



Coburg West Primary School

Friday 28th November 2025

CWPS ACTIVITY CALENDAR		
DATE	ACTIVITY	DETAILS
TERM 4		
December		
Tuesday December 2 nd	Extended Day – Wombat Corner	Grade 1 8:30am – 6:15pm
Wednesday 3 rd	Extended Day – Wombat Corner	Grade 2 8:30am – 6:15pm
Thursday 4 th	Dress Up for Foodbank Gold Coin Donation Fundraiser	Free Dress – Celebrations Theme & Raffle
Mon 8 th to Fri 12 th	Swimming Program	Grades 3 & 4
Thursday 11 th	Picnic at Shore Reserve	Prep 11:30am – 1pm
	Inquiry Celebration	Grade 5/6 2:30pm - Family members are welcome
Friday 12 th	Luna Park	Grade 6
Mon 15 th to Thurs 18 th	Swimming Program	Prep
Tuesday 16 th	Meet the Teacher (2026)	Prep 2026 9:30am - 10:30am Grades 1 – 6 9:15am – 10:45am
Wednesday 17 th	Graduation Ceremony	Grade 6 students only - dismissed at 1:40pm Ceremony - 6:30pm in the Gym
Friday 19 th	Last Day of Term 4	1:30pm Dismissal

VICTORIAN SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2026

	STARTS	ENDS	LAST DAY DISMISSAL
TERM 1	Wednesday 28 th January	Thursday 2 nd April	2:30pm Dismissal
TERM 2	Monday 20 th April	Friday 26 th June	2:30pm Dismissal
TERM 3	Monday 13 th July	Friday 18 th September	2:30pm Dismissal
TERM 4	Monday 5 th October	Friday 18 th December	1:30pm Dismissal

Dear School Community,

Over the last fortnight, our students have continued to shine and demonstrate their many talents and wonderful natures, while they all continue to focus on their learning. As you will read through this newsletter, they have had many opportunities to demonstrate the amazing learners and positive members of our community, they are becoming.

Canteen Changes

As posted to our COMPASS Newsfeed recently, the School Council shared that due to the ongoing challenge of rising costs and relying on enough parent volunteers, it has become increasingly difficult to sustain the operation of our canteen. After careful consideration, we've made the decision that the canteen will be closing from the end of this school year.

We will be transitioning to an external service provider to ensure that families still have the ability to order lunches for their children in 2026. Our new provider Classroom Cuisine, operate on an online ordering system, as we are accustomed to and deliver fresh direct to schools. Further details and a menu / price list will be communicated in the coming weeks.

We ask that you join us in thanking Lisa, our canteen manager and acknowledging her efforts over the last few years. And a big thank you to everyone who has supported the canteen over the years and volunteered their time – your smiles and visits have meant a lot!

Curriculum Days for 2026

At the last meeting of School Council, the dates for our 2026 Curriculum Days were also approved. Therefore, our four Curriculum Days will be held on:

- Tuesday 27 January
- Tuesday 10 March
- Friday 5 June
- Monday 2 November

Piano Concert & Farewell

On Wednesday evening I had the pleasure of attending the annual concert where our piano and keyboard students had the opportunity to perform for their families and friends. This was organised by our Keyboard tutor Dennis and our Piano tutor Wendy, who have provided tuition to our students as part of our Instrumental Music Program. This event showcased the amazing talents of our students. It was also an opportunity to farewell Wendy, who will be finishing up her work with our students as she is moving back home, giving families and students the chance to express their gratitude to her. While I congratulate all the students who performed on the evening, I wish to thank Dennis and Wendy for their work putting together this wonderful night.

Grade Three Camp Success

For the very first time, this year our grade three students attended an overnight camp to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat. While this was a new addition to our Camp Program, it was also a new experience for so many of our students. For many, it was the first time sleeping away from home, so there were a lot of nervous students waving goodbye to their families as they departed. By the time they returned, those nerves were replaced by excitement and eagerness to head off to camp again next year. As Principal, I was very proud to hear about how wonderful our students were and how well they supported and worked with one another to ensure everyone enjoyed their time away. Please join me in thanking all the staff who made this opportunity possible by giving up their personal time to lead and support our students through this experience: Mr Peric (organiser), Mr Aitken, Ms Esposito, Ms Kingsley, Ms Currie and Mr Copping.

Parent Payment Methods Changing

While our 2025 Voluntary Contributions can still be paid using the Qkr App, payment methods will shift as we move into the 2026 school year.

As advised via our COMPASS Newsfeed, the Parent Payments for 2026 can be paid now via Direct Deposit or over the counter at the office. As we shift into the new year, it will also be possible to make payments via COMPASS. Check the Newsfeed for more details.

These annual contributions made by families assist our school in covering the costs of all stationery supplies and materials used by your children in their learning throughout the year. As more contributions are made, it frees up school funds to then be allocated to spending on other areas, programs and works.

Other payments listed assist us in important areas such as employing Sue our School Nurse and Tony our Grounds Keeper.

While the tax-deductible donations families can make to our Building Fund and Library Fund, help us in replenishing reading and library books, while also working towards building upgrades such as new carpets in our classrooms.

Please see earlier Compass emails and Newsfeed for more information or go direct to Qkr to make payments.

Kind regards,
Mark COLAGRANDE
PRINCIPAL



2025 KEYBOARD & PIANO CONCERT



CWPS VALUES CERTIFICATES

We Are Learners / We Are Respectful / We Are Safe / We Care

Grade	Student	Value	Student	Value	Presented by
00D	Luna	We Are Learners	Jasper	We Are Learners	Ms. Zchunke
00L	Ted	We Care	Jacob	We Are Learners	Ms. Lebon & Ms. Amerena
1/2E	Joey Cleo	We Are Respectful We Are Respectful	Sebastian	We Care	Ms. Esposito
1P	Poppy	We Are Safe	Penny	We Care	Ms. Parker
1Y	Alice S.	We Are Learners	Max	We Are Learners	Ms. Tapper
2F	Artie	We Are Respectful	Ava	We Care	Ms. Fonte De Vos
2S	Eve	We Care	Archie	We Are Learners	Ms. Spiteri & Ms. Pavich
3A	Bo	We Are Respectful	Erin	We Are Learners	Mr. Aitken
3P	Esme	We Are Respectful	Fletcher	We Are Learners	Mr. Peric
4P	Mary A.	We Are Learners			Ms. Preston
4R			Scout	We Are Respectful	Mr. Robinson
5/6C			Tayla	We Care	Ms. Corn
5/6F	Hayman P.	We Are Learners	Chantelle K.	We Are Learners	Mr. Oberbichler
5/6M	Ivy B.	We Are Learners	Clyde Jessica	We Care We Are Respectful	Ms. McKenzie & Mr. Niciak
5/6R	Charlie R. Georgia	We Are Respectful We Are Learners	Grace Alexis Edie	We Care We Are Learners We Are Respectful	Ms. Rigby
5/6T	Orlando Daniel W.	We Are Learners We Are Learners	Anna	We Are Learners	Mr. Torpey & Mr. Pyke
Vis. Arts	Louis P.	We Care	Georgia B.	We Care	Ms. Kyrkillis & Ms. DiVincenzo
P.E.	Milo A.	We Are Safe			Mr. Harvey
Italian	Ewan M.	We Are Learners			Ms. Peterson & Ms. DiVincenzo
Perf. Arts	Fletcher K.	We Are Respectful	Marcella PL	We Are Respectful	Ms. Sommer

CWPS GOOD CITIZENS

These students are acknowledged and thanked by their House Captains for being Good Citizens by exhibiting positive behaviours which reflect our School Values.

	21 st November	28 th November
Green House	Fergus PL	Townes 1Y
Red House	Ella 4R	Orlando 5/6T
Gold House	William PD	Dakota 1/2E
Blue House	Elena 4P	Tom PL

Children's Reference Group 2025



This year marked Coburg West Primary School's first time participating in the Merri-bek Children's Reference Group and our student representatives have made an impressive contribution across all four meetings. Alongside students from neighbouring schools, Amber (6M) and Teddy (6R) explored how local government works, learned about child safety and wellbeing and engaged in conversations with members of council about how to make Merri-bek an even better place for young people.

Throughout the year, our students provided thoughtful feedback on Merri-bek's Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy, helping shape a new child-friendly version that will be shared with young people across the community. They also identified barriers and opportunities in local sport, recreation and public spaces, offered ideas to support children with diverse needs, and took part in community engagement activities that will inform Council decision making.

The group finished the year by beginning to develop community budget ideas for projects that could be funded through the 2026/27 Council budget. Amber and Teddy both used their voices persuasively to write submissions for grants up to \$160,000 that would demonstrate strong community benefits.

We are incredibly proud of the maturity and leadership shown by Teddy and Amber. Their efforts have ensured that the perspectives of CWPS students are heard within Merri-bek Council and we are excited to continue this partnership with new representatives again next year.





3/4 Tabloid Sports Morning



Come See Our Grade 5 & 6 Artworks!

Parents and families, feel free to swing by and check out the awesome skateboard and surfboard artworks our Grade 5 and 6 students have created. They've poured so much creativity and personality into each design.

The display is located inside — and just outside — the Art Room. We'd love for you to stop by, celebrate their hard work, and enjoy this vibrant collection!

Nadia Di Vincenzo & Georgia Kyrkilis
Visual Arts Teachers

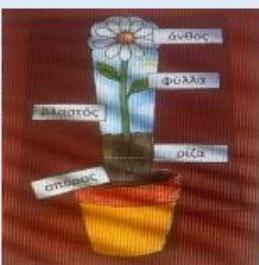




GREEK ELECTIVE - REFLECTION ON THE YEAR

As we are approaching the end of the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the amazing experiences we've shared in the Greek Language Program.

This term, our 5/6 class explored the topic of **Migration** through engaging suitcase activities. Students examined a red suitcase containing items such as a passport, diary and travel documents, determining who it belonged to and uncovering that person's story. They explored the reasons and emotions behind migration, created their own suitcases and stories, and interviewed family members whose migration stories they will present this week.



With our **Prep, Grade 1 & 2 class**, we explored the '**Greek cuisine**'. Students learned how to make a traditional Greek salad and tzatziki and discovered the names of vegetables and key ingredients. We reinforced vocabulary through singing and movement to call out action words related to cooking, using body language to act out words like 'cut, mix, chop, put, and pour'

Our **Grade 3 & 4 class** have been working on the topic of '**Gardening**'. They planted bean seedlings, monitored their growth, and learned the parts of a plant in Greek! To bring the story of Jack and the Beanstalk to life, they created their own beanstalks, props, and labels, combining language learning with creativity and storytelling.



We delved into Greek storytelling through the well-known fairytales '**The Three Little Pigs**' and '**Goldilocks and the Three Bears**'. Students learnt new vocabulary, created props and acted out the stories.

It has been an incredibly rich and productive year, bringing Greek culture and language to life. At the beginning of the year, we celebrated the Greek Carnival season called '**Apokries**' decorating our own masks and embracing the festive spirit and cultural traditions of the season. We learnt about the Antipodes Festival one of the largest cultural festivals in Melbourne. We explored Easter traditions and enjoyed the cultural practice of egg smashing.



It has been a fun filled year of discovery, creativity, and language learning. I am looking forward to exploring more exciting topics next year and welcoming new students!

Betty Koklanis
Greek Language Teacher

Step into Greek Language, Culture & Adventure

A Fun, Creative Experience

Did you know? You don't need a Greek background or to speak Greek to join Greek language classes!

Greek is a 1-hour-a-week elective, and we're excited to announce it will continue next year - with even more hands-on, creative learning.

Come join us and discover just how fun and creative learning a new language can be!



Our lessons are filled with music, dance, art, stories, drama, games and practical activities, making Greek a lively and meaningful experience for all students. This year students have:

- explored Greek food
- planted and grown bean seedlings
- created classroom props
- acted out fairytales
- explored topics across Science, Humanities, Arts and Drama

Through fun activities, we practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing, growing our confidence step by step as we learn new vocabulary and expressions.



Your Greek Journey Starts Here!

Come join us and learn the Greek language through engaging stories, lively activities, songs and cultural adventures.

If your child would like to join the Greek language program, please express their interest in writing in an email and send to the school office.

E: coburg.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au

GRADE 3 OVERNIGHT CAMP

Last week, the Grade 3s in 3A went to Sovereign Hill. Big thanks to Mr. Aitken, Mr. Peric, Ms. Kingsley, Ms. Curry and Mr. Copping for making the camp happen.

We started with gold panning, swirling sand in our pans until tiny gold flakes appeared. Then we met 3P for the lolly-making demonstration, where we learned that in the 1850s they used beetles for colouring—thankfully not in the lollies we tasted!

Next was candle dipping. We dipped white candles into blue, pink and yellow wax to make new colours—green, orange, or even a funny sausage colour if you used all three. After that, 3A split from 3P and went to old-fashioned ninepin bowling with heavy wooden balls.

We met up again for the gold pouring demonstration. We watched a gold nugget get purified, melted and poured into a mold to form a gold ingot. Afterward, we went to our cabins, got ready for dinner and ate at the New York Bakery. Dinner was corn, peas, sausages, mashed potatoes and gravy, and dessert was ice cream with berries.

That night we watched *Lilo and Stitch* in the rec room before going to bed—though most of my cabin was still awake past midnight!

The next morning, we had breakfast at the New York Bakery again, then did the Red Hill mine tour. We saw a recreation of a huge gold nugget and did more gold panning before heading to an education session about old inventions like pulleys, wedges and levers.

Next the Grade Three's went into a huge mine underground and looked at how life was really like for the miners.

To finish the trip, 3A and 3P got to spend their money at the shops, then we packed up, hopped on the bus, and arrived back at school around 4 o'clock. That was our adventure at Sovereign Hill!

By Kit M

GRADE 3 OVERNIGHT CAMP

