



School Dates:

Festival Of Fun (FOF)

- Thursday 7th
December
4 pm-7 pm

2024 Foundation Sessions

9:45am - 10:45am

- #1 - 15th November
- #2 - 22nd November
- #3 - 29th November

Year 6 Graduation

Tuesday 19th December
5PM

Wednesday 20th December

- Last Day of Term 4
- Assembly 9 am
- Finish at 1:15pm

Check our website for
more dates.

A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

We hope you had a great family time over the past long weekend due to our curriculum day and public holiday. The year is speeding by and I hear a lot of families saying we only have 6 weeks to go. That is correct however 6 weeks is still a long time in regards to a child's education. We have 28 days left, which is around 140 hours of learning! Therefore it is not time to switch off as we are close to the end of the year. Instead, set some goals for example:

- I will attend school every day from now until the end of the year.
- I will be at school on time every day.
- I will not leave early in the next 6 weeks.
- I will help to pack my bag for school with snacks, lunch and a water bottle.
- I will have a hat every day.

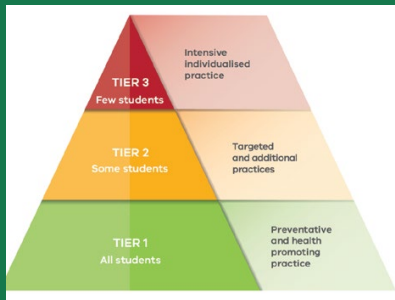
If each child can select one of the options above as a goal it will help them in their education. Please remember every minute counts!

FOCUS ON WELLBEING :

WOW what an improvement we have seen!

You may have seen and heard a lot of information about 'tiers' in education. A major focus of the Department of Education is around Mental Health and Wellbeing for Learning. This is fantastic for Wallan PS as we already have many wonderful supports and programs in place and now we are receiving some funding to extend and add to these areas.

WELLBEING TIERS



When we look at wellbeing in schools we are looking at the three tiers. Tier 1 - represents the support we have in place for each and every child at the school. Tier 2 - represents the support we have in place for some of our students who need adjustments to support their learning. Tier 3 - represents students that need high-level adjustments and/or specific funding (*Previously PSD - Program for Students with Disabilities funding*.)

It is the role of our Wellbeing team to work closely with teachers, education support members, external agencies/supports, families and most importantly the students to achieve success at WPS for all students.

Sandra Allison leads our team as the Assistant Principal for Wellbeing and is supported by a very skilled and passionate group, these people include Brenton Allan, Rhys Gibbs, Hayley Sanders and a dedicated team of Education Support Members.

We also connect and work with many external agencies. We have Kaylee, our DE social worker, who supports students in need and we have the HUB 3756 who operates out of our site one day a week. Michelle Preston, one of our Education Support members can help families connect to outside agencies and support teams. Michelle also coordinates for many different companies and services to visit on-site such as glasses for kids, the dentist etc.

So what are some of the supports we have for our Tier 1 students?

- We have Coffee the therapy dog who visits students in their classrooms throughout each term.
- Weekly Social and Emotional lessons in each classroom
- T.E.A.M (Together Everyone Achieves More) program that runs at the start of the year to set expectations
- School Values discussed in every classroom
- Respectful Relationships program
- Zones Emotional Regulation program
- Staff trained in restorative practices
- Clear and concise expectations for students in the classroom and in the yard
- Fortnightly cohort meetings
- Fortnightly Team Building Program - Each cohort meets and competes as a class in a team building activity. As a whole cohort, students identify the strengths of others.
- Cyber Safety Lessons for families, teachers and students.
- Patch's Pantry and our Values tickets
- There is much, much more!

TERM 4 PARENT CYBER SAFETY SESSION

WE HAVE PAID SO ALL
OUR FAMILIES HAVE
FREE ACCESS.

Log in to Compass to
get the code.

You can also log in and
watch Term 1, 2, 3 & 4
sessions if you missed
them.



Specialist Classes for 2024!

We have completed a review of our specialist classes for 2024 and we have some changes and new specialists to announce for 2024.

- **Explore!** - A time for students to 'explore' and develop their skills in various areas such as digital technologies, science, technology, engineering etc. A Specialist program for Yr 5 and 6 in 2024.
- **Bush** - Following on from the 'Bush kinder' program in early childhood settings. Incorporating respect for the environment, indigenous elements and science. Move from a trial program in Foundation to Year 1 Semester 2 2023 to a Specialist program for Foundation to Year 2 in 2024.
- **Food** - Food was trialled in 2023. The idea was a specialist where students could use the garden and kitchen and create simple recipes that they could replicate at home and share with their families. We have had lots of positive feedback from families and students about this program and we will continue this into 2024.
- **Digi Tech** - Digi Tech has been a successful subject over the past few years. We now have increased devices across the school and therefore we can cater for elements of digital tech in the classroom. Therefore we will put this on hold in 2023 for F-4. This will move into the classroom space and be incorporated through inquiry across the school. We will reflect on this move at the end of 2024. Year 5/6 will incorporate elements into the classroom/inquiry and the 'explore' specialist in 2024.
- **Auslan** - Due to community feedback in 2022 we moved from Indonesian to Auslan in 2023. The feedback has been very positive, especially in our junior end of the school. Therefore we will continue to develop this specialist in 2024. Yr 5/6 will just be a short 10 - 15 min session incorporated into their 'Explore' specialist and the specialist teacher will supply classroom teachers with resources to follow up with Auslan in the classroom each week.

	F	1	2	3	4	5/6
1	Physical Education 60 mins a week					
2	Visual Art 60 mins a week		Sem 1: Media Art Sem 2 : Visual Art 60 mins a week	Visual Art 60 mins a week	Sem 2: Visual Art Sem 1: Media Art 60 mins a week	Visual Art 60 mins a week
3	Performing Arts/Auslan 60 mins a week			Auslan 60 mins a week		Auslan/Explore! 60 mins a week
4	Bush 60 mins a week			Food/ Health 60 mins a week		

Our Student Leaders

Congratulations to our school leaders and thank you to our SSSO team who have created the opportunity for our student leaders to attend network leadership days each term in 2024. Each term our leaders attend another school and work with school leaders from other schools within our network. We hosted an event in Term 4 and I saw first-hand the confidence that our students had developed and the connections with other students that they have met along the way.



Last week our leaders attended the final day at Wallan Secondary College. It was another action-packed day with many guest speakers, secondary student speakers, leadership tips and fun with their newfound friends. It will be great for these students to meet up with these students when they move to secondary school in 2024. Thank you to Erin Woodhouse, our teacher who oversees student leadership at WPS, for supporting our students on these days.

Important dates 2023/2024

2023 Dates

Wednesday 20th December - Last Day of Term 4 - 1:15 pm Finish

2024 dates

Wednesday 31st January - Year 1 - 6 Students Start School 8:45am

Thursday 1st February - Foundation - Day 1 - Group 8:45am

Friday 2nd February - Foundation - Day 1 - Group 8:45am

Monday 5th February - All students attend school 8:45 - 3:15pm

*** Please note Foundation students do not have school on Wednesdays in February.*

Leaving in 2024?

If you are planning on moving schools in 2024, please contact the office and speak to Alison so that our records can be updated. Students moving can have an impact on our planning, classes and also on other students' friend requests. Therefore if we know early, we can plan around these changes.

Kind regards, Tanya Kirkright -
Principal



PARENT PAYMENT FOR 2024.

Dear Families,

In 2024 we are continuing to further develop our Wallan PS community ensuring we are a space to support all our students to learn, grow and achieve with various opportunities. With the support of the school council and listening to community feedback, we have begun to develop our digital technology resources and practices further.

We are now in a structure where all students in years 3-6 will have an allocated device one-to-one. All students in foundation to year 2 will have a one-to-two model. Families do not need to supply these devices. All devices are supplied by the school and stay onsite. To support the continued implementation and integration of these devices, we are also investing in various programs to supply student learning, such as Mathletics, for further development in maths. We also introduced the Seesaw platform for students and teachers to share their learning with families through videos and photos, and parents can also communicate with the teacher. In 2024 we will continue our partnership with The Cyber Safe Project and run more cyber-safe sessions at school for our students and offer a session of an evening to support our families.

Over the years, Wallan PS has moved to a model where families do not need to provide a voluntary contribution. The school is covering each student for:

Start of Year Book Pack - includes pens, pencils, textas, workbooks, paper, photocopying, glue etc.

Preps (Foundation) receive their book satchel.

Excursions are capped at a maximum of \$35 per child with the school covering any costs above this.

Many incursions have been paid for by the school or a portion of the cost to support families.

In 2024 we will continue to supply the above to our students and to support the improvements around technology, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of **\$50 per student** to support our school in moving towards achieving our goal with technology. Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil standard Victorian Curriculum and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

You can make this payment by logging into Compass and going to 'Course Confirmation and Payments.' Some families have requested to donate more. If you choose to, you can provide an additional donation through the school office.

Volunteers and fundraising events also assist our school and the programs we can offer. We sincerely thank our school community for all their contributions.

Financial Support for Families

Wallan Primary School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Alison Cumberland - Acting Business Manager at our school office.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Tanya Kirkright - Principal

Look at our new garden!

FROM THIS...



TO THIS...



AND THIS...



Thank you, Karen Keenan and her team for all your work improving our new Kitchen garden space. We have had donations from Bunnings and grants to support our new project. We still have more to come so stay tuned!



FAF creates FOF!

The Family and Friends (FAF) group will run our 1st Festival of Fun (FOF) on **Thursday, December 7th**. The event will run from **4:00 pm to 7:00 pm**. Families can attend with their children and participate in mini games, purchase items from our stalls and food from our canteen and food trucks! We are raising money for our school whilst also running raffles and opportunities for families to come and have fun at the school with other families.

To run such a BIG event we need help from families. How can you help?

- Donate a voucher or prize from your business for our raffles and other prizes.
- Donate 30 mins to an hour of your time to help on a stall. Each class will pair up with another class and run a stall with the support of parent helpers.
- Join Jade and our FAF team to help create this event. You do not have to attend multiple meetings, maybe it is just a quick chat and then helping to organise donations or food trucks etc.

If you are interested in helping please email Jade.Griggs@education.vic.gov.au with the email subject 'FOF'.

LOG INTO COMPASS
and have your say. [CLICK HERE](#)

Parents we are developing Learning Dispositions or Learning Powers that sit alongside our School Values. Please log into Compass and vote to help us

select our WPS powers!
<https://forms.gle/ufAphnPWfT2NUftc9>