Great Western Primary School

July 16th, 2026

Principal: Kerri-Ann Harris

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Community,

Welcome back

Welcome back everyone, we hope you all had an enjoyable break and are ready for the second half of the year. Some activities this term include

- Police in Schools visit
- School Review
- Halls Gap Excursion-Literacy Activity
- Concongella Excursion-Book Week
- Somers Camp

Literacy Day

On Friday July 31st our students will travel to Halls Gap Primary School to participate in a morning of Literacy Activities. Our Senior students will work with author Nikki Kelly.

Nikki has recently penned a novel titled 'Shifters'.

Our senior students all received a copy gifted by Karin.

Book Week-

Book Week will take place this term. As a part of Book Week students will travel to Concongella Primary School on Friday 28th August to participate in some wonderful activities.

This years theme is Symphony Of Stories.

More details to follow.

Absences, Late Arrivals and Early Departures

A reminder, 'It's not okay to be away!' If your child is absent from school, is arriving late or leaving early we ask that you please send a text message to ***school*** prior to 9:30am. We are required by DET to follow up unexplained absences after 9.30am. A text provides us with the written parental consent for an absence.

August Census

As a school we are required to complete a census at the start of August each year. The August census sets our commencement funding for the following year. For this reason, it is vital for us to have reasonably accurate student numbers. If you have a student starting school in 2027 it is immensely helpful to have enrolments completed. If your child will not be with us next year it is also important information for the census. If you know of anyone intending on enrolling at our school for the 2027 school year, please ask them to confirm their intentions by contacting the school and completing the enrolment forms as soon as possible.

We are also required to ensure all family details are correct in particular Family Occupation and Education Level. Forms will be sent home shortly for families to complete.

Book Club

Issue 5 of Book Club. All orders along with payment need to be returned by **Thursday 30th July.** Book Club is a great way to purchase some great books at very reasonable prices while helping the school gain extra resources.

Email: great.western.ps@education.vic.gov.au
Website: www.greatwestern.ps.vic.gov.au
Phone: 03 5356 2235 Mobile: 0458 562 235

Hot Lunches

Just a reminder students are welcome to bring along lunch that can be placed in the pie warmer. Lunch packs, casseroles, pasta and leftovers must be in foil containers, whilst pies, pasties, sausage rolls and toasted sandwiches must be wrapped in foil. Please. ensure all lunches are clearly marked with your child's name. Students may also purchase a pie or a sausage roll. $3 each (not available Thursdays).

Breakfast Program

Our Breakfast is available from 8.30am - 8.45am each Thursday morning.

Toast, cereal, baked beans and fruit will be on offer. All students and family members are most welcome to join us for breakfast.

Fruit Snack

Just a reminder that students can have a fruit snack during the morning session. Please remember this fruit needs to be quick and easy to eat, such as
bananas, carrots, grapes, sultanas etc.
Melons, oranges, nectarines are much better for recess and lunchtime as they can make work sticky.

School Camp Term 4

We are all booked for our annual school camp. Students in Years P –6 will attend a two night camp to Queenscliff from November 4th –6th. Activities will include surfing, bodyboarding, paddle boarding, rock pooling and lots of other beach adventures. The cost to families will be $250 per child. Please feel free to start making payments if you wish. Families are more than welcome to use their SSB funding from 2025, please contact Marilyn for further information.
School Council will also make a considerable contribution to the camp to ensure costs are kept at $250.
If you have any concerns please don't hesitate to make contact with Kerri-Ann.

School Review

On **Monday 24 August**, parents are invited to participate in the **School Review Parent Forum**.

This is an opportunity to share your perspectives, provide valuable feedback, and contribute to discussions that will help inform the school's future directions and continuous improvement.

The school reviewer will set the agenda and advise the meeting time for parents to attend.

We encourage as many families as possible to take part and hope you are able to spare some time on the day.

Your input is greatly valued and appreciated.

School Photos

School photos will take place

THURSDAY 27th August

All students need to wear full school uniform.

· Long black pants

· Black/Emerald Polo shirt

· School rugby jumper or black polar fleece

· Black shoes/black runners

· No jewellery

· Hair accessories in school colours are acceptable.

Envelopes will be sent home shortly

Somers Camp

Every second year students in Years 5/6 from the Wimmera are invited to attend Somers Camp. The camp is a nine day camp with many exciting activities: rock climbing, bush cooking and art, just to name a few. This year Finlay, Charlotte, Jai, Lenney and Lane have taken up the challenge to attend. These students will be on camp from the 8th of September, we look forward to hearing all about his adventures.

Playgroup

Playgroup meets each Monday morning in the Mod 5 building from 10:00am-11:30am. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to come along and enjoy the activities.

WANTED

We are after pallets to be able to make some Christmas Trees from.

Alternatively if you are able to make some of these trees that would be even better. These trees will then be decorated by the students to display in our garden at Christmas. The more the merrier.

2026/2027 ENROLMENTS

If you or know anyone you know who would like to enrol their child for 2026/2027

please contact the school on

03 5356 2235

for a tour and information package.

Transition Days

Wednesday 9th September
9:00am-11:00am

Wednesday 21st October
9:00am-12:45pm

Wednesday 25th November
9:00am-1:00pm

Tuesday 8th December
Statewide Transition-Full Day

Great Western Primary School

POSITIVE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT Strategies

Creating a **safe, respectful and engaging** learning environment for all.

OUR STRATEGIES

CLEAR EXPECTATIONS

We set clear, consistent expectations and routines to support success for everyone.

POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

We build strong relationships based on trust, kindness and mutual respect.

RECOGNISE & CELEBRATE

We acknowledge effort and achievement to encourage positive choices and growth.

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT

We create meaningful, active learning experiences that motivate and inspire.

TEACH & SUPPORT

We explicitly teach social skills and provide the support students need to make good choices.

COLLABORATE TOGETHER

We work in partnership with students, staff and families to support learning and wellbeing.

OUR VALUES

RESPECT

We treat others with kindness and value everyone.

RESPONSIBILITY

We take ownership of our actions and strive to do our best.

HONESTY

We are truthful, trustworthy and act with integrity.

Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Honest.

Great Western Primary School

INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL
ENGAGE IN LEARNING

WHOLE GROUP – SMALL GROUP – INDEPENDENT

HIGH IMPACT TEACHING STRATEGIES

- CLEAR LEARNING INTENTIONS
- SUCCESS CRITERIA
- EFFECTIVE QUESTIONING
- EXPLICIT TEACHING
- MODELLING
- CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING
- FEEDBACK THAT MOVES LEARNING FORWARD
- DIFFERENTIATION
- REVIEW & REFLECTION

NEED TO KNOW
- Prior Knowledge
- Pre Testing
- Post Testing
- Feedback

EXPLICIT
- Focused instruction
- Educational language
- Model
- Check for understanding

Review and Reflect

GOALS
- Student focused
- Individualised
- Differentiated
- WALT / WILT
- Feedback

WHOLE GROUP • SMALL GROUP • INDEPENDENT

GROUP
- Guided Instruction
- Whole/Small Groups
- Individual
- Practise

ACTIVITIES
- Differentiated
- Practise
- Hands On
- Explore

EXPLORE
- Hands On
- Investigation
- Differentiated

OUR SCHOOL VALUES

RESPECT
We show kindness, care and consideration for ourselves, others and our environment.

RESPONSIBILITY
We take ownership of our actions, our learning and strive to do our best.

HONESTY
We are truthful, trustworthy and act with integrity in all that we do.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS
ENGAGED LEARNERS
CONTINUOUS GROWTH

Every student, every lesson, every day.

EVERY STUDENT
EVERY LESSON
EVERY DAY

1 GROWTH MINDSET

Believe You Can Grow!

Your brain is like a muscle.

The more you use it, the stronger it gets!

I can learn anything with time, effort and practice.

2 CHALLENGES HELP ME GROW!

I don't avoid challenges.

I step outside my comfort zone and become better!

3 MISTAKES ARE PROOF I AM TRYING!

Mistakes help me learn and improve.

It's okay to make mistakes. It's not okay to give up.

4 EFFORT MATTERS!

I may not be the best YET, but with effort I will improve!

- I will keep going.
- I will stay focused.
- I will do my best.

5 FEEDBACK HELPS ME GROW!

I listen, learn and use feedback to get better.

Feedback is a gift that helps me improve.

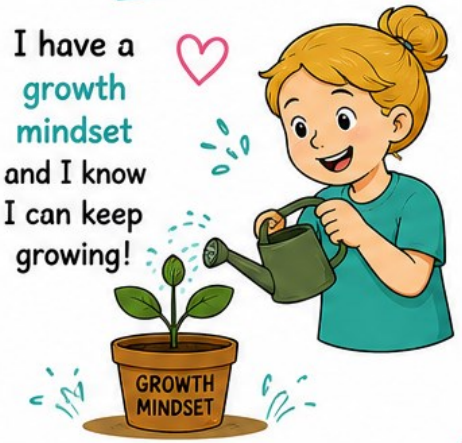
6 PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS!

Small steps every day lead to big results!

I can't do it today...
BUT I WILL KEEP PRACTICING!

7 I CAN LEARN ANYTHING!

I have a growth mindset and I know I can keep growing!



8 MY MINDSET CHOOSE YOUR THOUGHTS!

INSTEAD OF THINKING...	THINK THIS...
I can't do it.	I can't do it... yet!
I give up.	I'll try a different way.
It's too hard.	This may take time and effort.
I made a mistake.	Mistakes help me learn.
I'm not good at this.	I will keep trying and improve!

A GROWTH MINDSET helps me become the best version of ME!

Great Western Primary School

OUR CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

RESPECT

- We listen when others are speaking.
- We use kind words and actions.
- We look after our school and belongings.
- We value and include everyone.

RESPONSIBILITY

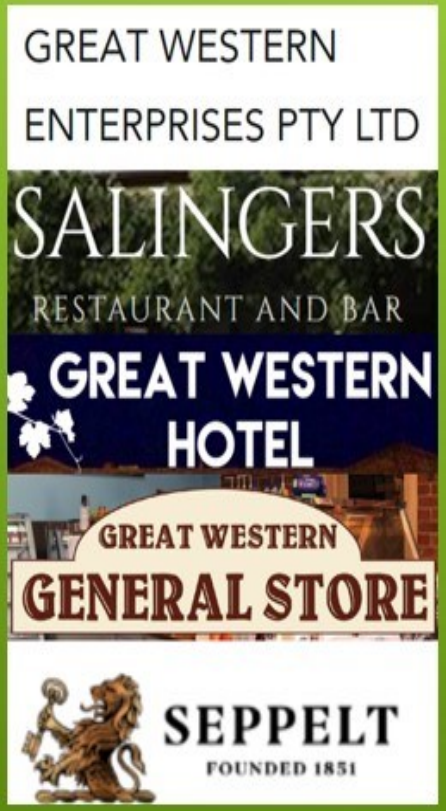
- We come to class ready to learn.
- We follow instructions the first time.
- We take care of our learning.
- We try our best and take pride in our work.

HONESTY

- We tell the truth.
- We take ownership of our actions.
- We do the right thing, even when no one is watching.
- We are fair and trustworthy.

BE RESPECTFUL | **BE RESPONSIBLE** | **BE HONEST**

GREAT WESTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL
2026 ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH CHALLENGE



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.

It's everyone's responsibility.

Adults at school must listen and respond to concerns about child abuse.

If you suspect abuse of any child or young person, you have a responsibility to report it, even if you are not sure.

Further information & resources
www.education.vic.gov.au/protect

THE EDUCATION STATE | VICTORIA State Government | Education and Training | Independent Schools Victoria | cecv | Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority

July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
13 WELCOME BACK TERM 3	14	15 LOTE	16 MARC VAN	17
20	21	22 LOTE	23	24
27	28	29 LOTE	30 MARC VAN	31 AUTHOR DAY HALLS GAP PS

August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 POLICE IN SCHOOLS	4	5 LOTE	6	7
10	11	12 LOTE	13 MARC VAN	14
17 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	18	19 LOTE	20	21
24	25	26 LOTE	27 MARC VAN SCHOOL PHOTOS	28 BOOK WEEK CLUSTER DAY
31				

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