



WARRINGA PARK SCHOOL NEWS



TERM 1 | 20TH FEBRUARY | WEEK 4
PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

Meet the Teacher Evening

It was wonderful to see so many families attend our Meet the Teacher Evening last week, with a strong turnout across all campuses. We truly value the opportunity to connect with families and begin the year together.

A sincere thank you to our IT Team, Specialist Team and our NDIS Navigators who generously made themselves available to provide individual support on the night.

If you require any assistance with COMPASS or Seesaw logins, please don't hesitate to contact the school and our IT team will be happy to assist.

For support or questions regarding NDIS for your child, please reach out to Ciaran Barter or Irene Kerr.

I warmly encourage all parents and carers to continue engaging with our school through the many opportunities available. Warringa Park is a school we are proud of – our students, dedicated staff, excellent facilities and supportive community make it a truly special place to learn and grow.

Student Support Group Meetings (SSGs)

Each year, we hold a minimum of three Student Support Group (SSG) meetings. These meetings bring together teachers, parents/carers and, where relevant, Allied Health professionals or Support Workers to collaboratively plan, review and refine students' Individual Education Plan (IEP) goals.

This term, SSG meetings will be scheduled during the week beginning Monday 30th March, with late appointments available on Wednesday 1st April.

SSG meetings are now a required component of the Disability Inclusion Profile process, and the meeting minutes form important documentation within this framework. We appreciate your partnership and commitment to these collaborative conversations.

Photography, Filming and Recording

To protect the privacy of all members of our school community, we ask that any photographs, videos or recordings taken at school events are for personal use only. Please do not publish or share images – including on social media platforms such as Facebook – without the prior consent of those who appear in the images.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and respectful environment for everyone.

Student Mobile Phones Policy

In line with government requirements, Warringa Park has a Student Mobile Phone Policy. If a student brings a mobile phone to school, it will be securely stored during the day and returned at dismissal.

The policy can be accessed via our website, along with all other school policies.

UPCOMING DATES

**Monday 9th
March**
Labour Day
Public Holiday

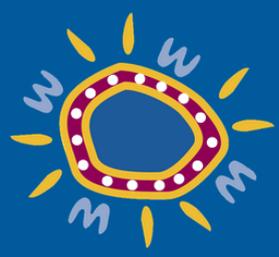
**Thursday 2nd
April**
Last day of
Term One

**Monday 20th
April**
Curriculum
day – no
school

**Tuesday 21st
April**
First day of
Term Two

PROTECT
Protecting children & young people
from abuse is our responsibility





Principal's Newsletter

Staff Curriculum Day

On Monday, staff participated in a full day of professional learning focused on expanding staff capacity to prevent and respond to behaviours of concern. The session was facilitated by Dan Petro, who reinforced the importance of treating all students with unconditional positive regard and aligning our practice with our school-wide positive behaviour supports.

Staff feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and it has been encouraging to see strategies already being implemented in classrooms. We look forward to continuing this important work with Dan throughout the year as we strengthen our collective approach to student wellbeing and success.

Danielle Heckmann

Assistant Principal

Wellbeing & Innovation

We are working on creating consistency in every classroom, at every campus, for every student.

In every session, teachers explicitly model and reinforce:

- Clear expectations and predictable routines
- Visual supports and step-by-step task breakdowns
- Explicit teaching of social and communication skills
- Positive behaviour reinforcement aligned with whole-school expectations
- Opportunities for student voice and choice

These strategies ensure that every student can participate meaningfully, regardless of their starting point.

We practice Unconditional Positive Regard?

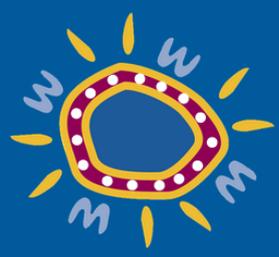
This means:

- We separate the student from the behaviour.
- We communicate, verbally and non-verbally, that every student is valued and capable.
- We respond to mistakes with curiosity and support rather than judgement.
- We hold high expectations while maintaining warmth and respect.

In practice, this might look like a teacher calmly reteaching, offering encouragement or acknowledging effort even when the outcome isn't perfect. Students learn that they are safe to try, safe to make mistakes and safe to grow.

Danielle Heckmann

Assistant Principal



Curriculum update

We are very excited to have Writing instruction and curriculum the focus for 2026. Every developing writer needs an opportunity to scribble and have us attribute meaning and assume competence. There is an increasing amount of information about supporting early emergent and emergent students to develop as writers - and an understanding that this scribbling doesn't have to happen with traditional pens and pencils for writing development to occur.

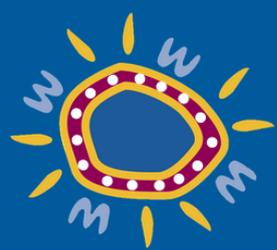
For early emergent students, their writing with the flip chart is usually equivalent to a young child scribbling, and at this stage we attribute meaning to it. We also assume competence, and by attributing meaning and assuming competence we teach them that text is a code for speech and that print always has meaning. We give them heaps of positive reinforcement too because they need to have a strong self-image of themselves as a writer.

Emergent students are learning more about the form of writing. They are learning that text is composed of letters grouped into words.

Late emergent students are learning even more about form and are focusing more and more on letter selection. Conventional literacy learners should be working on writing independently or already writing independently. Whatever level they are at, to help them progress with their writing, we should model writing and activate any needed background knowledge before asking the students to write. Evidence shows that modelling good writing is the most successful way to help students to become better writers. We usually write in front of them. As we do this, we might model "thinking out loud" or "using the word wall" or "sounding it out" or other features of writing. Initially we often focus on "thinking out loud" as we generate ideas and language. For early conventional writers, we prioritise modelling "thinking out loud" as it teaches them to think like a writer. In week 6, we have our literacy and AAC consultants working across all four campuses to support our staff and students with their writing. We are excited to see the writing pieces our students will publish throughout the year.

Amy Byrne
Assistant Principal





Dates for the diary

Term One 29th January - 2nd April

Monday 9th March
Labour Day Public Holiday

Thursday 2nd April
Last day of Term One

Term Two 21st April - 26th June

Tuesday 21st April
First day of Term Two

Monday 11th May
Cayleys Road Campus - School Photos

Tuesday 12th May
Warringa Crescent Campus - School Photos

Thursday 14th May
Polly Parade Campus - School Photos

Friday 15th May
Bethany Road Campus - School Photos

Friday 5th June
Report writing day - pupil free day

Monday 8th June
King's Birthday Public Holiday

Friday 26th June
Last day of Term Two

Term Three 13th July - 18th September

Monday 13th July
First day of Term Three

Friday 18th September
Last day of Term Three

Term Four 5th October - 18th December

Monday 5th October
First day of Term Four

Tuesday 3rd November
Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

Thursday 17th December
Last day of Term Four

2026 School Bus information

To help our bus runs operate smoothly, please ensure a parent or carer is at the bus stop on time for pick-up and drop-off. If a student is not collected by the end of the route, they will be returned to the main campus in line with our Transport Policy.

If your child will not be catching the afternoon bus, please let your Campus Admin know as soon as possible.

Please be aware that a change of address may affect your child's eligibility for bus access if the new address is outside the Warringa Park School zone.

For new bus requests or if you are moving house, please complete the form here:
<https://secure.aul.adobesign.com/public/esignWidget?wid=CBFCIBAA3AAABlqZhAZCcOTyrIHxhJwAyTylAUdvt...>

For other transport questions please contact transport@warringapark.vic.edu.au

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](#) 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 to apply.