



Stawell Primary School
To Strive, To Seek, To Find - But Not To Yield

Stawell Primary School

Fortnightly Newsletter

FRIDAY 9th AUGUST, 2024

2024 TERM 3

WEEK 5

Tuesday 13th August

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Prep Information Night

Wednesday 14th August

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thursday 15th August

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Canteen Open

Friday 16th August

Canteen Open

WEEK 6

Tuesday 20th August

Book Week Dress Up Day

Thursday 22nd August

Canteen Open

Friday 23rd August

Grade 1/2 Egyptian
Excursion

Canteen Open

WEEK 7

Monday 26th August

Pupil Free Day

Thursday 29th August

Canteen Open

Friday 30th August

Parents & Friends Father's
Day Stall

Canteen Open

WEEK 8

Monday 2nd September

Grade 4 camp departs

Wednesday 4th September

Grade 4 camp returns

Thursday 5th September

Canteen Open

Friday 9th August 2024

Dear Stawell Primary School Community,

What a fantastic fortnight we've had at Stawell Primary School! From our vibrant Olympics Day celebrations to the enlightening 100 Prep Celebrations.



Olympics Day Celebration

Our Olympics Day was a resounding success! The day kicked off with a spirited opening ceremony, featuring our torch bearer, Miss Green, who ignited the celebrations. The students were billeted out to a designated country ran by a passionate teacher and embraced the spirit of the Olympics, diving into learning activities about their assigned countries and teams. The tabloid sports were a highlight, with diverse and fun activities like the flying fox throw and bobsledding bringing smiles and laughter to everyone involved.

The closing ceremony was a fitting end, with presentations and the announcement of the winning podium teams. Congratulations to Team Canada for winning the gold medal! A heartfelt thank you to the Parents and Friends Club for their stellar work in organising the canteen and providing country-specific items. We also extend our gratitude to the parents and grandparents who attended and supported the celebrations. Your positive feedback has been overwhelmingly appreciated.

Book Fair

Last week's Book Fair was a delightful experience, giving students the opportunity to purchase books and other items. It was heartening to see the students' passion for reading. Thank you to the staff who helped run the event, your efforts have truly made a difference in fostering a love for reading among our students.



Meals on Wheels Program

We would also like to thank the parents, staff, and students who contributed to the delivery of the Meals on Wheels Program. Your dedication to supporting our community is commendable and greatly appreciated.

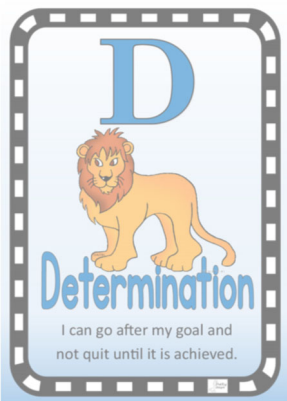
2024 Government Principal Conference

Scott (Assistant principal) and I had the pleasure of attending the 2024 Government Principal Conference in Melbourne. It was an invaluable opportunity to hear from keynote speakers about the future direction of government schools. We are proud to share that our school's initiatives are well-aligned with the department's vision. Scott had the honour of presenting to a large group of principals and assistant principals, highlighting our deliberate and passionate work in building literacy at Stawell Primary School. We were humbled by this recognition and remain committed to our mission.



Preps 100 Days of School

Our Preps celebrated their 100th day at school with the theme '100 days brighter.' The students embraced the spirit, wearing bright colours and parading around the school. It was wonderful to hear one student share that 'brighter' has two meanings – more vibrant in colour and smarter in academics. Kudos to Miss Sellon and Miss Green for their enthusiasm and dedication to making this day memorable.



Principal Day

Last Friday was Principal Day, and I was deeply moved by the letters of appreciation and thanks from students and teachers. It is an honour to serve as the principal of this wonderful school, and I am passionate about continuing to improve student learning and wellbeing outcomes. Thank you all for your kind words and support.



Health Reminder

We have noticed a rise in the number of illness cases at the school. We encourage parents to contact the school if your child is unwell and will not be attending due to sickness. Your cooperation in this matter helps us maintain a healthy school environment.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community. Together, we continue to make Stawell Primary School a place of learning, growth, and joy.

Warm regards,

Russell Marland
Principal
Stawell Primary
School

When your child misses just...	That equals...	Which is...	And therefore, from Prep to Year 12, that is...	This means the best your child can achieve is...
1 day a fortnight	20 days a year	4 weeks of school	Nearly 1 ½ years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days a year	8 weeks of school	Over 2 ½ years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days a year	16 weeks of school	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days a year	24 weeks of school	Over 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Stawell Primary School's child safety and wellbeing policies can be found on our school website: www.stawellps.vic.edu.au. We welcome comments and feedback on these from our school community at any time.

Feedback can be made to Russell Marland on 5358 1255.



Laptops for Students entering into Year 7 in 2025

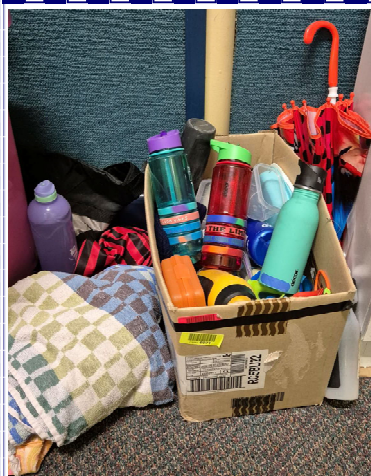
Students who are enrolled at Stawell Secondary College for Year 7 in 2025 may purchase a laptop from our preferred supplier Learning With Technologies.

The advantage of this is that the laptop has onsite repairs at Stawell Secondary College for all warranty and insurance issues as well as having all of the recommended specifications.

Laptops purchased before December will have delivery for mid-January (stock pending) the following year ready for the commencement of Term 1, 2025.

Please note that if you purchased a laptop from the Stawell PS Grade 6 portal for 2024 this device is fine to use in 2025 at Stawell Secondary College.

Please check out the portal for your options. Portal: <http://stawellsc.orderportal.com.au/>



Lost Property

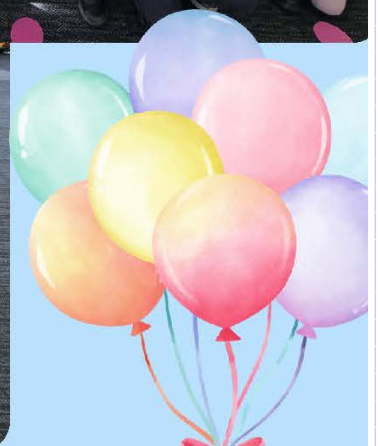
We have a large collection of lost property. If your child is missing or mis-placed a jumper or jacket. Please feel free to check the lost property bins in the main building, or ask your child to. Jumpers and Jackets with names are the easiest to find.

PREP 100 DAYS BRIGHTER!

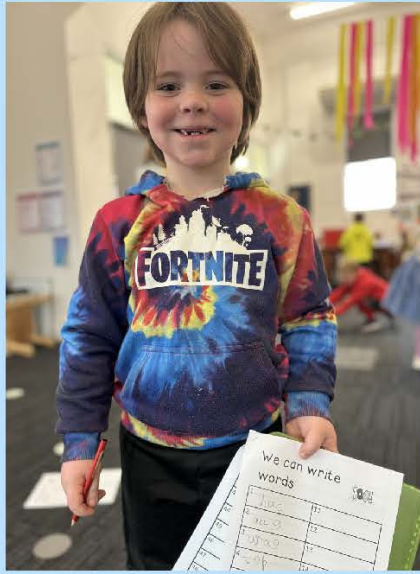
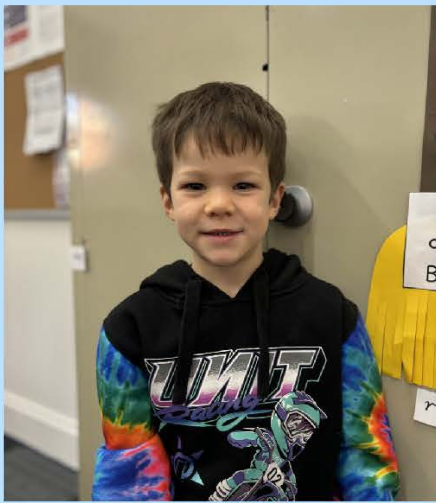
On Friday our Preps celebrated their 100th day of School with a dress up day. The theme was '100 days brighter'.

Throughout the day students had a 100 day dance party, wrote 100 words, counted to 100, paraded around the school, imagined and wrote about what they will do when they are 100 years old, made 100 day biscuits, and celebrated with the school at assembly!

What a massive day! We are so proud of our preps for reaching 100 days of school and all that they have achieved!

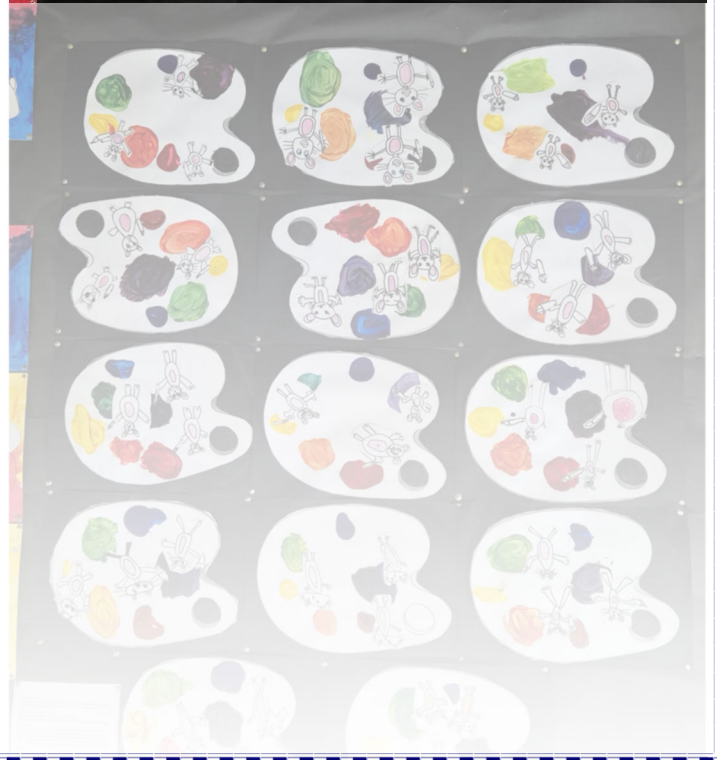








ARTWORK



Chinese Dragon Dance



Thank you for your support!

A HUGE thank you, once again, to Stawell Ritchies IGA for their donations of food supplies for our families, their contributions towards our school Olympics Day and for the large block of chocolate that will be raffled off at a later date.

A special thank you also goes out to Sandy Pyke for your help and assistance along with donations towards our Olympics Day and other fundraising events.

RITCHIES IGA + LIQUOR



NOMINATE US TODAY

AS PART OF THE RITCHIES COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

and help us generate extra funds.

- 1 Download or update the Ritchies Card App



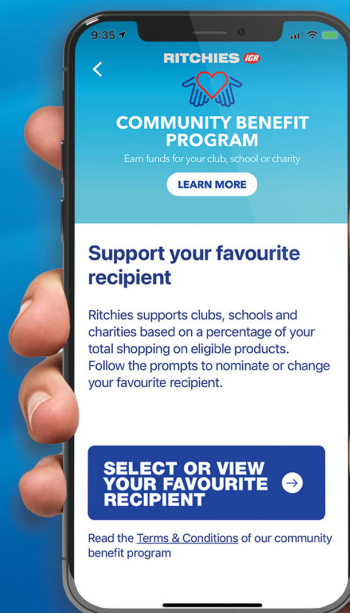
Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

- 2 Search and select our name when prompted to nominate a club, school or charity

- 3 Every time you shop at Ritchies and scan your app or card, Ritchies will contribute a percentage of the total to us*



*CONDITIONS APPLY. Go to ritchies.com.au/loyalty for further information.



Breakfast Club Term 3 News!

Starting Term 3 — Breakfast Club will operate
Thursday & Friday mornings 8:45am—8:55am.

For Breakfast Club to run on other days of the week we will need
some helpful volunteers.

To be able to help, all you need is a little free time and a Working With
Childrens Check (Volunteer checks are free).

Arrive by 8:30am to serve at 8:45am.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Breakfast Club Helpers Needed

If you can spare one morning either regularly or occasionally, please fill in the form
below and return it to the Office as soon as possible.

.....
Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Room: _____

Day Preferred:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday

How Often:

Weekly Fortnightly Monthly Once a term

PREP 2025 INFORMATION EVENING



STAWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

When: Tuesday 13th August

Time: 5-6pm

Where: Prep classroom

Come along and find out more information on how to best support your child with a positive start to primary school.

Learn about all the wonderful things Stawell Primary School has to offer!



Phone: 5358 1255

Email:

stawell.ps@education.vic.gov.au

14-28 Barnes Street

Stawell



Term 3 Reminders

Water Bottles:- Please ensure that your child brings a drink bottle to school each day. Refill taps are located around the school for drink bottles to be refilled.

Illness:- If your child is feeling unwell please keep them at home.

Absences and XUNO:- Please complete any unexplained absences for your child via XUNO.

- Please log into XUNO
- Click on Attendance
- Click on Important/Absence that require an explanation
- Enter a valid reason for your Childs absence

XUNO Calendar:- Don't forget to check out the Xuno calendar for upcoming events.

XUNO:- Please check your Xuno for our latest newsletters, updates and messages from your teachers. If you have any issues with Xuno or need help, please contact the Office on 5358 1255



QKR APP

If you are using the Qkr App for ordering students lunches, **could you please ensure you update your students current year level and room number**, instructions below :

1. Sign into the Qkr App
2. Select Stawell Primary School Profile
3. Select Manage Children – update details



Camps/Excursions Reminders

*Grade 1 and 2 National Gallery Excursion (23rd Aug)

Permission Form Overdue

*Grade 3 Roses Gap Camp (23rd Oct-25th Oct)

Deposit & Form Due Fri 30th August

*Grade 4 Dunkeld Camp (2nd Sept-4th Sept)

Final Payment Due Mon 19th August

Approvals are all done through the XUNO App.

Click "events and fees"

Click "view" to read the information about the camp/excursion.

Click "Fill out form".

If there are no medical updates, please enter "nil" and use the dropdown to select "yes" to give permission.

All questions require an answer before submitting

If you require a paper copy note, please make arrangements with the office.

Payments can be made through the QKR app

Under "School Payments" you can find the camps and excursions tabs.



Term 3 Reminders



Stawell Primary School is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. Our school community recognizes the importance of, and a responsibility for, ensuring our school is a safe, supportive and enriching environment which respects and fosters the dignity and self-esteem of children and young people, and enables them to thrive in their learning and development.

The Assistant Principal, Scott Rathgeber, is the appointed lead Child Safety coordinator.

STAWELL SCHOOLS COUNTRY BUSES INFORMATION

If your child/ren were travelling this last year as an approved traveller/s and wish to continue to travel in 2024, you must log into the School Bus Management System and select: 'Renew Application' for your child/ren.

To renew your 2024 travel, please go to :<https://studenttravelassistance.educationapps.vic.gov.au/> and complete your renewal.



Stawell Inter Church Council (welfare Cottage)

Do you or someone that you know need some help?

If you need help with groceries and shopping vouchers go to -

The Cottage 20 Sloane St Stawell. Open Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 10:30am and 12:30pm.

In out of hours emergencies ring 0408 038 949.

If you need help with fresh fruit and vegetables go to -

Stawell Neighborhood House 42 Sloane St. Open Mondays – Fridays 9am -5pm.

If you need help *other* than groceries and food, contact –

Stawell St Vincent de Paul Society – 0437 344 323 and leave a message. They will contact you within 24 hours.

Exciting Canteen News for 502!

Our Canteen now has a serving window!

The serving window will be open for snacks and drinks only—Thursday & Friday at the beginning of Recess and the beginning of lunch after the 1:40pm bell.

Some of the snacks available will be:

Icy poles

Frozen Yoghurts

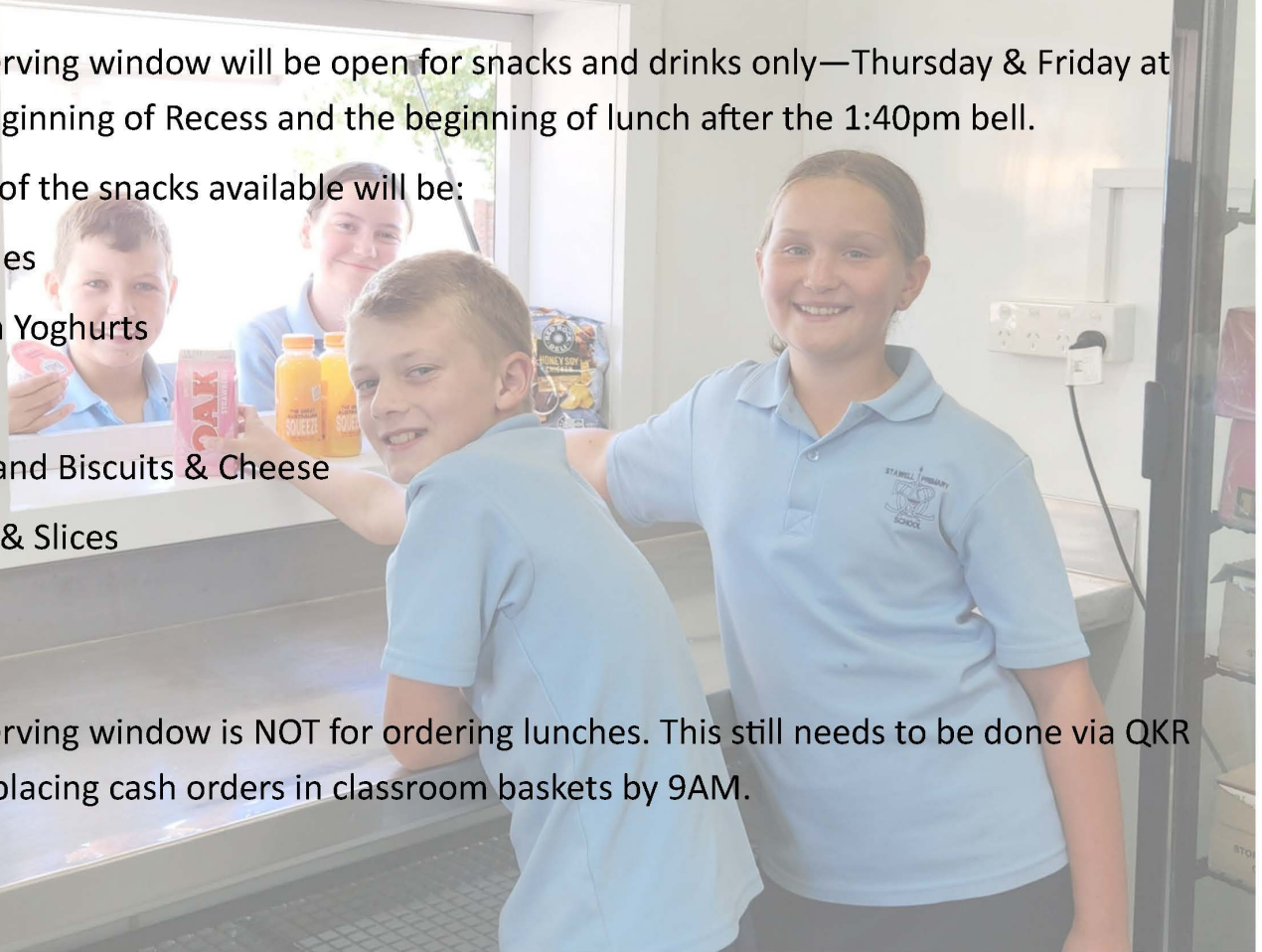
Chips

Mainland Biscuits & Cheese

Cakes & Slices

Drinks

The serving window is NOT for ordering lunches. This still needs to be done via QKR or by placing cash orders in classroom baskets by 9AM.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! **Canteen Helpers Needed**

If you can spare one morning either regularly or occasionally, please fill in the form below and return it to the Office as soon as possible.

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Child's Name: _____ Child's Room: _____

Day Preferred:

Thurs

Fri

How Often:

Fortnightly

Monthly

Once a term

Time Preferred:

10am—1:30pm

12:30pm-1:45pm



Thursday 15th August &
Thursday 22nd August

Hot Dog With tomato sauce
and or cheese

\$5.00



Winter Recess Sale
Thursday and Friday

Warm Milo

\$2



Starting primary school?

Starting school is an exciting time for children, parents and carers.

The first year of primary school is called Foundation or Prep.

To enrol in a Victorian government primary school, follow these steps the year before your child starts school.

Before filling out an application

Read about when and how to enrol on our website



Make sure your child is the right age to start school



Find your local school and other nearby government schools at findmyschool.vic.gov.au



Contact primary schools to book a tour, visit or for further information

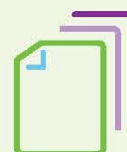


Applying for Foundation enrolment

Get an application form from the primary school



Gather the required documents



Submit everything to the primary school by the due date (last Friday in July)



Wait for the school to contact you (first 2 weeks of August)



You can find out more, and access translated resources, at:

Enrolling in Foundation (Prep) | Victorian Government



Department of Education

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Djadjawurrung people. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging, and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We are grateful to share this land and committed to honoring its cultural significance.

We're still having a good time

Exciting Times at Our Before and After-School Care! Our before and after-school care service at Stawell Primary is buzzing with energy and enthusiasm! Over the past few weeks, we've welcomed more children, making our mornings and afternoons even more lively and fun. We're thrilled to see the kids forming new friendships and diving into a variety of activities. From collaborative sports games that bring everyone together to creative projects that spark imagination, there's always something exciting happening. We're grateful for the growing interest and can't wait to share more adventures with you all!



This week, our afterschool care has been buzzing with Olympic excitement! The children have been immersed in a variety of activities centered around the 2024 Olympics in Paris. We completed our collaborative coloring Olympic poster, and the kids were proud of their teamwork. We also crafted some wonderful posters using papier-mâché, allowing the children to explore their creativity. Additionally, we organized basketball events that were a big hit, keeping the children active and engaged.

Creative Collaborations Our creative projects have been a hit! The children love working together on art pieces and crafts. It's wonderful to see their ideas come to life and watch them support each other in the process. Their enthusiasm for these activities is truly infectious and has brought a vibrant energy to our sessions.

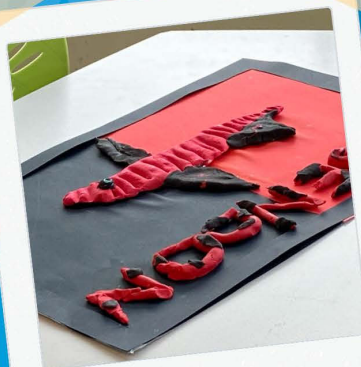
Growing Community With more children joining us, our little community is expanding. It's heartwarming to see the kids excited to come each day, eager to participate in the activities and make new friends. We're proud to offer a space where they feel welcomed and engaged.

Important Announcement: On August 26th, it's Pupil Free Day at the Stawell PS. Therefore, Theircare will be open from 7 am to 6 pm. Please make a note of this important date and ensure your children are prepared for a full day of activities and fun. Please ensure you pack a recess snack and lunch. We will provide breakfast and afternoon tea.

40



friendship



Creative!

TIMES

Before School: 7:00AM-9:00AM

After School: 2:30PM-6:00PM

CONTACT HEAD OFFICE

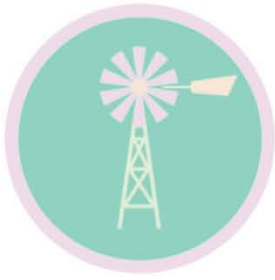
1300 072 410

info@theircare.com.au

CONTACT SERVICE

1300 072 410

schoolnamehere@theircare.com.au



BLOSSOM RURAL

**Delivering accessible
Speech Pathology and OT
services to rural children,
via teletherapy**



SPEECH PATHOLOGY

Speech Pathologists assist your child to communicate effectively.

They can work on goals in the following areas:

- Speech sounds
- Expressive Language
- Receptive Language
- Literacy
- Feeding/Fussy Eating
- Fluency (Stuttering)
- Late Talkers



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

OT's work with children and their families to develop important daily living skills.

They can work on goals in the following areas:

- Play skills
- Emotional/Social Regulation
- Handwriting
- Behaviour
- Sensory Processing
- Fussy Eating
- Toileting



FUNDING

Most private health funds have Speech Pathology & OT listed as an extra.

We are also able to see clients who are plan-or-self-managed through the NDIS.

Clients can also access a care plan from their GP.

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT OR REFER A FAMILY



admin@blossomrural.com.au



0408 850 775



www.blossomrural.com.au

A CELEBRATION DAY FOR GIRLS

A Celebration Day for Girls is a one-day workshop for girls aged 10-12 years, and their mother or female carer. Designed to support you both at this special threshold in your lives, and to provide an affirming, grounded and connected celebration of the journey to womanhood



Sunday 25th August

10am-4pm

**Horsham Neighbourhood
House**

**Bookings at
Eventbrite**

**Includes 2 hour
Mother/carer session
Thurs 22nd Aug 7-9pm**

For more information contact
Rachel Pilgrim 0430 450 967
or rachel.pilgrim@yahoo.com

www.rachelpilgrim.com.au

www.celebrationdayforgirls.com

Introduction

The Victorian Government's \$14 billion *Best Start, Best Life* reforms are the most significant change to Victoria's early childhood sector in a generation.

The *Best Start, Best Life* reforms give Victorian children – regardless of their life circumstances, background or postcode – access to 2 years of quality early learning before they start primary school.

To find out more, go to vic.gov.au/best-start-best-life-reforms



Benefits of 2 years of early childhood education

When children access 2 years of quality early learning before school, it has many benefits, especially for those who need additional support.

Between the ages of 3 and 5, children learn important social and emotional skills. Kindergarten is a safe place for children to build these skills, their independence and concentration while forming positive relationships and making friends.

Studies show that children who went to kindergarten for at least 2 years also had better development in language, pre-reading, and early number concepts.

Four-Year-Old Kinder is becoming Pre-Prep



Cost of Pre-Prep

Pre-Prep, like Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, will be free for children enrolled at participating standalone (sessional) kindergarten services across Victoria. Families who enrol their children at a long day care centre will receive a fee offset.

Learn more about Pre-Prep at vic.gov.au/pre-prep



24-007



Pre-Prep is coming soon

Four-Year-Old Kindergarten is becoming Pre-Prep, with programs across Victoria increasing to 30 hours each week at the full roll out.

In 2025, Pre-Prep programs will start in Ararat Rural City, Gannawarra Shire, Hindmarsh Shire, Murrindindi Shire, Northern Grampians Shire and Yarriambiack Shire, with weekly programs ranging from 16 to 30 hours.

At full roll out, children across Victoria will have access to 1,800 hours of funded kindergarten before school, comprising 600 hours of Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and 1,200 hours of Pre-Prep.

About Pre-Prep

Like Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, Pre-Prep programs will be play-based. Pre-Prep will be delivered through standalone (sessional) kindergarten services and long daycare centres.

Providing a longer program of quality play-based learning in the year before school will give 4-year-old children even greater access to the many benefits of early childhood education.



Pre-Prep roll-out schedule

Pre-Prep will start in 6 local government areas (LGAs) in 2025, and gradually roll-out across the state.

In 2026, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from a refugee background, and families who have had contact with Child Protection services will be eligible for Pre-Prep, no matter where they live in Victoria. An additional 12 regional LGAs will also start Pre-Prep in 2026.

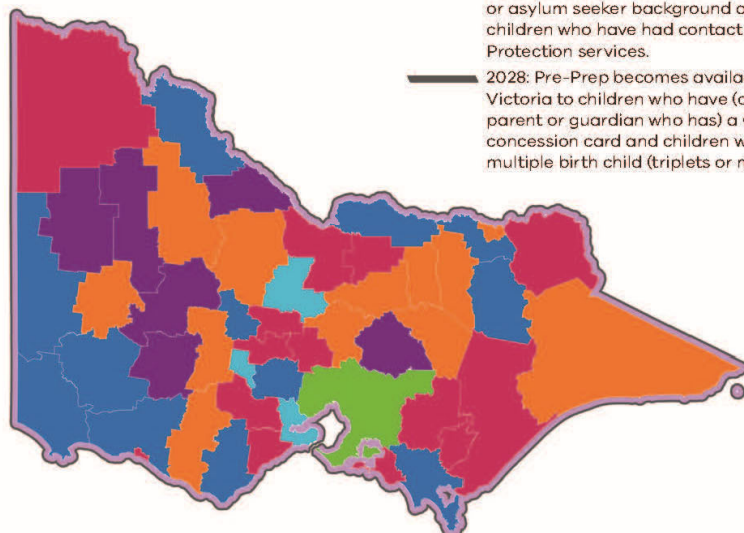
Learn more about the Pre-Prep rollout schedule at vic.gov.au/pre-prep



Roll-out year

- 2025
- 2026
- 2027
- 2028
- 2032
- 2034

- 2026: Pre-Prep becomes available across Victoria to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from a refugee or asylum seeker background and children who have had contact with Child Protection services.
- 2028: Pre-Prep becomes available across Victoria to children who have (or have a parent or guardian who has) a Commonwealth concession card and children who are a multiple birth child (triplets or more).



Dates for the Diary!

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>
Week 5	<u>Aug 12th</u>	<u>Aug 13th</u> Parent/Teacher Interviews Prep Information Night	<u>Aug 14th</u> Parent/Teacher Interviews	<u>Aug 15th</u> Parent/Teacher Interviews Canteen open	<u>Aug 16th</u> Canteen open
Week 6	<u>Aug 19th</u> Prep—2 book week excursion to library	<u>Aug 20th</u> Book Week Dress Up Parade 1-1:30pm	<u>Aug 21st</u>	<u>Aug 22nd</u> Canteen open	<u>Aug 23rd</u> Grade 1/2 Egyptian excursion Canteen open
Week 7	<u>Aug 26th</u> Pupil Free Day Professional Development	<u>Aug 27th</u>	<u>Aug 28th</u>	<u>Aug 29th</u> Canteen open	<u>Aug 30th</u> Parents & Friends Father's Day Stall Canteen open
Week 8	<u>Sept 2nd</u>	<u>Sept 3rd</u>	<u>Sept 4th</u>	<u>Sept 5th</u> Black Ranges Athletics Canteen open	<u>Sept 6th</u> Canteen open
					
Week 9	<u>Sept 9th</u> Grade 2 Swimming	<u>Sept 10th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Sporting Colours Day	<u>Sept 11th</u> Grade 2 Swimming	<u>Sept 12th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Canteen open	<u>Sept 13th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Prep Excursion to Halls Gap Zoo Canteen open
Week 10	<u>Sept 16th</u> Grade 2 Swimming	<u>Sept 17th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Grade 3 Bushwalk	<u>Sept 18th</u> Grade 2 Swimming	<u>Sept 19th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Canteen open	<u>Sept 20th</u> Grade 2 Swimming Canteen open
TERM 4 Week 1	<u>Oct 7th</u>	<u>Oct 8th</u>	<u>Oct 9th</u>	<u>Oct 10th</u> Canteen open	<u>Oct 11th</u> Canteen open