

WANDONG
Primary School



School Weekly News



November 27 2026
Term 4, Issue 38

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

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

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





November	2026
Wednesday 25th to Friday 27th	Grade 5 / 6 Camp. The Ranch 
December	**2026**
Friday 4th	Working Bee: FS, 1/2M, 3/4G
Friday 4th	Great Vic Rail Trail between Tallarook and Trawool - consent and payment due
Friday 4th	Crazy Hair Day - Gold coin donation
	**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)
Thursday 10th	Volunteers Morning Tea at 11:00am-11:30am - see flyer below
Friday 11th	Great Vic Rail Trail between Tallarook and Trawool
Tuesday 15th	End of Term Assembly at 9:15am
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**

PRIDE kindness CURIOSITY Gratitude

"We make a difference"

Wandong Primary School



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs Morrow

$30 early bird house polos - REMINDER

The $30 early bird offer is open to families who have paid their 2027 parent contributions. Those families have received an invitation through Compass. All other families will be able to order house polos next year.

If you've received an invitation, follow these steps to order.

- Open Compass in a web browser on your phone or computer.
- Go to Canteen and select 5 December as the sitting.
- Choose your child's house colour and size, then place your order.

The offer closes **Friday 4 December.** Following the Compass app update, orders can currently only be placed through a web browser. We've contacted Compass about this.

The Race is ON

We are racing towards Christmas and, if anyone was wondering, I'm every bit as unprepared as I was this time last year! I'm still genuinely envious of those super organised humans who've already finished their shopping. If you're looking for a second job as a personal shopper... you know where to find me

Camp season is done!

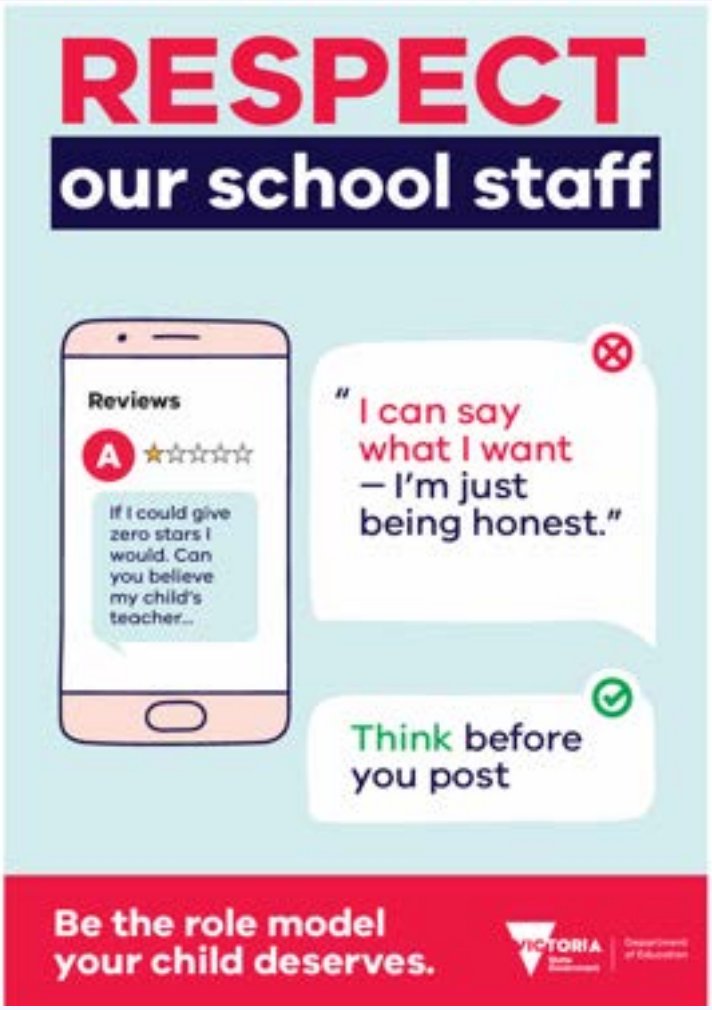
All our camps have now wrapped up, and I've loved hearing the stories children have brought back. There's always someone who can't wait to tell you what happened in their cabin, who made them laugh or what they tried even though they were a little nervous. For some children, simply staying away from home was a big step, and it's lovely to see how proud they are of themselves when they get back.

A very big thank you to our staff who volunteer their time to go on camp. Being away from your own family, getting very little sleep and still being the person who helps a homesick child settle in the middle of the night is a big ask. I'm incredibly grateful for the care you give our children and for the time you give to our Wandong community.

And to our parent helpers... thank you! From pitching in at mealtimes to helping with activities and encouraging children to have a go, you make such a difference. We know it takes a fair bit of juggling at home and at work to come along, and we really appreciate it.

Looking ahead to 2027

Transition is underway across the school, and there's a lovely mix of excitement and nerves as children start thinking about next year. Our newest Wandong learners are getting to know the school, while our Year 6s are getting ready for their next big step. For the children in between, it's the little things that make next year feel more familiar... seeing where they'll learn, getting to know a teacher or spotting a friendly face.





WHEN WE MAKE THAT CALL HOME

Teaching is hard. It's also incredibly rewarding, but one of the hardest parts is picking up the phone to tell a family that something has happened at school. No teacher looks forward to making that call. We know it can be just as hard to receive it, especially when it's about your own child.

Sometimes, the most helpful thing we can hear at the other end of the phone is, "I'm so sorry this has happened. Thanks for letting me know. I'll follow it up at home." Those few words tell us we have your support, and that makes a real difference. There's room to ask questions and share what your child tells you, too. It helps us understand what's happened and work out what comes next together.

Please trust that when we call, it's because we care about your child and want to help. We want what's best for every child at Wandong, and sometimes that means having a conversation that's a little uncomfortable for all of us.

Whether it's over the phone, by email or in person, we ask that those conversations are respectful and kind. That's what DET's Respectful Behaviours Policy asks of all of us. And to the families who listen, back us in and follow through at home... thank you. It means more to our staff than you probably realise... And more importantly, we know this has the greatest impact for our children.

TEACHING IS HARD



Respecting every child's privacy

When your child comes home upset about something that happened at school, it's natural to want to know how it was handled. You might ask, "What happened with the other child?" I understand why you'd ask… you want to know your child has been heard and that we've taken what happened seriously.

Just as we would keep conversations about your child and family private, we do the same for every family at Wandong. That includes conversations we've had with another child or their family and any consequences that may have followed.

What I hope you can trust is that we take the time to listen to the children involved, understand what happened and follow it up. We consider the circumstances and what each child needs, and respond in a way that is fair and appropriate. That can mean helping a child understand the impact of their actions, working with them to put things right and following through with a consequence where needed.

We can talk with you about how your child is going and what we're doing to support them. We want every child at Wandong to feel safe, to know that we'll listen and to have the chance to learn when things go wrong. Thank you for trusting us to do that work with care.

Principal Certificate of Excellence 2026



As part of our Semester Two reporting process, students who achieve an EXCELLENT rating for behaviour and effort in every class, including all specialist subjects, will receive a Principal Certificate of Excellence. These certificates will be uploaded to Compass when reports are finalised. Please remember to check your child's dashboard, as Compass does not provide an alert when a certificate or comment is added to their Student Chronicle.

Academic Excellence Awards 2026



We are proud to continue our annual recognition of Academic Excellence in English and Mathematics. Teaching teams across Foundation, Year 1 and 2, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 will review and moderate each child's learning data to identify one outstanding student in each year level.

English Academic Excellence
Awarded to students who demonstrate consistently high achievement across Reading, Writing and Speaking and Listening.

Mathematics Academic Excellence
Awarded to students who demonstrate consistently high achievement across Number, Algebra, Measurement, Geometry, Statistics and Probability.

Celebrating the personal achievements of our students is an important part of who we are as a school. These awards acknowledge sustained effort, commitment and excellence throughout the year. Recipients will be recognised at our final assembly for 2026, and their certificates will also be uploaded to their Compass dashboard.

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL

2027 SCHOOL HOURS

8.40 am School starts

3.00 pm School finishes

Gates open at 8.30 am



AFTERNOON ARRANGEMENTS
Bus travellers: Report to the office after dismissal.
Bus collection at 3.10 pm.
At 3.10 pm, children still waiting will be taken to the office. Staff will call their listed contacts before taking children to OSHC.

WANDONG PERSONAL INVITATION TO OUR WONDERFUL HELPERS

"Few people are more cherished than those who make life a little lighter for others."

WANDONG Primary School

2026 Thank You

For all you have given to our school and community this year. Your care, kindness and commitment have made a difference.

For your support

Where: Wandong Primary School Community Hub and Staffroom
When: Thursday 10th December 10am PAFA Working Bee - Community Hub
Morning Tea: Thursday 10th December 11.00-11.30am

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind regards,
Kelly Morrow, Stephanie Pollock, Jess Woods, Staff and Students of Wandong P.S.

Our volunteers are at the heart of Wandong Primary School. Through your generosity, care and time, you enrich our children's learning, support our staff and help our community thrive. Thank you for all you do.



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

Wandong Primary School

SEW

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING



Resilience and Cooperation

SEW Learning in 3S

In SEW, students have been learning about the important values of resilience and cooperation in preparation for the Year 3/4 Log Cabin Camp. Through class discussions, team-building activities, and collaborative challenges, students developed strategies to persevere when faced with difficulties, adapt to new situations, and work effectively with others. They explored the importance of encouraging their peers, solving problems together, and demonstrating a positive attitude when stepping outside their comfort zones.





When attending the Year 3/4 Log Cabin Camp, students were able to put these skills into practice in authentic and meaningful ways. Whether participating in outdoor activities, working as part of a team, or overcoming personal challenges, students demonstrated resilience, cooperation, and a willingness to support one another. It was wonderful to see students build confidence, strengthen friendships, and apply the social and emotional learning they have been developing throughout the term.



WANDONG Primary School

crumbs & co.

WELCOME to TERM 4!

We hope everyone enjoyed the break!

LUNCH ORDERS ARE BACK!

STARTING FROM THE WEEK OF

5TH OCTOBER

Some changes have been made on the Flexischool app.

Please check for the latest menu, ordering days and details.

Making school lunches easy!

CRAZY HAIR DAY

Friday 4th December



All funds raised go to Wandong CFA

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

Pizza in the Park

– 200 Nights of Reading Celebration –



Celebration Dates

A-K Surnames:
Wednesday 9 December

L-Z Surnames:
Thursday 10 December

Pizza Choices



Margherita | Hawaiiian | Meat Lovers

What you need to do on Compass:

Compass

- Provide consent for your child to attend.
- Select your child's pizza flavour in the Questions tab.

OR

- Alternatively, you can select to bring lunch from home.

IMPORTANT – DEADLINE

Consent and selection **MUST** be completed on Compass no later than

THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER.



GLUTEN-FREE AND/OR DAIRY-FREE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

If your child requires a gluten-free and/or dairy-free option, please email Jodie.Hempel@education.vic.gov.au.



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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 11th February 2027. 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

ZOOPER DOOPER DAYS
LAST DAY THURSDAY 10th December 2026

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

PAFA will have a snack/drink stall available on the night.

PAFA will be organising a Christmas raffle.

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

Wandong Primary School

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.

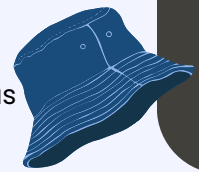
Please help support our classroom programs by waiting until **3:30pm** to collect children. The admin area is growing quite hectic in the afternoons with families collecting children early.

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

Wandong Primary School

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.

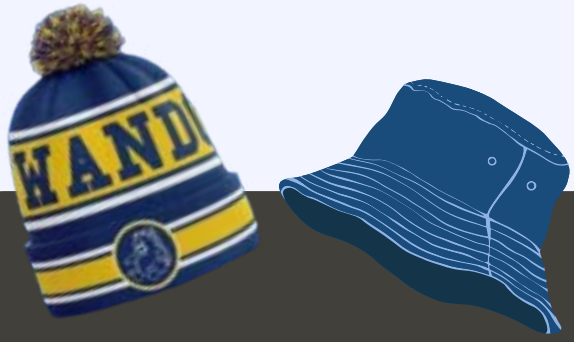
Select Customise when ordering uniform or team shirt.

- 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!



"We make a difference"

PRIDE kindness CURIOSITY Gratitude

Wandong Primary School

MUSIC

Guitar/Vocal/Piano/Drums



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.

Wandong Primary School

AFTERSCHOOL CARE

THEIRCARE



Moments that Matter Documentary

Launch event hosted by

The Wandong History Group

Saturday 12 December 2026, 11.00 am

Wandong Heathcote Junction Community Centre



Enjoy a community afternoon with:

Sausage sizzle · Popcorn machine · Slushies · Tea and coffee

This is a free ticketed event, tickets available from

wandonghistorygroup4@gmail.com

The Film will be available for purchase on the day.

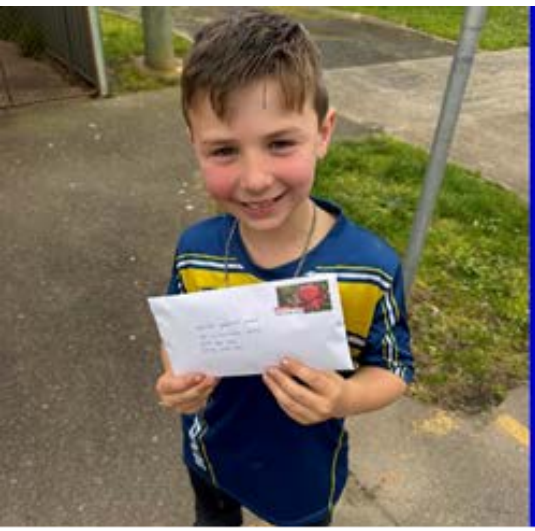
OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

FRRR Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal

Community Bank Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford Bendigo Bank

Victoria State Government

Xavier’s World’s Greatest Shave update



"Xavier did a wonderful job fundraising and we're so thankful to each and every person who donated. Xavier has been growing his hair out for 3 years so he could cut and donate it to make a wig for someone special when it was long enough. I am so incredibly proud of him."

Mandy, mother of Xavier

We’re proud to share that Xavier has been featured on the Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave parent information page in recognition of his fundraising efforts.

By taking part in the shave, Xavier helped raise funds to support people affected by blood cancer. Now, his story is being shared with other families who are thinking about getting involved. Well done, Xavier. We’re so proud of the kindness you’ve shown and the difference you’ve made!

Leukaemia Foundation®

World’s Greatest Shave

Proudly supporting

ADVERTISING

Brighthouse
for the joy of learning



For the joy of
LEARNING

Limited 2027 Vacancies
from 6 weeks to school age
Scan to book a tour

37 Clarke St, Kilmore (03) 5782 2231

COMMUNITY & SPORTS





Come join the fun at Kilmore Cricket Club.



Cricket Blast is back at Kilmore CC

It's that time of year again when Kilmore Cricket Club welcomes back all our local little legends who want to join in the fun of Woolworths Cricket Blast.

Cricket Blast is a skills based program for beginners who are keen to have some fun and learn about the awesome game of cricket.

An inclusive program for both boys and girls, welcoming all abilities from ages 5-10, Cricket Blast introduces cricket in a fun and supportive environment that builds skills and confidence.

When: Every Sunday afternoon, starting Sunday 18th October 2026.

Time: 4-5pm

Where: Kilmore Cricket Ground
Hunts Road Oval
Hunts Road , Kilmore

Head to www.playhq.com and search for Kilmore Cricket Club and Woolworths Cricket Blast and sign up.

If you have any queries please contact Blast Coordinator Cath Mogridge on 0408 855 833.





BIG SUMMER READ LAUNCH

Join us for
The Big Summer Read Launch
Kilmore Library Saturday 28th November

Make this summer a reading adventure with the 2026/27 Big Summer Read! Sign up and get ready to discover great books and enjoy reading all summer long.

To celebrate, we're hosting two fun-filled programs at Kilmore Library.

Terrific Toys - Force and Motion 11am -12pm

Insects and Mini Beasts 1pm - 2pm

For more information visit
mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/events

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

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL