

NEWSLETTER

17th October 2024

Principal's Report

Welcome back to all members of our school community after what I hope has been an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. On behalf of our students and staff, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new students who have enrolled at PLPS and are continuing their education at our school.

Term four is always a very busy time of year as we seek to continue our focus on teaching and learning, and ensuring a successful conclusion to our year, whilst also undertaking much of the planning and preparation to get ready for a smooth start to our 2025 school year. We have many exciting events and activities throughout the term to complement the teaching and learning programs and celebrate our students' achievements.

For our year 6 students, it will be their final term of primary school learning before they embark on the next phase of their educational journey at their respective secondary schools.

The senior school musical will lead a term of major events. After much hard work and rehearsals throughout term 3, we are looking forward to our year 5 and 6 students performing our senior school musical of 'Alice in Wonderland JR.' Ticket sales for the two performances on Wednesday and Thursday, October 30th and 31st at the Cardinia Cultural Centre are selling quickly. The second round of tickets will be made available to our school community from Friday, October 25th and purchased through the Cardinia Cultural Centre.

Later this term on November 18th, our year 6 students will be heading off for an educational tour of the national capital. This tour of Canberra supports their learning with their inquiry unit in Civics and Citizenship. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognizes the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$67.50 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program toward costs. The rebate will be paid to the school upon completion of the excursion. I look forward to hearing reports from our senior students about their learning and experiences in Canberra when they return.

During term 4, our year 1 students will explore how everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways through their Science unit 'From This to That'. To support this unit students travelled to the Museum of Play and Art (MoPA) in Sandringham to use explorative learning to support their understanding. Students investigated which objects can be changed through bending, stretching and twisting. They also learnt about the effects of heating and cooling. Throughout the day students needed to use scientific skills such as predicting, observing and recording.

On Monday and Tuesday this week, students in Year 3 participated in an incursion run by Hands On Science. Throughout the

incursion, students enjoyed exploring the relationships between the Earth, Moon and Sun; including orbits, gravity, day and night and Earth's seasons. Students worked collaboratively using models to enact and see the phases of the moon, with many questions and conversations involved. "Setting a rocket to the moon" was a highlight for the students.

Our year 4 students and staff are excited to be heading off for their three-day camp at Woorabinda next Monday. Nestled in the heart of nature, our students will have the opportunity to delve into an immersive learning experience based on a theme of their choice, together with an array of thrilling activities. On arrival the first day, students will be walking into a beautiful bush setting where they will prepare and cook their own lunch. We look forward to hearing and sharing their experiences on their return.

We would like to congratulate The Cardinia Network Marrung Steering Committee on being named a finalist for the 2024 Victorian Education Excellence Awards for **Outstanding Koorie Education**. Two of PLPS staff, Monique Olszewski and Aaron Krug play a significant role in leading the community of practice for the schools in our Cardinia Network. This is a wonderful achievement to recognize the work of the whole committee and the contribution they make to the Victorian government education system. The VEEA awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday 25 October, we wish them all the best.

The beginning of term 4 does signify the need for all our students to be wearing their sunhats. The wearing of sunhats is an excellent habit to develop and one that we strongly encourage at school. Although our current weather is wet rather than sunny, I would ask all parents to assist us in developing this important life skill. If parents require a school sunhat for their child, they may be purchased from the PSW store in Officer or at the school office.

Year level newsletters for term 4 will be distributed to students and posted on Compass tomorrow, Friday, October 18th. This newsletter shares information with families regarding the teaching and learning that will take place in each year level this term. It will also outline special events students will have the opportunity to participate in throughout the term.

The school review also began at the beginning of the term. We have completed three days so far with many observations being completed, together with focus groups of students, staff and parents conversing with the review panel members. This has provided many positive discussions amongst the panel members together with future directions for ongoing improvements. The fourth and final day is scheduled for October 28th. Thank you to staff, students and parents for the contributions to our school review in the lead up and throughout the process. Further details will be shared with our school community at the conclusion of the review.

Kerrie Kingston-Gains
Principal

Admin News

DIARY DATES

Monday 21st October: Wednesday 23rd October - Year 4 Woorabinda Camp

Wednesday 30th October & Thursday 31st October: Year 5/6 'Alice in Wonderland Jr.' Senior Musical

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)

Thursday 5th December: Curriculum Day - Student Free Day
(Students do not attend school on this day)

Canteen News

The last day for canteen for Term 4 will be:

Thursday 12th December

ICYPOLE FRIDAY

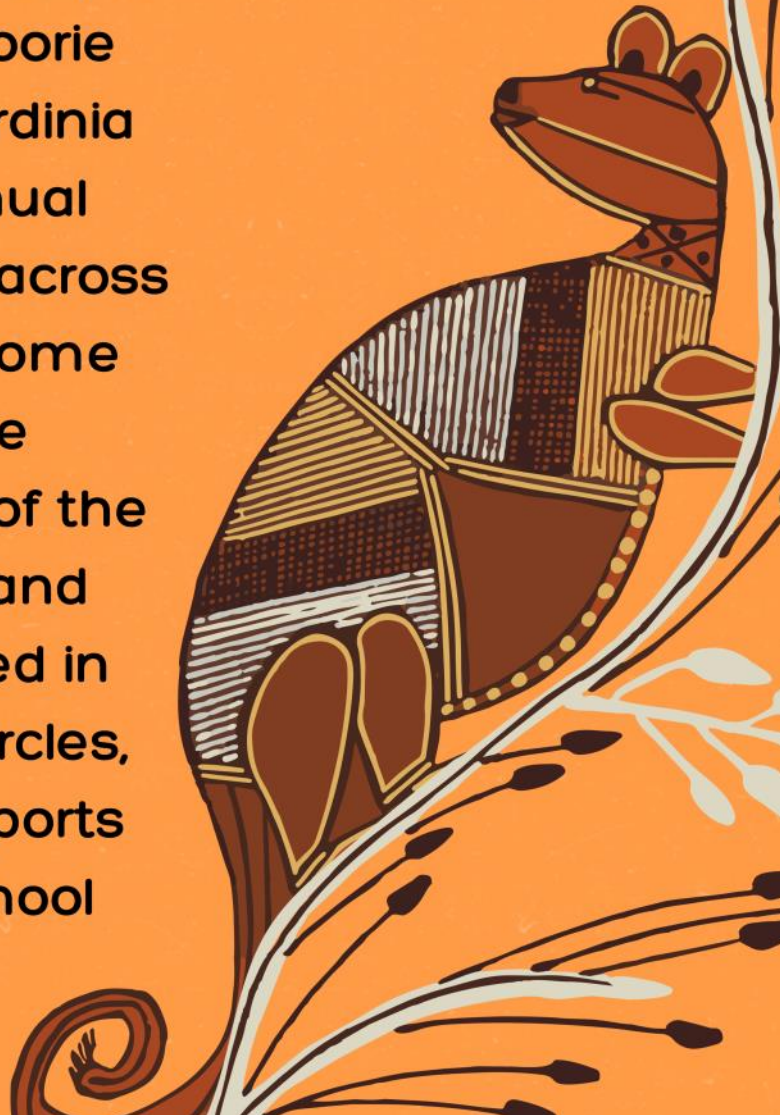
We will be selling lemonade icy poles at lunch time on Fridays during term 4.

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

DEADLY DAY!



“On Thursday 19th September, 15 students attended the Koorie Celebration Day at the Cardinia Cultural Centre. This annual event invites schools from across the Cardinia Network to come together and celebrate Indigenous culture. Some of the activities that students and school leaders participated in were dancing, yarning circles, nature scavenger hunt, sports and the creation of a school artwork.”



Year One Reflections

Minibeast Incursion & Expo

Well done to everyone's engagement in our Minibeast Unit throughout term three. Students enjoyed participating in our incursion day on Tuesday the 27th of August, where they were able to see, touch and hold stick insects including a native burrowing cockroach, hermit crabs, frogs and a blue-tongue lizard. Students saw a tarantula up close and rotated through other hands-on activities such as painting and designing/decorating a minibeast biscuit using sweet treats.

Students spent the term learning about minibeast facts in both Reading and Writing. They developed their note-taking skills and practised using keywords to write informative sentences.

It was delightful to see the students showcase and share their learning with others during our minibeast Expo on Tuesday the 17th of September. A HUGE thank you to those families and students that were able to visit and acknowledge the efforts that students had put into the presentation of their published posters and artwork.



Congratulations to the following students:

For being brave and sharing facts from the Minibeast incursion at our whole school assembly



Hudson

↓
"It's really hard to find stick insects on trees because they blend in and camouflage themselves".



Abbie

↓
"Stick insects curl their tail up when birds come like a scorpion to stay safe".



Charlie

↓
"When the mum spider gets angry she eats the dad spider".



Ekam

↓
"Frogs put their eyes into the back of their head to swallow their food".



Amanat

↓
"We saw a blue tongue lizard. They like to hide in dark places and they have a smooth scale on their body. They can grow 60cm long which is the size of 2 rulers".



Mackenzie

↓
"We got a biscuit and then put icing on it and added lollies to make all the body parts. We used edible eyes and long string lollies for the legs".

Jordyn

→ "I got to hold a native cockroach. It is an insect. It has 6 hairy legs, 2 antennas and they like to live underground in the dirt and they make the old plants that are dead into food for the new plants".

Julia

→ "Hermit crabs walk in a line from smallest to largest and they swap shells. Hermit crabs are a type of crustacean".



During the last week of Term 3, our Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Students participated in AFL football skill stations. This was to celebrate our Footy Colours Day and the AFL Finals.



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!

Assembly Dates

Whole School Assembly will be held in the school gymnasium

Friday 25th October - 9am

Thursday 7th November - 9am

Monday 18th November - 9am

Tuesday 3rd December - 9am

Friday 20th December - 11:15am

Reasons to
LOVE Book Club



SCHOLASTIC **Book Club**

DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club
orders are due:
22nd Oct

SCHOLASTIC

Book Club LOOP
for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:

www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP





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.

TERM 4 AT

Lakeside Recreation Reserve

sports X
sports for better minds



SOCCER

Did you know?

Our **Soccer X** school program was Sports X's founding program, starting on the Gold Coast (QLD, Australia) back in 2011!

Our **Soccer X** school program is still to this day our **most popular** program across Australia, NZ and the USA.

*Please note: It is the parent's responsibility to collect their child/children at the end of the school day and ensure they are signed in safely with staff of the Sports X Program.

EVERY WEDNESDAY / 3.40 - 4:40pm

\$165

Starting 16th of Oct [10-week program]

FUN-BASED | FULLY INCLUSIVE | FOR ALL ABILITIES 😊

- \\ The program is open to all Prep - Year 6 students //
- \\ Sessions will be run by qualified coaches who hold WWCC //
- \\ Children will be split into groups according to age //

CONTACT

Lauren laurena@sports-x.com.au

REGISTRATION

Scan QR code

or visit

www.sports-x.com.au



Cardinia
Leisure

2024 Cardinia

FUN **RUNWALK**

5KM OR 10KM RUN | 5KM WALK

SUN 27 OCTOBER

Proudly supporting the Cardinia Foundation

REGISTER TODAY!

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(03) 5945 2888
cardinia@alignedleisure.com.au





Walking together **towards a healthier heart**

There's a fun, free and easy way to feel happy and healthy. It's walking! Come along to our regular walks to meet new friends and boost your health.

Join your local walking group at the date and time below:

Group: Cardinia Leisure Walking Group

When: Thursday morning 9:30am

Where: Meet at the entrance to Cardinia Leisure Centre

6 Olympic Way, Pakenham

Organiser: Jacque

Visit walking.heartfoundation.org.au to register or for more information

Proudly Supported By



Australian Government

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

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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.

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