

UPdate

Trudy Whewell, Principal

13th August 2026

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Dates to Remember

August 2026

3rd- 14th- 2027 Foundation application outcomes sent to families

14th- Gr 5/6 Sport vs Kangaroo Ground @ KGPS

14th-Assembly Presentation – Gr 1/2M

24th-28th – Book Week

25th- Sugarloaf District Athletics – selected students

27th – Book Week Parade – 9.15am

September 2026

3rd – Father's Day afternoon Activity 2.30pm

4th- MAV Games – Year 6 Team

7th-9th- Glasses for Kids – F-3

9th- MAV Games – Year 4 Team

11th- UPPS Got Talent Final

15th- Landcare Gr 3/4 Incursion

16th – FAF Hot Lunch Day

16th- Open Classrooms 3/4 and 5/6

16th- Last day of term 3 for students – 3.15pm finish

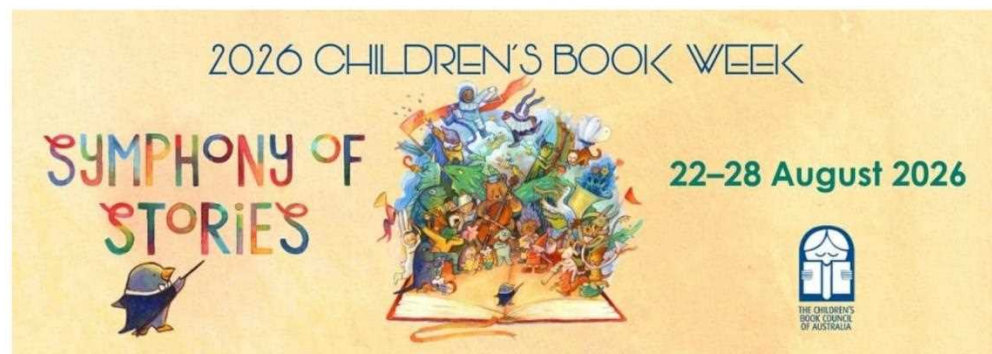
17th- Parent/Teacher Conferences- students attend conference only

18th- Curriculum Day – no classes

Assembly

2.50pm in the Central Learning Space. – All Welcome

If you need to pick your child up early it must be before assembly starts.

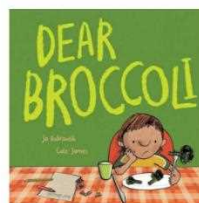
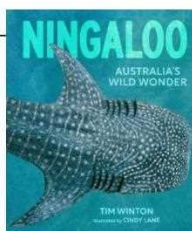


Children's Book Week 2026

It's nearly that time...Children's Book Week! We will be celebrating this special event from Monday 24th August. During the week, classes will be reading some of the books shortlisted for the Book of the Year award. It's always wonderful to explore texts that celebrate and share our diverse Australian culture. This year's theme is 'Symphony of Stories'. It celebrates how storytelling allows us to share our voice, but also to hear the experiences, imaginations and ideas of others. They allow us to know and connect with each other, so we can all live together in harmony.

On **Thursday 27th August**, we will hold our annual dress up day to celebrate our favourite books. We can't wait to spot all the characters in the playground! Perhaps we will spot some very hungry caterpillars, some green sheep, or some cats in hats? We will have a parade around the basketball court at 9:15 in the morning to show off our wonderful costumes. Parents are welcome to come along and celebrate with us. We ask for students to please bring a gold coin donation on the day to help raise money for new books for the school and keep our library growing.

Our JSCs will award certificates for the most creative costumes- we can't wait to see where everyone's imaginations take them!



Awards

Student of the Week

Foundation

Noah H for showing amazing resilience during all of our writing activities this week. You're doing amazing Noah, keep it up!

Grade 1/2 H

Kaylee B for being a caring friend and making sure new students feel welcomed at our school. Keep it up Kaylee!

Grade 1/2 K

Evie P for being super fast getting her books and whiteboard ready for each activity. Awesome stuff, Evie!

Grade 1/2 M

Noah K - You have been making positive choices, staying focused, and trying your best with your learning. Keep it up!

Grade 3/4 DJ

Brody B - Congratulations Brody for completing all learning tasks this week. You have listened to your teachers and followed directions with a positive attitude. Keep up the good work!

Grade 3/4 L

Linc S, thank you for all of your contributions in class and congratulations on an excellent week of work! Keep it up!

Grade 4/5 A

Evie S for having a positive attitude, even when things are challenging. Keep up the great work Evie!

Grade 5/6 PR

Mason A for having a fantastic week of learning. I was so impressed with your writing this week and your growth mindset in maths. Keep it up!

Grade 5/6 R

Grace S for the fantastic effort you are putting into your learning. It's great to see your learning growth. Well done Grace!

Principal's Award

Nimrat C for demonstrating outstanding confidence in Sewing Club where she was able to make an owl from start to finish

Ryder T for showing outstanding confidence and kindness when presenting me with my Principal Day card

Values

Foundation

Toby R for being an all round good sport inside and outside of the classroom. He is always focused, shows pride in his learning and follows instructions. Well done Toby, You're a superstar!

Grade 1/2 H

Charlotte PR for always being a good sport when she gets out in a game. Great work Charlotte!

Grade 1/2 K

Brycen L for being a good sport by helping people up when they get injured, even when he is playing against them. Great job, Brycen!

Grade 1/2 M

Aria P - Well done Aria for great sportsmanship by playing fairly, encouraging others during PMP!

Grade 3/4 DJ

Billie B, well done for always showing resilience and being a good sport.

Grade 3/4 L

Ollie K, well done on displaying resilience and following the SWPBS focus this week of being a good sport. Excellent work!

Grade 4/5 A

Russ M for always being a good sport and playing by the rules of every game! Thank you Russ for being respectful and responsible!

Grade 5/6 PR

Taylan G for being a good sport whenever we play games, during PE, interschool sports and outside in the yard. Thanks for showing such great sportsmanship!

Grade 5/6 R

Ollie C for the way that you consistently demonstrate good sportsmanship on the sporting field in all sports. Well Done Ollie!

Student Choice Award

Kieran H for taking care of his friends on the bus
Nori M for including people out in the yard

UPPS Legend will be presented to:

Mackenzie A, Emily B, Maia L, Elliott N

Principal's Report

Half Way Through Term 3

We are now at the halfway mark of Term 3. As I have mentioned previously, it has been a very busy term, and it will continue to be with many exciting events and activities already planned.

We have Book Week coming up, which will include a dress-up day and parade in the morning. Students will also spend time reading and hearing about all of this year's shortlisted books. Our District Athletics Day is also approaching. Our Year 3–6 students will have the opportunity to compete against students from other schools. We have a Father's Day afternoon organised, with more information about this event included in this week's newsletter. Our Year 4 and Year 6 maths extension students will be attending a maths competition, which promises to be a fun and challenging day. Our Year 3/4 students will also be working with Landcare, thanks to a grant that Jaimi Darwell was successful in securing. Students will be working along the creek, helping to repair and improve this important space. We will finish the term with our Ups Got Talent performances and Grand Final, as well as parent-teacher interviews. On the last day of term, staff will also be attending a professional learning day focused on Trauma-Informed Practices.

As you can see, there is plenty happening over the second half of the term, and we look forward to sharing these experiences with our students and families.

Principal Day

Last Friday, we celebrated Principal Day, and I feel incredibly grateful for the kindness and thoughtfulness shown by our wonderful staff and students. The morning tea, handwritten cards, and beautiful posters created by each student and presented to Alex and I made the day incredibly special. Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to celebrate with us and share such warm wishes. I feel very fortunate to be part of such a caring, supportive and thoughtful school community. Your kind words and thoughtful gestures made my day memorable, and I am very grateful for each and every one of you.

I would also like to say a very special thank you to my wonderful Assistant Principal, Alex, for the guidance, support and encouragement he provides to me, our students and our families each and every day. Our school is richer for having Alex as part of our leadership team, and I am incredibly grateful for all that he contributes to our school community.

Thank you all for making Principal Day so special. It was a beautiful reminder of what makes our school community so wonderful.

Numeracy

This week staff worked with consultant, Brendan Lee, on how we plan and teach Numeracy. Each team worked with Brendan to gain a deeper understanding of how to identify the types of learning. This involved learning about how students' need to physically practice, how students need to understand that there is one right answer and how important being fluent with your mental maths is and that in maths there are often multiple components that require more complex understanding.

What can families do to support their child in Numeracy:

- Play card games – number recognition, strategy
- Find and read numbers when out and about
- Practice adding and subtracting two numbers
- Practice times tables – without this knowledge and knowing it by rote, students will struggle with maths as they continue through their higher years of schooling
- Learn the days of the week
- Learn to read and tell the time – using both digital and analogue

This week, our staff worked with numeracy consultant Brendan Lee to further develop our understanding of how we plan and teach Numeracy. Each team worked with Brendan to gain a deeper understanding of the different types of mathematical learning and the approaches that best support students. This included exploring the importance of students having opportunities to physically practise mathematical concepts, developing an understanding that some mathematical problems have one correct answer, and building fluency in mental mathematics. We also explored how important it is for students to develop strong recall of basic number facts. In mathematics, students are often required to draw on multiple skills and concepts at the same time, which can lead to more complex learning as they progress through their schooling.

What can families do to support their child in Numeracy?

There are many simple ways families can help develop mathematical skills at home and in everyday situations:

- Play card games – These can help develop number recognition, counting and mathematical strategy
- Find and read numbers when out and about – Look for numbers on signs, houses, price tags, car number plates and other everyday items
- Practise addition and subtraction – Give your child opportunities to practise adding and subtracting two numbers
- Practise times tables – Developing quick and accurate recall of multiplication facts is extremely important. Without this knowledge, students can find more complex mathematics increasingly challenging as they progress through the higher years of schooling
- Learn the days of the week – Practise naming the days and understanding their order
- Learn to read and tell the time – Give children opportunities to practise reading both digital and analogue clocks

Small, regular opportunities to practise these skills at home can make a significant difference to students' confidence and fluency in Mathematics.

NAPLAN

We have now received our NAPLAN results, and individual student results have been distributed to families. As a school, we are pleased to see that some of our results are above the State average in some areas. At the same time, we have identified some areas where our results have declined compared with last year. These results provide valuable information about areas of strength, as well as opportunities for further improvement. As a leadership team, we have taken time to carefully reflect on the data and identify key areas for focus. We will be implementing a number of targeted actions to support student learning and continue to strengthen our teaching and learning practices.

Industrial Action

The next proposed date for AEU industrial action is Wednesday 19th August. The Victorian Government has put forward a new offer, with a decision expected to be finalised by the end of the day on Monday 17th August. We will be provided with the outcome once a decision has been reached, which will clarify what this means for the proposed industrial action. I will keep families informed as soon as further information becomes available and we have a clearer understanding of the impact on our school.

End of Day Collection

A reminder to families that when collecting your child from the car park at the end of the day, please ensure that you park in a designated car space rather than pulling up and waiting for your child to get into the car. This is important for the safety of all students, particularly those who are walking through the car park to leave the school and make their way to their own vehicles. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep the car park safe for everyone.

Foundation 2027

Offers for Foundation 2027 were sent to families last week. Next year, we will have two Foundation classes, and we have sent more than 40 offers to siblings of current students and new families. We have already had many families accept their places. Once we have a clearer picture of which families will be accepting their offers, we will be able to offer places to those who are currently on the waiting list for a place at UPPS. If you are an existing UPPS family with a child commencing Foundation next year, could you please accept your child's place as soon as possible. This will assist us with finalising our enrolment numbers and planning for 2027. Once we have a confirmed list of students attending, we will begin visiting local kindergartens and childcare centres to build a better understanding of the students who will be joining us next year. Our Foundation transition program will commence next term, providing students with opportunities to visit the school, become familiar with their new surroundings and experience what school life will be like. We are looking forward to welcoming our newest UPPS students and their families to our school community.

Homework

All year levels at our school send out homework for students to complete. Homework is an important part of supporting students' learning beyond the classroom. At our school, homework is designed to be purposeful, manageable and connected to the learning taking place at school. Tasks are not intended to take too long, but rather to provide students with opportunities to practise, consolidate and apply their learning.

The setting of homework can be seen as one way of:

- complementing and reinforcing classroom learning
- fostering good lifelong learning and study habits
- developing self-regulation processes such as goal-setting, self-efficacy, self-reflection and time management
- supporting partnerships with parents/carers by connecting families with the learning of their children
- developing confidence and independence as they learn to organise themselves and work towards completing tasks

The ***Raising Children's Network***, describes the benefits of homework as ways to:

- practise and get better at skills they're learning in class
- get ready for the next day's work
- learn how to manage longer research or creative projects
- learn to manage their time, work to deadlines, and balance work and play

They also say that homework has benefits for parents too – it gives you the chance to see what your child is learning at school. Showing interest in your child's homework is a great way to let your child know that you value learning and education. And this helps your child to develop a positive attitude towards school and learning.

There is no one right time for children to complete their homework. Some students prefer to get started soon after arriving home, while others benefit from having some time to relax, play or have a snack before beginning. What is most important is establishing a routine that works for your child and your family.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's homework, please speak with their teacher. Working together, home and school can support students to develop positive learning habits and get the most benefit from their homework.

Trudy

Term 2 Attendance Awards will be presented to the following students for outstanding attendance in Term 2, followed by a special lunch, with more information on the lunch to follow.

Avishka B, Hunter E, Noah H, Abby H, William H, Cohen K, Oliver L, Kaden M, Evie M, Jaxon N, Imogen P, Sophie S, Kaylee B, Hunter B, Aniah C, Hunter F, Azziah J, Noah K, Jett KB, Zach L, Brycen L, Elliott N, Rihaan N, Kyrom W, Ezra A, Emily B, Isla E, Izzy F, Isabelle G, Jessie M, Cooper M, Charlotte R, Charlie RK, Chayse S, Hunter S, Josiah S, Alex T, Susie A, Knox C, Olivia G, Oakley G, Bailey H, Willow M, Lucy N, Sam P, Ava R, Finn E, Ellie H, Billie K, Raina P, Anastasia S, Jemi S, Lydia S, Olivia T, Ben W, Cooper B, Oliver C, Jack P, Keith P, Payton S, Kamali S, Claire S, Milly W, Mitch B, Liam B, Zayden B, Alyra C, Oliver G, Ivy P, Henry R, Ava RK, Grace RK, Ethan S, Laura S, Sara Z



Hats are Back!

The school Sunsmart policy states that all students will wear a broad brim hat at all times they are outside from the **mid August until the end of April**.

Peaked caps are **NOT** acceptable at any time.

Any student without a hat will have to stay undercover or in the gazebo.

Hats are available from the office or the uniform shop for \$10



Student Late Arrivals and Early Departures

All students **must** be signed in by an **adult** if they are arriving after 9am and leaving before 3.15pm.

Any student who is not signed in by an adult at the office could receive an "unexplained absence" SMS message.

All Early Departures and Late Arrivals should be communicated to the office directly.

UPPS GOT TALENT SHOW



It is finally here.....

Families are all welcome to come and watch these performances and support your child and our school

Students	Year Level	Performance
Monday 31st August – Recess (11-11:45am)		
Monique	1/2	Dance
Anastasia	3/4	Dance
Brycen	1/2	Drama
Pip	5/6	Singing
Susie	3/4	Drama
Tuesday 1st September– Recess (11-11:45am)		
Isla, Chayse & Isabelle	1/2	Dance
Vihaan	1/2	Dance
Sara & Izzy	5/6	Dance & Song
Tahlia, Amelia, Isla, Ayla, Aria & Millie	1/2, 4/5/6	Dance
Liam	5/6	Music & Dance
Wednesday 2nd September– Recess (11-11:45am)		
Jessie	1/2	Dance
Imogen	Foundation	Music
Reid	3/4	Drama
Izzy	1/2	Drama
Ivy & Layne	4/5/6	Dance
Thursday 3rd September– Recess (11-11:45am)		
Hunter B	1/2	Dance & Song
Charlotte M	1/2	Dance
Jemi & Clare	4/5	Music
Noah B & Emily	1/2	Music & Dance
Addley	1/2	Dance
Friday 4th September– Recess (11-11:45am)		
Zayden	5/6	Song/Rap
Ellie H & Aniah	1/2	Dance
Clara	4/5	Drama
Nimrat	5/6	Song & Dance
Maia	1/2	Dance
Friday 11th September – GRAND FINAL – 2:15 – 3:15pm		
Finalists to Perform		



A Window Into PERFORMING ARTS

Foundation

Our Foundation students have been bringing *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* to life. They've spent time decorating props, rehearsing their performance, and getting creative with some butterfly craft.

Grade 1/2

Grade 1/2 have been exploring storytelling through shadow puppetry, working on *The Monkey and the Crocodile*. Students designed and made their own puppets and are now practising bringing the story to life using the shadow theatre.

Grade 3–6

Our older students have been building performance skills by reading and rehearsing from a given script. They then took the lead creatively — choosing the direction of their story, making their own props, and performing their finished pieces for their peers.



A Window into Foundation

100 Days of School Celebration



After counting each day of school together all year, the big day finally arrived! We celebrated with a special breakfast before spending the day enjoying a range of activities all centred around the number 100.

Students threaded 10 groups of 10 beads, decorated and stacked 100 cups, created 100-link paper chains, completed a 100 number hunt, and took part in many other fun games and challenges. There was plenty of teamwork, creativity and lots of smiles throughout the day!

Our celebration was also a chance to reflect on just how much our Foundation students have grown over their first 100 days of school. They have made incredible progress in their learning, developed confidence and resilience, and built wonderful friendships. We are so proud of everything they have achieved and look forward to seeing all they accomplish during the rest of the year!





PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

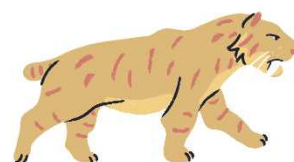
YEAR $\frac{3}{4}$ OPEN CLASSROOM

WEDNESDAY 16TH
SEPTEMBER

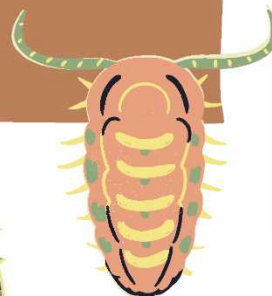
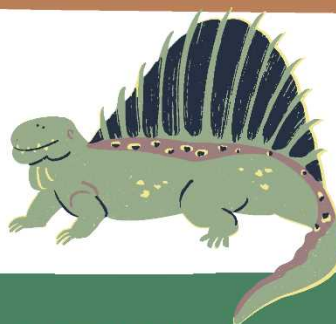
STARTS AT 2.15PM

OUR CLASSROOMS HAVE BEEN
BUZZING WITH EXCITEMENT AS
WE EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF
HOW LIVING THINGS GROW AND
CHANGE. WE WOULD LOVE TO
SHARE OUR LEARNING JOURNEY
WITH YOU!

4/5/6 Open Classroom



Wednesday 16th
September



ALL WELCOME!

Please come and join us for the
afternoon !

Start: 2:15pm



The 4/5/6 classrooms look forward to
showing off their knowledge!

Safety Week

Victorian schools are required under the Child Safety and Wellbeing Act to ensure that they implement compulsory Child Safe Standards to protect students from harm. Upper Plenty Primary School is committed to child safety. Articles will appear in the newsletter and on our website to promote our commitment to the Child Safety Standards. As part of Child Safety Week, **all students from grades Prep- 6 will engage in five Child Safe lessons.** Anatomically correct names for body parts will be taught in an age-appropriate manner, as well as strategies to support child safeguarding. Child Safety Week will run in week 9 of this term (7th-11th September).

<https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw/> Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Respectful Relationships: Help Seeking

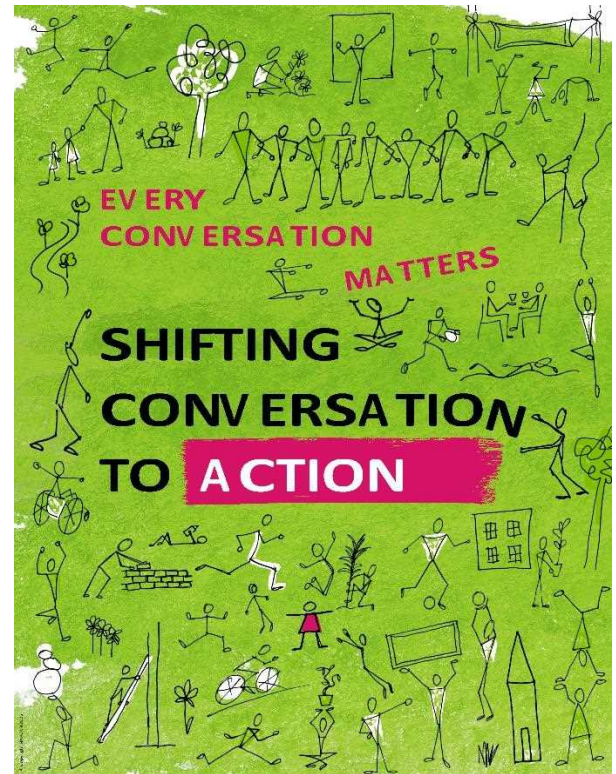
Over the coming weeks, students will be exploring the **Help Seeking** unit as part of our Respectful Relationships curriculum. Students will learn why asking for help is a strength, identify trusted adults both at school and in the community, and develop confidence in seeking support when they need it. Through discussions and practical activities, students will build skills to recognise when they need help, support others to seek assistance, and understand that everyone benefits from reaching out when faced with challenges. These important skills help foster resilience, wellbeing and a safe, connected school community.

Landcare Planting Day

Our Grade 3/4 planting day has been rescheduled due to heavy rains which made the area in front of our school too wet to plant! We have rescheduled this event for the last week of term; **Tuesday 15th of September 9-11am.** As part of our Bruce's Creek regeneration project, students will help plant indigenous species that will support local wildlife and contribute to restoring this important area. We can't wait to see the positive impact their efforts will have for years to come. If you would like to help out with planting on the day, please let your child's teacher know, and ensure you have your WWCC and have completed the volunteer induction briefing.

UPPS Jokes!

- **Why did the student eat their homework?**
Because the teacher said it was a piece of cake!
- **What do you call a sleeping bull?**
A bulldozer!
- **Why did the maths book look sad?**
Because it had too many problems!
- **What do you call cheese that isn't yours?**
Nacho cheese!
- **Why can't your nose be 30 centimetres long?**
Because then it would be a foot!



NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
www.napcan.org.au

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK
6-12 September 2026
Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services



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Please 'like' our Facebook page to keep updated & informed
More exciting developments to come

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Program for students in Foundation to Grade 3 - 7th-9th September



GLASSES FOR KIDS IS COMING TO THIS SCHOOL

The Glasses for Kids program will be visiting this school to provide eligible students with **FREE** vision screening, then testing and glasses (as required)



Scan this QR code to find out more on the GFK website



A Victorian State Government and State Schools' Relief initiative
Questions? Please contact the GFK team via info@glassesforkids.com.au

School Bank Account details

Name: Upper Plenty Primary School Council

BSB 083001

Account Number 92 466 6216



Crumbs and Co Lunch Orders – Wednesday's and Friday's



Our school is online with Flexischools

Step 1

Register with Flexischools

- 1 Download the Flexischools app and click "Sign Up."
- 2 Enter your email to create an account.
- 3 Go to your inbox and click the link to verify your email.
- 4 Follow the prompts to complete your registration.



Step 2

Enter your child's details

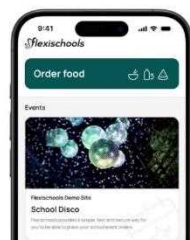
- 1 In the navigation bar, add your student(s) under "Profile" > "Students" > "Add new."
- 2 Add your child's details to the new student profile.



Step 3

Place an order

- 1 On the home page, click the "Order food" button.
- 2 Select the student you would like to order for. Choose a service and order date.
- 3 Select the items you would like to order
- 4 Click "View order" and select "Checkout and pay" to place your order.



Crumbs & Co provide lunch orders to the students and staff here EVERY WEDNESDAY.

Information on Flexischools the ordering platform used to help with getting setup is included.

Don't forget to update your students class name ready for ordering.

ORDERS TO BE PLACED BY 7AM ON DAY OF DELIVERY.

