

RESPECT • INCLUSION • CURIOSITY • EXCELLENCE (DOING YOUR BEST)

## Term 1 2026

Monday March 9	<b>Labour Day Holiday-no school</b>
Tuesday March 10	Smile Squad (for two more weeks from the 10th) Assembly <b>CANTEEN CLOSED</b>
Wednesday March 11	NAPLAN (Year 3 & 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9.00am - Writing</li> <li>11.30am - Reading</li> </ul>
Thursday March 12	NAPLAN (Year 3 & 5) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9.00am - Conventions of Language</li> <li>11.30am - Numeracy</li> </ul>
Monday March 16	<b>9am Assembly &amp; Badge Presentation</b> to House Captains, Junior School Leader & JSC reps School Council
Friday March 20	Harmony Day Celebration - multi age activities, wear <b>orange</b> or <b>cultural dress</b>
Monday March 23	Volunteer Child Safe Training: 9.30am - 11am
Tuesday March 24	Parent Teacher Interviews (tbc)
Wednesday March 25	Parent Teacher Interviews
Thursday March 26	District Athletics Carnival (selected students)
Friday March 27	<b>Ride or Walk to School Day</b> Volunteer Child Safe Training: 9.30am - 11am
<b>April 2026</b>	
Thursday April 2	<b>Last day of Term 1 - 2.30pm Finish</b>
<b>Term 2 2026</b>	
Monday April 20	<b>Curriculum Day - NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL</b>
Tuesday April 21	<b>First Day Term 2</b> School Photo Day

### William Ruthven Primary School is a Child Safe school

We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all our students. Our Child Safe policies and practices are listed on our website: [williamruthvenps.vic.edu.au/page/147/Child-Safe-Standards](http://williamruthvenps.vic.edu.au/page/147/Child-Safe-Standards). If you have suggestions, comments or questions about our Child Safe policies and practices, contact our Principal, Cleo Ndalianis.



William Ruthven Primary School acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we learn, work and play. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

As a Safe School, William Ruthven Primary School also fosters a safe environment that is supportive and inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ+) students.



## From the Principal's Desk

### Voluntary financial contributions

Thank you to families who have been able to make a voluntary financial contribution to our school this year. To date, 36% of families have made a financial contribution. Your financial contributions are very much appreciated as they help to support:

- Our specialist programs (visual arts, science/robotics, music, physical education and Auslan).
- Updating and maintaining our laptops and iPads.
- Playground and school maintenance/improvements.

Our preferred method of payment for financial contributions is via direct deposit to the school's bank account. Families can also make contributions via EFTPOS/credit card and in person using cash.

The William Ruthven Primary School Council official bank account details are BSB: 063 385 Account: 10044861. (Please state your child's name in the online banking reference.)

Cleo Ndalianis  
Acting Principal

## Fundraising News

### Easter Raffle

We are seeking Easter egg/chocolate (preferably Easter themed) donations from families.

**If you can donate Easter eggs/chocolates for our raffle, please deliver them to the office no later than Tuesday 11 March.**

Please return money raised and raffle tickets to the office by 8:50 am on Wednesday, 01 April. Prizes will be drawn on Thursday, 02 April. Winners will be contacted for collection on Thursday, 02 April.

Thank you to the following individuals and families who have made donations so far:

Alderman
Penny Fratto
Rachel Rowe
Judy McKay
Harrisons
Manolopoulos
Allouche
Mamone
Mullen
Sealey



Regards  
Sharon Hitchman  
Special Events and Fundraising committee

**Zooper Dooper Donations:** Thank you to the Mohamad and Hogg family for donations of sugar free Zooper Doopers! These are on sale on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the rest of term 1.

**Breakfast donations:** Thanks to the Saggi, Daicos, Pearce and Fratto families for their continued donations to our Breakfast Club offerings!

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) – Applications Open

Families who hold a valid concession card may be eligible to apply for the **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)** to assist with the cost of school camps, sports and excursions.

The CSEF provides financial support for eligible students attending a Victorian government school and the payment is made directly to the school to help cover the cost of these activities.

If you believe you may be eligible, please complete the attached application form and return it to the school office **no later than Friday 26 June 2026**.

Applications must be submitted by the **end of Term 2** and cannot be processed after this date.

To apply:

1. Complete the application form (attached to the compass post).
2. Ensure all sections are filled in and signed.
3. Return the form to the school office as soon as possible.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible, we encourage you to submit an application for verification.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the form, please contact the school office.

## Parent engagement and involvement

The term parent engagement describes how parents, carers and families support their children's academic progress and wellbeing.

Parent involvement focuses on school-based activities such as attending events or volunteering in the classroom and at school. There is strong evidence that parent engagement and involvement is associated with improvements in academic attainment for students of all ages. This includes early literacy, school adjustment and student attendance, motivation, self-regulatory behaviour, social skills, retention and graduation rates.

We recognise that parents' and carers' time is precious and they are busy with paid and unpaid work, as well as being involved in their children's extra-curricular activities, such as after school and weekend sporting and leisure commitments. *We also recognise that the Department of Education policy that all volunteers need to have a Working With Children Check and complete annual Child Safe training may present a hurdle for some parents/carers.*

### Ways you can engage with the school and get involved

- Ensuring that your child attends school each day (unless they are unwell).
- Talking to your child about their day and asking how they are progressing with their learning goals.
- Listening to your child read at home, and supporting them to learn their basic number facts.
- Attending parent-teacher meetings, interviews and student support group meetings.
- Completing the Department's annual parent/guardian/caregiver survey.
- Coming to the school events such as the Welcome BBQ, Art Show and our Celebration and Awards Night.
- Participating in our open morning and/or open afternoon.
- Supporting the school's fundraising efforts (e.g., Easter Raffle donations, the Colour Run, and end-of-term lunches).
- Listening to reading in the classroom and/or covering library books.
- Helping the Special Events committee (e.g., sorting and selling gifts at the Mothers' and Fathers' day stalls).
- Coming along to a working bee with your child to help build school pride and keep our grounds looking great.

## Volunteer Child Safe training at WRPS

Volunteers make a valuable contribution to our school community. They also have an important role to play in helping to keep students safe.

All volunteers at our school have a Working With Children Clearance (WWCC), are familiar with our Child Safe-related policies and procedures, and they have completed annual Child Safe training.

Child Safe training will be provided for individuals who want to volunteer time at the school or participate in events run by the school on the following dates and times:

- **9.30am Monday, March 23**  
or
- **9.30am Friday, March 27**

If you are interested, please register here, or contact the school directly:

[Volunteer Child Safe Training - William Ruthven Primary School – Fill out form](#)

*Further dates and times will be made available later in the year.*

### Ride2School Day Friday 27 March



Ride2School Day is almost here! It's not just about bikes – we're looking forward to celebrating ALL types of active travel including walking and scooting.

So, start thinking about how you're getting to school on the day. If you need to get bikes and scooters ready, now's the time. Why not talk to other families you know and make plans to ride/walk/scoot together?

This year our school is celebrating by having a prize draw for one active traveller from EVERY class. You could win a bike bell, reflective safety stickers or a new stainless steel drink bottle.

We hope you can join us on Ride2School Day!

Erika Bencraig  
Year 6 Teacher | Active Travel Leader

