



Great Western Primary School

January 30th, 2025

Principal: Kerri-Ann Harris

PLEASE NOTE AS OF NEXT FORTNIGHT NEWSLETTERS WILL BE SENT HOME VIA EMAIL.

Welcome

WELCOME TO OUR NEW PREP STUDENT

Oscar



Welcome everyone to a new year. As it will be a busy Term 1 please keep an eye out for a number of forms. These forms need to be completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

Classes and Specialist Programs

Leisha:

- Yr. F-2 Classroom Teacher
- P – 6 Science and Performing Arts/Circus
- Tutoring program

Miss Harris

- Principal
- Yr. 3 - 6 Classroom Teacher
- P – 6 Physical Education

Karen Rethus

- Visual Arts F – 6
- Classroom Teacher 3 – 6

Ms Fisc

- Circus/Performing Arts

Joe Riley

- Chinese

Ms Fisher

- MARC Van

Swimming Program

Our swimming program will commence the week beginning 28th Feb and will take place each Friday afternoon for 5 sessions. Students may be collected from the pool at 3:00pm if this suits parents. Please let us know prior to 11am on the day if you would like to collect your child so that children are organised with school bags.

The program is conducted by the Stawell Sports and Aquatic Centre staff and supported by our teachers. Students learn basic swim and survive skills. We utilise both the indoor and outdoor pools.

It is vital that children experience the outdoor pool and swimming and survival skills in a challenging cold-water environment under close supervision.

Please ensure that your child has lunch at school on these days, as sometimes we venture into Stawell for lunch at the park.

Students are reminded to bring along

- **Bathers**
- **Towel**
- **Bag for wet clothes**
- **Full uniform (polo and black shorts) with runners**



School Council Meetings

Monday 17th February

Monday 17th March AGM

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 etc are much better for recess and lunchtime as they can make work sticky.

Great Western Primary School is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount

Email: great.western.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Website: www.greatwestern.ps.vic.gov.au

Phone: 03 5356 2235 Mobile: 0458 562 235

Breakfast Program

Our Breakfast Program will begin next Thursday. Breakfast will be 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.

School Savings Bonus.

Please do not do anything with this bonus. This money is currently sitting as a credit against your child. This money can be used for uniforms, camp or any other activities that may arise. If your child requires uniform: just let the school know you would like to take it from their bonus money. The school then raises a charge and ticks it off against the child's credit.

Please call into see Marilyn (Wednesdays or Thursdays) if you need any clarification.

Camps, Sports and Excursion Funding

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Please see eligibility criteria below. Application forms are available from the office.

For audit reasons we require a copy of your concession card.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must: on the first day of Term one, or Term two

- Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be the holder of a Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, or
- Be a temporary foster parent, and
- Submit an application to the school by the due date

2025 ENROLMENTS NOT TOO LATE



If you or know anyone you know who would like to enrol their child for 2025 please contact the school on 03 5356 2235 for a tour and information package.

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 the **school mobile** 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.

MARC Van

The MARC library van will visit Great Western Primary on Thursdays fortnightly. The first visit will be on Thursday the 13th of February. The MARC van allows students to browse and borrow books of their choosing. If you don't already have one, I recommend sending to school a dedicated library bag to store and carry books.

Happy reading, Caitlyn Fisher, Teacher Librarian

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders will take place each Thursday. Please ensure all orders are written on an envelope with your child's name clearly marked on it along with the correct money enclosed. There will be **NO CREDIT** available payment must be made on the day. Students need to place it in the bags provided outside the staffroom by 9:00am. We would like to thank the Great Western General Store for making the service available.

Conveyance Allowance

Conveyance allowance is available to families who live more than 4.8km from their nearest school please see below for eligibility criteria. If you feel you are eligible please collect an application from the office.

Eligibility

An application on behalf of a student may be submitted if the student is:

- a Victorian resident;
- school aged and enrolled (3) three or more days per week at a school; and
- attend their nearest or designated neighbourhood government school appropriate to their year level, at which admission is permissible, or reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from the campus attended.

2025 Term Dates

Term 1

29th January- 4th April

Term 2

22nd April-4th July

Term 3

21st July-19th September

Term 4

6th October-19th December

Please place these dates on your calendar



As we are coming into some very warm weather over the next three to four days parents need to be aware that the B.O.M could class a day as Catastrophic.

This means the school will be closed.

No staff or children may enter the premises.

If this does occur parents will be notified as soon as the school has received confirmation from the Department.

Kerri-Ann will send each family a text message, if this occurs.

BIRTHDAYS HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Jai
and
Ellie

who celebrated their birthdays in
January
We hope you had a great day

SUNSMART

Just a reminder that as a part of our Sun Smart Policy all children must wear a hat while outside during Term 1 and Term 4. Hats are available from the school



Second hand Polo Shirts for sale.

\$5.00 each-assorted sizes.

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.

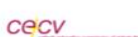


It's everyone's responsibility.

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



Email: great.western.ps@education.vic.gov.au

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Phone: 03 5356 2235 Mobile: 0458 562 235

Playgroup

Just a reminder that Playgroup will be commencing next Wednesday. We are looking forward to a fun year of activities.

February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5 LOTE	6	7
10	11	12	13 MARC VAN	14
17 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	18	19 LOTE	20	21
14	25	26	27 MARC VAN	28 SWIM PROGRAM

March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5 LOTE	6	7 SWIM PROGRAM
10 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	11 SMILE SQUAD	12 NAPLAN	13 MARC VAN SMILE SQUAD NAPLAN	14 SWIM PROGRAM NAPLAN
17 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING AGM	18	19 MATHS OLYMPICS YEAR 5-6 LOTE	20	21 SWIM PROGRAM
24	25	26	27 MARC VAN	28 SWIM PROGRAM

Tuesday April 1st Leadership Day Year 6 Thursday 3rd April Cluster Cross Country Friday 4th April Final Day

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