

Friday 5th
September 2025
Issue 14

LINK LETTER



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From the Principal

Tony Ryan

Hello WHPS Community,

I hope everyone has had a positive week. Spring is upon us and there is some promise in the weather forecast for some warmer weather in the coming days, which will be gratefully received. It's also a timely reminder that the start of September also brings the introduction of our **SunSmart** Period. During this period our students are required to wear their school hats when outdoors. We also encourage other **SunSmart** behaviours such as regular application of sunscreen. After a reminder period last week and this week we will be instituting our 'no hat, no play' policy as of next week. It's also a good time to review all school uniform items to ensure that they are clearly named so that lost items make their way home again.

Assistant Principal Appointment:

I am pleased to announce that the school has recently appointed a new Assistant Principal to the school. Stuart Hunt has been provisionally appointed and joins our school from Edgars Creek Primary School, where he has been Assistant Principal for the past few years. Stuart brings experience and expertise in a range of different areas of school leadership and we are excited to be adding him to our team in Term 4. I also want to acknowledge and thank Fiona McLean and Catherine Trethowan for their work in the Acting Assistant Principal role across Term 3.

Term 3

- **Tuesday 9th September School Concert Practice @ PRACC & School Concert @ PRACC Evening**
- **Wednesday 10th September School Concert @ PRACC Evening**
- **Friday 12th September Division Athletics**
- **CURRICULUM DAY Monday 15th September Students are not required at school**
- **Wednesday 17th September Open Classrooms Celebration of Learning 3pm-4:40pm**
- **Thursday 18th September FOOTY COLOURS DAY & Special Food Day-order on QKR**
- **Friday 19th September Last day of Term 3, 2pm Assembly and dismissal from classrooms at 2:30pm.**

Term Dates 2025

Term 1: January 30 - April 4
Term 2: April 22 - July 4
Term 3: July 21 - September 19
Term 4: October 6 - December 19

Special Men's Breakfast:

It was fantastic to be able to honour so many of the men in our community this morning as part of our Special Men's Breakfast. We are lucky to have so many great men that support our children and school in a range of different ways and are great role models. It was a good opportunity to call through for a coffee and breakfast items and awesome to see lots of smiles in our photo booth. Big thanks to our Community Links team and our staff that supported the organisation and running of this event.



Concert:

Many of our students will be highly excited by the opportunity to perform Tuesday or Wednesday night at our school concert. There is a significant amount of planning and preparation that has gone into the Concert and it promises to be a fantastic event. I thank our staff for the dedication to providing this rich experience for our students.

Thanks Theircare:

The countdown to Game On! is ON — and we couldn't do it without the amazing support of our major sponsor, TheirCare!

Our students are working hard behind the scenes, and thanks to TheirCare's generosity, we're one step closer to making this concert unforgettable.

Don't forget to give TheirCare a shoutout for helping make it all possible!

Need a little extra time in the mornings and afternoons, or even during school holidays? TheirCare is here to support WHPS families with high-quality care you can trust.

With a focus on fun, friendship, and flexibility, TheirCare provides a safe and engaging environment where kids can relax, play, and connect — all while you're managing work and family life.

Held right here at Watsonia Heights Primary School in the GP Room.

Available every school day, before and after the bell, as well as full day programs on school curriculum days and school holidays

Learn more or register online today <https://theircare.com.au/>

2026 Enrolments:

The school is currently working through our prep enrolment offers for next year. If there are any families in our community that has a sibling looking to start next year and hasn't submitted an enrolment application form with the office, I urge you to do so soon so we can finalise class sizes and structure. The school is currently at our functional capacity and DET have placed an enrolment cap on our school limiting any further 2026 prep enrolments to those in our zone or those with sibling claims.

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

2026 Student Requests:

As reported in our last newsletter we are starting the process of considering grade structures for next year.

If parents have any requests that need to be considered for their child in 2026, these must be sent through via email to the Principal. Ideally we like to receive these requests during Term3, but they must be received by October 31st at the latest. Requests received following this date, won't be considered. Please note that this process is not to select your child's teacher but rather to put forward any special circumstances that need to be considered. Any concerns raised in previous years will not be considered unless it is sent again for the following year. This is because many issues or previous concerns from prior years are historical and may no longer be relevant. Please do not put requests through to staff. Please also note that whilst the school actively considers parent requests around special circumstances, there are many factors that go into the composition of classes, and not all requests can be accommodated. Thank-you in advance for following this process.

Student Safety:

As a school we are focussed on providing a safe and secure learning environment and our care extends beyond the school grounds. Families are reminded of the regular need to continue educating our students of issues such as being safe around our streets. This includes being aware of traffic dangers (using crossings), stranger danger and being cyber safe.

Below are some helpful hints when considering what to tell your child about stranger danger:

- Students need to know not to converse with unknown people.
- Tell your child not to listen to or be near a stranger—rather to move away or back inside.
- Tell your child to never ever go with a stranger—no matter what the stranger says.
- Tell your child that strangers may make up sad stories, like looking for a lost pet, needing help with a sick child, or needing directions.
- Tell your child that a stranger should never be believed, no matter what they say.
- Tell your child that strangers may offer treats, gifts or lollies for 'helping'.
- Tell your child that you will never send a stranger to collect them. Make a list of the only, known people, you would send to pick them up.
- Ensure your child knows the routines of arriving and departing school safely and notify them of any changes to the 'normal' arrangements
- Tell your child to go immediately back inside and ask a trusted adult if unsure.
- Practice makes perfect. Encourage your child to 'tell' if they even think they came across a stranger.
- Encourage your child to 'tell' if they felt scared, unsure or uncomfortable ('yucky' with any adult). Affirm that you will be happy and praise them for 'telling'—that they won't be in trouble.
- Affirm that you will listen and believe them.

Have a great weekend everyone,

Tony

resilience strategies for emotional strength



positive

I encourage myself and others.

- "Even if it's hard, I'm going to keep trying."
- "I can do it!"
- "What compliment can I give that's on the inside?"
- "What are my strengths and skills?"
- "I've felt this way in the past. Everything turned out OK then. Things can turn out OK now."
- "How did I help myself feel better last time I felt this way?"



perspective

I think about problems in different ways.

- "I can remember a time I really struggled, but kept trying anyway. And things got easier/better!"
- "What are the different ways I could see this situation?"
- "How can I better understand the thoughts and feelings of others?"
- "What would my role model do?"
- "How can I scale my problem? Is it a gigantic problem or a small problem?"



problem solve

I look for solutions.

- "What are my options?"
- "What are the different things I could try?"
- "If I did that, what might happen?"
- "How can I break my goals down into smaller, easier steps?"
- "What would be a win/win solution and make everyone feel happy?"
- "Who else can help me?"



persevere/practice

I keep trying.

- "How can I keep trying?"
- "It's OK that I made a mistake. What did I learn from it?"
- "It's OK to not be the best. Sometimes it's about learning something new."
- "I'm doing this because it's fun, not to win."
- "Everyone loses sometimes. That's how you get better."
- "I'm a good sport!"

Across the Acting Assistant Principal's Desk:

Catherine Trethowan

2025 Parent/Carer Opinion Survey:

WE WANT OUR PARENTS/ CARERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual ***Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey*** offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. Many thanks to those families that have completed the survey already. For those that are yet to complete the survey, the link can be found in your Compass news feed.

The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open online between **Friday 21 August to Friday 19 September 2025**.

The survey will be conducted online, *only takes 20 minutes to complete*, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / caregivers / guardians who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

PLEASE NOTE: Only one parent / caregiver / guardian from your household is invited to complete the survey on behalf of the student's family. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school if your child's family lives in two separate households, so both households can have the opportunity to provide their feedback.

To protect your responses, please ***DO NOT share the survey link and PIN with others***, or on a public website, forum or similar.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. Please speak to your child's teacher or our school office if you would like more information.

Concert Countdown – Only 4 Sleeps to Go!

It's nearly here! Our whole school is buzzing as we get closer to concert week. To get ready, we'll be heading out to **Plenty Ranges Arts & Convention Centre** (PRACC, 35 Ferres Blvd, South Morang) on **Tuesday 9 September** for our **big stage rehearsal**.

Students will be travelling by bus:

- L–Z students (Wednesday night performers): leave 9:00 am, back around 12:30–1:00 pm
- A–K students (Tuesday night performers): leave 11:00 am, back around 2:30–3:00 pm

No extra cost for this – it's already covered in the concert fees.

What to bring: full school uniform, a labelled water bottle, snack/lunch as usual (no canteen), and any medication clearly labelled for the teacher.

Final Concert Checklist

Families – please check your **Compass** notifications and event pages for:

- Stage rehearsal consent
- Costume details
- Raffle tickets and recordings
- Drop-off and pick-up times and locations
- Ticket information



The countdown is on, rehearsals are happening across all year levels, and the excitement is real. We can't wait to see our students shine on stage!

See you at PRACC – it's going to be a fantastic show!

Curriculum Day Reminder - Monday 15th September

Students are not required at school

A reminder that our upcoming Curriculum Day will be dedicated to staff professional learning. On this day, our team will be completing first aid training and working together on whole-school wellbeing initiatives and upcoming events. We value this time to build our skills and strengthen the support we provide for all students.

For parents/carers needing care for their child/ren on the day, **TheirCare** will be open, with bookings available via their [website](#).

Kind regards,

Catherine

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

District ATHLETICS

60 of our amazing athletes proudly represented our school at the District Athletics Carnival at Meadowglen International Athletics Track. All students gave an amazing effort, competing with such a positive attitude and cheering loudly for their teammates throughout the day. Their sportsmanship and encouragement for one another made us incredibly proud.

We also had lots of success on the track and in the field, with a number of students now progressing through to the Division Athletics on Friday 12th September. Families of these students will be contacted as soon as final arrangements have been made.

A huge thank you to the parents and carers who came along to support and cheer on the students, and to our helpers who generously gave their time on the day - Mick Denton, you are a LEGEND couldn't have done it without you!

Watsonia Heights came 3rd OVERALL!
Let's GO WATSY HEIGHTS!



Miss Massa



Miss Massa









Building Language Leaders at WHPS

On Tuesday 26th August, our Mandarin Captains, some of our Grade 5 and some of our Grade 1 students took part in the exciting Building Language Leaders workshop! WHPS was lucky to be selected for this wonderful initiative, proudly run by Languages Teachers Victoria (LTV) and supported by the Department of Education.

Over two hours, our captains and the Grade 5 students stepped up as Languages Leaders. They received special training to strengthen their leadership skills and deepen their Mandarin knowledge.



The real highlight came when our new Language Leaders had the chance to shine! For 30 minutes, they co-facilitated a fun and interactive Mandarin session with our Grade 1 students—sharing their learning, building confidence, and inspiring our younger learners.

It was fantastic to see the joy and collaboration between grades, and The Mandarin Team couldn't be prouder of how our students embraced this opportunity!

GRADE 5

IMMERSION DAY



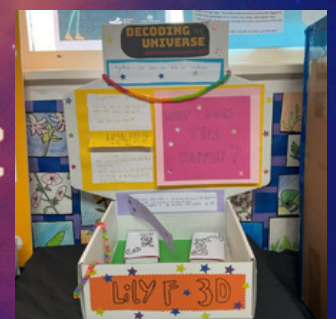
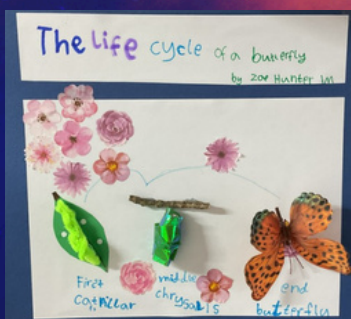
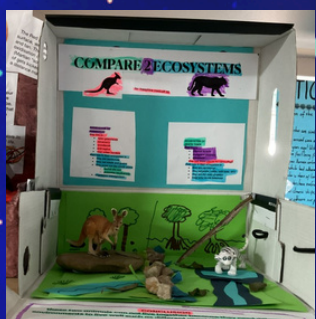
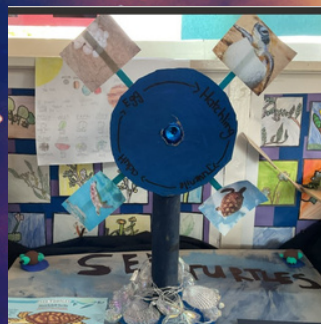
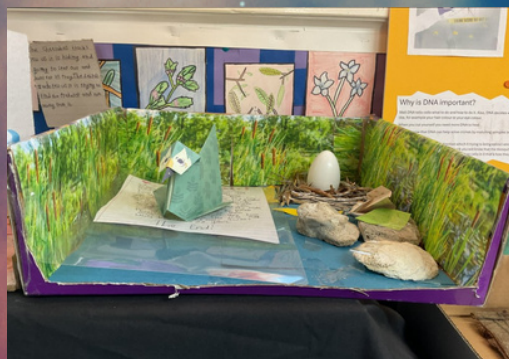
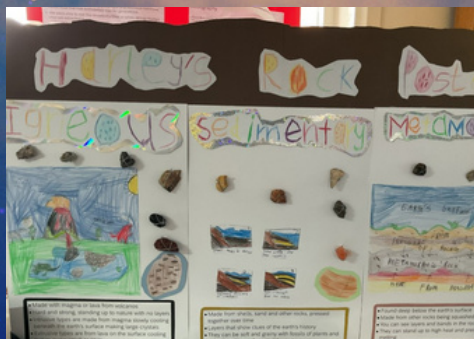
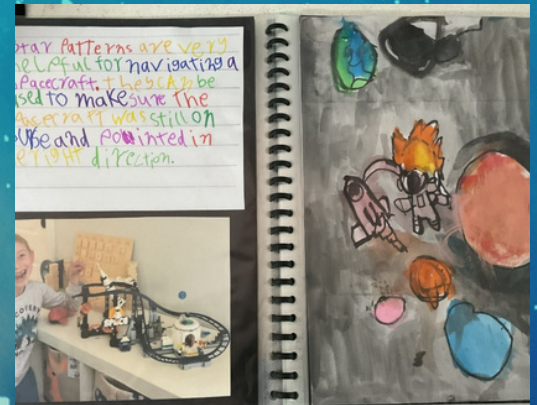
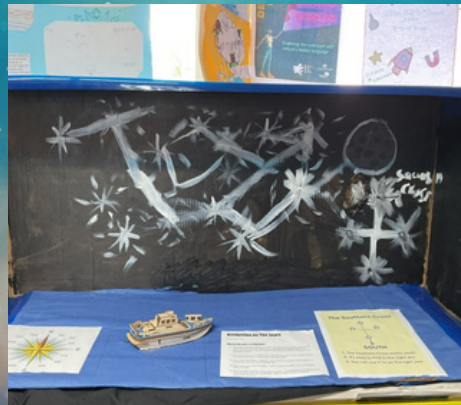
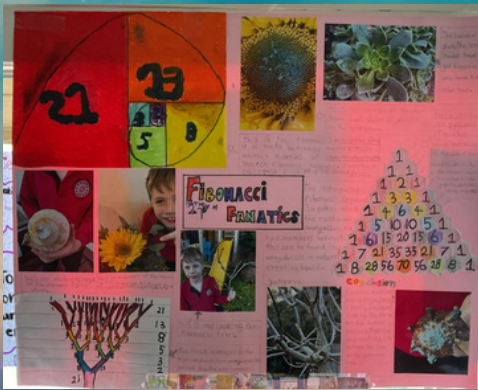
2025 Science Fair

Our Grade 6 students put on an amazing show at the 2025 Science Fair during National Science Week! On display were over 20 different Chemical Science experiments for the younger students to observe in action. Below are just a few photographs from this fantastic school event. Well done to the Grade 6 students and thank you to all the younger students that visited us and joined in the fun!



2025 WHPS Science Competition

Our budding home scientists did a fantastic job again this year with their entries in the 2025 WHPS Science Competition! All of their projects are currently on display near the Front Office. It was an extremely hard decision for our Science Captains Ivy and Nam to choose our winners this year. All entrants received a certificate and prize to celebrate their efforts. Here are some photos just a few of the amazing projects entered!



News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Book Treasure Hunt - Monday 18th

A huge thank you to all the book-lovers who joined us to kick off Book Week with our annual Book Treasure Hunt fun on Monday, August 18th after school. It was wonderful to see all the teams searching high and low throughout W.H.P.S for those cheeky hiding books!



Congratulations to our 2025 **Book Treasure Hunt champions** Grace, Lauren and Octavia!
And to **Sophie** who won the gigantic **Book-Lovers hamper!**

Awesome Authors - Adrian Beck & Jack Heath

We were delighted to host amazing authors Adrian Beck and Jack Heath this week. They shared who their love of writing started, along with tips & tricks about the creative process behind their books. It was a fantastic opportunity for our book-lovers, who left their sessions bubbling with writing enthusiasm and big smiles!



Adrian and Jack chatted to our book lovers in the Library after their sessions. It was smiles all round especially when Bunji was crowned Adrian's favourite Library pet!



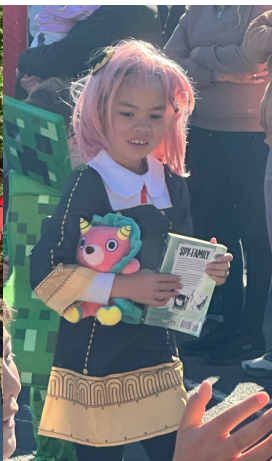
News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Book Character Parade - Thursday 21st

What glorious sunshine we had when your fabulous book characters all came to life on Thursday!

A **GIGANTIC** thank you to all our families for helping your little book-lovers put together their amazing outfits! We know how much work you all put in and we couldn't create these wonderful memories for our students without you!



Only **363 days** until our 2026 Book Parade!
Who will you dress up as????

News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Meerkat Productions - The Garden of Broken Things

This morning, the wonderful actors from Meerkat Productions treated us to a beautiful adaptation of Freya Blackwood's *Garden of Broken Things*. With a couple of guest actors thrown in for good measure! It was fabulous and had us singing the theme song for the rest of the day!

One small hello, can grow and can grow!

Like a garden so wild and from long ago!

A chat and some laughter can make loneliness leave!

So one small hello is waht we all believeeeeeee!



Student of The Week

Week 6

CONGRATULATIONS



Jack, Hana, 4W, Finn, Artie, Margot, Bailey, Gus, Albert, Vance, William, Oliver, Kendall, Michaela, Ivy, Lenny, Eden, Ella, Otis, Flynn.

Week 7

CONGRATULATIONS



Freya, Chelsea, Ivy, Jemima, Odette, Evie, Elinor, Nate, Amelia, Ivy, Yaami, Natasa, Thomas, Eve, Will, .

Congratulations!

WHPS FOOTY COLOURS DAY

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

**Please wear your footy colours
and if you can, a gold coin
donation for WHPS**

**A special food order is on QKR.,
if you would like party pies or
sausage rolls!**



NoiseCraft Studio

Helping Kids Grow Academically & Emotionally Through Music

Your New Instrumental Music Program at Watsonia Heights Primary School

Dear Watsonia Heights Primary School Families,

I'm excited to announce that NoiseCraft is now providing instrumental music lessons at Watsonia Heights Primary School. For the past 25 years, I've had the privilege of working with local primary schools, and we're excited to bring our instrumental music program to your school.

Music lessons are a fun and powerful way for children to grow, fostering creativity alongside academic, social and emotional development. By balancing challenge with success, they build confidence, resilience and problem-solving skills, **creating strong foundations for success and life skills they will carry into the future.**

Our lessons are tailored to each student's needs, with music that is developmentally appropriate, relevant, and engaging. **Our goal is to ensure every child feels connected to their learning and confident in their progress.**

We look forward to getting to know the school community and meeting the students. If you'd like to chat about how music could support your child's development, please call or email me at the details below.

Warm regards,
Matt Stone
NoiseCraft Studio

**At School
During School
Hours**

In-School Music Tuition



Keyboard - Guitar - Drums

Unlock your child's full potential through the power of music

Children will learn music that is relevant to them in a supportive and fun environment; learning at a developmentally appropriate level that balances challenge and success.

Lessons are tailored to each child's individual needs, fostering both emotional wellbeing and academic growth. This holistic approach equips children with essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and resilience, benefiting all aspects of their lives.

- ☐ **Group Lessons** \$23 per lesson (2-3 per class)
- ☐ **Private Lessons** \$35 per lesson



To enrol or for further information

Call/Text: **0418 596 008**

Email: **noisecraftstudio@gmail.com**

Singing - Taking expressions of interest

Sponsor Our School Production

Support theArts.

Promote your business.

Be part of the magic.



Be Part of Something Special

This year our school production brings the stage to life with music, dance, and storytelling—showcasing the incredible talents of our students. We are excited to offer local businesses the opportunity to sponsor our upcoming School Production - a vibrant end-of-term concert that brings together students, families, staff, and the wider school community to celebrate the Performing Arts.

Our Vision

With the support of local businesses, our students are given the opportunity to shine on stage, build lifelong memories, and experience the joy of performance.

Your Support

- Costumes
- Technical support
- Licensing
- Venue Hire & Transportation



Benefits For Sponsors

As part of your sponsorship, your business will be featured in the professionally designed digital concert program, on event materials, and during the live performance.



Increased Brand Exposure Locally

Reach a highly engaged school community with your business message.



Support Education & Creativity

Help foster confidence, teamwork, and artistic expression in students.



Gain Brand Recognition

Be acknowledged in our program, on stage, and across digital platforms.

As this is a business sponsorship, your contribution may be claimed as a marketing or business expense. We'll provide an official invoice outlining your sponsorship benefits for your records.



Sponsorship Packages Offered



INCLUSIONS	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
COST	\$100	\$250	\$500
Logo in digital concert program	✓	✓	1/4 Page Advertisement
Logo shared on 'thank-you' slide at the show	✓	✓	✓
Social media mention		✓	✓
Verbal thank you during concert			✓
Advertisement in the school newsletter for 1 month			✓

Concert Night Raffle

Not ready to become a sponsor? Donate a prize for our Concert Raffle instead!

You can still support our school production by donating a prize for our Concert Night Raffle.

This is a fantastic way to contribute while gaining exposure on the night.



How to Book

To reserve your sponsorship, please scan the QR code below and follow the prompts. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please Note:

- Artwork must be supplied as a high-resolution PDF or JPG




SIGN UP HERE


MINECRAFT ENGINEERS


AFTER-SCHOOL



Engineering • Problem-solving • Programming
Design • Make new friends • Trusted provider

 Monday 28 Jul - 15 Sep
3:45PM - 5:00PM

 Watsonia Heights Primary
School

 Years 3 - 6

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Rated **4.9** on **PRODUCT REVIEW** with over 1110 ★★★★★ reviews
.COM.AU

New signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road in Greensborough



Project update July 2025



Map of the new signalised pedestrian crossing.

What we're doing

We're building a new signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road, south of Greenhill Road in Greensborough to improve pedestrian safety and access to bus stops.

As part of the improvements, we will also:

- Relocate the northbound bus stop at Greenhill Road/Diamond Creek Road approximately 100m south so it's closer to the new signalised pedestrian crossing.
- Remove the existing pedestrian refuge north of Greenhill Road.
- Install pedestrian fencing in the median of the new signalised pedestrian crossing.

- Consolidate bus stops with low usage in the area by permanently closing the bus stops at Avandina Crescent/Diamond Creek Road and Spring Street/Diamond Creek Road.
- Trim and remove two trees and some low-lying vegetation.

To make these improvements, we will need to remove up to four on-street parking spaces outside 100 and 102 Diamond Creek Road.



What's next

We're currently in the development stage of the project, which involves undertaking technical assessments and site investigations that will inform the final design.

Major construction works to build the new pedestrian crossing are expected to begin in early 2026.

Why we're doing it

The section of Diamond Creek Road between Civic Drive and St Helena Road is a key connection to local schools and amenities.



The new signalised pedestrian crossing will improve pedestrian safety for everyone, including local students and bus users.

Between May and July 2023, there were two crashes resulting in the serious injury of two students within this section of road.

Pedestrians are completely exposed to the full force of a crash, making them some of the most vulnerable road users. The new signalised pedestrian crossing will assist pedestrians to safely cross the road, including students and bus users accessing the bus stops.

This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Victorian Government under the Road Safety Program.

Find out more

For more information, visit transport.vic.gov.au and search for "New signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road in Greensborough," call 133 778, or email DOTroadprojects@transport.vic.gov.au



BRING A FRIEND TO TRAINING DAY

GIRLS GET READY

2025 SEASON AGE GROUPS

U11/U12

BORN 2014/2013

THURSDAY 04 SEPTEMBER 2025

6:30PM - 7:30PM

ELDER STREET RESERVE

U09/U10

BORN 2016/2015

FRIDAY 05 SEPTEMBER 2025

5:00PM - 6:00PM

GREENSBOROUGH COLLEGE

U07/U08

BORN 2018/2017

THURSDAY 04 SEPTEMBER 2025

5:30PM - 6:30PM

ELDER STREET RESERVE

2026

INTERESTED IN REGISTERING FOR 2026?



SEASON RUNS APRIL-SEPT 2026
(WITH PRE-SEASON TRAINING COMMENCING
FEBRUARY 2026)

WWW.WHFC.ORG.AU
INFO@WHFC.ORG.AU
OR PHONE PAT O'CONNOR (0499 777 050)

FREE TO JOIN





Experience Excellence in Early Learning at

Goodstart Watsonia

69-71 Devonshire Road, Watsonia, VIC



- ✓ **Experienced & Caring Educators**
Passionate, qualified staff who provide a nurturing and safe, environment.
- ✓ **Quality Education & School Readiness**
A curriculum aligned with the Early Years Learning Framework, fostering early literacy, numeracy, and critical thinking skills.
- ✓ **Safe, Modern & Stimulating Environment**
Designed to inspire learning, creativity, and a love for discovery.
- ✓ **STEM, Sports, Dance & Nature Play**
A well-rounded program that develops physical, creative, and problem-solving skills through hands-on exploration and play.
- ✓ **All-Inclusive Care**
Meals, nappies, wipes, cot linen, and sunscreen are provided at no extra cost.
- ✓ **High-Quality Learning Environment**
Carefully designed to engage young minds and foster creativity.

Book a tour today!
1800 222 543

**Scan the
QR code to
learn more!**



Goodstart Watsonia

Enrol Now!





Kids holiday fun with Scouts

Banyule City Council is hosting a free school holiday event at Warringal Park Oval to get kids outdoors. Kids can take part in a variety of fun activities. After all the fun, enjoy a sausage sizzle with friends and family!

2 Beverley Rd, Heidelberg VIC 3084

Tuesday, 30 September 10am to 1pm

In partnership with



Register now



Diamond Village – Planning your local activity centre

Is Diamond Village Shopping Centre important to you? Help us plan for future improvements.

Share your thoughts through an online survey **from 8 September to 20 October** or come and talk with Council officers at the **Diamond Village Artisan-Craft Market on Saturday 13 September and Saturday 11 October**. A walking tour will also be available on the day, departing at 11am.

To get involved and to register for a walking tour, visit shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/DiamondVillage

