



WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 10

2nd December 2025

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From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians.

Where has this year gone? How we are in December, and the school year has a little over 2 weeks to go? 2025 seems to have flown by with so many highlights to be celebrated.

We commenced the year with 54 Prep students and 14 grades. The Harvest Market was again a success, despite the very wet weather, as a community we raised \$38,000. Amazing! We have banked the profits to put into resurfacing of the top basketball court. Plans for major drainage works are still waiting with the VSBA getting ready for tender, once finalised, the basketball court will begin to take shape.

Our annual student learning outcome goals, which we have successfully met or exceeded. NAPLAN results continue to validate our improvement efforts, and it is worth mentioning that in Year 3 75% achieved in the Strong and Exceeding proficiency for Reading, 91% in Writing, 70% in Spelling, 67% in Numeracy. All our Year 3 results exceeded State outcomes. Year 5 NAPLAN 79% achieved in the Strong and Exceeding proficiency for Reading, 89% in Writing, 71% in Spelling, 71% in Numeracy and 63% in Grammar and Punctuation. All our Year 5 results exceeded State outcomes also. All our outcomes are a huge validation and strong indicator that our school is high performing with teacher practice having a wonderful impact.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 2nd December -
Hooptime State Finals

Thursday 4th December -
Author Celebration Gr 1/2
2:50pm

Friday 5th December -
Curriculum Day - No Students
At School

Monday 8th December -
School Council

Tuesday 9th December -
Prep Transition 9:15am—
11:00am

Christmas Family Night
Concert 5:30pm—Picnic /
Sausage Sizzle & Concert

Wednesday 10th December
- Urban Surf Gr 5/6 C&K

Friday 12th December -
Urban Surf Gr 5/6 G&L

Monday 15th December -
Special Assembly 9:10am

Thursday 18th December -
Grade 6 Graduation

Friday 19th December -
Last Day Term 4
1:30pm Dismissal

Monday 26th January -
Australia Day Public Holiday

Tuesday 27th January -
Staff Resume

Wednesday 28th January -
Curriculum Day

Thursday 29th January -
All Students At School

The Twilight Sports was a success, and our new House and School Captains led the four houses, Wellington, Sebire, Victoria and Bailey through fun activities. It is great seeing the older students taking care of and guiding our new preps which introduces them to what we refer to as 'The Wandin North Way.' We kept our kids moving with interschool sports, surfing, snow skiing, orienteering, cross country, athletics, hoop time basketball, fitness laps and the introduction of new sports through the Sporting Schools Program. Many of our students achieved regional levels of competition and represented Wandin North proudly.



I annually mention the generosity of our families for their time and commitment and this year is no exception. Picnic Hill Reserve Bushwalks, Basketball, Harvest Market, Mothers & Father's Day stalls, camping programs, excursions overnight sleepovers, supporting the HEROES cooking program, reading support are a few examples. Our volunteers go above and beyond our expectations and contribute to the wonderful culture we have at Wandin North.



Thank you to all School Council members who have continued to support all of the school community through their commitment to council meetings, organisation and coordination of working bees and their interest in making Wandin North Primary School the best it can be now and into the future. The School Council has worked tirelessly to ensure that the school is future planning in the areas of infrastructure, policy and budgets. We are looking for proactive parents who would like to be involved and have a role in our School Council in 2026. If this may be of interest to you, please contact the office.

In 2026 we farewell Ms Rankin, Mrs Sansom, Mrs Smith who are going on family leave and Ms Bell who is also going on family leave and returning in Term 3. Our staff for 2026 are; Ms Dunn, Mrs McArdle, Mr Langley, Mrs Abbruzzese, Ms Burrows, Mrs Salvitti, Ms Johnson, Mr Syme, Mrs Grisold, Ms Mason, Ms Hoehne, Mrs Kemp, Mrs Eisele, Ms Woodlock, Ms Dekoning, Mrs Attrill, Mrs Kennedy, Mrs Flowers, Mrs Cooper, Ms Burnage, Mrs Clarke, Ms Brierley, Mrs Saynor. Education Support staff are Hannah Whitby, Lachlan Gibbons, Cristina Kennedy, Kelly Marr, Michelle Franken, Lilybell Nolder and Alyce Clements. Office staff, whom you probably speak to the most often, are Lyn O'Regan and Rachael Edwards.



We look forward to hosting our Christmas on Tuesday 9th December. Hopefully the oval will be dried out by then. There are no ticket limitations (there are no tickets!) and all families need to bring is a picnic rug or chair and dinner. We will have 2 areas, the closest area will be picnic rugs and the out ring will be for chairs. We will have sausages and drinks available on the night. All of the grades have been busy rehearsing their Christmas song, our music students will be performing, and Santa will be making an appearance at the end of the night. This event is alcohol, smoke, vape and pet free.

On behalf of our school staff, I would like to thank all our families for their ongoing support and wish everyone a safe, happy holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year.



Paul Bailey ~ Principal

SunSmart Hats

It is an expectation all students have a Wandin North PS sunsmart hat during Terms 1 and 4. Students who do not have a hat will be required to play on the Prep decking at lunch time and attend lunch club at recess.



**Friday 5th December
Curriculum Day**

**Friday 19th December
Last Day Term 4
1:30pm Dismissal**

**WANDIN NORTH
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT—PICNIC & CONCERT

Tuesday 9th December 2025

Concert Starts

5:30pm

Sausage Sizzle \$2.50 / Drinks \$2

Or BYO Picnic Tea 5:30pm

**BYO Picnic, Blanket
& Cushions**

**Seating in selected
areas only!**

**All welcome!
See you on the oval**

This is a pet-free, smoke/vape-free and alcohol-free event!

Child Safe : Wandin North Primary School is commitment to creating and maintaining a child safe organisation where children and young people are safe and feel safe. Our Code Of Conduct and Child Safe policies can be found on the school's website.

TheirCare - OSHC :

TheirCare is closed from 22nd December 2025 to 2nd January 2026.

Holiday program commences Monday 5th January 2026.

Contact TheirCare via www.theircare.com.au or call 1300 072 410.



A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

As we come to the end of 2025, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our families for their ongoing support and partnership throughout the year. Your care, involvement, and encouragement have made a real difference to the wellbeing of our school community.



I wish you all a wonderful Christmas and holiday season, filled with joy, laughter, and time spent creating special memories with loved ones.

I look forward to continuing our work together in 2026 to support the wellbeing and growth of our students and community.

Over the Christmas break, get outdoors to improve your families wellbeing! There is lots of fun to be had in the woodlands and countryside around us. Why not:

- Build a den.** Take along some old blankets or tarpaulins, some string and some pegs.
- Go wildlife spotting.** Take a camera, or download a spotters' guide from the internet.
- Take part in a scavenger hunt.** Choose a theme such as signs of spring, colours or textures.

Be inspired to create some woodland art using only what you find around you.



Mindfulness and Creativity

Creative activities can be fun for all the family, and sitting down together to create something can be a good bonding exercise, stimulating conversation and encouraging sharing. Here is a simple idea to try. Take a clean jam jar, decorate it and fill it with things that will cheer you up and make you feel positive. They could be written affirmations, little toys, sparkly gems or smooth pebbles: anything that brings you joy and makes you feel calm.



Celebrating Wandin North Primary School Community

A big thank you to our wonderful Mental Health and Wellbeing Leaders for 2025 - Mia Schultz and Eden Ryan. As they move on to high school. You have been incredible leaders, setting a great example for others and contributing so much to our school community.



Smiling Mind Parent & Family Workshops

- Focus on mindfulness and stress management.
- Practical strategies for families to use at home.
- Often delivered online and in person.

If you or anyone you know needs help or support, please reach out!

Teresa Salvitti — Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader

Keeping G.E.M Alive Over the Holidays.

As we move into the Christmas season and the long summer break, it's the perfect opportunity for families to continue practising the **G.E.M. principles**—



Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness—from *The Resilience Project*. These habits don't rest when school ends; in fact, the holidays provide countless real-life moments for children to build resilience, strengthen emotional literacy, and nurture positive wellbeing.

Gratitude:

The excitement of Christmas and summer adventures is a wonderful time to pause and appreciate the small things. Encourage your child to keep a simple *gratitude journal*—writing down three things they are thankful for each day. It might be time with family, a trip to the beach, a favourite meal, or even a quiet morning at home. Practising gratitude helps children recognise what's going well, even when routines change.

Empathy:

The holiday season is full of opportunities to show kindness and understanding. Children can practise empathy by helping with Christmas preparations, checking in on friends, supporting siblings, or doing something thoughtful for a neighbour. Small acts—sharing toys, writing a card, or including someone in a game—build strong connections and encourage caring behaviours.

Mindfulness:

Summer can be busy, so taking moments to slow down is important. Children can practise mindfulness through simple activities like noticing the sounds at the beach, focusing on their breathing before bed, or taking a 'mindful minute' during a busy family gathering. Being present helps them regulate emotions and stay calm during big days and big feelings.

Over the break, we encourage families to keep conversations open about emotions. Naming feelings, talking about strategies for handling challenges, and celebrating moments of resilience all support emotional literacy—one of the core foundations of TRP.

By weaving G.E.M. practices into everyday holiday experiences, children return to school feeling grounded, connected and ready for a positive year ahead. We hope all families enjoy a safe, joyful and restorative break full of special moments and opportunities to practise wellbeing together.

Respectful Relationships



From 2025, consent education is a mandatory part of the school curriculum in Victoria, delivered through the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships (RRRR) Program.

According to the state's policy, all government (and participating Catholic) schools must teach age-appropriate consent education — from Foundation through to Year 12 — as part of their Health and Physical Education curriculum. T

he RRRR program provides structured lessons and learning materials that help students understand consent, personal boundaries, respectful relationships, and how to seek help if they feel unsafe. By embedding consent education across the school's culture — not just in isolated lessons — the goal is to build students' emotional wellbeing, respect, and safety, and to help prevent harmful behaviours and relationship-based violence.



The end of the year is quickly approaching and the Preps continue to amaze us with their growth, determination and effort. We couldn't be prouder of their journey during their first year of school and are so excited to see all they achieve next year in grade 1!

Literacy

In Literacy, the students have been working very hard, showcasing that they are amazing little authors and illustrators this Term. In our mentor text study of the Little Miss and Mr Men books, the students have unpacked how characters, setting, problems and solutions are developed across Reading and Writing.

Analysing the books in Reading has allowed students to look at how word choice impacts the reader. We have discussed PIE—and how authors of texts ALWAYS have a purpose! Students have become very good at deciding whether a text's purpose is to persuade, inform or entertain.

Their very own Mr Men and Little Miss books are coming along splendidly, with amazing new characters and hilarious problems being written. Additionally, they are showcasing their most beautiful handwriting, taking their time to ensure they publish a book good enough for a spot in the local library. Their illustrations are also amazing, with each page showing the detail and the storyline the students have developed.

Numeracy

In Numeracy, students have been working very hard exploring various areas of the curriculum. They have revisited their Algebra knowledge, creating patterns with colours, shapes and even numbers, with many students beginning to skip count!

Currently, students are exploring all things measurement, describing the lengths of objects, the mass and even the capacity. Students have become very good at using all of the measurement vocabulary to describe these objects during our lessons.

Prep Little Night In

What an amazing time we had at Prep Little Night In! The students all looked fabulous in their party clothes and the energy was electric. We had so much fun playing a range of games that required the Preps to us lots of teamwork and have some friendly competition. These games made us all sooo hungry that we devoured our yummy pizza and garlic bread. With full tummies, we settled in for a movie! Our night wouldn't be complete without an ice cream break and then it was time to boogie!

The preps showcased their best dancing moves, turning the classroom into a glow stick disco. It was a great celebration for all their amazing work this year!



Teachers: Tayla Eisele, Isabella Woodlock, Steph Burnage & Jamie Sansom

Dates for your Diary

Friday 28th November – Free Dress

Tuesday 2nd December – Christmas Concert

Thursday 4th December – Author Celebration

Friday 5th December – Curriculum Day

Monday 15th December – Special Assembly

Friday 19th December – Last day of Term 4
1:30pm Dismissal

Friendly Reminders:

Please continue to read your child's reader with them every night, getting them to sound out their words (particularly ones containing the sounds we have learnt), answer questions about what they read and then recording it in their yellow reading journal. Also keep practising the alphabet letters and corresponding sounds (out of order) and Magic Words (out of order and timed). Any counting practise at home is a bonus and greatly benefits your child!

What's On in 3/4

Welcome to Edition 7, 2025 in 3/4!

Literacy

READING;

This week the students have really enjoyed exploring and comparing old vs new texts. Students found it fascinating to look at old advertisements (both written and video) and how the language has changed over time. Students have explored these change in in narratives, ads and letters. This was followed on with learning to critique these texts, share their opinions and dive deep into the authors craft. Doing this using a variety of texts and our mentor text; Strangers on Country.

Writing:

Students are loving drafting historical narratives and we can't wait for you to read them.

They have revised dialogue and how to keep their reader hooked all the way to the end; by writing an excellent ending.



Dates Coming Up

Tuesday 2nd December— Christmas Concert Starts @ 5:30

Wednesday 3rd —Guest Speaker

Friday 5th November — Curriculum Day



Respectful Relationships

Students have been enjoying deep discussions about our topics. We did want to raise a discussion point that came up about on-line gaming last week. Some students shared about chatting on-line when gaming. We thought this may be a good discussion point for families at home. If you need any further information about online safety please refer to this department recommended website.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au>



Numeracy

All of the 3/4 teachers are so proud of every student for completing assessments. Over the past few weeks students have been focused, shown extensive working out and knuckled down to complete assessments.

In class, we have been exploring angles, time and are beginning to explore money. We encourage parents to help students at home by using analogue clocks and include in real life money situations.

Integrated Oh what fun we have had in our integrated unit this term—'First Contact'. Students investigated the First Nations People lives prior to European settlement. They will learnt about the First Fleet and the impact had, including differing perspectives. The students loved being put on a ship (on our oval) ready for transportation to New South Wales (Australia). The discussions and questions have been very enjoyable to dive into together.

Teachers: Kirsten Burrows, Georgia De Koning, Natalie Johnson & Kristy Kennedy

Reading

In Reading, students have been delving into the structure and sequencing of letters and why this is of importance for their audience. We have also been looking at embedded, independent and dependent clause and how the use of clauses can help to add extra information and detail in texts. The students have also completed their final reading portfolio task for the year!



Bizarre Bazaar

Students have been working really hard, putting the finishing touches on their business proposals. They have approached businesses, asking for donations to support their stalls and it has been fantastic to see all the support our students have received from local businesses. Bizarre Bazaar is sure to be an amazing day, filled with fun, laughter, lollies and friends.



Writing

In Writing, students have been working extremely hard on planning and drafting their speeches. For our Grade 5 students, they have been writing their captaincy speeches, explaining to our leadership the amazing qualities they possess and the numerous reasons they would make a great captain. They should be so proud, as their speeches sound incredible! For Grade 6's, they have been working on planning and drafting the speeches they will be presenting at graduation. Lots of wonderful memories and great times during primary school, are being reminisced.



Maths

Students have been learning all about data. In particular they have been looking at data sets and identifying the mean, median, mode and range. They have also been looking at data displayed in stem and leaf plots, as well as dot plots, learning how to read the information the graph is telling us. They have also been learning about outliers and how to identify these when working with a sets of data. Currently they are putting these skills into practice, collecting data and organizing this data into their own stem and leaf and dot plot charts.



Buddies

Our last buddy session for this year, saw the Preps and Grade 6 students create a kindness chain. This chain was filled with all the happy memories and kindness that was shown towards each other, throughout their time together in 2025. Afterwards, they created bookmarks together, cutting out their favourite pictures and using their best colouring skills.

Teachers: Mrs Kemp, Mrs Grisold, Mr Langley & Mrs Cooper

What's On in HEROES

Our Year in Review!

This year has been all about water. We have learnt about the water cycle, freshwater and marine ecosystems, pollution and contamination of water ways and why water is a precious resource. We obtained our 4th star for Resource Smart Schools for our work on 'water'. Other achievements have included winning a Junior Landcare Grant for our pollinator garden and building the frog pond.



Our 'Habitat HEROES' project is officially a 'success' as we now have animals using the habitats we have created for them!



Teacher: Laura Attrill

Project Stationary

In 2024, we partnered with Project Stationary who distributes new and used stationary to Melbourne families in need. In the last week of term your children will be asked whether they want to keep their 2025 stationary or donate it to Project Stationary. **If you don't want a bunch of half used pencils, texts, erasers or sharpeners to come home PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO DONATE IT!**



Our 5th Star-ENERGY

In 2026 we will be focusing on ENERGY in all year levels. If you have any contacts or know any experts about renewable energy, please let me know at laura.attrill@education.vic.gov.au

I want to create really engaging lessons for the students so any support would be appreciated.

Parent Helpers

There are so many opportunities to be a parent helper in HEROES. Please make sure your WWCC and Code of Conduct are up to date at the office!

What's On in Global Studies



'One World, Many Ways'

We have been busy in the Global Studies room learning about various countries around the world and special facts about these places. Did you know that the Christmas tree is a German invention? Or that in Kenya, it is typical for a primary school class to have more than 50 students in it, to only one teacher? How wild and interesting is that?!

Celebrations Around the World

10 December

Human Rights Day

14– 22 December

Hannukah

(Festival of Lights)

18 December

International Migrants Day

25 December

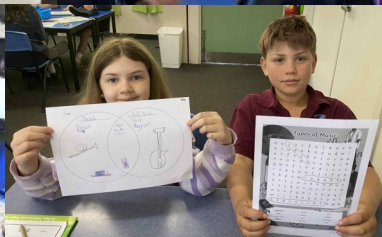
Christmas Day

26 Dec–1 Jan

Kwanzaa



Our **Prep-2 students** have participated in activities such as drawing, matching and designing. They have worked hard and had fun learning about music, clothing, sports and inventions in our mini lessons each week.



Our **Grade 3-6 students** have compared homes from around the world (India and the Netherlands) and designed their own (very creative!) real estate ads about a chosen property. They learnt about music from Mexico and Ireland, becoming familiar with mariachi and folk music, and the instruments these styles utilise. Students enjoyed learning about school life in other countries (Japan and Kenya); world sports; and inventions and discoveries. 3-6 students loved getting to face-off against their opposing team during Debate Week - German and American inventions being the focus - explaining which they believed was better and why. As expected, discussion got heated!



It has been a delight for Mrs Clarke and Ibu Flowers to teach Global Studies at Wandin North Primary School this year. Each student should be proud of what they have learnt and achieved in our lessons together. We hope you enjoy your Christmas and summer break and can't wait to see you for another exciting year of learning in 2026!

Teachers: Steph Clarke & Nari Flowers

What's On in ART

Children's Literature - Digital Art

What an amazing year it has been in Art! We are so proud of all our young artists and their artwork which has continued to show growth and creative thinking throughout the year. As the school year comes to an end, we will be sending home all student work to share with families and friends. We hope you enjoy the summer break and explore your own artistic creativity throughout the holidays.

Prep Students have been busy creating a main character and setting in the Pixel Art App. Now they are beginning to bring their book cover plans to life in Book Creator.



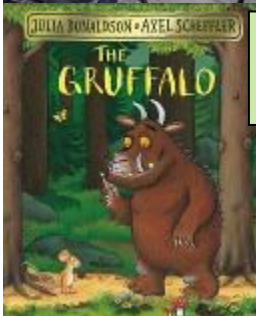
Grade 1/2 Students have been exploring many different Australian and international illustrators. They have planned/created a character and a detailed setting in the Pixel Art App. Then incorporating those pictures into a book cover, including a blurb!



Grade 3/4 Filming and editing of our shadow puppet performances have begun. All students enjoyed bringing their stories to life and adding the final touches through ClipChamp. Films will be shared through a QR code coming soon.



Grade 5/6 Students have continued to work on their flipbooks and have learnt why so many pages are required to make smooth transitions. Filming has been completed and all classes can't wait to share their final films through a promotional poster and unique QR code linking to their film.



Shadow puppets were adapted by Julia Donaldson's texts.



Reminders
Art pieces are filling up our office area and Art Room. Please come and have a look at our artists wonderful work!

ART CLUB
Every Wednesday at Recess in the Art Room.
Everyone welcome!

Melanie Smith & Kaitlin Saynor



Hello everyone!

I'm back from my holiday, the children were excited to have me back and the staff too. Haha. I came home with a friend for the kids; like she always does after a holiday. Thing 1 & Thing 2. Over the term so far: Week 5– we only had 3 days this week. The children decide on LEGO theme. We painted pictures, we made the LEGO people out of different materials and designed our own LEGO person.

Week 6– The theme was creatures week. Elodie decided on firies all week, hard to find that many activities. Ha. We made all different creatures instead.

Week 7– This week the theme was pond animals. We made frog, ducks, snails etc. The children enjoyed making all different frogs. Thanks Harper for choosing frogs for this week. It was cupcake day this week. I made cupcakes at home for the children to decorate.

Week 8– this week no one could decided on a theme, one of the educators did. It's a surprise. I can't wait to start all the Christmas activities. I have found each week there is a national holiday of different foods. Each week, on that day we will be having special foods. So far we have had cake, cup cakes, gingerbreads; each week; it is a surprise for the children. Holiday program flyer is out now is anyone wants to check it out.

If anyone has any questions give me a call or come and see me anytime.

Have a fab Xmas and Happy New year. See you 2026...

Amy, BSC & ASC Coordinator



Details :

Pupil Free Days/ Vacation care:

6:30am to 6:00pm

Before School Care:

6:30 - 8:45am

After School Care:

3:30 - 6:00pm

Charity Project T2

Community cares for children. Term 2, 2025– To help make a visit to the hospital easier for children.

We are putting together activity bags for the children's ward at Box Hill Hospital. The children and I will be making up the activity bags at the end of term, please bring your donations back by 28th June. We would appreciate donations of (brand new): Colouring books, Pencils, Textas, Story books, Crayons, Note books (small), Brown paper bags with handles, Brand new small soft toys or if anyone has some plain gift bags at home, they don't want and are willing to donate. (small, medium)

We appreciate any donations! Thank you!