

## Upcoming dates...

**Monday 7th October**  
First day of Term Four

**Monday 4th November**  
Curriculum Day - Pupil free day

**Tuesday 5th November**  
Melbourne Cup Public holiday

**Friday 22nd November**  
Curriculum Day - Pupil free day

**Tuesday 26th November**  
Student early finish @ 1.30pm (previously communicated at 6/12)

**Friday 6th December**  
Year 12 Graduation Night

**Thursday 19th December**  
Last day of Term Four

# Principal's Newsletter

Term 3 | 30th August 2024 | Week 7

What a great start everyone has made to the new school term. We are amazed by the students' eagerness and re-adjustment to school routines. It's wonderful to begin the day with smiling faces that are happy to be at school! No doubt this will be another term that will fly by really quickly, especially with so much planned for the term.

As we launch into the last term, I would like to remind families that we are a sun smart school and that students will be required to wear a hat and put on sunscreen when they go out to play. It is also important that students come to school in their school uniform. Please discuss the summer uniform requirements with a member of the admin team or your child's team leader. If you need assistance in purchasing uniforms, the admin staff will be able to help you out.

2024 also brings us to the end of our current Schools strategic plan and therefore our school review will be taking place this term. Thank you to those of you who have put their name forward to be a part of the parent group to speak to our reviewers. If you haven't passed on your name and would like to speak to the reviewers, please send your interest to Adrienne at [adrienne.bennie@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:adrienne.bennie@education.vic.gov.au).

Thank you also to those a few who completed the parent opinion survey that was administered by department of education. The results of the survey has been overwhelmingly positive with the following areas having over 90 % positive endorsement: School communication, Teacher communication physical environment, High expectation for success, promoting positive behaviour, Student motivation and support effective teaching, Confidence and resiliency skills, Respect for diversity (over 95%), School Connectedness, 99% of families believe that the school treats their child with respect.

In all other areas, we had over 80 % positive endorsement except in the following areas: School provides information to help families support their child's learning at home (only 76%) and students been taught organisational skills to help with managing homework. We will try and bring this into part of SSG support meetings in 2025.

## Capital Works Update

Over the holiday break it was a busy time at Warringa Campus in our Capital Works space. Trenches were dug out from the front of the school to the back to run all the pathways for service supplies to the rear site. Along with this work we also saw the slab for the ground floor get laid late in the term and now the external wall panels are starting to be erected. It is exciting to watch the build really starting to take shape and give us an idea of what a large and exciting space the students will have access to in the future. We are currently seeing all of this work run to schedule and we remain grateful to the construction team for their clear communication throughout the project so far.

I look forward to working with you all this term and would like to remind you that our last day for the term is Thursday 19th December, finishing at 1pm.

Please also note that Monday 4th November, Tuesday 5th November and Friday 22nd November are pupil free days. Tuesday 26th November will be an early finish at 1.30pm for all students, this was previously communicated as Friday 6th December.

**Ashwini Sharma**  
Principal





# Curriculum update

Dear Families,

This term students will be engaging in science through experiencing chemical and physical reactions such as mixing, freezing, heating and melting using food items!

Science is a great opportunity for teachers to incorporate reading/viewing and writing into a science lesson. Teachers will provide written or visual instructions for students to read or view; bring in writing strategies such as Language Experience or Predictable Chart Writing to help students predict or explain an experiment.

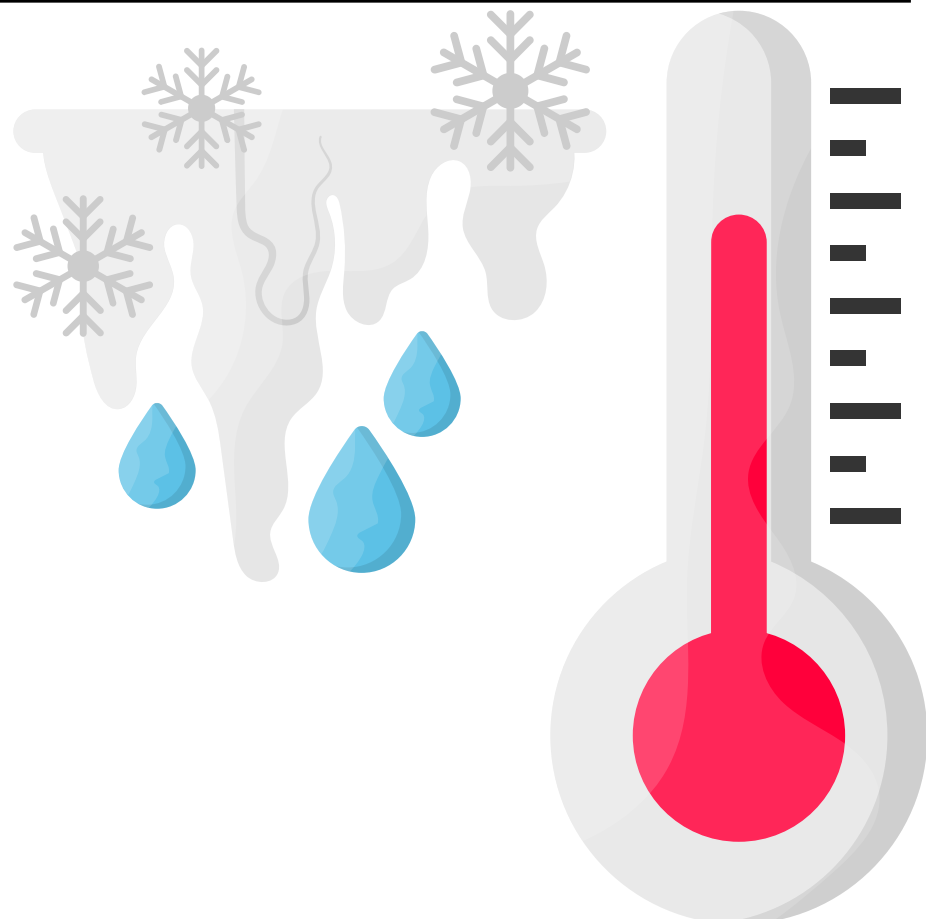
Science is taught throughout the year and the focus is on the science understanding areas and they are taught through developing science inquiry skills using the language “Predict, Observe, Explain”.

When predicting, students can:	When observing, students can:	When explaining, students can:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Choose from a choice board</li> <li>• Voice Record their prediction</li> <li>• Video record their prediction</li> <li>• Write their prediction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a communication window</li> <li>• Video record their observations</li> <li>• Take photos of their observations</li> <li>• Use a magnifying glass or goggles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use their senses to describe</li> <li>• Choose from a choice board</li> <li>• Do predictable chart writing</li> <li>• Voice or video record their explanation</li> </ul>

You might like to explore science at home with your child too and Jane M. Jacobs suggests the following things that families can do;

## In Every Room

Find science in every room of the house. In the kitchen, explore solid, liquid, and gas which are different forms of water. Talk about how bread dough rises, or the way the mineral water fizzes. In the bathroom, have toys available so your child can see the ones that float and the ones that sink. What happens when you try to keep a ball under the water on the bottom of the tub?





# Curriculum update

## Simple Experiments

Every home holds many types of science. Here are a few ideas for easy explorations and discoveries:

### Botany

- Watch a bean sprout. Place a paper towel inside a glass jar and put lima or fava bean seeds between the moist paper and the glass. Put sand or soil in the jar to hold the paper in place, keeping the soil and paper moist. Set the jar in a warm, bright place, and watch the seeds sprout and grow. Older children could keep a journal of what happens, how long it takes to sprout, and measure how much it grows each day. The sprout could later be planted in soil to continue the growth.
- Collect leaves. When outside, collect several different types of leaves. Bring them back home, dry them in a book or flower press and later mount them on paper with the location and name of the tree from which each one came.

### Physical Science

- Explore with a magnet. With a small hand-held magnet, discover what items magnets can pick up or stick to. Explore the whole house with a magnet. Or prepare a box or tray holding 8 or 10 small items such as a paper clip, acorn, button, etc. Separate magnetic items from non-magnetic. Older children can make labels for organizing the items.
- See what floats. Fill a bucket or the sink with water. Collect a number of small waterproof items to test. This is a perfect activity to do outside with pebbles, sandbox toys, leaves, twigs, or whatever small items are found.

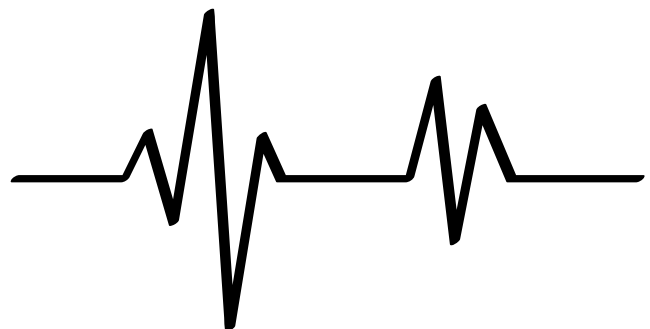
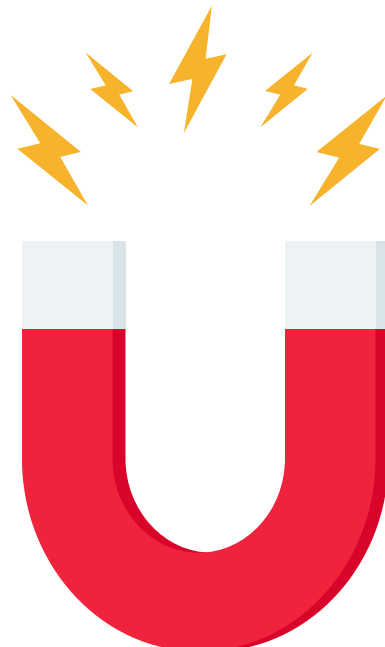
### Anatomy (Biology)

- Count the beats. Help your child identify aspects of the human body. At a quiet time, show him how to feel his heartbeat. Discover how it's sometimes fast, other times slower. Try counting the number of beats using a stopwatch and extend the discovery to all members of the household, including the pets. A stethoscope is a helpful addition.
- Find your bones. Talk about bones and the human skeleton. It's fun to count the vertebrae or the ribs. Identify the names of the bones, perhaps using a diagram of a skeleton.

As always, the concrete real-life activity needs to come first, preceding the abstract principles and explanations which come later for an older child. Children can learn to predict what might occur, and they can record proof of what happened. Young children learn by moving and using their senses, so keep them moving, listening, touching, and watching. Enjoy finding science everywhere.

**Kelly Botha**

Assistant Principal





# Wellbeing update and School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports (SWPBS)

Welcome back to Term 4! The wellbeing team are looking forward to a wonderful final term of 2024. There are many exciting things happening this term across all four campuses, including a great celebration on Tuesday 3rd December for the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. We are also planning some lovely activities for a final celebration day at each campus during the last week of term. We hope your child has had a settled start back into school, it has been great to see so many smiley, happy faces!

## Child Safe Standards

This week's focus is on Child Safe Standard 8. This standard relates to staff and volunteers being equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training. As a school we have the child safe standards as part of our induction process for all staff and volunteers. We also have ongoing professional learning with key information shared at the beginning of the year and then updates and training for all staff at appropriate times throughout the year.

If you have any questions about the child safe standards, please reach out to ask me ([Lindsey.Delooze@Education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Lindsey.Delooze@Education.vic.gov.au)) or any member of the leadership team.

## NDIS

Is your child turning 18? Once an NDIS participant turns 18 they are viewed as an independent adult and the NDIA/LAC service will not speak with someone on their behalf without appropriate paperwork completed ahead of time. Your NDIS contact should be able to provide forms and information to apply for nominee status which will allow you to continue managing your child's NDIS supports. Please [click here](#) or speak to the NDIS navigators (Irene and Ciaran) if you require any support or information.

## School Wide Positive Behaviour Supports (SWPBS)

This term our focus is on the school value Learning, represented by our mascot Lizzie. Our expectations for learning include: "We come to school every day", "We are sun smart", "We do our best" and "We use our iPad to learn and share our work". Each fortnight we will have a focus on one of these expectations to support student understanding across the term.



Being sun smart at this time of year is really important. It is an expectation that students wear hats when they are outside. As a family you can support school by also following sun smart routines when you are not at school, so it becomes part of your normal routine to use sunscreen, wear sunglasses and wear a hat.

Congratulations to the following students who have received an SWPBS award this week.

- Early Primary – TJ
- Lower Primary – Isaac M
- Upper Primary – Ilyas
- PPC – Nathan
- BRC – Petueli
- CRC VPC – Callum
- CRC Flexible Learning – Ebenezer

**Lindsey Delooze**  
Assistant Principal







# Allied Health update



## AAC AWARENESS MONTH

### OCTOBER 2024



International AAC Awareness Month is celebrated around the world each October. The goal is to raise awareness of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) and to inform the public about the many different ways in which people communicate using communication devices.

### AAC AWARENESS MONTH DISCOUNTS - 50% OFF



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Proloquo & Proloquo Coach  
9 - 16 October 2024



TouchChat HD w/  
WordPower  
2 - 15 October 2024



Proloquo2Go  
9 - 16 October 2024



Dialogue™ AAC  
2 - 15 October 2024



Proloquo4Text  
9 - 16 October 2024



Avaz AAC app  
9 - 16 October 2024



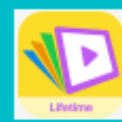
Pictello  
9 - 16 October 2024



Predictable  
9 - 18 October 2024



Keeble  
9 - 16 October 2024



Scene and Heard Pro Lifetime  
9 - 18 October 2024



LAMP Words For Life  
2 - 15 October 2024



Weave Chat AAC  
Free

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

- [Click here - AssistiveWare](#)
- [Click here - Therapy Box](#)
- [Click here - PRC-Salttillo](#)
- [Click here - Weave Chat AAC](#)
- [Click here - Avaz](#)

### OTHER APPS & TRAINING:

Google "AAC Awareness Month 2024" to find out more on other AAC apps and AAC training on sale.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- It is strongly recommended that you consult with your child's speech pathologist to support you in choosing an AAC app/system that is appropriate for your child.
- Warringa Park School is not affiliated with any of the organisations related to the applications and does not endorse in any particular application contained within this poster.
- The information on this poster is for the purpose of sharing of information and there are other AAC apps/systems that have not been included.





# Dates for the diary

## Term Four

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## State School Relief

Warringa Park School are partnered with State School Relief to support families experiencing financial disadvantage with school uniform and essential resources. Applications are considered for school uniform shop vouchers and/ or direct supplies from the SSR store. Please see fact sheet

<https://stateschoolsrelief.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SSR-Voucher-FAQs-sheet.pdf> for more information.

If you have a current concession card and/ or are requiring support with school uniform, please contact us on 9749 5774 or email [Shenol.Ross@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Shenol.Ross@education.vic.gov.au) to apply.

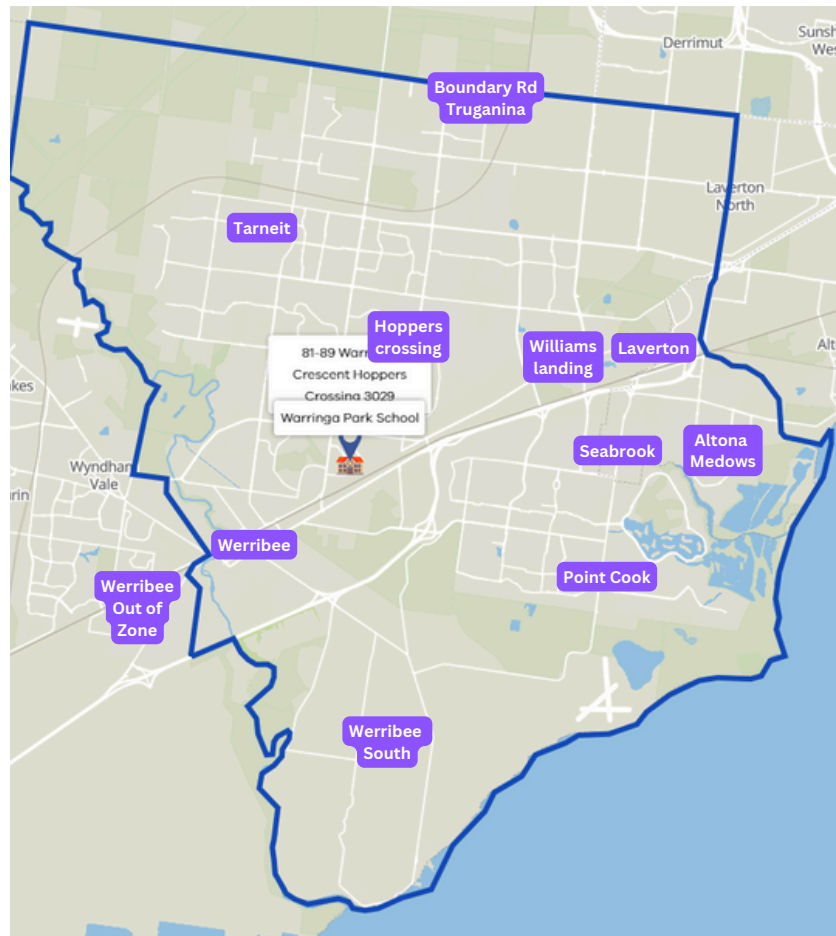
## Important Information – Bus Transportation – Moving Houses

As our transport zone has been updated in 2024, we want to ensure you're aware of how any future address changes might impact bus access for your child.

Here's what you need to know:

- We've attached a map of Warringa Park's new designated transport zone (DTA).
- If you're planning to move, please use the [link](#) provided to check if your new address will fall within our updated transport zone.
- Important: Changing your address may affect your child's eligibility for bus access. However, if your child is currently using the bus service, there will be no changes to their arrangements.

For any questions or assistance, please contact Wendy Harrison at [transport@warringapark.vic.edu.au](mailto:transport@warringapark.vic.edu.au).





# MyTime Group

## Point Cook



- MyTime Point Cook is here for **Chinese-speaking** parents and carers like you! Join us for **free peer group support**, where you can connect with others facing similar challenges caring for a child with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, or any additional needs, including developmental delays. You're not alone in this journey!
- At MyTime Point Cook, we're all about support and growth. Our members come together to **unwind, share** their experiences, and **connect** with people who truly understand what they're going through. But that's not all - we also focus on self-care. You'll have the chance to **learn self-care skills** and **engage** in self-care practices, because taking care of yourself is just as important. Plus, we're here to **provide you with valuable knowledge and information about services** for both you and your care recipient. Join us and let's navigate this journey together.

🍷 **NOTE:** MyTime only takes place during school term.  
Activity schedules will be announced each term.

### OR CONTACT:

Joy Zhou / 周怡

☎ 0414 782 355

### SCAN TO REGISTER:



Joy@extendedfamilies.org.au



### Time:

10.30 am to 12.30 am  
Wednesday  
fortnightly



### Place:

**FEATHERBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
33- 35 Windorah Drive,  
Point Cook VIC 3030



The MyTime Point Cook group is funded by the Australian Government, delivered by not-for-profit organization Extended Families Australia and coordinated by Down Syndrome Victoria.

Website: [mytime.net.au](http://mytime.net.au)

**Extended Families**