WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

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Issue 8
27th October 2026

From the Principal

Paul Bailey

Dear parents/Guardians,

World Teachers Day is this Friday the 30th of October. I am an extremely proud principal of the dedicated, passionate and hardworking staff that we have at Wandin North Primary School. Teachers have one of the most accountable professions which exist and when you consider that each grade has an average of 22 students and on average have a 5-year range of ability, the expectations of meeting every child's needs is massive and I sincerely thank them all for their incredible work. Our Educational Support staff also play an important role in our school community and are at times working with our most vulnerable students. It takes everyone at Wandin North to ensure we have high expectations for learning, and the supports are in place to ensure our environment is a safe a secure one. Happy WorldTeachers Day for this Friday!

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 27th October
Prep Transition 9:15am - 10:15am
Thursday 29th October
Halloween Dress up day-Gold coin donation
Friday 30th October
P-2 Junion Sports Day
2 November
Curriculum Day
3rd November
Public Holiday-Melbourne Cup
Tuesday 10th November
Prep Transition 9:15am-10:15am
Thursday 12th November
Grade 2 Camp
Tuesday 17th November
School Council
Saturday 22nd November
Working Bee #9
Friday 27th November
Free Dress
Prep Little NIght In 4:30pm

Wandin North students always strive to demonstrate our school values of aim high, bounce forward, be organised and show respect when they on an excursion and at the recent Athletics and Orienteering days were no exception. We received an email from a staff member from a competing school at the recent Regional Athletics Day to highlight the inclusive and supporting behaviour of one our Grade 4 students who supported a competitor with additional needs. All the children who attended represented our school beautifully and just by ‘having a go’ on the day and aiming high. We also have some ‘Map reading Geniuses’ amongst us who managed to break (smash) track records and place at the recent 3 – 6 Orienteering days.

Important Reminder: Student Mobile Phone and Device Policy

As part of Victorian Government requirements under Ministerial Order 1515, Wandin North Primary School works within a "bell-to-bell" restriction on personal electronic devices.

Students who bring mobile phones to school due to walking or riding to school, once onsite, must switch them off and hand them into the front administration office. Mobile phones are not to left in school bags or brought out to the school yard or classrooms.

Exceptions are strictly limited and only apply if pre-approved by the Principal or teacher for specific educational tasks, documented health needs (such as a Student Health Support Plan), or specific offsite/excursion risk management plans.

If you need to reach your child urgently during the school day, please contact the school office rather than messaging or calling your child's mobile phone directly.

Thank you for supporting a focused, safe, and engaging learning environment for all students.

Schools and early childhood services listed on the Department of Education and Training's Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and those at lower risk of bushfire or grassfire on the Category 4 list take pre-emptive actions on elevated fire danger days to minimise the risk of being caught in a fire in these conditions. The category of risk (per the BARR or Category 4 list) determines the actions that the school or early childhood service will need to take on days of elevated fire danger.

Our school has been identified as being one of these schools at high bushfire or grassfire risk and is listed on the Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR) / a category 3 school. Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in Central fire district.

The department will advise our school of the potential for a Catastrophic fire danger rating as information becomes available; however, the pre-emptive closure will be confirmed by 1pm the day prior to Catastrophic fire danger day. Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. During this term, we will be conducting evacuation drills to our evacuation points, our shelter in place building (Prep) and our off-site evacuation point, Picnic Hill Reserve through our gravel car park.

Lastly, it has been brought to my attention that we have siblings who are in high school crossing the road at the bus stop not at the school crossing area. The school crossing area is the safest area to cross Warburton Highway. Unfortunately, we had a near miss and traffic stopped for a group of high school students crossing the road near the nursery. If you have a older child attending high school and crosses the road, please encourage them to walk the addition 100 metres to cross Warburton Highway at the school crossing area.

Curriculum Day
Monday 2nd November
Melbourne Cup Day
Tuesday 3rd November

WORKING BEE #9

Sunday 22nd November
9:00am - 11:00am

School Council :
Amanda Dunn

Families :
Aitkins
Best
Bobinkski
Di Pietro
Flanagan
Gerace
Ghaffari
Giles-Clarke
Hadland
Jamieson
Jowitt
Jurrjens
Kinsmore
Kosterman
Linley
Morse
Norris-ODonnell
Richardson
Roberts(Jed)
Robinson(Layla
Robinson(Ollie)
Symes
Tanner
Van Der Monde
Watson
Brown (Neve)
Allan

We are SunSmart.

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.

NO SMOKING OR VAPING

Smoking or Vaping are
NOT PERMITTED at any time on the school grounds or the surrounding areas, including the car parks.

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.

WHAT'S ON IN MHIPS

MHiPS
Mental Health in Primary Schools

Welcome Back to Term 4

Welcome back to all our wonderful Wandin North Primary School families! We hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break and had the opportunity to spend some quality time together.

As we begin Term 4, we are looking forward to another positive and rewarding term filled with learning, connection, friendship and growth. Term 4 can be an exciting time for children, but we also recognise that it can sometimes bring changes, tiredness and big emotions as the year comes to an end.

School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)

This term, we will continue our work with **School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)** at Wandin North Primary School.

Throughout 2026, we have been building a strong foundation for SWPBS across our school community. Our focus has been on creating a consistent, positive and supportive approach to behaviour, with students explicitly taught and encouraged to demonstrate our school expectations.

In Term 4, we will continue to embed SWPBS practices across classrooms and the wider school environment. We will focus on recognising positive behaviour, using consistent language and expectations, and supporting students to develop the skills they need to be successful learners and positive members of our school community.

Our school values of **Show Respect, Aim High, Be Organised and Bounce Forward** will continue to guide this work.

We look forward to continuing this journey together and celebrating the positive impact SWPBS has on our students, staff and families.

We are incredibly proud of our **Young Leaders** and the wonderful goals they have achieved this year!

Through **student voice, leadership and fundraising**, our Young Leaders identified something that was important to our students - having a safe and welcoming place to go when they are feeling lonely or don't have a friend to play with.

We are very excited to announce that we now have a **Buddy Bench** at Wandin North Primary School!

The Buddy Bench provides a special place where children can sit if they are looking for someone to play with or would like some company. It is a wonderful reminder that **no one should feel alone and there is always someone who cares**.

A huge congratulations to our Young Leaders for listening to the voices of their peers, showing initiative and working together to turn their ideas into action. Their dedication, fundraising efforts and leadership have made a real difference to our school community.

Topic 8: Positive Gender Relations

Our next Respectful Relationships topic is about helping students build safe, respectful and caring relationships with everyone around them.

Through age-appropriate activities, your child will learn to:

- build positive relationships with people of all genders
- accept and value difference and diversity
- set boundaries and expectations in their friendships and relationships, as part of preventing gender-based violence
- develop self-care, peer-support and help-seeking skills, so they know how to respond and who to turn to if something doesn't feel right at home, at school, in the community or online

This learning supports our Wandin North value of Show Respect. You can help at home by chatting with your child about what they're learning, and about who their trusted people are if they ever need help.

Keep an eye out for updates on Compass and at assembly, where our Wellbeing Captains will share more about what we're learning.

There are also some helpful links below in regards to the RRRR program.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's classroom teacher.

Links to the learning materials

Myths and Facts about RRRR

WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Oct / Nov 2026

WHAT'S ON IN PREP

In **Reading** and **Writing**, we have been focusing on Narratives. The students have been doing an excellent job pinpointing beginning, middle and end sections in picture story books and having a go at writing their own wonderful narratives with colourful characters, spectacular settings, problems and solutions.

In **Maths**, we have been working on consolidating understanding of Addition and Subtraction. We encourage you to practise these skills at home with toys, while cooking, outside in nature, and while at the supermarket! We have been creating stories, using hands-on materials to show them, drawing representations of them and writing number sentences.

Fair and friendly play has been our focus in **Respectful Relationships**. We have discussed and practised what fair play looks like and why it is so important. We are so proud of our beautiful Preps and they way they always include others at playtime. In **Inquiry**, we have been learning about what makes our own family special and unique. The children love sharing their stories and talking about similarities and differences.

Events:

Prep-2 Sports Excursion - Friday 30th October

Prep Little Night In - Friday 29th November - details to come!

Twilight Sports

Christmas Concert

2027 Transition morning - meet your new teacher & grade

REMINDERS :

- Please remove anything your child does not need in their school bag.
- Continue to read and practise spelling each day.

Teachers : *Steph Burnage, Teresa Salvitti , Isabella Woodlock & Jenny Cooper*

A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS, ACHIEVING TOGETHER

WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHAT'S ON IN 3/4

Oct / Nov 2026

Literacy

In Literacy, students have been focusing on Narratives. Using our mentor text, 'Stolen Girl' by Trina Saffioti and Norma MacDonald, students have been making inferences in relation to images and supporting their thinking with evidence from the text. They have also made text to self and text to text connections using another mentor text titled, 'Sorry Day' by Coral Vass and Dub Leffler. Both texts explored the theme of Stolen Generation and the resilience each of the main characters showed when they were separated from their mother.

In Writing, students have used their Writer's Notebook for inspiration to develop multiple plans for their future narratives. We then dived deeper in creating engaging, bold beginnings, mighty middles and excellent endings. Students developed their sentences by revising complex sentences and added adverbials to strengthen them.

Maths

We started Term 4 by revising decimals and then used our understanding to solve money problems in the second week. We then moved onto using scaled instruments when measuring temperature, capacity and mass. The students have incorporated their decimal knowledge by writing the measurements in whole and parts or whole numbers and decimals.

Our next topic is solving algrithyms or balanced equations. Students will use their number facts and the 4 processes to solve the unknown values in equations.

Integrated Studies

This term our topic is called Flags, Festivals and Footprints. Students are learning to describe continuity and change in their community and the significance of events, symbols and emblems in the celebration of Australia's identity. We have explored the importance of country to Australia's First Nation people and the influential leader Wiliam Barek in the Yarra Valley community. In the coming weeks we will be focusing on the importance of symbols in Australian flags.

Teachers : *Kirsten Burrows, Georgia De Koning & Natalie Johnson*

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WHAT'S ON IN 5/6

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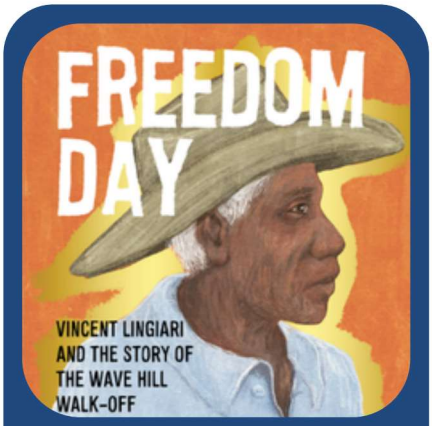
Reading- In Reading, students have been exploring historical narratives through our mentor text Freedom Day, which tells the story of the Wave Hill Walk-Off. They have been learning the key features of historical narratives and using information from different sources to build their understanding of a real event. Students have also looked at the thoughts, feelings and perspectives of the people involved. They have analysed how authors keep readers engaged through flashbacks, vivid vocabulary and figurative language, and they have compared the impact of different endings. Students are currently learning to summarise whole texts, find the deeper message and make inferences using clues from the text.



Writing- Students have been putting their reading into action by writing their own historical narrative picture story books about an event from Australian history, written for a lower primary audience. They chose an event that interested them, researched it to build a timeline, and turned that timeline into a clear plan. Students then worked on making their stories engaging by building believable characters, using imagery and adding dialogue. They also learnt how to craft an ending that suits their story. Students are now publishing their stories on slides. They are organising them into paragraphs across pages, writing catchy blurbs and choosing effective images, and each book will have a hand-drawn front cover.

MATHS- Students have been building their understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages. They began by adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator, then used fraction walls and tiles to work with equivalent and related fractions, and learnt how to find the lowest common denominator. Students then connected fractions, decimals and percentages, using division to convert fractions to decimals (e.g. 3/4 = 3 ÷ 4). They also compared and ordered them and used all three to show probability. Students are currently rounding and estimating to check their answers and learning to find 50%, 10%, 25% and 1% of a quantity.

REMINDERS :

- ***GRADUATION TICKETS HAVE GONE OUT AND NEED TO BE RETURNED.***
- ***HOMEWORK TERM 4 PROJECT.***
- ***PHOTOS FOR GRADE 6'S NEED TO BE EMAILED.***

Teachers : *Jacinta Kemp, Adriana Grisold & Courtney Brierley*

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WHAT'S ON IN HEROES

Welcome back to term 4 of HEROES. We are very happy to have some warm and sunny weather to get outdoors with the students.

Our focus for Term 4 is 'Future Energy Technology' and we will be learning about new and innovative ways scientists and engineers are creating useable energy that is sustainable and good for the planet.

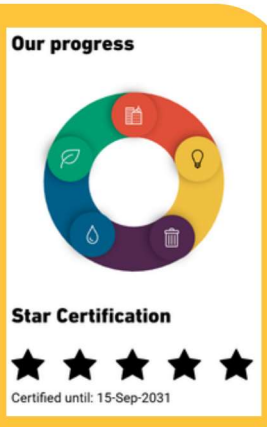
Works in the kitchen garden are coming to a close. Our raised beds are due to be cladded in salvaged colourbond steel and the 'Great Wall of Wandin' has started being painted by local artist, Buzzart (see the Wandin florist and sewing shop murals to admire his work). The frog bog is cleaned, filled and even has tadpoles!

Our Sugar gliders have emerged from their nesting box with their baby. It is amazing how big the baby is! Poor mum must be exhausted giving such a large baby piggybacks.

Wandin North Primary School is OFFICIALLY a 5 star ResourceSmart School.

This is a huge achievement which we will celebrate towards the end of the year.

Congratulations to all of our students!



Cooking week is coming up from October 26-29. If your child/ren has long hair it MUST be tied back for them to cook.

Teachers : *Laura Attrill & Zoe Abbruzzese*

WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

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WHAT'S ON IN LOTE

This term, our Prep–2 students have been busy revising all the wonderful things they have learned throughout the year! Students have been practising Indonesian greetings, numbers and colours while continuing to explore the rich cultures of Asia. We will also be discovering what school life is like in Indonesia and Japan and comparing it with our own school in Australia. Students will explore traditional clothing, homes, music and dance across Indonesia and Asia.

In Term 4, our Grade 3-6 students have begun learning about 'Desa dan Kota' (villages and cities), focusing on the island of Sulawesi. They have discovered facts about local landmarks and attractions such as Tana Toraja, Bunaken Marine Park and Tangkoko National Park. Students will learn about Indonesian cities in the weeks ahead, comparing modern city life to traditional village life.

Teachers : *Nari Flowers & Steph Clarke*

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WHAT'S ON IN ART

Our Term 4 focus is all about exploring First Nations Art. We will be learning about many different artists, showcasing a wide variety of styles from traditional styles to more contemporary. Students will be learning about how First Nations Art communicates stories and the connection to country.

Prep

Preps have been exploring the movement of animals and how we can translate these movements into art. We have viewed and drawn inspiration from Betty Mufflers work with a focus on how we can create lines with different thicknesses and styles.

Grade 1/2

Students have begun planning, sketching and painting their own landscapes that have a significant connection to them. We have looked at the illustrations from Bronwyn Bancroft in the book 'The Art in Country', and how the use of bright, bold colours and patterns help communicate her ideas.

Grade 3/4

The 3/4s have been working on their portfolio piece inspired by the painting 'Martumili Ngurra' (This is all Martu's Home). We have been looking at our own local area and important places in our communities. Students have been using local maps and their own experiences to create their own artwork representing important places to them.

Grade 5/6

Students have begun the term by planning and preparing their materials for their final portfolio piece. We have studied the art created by Mick Harding and how his use of pattern and line creates intriguing designs. Students have drawn inspiration from his work and are incorporating their own patterns within their work.

ART CLUB IS EVERY MONDAY AT RECESS IN THE ART ROOM. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Teachers: *Kaitlin Saynor & Lucy Ellis*