

**Next Weeks Events**

- Monday—
- Tuesday—
- Wednesday—Foundation Assessments
- Thursday—
- Friday—

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**February 2021**

**March 2021**

- 3rd— Foundation Parent Interviews
- 14th— Labour Day Public Holiday
- 15th— Harmony Week
- 23rd— Twilight Sports
- 24th— School Photos

**2023 Foundation Sibling Enrolments.**

Please see the office for enrolment forms for current and past families needing Foundation places for next year. To secure your place, they must be completed and lodged with the office by the end of term 1. If you do not lodge your form before the end of term 1 you may not be able to access a place.

Out of zone enrolments from new families need to contact the office and leave their details before the end of term 2 to be considered for a place, depending on places available.

**From the Art Room**

Now that art smocks are no longer communal in the art room, please organise an art smock for your child/ren.

While a waterproof smock is preferred, an old t-shirt is suitable for most materials we use. Please ensure the smock you choose is easy for your child to put on and take off independently.

**Friday Assembly**

Assembly will be held on the basketball court at 2.50pm, with parents and carers able to attend.

There will be NO Web Ex feed.

**Working With Children Check**

We require all school volunteers to have a current WWCC. Applications are available from the Department of Justice website. If you are new to the school and already have a WWCC you will need to add the school to your card. This can be done online or over the phone, with the Dept of Justice, and they will advise us via mail.

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**What's New in this Issue**

- ◆2023 Sibling Enrolments
- ◆Smocks for Art
- ◆Assembly
- ◆WWCC
- ◆Entry to classrooms
- ◆Leadership Speeches
- ◆Awards
- ◆Principal's Report
- ◆CSEF
- ◆SWPBS
- ◆A Window into 5/6R

- ◆Bus Route News
- ◆UPPS Facebook Group
- ◆DET Covid-Safe Measures Extension

**Please use Classroom Doors to enter and exit the main building.**

The office can be a very busy place during drop off and pick up.

**We ask that all students enter and exit their classrooms through their external classroom doors and not through the office and the central learning space during drop off and pick up.**

This is particularly important on days we have the Central Learning Space set up for activities like the cooking program. Thank you for your cooperation.

**All students arriving late must be brought to the office by an adult and signed in.**

**LEADERSHIP SPEECHES**



Semester 1 Leadership speeches were held on Wednesday.



# Weekly Awards

## Student of the Week Awards will be presented to:

**Abigail Cox** for the smooth transition you have made to Upper Plenty and for consistently showing all our school values.

**Louis Williams** for listening and engaging with every lesson. Thanks for always applying your best effort and contributing to our discussions Louis!

**Zoe Miller** for being a kind and caring classmate to all, and someone who puts in 110% into everything they do! Keep it up!

**Sami Webster** for your fantastic clear and eloquent presentation of your leadership speech. Well Done Sami!!

**Jackson Wright** for constantly being engaged in our lessons and contributing to our daily reviews. Keep up the wonderful effort!

**Lydiah Stokes** for being a respectful learner by always using your whole body to listen carefully to your teacher and classmates. Super star effort, Lydiah!

**Finn Hannagan** for being a respectful member in our classroom, always ready to contribute and listen to his peers. Amazing Finn!

**Asher Lucas** for his determination when working with two digit numbers! Keep up the amazing growth mindset Asher!

**Isabelle Williams** for using great expression when reading aloud to her partner. Keep up the excellent storyteller voice, Isabelle.

## Values Awards will be presented to:

**Jimmy Ridgeway** for showing resilience by making sure he moves away from distractions. I love the decisions you are making Jimmy!

**William Field** for showing resilience when walking away from a frustrating situation and getting a teacher. Excellent decision William!

**Lucian Elmaz** for being able to problem solve when an issue occurred in the yard without a teacher! Great job!

**James Flemming** for demonstrating great resilience in bouncing back from an upsetting morning. Super work James!

**Cooper Kynoch-McAdam** for displaying resilience when out in the yard and in the classroom. Keep it up, Cooper!

**Reid Azzopardi** for showing resilience when solving problems by bouncing back quickly. Super effort, Reid!

**Alyra Crichton** for always trying to solve problems peacefully. Keep up the good work, Alyra.

**Ivy Hutchison** for looking out for her friends inside and outside the classroom! Thanks Ivy!

**Lylah Hill** for using the stop, walk and talk strategy to solve a problem. Keep it up Lylah!

## Special Principal's Awards will be presented to:

**Keira Mouser** for being a kind and caring friend and displaying our school values of respect and responsibility in the way you look after other students in our school. Thank you Keira!

**Olivia Tanner** for showing resilience at school by being brave when she's feeling sad and for being a good friend to others. Super effort Olivia!

**Jacob Drysdale** for making excellent choices in the playground and helping other students who need support. Well done Jacob!

**William Field** for showing outstanding sportsmanship on the basketball court at lunch times and for making excellent choices when playing outside.

# Principal's Report

Everyone has settled in really well and I am especially so very proud of our Foundation students. They have embraced our school routines and are becoming super learners in our school!

This week our Grade 6 students delivered their leadership speeches to the rest of the school. We were all so very impressed with their efforts!! Clearly, a great deal of time, energy, thought and consideration, had been put into their speeches! I would like to thank all of them for their wonderful work. At the time of this newsletter, we are counting the votes and conducting interviews. However, I would like to congratulate all of the students who participated, and for those who missed out, next semester is not that far away!

Thank you to all of the family members who attended our 'Parent Helper' information session on Tuesday. WE are all very excited about having you on board, helping at school, this year. For any parents who missed the session, and would like to volunteer, please contact the office and we will arrange a time to go through the information.

Our teachers have conducted several assessments during the first weeks of term so that we can target each student's learning at their point of need. We will be analysing our school data together during our weekly Professional Learning Communities and developing strategies to support our students. This week staff have spent time analysing our behaviour data so that we can develop actions and strategies to improve wellbeing in our school.

We will be running an information session for parents in the coming weeks about the instructional model at UPPS and the approaches we are using to support the learning of our students. The session will provide a brief overview about the Science of Reading, Daily Review and our knowledge-based curriculum. Stay tuned for more information!

Later in the term we will be hosting a "Twilight Sports" evening at school. Families are all invited to come along and participate in some outdoor activities that will be lots of fun. It will be held on Wednesday 23rd March. We will provide more information later in the term.

Our assemblies are being held on the basketball court on Friday afternoons at 2.50pm. Everyone is most welcome to join us. It has been fantastic to be able to have family and friends attend.

Please stay safe! Be kind!  
Sue Egan

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## 2023 Foundation Information Session Tuesday 29th March—7pm

We are holding an information session for 2023 Foundation enrolments.

The session is aimed at new families who would like to have a tour of the school, but all current families are welcome to attend if they like.

If you know of any family or friends who are considering enrolling in Foundation in 2023, please have them contact the school office so we can forward an invitation to them for the session.

Thanks

## Sentral Parent App

All families should be accessing the Sentral Parent App for all their information. If you are having trouble with the App please contact the office.

Thanks

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sentral.mobile>

<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/sentral-for-parents/id1238744022>

## Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund applications

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seeker and refugee families.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

It is important that funding made available in 2022 supports students to participate in school trips, camps and sporting activities this year rather than being held for future years. This funding can also be used in conjunction with any funding accrued from previous years. Please note these activities will only take place if they meet COVIDSafe requirements.

**If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.**

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact Gail in the school office on 5783 1358 and ask for an application form.

You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page](#).

Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office as soon as possible.

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## This week's SWPBS Value is Resilience.

Students have been revising the strategy of 'Stop, Walk, Talk' when someone is doing something you don't like. This includes:

asking the person to stop what they are doing, walking away from the problem, and reporting it to a teacher or adult if needed.

This technique is particularly effective out in the yard, where students are learning to develop their problem solving skills, before asking a teacher/adult to intervene.

You can encourage this behaviour at home by asking your child to think about the 3 step rule, before they report a problem to you about a sibling or another family member.

# A WINDOW INTO 5/6 R

It's been a busy week in the 5/6R classroom. We have begun work on our literacy unit of work about 'The Renaissance'. So far, we have discovered how the famous artists began their careers and looked at how they lived hundreds of years ago in Western Europe.

In addition, we have drafted, published and delivered our Grade 5/6 leadership speeches. The grade 5's presented their speeches in the classroom trying to gain the role of classroom representatives on the Junior School Council.

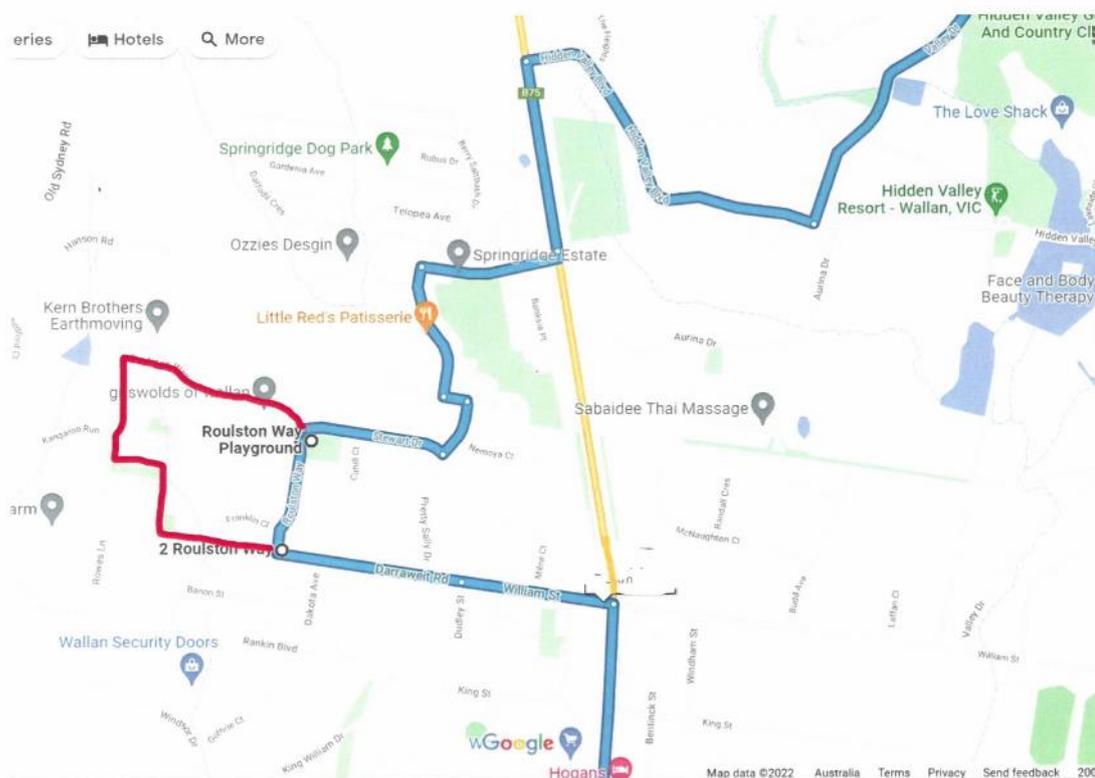
The Grade 6's had the daunting task of speaking in front the whole school. All of our students did an outstanding job and made their teacher very proud.



## Bus Service

We were advised yesterday that the bus route will be changed for the next 3 weeks due to road closures in Wallan.

Please see the below amendment to the service and the stops affected.



Due to road works and the closure of Acacia Way the bus will detour left at Roulston Way. The Bus Stops that will be affected are Silver Top Way, Poa Place and Acacia Way. This closure is for 3 weeks starting from 17/2/2022.

The Red line is the original route. The Blue line is the detour route. Please use the Bus Stop Located at Roulston Way and Darraweit Rd.



### UPPS Facebook Group Page

This Facebook group is for current members of the school community. It is a place to celebrate our students in a safe online environment. Posts we want to see include school special days, sporting and excursion updates and camp news. We will occasionally ask for help through the group. We will also put news on the group, if time allows. It is not a place to share with extended family and friends and any one asking to join who is not a primary carer/parent will not be approved.

The school uses the Sentral App as our primary form of parent communication, please make sure you have registered and installed the app. If you have any problems with the process contact the school office.

If you have any student related concerns please contact the school office directly, this is not the platform for those issues. Please do not use the group, instead of making direct contact with the office on time sensitive issues. There are many days where the admins are working and are not checking Facebook until the end of the day in their private time. If you need us to relay a message to your student please contact the office directly on 5783 1358 and speak to someone.

We consider the online safety of our community our highest priority. New member applications will only be accepted once all of the following steps have been completed.

1. Answering the membership question to a suitable standard, including the student/family you are associated with.
  2. We will use this information to cross reference our school system to make sure that we are not approving random members of the public. If we can not make a clear connection between a member request and a current family, that request will not be approved. If this happens please contact the school during school hours.
  3. Most member approvals will only happen during school hours, so we can do our due diligence, please don't expect an instant approval, especially after school hours.
  4. Members must agree to the group rules and abide by them. Members found not meeting the expectation of the rules will be warned and/or removed from the group at the admins discretion.
- Please read and agree to the group rules.

Applications that sit there for an extended period of time without these steps being completed will be deleted.

Please remember and respect that the school staff are not on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the group. Post approvals after school hours may not be approved until a suitable answer has been obtained from the correct source.

Families who leave the school will have their access removed in due course.

## DET COVIDSafe measures extension 17th February 2022

We want to thank parents and students for the great job they have done in keeping our school as safe as possible by following important COVIDSafe measures such as mask wearing, physical distancing, ventilation, getting vaccinated and rapid antigen testing.

This has meant that our school has remained open and our students in class. This is a fantastic outcome and a testament to the hard work of parents, carers, students and school staff.

### Rapid antigen tests

To keep schools as safe as possible, the Victorian Government has extended the COVIDSafe measures introduced for the beginning of Term 1. This includes extending the availability of free rapid antigen tests (RAT) for screening until the end of term. It is anticipated an additional 24 million RATs will be provided to schools and early childhood settings to continue to support early detection and prevent infection, for use at home.

The need for this program will continue to be monitored, and may end earlier based on health advice. This is great news and will mean we're able to continue identifying COVID-19 cases as early as possible, reducing the impact on our school and individuals.

[Department of Health modelling indicates that in the first two weeks of school returning, the program has already prevented more than 21,000 cases in schools alone. Their modelling indicates, assuming a 75 per cent compliance rate with screening of students, that by continuing RAT screening in schools for the full 10 weeks of Term 1, we will prevent:](#)

- 61,000 COVID-19 infections in children aged 5 to 17
- more than 150,000 COVID-19 infections in the overall community (on average 15,000 per week over 10 weeks, or more than 2,100 per day)
- around 400 hospital admissions.

The department will continue to supply RATs to our school for your use. Twice-a-week testing continues to be strongly recommended for both students and staff.

### Vaccination

Vaccination is another key component to protect students and staff in school settings.

Vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 are open and third dose vaccinations for 16 to 17 year olds are now available.

There are lots of convenient options to access vaccinations. These include state-wide vaccination hubs, your local GP or pharmacy.

You can book your appointment in a few different ways, including:

- online: [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)
- by phone: 1800 675 398 (Coronavirus Hotline)
- In person: talk to your local pharmacy, doctor, or attend a state-wide vaccination hub.
- using the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder - [COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Finder | Australian Government Department of Health](#)

In addition, schools provide a trusted place among the community to access vaccination, particularly for families who may experience language or social barriers.

Following successful implementation of school pop-up clinics at the commencement of Term 1, more than 230 schools across Victoria are currently hosting mini-vaccination clinics led by GPs and pharmacists. Many of these clinics will also make vaccinations available the broader school community, inclusive of families of students and school staff.

### Ventilation

Improving ventilation is one of the most effective measures to keep education settings safe. 51,000 air purifiers were delivered to schools by Term 1, 2022 to support COVIDSafe settings in schools.

Up to an additional 60,000 air purifiers will be rolled out to schools ahead of winter to supplement natural and mechanical ventilation during the cooler months.

The winter allocation will provide enough purifiers to cover all classrooms, in government schools and low-fee non-government schools based on current enrolments. This includes general purpose classrooms and other specialist classrooms such as art and science rooms.

Mask rules will remain the same, with students in Grade 3 and above required to wear masks – although they will not be required outdoors.

On behalf of the school, I would like to thank you again for your continued support in helping your child to complete the rapid antigen tests and other COVID Safe measures. As a result of these efforts our school can continue

providing a safe environment for students and staff.



Early Days is a series of FREE workshops for parents and other family members of young children (0-7 years) who are on the autism spectrum. They are also suitable for parents who feel their child may be on the spectrum but have not received a formal diagnosis.

**My Child and Autism Workshop for Parents**

**Part 1: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022:**  
9.30am-2.30pm  
**Part 2: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022:**  
9.30am-2.30pm  
*\*must attend all workshops*

**Progression to School Workshop for Parents**

**Part 1: Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022:**  
10.00am – 11.30am  
**Part 2: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022:**  
10.00am – 11.30am  
*\*must attend all workshops*

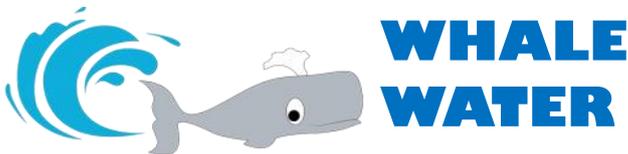
**Understanding Behaviour Workshop for Parents**

**Part 1: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022:**  
7.30pm – 9.30pm  
**Part 2: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2022:**  
7.30pm – 9.30pm  
**Part 3: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022:**  
7.30pm – 9.30pm  
*\*must attend all workshops*

*It is highly recommended you attend the "My Child and Autism" workshop prior to attending any other workshops*



For more information about these workshops or other workshops and to register  
<https://www.amaze.org.au/support/early-days/>



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**Internet Banking**

Just a reminder that any fees and excursion payments can be made via Internet Banking

**Account Name:** Upper Plenty Primary School  
**BSB:** 633 000

**Account Number:** 1544 88 100

In the **reference** section please put in your name as this is how we know who the payment belongs to.