



# THE WILLOW WEEKLY

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Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2024

*Willowmavin Primary School resides on the lands of the Taungurung people.*

*We acknowledge their leaders past and present and pledge to respect the earth, the life and the waters of these lands.*

CELEBRATING LEARNING IN...

## 4/5/6

This term in Inquiry, 4/5/6 have been learning about the Age of Exploration in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. This was when lots of countries were exploring around the globe in sailing ships.

Back then some people from Europe came in contact with Australia like Willem Janz, Dirk Harthog and Able Tasman who were all Dutch. Some Spanish people like Luis Vaez Torres, who the Torres Strait is named after, came and so did William Dampier and James Cook from Great Brittan.

We also learned about a large treasure fleet that sailed in 1405 from China. The fleet was led by Zheng He. It is thought that some of his ships became separated from the main fleet and that they came to Australia and made contact with Aboriginal people. A small statue was found in between tree roots in Darwin in 1879 that might have come from these Chinese ships.

Zheng He's fleet had hundreds of sailing ships and their ships were much bigger than the ones from Europe.

Olivia and Iliana



We made some cardboard replicas of the Chinese sailing ships too!





## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Celebrations!

Congratulations to our swimming stars from the District swimming event just two weeks back. Whilst we may be a very small school, our representatives certainly showed that we are more than capable of punching above our weight. Special congratulations to Zara and Ruby for reaching Division. Zara has now progressed from Division on to the Region finals. She will be competing in two individual events, 50m freestyle and 50m breaststroke, and will join students from Pyalong Primary School in the 4 x 50m Willowmavin-Pyalong Primary School freestyle relay team. Good luck Zara!



### Absences, Drop Off and Pick Up

We are noticing that parents and guardians are more regularly informing the school of student absences. This is greatly appreciated as it limits the amount of time taken up by staff chasing up reasons for absences via phone calls or e-mails. As always, an Attendance Note on Compass is our preferred method of communication for student absences, however parents/guardians are of course welcome to make phone calls or send an e-mail to their child's teacher.

It has also been pleasing to see more students arriving at school on time. We regularly express to families the importance of students being on time for learning as it enables a smooth transition into the classroom. The school grounds are supervised from 8:35am. We encourage families to make the most of this supervision time for your children. Whilst learning commences at 8:50am, it is recommended for many of our students that they arrive at school at least 5 minutes prior to this time, giving them the opportunity to catch up with their friends and have a play before heading to class.

Finally on attendance, we remind families that learning time concludes at 2:55pm, from which time students can be picked up. Yard supervision concludes at 3:10pm, at which time staff are regularly required at staff meetings or professional learning sessions. Students still waiting to be picked up at school at 3:10pm, will be required to wait in the office. Where you are expecting to be late for pick up, please inform the school in advance, if possible, so that we can inform students. Should you be having ongoing difficulty in picking up your child/ren on time, please speak with the school.

### Getting Involved

At Willowmavin Primary School, we love having families involved in the school. We not only welcome contributions from families, we rely on them. There are many ways in which you can contribute to your child's school – both from within and outside of the classroom. Should you wish to assist in your child's classroom, please speak with your child's classroom teacher. Outside of the classroom, there are many other ways you can support the school. From maintenance items listed in the newsletter, to hot lunches and Breakfast Club, to one off fundraising events. Please feel free to approach the school should you wish to assist in any of these areas. We also welcome your ideas, and encourage families to approach us with any suggestions or strengths you bring to the table. A reminder that all volunteers will need to read our Volunteers policy and in most circumstances, will need a Working with Children Check.

### Breakfast Club

Speaking of getting involved, it has been fantastic to have Dean Sheffield running Breakfast Club on Thursday mornings. And recently, Dean has been joined by Matt Bean, meaning we have 2 WPS accredited chefs in the house serving breakfast to students on Thursday mornings. We encourage all students to come early on a Thursday morning from 8:15am for breakfast.

### Head Lice

We have recently had a case of head lice in the school. Please monitor your child for lice or eggs and ensure that if any are found, your child is treated before returning to school. Thank you in advance for your assistance and support with this.

### Signing Off

*Keep calm. Footy is back.*

Until next time, take care of one another and be the best you can be!

Mr. O'Callaghan





# Student of the Week



Term: 1

Week: 4



**F/1** Marlee Comer  
**2/3** Olivia Brothers  
**4/5/6** Zara Gill



# Student of the Week



Term: 1      Week: 5



F/1      Hudson Monaghan  
2/3      Hudson Buhagiar  
4/5/6      Ryder Morgan



**BE YOUR BEST**



**RESPECT**



**RESILIENCE**



**SAFE**

# PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

## ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



### FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



### PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

#### Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

#### Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

#### Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



### FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



### SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.



Loving our  
**LOCAL  
COMMUNITY**  
this EASTER

## Hot Cross Bun Ordering 2024

Bakers Delight Wallan are offering our school community the opportunity to purchase delicious Hot Cross Buns to raise money for our School!

Simply order your Hot Cross Buns at

[www.wallanbd.com.au](http://www.wallanbd.com.au)

by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 &  
Hot Cross Buns Orders will be sent home on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
2024



**When ordering online, please make sure you select Willowmavin  
Primary School and enter your name/class**

Remember to ask your family and friends if they would like to order some too.  
Help support our school fundraiser to raise funds for our students while supporting a local business.



# Training and Education.



You are invited to join training and education in conjunction with Life Saving Victoria, we at Mitchell Leisure Services are excited to now provide CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard courses.

**Training Sessions:** CRP Update - Kilmore  
6.30pm - 8pm, Tuesday 5 March  
Lifeguard Update - Kilmore  
9am - 4pm, Saturday 16 March  
First Aid and CPR - Seymour  
10am - 3pm, Wednesday 27 March

Enquiries: [leisuretrainingcourses@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:leisuretrainingcourses@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au)

To register visit:  
[training.lsv.com.au/courses](https://training.lsv.com.au/courses)



Rotary  
Southern Mitchell



Proudly  
presents:

# KILMORE REGIONAL BUSKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

SYDNEY STREET, KILMORE



**SAT  
13  
APR  
2024  
9.30 - 3PM**

**FREE**

**FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
FUN, STREET  
PERFORMANCE!  
MUSIC, MAGIC,  
MARVELLOUS  
PERFORMANCE  
AND MORE ...**

**NATIONAL  
FINALS  
COOMA  
NOV 2024**

**FREE FINALS CONCERT**

4pm - 6pm. John Kelly Pavilion,  
Kilmore Racing Club, East Street

**OVER \$8,000 IN CASH PRIZES**

Primary (5-12), Secondary (13-18) and Open age categories.  
People's Choice Awards - Vote for your favourite buskers

**ENTRY FORMS** available at [buskingkilmore@gmail.com](mailto:buskingkilmore@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/buskingkilmore](https://facebook.com/buskingkilmore) or call Rose 0458 810 345

More info at [rcsm.org.au/project-busking](http://rcsm.org.au/project-busking)



**Bendigo Bank**

**KILMORE RACING CLUB** **NVC PRECAST**

**ACHM**  
AUSTRALIAN CULTURAL  
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT



**The Guitar Room**

**JINDING** **BROADSTEAD KILMORE**

**Paul Maginn  
Lawyer**

**BRUCE MACTIER  
BUILDING DESIGNERS**  
WE BUILD ON YOUR IDEAS

**North Central Review** **Kilmore Property Transfers**

**BILMORIE BAKERY** **PROBOOKS ACCOUNTING** **ONE OFF engineering**

**SHRIMP HOUSE BIKES** **DRY CLEANERS** **IT'S COMPUTER PAPERS**

**sass** **Harvest Door** **signs** **PAT CRUKE FURNITURE**





## Living Near Building Sites

Millions of dollars are lost on home building sites each week through theft and vandalism.

Although the builder is responsible for your home during the construction phase, once it is handed over you need to ensure the safety of your home with home security strategies and adequate insurance.

When you build in a new estate you may be surrounded by vacant blocks, or partially built houses, and these leave you with an added risk as there may not be any close neighbours, minimal lighting in the street and being new to the area, you won't even be familiar with vehicles to know if something is suspicious.

### What you can do to make your new house safer

1. There are some security measures you can take whilst you are building, like fitting good quality locks to your windows and doors, but if you went with standard locks or window winders, this is the time to upgrade them to secure your home;
2. A security mesh screen door will add an extra level of security especially on these hot nights;
3. Solar LED flood lights, wall lights or even fence lights which have motion sensors will also protect against prowlers;
4. Alarms, smart locks or video door bells also provide added security and if you can afford it, this would be a good time to have a subscription to enable notifications and video functions;
5. Ensure you are covered adequately with your home insurance and contents insurance;

6. Don't forget the outside either – the yard of your new property can leave you at risk while you save the funds for the landscaper. At the very least get the whipper snipper out regularly and keep your future garden grass (or are they weeds) under control and empty your mail box regularly. Nothing says 'vacant house' more than an overrun yard and old mail in the letterbox; and
7. Mark your valuables with a 'V' + your licence number. Use an ultraviolet pen or engraver and record the makes, models, etc. of your valuables in a separate place and include photographs of your valuables. These steps will help identify your valuables in the event of a theft.

There are other strategies available at [www.nhw.com.au/newhome](http://www.nhw.com.au/newhome).

## Identifying Suspicious Behaviour

### What is suspicious behaviour?

Behaviour is suspicious, not people. It's when someone is doing something that seems unusual and out of place from what's normal. It can include:

- People loitering around the site and checking it out when workers and tradies have left.
- People removing building materials or other goods from the site outside construction times.
- Vehicles regularly and continuously driving around the area, particularly at night. Be alert to vehicles that have obscured or missing number plates.
- People climbing over fences or testing gates and locks.
- Equipment noise such as angle grinders coming from the site outside of construction hours.

### Reporting suspicious behaviour

If the suspicious behaviour is happening now, call Triple Zero (000) immediately. If the suspicious behaviour has passed and doesn't need police attention straight away, or you need to report any thefts or vandalism, call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or report it online at [www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr](http://www.police.vic.gov.au/palolr)

Recording some of these details may help police:

- Time, date, location and what happened?
- Description of person such as height, build, gender, clothing, and any features such as a beard or tattoos
- Description of vehicle, especially distinguishing features such as damage, stickers, modifications, colour and rego number
- Only take photos or video if you can do it safely

## Do something for your community!

We are looking for a volunteer in the Beveridge area – namely the Ooranya, Glenmore or Timbarra estates. We are hoping to find someone who can spare us just a few hours each month (11 months) to deliver a newsletter just like this one.

We find our volunteers enjoy putting back into their local community and it is a great way of meeting your neighbours. You can walk your dog at the same time and the hours are fairly flexible.

New people to the community, or people who have made a resolution to do more for their community, are perfect for this role. Everyone is very welcome to apply.

Contact Carol on 0419 531 610 if you are interested.

## Our Home Security Competition

Our competition was launched in January, and now runs until 5pm on 15 March, 2024. There is a limit of one entry per person and the competition is completely free to enter. Entrants are limited to entrants over 18 years of age.

The winners will be notified by email (provided on the entry form) and the winner's first name and town of residence will be announced on South Mitchell NHW's website & social media sites after the winners have been notified.

Please read our Terms & Conditions for more details by visiting:

<https://d2te.short.gy/u56N2g>

Enter our Competition by visiting our facebook page or visit:

<https://d2te.short.gy/gN3pLd>

Disclaimer: Current as on 28/02/24 <https://sites.google.com/view/south-mitchell-nhw/home/events/upcoming-events> for more information.

### Important Numbers

**Emergency: Triple Zero (000)** - Fire, Police, Ambulance

**Non-urgent crimes:** Police Assistance Line - 131 444

**Report Anonymously:** Crime Stoppers - 1800 333 000

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**Rob Mitchell MP**

MEMBER FOR McEWEN

[www.robmitchell.com.au](http://www.robmitchell.com.au)



Have you made a new years resolution to help your community this year?

**Can you spare a few hours each month?**

We need a reliable Volunteer to deliver our newsletters in Beveridge once a month.



Contact Carol on  
0419531610 if interested



## Upcoming Events

**Bunnings Craigieburn, 16 March 2024, 8am-4pm**

South Mitchell NHW is hosting a Bunnings' sausage sizzle on 16 March, 2024. Neighbourhood Watch Victoria is also hosting a safe plate event at Bunnings Craigieburn on 16 March, 2024. Come down and grab a sausage before getting your anti-theft screws fitted on the same day!

**General Meeting, 21 March, 2024**

Our first General Meeting for this year is at 7pm on Thursday, 21 March, 2024 at the Sue Marstaeller Pavilion, L.B. Davern Reserve, Dry Creek Cres., Wandong.

**Kilmore - 27 April 2024 (tbc)**

We are coming to Coles Kilmore on 27 April. More details to follow. Keep an eye on our Facebook page or website for more details.

**Coolheads in Seymour, 1 May, 2024**

South Mitchell NHW is supporting Victoria Police Proactive Unit at a Coolheads Young Drivers Program on Wednesday, 1 May, 2024, at Seymour College, Seymour. Watch out for more details.

**LJ Hooker  
Wallan**

Whether you are Selling, Buying or Leasing,  
the team at L J Hooker Wallan  
has the expertise to assist you every step of the way.

Just drop in to the office for a friendly chat  
or call 5783 3399 or email [wallan@lhooker.com.au](mailto:wallan@lhooker.com.au)

Shop 2, Wellington Square Shopping Centre, 81-89 High Street, Wallan VIC 3758

**Bendigo Bank**

Proudly Supported by  
Community Bank  
Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford



# WILLOW WORKS



Listed below are current general maintenance and repair items at the school. If you are able to help with these items, please speak with the office or your child's classroom teacher. All materials required for these jobs will be paid for by the school. We are able to organise access to the school grounds after hours if this is more suitable for families.  
Thank you!

Item	Date
Balustrade on x2 staircases to be replaced.	03/08/23
Non – slip stickers to be placed on decking area.	03/08/23
Lubricate playground equipment	25/10/23
Repair sink in art room	25/10/23
Blind cord to be screwed back in to place in Breakfast Club room	25/10/23
Sliding door in art room to be repaired so that it moves smoothly	25/10/23
Hole covered on side of admin building	25/10/23
Safety gate (on BER deck)lock to be lubricated	25/10/23
Open windows in art room and admin office	09/11/2023
Remove wood pile and tall grass behind container	07/12/2023





Friday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2024

## What's On...

### Dates To Remember

#### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> Hot Lunch Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> Emergency Evacuation Drill
- 11<sup>th</sup> Labour Day Public holiday (no school)
- 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> NAPLAN years 3 and 5
- 15<sup>th</sup> Hot Lunch Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> Harmony Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> Cross Country Day
- 28<sup>th</sup> Last day of Term 1 – 1:30pm finish



#### March

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs Barri
- 8<sup>th</sup> Hannah
- 12<sup>th</sup> Harrison
- 24<sup>th</sup> Oliver



## Uniform Reminder and Tissues Request...

#### **Uniform Reminder**

We have had an increased number of students without a hat for recess and lunchtime over the past few weeks. This is a friendly reminder to please ensure that children have a hat available. We have new hats for sale at the front office for \$10.

#### **Tissues Request**

We have 3 boxes of tissues and this might cause issues! If any families would like to donate a box or two of tissues, that would be greatly appreciated.