheesecake)	\$3.50

GF sandwiches & wraps available for the same price as roll. Please note this on your order.

Please write child's full name, room number and order on paper bag. **Do not write orders on envelopes.**

Correct money must be included. **No change will be given.**

If you are placing your order at school, orders are due at 9am

If you are placing your order directly through Morriss Road Takeaway, orders must be placed by 9:15am

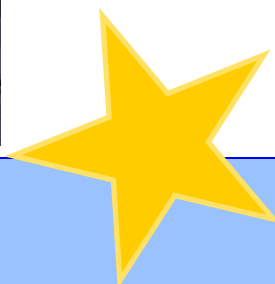
Late orders will not be accepted



SOTW - Week 6



Name	Class	Name	Class
Niana Escobia	1/2 - Mrs Mitchell	Kenzee Wickham	5/6 - Mr Symonds
Arnav Kandel	1/2 - Miss Evans and Ms McElgunn	Sophie Alexander	5/6 - Miss Grey
Enza Hurse	3/4 - Mrs White and Ms Bissett	Molly McColl, Katelynn Keay Camellia	Specialist - Mr Fitzgibbon Specialist - Ms Kavanagh



SOTW - Week 7

Name	Class	Name	Class
Heather Gemao	Found - Mrs Blake and Mrs Roberts	Sophie Nguyen	3/4 - Mrs White and Ms Bissett
Clark McKay	1/2 - Mrs Mitchell	Dawson Prescott	5/6 - Mr Symonds
Zephaniah Howell	1/2 - Miss Evans and Ms McElgunn	Mariam Mohamed	5/6 - Miss Grey
James Carreon	3/4 - Miss Hoy	Cooper Hurse, Mason Curtis Hunter Fields	Specialist - Mr Fitzgibbon Specialist - Ms Kavanagh





Warrnambool West Primary School

Warrnambool West Primary School and West Warrnambool Neighbourhood House are excited with the return of...

Toddle on Hoddle '26

Join us for lots of fun with friends! Tactile activities, art and craft, story time, sing-a-longs, play areas, special themes, dress ups and more!

Date	Theme	Date	Theme
5 th February	Summer 	5 th March	Farms - Chicks 
12 th February	 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	12 th March	Bugs 
19 th February	 pancake Day	19 th March	 HARMONY DAY
26 th February	Farms - Pigs 	26 th March	Neighbour Day 
		2 nd April End of Term party, dress up and bring some food to share!	 HAPPY EASTER

When: Thursday mornings 9.30-11am

Cost: \$0

Where: WWPS Multi-Purpose Room

Provided: Fruit platters for morning tea

Bring: Water bottles

We can't wait to see you! Renae and Jill 😊

**DONATIONS
REQUIRED FOR OUR**

Easter Raffle!

Warrnambool West PS need your help for our annual Easter Raffle.

Please donate an Easter Egg, Easter gift or an Easter toy for our hampers.

HAMPER PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN ON THE LAST DAY OF TERM 1 ASSEMBLY: THURSDAY APRIL 2ND

Raffle tickets will be sent home in the coming weeks.

HARMONY DAY AND DOWN SYNDROME DAY

AT WWPS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 20th 2026

Wear your brightest orange clothes and a pair of colourful socks to show your support for Harmony Day and World Down Syndrome Day!

Warrnambool West Primary School

Good Friday Dress up!

Thursday 2nd of April

On the last day of Term 1, come dressed up as something you LOVE.

It can be your hobby, favourite sport/movie character or even a family member!

On the day, could you please bring a gold coin donation for the Royal Childrens Hospital Good Friday Appeal. You can also scan this QR code to donate directly to the school's donation fund!

We are aiming to raise \$500 as a school community to this amazing cause.

HOT CROSS BUN DAY

hosted by Junior School Council

all proceeds going to the Good Friday Appeal

- fruit
- fruitless
- chocolate
- gluten free - fruit

When: THURSDAY 2nd April

\$2 EACH

Get your order in by Friday 20th March 2026

Picnic in the Park

A FREE community event celebrating Harmony & National Neighbour Day

Sunday 29th March : **Pecten Ave West Warrnambool** : **11am - 2pm**

fun kids activities
veggie burgers
sausage sizzle
coffee van
multicultural dance + dress
book swap + info stalls

Live music from:
lian husi timor
norman miller
dj e-man
lou & michael

siblings group

AGES 8 TO 12 YEARS

Siblings Group is an encouraging, friendly and fun filled environment providing a great way to make friends and develop connections with other siblings who have similar life experiences.

AIM OF THE GROUP

- To enhance understanding of disability
- To provide an opportunity for siblings to meet others in similar situations
- To build emotional wellbeing and resilience
- To improve family relationships by supporting siblings to understand their brother/sisters strengths and needs
- To develop coping strategies
- To support siblings to feel more positive, confident and empowered in their role as a sibling

ELIGIBILITY

- Children between 8 - 12 years of age, who have a sibling with a disability or chronic illness
- Children who are not the recipient of NDIS funding

For any enquiries, please contact the Mpower Intake team on (03) 5561 8111

71 Koroit St
Warrnambool 3280

03 5561 8111 | admin@mpower.org.au | mpower.org.au



Enhancing Abilities • Supporting Families • Strengthening Communities

FREE FAMILY FUN

UP & AWAY

Warrnambool Kite Day

SATURDAY 11 APRIL 2026
10AM - 2PM
JETTY FLAT RESERVE

- SEE THE COLOURFUL KITE DISPLAYS
- KITES AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE FOR \$10 OR BRING YOUR OWN KITE
- ALL DAY LIVE DJ
- COFFEE VAN
- BBQ AND OTHER FOOD OPTION AVAILABLE

WHATSON.WARRNAMBOOL.VIC.GOV.AU

We Want YOU in 2026

OCFNC are seeking players to join our U13.5 & U11 Teams

Both boys and girls are eligible to play in these competitions

ENQUIRIES TO SIMON DAWSON 0439 395 330