



School Dates:

Thursday 3rd September
Father's & Special
Person's Day Stall

Friday 11th September
2:20 pm
Wallan's Got Talent Final
Parents welcome to
attend

Monday 14th September
Curriculum Day
NO SCHOOL

Friday 18th September
Last Day of Term 3
Finish at 2:15pm
FOOTY DAY
DRESS UP!
Assembly at 9am -
Parents can attend

Check our website for
more dates.

PLEASE CHECK
COMPASS FOR MORE
INFORMATION.

Dear Families,
Happy week 8! 3 weeks of school to go until the holidays.
We are very proud of the amazing learning our students
have done this term. We are going to power through and
keep it strong for the next 3 weeks!

What's Your 1%?

Sometimes we think that making a difference requires doing
something big. But what if each of us simply focused on
doing something 1% better?

The idea of getting "1% better" is based on a simple principle:
small, positive actions might not seem significant on their
own, but when they are repeated and combined with the
actions of others, they can have an enormous impact.

Imagine what that could mean across Wallan Primary School.
We have hundreds of students, staff and families. If every one
of us made just one small choice to make our school, our
community or ourselves 1% better, imagine the collective
difference we could make.

So, what will your 1% be this week?

It might be:

- opening the door for someone
- smiling and saying good morning as you walk past
- pushing your chair in when you leave the classroom
- picking up a piece of rubbish, even if it isn't yours
- tidying a space before you leave it
- carrying your own school bag instead of asking Mum or Dad
- including someone who might be on their own
- using your manners without needing to be reminded
- doing one small job at home to help your family.

None of these things is huge. But that's the point.

Small actions + lots of people = a big impact.

This week, we encourage our students, staff and families to think about one small thing they can do differently or a little better.

At Wallan Primary School, our motto is "Working Together for a Better Future." Perhaps that better future doesn't always come from one big change. Perhaps it comes from all of us choosing to make things just 1% better, every day.

What will your 1% be?

WINNERS!!!!

We're very excited to announce the winners of the 2026 KidsCast Awards!

Community Connection Award — Wallan Primary School

Wallan Primary receives this award for creating a podcast that feels genuinely connected to their school community. Their students brought school life to the microphone with warmth, personality and a strong sense of belonging, making their episode feel relevant, inclusive and proudly representative of Wallan Primary.

Wallan's Got Talent!

Students have enthusiastically added their names to the audition list, completed a screening process with our student leaders and then progressed to performing their acts at lunchtime in front of their peers.

We have seen lunchtime audiences of well over 300 students, creating a fantastic atmosphere as students come together to support and celebrate one another. So far, we have enjoyed singing, dancing, jokes and an amazing variety of special talents!

Auditions will continue this week before our finalists are selected to perform at our Wallan's Got Talent Grand Final Assembly on Friday 11 September. We can't wait to see who makes it through to the Grand Final! Parents and carers are very welcome to attend and join us as we celebrate the talents, confidence and creativity of our students. Huge congratulations to everyone who has been brave enough to put their name down, step up, and have a go!



STUDENT LEADER WPS PODCAST?

NEW EPISODE
Out NOW!



Early Collection of Students

To help make early pick-ups as smooth as possible, we strongly recommend that families plan to collect their child **before scheduled break times**, wherever possible.

The preferred collection times are:

- Before recess: approximately 10:30-10:45 am
- Before lunch: between 1:00-1:20 pm

Collecting students during recess or lunchtime can take considerably longer. Students may be spread across different areas of the school, and while we can make announcements, it can take time for a student to hear the message, return to their classroom and collect their belongings. Please be aware that if you arrive during a break, there may be a significant wait before your child is ready to leave.

We also ask families to avoid early collections at the end of the school day. **Early pick-ups from 2:30 pm onwards are not permitted**, except in exceptional circumstances. This is an important part of the learning day, and frequent interruptions impact classrooms as teachers and students prepare to finish the day.

If you know your child needs to leave early, please plan ahead and collect them during one of the preferred times above. Thank you for helping us minimise disruptions to learning and make the collection process smoother for everyone.

Have a great week!

Tanya Kirkright -Principal - Wallan PS

Year 1 Breakfast - Building Independence



What a fantastic morning our Year One students had at their recent Year One Breakfast!

Students arrived at school dressed in their pyjamas and enjoyed a morning focused on building independence, confidence and important life skills as part of our camping development program.

Students made their own breakfast before sitting together in our Wallan Primary School Restaurant to enjoy their meal with their peers. They then participated in a range of fun activities before finishing the experience by independently getting dressed into their school uniform, ready to begin the school day.

A huge thank you to the parent helpers who joined us on the morning and to our wonderful Year Six student leaders who supported our younger students throughout the event. Thank you also to our Year One team for the planning, organisation and hard work that went into making the morning such a successful and memorable experience for our students. What a great way to build the skills and confidence that will prepare our students for future camps and school experiences!



Why are classrooms moving back to rows?

We've introduced row seating to reduce cognitive load and maximise focus. When distractions are minimised, working memory is freed up for learning.

- ✓ Clear attention during explicit teaching
- ✓ Stronger independent thinking
- ✓ Smoother routines and transitions
- ✓ Purposeful collaboration when planned

A calm environment supports strong learning. Sometimes small shifts make a big impact.

Book Week – A Symphony of Stories & 2026 Book Fair

What a wonderful celebration of books, reading and imagination we had during Book Week 2026! This year's theme, 'A Symphony of Stories', celebrated the way different stories, characters, voices and ideas can come together, just like the different parts of a symphony, to create something special.

A huge thank you to our families for supporting your children to get involved in our Book Week Dress-Up Parade. It was fantastic to see so many favourite book characters come to life and, most importantly, to see the excitement and enthusiasm our students showed for books and reading. A special thank you to Mr Kearney for his work in leading and coordinating our amazing Book Week Parade, and to all staff who helped make the celebration such a success.

We also held our Book Fair, providing families with an opportunity to purchase quality books and literacy resources to enjoy at home. In addition to promoting a love of reading, purchases through the Book Fair help raise funds that can be reinvested into resources for our school. Thank you to everyone who participated, dressed up, purchased a book or simply joined us in celebrating the joy of reading. A Symphony of Stories was certainly brought to life across Wallan Primary School!



Picasso Cow Painters Announced.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Picasso Cows Colouring Competition! We have had so many creative and colourful entries, and it has been fantastic to see the effort and imagination that students have put into their designs.

After much deliberation, we are excited to announce our competition winners! 🎉

 Foundation • Peyton – FA • Winnie – FA • Amaiya – FB	 Year 1 • Alisha – 1B • Sethni – 1B • Seanna – 1F	 Year 2 • Vanya – 2B • Willow – 2D • Aaleeha – 2F	
 Year 3 • Gurnoor – 3C • Siarah – 3D • Elise – 3D	 Year 4 • Buwaya – 4A • Aaditri – 4A • Ayan – 4A • Funmi – 4B	 Year 5 • Billie – 5A • Alora – 5A • Olivia – 5D • Valerie – 5D	 Year 6 • Ashley – 6D

Congratulations to all of our winners! 🎉 Your designs will now become part of the next stage of our Picasso Cows project, where we will bring the winning designs to life on our school cow. Stay tuned for the next steps! Huge [congratulations](#) to everyone who entered, and to the teachers who helped support the competition. There were so many fantastic designs that choosing our winners was no easy task!

More information about the cow painting stage will be coming soon. 🎨

Thank you to everyone who helped make the competition such a success!

Ensuring Opportunities for Every Student

A strong philosophy at Wallan Primary School over many years has been that every student who walks through our gates should have access to the same opportunities.

One way we support this is by subsidising the cost of incursions and excursions. Rather than passing the full cost on to families, the school contributes funding to help keep these experiences affordable. In some cases, we have funded the full cost of an incursion to ensure all students can participate.

With transport, entry and provider costs continuing to rise, this is an important financial commitment from the school.

We don't usually highlight this support; however, it was recently discussed at School Council, where members felt many families may not be aware of the additional contribution the school makes. This level of subsidisation does not occur at all schools, and Council felt it was important for our community to understand how school funds are being used to directly support students and families.

We believe these experiences are an important part of learning and will continue to do what we can to provide opportunities for all "Working Together for a Better Future."

Annual Parent & Carer Opinion Survey - Have you done this yet?

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Carer Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Carer Opinion Survey will be open online from Monday 17 August to Friday 18 September 2026. All families are invited to participate in the survey. A random sample of parents / carers have been selected to participate in this year's survey.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / carers who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

Survey results help the school to celebrate all the teachers and education support members hard work. It also helps us identify areas for improvement and assists future planning and budget allocations. **SEE COMPASS for the SECURE link and Code**

2027 Student Placement Requests are now OPEN!

Planning for the 2027 school year is now underway. If you have a child starting Foundation (Prep) in 2027 and have not yet completed their enrolment, please contact the school as soon as possible. All Foundation enrolments are now processed online, and we have begun to confirm enrolments with families.

We are also starting to plan our 2027 class structure. If your child is currently (2026) in Year F - 5 and will not be attending Wallan Primary School in 2027 due to a family relocation or transfer to another school, we would appreciate you letting our Administration Team know as soon as possible to assist with our planning.

In the coming weeks, students will be asked to nominate 5 friends they would like to be in a class with in 2027. Feel free to discuss this with them at home. We then work on each student getting at least one of their selections.

We ask that any families who have any class placement considerations and student friendship requests as part of our class planning process to email them to wallan.ps@education.vic.gov.au by the end of Term 3 2026. Please note we do not take teacher requests.

How do we create classes? Your child's 2026 teacher then works with their current team to develop classes. We work through a process where various members of staff (eg. specialist teachers, leaders and our wellbeing team) collaborate, taking into consideration many factors such as academics, wellbeing, social skills, etc and develop classes. Students meet their new class at the end of 2026, ready for the 2027 school year.

COMMUNITY NEWS:

WALLAN BASKETBALL
PANTHERS
EST. 1982

DON'T MISS YOUR SPOT!

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR OUR SUMMER JUNIOR DOMESTIC SEASON YET?
SECURE YOUR PLACE BEFORE REGISTRATIONS FILL

NORMAL PRICING (FROM 22 AUG)

U10	U12+
\$195	\$250

 REGISTRATIONS CLOSE **24 SEPTEMBER**

REGISTER TODAY!