

NEWSLETTER

31st October 2024

Principal's Report

World Teachers' Day was celebrated last week on Friday October 25th. This day provided an opportunity to say thank you and acknowledge the incredible contributions our teachers make to our community. On behalf of our school community, I would like to express gratitude for the commitment our teachers demonstrate toward our students through the programs they provide to build their knowledge, creativity, and resilience. Thank you for your work, patience, and support in providing optimum opportunities for our students.

Well done to everyone involved with our recent Year 4 camp to Woorabinda. The students enjoyed having the opportunity to decide and direct their activities on the second day. The weather was lovely allowing students to enjoy each activity in its entirety. On behalf of our students and parents, I would like to extend my appreciation to our staff for their commitment and support of your children as they assisted the students to ensure they had an enjoyable time, whilst participating in the various activities on camp.

Last night our year 5 and 6 students treated our school community to a wonderful and entertaining musical performance. This year our students are performing "Alice in Wonderland Jnr" and was appreciated by the audience at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. Once again, the performance put on by our students reflected their commitment and the preparations which have been organised by our Performing Arts team of Ms Windust and Ms Dahmen. Putting on a performance of this quality is a fantastic effort by all involved. As well as the people mentioned above, other staff members and parents have assisted with props and costumes. Thank you also to our parents and families for your continued support of our Performing Arts through your provision of costumes for the children and your purchase of performance tickets. Congratulations to all involved. There are a few tickets available to the second performance tonight, 7pm if you are wanting to see another wonderful musical performance by our students.

On Monday the school improvement team participated in the final day of our school review. The conversations and accolades from the review panel members yesterday were extremely positive about our ongoing work and the achievements gained over the past four years.

The framework of our next School Strategic Plan was developed from our observations and conversations. The plan includes goals, key implementation strategies and targets for our students' learning and wellbeing. I look forward to sharing the final report and the new Strategic Plan with our school community when they have been endorsed by the Department of Education and ready for publication.

On Wednesday, October 23rd PLPS had our boys Tennis team participate in the Division competition. The weather allowed for a great day of tennis. The boys competed well and were victorious in their respective competitions. Congratulations to all the students involved and we wish them all the best at the Regional competition on Wednesday, November 13th.

We also had the girls basketball team competing at the Division competition. Well done to all the girls that participated and their fabulous effort with a runners up result.

Our students are currently working hard with Ms Lowndes and Ms Kacew-Brown to finalise some artworks for the PLPS ART Show. Information relating to the events and times will be posted on Compass next week. We are looking forward to showcasing and celebrating our students' artwork on opening night Tuesday, November 26th at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. The show will open at 3.30pm and will conclude at 7.00pm.

Next Thursday, November 7th, all families with students currently in Prep to year five will receive information via Compass for book packs and parent payments for 2025. As indicated in this information, our **book packs will need to be ordered online**. If parents are wanting to order the student book packs through our preferred supplier Maxim, **orders need to be placed and paid for by Tuesday, December 31st, 2024**. If you believe ordering and paying for book packs by this date could be problematic for your family, please call the school on 5940-9532 and speak to Julie, our Business Manager, who can assist with ordering and payment plans. All the book packs ordered will be delivered to the students' learning spaces ready for them to access and use on their first day of the 2025 school year.

As term 4 continues, the planning and preparations for the 2025 school year are well under way. We have commenced the development of our staffing plan for next year. The key driver of this plan is having an accurate figure regarding our student enrolments for next year. Currently we have 93 Prep students enrolled to commence their formal education next year at PLPS. Enrolments have also been received for students in other year levels across the school.

Thank you to those parents who have taken the opportunity to inform the school that their children will not be attending PLPS next year. If you are aware that your child will not be attending our school next year, could you please contact our school office on 5940-9532 to let us know. Your assistance with this is very much appreciated and allows us to accurately plan for 2025.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Thursday 31st October: Year 5/6 'Alice in Wonderland Jr.' Senior Musical

Tuesday 5th November: Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday

Wednesday 6th November: Prep 2025 Information Night

(enrolled students only)

Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th November: Prep 2025 Transition

(enrolled students only)

Monday 18th November - Friday 22nd November: Year 6 Canberra Camp

Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st November: Prep 2025 Transition

(enrolled students only)

Monday 2nd - Wednesday 4th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Thursday 5th December: Curriculum Day - Student Free Day

(Students do not attend school on this day)

Friday 6th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Monday 9th - Tuesday 10th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Thursday 12th - Friday 13th December: Year 1 Swimming Program

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Thursday 7th November - 9am

Monday 18th November - 9am

Tuesday 3rd December - 9am

Friday 20th December - 11:15am

Hats



Hats are part of our school uniform in Term 4.

It is strongly recommended that all students have their hats on when they play at recess and lunch time out in the yard.

Please remember to label your hats too!

Canteen News

The last day for canteen for Term 4 will be:

Thursday 12th December

ICYPOLE FRIDAY

We will be selling lemonade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during term 4.

Icy poles are \$1.50 each and can be purchased from the Canteen.



Woorabinda

Year 4 camp

Our Time at Camp

Our Year 4 students had an incredible time at Woorabinda Camp. During their three day adventure, they embraced the outdoors, challenging themselves with activities like bushwalking, canoeing, and high ropes. It was a fantastic experience where students discovered new skills, expanded their comfort zone and created lasting memories.



Our Favourite Part of Camp

Dylan - I liked canoeing and archery because I explored on water for the first time and archery was really fun for me to play

Levi - I enjoyed the zip-line because it wasn't too scary and everyone in my group got a chance have a go.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

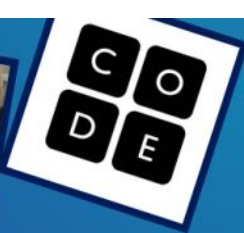
In the Junior School this term, our Prep students have been introduced to the exciting possibilities of robotics. They designed basic robots for a purpose and using Bee-Bots, were able to navigate and problem-solve with a great hands-on approach. Engaging with the world of STEAM, they have also delved into the engineering design process, tackling real-world problems, creating innovative solutions, and building their chosen designs. Through hands-on activities and exploration of coding concepts on platforms like Code.org, they have begun developing their problem-solving skills and learning to program instructions for objects to move in various directions.

Grade 1 students have developed their understanding of coding. Students have used navigation and debugging skills to tackle challenging learning activities. They have also been learning about animation, gaining insights into the art used in various media forms.

These experiences nurture creativity, critical thinking and foundational digital skills. They have also ventured into creating lifelike character movements, enhancing their appreciation for animation principles used in popular media.

In Grade 2, students have been on a journey learning about the responsibilities of usernames and passwords. They have been practising signing-in and accessing Google Classroom to find their learning tasks. They have gained practical skills in using design software like Google Drawing for creating unique minions. Additionally, they have delved into the world of electricity and electronics, learning about circuitry's fundamental role in modern technology through engaging activities involving Snap Circuits. This has helped develop their sequential and critical thinking skills and their scientific knowledge.





DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Grade 3 students have been expanding their digital skills this term. They have learned about the Canva program for multimedia and applied Google Drive knowledge to new apps. They gained proficiency in inserting images, textboxes, and formatting. In coding, they have explored block coding, loops, and critical thinking on 'code.org', refining problem-solving skills and error identification. Students currently are developing their understanding of engineering, design and teamwork. They are imagining, designing and creating buildings they then get to test.

Grade 4 students have been on an enriching journey this term. They delved into data collection and analysis, using spreadsheets to organise and present different types of data. They have also applied their Scratch and block coding knowledge to a new program, collaboratively crafting functions for Codey-Rocky robotic devices. This experience has equipped them with valuable skills in data and robotics, fostering a strong foundation for their future explorations.

Grade 5 students have had an engaging term. They concentrated on boosting their Internet navigation and cyber safety skills through focused revision lessons online. They also conducted a survey to gather e-safety awareness and device usage data. Students used this information to create infographics with visualised data, graphs, and concise sentences. This immersive experience has enhanced their digital literacy and communication skills through visuals.

Grade 6 students have been deeply engaged in a hands-on STEAM learning experience. Working in teams, they have created interactive electronic arcade games using BBC Microbit kits, developing technical skills, problem-solving strategies, and critical thinking. They embraced eco-friendly practices by using recyclable materials, following the Engineering Design process to create and enhance their arcade machines. This immersive journey has provided practical experience in design and innovation, fostering a well-rounded skill set.





School Crossings

Shearwater Drive and Everly Circuit

This is just a reminder to parents of students that use the school crossings.

As the safety of our students is our number one priority, could parents please remind and ensure students are crossing the roads at the designated crossings along Shearwater Drive and Everly Circuit and **are not** crossing the roads on their own.

IMAGINE THE FUN



Join Woolworths Cricket Blast

Designed for kids to learn skills, exercise, and make friends.

Officer Cricket Club - Woolworths Blast
8 Sessions
Commencing Sunday, 17th November 2024
at Officer Recreation Reserve

4 YO Kinder - Grade 1 (2024) - 9am - 10am
Grade 2 - Older (2024) - 10.15am - 11.15am



SIGN UP TODAY!

 Play Cricket

PROUDLY
PRESENTED BY



For kids
grades 4 - 6

24 Toomuc Valley Rd
Pakenham, VIC

Community Centre Drama Fun Activities and Christmas Play



Do you love to act and take on different characters? Do you also love to play fun drama games and create funny roles and situations with others in improvisation sketches? Do you love to sing? Then this is the course for you!

- You will get to do all of the above and use these skills to create a fantastic Christmas play based on your favourite characters!
- You will get to perform this play at special events in front of delighted audiences
- You will also make heaps of friends and have lots of fun along the way!

Sundays commencing 27 October for 7 sessions
(No session 3 November)
4.30pm - 6.30pm. Cost \$100

BOOK NOW!

Online: www.outlookaust.org.au

Call: 5940 4728

Email: communitycentre@outlookaust.org.au



Outlook
an inclusive society for all





superkick



PLAY

FIND YOUR FOOTY

Learn through skills
and tackle-free,
match-based sessions.



OFFICER & SURROUNDS TERM 4 SUPERKICK CENTRE

Starts Monday, October 28th
from 4pm - 5pm
at Heatherbrae Recreation
Reserve

Scan the QR code to register
for only \$55!



play.afl/superkick



GOOD FOOD

EMPORIUM

Good Food Emporium, the freshest face in wellness right on your doorstep!



SUPER LARGE LIFESTYLE & WHOLEFOOD STORE AND CAFÉ

Whether you're looking for the perfect vegan cheese, organic fresh produce, want to live sustainably, or need somewhere relaxing to catch up with friends, Good Food Emporium is your perfect destination experience.

We strive to bring our community along on the journey with us: offering complementary wellness sessions & professional advice from our team of friendly professionals. Wander the aisles filled with an enormous variety of wholefoods and organic fruit & veg or enjoy browsing the extensive range of thoughtfully curated artisan and planet-friendly products.

15/430-440 Princes Hwy, Narre Warren VIC 3805
NEXT TO BABY BUNTING!
PHONE: (03)9704 9779

Follow us on our socials!
@goodfoodemporium

