

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.

Student Led Indigenous Garden



Ngantanwar Warrnambool West community.

We are starting an Indigenous garden.

We think it's important for everyone to learn about how to care for things.

It's going to be a fantastic space for West students and we hope that it will last for years for everyone to enjoy.

We are looking forward to learning about all of the different plants and what they do. We are also looking forward to sharing our knowledge as the garden grows.

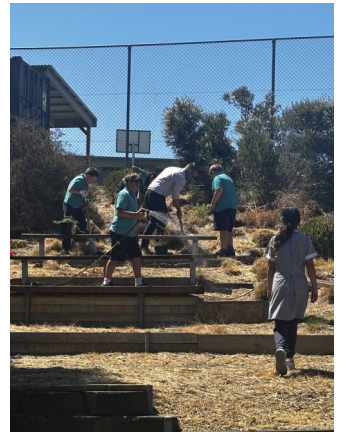
We will be learning about how our ancestors used these plants thousands of years ago and how we can use them as well. The knowledge being passed down is very important.

We look forward to sharing the garden with you moving forward.

Thank you,

Indigenous garden group.

Clay, Jackson, Khiza, Dawson, Harmony D, Harmony S, Lana, Ella, Tuurann, Madi, Matilda and Jay.



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

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



From the Principal

Ms Karen Holdsworth

Dear Families,

As we move further into the term, it is wonderful to see our classrooms settled, purposeful and filled with engaged learners. There is a strong sense of momentum across the school, with students applying themselves to their learning and demonstrating our shared values of respect, inclusion, safety and learning.

Our staff continue to focus on explicit teaching, clear routines and high expectations, ensuring every student feels supported and challenged to achieve and stretch. Learning is not just about academic growth, but also about developing confidence, resilience and positive relationships.

The connection between home and school is incredibly important, and together we create a community where every child feels safe, known and valued.

International Women's Day This week we acknowledge International Women's Day on Sunday March 8th, a time to recognise and celebrate the significant women in our lives and across the world.

International Women's Day honours females who represent strength, nurture, courage and leadership. It is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of respectful relationships, equity and inclusion within our community and beyond.

Thank you to Miss Grey and our student leaders who have encouraged our students to reflect on the inspiring women in our lives. Just as importantly, it is a reminder to our young people of the power of everyday actions towards women: treating relationships with others with respect, being kind, and supporting one another.

NAPLAN 2026 Next week, our Year 3 and Year 5 students will participate in **NAPLAN 2026**, completing assessments in Writing, Reading, Numeracy and Conventions of Language.

This is an opportunity for our students to apply the skills and knowledge they have been learning in their classrooms. We encourage all students to approach the assessments with a positive growth mindset — to believe in themselves, to try their best, and to see this as a chance to demonstrate their learning.

While NAPLAN provides a snapshot of a student's current knowledge and skill application at a particular point in time, it does not define a child as a learner or as an individual. Our students are far more than a single assessment. Their creativity, kindness,

resilience, curiosity and collaboration are equally important and highly valued within our school community.

We are proud of the effort our students show every day and know they will approach next week with focus and confidence.

Seesaw Reporting – Monitoring Progress Our Seesaw reporting platform continues to provide families with a mid-term snapshot of student progress, skill acquisition and achievement.

These samples and teacher comments offer a real-time reflection of your child's learning journey. It captures growth as it happens and provides insight into the knowledge, understanding and skills being developed across the curriculum.

We encourage you to take time to sit with your child and discuss their work samples. Asking them to explain their thinking, describe what they found challenging, and share what they are most proud of helps strengthen their understanding and confidence as learners.

School Council Membership – Join Our Team

We invite members of our community to consider joining School Council and becoming part of a team committed to supporting and strengthening our school.

School Council plays an important role in decision-making and in understanding the systematic processes that guide how our school operates. It provides an opportunity to contribute to governance, policy development and the strategic direction of the school.

Meeting once a month, School Council members work collaboratively to support school improvement and ensure the best possible outcomes for our students.

If you are interested in contributing your voice, skills and perspective to our school community, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the office for further information.

Your involvement makes a difference.

School Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 18th March

Our annual School Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 18th March at Brauerander Park.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to participate in athletic events at a high-class venue, experience healthy competition, and proudly represent their house colours.

Families are reminded to please provide consent via Compass notes to ensure your child can attend and participate on the day.

We warmly invite parents, families and carers to come along, cheer on your child, and celebrate the spirit and energy of our school community. We look forward to a fantastic day of participation, encouragement and house pride!

Harmony Week – Culture Connects Us All

Harmony Week is fast approaching, with this year's theme, "*Culture Connects Us All.*" It is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the rich diversity within our WWPS community.

This week, students have been engaging in learning experiences connected to Ramadan and Chinese New Year, building their understanding of cultural traditions, celebrations and the importance of inclusion. Through discussion, activities and shared learning, students have deepened their appreciation for the many backgrounds and stories that make up our school.

Our Junior School Council took the lead in classrooms, supporting activities and helping to highlight the significance of these important cultural events. Their leadership reflects our strong commitment to student voice and inclusive practices.

At WWPS, we are proud of our diverse community. Harmony Week reminds us that while we may come from many different cultures and traditions, we are united by shared values of respect, belonging and connection.

Student Congress

Our School Leaders will attend Student Congress on Friday 6th March alongside Miss Grey and Ms Holdsworth, representing our school with pride.

This valuable experience provides students with the opportunity to network with other young leaders, strengthen their leadership capabilities and deepen their understanding of what it means to be an effective advocate for their school community.

Through listening to keynote speakers and engaging in collaborative discussions, our leaders will explore the importance of student voice, respectful influence and leading with integrity. They will return inspired and motivated to continue making a positive impact within our school.

We are incredibly proud of the way our students continue to grow as confident, thoughtful and capable leaders.

Student Safety – School Grounds Outside of School Hours

The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our highest priority. In line with Victorian Department of Education policy, students are supervised during designated school hours only. There is no staff supervision on weekends, or during school holidays.

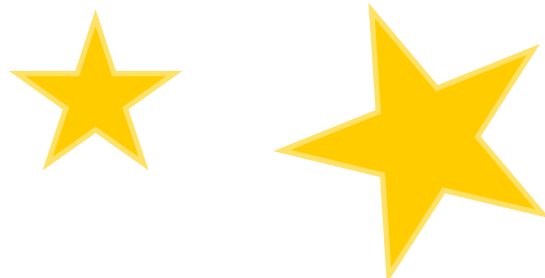
We have recently been made aware of students accessing school grounds on weekends. Unsupervised use of the school site can lead to unsafe or dangerous behaviours, placing young people at risk of injury and harm. Our playgrounds, equipment and facilities are not designed for unsupervised use.

We ask families to please speak with their children about not entering the school grounds outside of school hours. School expectations around safety, respect and responsible behaviour extend beyond the school day and into our wider community.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a safe environment for all.

Take care,

Karen Holdsworth





From the Assistant Principal

Building Number Fluency: A Foundation for Confident Learners

Across our classrooms this term, there has been a strong focus on developing **number fluency** — an essential skill that supports success in all areas of mathematics. Number fluency is more than just memorising facts; it is about students developing confidence, flexibility, and efficiency when working with numbers.

When students are fluent with numbers, they can quickly recall key facts, recognise patterns, and choose effective strategies to solve problems. This allows them to spend less time working out basic calculations and more time thinking deeply, reasoning, and applying their learning to real-world situations.

You may notice your child talking about strategies such as *making tens*, *partitioning numbers*, *skip counting*, or *using doubles*. These approaches help students understand how numbers work rather than relying solely on rote learning. Research shows that when students understand number relationships, their mathematical confidence and achievement grow significantly.

At school, teachers are supporting number fluency through short, regular practice opportunities embedded within daily maths lessons. Importantly, fluency development looks different across year levels — from recognising numbers and counting confidently in the early years to working flexibly with more complex operations and larger numbers in the upper primary years.

It has been a delight to be in classrooms while number fluency is being completed, as well as looking at how students are improving their skills!

Families can support number fluency at home in simple and enjoyable ways. Playing board games, cooking together, practising quick mental maths during car trips, or asking children to explain how they solved a problem all help strengthen understanding.

We are proud of the positive learning habits students are developing and the enthusiasm they are showing towards mathematics. Strong number fluency builds confident mathematicians — and confident learners for life.

Thank you for your continued support in your child’s learning journey.

Ms. Jodie Abbott

★ SOTW - Week 5 and 6 ★

Name	Name	Name	Name
Amira-Mae Borg	Clay Edwards	Calais Bowler	Jason Lin
Cooper Hurse	Mia O’Donnell	Khiza Silver	Mabel Chivers
Archie Parsons	Quinn Baje	Chevy Hurse	Jameka Fleming
Letisha Freeman	Harry Mitchell	Natalie Brown	Mason Curtis





This term we have been re-visiting zones of behaviour and building emotional literacy through describing the feelings and how to manage them in a way that builds character and strength.

School Value focus: **BE SAFE**

Big Life Focus: **The four Zones**

Learning intention: **I am learning to match different feelings to the zone/colour they belong in.**

To be successful:

- I can explain that-
 - lonely belongs in blue,
 - happy belongs in green,
 - frustrated belongs in yellow,
 - angry belongs in red.

Term 1
Weeks 5&6
Learning Community 1

Blue Zone

Green Zone

Yellow Zone

Red Zone

School Value focus: **BE SAFE**

Big Life Focus: **The four Zones**

Learning intention: **I am learning to name the colours of the 4 zones. I am learning to put myself in a zone.**

To be successful:

- I can say that the zones are blue, green, yellow, and red.
- I can use my namestick to put in the cup to show what zone I'm in.

Term 1
Weeks 5&6
Learning Community 1

What has been happening around the school.

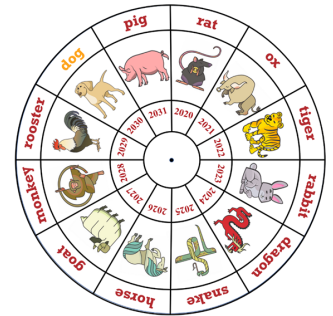
Clean Up Australia Day



Warrnambool West Primary School Clean Up last Friday was a great way to inspire our students to learn about the impact of litter on their local environment, while playing an active role in monitoring and cleaning up our school.

Chinese New Year

In 3/4WB, we have been celebrating and learning about the Chinese Lunar New Year. Each year in the lunar calendar is represented by a different animal, and 2026 is the Year of the Horse. Our school leaders visited our classroom to share a story with us, and we also designed traditional envelopes, which represent good luck and prosperity. We especially enjoyed hearing from classmates who celebrate Chinese Lunar New Year at home with their families and learning



Penny

Our wellbeing dog, Penny continues to make an impact across the school. Penny's wellbeing is just as important as our students' wellbeing. When she is on a break, Penny enjoys playing and chasing balls on the oval with Iluka and a friend. Being aware of Penny's health and her needs is a critical factor of the success WWPS has with Penny's presence.



Brauer College visit

Principal Sean Fitzpatrick brought two of our ex-students James and Sienna back to speak with the Year 6 cohort on Thursday. The two Year 7 students proudly spoke about adapting to secondary school routines, timetables, and new learning opportunities. Hearing the information via familiar faces is a fabulous way to ease some worried minds and also build excitement for the new year ahead.

Important Dates

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Week 5 23rd - 27th February	23	24	25	Toddle on Hoddle 26	27
Week 6 2nd - 6th March	02	03	04	Toddle on Hoddle 05	06 Student Leader Congress 2:45pm - Assembly
Week 7 9th - 13th March	09 Labour Day Public Holiday	10	11 NAPLAN Begins Foundation students begin full attendance	Toddle on Hoddle NAPLAN 12	13 NAPLAN 2:45pm - Assembly
Week 8 16th - 20th March	16 NAPLAN	17 Glasses for Kids	18 Whole School Athletics Day at Brauerander Park	Toddle on Hoddle 19	20 Harmony Day— and Down Syndrome Day Wear Orange today Ride 2 School Day Hot Cross Bun orders due
Week 9 23rd - 27th March	23 3-6 Swimming	24 3-6 Swimming School Photos	25 Staff PD - Pupil Free Day	Toddle on Hoddle 26 3-6 Swimming	27 3-6 Swimming

Lunch Orders

Warrnambool West Primary School

LUNCH ORDER LIST 2026

Hot Food		Sandwiches, Rolls & Toasties		Snacks	
Nibble Pie (GF available)	\$2.70	Ham & Cheese Sandwich	\$5.90	Finger Bun	\$3.50
Half Sausage Roll (GF av)	\$2.70	Roll	\$6.80	Mini Slice (hedgehog, jelly, caramel, lemon)	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$4.50	Ham, Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$5.90	Gluten Free Slice (lemon, hedgehog, caramel, strawberry cheesecake)	\$3.50
Plain Pie	\$6.00	Roll	\$6.80		
Steamed Dim Sim	\$1.60	Chicken, Cheese & Mayo Sandwich	\$5.90		
GF Steamed Dim Sim	\$2.80	Roll	\$6.80		
Chicken Nuggets	\$1.00	Chicken & Cheese Sandwich	\$5.90		
GF Chicken Nuggets	\$1.50	Roll	\$6.80		
		Extra salads 50c each (Tomato, beetroot, carrot, cucumber, onion, avocado, cheese, lettuce)			

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



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 😊

Fundraising



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.

Hot Cross Bun Day

hosted by Junior School Council

all proceeds going to the Good Friday Appeal



- ✓ fruit
- ✓ fruitless
- ✓ chocolate
- ✓ gluten free - fruit

\$2 EACH

When: THURSDAY 2nd April



Get your order in by Friday 20th March 2026



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 BUNS



all proceeds going to the Good Friday Appeal



THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Name: _____

Class: _____

	Price	Quantity
Fruit		
Fruitless		
Chocolate		
Gluten free - fruit		

Get your order and money in strictly by Friday 20th March 2026

Return this order form to the office by Friday
20th March





All year levels can enter!

WWPS SCHOOL MASCOT COMPETITION



Design a School Wide Positive Behaviour Mascot

What is a mascot?
A mascot is a person, animal or object chosen by a group to represent them (to be a sign or symbol for them). They can inspire and excite people!

- When designing the mascot, the design must include:
- Name
- Personality traits aligned to WWPS school values
- Catchphrase linked to expectations
- Story/background (why they belong at our school)

What makes a good mascot?
A mascot must be relatable and relevant to Warrnambool West PS. A mascot creates consistency, so our community immediately understand the connection.

Entries due Friday 27th March
Winning design drawn at end of Term assembly.

Designs to be drawn on A4 blank paper with the description of your mascot.



It's competition time! Warrnambool West PS is after a school mascot and we want our students to design it!

