Great Western Primary School

July 30th, 2026

Principal: Kerri-Ann Harris

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Community,

PUPIL FREE DAY
Tuesday 4th August
Staff attending Literacy Conference

Literacy Day

Tomorrow, our students will travel to Halls Gap Primary School to participate in a morning of engaging literacy activities.
Our senior students will have the exciting opportunity to work with author **Nikki Kelly**, who recently published the novel *Shifters*.
Thanks to the generosity of Karin, each of our senior students has received a gifted copy of *Shifters* to read and enjoy before meeting the author.

Book Week-

Book Week will take place later this term. As part of our Book Week celebrations, students will travel to Concongella Primary School on **Friday, 28 August**, to participate in a range of exciting activities.
This year's Book Week theme is **"Symphony of Stories"**, and students can look forward to celebrating books, reading, and storytelling throughout the day.
More details will be provided closer to the event

Absences, Late Arrivals and Early Departures

Reminder: "It's Not Okay to Be Away!"
If your child will be absent from school, arriving late, or leaving early, please send the school a text message before **9:30 am**.
The Department of Education (DET) requires us to follow up on any unexplained absences after 9:30 am. Sending a text message provides the school with your written parental notification and helps us meet these requirements.
Thank you for your cooperation and support.

August Census

A big thank you to the families who have already returned their forms. If you haven't had a chance to return yours yet, we would appreciate it if you could do so by **Tuesday, 4th August**. Thank you for your support and cooperation

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.

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 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

School Camp Term 4

We are excited to let you know that our annual school camp has been booked!

Students in **Prep to Year 6** will attend a **two-night camp in Queenscliff** from **4–6 November**. Camp is always a highlight of the school year, and we have an exciting program planned. Students will enjoy activities including surfing, bodyboarding, paddleboarding, rock pooling, and plenty of other beach adventures.
The cost to families will be **$250 per child**. If you would like to, you are welcome to start making payments towards camp at any time.
Families are also welcome to use any remaining **School Saving Bonus (SSB) funding from 2025** to help cover the cost of camp. Please contact Marilyn if you would like more information about using your SSB funds.
If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Kerri-Ann. We are looking forward to another fantastic camp experience for all of our students!

A PERMISSION FORM HAS BEEN SENT HOME TODAY.

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 looking for wooden pallets to help us create some Christmas trees for our school garden.

If you have any spare pallets you would be happy to donate, we would greatly appreciate them.
Even better, if you enjoy woodworking and would be willing to make some pallet Christmas trees for us, we would love your help!
Our students will decorate the trees, which will be displayed throughout the school garden during the Christmas season.
The more trees we have, the more festive our garden will be!

If you are able to help in any way, please let us know.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

BELATED CHRISTMAS IN JULY Thursday 13th August

To congratulate our students on their wonderful behaviour and hard work, we will be celebrating **Christmas in July** in August! This special celebration is simply a fun way to reward our students for their efforts throughout the year.
Students will participate in a range of pre-Christmas activities, including decorating our wooden pallet Christmas trees. It promises to be a fun and festive day, celebrating the positive contributions and achievements of all our students.

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

East Grampians Health Service invites you to attend our annual

East Grampians Health Service

Research Showcase

Join us to launch the Modified Sport for Older Adults in Rural Communities Toolkit. Research posters will also be on display.

DATE: 3 SEPTEMBER 2026
TIME: 2:00PM – 3:00PM
VENUE: MT WILLIAM ROOM, EAST GRAMPIANS HEALTH SERVICE

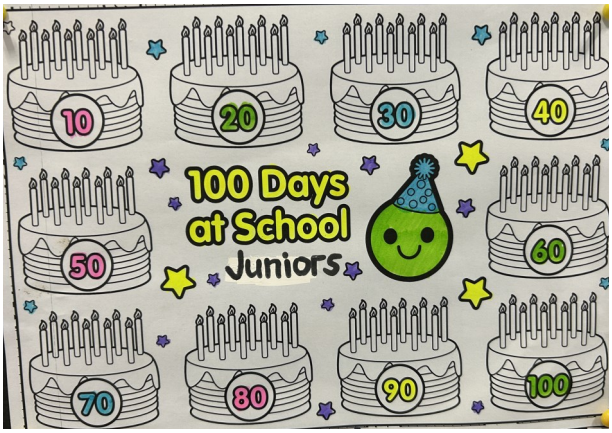
Light refreshments will be provided.

Please register via the QR code.

For further information, contact developmentandimprovement@eghs.net.au or ph: (03) 5352 9467

This event is supported by:

Western Alliance



100 DAYS OF SCHOOL

*Yesterday, our Prep students celebrated a very special milestone – **100 Days of School!***

*As a junior classroom, we marked this exciting achievement with a range of fun, hands-on activities centred around the number **100** while celebrating how much they have learned and grown over the past 100 days.*

We are so proud of our Prep students and all they have accomplished so far this year.

MARC VAN

Today, our junior students learned all about why **frogs are our friends** and the important role they play in our environment. After discovering some fascinating facts about frogs and their habitats, students put their creativity to work by designing and creating their very own frogs.

Our Winter Harvest is coming along

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 Education and Training | Independent Schools Victoria | ceccv | Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority

Great Western
PRIMARY SCHOOL
RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • HONESTY

ENROL NOW FOR 2027

A SMALL SCHOOL WITH BIG OPPORTUNITIES A BIG HEART

Where every student is known, valued and supported to thrive.

A welcoming rural school with **strong connections, high expectations** and a focus on *learning for life.*

RESPECT
We are kind, we listen and we care for ourselves and others.

RESPONSIBILITY
We are ready to learn, make good choices and take pride in our school.

HONESTY
We are honest, trustworthy and always do our best.

EVERY STUDENT KNOWN, VALUED AND SUPPORTED
Small class sizes and caring teachers help every student thrive.

QUALITY LEARNING
Engaging programs, high expectations and a focus on continuous growth.

WELLBEING FOCUSED
We support social and emotional wellbeing and positive relationships.

CONNECTED COMMUNITY
Strong partnerships with families and our wider community.

ENROL TODAY!
We'd love to welcome your family.

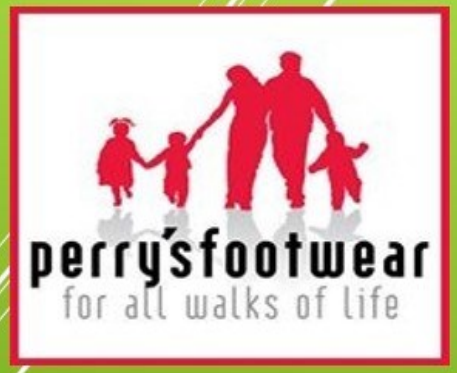
Call us today
0408 389 319

Visit us
Stephenson Street
Great Western VIC 3374

Find us on Facebook
Great Western Primary School

EVERY STUDENT • EVERY OPPORTUNITY • EVERY DAY

GREAT WESTERN PRIMARY SCHOOL
2026 ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH CHALLENGE



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Great Western Primary School

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.

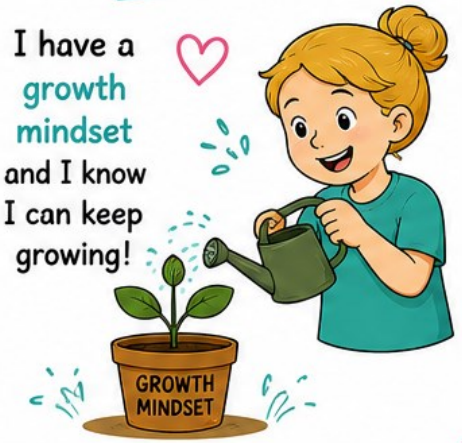
6 PRACTICE MAKES PROGRESS!

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**

August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 POLICE IN SCHOOLS	4 **PUPIL FREE DAY**	5 LOTE	6	7
10	11	12 LOTE	13 MARC VAN LATE CHRISTMAS IN JULY	14
17 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	18	19 LOTE	20	21
24 **REVIEW PARENT FORUM**	25	26 LOTE	27 MARC VAN	28 BOOK WEEK CLUSTER DAY

September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2 LOTE	3	4
7	8 SOMERS CAMP	9 SOMERS CAMP LOTE	10 SOMERS CAMP MARC VAN	11 SOMERS CAMP
14 SOMERS CAMP SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING	15 SOMERS CAMP	16 SOMERS CAMP LOTE	17	18 **FINAL DAY TERM 3**
21	22	23	24	25
28				

HOLIDAYS

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