

Ardeer Primary School

Newsletter

February 5th, 2026

Key Dates

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

(Ardeer vs Sunshine)

Friday 13th February

Literacy Parent Information Session

Tuesday 17th February

5pm – 6pm

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

(Ardeer vs Sirius College)

Friday 13th February

Meet the Teacher BBQ

Monday 23rd February

4:30pm – 5:30pm

Subway Lunch #1

Wednesday 25th February

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

(Ardeer vs Albion North)

Friday 27th February

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Families,

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. I hope all our students and families enjoyed a safe and refreshing break and are feeling excited about the opportunities ahead. A new year brings fresh beginnings, new goals, and the chance to continue building a positive and supportive learning community together. We are delighted to see our students return and look forward to working closely with families to support their learning, wellbeing, and success.

Regular school attendance plays a vital role in every child's education. Being at school every day helps students build strong learning routines, develop social connections, and gain the skills and confidence they need to thrive. We greatly appreciate the ongoing support of families in ensuring students attend school consistently and arrive ready to learn, as this partnership is key to positive outcomes for all children.

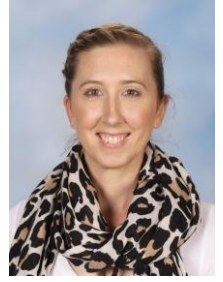
Our school remains firmly committed to upholding the Child Safe Standards. The safety, wellbeing, and inclusion of every student is our highest priority. We strive to provide a child-safe environment where students feel respected and heard. All staff share the responsibility of creating a culture of safety, and we encourage open communication with families to ensure our school continues to be a place where children can learn and grow with confidence.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead and thank you for being an important part of our school community.

Yours sincerely,

John Mifsud

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear Families,

I am absolutely thrilled to have joined the wonderful Ardeer Primary School community this year. I am a passionate educator who believes that all children can learn, and that they learn best when they feel happy, supported, and have confidence in their own abilities. I have already met so many of our wonderful students and families, please come say hello if you see me around the school!

Glasses for Kids are visiting the school on Monday 16th February. If your child is in Grade Prep, Grade 1, Grade 2 or Grade 3, they will have the opportunity to participate in free vision screening if they have returned the permission form that is available on Compass. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Breakfast Club will continue this term on Thursday mornings. I am looking for adult volunteers who might be interested in helping with running the club. Please let me know if you are able to support this.

Hollie Winfield

STUDENT VOICE AND AGENCY @ APS

It has been great to see so many Grade 4/5 and 5/6 students express an interest in being part of the 2026 Student Voice Team. Students that have shown an interest have been asked to complete a short self-nomination form by providing a brief description of why they would like to be part of this team, any previous experience and or skills that they would bring to the role. Once the team has been formed, students will meet with the principal every fortnight in a structured meeting with an agenda and minutes. The Student Voice Team has been a leadership initiative that has been running here at the school for the past five years now. It amazes me to see how the leadership skills of the students involved grow over the course of the year. It is an authentic opportunity for students to have genuine input on matters that directly relate to them, actively participate in important decision making and lead passion projects. I look forward to seeing the work that will unfold through this forum in 2026.



School Wide Positive Behaviour Support

Welcome to a new school year at Ardeer Primary School! As we begin Term 1, we are continuing our focus on School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support to support all students to feel safe, supported and ready to learn.

SWPBS helps us explicitly teach and reinforce our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety across all areas of the school. During Term 1, students will revisit these expectations and learn what they look like in the classroom, playground and other shared spaces. Positive behaviours will be recognised and celebrated throughout the year.

Families play an important role in supporting SWPBS. You can help by talking with your child about showing respect, responsibility and safety at school, at home and in the community.

We look forward to a positive and successful year ahead at Ardeer Primary School

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).

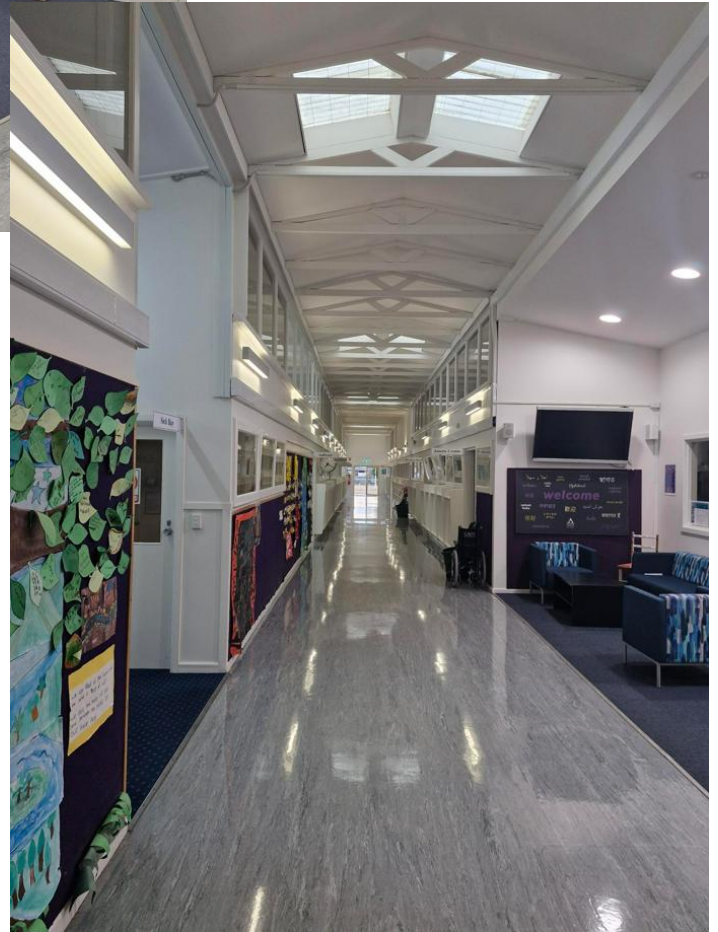
-All orders will be delivered in separate class cartons, and each lunch will be clearly labelled. Parental Support is available via the link below or using the HELP function on the website –

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)

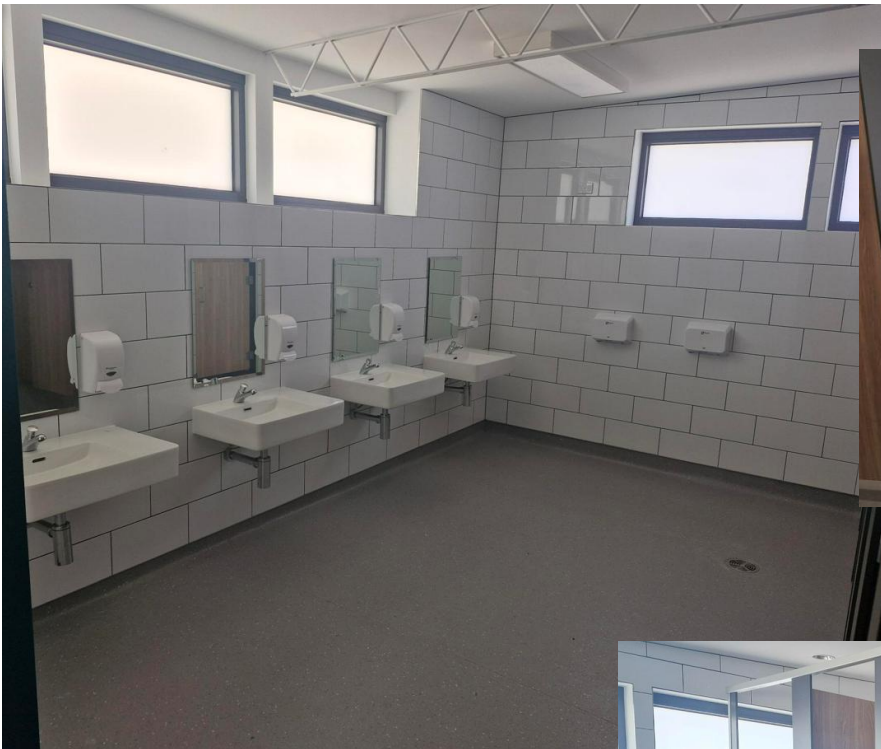
NEW PAINTING WORKS

Over the recent holidays some painting works were carried out to Block A. We are very pleased with the outcome and think you will agree these works have certainly helped modernise and brighten up the main building space.



STUDENT TOILET REFURBISHMENT

The student toilet refurbishment project was completed over the recent school holidays. The transformation of this space is just incredible. The toilets are incredibly inviting now for students, and I look forward to seeing all students making great use of these facilities for many years to come. As is the case at the start of and through the school year, students are explicitly taught expected behaviours when in various spaces throughout the school. These expected behaviours are aligned with our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Safety. During the first week of the school year, staff have been working with students at all year levels to teach them what these behaviours look like in a positive and practical sense with the new student toilets being one of the spaces that these lessons have focused on.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

It was such a pleasure to welcome all students back for the start of our new 2026 school year last week. An especially warm welcome to our newly enrolled students across the school and our newest members at the school, our amazing Prep students. We cannot wait to see you grow as learners over the next seven years here at the school!



SCHOOL COUNCIL

If you are interested in finding out more about the APS School Council, please contact John Mifsud on 9363 1194 to obtain further information and discuss the nomination process.

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the Education and Training Reform Act 2006. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected parent member category – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.

A mandated elected school employee member category – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional community member category – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.

A small number of school councils have nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

A mandated elected student member category, two positions.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- act with honesty and integrity – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty
- act in good faith in the best interests of the school – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds
- act fairly and impartially – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest
- use information appropriately – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available
- exercise due care, diligence and skill – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school
- use the position appropriately – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage
- act in a financially responsible manner – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions
- comply with relevant legislation and policies – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law
- demonstrate leadership and stewardship – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

- a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same electorate that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate)

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

Generally, if there are more nominations than vacancies a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Consider standing for election to school council.

Ask the principal for instructions if you are not sure what to do.

Be sure to vote if the election goes to ballot.

Contact the principal if you are unsure about what is required at any stage of the election process

Further information regarding School Council – Powers and Functions can be found [here](#).

WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES

A reminder that our end of week celebration assemblies take place under the COLA on a Friday at 2:50pm. Each class will have an opportunity to lead and showcase their work at this assembly. It is also a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community, connect and celebrate the wonderful achievements of our amazing students. It would be great to see as many families as possible at this event, ending the week on a very positive note. This week our assembly (Friday February 6th) will be led by our Grade 4/5 students.

School Council Election Process and Timetable 2026

Ardeer Primary School



Event	Date
a) Notice of election and call for nominations	Thursday 5 th February 2026
b) Closing date for nominations 1) At the end of the nomination period, if the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies in any one membership category, declare those who nominated as being elected and publicise an extension of three school days. Call for nominations for the remaining vacancies 2) Where the nominations exceed the number of vacancies and a ballot is required, inform the community and the candidates. Provide candidates with the opportunity to prepare a written statement. Provide clear instructions about the preparation of the statement and check that instructions have been followed before sending out statements with the ballot papers	Thursday 12 th February 2026
c) Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted (If an election is required)	Friday 13 th February 2026
d) Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed- (If an election is required)	Friday 20 th February 2026
e) Close of ballot - (If an election is required)	Friday 27 th February 2026
f) Vote count: (If an election is required)	Monday 2 nd March 2026
g) Declaration of poll: (If an election is required)	Wednesday 4 th March 2026
h) Special council meeting to co-opt community members (the principal will preside)	Monday 16 th March 2026
i) First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Monday 16 th March 2026

[ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY](#)

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy](#), describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace](#) for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

LITERACY PARENT INFORMATION SESSION-

TUESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY- (5PM – 6PM)

We warmly invite you to attend our upcoming Literacy Parent Information Session.

This session will provide an overview of how literacy is taught across the school and share practical ways you can support your child's reading, writing and language development at home. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussion with our teaching staff.

Session details:

Date: Tuesday 17 February

Time: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

We encourage all parents and carers to attend, as strong home–school partnerships play a vital role in supporting student learning. To help us plan this session we please ask that you complete a short form [here](#) or by scanning the QR code below.

We look forward to seeing you there.



2026 Parent Payment Arrangements

Dear Families,

At Ardeer Primary School, we are committed to providing the very best educational and wellbeing outcomes for all students. We are looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of our voluntary financial contributions for 2026.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard Victorian curriculum, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and wellbeing support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support in previous years. As a small school, we operate with an extremely finite budget, and your contributions make a huge difference to our school and the programs that we can offer.

In past years, our community has supported the school by paying these contributions, which has allowed us to offer a robust and varied curriculum program for our students. To sustain these programs this support is still very much needed. We hope that this support will remain, and families continue to pay these contributions.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see the one-page overview attached.

We thank you in advance for your support and look forward to working with you and your child in 2026.

Yours sincerely



John Mifsud

Principal

Ruth O'Reilly

School Council President



Foundation – Grade 6

Curriculum Contributions- items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum

Book Packs	\$60.00
Classroom materials (shared) coloured paper, butcher paper & other misc. items	\$15.00
Curriculum support resources / experiences - All students will participate in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) throughout the year. This covers the cost of a range of construction items and bulk supplies (e.g. pipe cleaners, icy pole sticks, tape, straws, wool, cups, etc. used to support the delivery of this area of the curriculum and to enable the creation of learning artefacts such as dioramas, models, conduct experiments and other creative designs.	\$10.00
Technologies – ICT equipment, infrastructure and support- Provision and upkeep of devices from the shared classroom sets in all classrooms & specialist classes.	\$25.00
ICT- Technologies- Apps/memberships/licenses	\$47.00
Photocopying - Printing and photocopying of learning materials	\$13.00
Nightly reading diary all classes except for Grade 5/6 students	\$5.15
Student diary (Grade 5/6 Students only)	\$12.40
Total	\$175.15 – Foundation - Grade 4 students
Total	\$182.40- Grade 5 and 6 students
Swimming Program- 10 Day Intensive Swimming Program- (Foundation, Grade 2, Grade 4 and Grade 6 students only)	\$75.00
Out of water classroom swimming program- (Grade 1, Grade 3 and Grade 5 students only)	\$15.00
Nightly reader bag- All Foundation, new enrolments or replacements*	\$14.00
Headphones-All Foundation, new enrolments or replacements*	\$8.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Ardeer Primary School offers a range of items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the curriculum. **These are provided on a user-pays basis.**

Financial Support for Families

At times, all families can experience financial hardship and so we offer a range of support options to assist in these circumstances.

If you are experiencing financial hardship and you would like to arrange a **confidential discussion about alternative payment arrangements, please contact:**

John Mifsud | Email: john.mifsud@education.vic.gov.au (Principal)

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	
Interschool Sports– Grade 4-6 – Transportation costs (Bus hire) for all away interschool sport games that require a chartered coach (Grade 4/5 and Grade 5/6 classes only)	\$50.00
Graduation Grade 6 - Grade 6 graduation t-shirt and contribution towards end of year graduation activity (Must be paid by 27th February 2026) An additional contribution may be required based on the nature of the determined event*	\$60.00*
Camp Grades 3- 6	T.B.C*(Approx. \$350)
Foundation– 2 Twilight Activity	T.B.C*(Approx. \$40)
Incursions & Excursions (Grade specific- Individual costs will vary dependent on the number of students in attendance and associated costs)	T.B.C

Camps, Sports & Excursion Fund (CSEF)

The Victorian Government has again committed to providing eligible students with Camps, Sports & Excursion funds (CSEF). These funds are paid to the school to use towards excursions, incursions, and camps for eligible students. To be eligible for the funding, a parent or legal guardian must be the holder of a current Healthcare card or Pension card or be a temporary foster parent on the first day of Term 1 or Term 2. Parents who are eligible for CSEF and are applying for CSEF for the first time at the school or have a child commencing in 2026 will be required to complete a CSEF application form as early as possible in the New Year. Applications close at the end of Term 2, 2026.

Centrepay

Centrepay is a free service offered by Centrelink to help recipients of Centrelink payments arrange regular deductions for payment of ongoing expenses and regular bills. Should you wish to participate in this, please speak with a member of the administration team in the Office.

The Office will be open on **Tuesday 27th January 2026 between 9:00am - 3:00pm** to assist parents in making payments prior to the commencement of the school year.

Payment Methods:

- EFTPOS • CASH
- DIRECT DEPOSIT

Account Name: Ardeer Primary School

BSB: 063172

Account Number: 10126125

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

When paying by direct deposit please use your child's SURNAME and 2026 PP as the reference e.g. "SMITH 2026 PP"



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities
Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).

FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.

2026 School Information and Key Dates

Start of Term 1- School Dates

Staff commence on Tuesday 27th, 2026, this is for staff only. The office will be open for payments on this day between 9AM- 3PM.

The first day of school for Grade 1 - 6 students will be Wednesday 28th January 2026

During the months of January and February, *Prep students do not attend school on Wednesdays.* However, prep families will be asked to attend for a 60-minute assessment block on one of those Wednesdays. Parents will be given the details to book this through Compass.

School Times

Students must be in class, sitting down and ready to learn by 8:45am.

8:45am – 8:50am	School begins- Quiet reading in classrooms
8:50am – 9:50am	Session 1
9:50am -10:50am	Session 2
10:50am- 11:15am	Recess
11:15am-12:15pm	Session 3
12:15pm – 1:15pm	Session 4
1:15pm- 2:15pm	Lunch
2:15pm – 3:15pm	Session 5

YARD DUTY COMMENCES FROM 8:30am NO STUDENTS SHOULD ARRIVE AT SCHOOL BEFORE THIS TIME UNLESS REGISTERED FOR BEFORE SCHOOL CARE. THE YARD IS UNSUPERVISED BEFORE THIS TIME. AFTER SCHOOL YARD DUTY IS BETWEEN 3:15pm – 3:30pm.

Term Dates

Term 1- Tuesday 27th January – Thursday 2nd April – (10 Weeks)

Term 2- Monday 20th April – Friday 26th June – (10 Weeks)

Term 3- Monday 13th July – Friday 18th September – (10 Weeks)

Term 4 -Monday 5th October – Friday 18th December – (11 Weeks)

Swimming Program:

In water program

Monday 27th July – Friday 7th September- (Foundation, Grade 2, Grade 4 and Grade 6)

Out of water swim program

Date TBC- (Grade 1, Grade 3 and Grade 5)

Interschool Sports

Term 1 and 2 – (Grades 4/5 and Grade 5/6 only)

Curriculum Days – No school for students

There are 4 Curriculum Days in the year + 1 Common PPD

-Monday 27th January

-Friday 5th June

-Monday 31st August

-Monday 2nd November (Common PPD)

-Tuesday 8th December

Public Holidays – (No School)

Australia Day- Monday 26th January

Labour Day – Monday 9th March

ANZAC Day – Saturday 25th April

King's Birthday – Monday 8th June

Melbourne Cup – Tuesday 3rd November

Camp and Sleepover

Camp for students Grades 3-6 – Monday 27th October – Wednesday 29th October

Twilight Activity P-2 – Date T.B.C

Excursions

All classes will have the opportunity to attend excursions in 2026. Parents will be notified of these before the event and will need to provide consent and payment by the due date. All consent and payments must be returned by the due date; no late payments or consent will be accepted after this time. This is to ensure we meet our obligations to thoroughly plan such events. This includes ensuring adequate student to staff ratios are maintained, arrangements regarding transportation and any other associated costs can be accurately planned and budgeted for.

Stay Connected

Ensure you are connected to COMPASS; these details will be sent to all new families. It is through COMPASS that you will receive all school updates, newsletters, urgent information and school reports.

SEESAW is available for families to communicate directly with your child's teacher, view photos and videos of student learning. Details are sent out at the start of each year so that you can connect to your child's new classroom teacher.

You can also keep up to date via our School Website ardeerps.vic.edu.au and our Instagram page [ardeer.ps](#).



Change of Details

Please make sure you send in any new information relevant to your family / child. This can include:

- Change of address
- Change of phone numbers
- Change of emergency contacts or their details
- Any legal documents – court orders / custody arrangements / Out of Home Care etc
- Any medical plans / information for children with diagnosed illnesses or conditions
- Asthma plans

OSHC Provider

Our OSHC (Out of School Hours Care) provider is TheirCare. They offer care programs for:

- Before and after school care
- School holidays
- All curriculum days

The OSHC program runs Monday- Friday from 6:30AM to 8:30AM and 3:15pm- 6:30PM. The program also operates during all school holiday periods. For further information, visit www.theircare.com.au or call their support office on 1300 072 410

State Schools Relief

For families eligible to access State Schools Relief, there is now a nominal charge payable on the school specific uniform. This includes all polo shirts, windcheaters, rugby tops and jackets. The charge is different for each item; you can contact Meg in the office to discuss this further.

Uniform

All students are required to be in full school uniform each day. Information relating to the school's uniform policy is available on our school website. We have an onsite uniform shop where families can purchase uniform items. A price list is available on our school website. It is compulsory that a school bucket hat is worn by all students in Terms 1 & 4.

School Staffing 2026

Principal	John Mifsud
Assistant Principal	Hollie Winfield
Office Administration	Meg Markham
Grade P/1A Classroom Teacher- Learning Specialist	Mary Sanelli
Grade 1/2 Classroom Teacher	Janette Cronin
Grade 2/3 Classroom Teacher- Learning Specialist	Rachel Orellana
Grade 3/4 Classroom Teacher	Annabelle Juhasz
Grade 4/5 Classroom Teacher	Charlotte Waterhouse
Grade 5/6 Classroom Teacher- Learning Specialist	Arife Halil
AUSLAN Teacher	Nadya Saab
Health and P.E Teacher	Tim Pham
Art/Library Teacher	Rhiannon Thomas
Education Support	Jenny Allen
Education Support	Thu Nguyen
Education Support	Geethanjali Edara
Education Support	Jazmin Lopez
Education Support	Janelle Fry
Music Percussionist	Mark Grunden
Bus driver	Lorenzo Isla
Maintenance	Gerry Romanyk
IT Technician	Jason Le

+ Supporting Your Child in Mathematics (Foundation – Year 6)

At our school, mathematics learning follows the **Victorian Curriculum Version 2.0**, which focuses on helping students become **confident, capable, and flexible thinkers** — not just fast calculators.

Across all year levels, students are learning to:

- ✓ Understand numbers and patterns
 - ✓ Solve real-world problems
 - ✓ Explain their thinking
- ✓ Choose strategies that make sense
- ✓ Build confidence and persistence

Here are some simple ways families can support maths learning at home.

Maths Is More Than Just Answers

In today's classrooms, we focus on:

How students think, not just what they get.

You'll often hear your child talking about:






- Different ways to solve a problem
 - Explaining their strategy
 - Drawing models or pictures
- Checking if answers make sense

If their method looks different to how you learned maths — that's a good thing! It means they're learning to think flexibly.

You don't need worksheets — **real life is the best maths classroom.**

Easy Ways to Build Maths at Home

Maths is everywhere in everyday life:

-  Cooking: “If we double the recipe, what changes?”
 -  Shopping: “Which is better value?”
 -  Time: “How long until we leave?”
 -  Building: “How long / tall / wide is it?”
-  Games: Board games, cards and dice all build number sense

You don't need worksheets — **real life is the best maths classroom.**

The Best Questions to Ask

Instead of:

✗ “What's the answer?”

Try:

- “How did you work it out?”
- “Can you show me another way?”
- “Why does that make sense?”
- “What would you try next?”

These questions build **reasoning, confidence, and independence.**

Helping When Maths Feels Hard

Try to avoid:

✗ “I was never good at maths.”

Instead say:

- “Mistakes help your brain grow.”
- “Let's try a different way.”
- “You're learning — that's what matters.”

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- - (NUMERACY CON'T)

A **positive attitude** towards maths makes a huge difference.

★ The Big Goal of the Victorian Curriculum 2.0

We want students who:

- ✓ Can think and explain
 - ✓ Can solve problems in real life
 - ✓ Can choose good strategies
 - ✓ Are confident and resilient learners
-

Thank you for supporting your child's maths learning — together we build strong, confident mathematicians!

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- (LITERACY)



Building Strong Readers

At our school, literacy is at the heart of everything we do. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are not just classroom skills — they are life skills that support children’s learning, confidence and wellbeing across all areas of life.

Strong literacy skills help children:

- understand and communicate their ideas
- build vocabulary and background knowledge
 - develop imagination and creativity
 - grow confidence as learners
- succeed across all learning areas, including Maths and Science

One of the most powerful influences on a child’s literacy development is what happens at home — especially when reading is part of a regular routine.

The Importance of a Reading Routine at Home

Children thrive on routine. When reading happens at the same time each day, it becomes a normal and enjoyable part of life rather than a chore. Consistent reading routine:

- builds confidence and fluency
- strengthens attention and focus
- supports vocabulary development
- creates positive associations with books and learning

Even 10–15 minutes a day can make a big difference. The key is consistency, not length. You don’t need to be a teacher to support your child’s literacy. Everyday moments offer powerful opportunities to build reading, writing and talking skills.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- - (LITERACY CON'T)

Building

Reading Together

- Read with your child, not just to them
- Take turns reading pages or sentences
 - Talk about the pictures and story
- Ask questions like; What do you think will happen next? How do you know?

Talking and Listening

- Encourage your child to explain their thinking
 - Talk about your day together

Writing in Everyday Life

- Write shopping lists or notes together
- Help your child write cards or messages
- Praise effort rather than perfect spelling

Literacy Everywhere

- Read signs, menus and recipes
- Play word and rhyming games
- Let your child see you reading at home

Reading Satchels Coming Home

This week students will begin bringing home their reading satchels.

These satchels contain texts carefully chosen to support your child's reading development. Reading satchels are to be returned to school every day, even if your child has not finished **their** book. This allows teachers to monitor reading, change texts as needed, and ensure students are ready for daily classroom reading sessions.

TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT- - (LITERACY CON'T)

We ask families to:

- read with their child each evening and sign/comment
 - keep books safe and dry
- return the satchel to school every day



The most important thing you can give your child is positive reading experiences. When children feel supported and encouraged, they are more likely to develop a lifelong love of reading.

MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT

SAUSAGE SIZZLE




MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY- UNDER THE COLA
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM
(FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE)


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

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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RUBBISH
REMOVAL



CFMEU

National Sports Talent Quest

Exciting news! Team Vic is looking for students, both boys and girls, to join the team in the following sports.

Registration to trial for SSV 12 Years and Under 'Team Vic' boys *Australian Football, boys Soccer, boys and girls Basketball, girls Netball and boys Cricket* is done through an online process managed by School Sport Victoria. The online Registration process is at

<https://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic>

Students and families must consult with their principal to ensure they have the skill level to trial and represent their school at a national championship level. It is imperative that teachers decide on a child's capability to represent their school at a state level trial. Registration for a Division trial incurs a NON-REFUNDABLE \$35 fee.

Confirmation to attend a trial will occur before the end of Term 1, 2026. Once registered, the parent will receive an email confirming payment and a form which will require the principal's signature.

For more information, please see Mr Pham at school.





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.

five tuition

- Person-centered** > Five Tuition complements school-based approaches by providing personalised help for each student.
- Values-driven** > Humility, Helpfulness, Honesty, Hope and Honour – these FIVE values drive everything we do at Five Tuition.
- Impact-focused** > We focus on impact because we take our mission of helping students thrive in school and life seriously.
- Evidence-based** > Everything we do is informed by academic literature, learning theories and careful consideration of the evidence.
- Inclusivity-embracing** > We believe everyone should be entitled to a person-centered, values-driven, impact-focused, and evidence-based approach to learning.

DERRIMUT

Opposite Derrimut Village Shopping Centre
Level 1 Suite 20 1-11 Elgar Rd
Derrimut, Victoria 3030

WILLIAMS LANDING

Williams Landing Shopping Centre
Level 1 Suite 4, 100 Overton Road
Williams Landing, Victoria 3027

OUR WEBSITE:

<https://www.fivetuition.com.au>

Please call 0477 690 323 or email hello@fivetuition.com.au

five tuition

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.

We recruit and train the nicest, brightest, and most talented university students living in Melbourne's West. All our tutors have attained exceptional VCE scores, have a heart for younger people and a passion to share their knowledge, skills, and experiences with others.

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OUR WEBSITE:

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Please call 0477 690 323 or email hello@fivetuition.com.au



DO YOU LOVE TO SWIM?



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- Family Friendly
- Inclusive and Supportive
- Swimming Development
- Fun and Competitive
- Tailored Programs

We would love to hear from you
<https://swimland.swimming.org.au>

secretary@swimlandswimclub.com

WHAT MAKES PAUL SADLER SWIMLAND DIFFERENT TO OTHER SWIM SCHOOLS?

AT PAUL SADLER SWIMLAND SURVIVAL SKILLS ARE THE FOUNDATION OF OUR LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM



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.

LEARN FROM THE SURVIVAL SPECIALISTS



SCAN & BOOK

Paul Sadler Swimland Braybrook
67 Damley Street, Braybrook
(03) 9311 7459
braybrook@paulsadlerswimland.com
paulsadlerswimland.com.au



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