



WANDONG
Primary School

School Weekly News

September 18, 2026
Term 3, Issue 30

Visit us on online.
WWW.WANDONGPS.VIC.EDU.AU/

Visit us on Social Media.
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WANDONGPS





Dear Parents/Carers,

Chickenpox Notification

Please be advised that the school has been notified of a reported case of chickenpox (varicella) within our school community.

Chickenpox is a contagious viral infection that can spread through coughing, sneezing and direct contact. Symptoms may include fever, tiredness and an itchy blister-like rash.

In accordance with Victorian Department of Health guidelines, any child diagnosed with chickenpox is required to remain at home until all blisters have dried.

Families are asked to monitor their child for symptoms and seek medical advice if required. Please notify the school if your child is diagnosed with chickenpox.

Chickenpox may present a higher risk to pregnant women, newborn babies and people with weakened immune systems. Families with vulnerable household members may wish to seek medical advice.

Thank you for your support.





Wandong Primary School

ROAD SAFETY TRAFFIC & PARKING

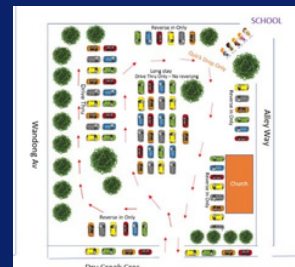


RAIL STREET CROSSING

Use the NEW Rail Street Pedestrian Crossing when travelling to and from school. Using the crossing ensures safe arrival and clear visibility for drivers.

CHURCH CARPARK SAFETY

Reverse parking only for child safety. Drive at walking pace at all times. Children must not walk through carpark without an adult.



PARKING

Bus stop relocated back to Rail Street.
Alternative parking: Church Car Park or Wandong Avenue or L.B Davern Reserve (short walk to school).

DISABLED PARKING

Disabled Parking Spaces on Affleck Street is strictly **reserved** for vehicles displaying a valid Disabled Parking Permit.



KISS AND DROP

Available along Rail Street. Access via the designated gate only. Follow all parking signs and instructions carefully at all times.

ACCESS GATES

Rail Street gates for general access. TheirCare (OHSC) via Rail Street gate.
Administration Building via Affleck Street gate.



REMINDERS

Walk or ride to school when possible to reduce traffic congestion around the school.

COUNCIL & SIGNAGE

Council is monitoring the area. Follow all traffic and parking signage. Your cooperation keeps our school community safe.



SAFETY EXPECTATIONS

Hand-holding encouraged for younger children. Be respectful of the shared community space. Arrive early for a calm, orderly environment.

STAY INFORMED

Check school communications regularly for updates on access and parking changes throughout the year.





Wandong Primary School

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S DUE



September	2026
Friday 18th	End of Term Assembly at 9:15am
Friday 18th	Footy Colours Day
Friday 18th	Last Day Term 3 – Dismissal at 2:30pm
October	2026
Monday 5th	Term 4 – Students return to school
Tuesday 6th to Wednesday 14th	Somers School Camp – selected students only
Monday 12th to Friday 16th	Glasses for Kids
Wednesday 14th	Northern Metro Region Track and Field Championships – selected students only
Thursday 15th	Foundation – Pevan and Sarah Concert
Friday 16th	Foundation Bounce Camp – consent and payment due today
Friday 16th	Grade 1 / 2 Overnight Camp. Camp Weekaway – consent and payment due today
Friday 16th	Grade 3 / 4 Camp. Log Cabin Camp – consent and payment due today
Friday 16th	Grade 5 / 6 Camp. The Ranch – consent and payment due today
Tuesday 20th	PAFA Meeting at 9:15am



"We make a difference"



PRIDE



kindness



CURIOSITY



Gratitude



Wandong Primary School

WHAT'S ON WHAT'S DUE



November	2026
Tuesday 3rd	Public Holiday Melbourne Cup – no school
Friday 6th	Working Bee: 1/2B, FD, 5/6H 
Thursday 12th	Funfields – 2026 End of Year Pool Party – consent and payment due
Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th	Grade 3 / 4 Camp. Log Cabin Camp
Friday 20th	Foundation Bounce Camp
Monday 23rd to Tuesday 24th	Grade 1 / 2 Overnight Camp. Camp Weekaway
Wednesday 25th to Friday 27th	Grade 5 / 6 Camp. The Ranch
December	2026
Friday 4th	Working Bee: FS, 1/2M, 3/4G 
Monday 7th 	Wandong Christmas Concert at 4:30pm
Tuesday 8th	Statewide Transition Day
Wednesday 9th	Pizza in the Park – 200 Nights of Reading (A-K Surnames)
Thursday 10th	Pizza in the Park – 200 Nights of Reading (L-Z Surnames)
Wednesday 16th 	Grade 6 Graduation – Dinner at Hogans Hotel, followed by Graduation Ceremony at the Wallan Secondary College Auditorium.
Thursday 17th	Funfields – 2026 End of Year Pool Party
Friday 18th	Last Day Term 4 – Dismissal at 1:30pm

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs Morrow

How are we already here?



Term 4 is just around the corner, and if history tells us anything, it will arrive at full speed and barely take a breath!

With our whole school camping program, 2027 class and staffing preparations, transition activities, graduation and all the wonderful end of year celebrations, there will be plenty happening across Wandong.

Please keep an eye on Compass, note important dates and complete any required consent or payment as soon as information is shared. If your family will be leaving Wandong at the end of the year, please also let us know promptly. Every enrolment matters when we are planning classes and staffing for 2027.

Most importantly, please read the newsletter each week. It is the best place to find upcoming dates, reminders and everything you need to know. If you miss an edition, all newsletters are available on our website.

Term 4 is always big, busy and a little bit bonkers, but it is also filled with some of the most special moments of our school year. We cannot wait!



DON'T FORGET

WE FINISH AT 2:30PM TODAY

- As per our Sun Smart Policy, "children are required to wear a sun smart hat that protects the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside from September to the end of April".
- Students should arrive on time every day.
- Students are expected to wear full school uniform each day.
- Pack healthy lunches and snacks.
- Check and support your child with homework routines.
- Encourage reading daily.
- Return library books on time.
- Park legally and responsibly around the school.
- Remind students about school values, kindness, pride, curiosity and gratitude.
- Encourage problem-solving and responsible decision-making.



Screens, Social Media and Safer Holidays

School holidays often mean more time online, whether children are gaming, watching videos or chatting with friends. Technology can be great fun, but primary-aged children still need active adult supervision, clear limits and regular check-ins.

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS ARE NOW 16+

Australia's social media age restrictions are now in effect. Platforms including TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, YouTube, Reddit and others must take reasonable steps to prevent children under 16 from creating or keeping accounts. This is not about children being punished. The responsibility sits with the platforms.

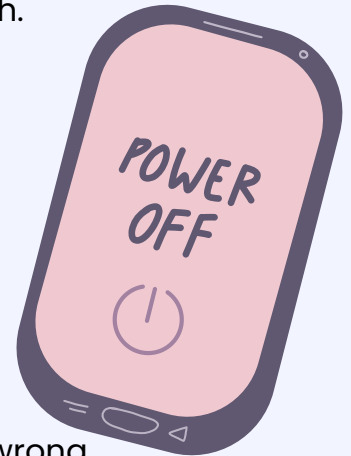
GAMING STILL NEEDS SUPERVISION

Online games such as Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite are not covered by the social media age restrictions. However, children may still encounter strangers, inappropriate language, upsetting content, in-game purchases and pressure to keep playing. Check the game's age rating, privacy settings and chat features, and know who your child is playing with.

QUICK HOLIDAY CHECK

Before the holidays begin:

- Keep devices out of bedrooms overnight.
- Set clear daily screen limits.
- Turn off open chat and location sharing.
- Use parental controls on devices, apps and gaming consoles.
- Check friend lists and online contacts together.
- Encourage regular breaks, outdoor play and device-free family time.
- Remind children they can always come to you if something online feels wrong.



The best online safety tool is an involved adult. Talk regularly, stay curious and explore the online world alongside your child.

For trusted advice and step-by-step guides, visit the eSafety Commissioner's Parent Resources page.

Online Safety – REMINDER – and even more important than ever

Our children are growing up in a world of ever-changing technology. While we feel that the use of technology is a largely positive aspect of modern life, we cannot ignore the risks that can be associated with its use. In our school, digital literacy is an important strand of our computing curriculum but our school ethos also intends to teach children so much more including:

- the impact of cyber-bullying and what to do if they have been affected.
- to be vigilant when communicating online recognising that people may not always be who they say they are and to be sensible about what they share.
- to tell an adult they trust if something is upsetting them.
- to question the reliability of information given through a web-based source.
- to search responsibly for information while using internet browsers.

We understand that much of our pupil's use of the internet will occur at home, away from the school firewall and filtering system. It is important that as parents you understand, monitor and set safety protocols to keep your child safe online.

This should begin with an awareness of the age classification ratings for popular games, films and apps.



PG

13+

PG

15



**End of Term 3 – Friday 18
September 2026**

What a term! Term 3 has been packed with learning, laughter, achievements and plenty of Wandong spirit. A huge thank you to our wonderful students, families and staff for making it such a positive and memorable one.

Early Dismissal:

School finishes at 2:30 pm on Friday 18 September 2026. Students will be dismissed from their classrooms, ready to swap school bags for holiday mode!

Enjoy a safe, happy and well-earned break. We can't wait to welcome everyone back refreshed and ready for a fantastic Term 4!



**HELP
NEEDED
HELP!**

Early Student Collections

We understand that genuine emergencies and exceptional circumstances arise. However, **students are not to be collected early from school between 3.00 pm and 3.30 pm**, unless there is an extraordinary, exceptional or emergency reason.

We are currently processing hundreds of early sign-outs. This volume is simply not manageable and creates significant additional workload and disruption for our office staff.

Any request for a regular early departure to attend an extracurricular activity must be submitted to the Principal in advance. As with all absence requests, approval will be considered based on the individual circumstances, including the student's overall attendance, learning progress and educational needs.

We appreciate that families are busy, but students are expected to remain at school until the end of the day. Thank you for respecting this expectation and supporting our staff.

School Day School Day School Day **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Aligning Our School Day With Community Needs

As our school and community continue to grow and change, we need to ensure our school day remains practical, sustainable and responsive to the needs of our students and families. With this in mind, we are considering changing our formal school hours to 8.40 am to 3.00 pm from 2027.

This would not shorten the school day or reduce students' learning time. It would allow us to maintain the full instructional program while better aligning with surrounding schools, meeting the requirements of the new Victorian Government Schools Agreement and providing more students with access to the growing bus service, which collects children at 3.10 pm.

As outlined above, we are also experiencing an unsustainable number of early collections, particularly for swimming, gymnastics, dance, football, basketball and other activities. Apart from the significant workload created by hundreds of sign-outs, regular early departures mean children repeatedly miss valuable learning time. A 3.00 pm finish would allow students to complete their full school day while making it easier for families to manage transport and important commitments outside school.

Our classrooms already open at 8.40 am, so the morning routine would remain largely unchanged for most families. TheirCare OSHC would also continue to operate as normal before and after school.

Please access the link below to share your feedback:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/MRrCleiSGm>





Attendance Type	Approved by DET	Evidence Required	Notes / Clarifications
Illness or accident	Yes	Parent notification acceptable	Medical certificate may be requested if absences become frequent or ongoing
Medical or dental appointments	Yes	Appointment note may be requested	Approve where appointment cannot reasonably be scheduled outside school hours
Cultural or religious observance	Yes	Parent notification	Recognised cultural and religious observances. Prior notification preferred
Suspended student (school initiated)	Yes	School record	Recorded as an approved absence in line with suspension guidelines
Bereavement or funeral attendance	Yes (with approval)	Parent notification	Requires principal approval. Support offered as required
Truancy	No	Not applicable	Follow up required. Meetings and attendance improvement processes apply
School refusal	Yes (with approval)	Parent notification	Requires principal approval. Approved where a plan is in place to address causes
Family holiday during school term	Yes (with approval)	Parent notification	Principal approval required. Learning plan may be required if extended or repeated
Long term travel (over 10 days)	No unless exempted	DET exemption approval	Must be approved prior to absence
Leisure activities (shopping, visiting relatives)	No	Not applicable	Not an acceptable reason for absence
Oversleeping or transport issues	No	Not applicable	Recorded as an unapproved absence
Looking after siblings	No	Not applicable	Not an acceptable reason for absence
Parent choice to keep child home	No	Not applicable	Includes fatigue without illness
Home schooling (not registered with VRQA)	No	VRQA registration required	Student must be enrolled or formally registered





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& co.



LUNCH ORDERS

now available

5 DAYS A WEEK!



From
MONDAY 25TH MAY



Lunch orders available
Monday to Friday



Fresh, delicious meals
supplied by **Crumbs & Co.**



Order easily via the
Flexischools app



Flexischools

Making school lunches easy!



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FRIDAY
18TH SEPTEMBER

FOOTY COLOURS DAY!

**WEAR YOUR
FAVOURITE
FOOTY COLOURS
AND SHOW YOUR
TEAM PRIDE!**



**ONE DAY.
MANY COLOURS.
ONE BIG TEAM!**



AFL



NRL



SOCCER



**ALL FOOTBALL
WELCOME!**

LET'S LIGHT UP WPS WITH COLOURS!



CAMPING PROGRAM CAMPS DEADLINE

The deadline for camp payments
and consent is fast approaching!

DON'T MISS OUT!



CAMP DEADLINE EXPIRES ON
FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER!

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas CONCERT!

2026

A SPECIAL NIGHT OF

SINGING, DANCING &
CHRISTMAS CHEER!

ADD IT TO
YOUR
calendar!

★
7TH
DECEMBER
— — — — —
4.30PM

WEAR YOUR
BEST
Festive
Gear!

★ *Let's come together* ★
TO CELEBRATE THE MAGIC
of Christmas!





Wandong Primary School

PAFA

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Soma Paterson



PAFA Meeting – 2026

At our recent PAFA meeting, we discussed upcoming fundraising events and ideas for supporting Term 4 school initiatives. We reviewed the success of past activities and brainstormed new ways to involve our school community.

Thank you to all the parents who attended and shared their ideas!

If you would like to join our next PAFA meeting, don't miss out! It is on 20th October 2026. We'd love to welcome you!



Thank you to all the parents/carers who have donated their yellow shirts. However, we will no longer be accepting these for second hand uniform sales.

UPCOMING TERM 4

ZOOOPER DOOPER DAYS

Every THURSDAY starting
October 8th 2026

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

October 14th 2026

PAFA thanks you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts!

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OFFICE

NOTICES

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30am until 3:55pm

Admin Team

Picking Up Children

Please help our admin team!

In exceptional circumstances and emergencies, at times children need to be collected from school early. Please help our wonderful administration team by ensuring that this is not done during the break times of **11:00–11:30am** and **1:45–2:30pm**.

When children are outside playing with their friends, they do not hear the announcements and it is difficult to have a staff member unlock classrooms to collect bags and belongings.

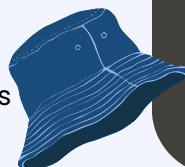
Please help support our classroom programs by waiting until **3:30pm** to collect children. The admin area is growing quite hectic in the afternoons with families collecting children early.

Thank you in advance for your support and understanding.



Reminder – Hats Term 4

We would like to request parents/guardians of students to pack a set of spare uniform items in their child's bag, including a waterproof bag (plastic bag). We have limited spare uniform at the office. If your child has recently needed to borrow items from our sick bay, please wash and return them to the office as soon as possible.



IMPORTANT: – Mobile Phone/Watch/Device Policy

In 2020, DET introduced strict restrictions on the use of any device with access to a cellular system, with or without a physical connection to a network. Where students bring a device of this type to school, it **MUST** be placed in secure storage at the office.



IMPORTANT: – Student Information

It is very important we have up-to-date information for all students. Please check Compass and update current home & email address, phone numbers & medical details.



IMPORTANT: – Policies

All current WPS Policies can be viewed through our school website

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UNIFORM

COMPASS CANTEEN



Admin Team

How to Order on Compass Canteen

- Log into the **Compass App**.
- On the home screen, select **Canteen** or go to More and then select Canteen.
- Click on the Canteen button and select **Get started**.
- Select **Student, then Next**.
- Select **Sitting** – choose the next date if the current one is closed (e.g. Pizza Day).
- Select the sitting **type** (Uniform, Team Shirt, Pizza Day, etc.)
- Select **Sizes** (if ordering uniform).
- Click **Next**.
- **Click on the required item** (e.g. Bomber Jacket, pizza).
- **Add** item.
- Repeat for other items.
- Proceed to review order.
- Select Confirm and Pay, and follow the payment steps.

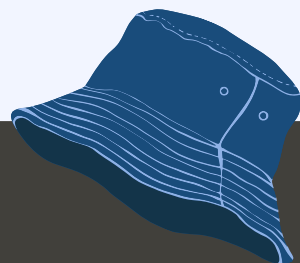
Select Customise when ordering uniform or team shirt.

- If ordering a team shirt, include the player number in the special instructions.

Collecting and Naming Items

If you order a bag, the order can be placed in your child's or their sibling's tub for convenience. If not, you'll need to supply a bag or make arrangements to collect.

Please remember to put your child's full name on their uniform. Please don't use initials, as this makes it harder for us to identify the owner.



When ordering uniforms through Compass, use the Canteen section. See instructions at left for how to order.

Going paperless helps reduce waste and conserve natural resources.

Please Note:

If your order date is closed, select the next day – even if it's a weekend!



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2027 WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL TEAM SHIRT!



ORDER ON COMPASS CANTEEN NOW



The WPS Team Shirt is available for students in **Grades 3 – 6 ONLY**, and can be worn on sport days, unit sport days, interschool sports competitions, district, division and regional sporting events.



Each shirt will have the student's **LAST NAME** (no nicknames) printed on the back with a number of their choice.



The cost of the 2027 Team Shirt is **\$45** and we are taking orders on **COMPASS CANTEEN** now.



We have a number of sample sizes available at the office.
YOUTH 8, 10, 12, 14,
ADULT XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL.
(Sizes go up to 8XL)



**** Please note, this is not a compulsory uniform item****



HOW TO ORDER...

- 1 Open up the 'Community' tab within your Compass account and click on the 'CANTEEN' link.
- 2 If you are new to 'Canteen' it will prompt you to 'Get Started'
- 3 From here, you will select what child the order is for then click next
- 4 Next you will be asked to 'SELECT SITTING'. Please select 1st Nov 2026
- 5 Select 'TEAM SHIRT 2027' then next
- 6 Select 'ADD ITEMS'
- 7 Select 'PROCEED TO REVIEW ORDER'
- 8 *****IMPORTANT*****
Within the 'SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS' Box, please place the number your child wishes to have on their shirt.
- 9 Add order.

IT'S THAT EASY.

*** IMPORTANT ***



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

e.g. 22

Within the '**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**' Box, please place the number your child wishes to have on their shirt.



Shirts will be delivered within the **first week of Term 1 2027**.



Note ORDERS CLOSE
31st October 2026

Pride
Curiosity



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2027 EARLY BIRD OFFER

Parent payments open 8.30am Thursday 17 September



WANDONG
SIGNATURE
HEAVY-DUTY
BOTTLE



FIRST 100 PAYMENTS

Receive a **FREE**
personalised drink bottle



PAY BY 30 OCTOBER

Purchase our brand-new,
newly designed House Polo Shirt
for the reduced price of

\$30

Proud to be Wandong ♥

Available through Compass Canteen



Wandong Primary School

MUSIC

Guitar/Vocal/Piano/Drums



PIANO LESSONS at Wandong Primary School

Piano lessons are now available
during school hours.



Lessons are available for students of all levels,
from **beginners to advanced**.



FREE no-obligation trial lessons available.

ABOUT THE TEACHER

- ✓ Bachelor of Music – University of Melbourne
- ✓ Over 7 years' experience teaching
- ✓ AMEB exam preparation or learning for enjoyment

Drums, Vocal, Piano & Keyboard Teachers

We would like to inform you
that, we have found a piano
teacher, contact the school
for further details.

We understand the value of
music education and are
actively exploring options to
resume the other programs in
the future. We will keep you
updated as soon as more
information becomes
available.

Thank you for your
understanding and support.

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AFTERSCHOOL CARE

THEIRCARE



Exceptional Before & After School Care
and amazing School Holiday programs!

TheirCare provides inclusive, child-led, **FUN** outside school hours care

Click here for more information about
registration, fees and bookings!



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- Small Group Training
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- Lose Fat
- Improve Mental Health
- Unit 2, 1 Theodore Court, Wandong
- www.fiit4orall.com.au
- PH: 0438 777 944

14
Days
\$14

T's & C's Apply

TIMETABLE

MONDAY Strong AF	TUESDAY Fiit AF	WEDNESDAY Strong AF	THURSDAY Met Fiit	FRIDAY Strong AF	SATURDAY
5:15AM	5:15AM	5:15AM	5:15AM	5:15AM	
6:15AM	6:15AM	6:15AM	6:15AM	6:15AM	
9:30AM	9:30AM	9:30AM	9:30AM	9:30AM	
5:30PM	5:30PM	5:30PM	5:30PM	5:30PM	

Scan to join





SPRING ACTIVITIES.

School Holidays

Get creative this spring school holidays with fun children's activities at Mitchell Shire libraries.

Join us for spring school holiday activities in
Broadford, Kilmore, Seymour and Wallan:

- Make your own grass head, dinosaur headdress, seedball or invisible painting
- Enjoy the Super Science experience or the Flash Twinkle Toes Silly Circus Magic show
- See The Amazing Hazel, the funny juggling clown or the Once Upon a Time or Talk to the Animal shows
- Plus board games and lego

Bookings required. Children must be supervised at all times.

For more information visit
mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/school-holidays

Mitchell Shire Library Service

Broadford Customer and Library Service Centre

113 High Street, Broadford

Greater Beveridge Community Centre

Corner Lithgow Street and
Mandalay Circuit, Beveridge

Kilmore Customer and Library Service Centre

12 Sydney Street, Kilmore

Seymour Customer and Library Service Centre

125 Anzac Avenue, Seymour

Wallan Customer and Library Service Centre

Wellington Square Shopping Centre,
12/81 High Street, Wallan

Contact us

t. (03) 5734 6451 e. libraries@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
www.libraries.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au



Mitchell Shire School Holiday Programs



WEEK 1

	Monday 21 September	Tuesday 22 September	Wednesday 23 September	Thursday 24 September	Friday 25 September	Saturday 26 September
Broadford		Dinosaur headdress 2 – 3pm		Grass heads 2 – 3pm		
Kilmore	Super Science 10.30 – 11.30am		Fossil dig dinosaur 10.30 – 11.30am			
Seymour		Grass heads 2 – 3pm		The Amazing Hazel 10.30 – 11.30am		
Wallan	Grass heads 2 – 3pm	Flash Twinkle Toes Silly Circus Magic 10.30 – 11.30am		Invisible Painting 2 – 3pm		

WEEK 2

	Monday 28 September	Tuesday 29 September	Wednesday 30 September	Thursday 1 October	Friday 2 October	Saturday 3 October
Broadford	Invisible Painting 2 – 3pm		Talk to the Animals 10.30 – 11.30am		Seedballs 10.30 – 11.30am	
Kilmore	Grass heads 2 – 3pm		Once Upon a Time 1.30 – 2.30pm		Invisible Painting 2 – 3pm	
Seymour	Seedballs 10.30 – 11.30am		Dinosaurs headdress 2 – 3pm		Invisible Painting 2 – 3pm	
Wallan		Dinosaurs headdress 2 – 3pm		Seedballs 10.30 – 11.30am		

For more details and event bookings including Babytime, Rhymetime, Youth and Leisure Services Activities visit www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/school-holidays

Contact us

t. (03) 5734 6200 e. libraries@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au
www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/libraries

