

## School Dates:

Friday 12th  
December -  
Christmas Concert  
Foundation to Year 2

Monday 15th  
December - Year 6  
Graduation

Thursday 18th  
December - Year 6 at  
Funfields

Year F-5 Class  
Parties

Friday 19th  
December - Last day  
for 2025 1:15pm

Check our website  
for more dates, and  
on the last page of  
this newsletter for  
2026 dates!

Dear Families,

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CAPTAINS!

Out of 120 students, the top 9 were shortlisted for an interview with our Principal, Year 6 PLC Leader, 2025 School Captains and Vice Captains. What a panel! Thank you to all who applied. Well done to all who interviewed. Congratulations to our Captains!



### Water Safety Tips for Families This Summer

As we head into the warmer months, many families will be spending time at pools, beaches, rivers and water parks. Please keep your children safe with these simple water safety reminders:

1. Always supervise children around water
  - Active, constant adult supervision is essential.
  - Keep young children within arm's reach at all times. Avoid distractions such as phones or long conversations.
2. Teach children to swim and practise water confidence
  - Swimming lessons help build skills and safety awareness.

- Encourage children to float, kick, and practise safe entry and exit.

3. Use life jackets when needed

- Life jackets are strongly recommended for boating, fishing, or river swimming. Choose the correct size and ensure it is properly fastened.

4. Know the water conditions

- Beaches: swim between the flags and follow lifeguard instructions.
- Rivers and lakes: check depth, currents, and submerged objects.
- Pools: ensure fences and gates are secure.

5. Set clear rules with your child

- No running near water.
- No diving into shallow water.
- Always swim with an adult.
- Stay within the designated swimming area.

6. Be sun smart while swimming

- Apply sunscreen 20 minutes before swimming and reapply every two hours.
- Wear a rash vest, hat, and stay hydrated.

7. Learn basic first aid and CPR

- Knowing how to respond quickly in an emergency can save a life.

8. Model safe behaviour

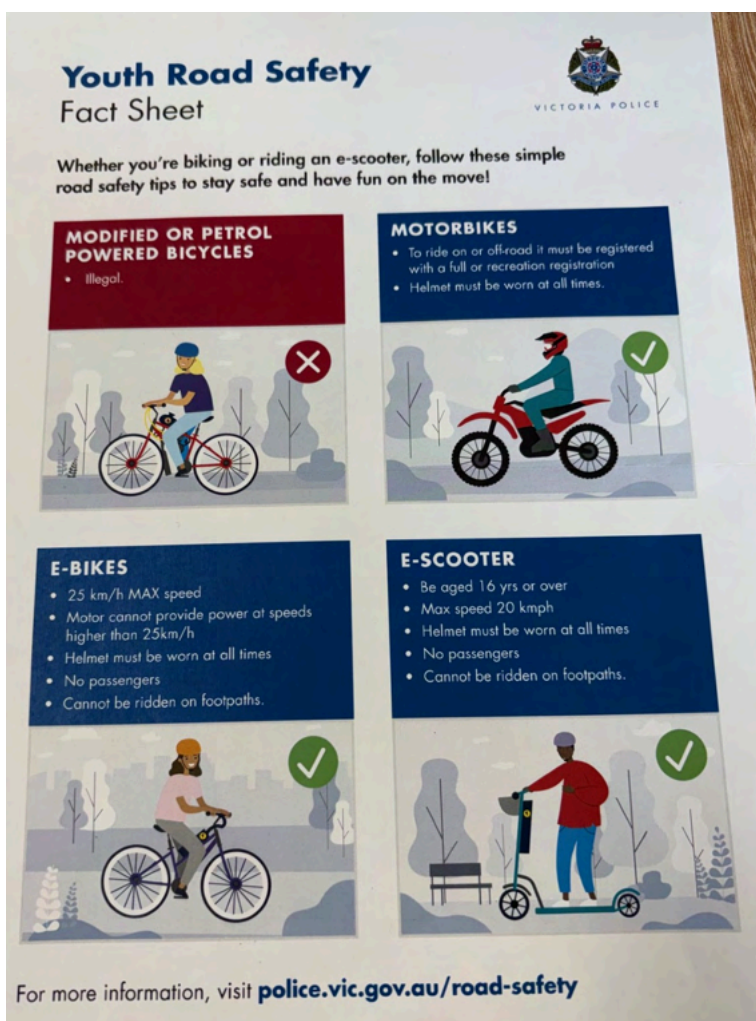
- Children copy adults—show them what safe water behaviour looks like.

## eScooter and eBikes

Some important information for families, especially after the sad loss of life of a young man on an e-bike recently. Families, please look at the guidelines shared with us from the Victoria Police around restrictions for children on scooters, ebikes and general bikes. Please consider this when purchasing Christmas presents. All students must have a helmet when riding a bike or scooter to school. **In 2026, we will not be storing e-scooters or e-bikes on our school site.** Please ensure that if you allow your child to ride this to school, you are there to take it home with you. Scooters, bikes and skateboards will be able to be stored in our bike shed. Please see links below:

[TAC Link](#)

[VIC POLICE LINK](#)



## FOF - Festival Of Fun!

What an incredible night at our Festival of Fun! A huge thank you to our entire school community and people from the wider Wallan community for coming along, joining in, and helping make this our best event in the past three years. It was wonderful to see families enjoying the activities, connecting with one another, and celebrating everything that makes Wallan Primary School such a special place.

We received so much positive feedback from families and even from the ride vendors, on the quality of stalls on offer and the high level of organisation of the event. We were blown away by the turnout and by the level of respect and kindness shown throughout the evening. We were also very impressed with how clean the grounds remained, so many children and families made the effort to pop rubbish in the bins. These small moments make a big difference and truly reflect the values of our school and community.

A massive thank you to Big Child Care for their generosity and support in providing raffle prizes, the extra raffle, the rides, popcorn, fairy floss, and the dunk machine. Their contribution added a fantastic energy to the event. Congratulations to the families who walked away with major prizes, including a Gold Coast trip, Nintendo Switch, a night at Crown, and many other great giveaways.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank our community members and School Council representatives who volunteered their time, whether helping on stalls, supporting the dunk tank, or donating various items for the raffle. Your involvement was genuinely appreciated and helped make the event such a success.

And of course, a heartfelt thank you to our WPS staff. The creativity, effort, and time put into each stall, the preparation behind the scenes, and the way staff supported each other were outstanding. Our students were so proud of the activities they helped create, and that is a credit to the commitment and passion of our team.

Special thanks to Jade for coordinating the event, along with Tracey, Ben, Stacey, and Tianah for their significant contributions in organising rides, food trucks, finances, communication, and logistics. Their teamwork ensured everything ran smoothly.

Thank you once again to everyone - staff, families, students, Big Child Care, and our wider community - for making the Festival of Fun a truly memorable celebration. We are incredibly proud of our school and grateful for the support that surrounds us. As a school, we raised over \$12,000 to spend on improvements for our students and new outdoor musical instruments and equipment.



## Children's University

Congratulations to all the students who attended Swinburne University for their graduation ceremony. This year, our school proudly joined the Children's University program, providing students with exciting opportunities to engage in extracurricular learning beyond the classroom. A big thank you to Tracey Nihill, who has led and overseen this program throughout the year.



Students were invited to participate and completed a range of additional activities and learning experiences to earn their Children's University Graduation Certificate. It was a fantastic event, and we are thrilled to continue this program in 2026.



## Wellbeing Leaders

As student wellbeing leaders in 2025, we have done yard duty support, VIP announcements, peer support and helped with clubs. We also had meetings to discuss wellbeing ideas and suggestions to improve our school, such as emotion boxes for every classroom. If you'd like to apply for student wellbeing leader in 2026, please fill in an application sheet that will be given out in term 1 next year. Thank you for supporting us this year and we hope you have a nice holiday!  
Written by Eva and Gursirat.

### Welcome to Wallan PS!

In 2026, we are pleased to welcome Nick Hull to Wallan Primary School as a Learning Specialist with oversight of Numeracy. Nick is a passionate educator with strong pedagogical practices and a deep commitment to high-quality teaching and learning. He will be a valuable asset to our leadership and instructional team.

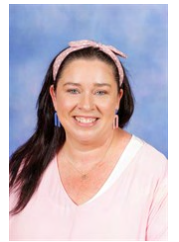
We also welcome Tiffany White as a new classroom teacher. Tiffany joins us with primary teaching experience interstate and brings a rich background, including competing in the Invictus Games. We look forward to the energy, skill and unique perspective she will bring to our school community.



## Thank you and best wishes!



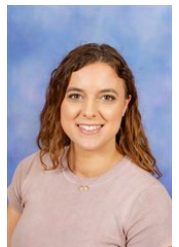
**Sarah Bird** - After more than 20 years at Wallan PS, Sarah has supported students across countless year levels, provided intervention and small-group support, and generously volunteered her time at many school events. We thank Sarah for her dedication, kindness and long-standing service to our community. She is moving to Yubup PS for new opportunities, and we wish her all the very best.



**Jessica Murtagh** - Jessica has taught across multiple year levels during her time at Wallan PS and has been a steady, supportive and valued member of each team. She moves on to an exciting opportunity to support Muyan PS as they establish their new school. We thank her for everything she has contributed and wish her great success.



**Lilly Villarroel (Matthews)** - Lilly began at Wallan PS as a graduate and progressed to PLC Leader of Foundation, making a significant impact on our early years program. Her dedication to students and her leadership within the team have been greatly appreciated. Lilly will also be supporting Muyan PS as they open in 2026. We thank her sincerely and wish her well.



**Cassie Moustakas** - Cassie has taught across various year levels and, most recently, brought energy, warmth and strong engagement practices to the Foundation team. She moves to Yubup PS for fresh opportunities. We thank Cassie for the joy and positivity she brought to our community.



**Keira Gibson** - Keira joined Wallan PS as a tutor before stepping into a classroom role in 2025. Her positive energy, care and commitment to her students, especially in their first year of school, have been outstanding. Keira is moving to Glen Katherine PS, a school closer to home, and we wish her all the best.

**Carla Smith** - Carla began with us as a pre-service teacher before joining the staff as a graduate. She now moves to Our Lady of the Way to explore different opportunities. We thank Carla for her contribution and wish her well as she continues her teaching journey.



**Tammy Macmullan** - Tammy has taught across both the upper and junior school during her time at Wallan PS and has provided great support in many shared classes. She has made a positive and lasting impact on staff, students and families through her calm, caring and collaborative approach. We wish Tammy all the very best as she begins her new role at Yubup PS in 2026.

**Brenton Allan** - Brenton has been in various roles at Wallan PS through leadership, the wellbeing team, the Year 5 team, and the DI team. His impact across the school has been appreciated. Brenton is moving to Muyan PS to support the establishment of their new school. We sincerely thank him and wish him every success.



**Alannah Richards** - Alannah is moving to a school closer to home in 2026. We thank Alannah for all her time and dedication to Wallan PS. Her work in the year 4 team and across the school as an ES previously is much appreciated. Best wishes.

Jenny Neri, Kirstie Hall, and Helena Targett - Jenny, Kirstie and Helena are on or heading into family leave as they prepare to welcome their babies. We send our warmest wishes to each of them and hope to see them back at Wallan PS in the future.

Tim Azaris - Tim is moving to a new school for 12 months as part of a sea change. We thank Tim for his leadership in Year 1 and his dedication as a classroom teacher. We wish him a refreshing and rewarding year ahead.



Bree Taylor - Bree is taking leave in 2026 to explore new opportunities. Her leadership as PLC Leader in the upper school has been greatly valued. We thank Bree for her contribution and wish her all the best for the future.

Amber Coode - Amber is moving to Edgars Creek PS in 2026 to explore different opportunities. She has most recently taught in the upper school and has made a strong, positive impact on her students. We thank Amber for her contribution to Wallan PS and wish her all the very best in her new role.

Kind regards,  
Tanya Kirkright - Principal

## 2026 IMPORTANT DATES:

- Monday 26th January - NO SCHOOL - Public Holiday
- Tuesday 27th January - Teachers' Start
- Wednesday 28th January - Years 1-6 start
- Thursday 29th January - Wattle Foundation Students start (Groups TBC)
- Friday 30th January - Eucalyptus Foundation Students start (Groups TBC)
- Monday 2nd February - All students at school
- Wednesdays in February - No School for Foundation Students.

## A message from our Principal for a Day

Good morning, everybody.

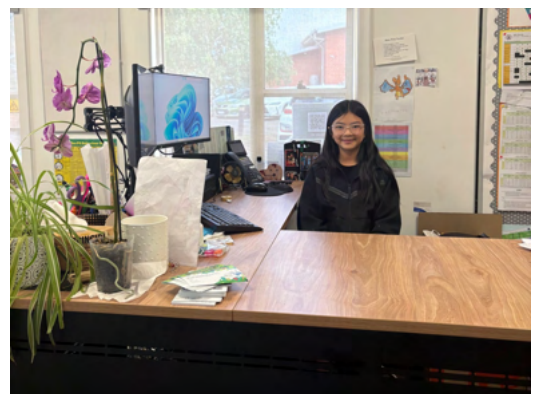
I want to let you know my name is Tattyana, and I am the principal for the day. My message to you all is the importance of respect .

Here are some tips on how to show respect to others

- Listen to each other when they are talking.
- Respect other people's cultures and religions.
- And spread some kindness every day.

Regards

Miss Tattyana - Principal for a Day...



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HOUSE CAPTAINS FOR 2026!

**Warin:** Chase Ward & Grace Elston

**Gurrborra:** Shelby Grayden & Kaleb Langborne

**Narrang:** Menorah Finau & Arylen Cardona

**Maram:** Braxton Baldwin & Ashley Vang

## 2026 Class Allocations - Updated - Version 2

Cohort	Room	Class Name	Teacher / s
Foundation	LS - Katelyn Shephard		
Foundation	1	Foundation A	Esma Cay
Foundation	2	Foundation B	Aimee Anderson
Foundation	3	Foundation C	Amy Ilic
Foundation	4	Foundation D	Erin Cooper - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 1	LS - Lauren Lancaster		
Year 1	17	1A	Shelby Nanscawen & Robyn Richards
Year 1	18	1B	Blair Lightbody <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 1	19	1C	Carly Whittemore
Year 1	20	1D	Michael Robson
Year 1	21	1E	Taylor Muir
Year 1	22	1F	Melene Lowe
Year 2	LS - Paul Kearney		
Year 2	31	2A	Courtney Leatham
Year 2	32	2B	Emma Bernardone <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 2	33	2C	Veda Firth & Sharon Merogi
Year 2	34	2D	Jessica Curtis
Year 2	30	2E	Emma Conley
Year 2	29	2F	Sarah Papadopolous
Year 3	LS - Nick Hull		
Year 3	25	3A	Amanda Radford
Year 3	26	3B	Erin Woodhouse
Year 3	27	3C	Nick Oakey - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 3	28	3D	Sandra Hosking & TBC
Year 4	LS - Taylah Bryne		
Year 4	9	4A	Stala Stogoman & Will Donoghue
Year 4	15	4B	Rachel Zundovskis & Lachie Mozina
Year 4	10	4C	Shanae Chambers
Year 4	16	4D	Olivera Todorovski - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 5	LS - Rhys Gibbs		
Year 5	7	5A	Sheridan Millichip - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Year 5	13	5B	Hayley Sanders
Year 5	8	5C	Angus Wiseman & Rachael Noble
Year 5	14	5D	Dani Florian
Year 6	LS - Rhys Gibbs		

Year 6	5	6A	Tiffany White & Rachael Noble
Year 6	11	6B	Lauren Somerhayes
Year 6	6	6C	Dylan Georgievski
Year 6	12	6D	Adam McNamara - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Specialist	LT - Nez Yon		
Specialist		Food	Karen Keenan - <b>PLC LEADER</b>
Specialist		PE	Leah Stacey
Specialist		PE	Lachlan Mozina
Specialist		Bush	Julie Graham
Specialist		Auslan & Performing Arts	Katrina Odisho
Specialist		Performing Arts & Auslan	Mary Blazevic
Specialist		Explore & Auslan	Jennifer Exton-Cash
Specialist		Visual/Media Art	Elise Frankenberg
Specialist		Visual/Media Art	Sharon Merogi

## LOVE IN ACTION - LOCAL CHARITY



### WE NEED YOUR HELP THIS CHRISTMAS

Record numbers reaching out already... and demand is still growing.

Only days remain until Christmas and we're struggling to meet the urgent need in our community. We never want to turn families away — but we can't do this without you.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP?

Donate Brand New Toys - For children in local families.

Donate Christmas Food Items - Bon bons • Shortbread • Chocolate stockings • Advent calendars • Candy canes • Napkins • All things festive!

Gold coin donation or a new donated item.

Gift Cards - Used to purchase food items we're short on.

Spread the Word - Share with your networks and social media.

### WHY WE'RE ASKING?

Rising running costs, increasing family need, and more than 5 new families reaching out every week. We are blessed to be the Westfield Plenty Valley Local Hero — but funding only goes so far with 10K apx needed per year for running costs.

### TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Thank you for helping us support local families in need.

From the bottom of our hearts — we appreciate you.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Brewer The **Love** in Action Team - P: 0419 838 966 - E: [Loveinactionwallan@gmail.com](mailto:Loveinactionwallan@gmail.com)



## COMMUNITY REMINDERS:

### Support services

- The Orange Door: [orangedoor.vic.gov.au](http://orangedoor.vic.gov.au)
- Safe Steps: 1800 015 188 or [safesteps.org.au](http://safesteps.org.au)
- 1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732 or [1800respect.org.au](http://1800respect.org.au)

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- WIRE (Women's Information and Referral Exchange): 1300 134 130 or [wire.org.au](http://wire.org.au)
  - No to Violence (for men who use violence): 1300 766 491 or [ntv.org.au](http://ntv.org.au)
  - inTouch (for migrant and refugee communities): 1800 755 988 or [intouch.org.au](http://intouch.org.au)
  - Djirra (for Aboriginal communities): 1800 105 303 or [djirra.org.au](http://djirra.org.au)
  - Rainbow Door (for LGBTIQ+ people): 1800 729 367 or [rainbowdoor.org.au](http://rainbowdoor.org.au)

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- What's OK at Home? (family violence resources for 10-17 year olds): [woah.org.au](http://woah.org.au)
  - Kids Helpline (for 5-25 year olds): 1800 55 1800 or [kidshelpline.com.au](http://kidshelpline.com.au)
  - headspace (for 12-25 year olds): 1800 650 890 or [headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)



**FLAMEZ NETBALL CLUB**

**PLAYERS WANTED**  
from ages 2016-2019

Games are played on a Saturday at Mernda Central College from 8:30 onwards depending on your age. The season runs from February to July then July to December.

**INFORMATION**

0410-621-210 Lisa

Wallan basketball stadium or Our Lady of the Way Primary School Wallan are our training venues.

[del.mandanici@hotmail.com](mailto:del.mandanici@hotmail.com)

### NAB AFL Auskick & Superkick is back at Wallan PS in 2026 !

- Dates:** 4 x Thursday afternoon sessions beginning March 5
- Location:** Wallan Primary School
- Time:** 3:30 - 4:30 PM
- Cost:** \$30 per participant (includes a free footy hand out!) if you use the codes below
- Auskick -** D7C76B35
- Superkick -** B7DE46BC

**AFL Victoria delivered:** Entire program organised and facilitated by AFL Victoria

**Separate program options available:** Individual group options for children aged 4-7 & 8-12 years old (All Girls Group option available)

### Register Below :

**Wallan PS Auskick Centre | Register (Skill-game focus, recommended for ages 4-12yo)**

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/56b03d>

DISCOUNT CODE - D7C76B35

**Wallan PS Superkick Centre | Register (Match-play focus, recommended ages 7-12yo)**

<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/7a32af>

DISCOUNT CODE - B7DE46BC