

Principal's Report

Dear Families,

Welcome to Week 5 of the term!

Classes have well and truly settled in, and there is some fantastic learning happening across the school.

While the weather continues to be up and down, it is timely to remind all families to label all clothing and drink bottles clearly with student names as they are often found stray in the yard.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers that have offered to help with reading, and other 'jobs' around the school. This type of community involvement is what helps a small school like ours to thrive. I urge anyone that would like to offer to help to do so, as the more help we can get, the more we can offer our students!

School Council News:

School Council met for the last time as the 2022 Council. There has been a call for nominations sent out to join our 2023 School Council, with 4 positions available to be filled. Parent/ carer input via School Council helps the school to work together with families to meet the needs of the students, parents/ carers and the school. If you have been considering joining, please put your nomination in. You do not need prior knowledge or experience – just a willingness to learn.

Compass Calendar:

Please keep an eye out for the Compass Calendar. This is beginning to be populated with up and coming dates for school activities. Please let us know if there are any community activities that could be added.

Enjoy your fortnight,

Tamara Halket

<mailto:tamara.halket@education.vic.gov.au>

2023	MARCH
1	MARC Van
8	MARC Van
10	Whole School Athletics Carnival
13	Labour Day Public Holiday
15-27	NAPLAN—Gr 3 & Gr 5
22	LV Division Tennis Tournament—Selected Students
28	Buildings & Grounds Meeting—6:30pm School Council AGM—7pm School Council Meeting—7:30pm
31	Term 1 Family BBQ—5pm
2023	APRIL
26-28	Grade 5/6 Coonawarra Camp
2023	MAY
1	School Photo Day

Reminders & Notices

- **Brekky Club** is operating every school day from 8:30am during the term. Students are welcome to attend on any day.
- **After School Care** operates from 3:15pm to 5:30pm on school days. Please contact Cindy at the office for enrolment enquiries.
- Applications for the **2023 Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)** are now open. Further information is included later in this newsletter.
- **School Council** Election Nomination forms must be received at the school office by Friday, 3rd March 4pm.
- Selected students will have received a consent form via Compass for the **Latrobe Valley Division Tennis Tournament** taking place on Wednesday, 22nd March.



COMPASS
School Manager

Login at:
<https://schools.jdlf.com.au/>

Find us at—
www.willowgroveps.vic.edu.au

TERM DATES 2023

Term 1	27th Jan (teachers start) to 6th April
Term 2	24th Apr to 23rd Jun
Term 3	10th Jul to 15th Sep
Term 4	2nd Oct to 20th Dec

Willow Grove Primary School Student Acknowledgments

GRADE P/1/2



Harper K.

For assisting all the new students settle into school.

GRADE 3/4



Jobe G.

For making a great start to the year.

GRADE 5/6



Teagan D & Alex G.

For working well together to organise assembly independently.

SPECIALIST

ART



Harper K.

For demonstrating all of our school values and producing an eye-catching 'Line' collage.

RESPECT Resilience TEAM WORK COMMUNITY

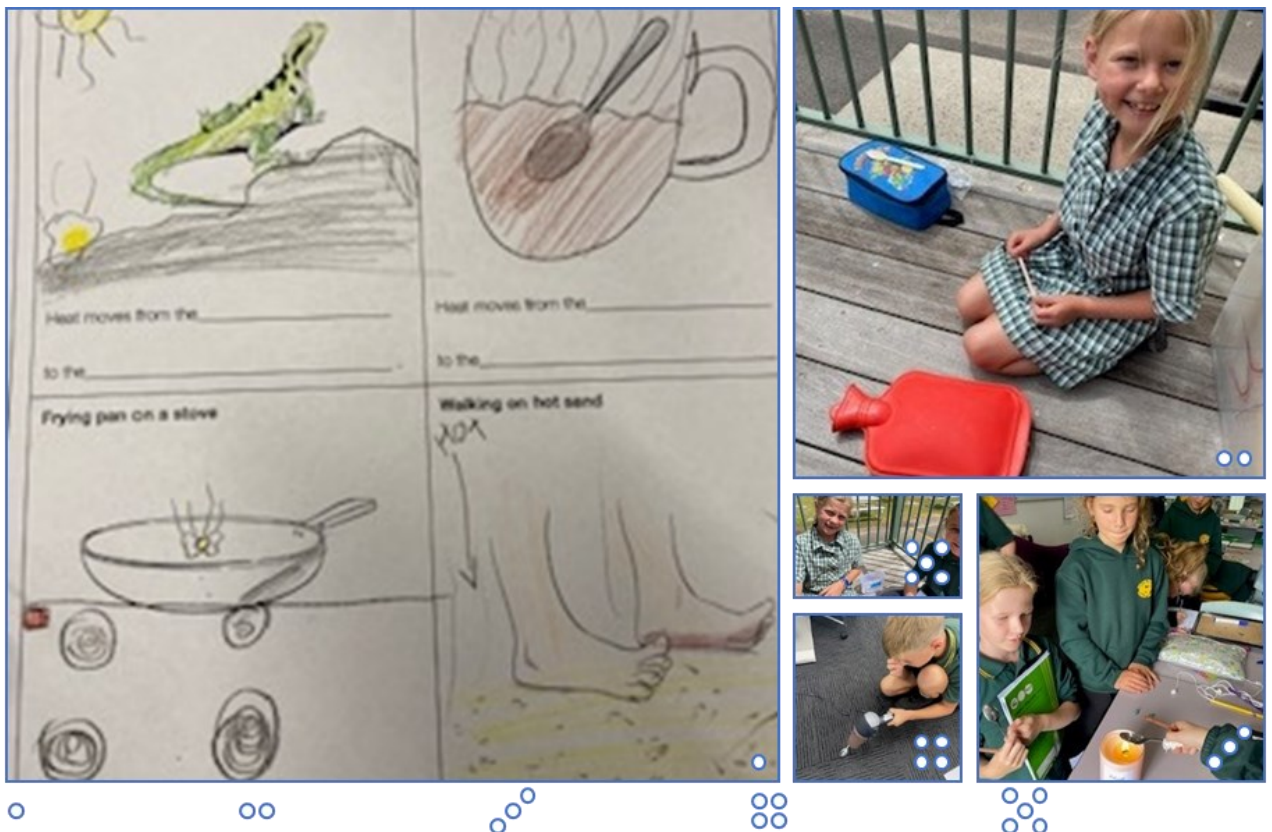
Grade P/1/2 News

During our Inquiry lessons the Grade 1/2s have supported the Preps to complete their learning. In this lesson we were labelling parts of the body. The 1/2s were reading the words for the Preps.



Grade 3/4 News

Over the last few weeks the Grade 3/4 class have been investigating heat. We have learnt about different heat sources, how heat is produced and the transfer of heat between different objects. The students have used different heat sources inside and outside the classroom to conduct experiments and record their findings.



Grade 5/6 News

These few weeks we've been all experimenting with different web pages for 3D printing. We all selected one different thing to 3D print. You may think it's easy, just get a model or design your own and just press go. Well, I bet Mrs T would like it to be that easy! No, it's not that easy, first you have to get the model on an SD card then you have to slice it, after that you have to apply glue to the base then you can print it. So far, everyone has had at least some issues with it whether the print fails or not. It can take 6 hours to print so you have to be patient. We are all learning about it even Mrs T. It has its highs and lows but I think everybody has had a great time doing this. Take a look at our designs below.



Footy Tipping Competition 2023

Our annual footy tipping competition will commence next month on March 16th.

It only costs \$25 to join with great weekly and end of year prizes. The more participants we get, the better the prize money!

Our footy tipping competition raises funds to subsidise the cost to families of our Grade 6 Celebration Excursion held at the end of each year.

If you would like to enter, please complete your details on the slip below and drop it into the school office with your entry fee payment.

If you have any queries, please see Michelle.



FOOTY TIPPING 2023

NAME:.....



Our preps have been having so much fun in specialist classes. In Art we have been learning about lines and colours. In P.E we are practising all sorts of Athletics activities.



School Captains Badges Presentation

At last Friday's school assembly we presented our 2023 school captains with their badges.



School Captains: Alex G. & Teagan D.

Values Captains: *Respect:* Riley G & Charlie W., *Resilience:* Ava D. *Teamwork:* Ebony B., *Community:* Emerson F.

Sports Captains: Lily B. & Jackson D.

Bus Captain: Jake L.

Tanjil Valley Athletic Sports Update

Our annual Tanjil Valley Sports Day will be held on March 10 at the Joe Carmody Athletics Track in Newborough. This event is not possible without the help of volunteers from all schools. If you have a Working With Children Check and would like to volunteer to take an age group, or run an event, please indicate your availability on the permission form that will be issued later this week. It is a requirement that all volunteers have a valid WWCC to ensure the safety of our students, and to meet the legal requirements for this event. Those community members that wish to attend, but do not have a WWCC may do so, in a spectator capacity.

Our school will be running the BBQ at this year's event. If you would like to assist, please let us know. More volunteers will allow parents/ carers to also watch their own children in their events during the day.

This year, it was discussed with the Tanjil Valley principals that we would trial the day being a coming together of the schools, rather than a competition between schools. This will mean that for this year, there will not be a "winning school", however there will be age group champions awarded. The reason for this being the smaller numbers of students at some of the participating schools. Using the averages system for points being awarded to decide the winning school, a school with very low numbers has a significant advantage if just one of their students achieves exceptional results on the day. It is hoped that all schools have increased numbers in the coming years so that the competition aspect can be renewed. The longstanding tradition of the Tanjil Valley Sports has been considered, and it is hoped that this is a temporary change.

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)



Applications are now open for the 2023 Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF). Eligible families may receive \$125 per primary school aged child, paid to the school to assist with the costs of camps, excursions and sporting events. Families who hold a current Health Care Card may be eligible for the scheme. Applications are open until early June 2023.

Application forms were emailed to all families on Wednesday, 8th February via Compass. If you applied for CSEF in 2022 at Willow Grove Primary School, you do not need to complete an application form – unless your circumstances have changed. If you are new to Willow Grove Primary School in 2023, or did not apply in 2022, you must complete an application form.

If you are unsure if you are eligible, or need a paper copy of the application form, please see Cindy at the office.

HELP WANTED!

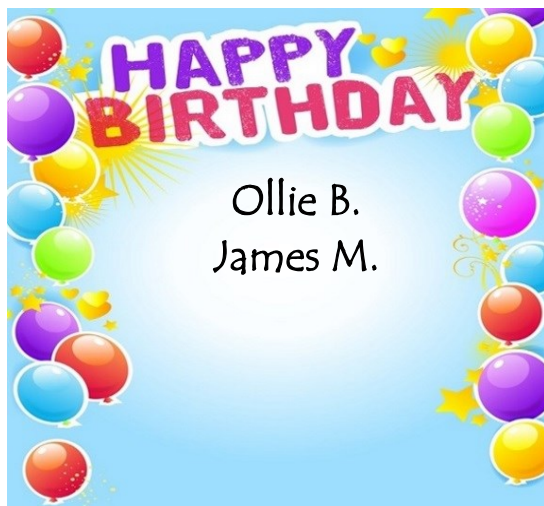


Fundraising Committee—Volunteers Needed

Joining our school fundraising committee is a great way to get involved with our school community. Our members help organise and run events such as BBQ's, Mother's/Father's Day Stalls, Bake Sales and Raffles to name a few. Funds raised go directly to the benefit of our students.

How is fundraising money used at Willow Grove Primary School? Funds generated by our fundraising activities are generally used for school upgrades that are not fully covered by the Department of Education & Training (DET) and to subsidise items that would otherwise need to be fully funded by families. In 2022 fundraising money paid for the ongoing lease payments for the laptops in the senior classes. Funds were also used to purchase graduation gifts for graduating students, subsidise hats for new students and Grade 6 polo shirts. Remaining funds contributed towards the purchase of student furniture.

With the support of our volunteers, we have been able to raise thousands of dollars each year. Let us know if you have any fundraising suggestions for 2023! Please contact the office or email your interest to Cindy.Walker@education.vic.gov.au



Thank You

- Thank you to Li and Amy for volunteering to operating our Brekky Club program in 2023
- Thank you to our 2022 School Council members who have volunteered their time and ideas to improve our school.
- Thank you to the parents who have attended our assemblies demonstrating our value of 'community'
- Thank you to Simon and Ross for their continued support with building maintenance.



Willow Grove Primary School
2520

(Formerly Latrobe River State School &
Willow Grove State School)

1883-2023



The Latrobe River State School 1883-1890



The Latrobe River State School

The Latrobe River State School had four teachers between 1883 and 1890. Herbert S. Hammet (1883-1885), John G C Aurisch (1886), Maria Kelly (1887-1888) and Brett Pettigrove (1889-1890).

Reports from the newspaper at the time describe the events occurring within the school and the community.

17 Mar 1887, Gippsland Farmers' Journal and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News

The Latrobe State School referred to in my last, has been opened, Miss Kelly having been appointed. From what I can learn, the parents are highly pleased, and, judging from the number on the rolls (28) who have attended regularly since the re-opening, the change has been appreciated by one and all.

1 Jul 1887 Traralgon Record

A highly successful celebration for the State School pupils in honour of the Queen's Jubilee was held yesterday (at Morwell). ...children enjoy(ed) the sports and refreshments provided... the host providing banners for each school. The brass band ... (was) followed by the Mirboo North school,....Latrobe River (school). The procession moved along Tarwin-street the route ... to the Show grounds, the children of various schools to the number of 2000 singing on the way and waving banners... medals were distributed... During the evening the committee gave a good display of fireworks. (All the students arrived by train from their closest station into Morwell station.)

17 May 1888, Gippsland Farmers' Journal and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News

I have great pleasure in penning you an account of a pleasant party given by the inhabitants of Latrobe River at the State School room.... In honor of Miss Kelly, the lady school teacher, who has earned golden opinions from alland who, we regret to say, is about to leave us. The schoolroom was beautifully decorated with flowers, ferns and flags.There were about sixty present, and it was a sight to witness at the break-up, when each shook hands with the "little lady," and bid her goodbye...

12 Nov 1889 The Traralgon Journal

NEW POST OFFICE- establishment of a post-office at State school No. 2520, Latrobe River ... the post office to opened at the place mentioned on the 9th inst., to be called Willow Grove, and Mr. Brett Pittigrove, school teacher, has been appointed to the position of postmaster.

(In February 1890 a meeting was held and the Post office was removed to main Tanjil Road, as Mr B. Pettigrove was resigning.)

17 Dec 1889 The Narracan Shire Advocate

The Latrobe River State-School, No. 2520, was examined last week for results under the new programme, and passed an excellent examination by Inspector Mr. T.W. Bothroyd, whose report is as follows:- Present for examination 39; percentage, 87.339; buildings, in order. I am pleased to note that an attempt to beautify the playground by planting trees has been made. Records, correct and neatly kept; discipline, good; moral lessons, satisfactory; organization, & c., the school has passed a good examination and excellent progress has been made...

4 Nov 1890 Warragul Guardian and Buln Buln and Narracan Shire Advocate

The Narracan Board of Advice (have) resolved to fence in the school ground at Willow Grove....

(The fence was erected in May 1891, made of post and rails with split pickets. The cost being nineteen pounds and fourteen shillings.)

Newspaper articles can be found at: trove.nla.gov.au

WEST GIPPSLAND ARTS CENTRE
FREE FAMILY

OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY
11:00AM - 5:00PM

Historical displays Backstage tours
Giant bubbles Workshops Stilt Walker
Theatre Sports Live Rehearsal
Craft Live Music and so much more!

WILLOW GROVE NGPS 2520 PRIMARY SCHOOL

RESPECT Resilience
TEAM WORK COMMUNITY

2023 SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?
 All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?
 There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.
- The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire 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 that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?
 The most obvious way is to vote in the 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 seriously consider:

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

Do I need special experience to be on school council?
 No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Nominations for School Council
 The Principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

Nomination forms are available through the school office. You can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent Category. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the office by the date below.

Nominations close with the Principal – **4.00pm on Friday the 3rd of March, 2023.**

Voting Procedures
 If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the week after the call for nominations has closed.

If voting is necessary, Ballot Papers will display all names of both parents and teachers who have been nominated for vacancies. If the number of nominations is equal to the number of vacancies there will be no vote for that category.

Vacancies

We have 4 Parent Member Vacancies to fill in 2023.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTION TIMELINE

Friday, 17th February – Call for nominations.

Friday 3rd of March - Nominations close 4.00pm with the Principal.

Week beginning Monday, 6th March - Issue ballot papers/envelopes to school community/staff, if required.

Wednesday 15th March- Close of Ballot at 4.00pm.

Wednesday 15th March – Counting of Votes after 4.00pm

Friday 17th March - Declare result of ballot.

Tuesday, 21st March - School Council Meeting for 2023 School Council - 7.30pm

Trafalgar High School
Year 7 2024
Information Evening
4pm-6pm, Thursday 16th March
 Sports Centre—Trafalgar High School

- View facilities and learning areas at the school.
- Discuss with teachers the work undertaken and the opportunities each learning area provides.
- Make an informed choice regarding secondary school in 2024.




Further information or enquiries may be directed to Mr. Jack Brown or Mr. Sean Richards on 5633 1733

Trafalgar High School
 Principal: Mr. Brett Pedlow

Trafalgar High School
Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program
 Part of the Victorian Academy of SEALP Schools

Information Evening
Year 7, 2024
5pm-6pm, Thursday 23rd of March
 Sports Centre, Trafalgar High School

PLEASE NOTE: Information regarding testing requirements will be provided on the night.
 Further Enquiries:
 Amanda McQuilter, SEAL Program Coordinator
 5633 1733





WEST GIPPSLAND ARTS CENTRE



OPEN DAY COLOURING COMP

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Contact Number: _____

Bring your completed entry to the Open Day at West Gippsland Arts Centre on Sunday 26 February and submit it to the Box Office to go in the draw to win one of two prize packs including a Family Pass to see *The Twits* or *Are We There Yet?*, colouring pencils and lollies. Winners will be announced at 4:00pm on 26 February.