

# 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.



*From the Principal*

*Ms Karen Holdsworth*

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the 2026 school year! The beginning of a new year always brings a mix of excitement and nerves, alongside new friendships, new routines and new learning. One constant we can all rely on is the care, commitment and support our students receive each day from our wonderful staff.

I hope that the summer break was a time to recharge and connect for you all. Although the weather was not on our side for many weeks, I hope your time was spent exploring, having fun and being with loved ones. I loved seeing our staff return with high energy and stories from their well-deserved holiday period.

A very warm welcome to our new Foundation families joining us this year. We are delighted to have you as part of our school community. Please know that my door is always open for conversations, questions or information—no query is ever too small.

Compass and Seesaw are our two most important communication platforms for families at Warrnambool West PS. If you require any support accessing or using these apps, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school office or your child's classroom teacher as we are here to help.

Our thoughts are with the local communities impacted by the recent and ongoing bushfires across Victoria. We

extend our care and support to all affected school communities and acknowledge the efforts of the Victorian Department of Education in supporting schools during this time. If your family has been personally impacted, please reach out to our wellbeing team so we can offer support.

Below is a summary of key dates and upcoming events for Term 1. We encourage families to note these dates and reach out if you require any further information.

- After School Care – Kidsoft  
Kidsoft will be our one-stop shop for bookings, payments and information for After School Care. Registrations will go live in the coming days, with bookings opening very soon. A letter explaining the process has been sent home alongside this newsletter. As the platform continues to be established, families are more than welcome to contact the front office to book your child into the program from next Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February. Nicole McCorkindale (previously employed with TheirCare) will continue as the service's educator in 2026. Thank you for your patience during the preparation phase of this program. Please direct any further questions to me.
- Penny, our *Dogs Connect* wellbeing dog, will commence next week and will be onsite two days per week.
- Pip and Sheryl will return to school in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events and Programs:

- Geelong AFL Visit – Wednesday 4 February (Year 5/6 students)
- Dental Van – onsite from Monday 9 February

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Email: [warrnambool.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:warrnambool.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au) Web: [warrnamboolwestps.vic.edu.au](http://warrnamboolwestps.vic.edu.au)

SAILING TOWARDS SUCCESS

- Colour Run and Welcome BBQ – *Friday 13 February*, from 1.30pm (save the date – more details to follow)
- South West Academy of Sport Partnership – lunchtime sporting opportunities during *Week 5*, commencing Monday 23 February
- NAPLAN – Week 7 for Year 3 and 5 students, commencing Wednesday 11 March
- Glasses for Kids Program – onsite *17–18 March* for Foundation to Year 2 students
- School Photo Day – Tuesday 24 March
- Student Free Day – Wednesday 25 March (approved by School Council)

### Uniforms

It was fantastic to see our students proudly wear the school uniform this week! Seeing brand new black shoes, white or navy socks and brand new uniforms were highlights for me as I walked around the yard and in classrooms. This instils pride as a Warrnambool West student and not only represents the students as a united community, it also represents the value of education our families have. Black shoes are the expected colour for school, the brightly coloured sneakers are a great weekend item! Please label your children's clothing and hats as these often 'magically' disappear as the year goes on!

I maintain high expectations for our uniform so if you require any assistance in this area and you have a Health Care Card or similar, please reach out to me to assist with State School Relief support.

### Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection](#)

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy on the school website: [Policies](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Compass, Seesaw and the school's social media page safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

We look forward to a positive, connected and successful year ahead, working in partnership with you to support every child.

Have a great week,  
Karen Holdsworth





# 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 <sup>th</sup> February	Summer 	5 <sup>th</sup> March	Farms - Chicks 
12 <sup>th</sup> February	 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	12 <sup>th</sup> March	Bugs 
19 <sup>th</sup> February	 pancake Day	19 <sup>th</sup> March	 HARMONY DAY
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Farms - Pigs 	26 <sup>th</sup> March	Neighbour Day 
		2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 😊

# From The Office

## Lunch Orders 2026

We thank Morriss Road Takeaway for supplying our lunch orders in 2025. They will continue to supply our lunch orders this year. These will be available each Wednesday from February 4th 2026.

## 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 General Office to make payment arrangements.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 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.

**CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME**

**WARRNAMBOOL WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL IS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR THE CONTAINER DEPOSIT SCHEME!**

**THE SCHEME REWARDS VICORIANS WITH A 10 CENT REFUND FOR EVERY ELIGIBLE CAN, CARTON AND BOTTLE RETURNED.**

**FAMILIES / COMMUNITY MEMBERS CAN USE AND NOMINATE OUR SCHOOL WHEN DEPOSITING YOUR CONTAINERS!**

**SUBMIT YOUR CONTAINERS AT YOUR NEAREST COLLECTION POINT NOW TO BENEFIT OUR SCHOOL**

For further information, call the front office on 55613161