



# THE WILLOW WEEKLY

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Thursday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 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...

## 2/3/4

In Inquiry, we have been learning about Australian history. To start with, we looked at the history of Indigenous people of Australia, finding out about Mungo Lady and Mungo Man and how Indigenous culture goes back 40,000 years. We also learnt about about different tools, art, farming and hunting.

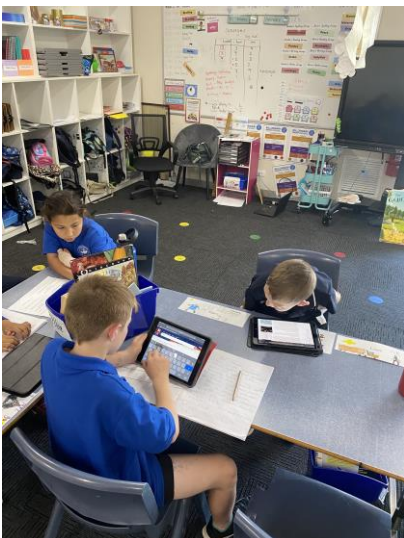
We then have researched explorers that came to Australia after Aboriginal people, the places they discovered and important dates, like the First Fleet's arrival and settlement.

Next, we will investigate how the arrival of European people impacted the land and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

We have enjoyed making posters and researching the explorers that came to our country!

### 2/3/4 Correspondents

**Charlie Mckenzie and Ollie Sheffield**





## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Celebrations!

Who would know that we are just four weeks into the school year? With 25% of our students being new to Willow, it would have been more than reasonable to expect a slower start to the year as students transitioned in. However, that has not been the case at all, with Willow currently running like a well-oiled machine. Students are participating in engaging learning activities in the classroom and are consistently demonstrating our school values of Be Your Best, Respect, Resilience and Safe. Given the range of year levels in our classrooms, the most significant challenge for our teachers is catering for our students' individual needs. Through our small class sizes and open-ended tasks, students are being provided the support and opportunities to develop their understandings of the curriculum at the level they are at. This week, I spent a couple of hours taking our 2/3/4 students. It was fantastic to see how our Grade 2 students are more than capable of holding their own in the 2/3/4 classroom, whilst our Grade 3 and 4 students in the same class are also challenging themselves in their learning. We were exploring the use of nouns and adjectives in Writing. First, we looked at how an expert has done this by reading *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson. Students then created their own descriptions of particular creatures. Some students were just getting a handle on what an adjective is, whilst others were exploring online thesauruses to discover more interesting synonyms as substitutes for particularly common adjectives (why say "yummy" when you can say "mouth-watering"?). With just the 15 students in the class, I was able to have a small group with a shared focus, and then get around to each and every student to check in, provide support, and, of course, celebrate achievements. I am looking forward to taking our F/1 class for an hour tomorrow and seeing what our youngest students are already capable of. I'm sure I'll be impressed!

### Reflections from Last Week's Storm Impact

Last week's power outages were very significant across the Willowmavin and broader Kilmore area. As a result of having a generator set up, we were able to continue to provide running water and some power options for staff and students. Of particular concern during this time was that for a significant period, there was no communication options available to staff to contact our school community or necessary services. Landlines were down due to the power outage and mobile services had also been cut off. Fortunately, this occurred during a day where the weather was very mild, and as such, staff felt more frustrated than concerned. Had this have been a day of more severe weather, as experienced the day prior, this would have been a different story. We have communicated our concerns up the chain of command, with the Department of Education looking into this. We were certainly not alone in being a school that was concerned about their inability to communicate with the outside world. Fortunately, on this occasion, the most pressing matter that we could not communicate to our families was Breakfast Club being on the following morning. We need to do more than just cross our fingers and hope that, should we have another occurrence of this situation, we once again have nothing more pressing to communicate to families than day to day matters. We will of course communicate any outcomes that come of the conversations within DE's Emergency Management team.

### Catastrophic Fire Rating Days

Continuing on with the emergency theme, and as communicated via Compass last week, on days rated Catastrophic for the North Central District, Willowmavin Primary School will be closed. The Department of Education will endeavour to inform schools of an imminent closure by 2pm the day before. We will then pass on this communication to our families. Currently, schools are unable to close without the direct approval of the Regional Director, which can take time to acquire.

### Smile Squad Dental Van

The dental nurses running the Smile Squad Dental Van have been providing free check ups for students over the past two days. Should your child pass with flying colours, you will not hear anything from Smile Squad. If follow up work is recommended for your child, you will receive notification of this in the next couple of weeks. Once again, if your child does not require any further dental treatment, you will not receive any communication from Smile Squad. Definitely a "No news is good news" approach.

### Informing School of a Student Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please let us know as soon as possible. The preferred method for absence reporting is via Compass. A guide to completing an Attendance Note on Compass has been included in this Newsletter Compass post. You can also report an absence by e-mailing your child's classroom teacher or by calling the school.

### Welcome Picnic 2024

Our traditional Term 1 Welcome Picnic will take place next Wednesday, February 28 from 5pm onwards. Our Welcome Picnic is a fantastic opportunity for our school community to get together, saying hello to familiar faces and introducing ourselves to new faces. In addition to some fun activities being organised for those attending, we will also be presenting our Grade 5/6 leadership positions, including the announcement of our 2024 School Captains. Please see the Compass post from earlier today for more details.

### Small School Cluster Swimming

Our Small School Cluster Swimming event was, as it always is, a great success! Thanks to the staff, particularly Ms Amelia, for their efforts in supporting the day, along with the many parent volunteers, and of course, our wonderful participants! Please head to our Facebook page for some great photos of the day (<https://www.facebook.com/willowmavinprimaryschool>).

### Signing Off

*If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail.*

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

Mr. O'Callaghan



**BE YOUR BEST**



**RESPECT**



**RESILIENCE**



**SAFE**



# Student of the Week



Term: 1

Week: 2



- F/1** Keira Ellis
- 2/3** Kaiden Ruth - Carrington
- 4/5/6** Iliana Taengtang



**BE YOUR BEST**



**RESPECT**



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**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.





# NAGAMBIE'S COOLEST FESTIVAL

**SAT 24TH FEB 2024, 10am - 6PM**

BUCKLEY PARK | JACOBSONS OUTLOOK | BLAYNEY RESERVE

Proud sponsor of the **Costa Community Canoe Challenge**



SAT 24 FEB 2024



# EVENT PROGRAM



9AM - 4PM

JACOBSONS OUTLOOK  
BLAYNEY RESERVE  
BUCKLEY PARK

## GO NAGAMBIE MARKET

Browse stalls from local and travelling vendors selling fresh produce, arts and crafts, bric-a-brac, food and a whole lot more.



9AM - 4PM

BLAYNEY RESERVE,  
BOARDWALK

## PRIMARY ART

Celebrating the wonderful creativity of young individual student's skills and artworks, at this years festival.

10AM - 4PM

FORESHORE,  
BLAYNEY RESERVE,  
BUCKLEY PARK,  
JACOBSONS OUTLOOK

TICKETED EVENT

## WACKY WATER PLAY & GO ADVENTURE STAY & PLAY

Morning, afternoon or 'All Day' Platinum tickets available. Ticket options give you access to on water activities from Wacky Water Play to Go Adventure Nagambie's pedal boats, Hobie's, canoes and kayaks. Onland your ticket gives access to our bungee Trampoline, rock climbing wall, laser tag and more.

11AM - 12PM

LAKE BOWL

TICKETED EVENT

SWIM PRESENTATION TO FOLLOW  
12:15PM - 12:30PM  
ROWING CLUB FORESHORE

## NAGAMBIE WATERWAYS CLUB 2 PUB SWIM

Now one of the festival's favourite community-based events. Choose from the 1.1K or the 600m open water swims. Both swims take place in the bowl of lake Nagambie. We suggest purchasing entry tickets online - [gonagambie.com.au/NOW](http://gonagambie.com.au/NOW)



12PM - 1PM

BUCKLEY PARK WEST ENTRY  
THROUGH TO BOARDWALK

## MITCHELTON BOARDWALK RUN

Run, walk, jog, or even skip the 2km route from Buckley Park to the newly constructed boardwalk.



## EZY SAILING

12PM - 3PM

JACOBSONS OUTLOOK JETTY

## EMERGENCY SERVICES TRIBUTE

12:45PM - 1PM

ROWING CLUB FORESHORE

## COSTA COMMUNITY CANOE CHALLENGE

1PM - 2PM

ROWING CLUB FORESHORE

## TAHBILK WINE GREAT GRAPE STOMP

2:30PM - 3:30PM

BLAYNEY RESERVE

## GO ADVENTURE GOULBURN GALLOP

3:30PM - 4:30PM

BLAYNEY RESERVE

## BEER AUTO & KELVINGROVE VILLAGE FLOATING GOLF SHOOTOUT

4PM - 5:30PM

BLAYNEY LANE BOARDWALK - LAKE BOWL



## NAGAMBIE BREWERY STARS DOWNUNDER

5:30PM - 6:30PM

LAKE BOWL

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** **T's Computer  
Papers**

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



# 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
Weed spraying throughout whole school	07/12/2023
Remove wood pile and tall grass behind container	07/12/2023



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Thursday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 2024

## What's On...

### Dates To Remember

#### February

- 23<sup>rd</sup> District Swimming at Seymour
- 28<sup>th</sup> Foundations attend school today
- 28<sup>th</sup> Welcome Picnic

#### March

- 1<sup>st</sup> Hot Lunch Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> Emergency Evacuation Drill



#### February

- 16<sup>th</sup> Hudson M
- 19<sup>th</sup> Alissia
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Keira



#### Joke of the week

How do you make a tissue dance? Put a little boogie in it.

## Parent Payment

Within the newsletter this week is a page with information about Willowmavin Primary School's Parent Payments. Please click on the link at the bottom of the page for more information. This will also be sent out to families via Compass.



[Parent Payment Policy 2024 FINAL VERSION.pdf](#)