

Friday 6th June  
2025  
Issue 8

# LINK LETTER



61 Henry Street,  
Greensborough 3088  
(03) 94354617

WWW.WATSONIAHEIGHTSPS.VIC.EDU.AU  
EMAIL-WATSONIA.HEIGHTS.PS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU

## Across the Acting Principal's Desk:

Tony Ryan

Hello everyone,  
I hope you are managing to stay warm during the current artic blast. We have noticed an uptick in student illness in recent weeks, which may well be linked to the flu season. We encourage all in our community to maintain good hygiene practices in terms of washing hands and covering mouths when coughing etc, to protect against the spread of germs. It's also important that students stay home and rest whilst they are unwell and during their infectious period. It's also a good time to remind students about staying warm and dressing for the weather conditions. We are often amazed to see students running around in shorts and a tee-shirt when it's in low single digit degrees.

Speaking of freezing conditions thanks to all those in our community that participated and supported our MND Big Freeze fundraiser yesterday. It was great that our JSC and school community could support such a worthy cause. A big thank you to Miss Clay and Miss Close for coordinating the event and those brave staff members that were willing to participate in the ice bucket challenge during our special school assembly at the end of the day.

## Term 2

- **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Kings Birthday**  
**Public Holiday-**  
**Students do not**  
**attend school**
- **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Concert Rehearsals**  
**commence this week**  
**at school**
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June**  
**ISS WHPS vs**  
**Watsonia**
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June -**  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**June**  
**Grade 3 Camp to**  
**Lady Northcote**
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**June**  
**Regional Cross**  
**Country**
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**  
**Prep Milo's Birthday**  
**Party Day**
- **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July**  
**Last Day of Term 2**

## 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

Our staff have been busy today during our professional practice day, fulfilling a range of professional activities. Performing and judging assessments being a key activity undertaken. Many thanks to those in our junior school community that were able to support the assessments that were taking place and signing their child up to an available time. This is a valuable opportunity to assess students in a 1:1 environment and accurately measure and track their academic growth during Semester 1. For families that are away for the weekend or couldn't make these times, staff will find other opportunities at school to complete these assessments with students.

### **Monday Holiday:**

A reminder that we also have the public holiday coming up this Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> June for the King's Birthday holiday, so Monday is a student free day.

### **Prep Enrolments 2026:**

The school is currently working through our enrolment process for our 2026 Prep students. If there are any families in our community with younger siblings that you are intending on enrolling at WHPS in 2026, we ask that you contact the office staff and submit your enrolment as soon as possible to assist us with our planning.

### **Concert Preparations:**

Our Concert preparations are well underway, with concert lead performers working through rehearsals and props being created across the school. In exciting news, our dance rehearsals begin next week on Tuesday. The 10 dance lessons over the coming weeks will be conducted by the fantastic dance instructors from Kinect2Dance, Kyle and Bree.

Some members of the community may have been contacted by our staff to follow up permission and/or payment for the Concert event. We apologise for applying time pressure on our parents/carers but given that the school needs to pay the dance company based on the number of students participating in the lessons, it is vital that we have a clear indication of who will be involved from the first session next week.

The concert is an important event on our school calendar, occurring only once every two years, and we strongly encourage student involvement. We are aware that some families may be away on the night of the concert performance on family holidays but would still like their child to have the experience of participating in the dance sessions during the term. This is fantastic, and we fully support this. It is however important that we identify these students for choreography purposes. Where students are not participating in the practices or concert, it is also important for teachers to know this, so that we can make appropriate accommodations for them during the dance sessions. We don't want students to miss any of the dance lessons unnecessarily but need to have both the permission and payments made before lessons begin next week for students to be involved in the first session. Any families experiencing financial difficulties around this payment are encouraged to reach out to myself ASAP for a discussion around possible supports. We thank you for your assistance in getting this in place.

**Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!**



### **Canteen Support:**

Our school canteen is offered on Monday's, Wednesday's and Fridays as a service to our community and relies heavily on parent/carers volunteers to function. We express our deep thanks to those in our community that regularly volunteer their time to support a variety of events or services provided by the school including supporting in the canteen. It would be great to have a wider base of support, so this work doesn't always fall to the same volunteers. If you have some availability to support the running of the canteen please contact our Canteen Manager Cara at [Cara.Osborne@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Cara.Osborne@education.vic.gov.au)

### **Curriculum and Reporting Changes:**

As we rapidly approach our mid-year reporting timeline, it is worth sharing with the community some curriculum and reporting changes enacted by the DET this year. The Victorian Curriculum has undergone an update, which has seen some changes in how the curriculum is organised and reported against in the Vic Curric 2.0.

These changes have meant that certain topics or skills may be taught in earlier or later year levels than they have been previously. Whilst, our staff have been teaching to the new curriculum across the first semester, these changes may see a short-term impact on student performance results as teachers assess students against the new curriculum. This is due to students not having the continuity of being taught the new curriculum sequence across previous years. One of the more noticeable changes for parent/carers in the reports is the shift to students receiving a single progression point in the subject of mathematics, demonstrating their overall level of achievement in the subject. Previously content was grouped into three areas of mathematics with students receiving progression points for each category. In addition to the single progression point, our teachers will continue to provide indicators of performance against 'I can' statements, so that parents/carers can identify areas of relative strength or challenges.

### **Traffic Safety:**

Many in our community will have seen my recent Compass post around traffic safety concerns in and around the school. I am reposting here in the hope to reach members of the community that may not have seen that post and due to the importance of the issue.

*Hello Everyone,*

*I write to you out of concern for the safety and wellbeing of our students and the wider community.*

*I have received a number of concerns from our community recently about unsafe driving and parking behaviour in and around the school, particularly around the visitor carpark area. The visitor carpark area is well signed asking visitors to back into the available car parking bays. This makes it safer, faster and easier to exit the car space when leaving. It has been noted that increasingly members of the community are driving in forwards creating an unsafe situation when they are backing out with limited vision in spaces where students may be crossing the road.*

**Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!**

*This issue has been compounded by those in our community, parking on the other side of the drive entry to the school under the streetlight and no parking sign. As is evidenced by the no parking sign and lack of lined parking bays, this is a no parking area. I've attached a photo of the area to this post, to try to eliminate any confusion. Parking on this side adds significantly to the congestion in what is an already congested zone. It makes it much more difficult for other cars to enter and exit the designated car spaces and contributes to others then parking headfirst as they don't have sufficient room to back into the available car spaces. These cars then add to the danger of the situation as they need to turn around to exit the car park.*



Since this post went out, I have been contacted by neighbouring property owners to the school to express their concern that members of our community have parked in their driveway without permission, blocking their entry to their property. The school council has also reached out to the Banyule Council and local member regarding unsafe driving practices being reported by our crossing supervisors and requesting further traffic management controls be put in place. As part of the response we have received, it was suggested that a request will be made to the local police stations about increased patrols in the area. We thank the many in our community that practice safe and appropriate driving behaviours around the school and for your patience in navigating the peak times of congestion. We ask that all follow the established parking procedures and road laws to ensure the safety of all in our community.

### **School Access:**

Whilst I'm on the topic of student safety, I also wanted to let the community know that the school is looking into increasing the security of the school site during the school day. We are investigating the installation of a secure pedestrian entry to the front of the school adjacent to the visitor carpark. This would support the safety of our students through restriction of unauthorised access to the school and any unsupervised student exits.

The solution we are looking at would allow the gates to be unlocked before and after school to allow ease of access during peak pedestrian times. Then during the school day it would involve an electronically locked pedestrian gate. It would have a camera and communication button for visitors to communicate with the school office staff to gain entry/exit to the school. Staff would be provided with pin codes for entry and exit. The system has a battery back-up for power failures etc. The school could still unlock the vehicle entry gates at the front of the school in the event of a complete system failure. Our consultation period about this change runs until Monday 16<sup>th</sup> of June. Members of our school community that have further questions about the system or wish to consult regarding the intention behind this shift are welcome to reach out to me via email at [tony.ryan@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:tony.ryan@education.vic.gov.au)

**Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!**

**Refugee Week:**

Refugee Week is an annual celebration to recognise and showcase the contributions of refugees in enriching our communities and culture.

This year Refugee Week is occurring between the 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> June.

This year's theme is 'Finding Freedom: Diversity in Community'. Diverse communities bring people together, showing that our differences make us stronger, more united, and capable of facing challenges. This occasion is an opportunity to celebrate our inclusive school community and to continue providing welcoming, safe and empowering environments for all students and families.

**Grade 3 Camp:**

Our Grade 3 camp is fast approaching between Mon 16<sup>th</sup> and Wed 19<sup>th</sup> June. The camp is held at Lady Northcote Adventure Camp and our teachers and students are excited about taking in this experience and all the great activities it has to offer.

Enjoy your long weekend everyone,

Tony



**Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!**



# Swim-A-Thon Legends!!

Amelia & Kai were a part of the DVE's Swimathon. Both signed up to do 30 laps each & ended up with 100 (Kai) & 140 (Amelia)!

Was great to hear the encouragement and support they gave to one another. amazing to hear that they both challenged themselves to exceed their initial goals & enjoyed being active.



Miss Massa



# Division Cross Country

Hey lovely WHPS Community

I would love to share with you some unreal news about our superstar Cross Country runners after today. We are so proud of the amazing effort from all of our runners, they battled the rain, the wind and still finished the race smiling.

We even have some students onto the next stage Regional Cross Country in Kilmore.

Miss Massa will be in touch with these families after their phenomenal efforts.

We would also like to thank our lovely parents who came to support our runners who also battled the extreme weather conditions. Thank you also to Miss Close who came with us today, we loved having you there!

Have a lovely day, stay dry all!



Miss Massa



# Division Cross Country





# Division Cross Country



Miss Massa





**A FIGHTMND EVENT**

# Big Freeze Beanie Day

On Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, WHPS turned blue again for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row!

Thank you to everyone who donated their time any money.

We raised a total of \$530 for the FightMND Foundation!





# Big Freeze Beanie Design Competition

Students designed their own Big Freeze Beanie to win a FREE Big Freeze 11 beanie

## Prep-2 Winner!

## 3-6 Winner!

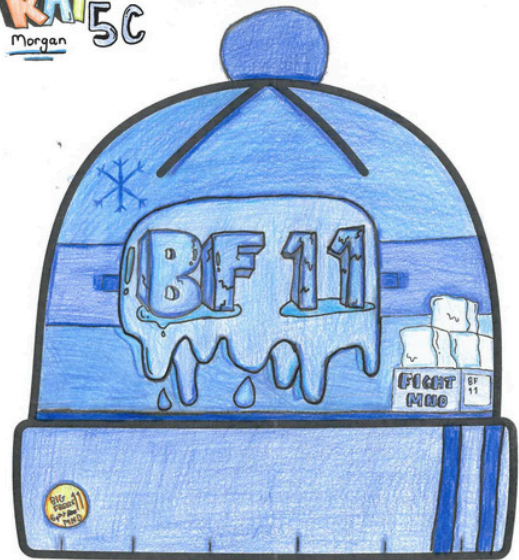
Design your own  
**BEANIE** Isla 2N



Isla Kelly 2N

Design your own  
**BEANIE**

KAI 5C  
Morgan



Big Freeze 11

Kai Morgan 5C

## Honourable Mentions!

Cleo  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Cleo Michailidis 6B

Charli  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Charli Sullivan 6B

Neve  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Neve Williams 1H

Marc  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Marc Jindal 6A

Maddie  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Maddie Collins 6B

Izzy  
Design your own  
**BEANIE**



Izzy Jones 2N



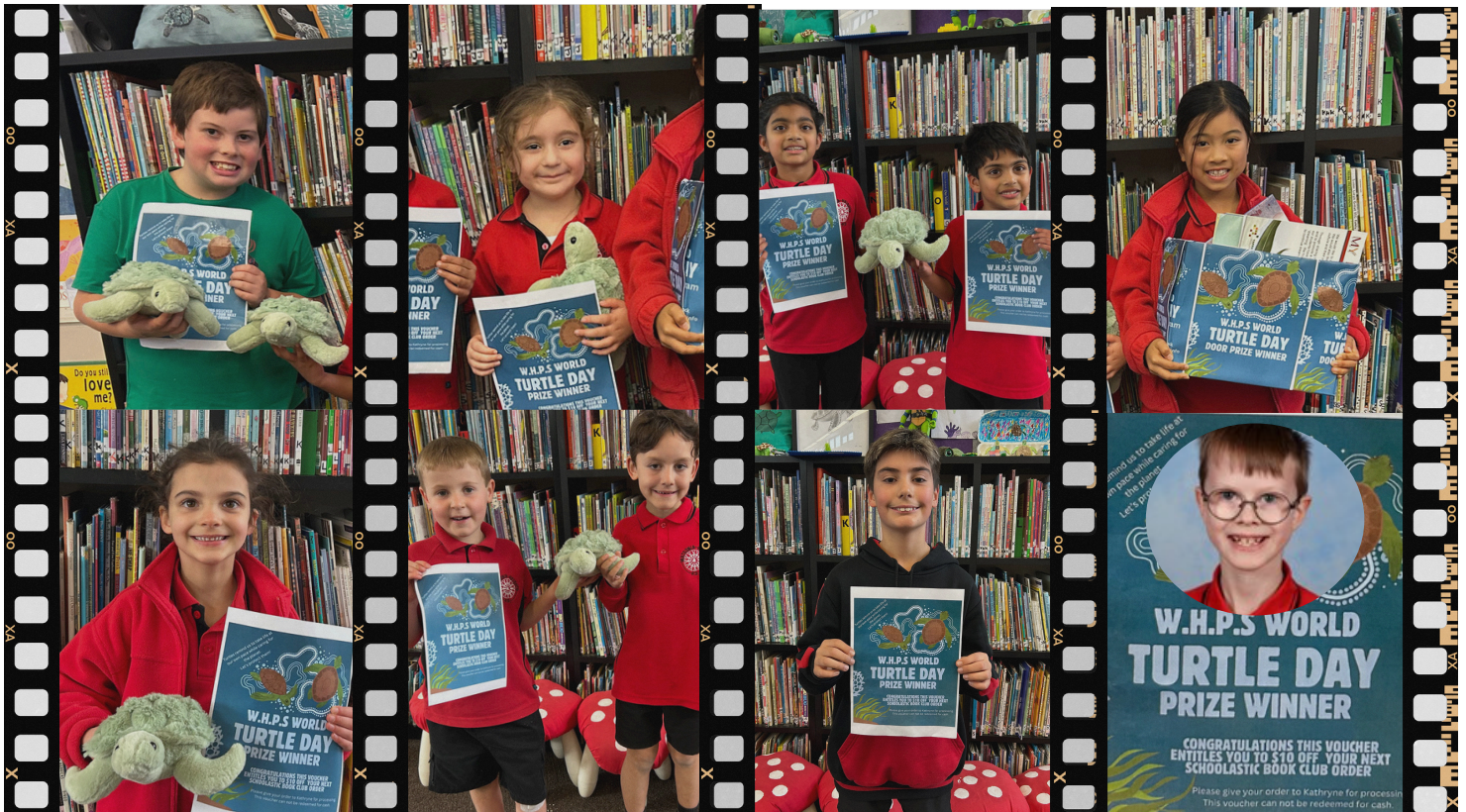
# News from your Library

## Thank you from the Turtles



Thank you for helping us celebrate World Turtle Day 2025 with a gigantic splash! 🐢🌊  
Your generous support for our lovely turtle friends helped us raise **\$346.90**, which will help the great work of Mon Repos Turtle Centre & Sea Turtle Alliance in Bundaberg, QLD.  
The turnout at our after-school Turtle Day Shellerbration was **AMAZING** too, with the **BIGGEST** audience we have ever had!  
Thank you for supporting your turtle-lovers in attending the event, and the huge popularity of our Turtle Day Party has us already making plans so that next year's Shellerbration is even better!

**Congratulations to our Turtle Party prize winners!**





# News from your Library

Have you logged into your Premiers' Reading Challenge portal?

Victorian  
premiers'  
reading  
challenge



Congratulations to the **41** book-lovers below who have already completed this years **Premiers' Reading Challenge (PRC)**!

**Prep B** - Jacob & Kate **Prep D** - Henry, Emily, Sebastian & Yasmine **Prep M** - Aaron & Mae

**1H** - Emily **1M** - Finn

**2G** - Charlie E **2J** - Aria, Elijah & Gabbie

**3B** - Josephine, Max, Mivaan, Quinn, Riya & Sierra, **3D** - Ivy, Nakshatra & Sebastien

**3MT** - Amelia, Bodhi D, Elsie, Hanna, Harriet & Mina

**4D** - Ivy & Emilia, **4H** - Alexandra & Ava, **4L** - Alice & Praise

**5C** - Lola, **5F** - Yaami & Evelyn **5S** - Grace

**6A** - Nam **6C** - Daniel

Amazing work by all the W.H.P.S book-lovers who have been busily registering their books in the the **PRC** this year! In just **95** days you have contributed to the W.H.P.S total of **2838** books read!.. Sensational! Don't worry! There is still **92 days** left to log all your wonderful books before the closing date on the 5th of September 2025. So, jump online and register all your wonderful books now.

Victorian  
premiers'  
reading  
challenge

20 years of  
Words and Wonder

VICTORIA  
State Government

## Dashboard

School: Watsonia Heights Primary School

2025 challenge in progress

Campus: All Campus

Start 03 Mar, 2025

End 05 Sep, 2025 92 days left

520

Eligible students

520 (100 %)

Students registered

41 (7 %)

Students completed

## Books

637 (22%)

Added

2201 (78%)

Finished

2838

Books Read

0

[Books to Review](#)

0 (0%)

[Books to verify](#)

2201 (78%)

Verified books

20 years of  
Words and Wonder



# GRADE 1 NEWS

## Maths

Delving into Maths this term, the Grade 1 students had a ball learning about length, mass and capacity with hands-on tasks. They also revisited place value by looking at the part-part-whole relationship of two-digit numbers. This led to a focus on addition and subtraction strategies, such as count on and friends of 10/ number bonds.





# GRADE 1 NEWS

## Literacy

This term we kicked off a new literacy unit with the text 'A Bag and a Bird' by Pamela Allen. We learnt all about journeys while exploring boundary punctuation in sentences, predicting, retelling after reading, verbs, prepositions and writing imaginative sentences. We completed the unit by writing a narrative about a treasure hunt. Here are some happy snaps of the students writing their riveting adventures.



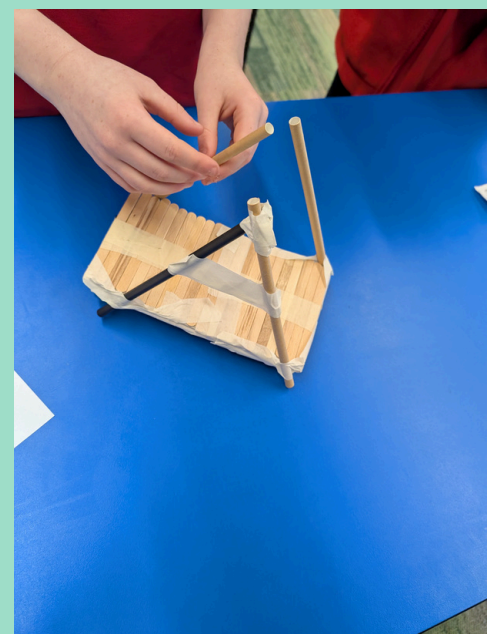
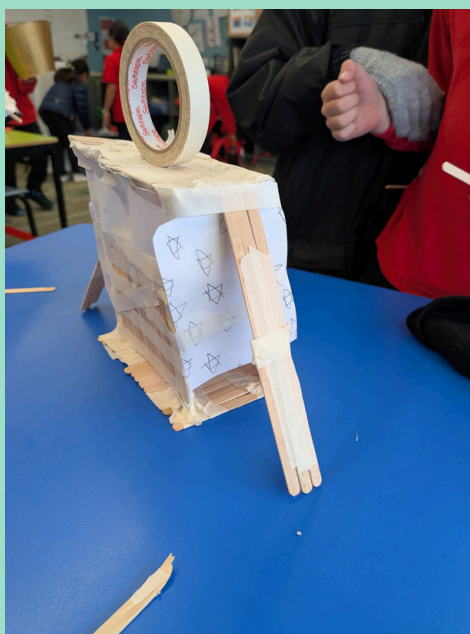
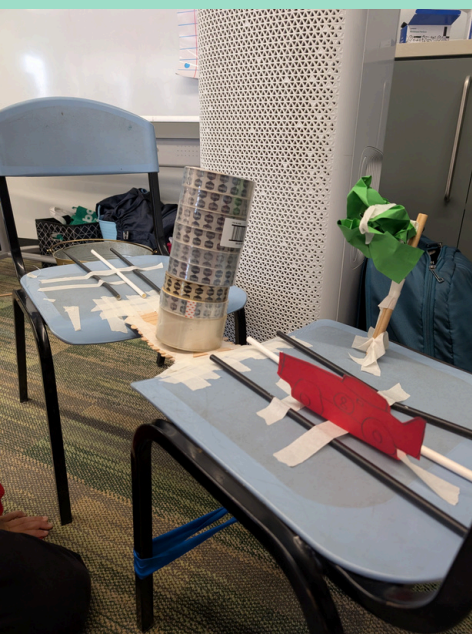


# GRADE 3 NEWS

YEAR 3/4 TAKE ON REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS WITH TEAMWORK

In this week's Wellbeing session, Year 3/4 students got hands-on with creative problem-solving and teamwork. The lesson kicked off with a discussion about what a problem is and how we can use specific skills—like listening, staying calm, and sharing ideas—to tackle challenges head-on.

Students then took part in a timed team challenge called “Build a Bridge”, where they had to construct a bridge between two desks using only basic materials like straws, popsicle sticks and string. The bridge had to span 30cm and hold a small object. Each team member had a role, and success relied on clear communication and collaboration.



# Student of The Week

Week 6

CONGRATULATIONS



Lola, Hannah, Addison, Maria, Alaia, Regan, Christina, Harley, Zoe, Norah, Joyce, Thomas, Eden, Autumn, Izzy, Lennon, Kendall, Lewis, Molly, Luca, Mila, Oliver, Ziggy, Abigail, Millar, Chloe, Oscar.

Week 7

CONGRATULATIONS



Jack, Leo, Jacob, Anika, River, Jack, Chelsea, Rhea, Rae, Murphy, Alexander, Annie, Josie, Alice, Jude, Angus, Holly, Ellie, Darcy .



Taylor, Willow & Michael

Congratulations!



# Do you have a daughter in Grade 5?

## Year 7 2027 enrolment applications close

### Friday, 15 August 2025.

Apply today via our website  
[clc.vic.edu.au/enrol](https://clc.vic.edu.au/enrol)

Limited tour spots available, register at  
[clc.vic.edu.au/enrol/book-a-tour](https://clc.vic.edu.au/enrol/book-a-tour)



Hear from  
our Principal  
Stephanie Evans



**Bundoora**  
Secondary College

## SECURE YOUR SPOT FOR 2026

Located in the heart of the northern suburbs, just minutes from Plenty Road and the Ring Road.  
[53 Balmoral Avenue, Bundoora VIC 3083](#)

**Easily accessible** Close to tram 86 (La Trobe Uni stop) Short walk to bus routes safe walking and cycling paths nearby. Easy drop-off/pick-up zones and accessible parking.

**No uniform required** We support individual expression and practical dress. No uniform = more comfort, creativity, and confidence.

**Community engagement** Students participate in local environmental programs, university partnerships, and workplace initiatives real-world experience builds resumes and confidence.

**Ready for the future**  
University Direct Entry partnerships, trade pathways and VET programs (specialist and through the network).

**Career counselling** starts early Dedicated Year 8, 9 & 10 programs focused on purpose, curiosity, and capability.

*Empowering a lifelong love of learning to thrive in a rapidly changing world.*



Call Us  
**(03) 9467 1511**



More Info  
<https://www.bundoorasc.vic.edu.au/>



**Bundoora**  
Secondary College

**AT BUNDOORA SECONDARY COLLEGE, WE'VE REIMAGINED EDUCATION.**  
**OUR CONTEMPORARY APPROACH FOCUSES ON CAPABILITIES, NOT JUST TRADITIONAL CURRICULUM.**  
**OUR STUDENTS ARE GUIDED BY THEIR PASSIONS, STRENGTHS, AND INTERESTS.**

**Personalised learning:** Tailored pathways that align with individual student goals.

**Innovative programs:** From our renowned Farm and Environment program to Athlete Development and Fitness, Music Performance, and Drama, students have diverse opportunities.

**Student wellbeing and challenge:** A holistic, integrated approach ensures every student feels valued, supported and challenged to achieve their best.

**Community engagement:** Strong ties with local organisations and real-life experiences prepare students for the world beyond school.

**Student leadership and voice:** Creating students who are advocates and take an active role in empowering their own education.

**Annual scholarships** for enrolled students and across all stages (Entry -Year 7, PACE- Year 8&9 , Senior Years – Years 10-12) in: Elite Sport, Performing Arts, Science and Sustainability, Design and Creativity, Entrepreneurship.

*Empowering a lifelong love of learning to thrive in a rapidly changing world.*



**(03) 9467 1511**

<https://www.bundoorasc.vic.edu.au/>







**234.50 or 3  
days! Offer  
ends June  
10!**

#### PROGRAM INCLUDES

- 01** 9-3pm each day
- 02** Basketball, AFL, Netball, Soccer and Hockey on offer
- 03** Suitable for all ages and skill levels
- 04** Guest appearances at selected programs



**It was overall very positive and the kids made great connections with coaching staff and other participants**



## THREE DAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS!

#### LOCATIONS

- Camberwell Grammar School, Canterbury
- HA Smith Reserve, Hawthorn
- Box Hill High School, Box Hill
- Trinity Grammar, Marles Playing Fields, Bulleen
- M.L.C, Kew
- Camberwell Hockey Club, Canterbury
- Doncaster Secondary College, Doncaster
- Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre

**SEE WEBSITE FOR DATES**

Contact Us:

1300 914 368

[admin@australiansportscamps.com.au](mailto:admin@australiansportscamps.com.au)

More Information:

[australiansportscamps.com.au](http://australiansportscamps.com.au)





# 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!**





# Holiday camps on sale now!



**MINECRAFT**

•

**ROBLOX**

Coding • Animation • Craft & much more

Book now at [codecamp.com.au/flyer](https://codecamp.com.au/flyer)

**SAVES \$25**

Use coupon code  
**FLYER25** at checkout

Supported by

 **GROUP**