

Ardeer Primary School

Newsletter

March 5th, 2026

Key Dates

Interschool Sports- (Grade 4/5 & 5/6) -(Away)

(Ardeer vs Ardeer South)

Friday 6th March

Labour Day - (Public Holiday)

Monday 9th March

Interschool Sports- (Grade 4/5 & 5/6) -(Away)

(Ardeer vs Mother of God)

Friday 13th March

AFL Footy Clinic

Friday 13th March

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Interschool Sports- (Grade 4/5 & 5/6) -(Home)

(Ardeer vs Glengala)

Subway lunch

Wednesday 25th March

Harmony Day

Thursday 26th March

Colour Explosion

Tuesday 31st March- 10:00am

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

At the heart of our work each day are our school's values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety. As always, one of our core focus areas remains on student wellbeing and engagement, grounded firmly in these principles.

We know that students learn best when they feel safe, connected and valued. This means creating classrooms where every child experiences a strong sense of belonging, feels confident to take learning risks, and is supported both socially and emotionally. Our staff are intentional in building strong relationships, embedding consistent routines, and providing opportunities for every learner to experience success.

A key part of this work is our commitment to School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS). Our SWPBS framework provides clarity and consistency in how we learn and work together as a community. By explicitly teaching and reinforcing what Respect, Responsibility and Safety look like across all settings including the classroom, yard and when representing our school in the wider community, we ensure students understand and can demonstrate our shared expectations.

Recently, our SWPBS Team, of which I am proud to be a member dedicated a full day to reviewing data, reflecting on our progress and refining priorities as we develop our 2026 Action Plan. This important planning ensures our approach remains evidence-informed, consistent and responsive to the needs of our students. Thank you to families for reinforcing these expectations at home; consistency between school and home makes a significant difference.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (CONT)

By embedding Respect, Responsibility and Safety into our wellbeing focus, our SWPBS structures and our commitment to student voice, we continue

We are also strengthening opportunities for student voice within this framework. When students have genuine input into their learning and school environment, engagement and motivation increase. Through student leadership groups, classroom meetings, surveys and structured feedback opportunities, students are encouraged to share their ideas and perspectives. Their insights help shape our decisions and reinforce their sense of responsibility and belonging. to build a positive and inclusive learning community where every child feels supported, empowered and safe to succeed.

By embedding Respect, Responsibility and Safety into our wellbeing focus, our SWPBS structures and our commitment to student voice, we continue to build a positive and inclusive learning community where every child feels supported, empowered and safe to succeed.

Thank you for your continued partnership in upholding and modelling these shared values.

Yours sincerely,

John Mifsud

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

It was so lovely to see so many people attend our Meet the Teachers BBQ last week. It was a great opportunity to connect with families and enjoy a yummy sausage in bread.

We currently have 45 students on track to be an Attendance Hero for Term One! We will celebrate our Term One heroes with a delicious pizza lunch. Remember that everyday counts and being on time each day is vital to support learning and wellbeing. When students arrive on time, they can fully engage with the activities and don't miss out on any important instructions or interactions.

Students in Grades 3 and 5 will begin completing NAPLAN next week. Some NAPLAN assessments are scheduled to begin just after the beginning of the school day. Please ensure children arrive on time (8.45am) so they are ready to go.

Hollie Winfield

STUDENT VOICE AND AGENCY @ APS

It was a real pleasure to meet with our Student Voice Team at our first official meeting. At this meeting we worked together to develop our meeting norms and expectations. The students did an amazing job with this task, and we managed universal agreement that the below behaviours will be evident during all meetings:

At Ardeer Primary School during all meeting, team members will:

- *Actively participate*
- *Remain on topic and focused on the meeting's purpose*
 - *Share ideas and resources*
 - *Be punctual to meetings*
- *Be responsible for bringing evidence and resources to the meeting*
 - *Challenge opinions respectfully*
- *Celebrate our successes, provide support and feedback*
 - *Value all members opinions and contributions*
- *Avoid distractions and interruptions- avoid individual conversations*

Each member of the SVT will have the opportunity to lead these meetings as Chair and with all students contributing by discussing the things that matter most to them and their fellow peers. I look forward to seeing the work from this forum continue to develop over the course the year and will keep you updated.

HARMONY DAY 2026

Our annual Harmony Day special event at the school will be taking place on Thursday 26th March 2026.

Ardeer PS will hold a day to embrace just how diverse our school community is.

Between 9:00am – 9:30am, families are invited to join us under the COLA for our whole school parade and celebration under the COLA. Students will then be participating in a range of in class activities aligned with this special day.

We encourage all students to come to school in traditional costume. It is not an out of uniform day so students should only come to school in their uniform, in traditional costume or in national sports gear. Dress up ideas include clothing in national colours, country flags and national sports apparel. For ideas and more information, please come and see us. Students can also wear orange as it is the official Harmony Day colour.



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Our SWPBS Behaviour Matrix is a simple chart that shows the positive behaviours we expect from students in different parts of the school, such as the classroom, playground and toilets.

. The matrix explains what our school values look like in everyday situations, so students clearly understand what is expected.

By teaching and reinforcing these behaviours, we support students to develop positive habits and contribute to a calm, caring school community. A link to the matrix can be found [here](#).

	APS Matrix of Expected Behaviours				
	Indoors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Office area - Corridor - Specialist rooms - Library 	Outdoors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cola - Tiger Turf - Oval - Playground - Toilets 	Classrooms	Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Excursions - Camp - Visitors 	Always
Safety 	We... Use furniture/indoor equipment for its intended purpose Use walking feet Walk on the left side	We... Stay in areas that are supervised Behave appropriately for weather conditions Remain inside the school gates and boundaries Go to the toilet in pairs	We... Move around the classroom safely Push our chairs in when not using them	We... Stay with a staff member at all times Wear full school uniform Report any unsafe behaviour Abide by road safety rules Keep our personal details private	We... Put in our best effort Use and care for equipment appropriately Respect others' personal space and boundaries Listen to and follow instructions given by staff members Are inclusive
Respect 	We... Move quietly through shared spaces Use kind words Encourage each other Wait patiently for our turn	We... Care for the environment Use the toilets for intended purposes Wait for our turn when using equipment/outdoor areas	We... Take turns to listen and speak Ask for permission before we take or use something	We... Use appropriate volume for the venue and activity Take care of our own belongings	Let staff know when something is wrong Arrive to school and class on time
Responsibility 	We... Keep our bag area tidy Let staff know if we need help	We... Use each space for its intended purpose Move appropriately around the school Keep our school clean	We... Use our time wisely Are accountable for our learning and actions Keep our classroom and resources neat and tidy Are always prepared to learn Help others where appropriate	We... Take care of the area we are visiting	

SPECIAL SUBWAY LUNCH

The school will be continuing our partnership with Canteen Hub and Subway in Term 1.

Parents will have the opportunity to place an order from a limited Subway menu for their child which will then be delivered to the school at 1PM. Order will then be distributed to students in readiness for the school's lunch break at 1:15PM.

There will be two opportunities scheduled this term, and these will take place on Wednesday 25th February and Wednesday 25th March 2026.

Parents will first need to create a Canteen Hub Account -

<https://app.canteenhub.com.au/register> register and register as a new user. (Attached is a user guide for your reference)

Ordering closes – 10.00am on the day prior (Tuesday).

-All orders will be delivered in separate class cartons, and each lunch will be clearly labelled. Parental Support is available via the link below or using the HELP function on the website –

Parents will first need to create a Canteen Hub Account -

<https://parentsupport.canteenhub.com/portal/en/kb/canteenhub> and register as a new user. (Attached is a user guide for your reference)

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (NUMERACY)

Supporting Your Child in Maths & NAPLAN (Grades 3 & 5)

At our school, mathematics teaching follows the Victorian Curriculum Version 2.0, which focuses on developing confident, capable problem-solvers.

For students in Grade 3 and Grade 5, NAPLAN is one opportunity to demonstrate their learning. While NAPLAN is just one snapshot, strong mathematical thinking and confidence make a big difference.

What NAPLAN Assesses in Mathematics

NAPLAN focuses on skills developed every day in the classroom, including:

- ✓ Number and place value
- ✓ Fractions and decimals
- ✓ Measurement and time
- ✓ Patterns and algebraic thinking
- ✓ Interpreting data and graphs
- ✓ Problem-solving and reasoning

The best preparation is consistent learning, not last-minute cramming.

How Families Can Help at Home

1 Build Strong Number Sense

Practise basic number facts (especially multiplication facts for Grade 3 & 5).

Estimate answers before calculating.

Ask: "Does that answer make sense?"

2 Encourage Problem-Solving Talk

Instead of giving the answer, ask:

"What is the question asking?"

"What information is important?"

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (NUMERACY CON'T)

Practise Real-Life Maths

Read timetables

Compare prices while shopping

Measure ingredients when cooking

Interpret graphs in newspapers or online

Practical NAPLAN Tips for Students

For Grade 3 & 5 students:

Read the question carefully — sometimes twice.

Underline key information.

Estimate before solving.

Show working out where possible.

If unsure, eliminate answers that don't make sense.

Check answers if time allows.

Remind children:

Slow and careful thinking is better than rushing.

Supporting Wellbeing During NAPLAN

Help your child by:

Keeping routines consistent

Ensuring good sleep

Providing a healthy breakfast

Reassuring them that NAPLAN does not define them

A calm and positive mindset helps children perform at their best.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (LITERACY)

Scholastic Book Club at Our School

Scholastic Australia is a leading educational publisher and distributor specializing in children's literature, educational resources, and literacy programs. Established in 1968, it operates as the Australian arm of Scholastic Inc., serving schools, libraries, and families nationwide. The company is recognized for its Book Club and Book Fair programs, central to promoting literacy across Australia.

We are excited to let families know that our school participates in the **Scholastic Book Club** program through **Scholastic Australia**.

Book Club provides a wonderful opportunity for children to discover new books, build their home libraries and develop a lifelong love of reading. Research shows that children who read regularly for enjoyment develop stronger vocabulary, comprehension skills and confidence.

Each issue features a wide range of carefully selected, age-appropriate books at affordable prices — including picture books, early readers, chapter books and activity titles.

How it works

- A catalogue will be sent home with students each issue.
- Families can browse the catalogue together and select books of interest.
 - Orders are placed online via the LOOP system.
- Books are delivered to the school and distributed to students.

🔗 Order online via LOOP:

<https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP>

Every purchase also helps our school earn valuable rewards that can be used to purchase additional books and classroom resources for our students.

There is no obligation to order — Book Club is simply an opportunity to support reading at home. Thank you for supporting reading at home.





GETTING READY FOR TERM 1



GETTING READY TO PLACE YOUR FIRST ORDER

- 1 Create a new profile at app.canteenhub.com.au/register-customer
- 2 Add Profile: Set up children or yourself under the Profiles tab
- 3 Search for your school via postcode and select from the drop down list
- 4 Select your class
- 5 Head to Order Now
- 6 Select the person you are ordering for
- 7 Select items from the approved menu & finalise your order
- 8 To place orders for multiple people. You will be asked when you finalise your first order if you would like to place another order for another profile (person)

 contact@subsforyou.com

 app.canteenhub.com.au



HARMONY DAY

JOIN US TO
CELEBRATE ON
MARCH 26TH

9 am at the COLA

Whole school song and parade

Please come to school dressed in
cultural outfits, orange or your
school uniform.



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2026



juniors pre season training

**Kicks off the week of February 2
Ainsworth Reserve
5 to 6pm**

U12s & U14s - Mondays and Wednesdays
U8s, U9s & U10s - Wednesdays only

Runners only. Bring a friend
New players are welcome!

Contact Natalie & Tanya 0420 761 685



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KOORIE ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT OFFICERS (KESO's) BRIMBANK MELTON AREA

The role and responsibility of the KESO

The role of the KESO is to help build the capacity of Victorian schools and early childhood education centres to provide culturally inclusive and safe environments where Koorie children/students can participate fully, achieve their best, and graduate to post-secondary education and training pathways. KESO's bring skills and knowledge in culture and community, and specialist understanding of the specific barriers to education that Koorie students can face. KESOs work as part of a broader multidisciplinary team to support schools, however, are not the only regional resource for schools when it comes to Koorie children/students.

Some of the support services that the KESO can offer early learning centres, school, families include:

Support schools and early childhood education centres to ensure:

- Build capacity of staff across schools and early childhood education centres to ensure cultural safety and inclusive practices.
- Support parents and carers to engage in their child's learning and development.
- Support school transitions and higher education pathways.
- Increase school awareness of and access to Aboriginal support services or health & medical services.
- Conduct Cultural Audits of schools and early childhood education centres.
- Delivery of mandatory Community Understanding and Safety Training.
- Support schools and early childhood education centres to think about how they can engage with families in a manner that will be effective and culturally safe.
- Support schools to identify factors to increase achievement, engagement and wellbeing for cohorts of Koorie students at a school, class or community level.
- Attend student support group (SSG) meetings for Koorie students.
- Working to ensure effective SSGs and IEPs, ensuring goals are set and the process and outcomes are communicated in an appropriate way to families.

What is the school responsible for?

- To work with the KESO to devise strategies to improve attendance and engagement.
- Exhausting all available school-based supports and resources for addressing low attendance and engagement including liaison with parents and carers, before reaching out to your KESO for assistance.
- The development of Individual Education Plans for **ALL** Koorie students as mandated by Department of Education policy.
- The school is also responsible for organising Student Support Group (SSG) meetings to revisit and revise the IEP on an ongoing basis that include student and parent voice where possible.
- The KESO should be advised of all SSG's for Koorie students.
- Building a whole school approach to celebrate and recognise the oldest continuing culture in the world.

Frequently asked questions about our role ...

Do all First Nations students require an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Yes. The Department requires all First Nations students to have an IEP; this includes high achieving students. IEPs should be strength based with a cultural lens, focusing on students' potential to achieve. They should be developed in consultation with the student (where appropriate) and their parent/carer/guardian.

Can you assist in the classroom?

The KESO can assist with ensuring that you are providing a culturally safe space, that your curriculum is inclusive of Koorie perspectives and engaging students in a culturally sensitive manner. We don't provide one on-one assistance to students in the classroom; we would advise that you investigate the usual avenues such as PSD funding for an aide if one-on-one support is required.

Can you run projects or programs within the school?

The KESO aims to build capacity within the school staff to deliver culturally appropriate projects and programs. We can do this by providing links to community members/services.

Do you provide advice or support around behaviour management?

The KESO can provide advice on engaging students and families in a culturally sensitive manner. Specific support for behaviour management should be directed to the Student Support Services (SSS) team. KESO's can work alongside SSS, schools, and families in providing on going culturally led advice in these matters.

Can you transport Koorie students or families to and from school?

Departmental policy specifies that DET staff are not allowed to transport students or their families.

Do you attend SSG and Care Team Meetings?

Attendance at Care Team meetings is at the discretion of the individual KESO and the family. It is not however, an expectation that KESOs be in attendance. Please discuss this with your KESO and the family before inviting them to CTMs. KESO's can attend SSG meetings, however parent/carer consent is required.

Which schools do you support?

All government primary, secondary and special schools as well as all Early Learning Centres in the Brimbank Melton area.

Do you do home visits?

KESO's in Brimbank Melton do not do home visits. If schools are concerned about families or students' welfare, we suggest that they follow the departments policy in these matters. KESO's can meet with parents/carers at their child's school or Early Learning Centre or at a Department of Education location.

How to engage a KESO

Every government school and early learning centre in the Brimbank Melton area has an allocated KESO. If a school or early learning centre is unsure of who their KESO is, please reach out to the Koorie Education Coordinator (KEC) Bernadette Atkinson at bernadette.atkinson@education.vic.gov.au If a parent/carer would like KESO involvement they can speak to their school or Early Learning Centre to complete a referral form. A KESO will then contact them. All referral forms requesting support for students must have parent/carer consent.

GET CONNECTED



Please follow us on Instagram

Ardeer.PS



All families were sent letters with their own unique code. Please download the Compass app and connect ASAP. Important reminders, updates, letters, notes etc. will be circulated via this platform throughout 2022. Please contact the office if you require a new sign in.



All families should now be connected to their child's 2022 class. This is a wonderful platform to see your child's learning progression as you connect with their learning portfolio. If you have not connected and require a new sign in code, please see your child's teacher ASAP.

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- Person-centered** > Five Tuition complements school-based approaches by providing personalised help for each student.
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DERRIMUT

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At Five Tuition, we believe learning happens most naturally and effectively when someone you respect sits humbly beside you, helps you with something, speaks honestly to you, has hope for you, and honours their commitment to bring about positive changes for you – in school and life.

Everything we do at Five Tuition supports that learning process. It sounds simple because learning is simple! Learning doesn't require complex programmes, a detailed curriculum, or the latest technology – as helpful as they might be. Learning simply requires someone with the competence to teach, the character to model, and the commitment to pass on their knowledge.

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AT PAUL SADLER SWIMLAND WE TEACH SURVIVAL SKILLS AT EVERY LEVEL:

10 minutes per class is spent in deep water, where we teach treading water, deep water recovery (safety circle) and mobility on both front and back until children have achieved 2 minutes treading water.

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