



UPdate

16th October 2025



Next Weeks Events

Monday—

Tuesday— Gr 3/4 Hooptime final—selected students

Wednesday—

Thursday— Gr 1/2 Sleepover

Friday— Young Leaders at WSC/ Choir performance at assembly

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2025

21st—Gr 3/4 Hooptime final—selected students

23rd— Gr 1/2 Sleepover

24th— Young Leaders at WSC

24th— Choir performance at assembly

30th— Softball—selected students

30th— Disco

November 2025

3rd— Curriculum Day—Student Free Day

4th—Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

6th— House Sports

13 & 19th— Teeth on Wheels

12/13/14th— Gr 5/6 Camp

20th— Gr 2/3 and 3/4 Lego Incursion

28th- Colour Fun Run

December 2025

8/10/11/12/15th—Swimming

9th— State Wide Transition Day

16th— Grade 6 Graduation

19th— Last day of Term 4

Assembly tomorrow will be at 2.50pm

If you are requiring to pick up your child early on a Friday you need to do so 5 minutes before assembly starts.

We will not be interrupting assembly to retrieve children.

Assembly will be in the Central Learning Space. No dogs allowed.

Choir News

Our new song for choir is "Try Everything" by Shakira from the movie Zootopia.

Our choir performance will be on Friday 24th of October

With thanks, Lynda



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Regional Sports

-Congrats Jax!



Jax had outstanding results yesterday at the regional sports carnival.

He placed 1st in both shot put and discus and he also set new records at this level. Jax will now compete at the State Championships

Boys 12-13 Shot Put 3 kg - NMR Record: 12.69m in 2017

Jaxen threw 13.04m

Boys 12-13 Discus Thow 750g - NMR Record: 40.69m in 2013

Jaxen threw 44.12m

Weekly Awards

Student of the Week Awards will be presented to:

Charlotte Walsh for always smiling and making our classroom brighter. Thank you Charlotte!

Ivy Hutchison, the way you listen and absorb information during learning time is incredible. As a result, your independent tasks are always completed to a high standard. Well done!

Mitch Behan for a fantastic week in the classroom. I've been super impressed with your eagerness to share your ideas and your maturity in decision making. Well done, Mitch!

Waris Chhina for using the meanings of morphemes to try to understand new words. You're becoming a word detective, Waris!

Cooper Moutsias for always sharing his brilliant ideas during class discussions. Keep it up Cooper!

Kevin Stokes for doing an outstanding job in guiding your peers to do their best with all work tasks and always giving them encouragement. You are such a kind friend, Kevin!

Arvir Jagdev for being kind and helpful to your classmates. Well done, Arvir!

Issy Falls for her fantastic efforts in phonics this week! Keep up the great work superstar!

Lylah Hill for your great effort in getting to school this term so far! 3/4H has loved seeing your face every morning :)

Values Awards will be presented to:

Isabelle Williams for always staying focused in class and listening with her whole body. Thank you Issy!

Grace Sillery, you always show respect by listening with your whole body. Well done!

Seb Stokes for being super respectful and showing full body listening this week. Thanks so much Seb!

Willow Muratore for consistently using her eyes, ears, and body to show she is actively listening and ready to learn. Well done Willow!

Jemi Stokes for doing an excellent job using her whole body listening. Thank you for the respect you show everyone, Jemi.

Evie Kurt for displaying respect for always displaying whole body listening and using your manners and kind words in the classroom. Keep up the great work, Evie!

Coda Sullivan for showing respect by listening with your whole body. Well done, Coda!

William Leighton for consistently whole body listening and for his impressive engagement in all lessons!

Ollie Kelly for sitting responsibly at your desk during class learning time. I've been proud of your ability to join in with learning even if you're not on the floor! Well done.

Student Choice Awards will be presented to:

Aniah Crichton for always respectfully lining up quietly.

Angus Williams for always using amazing full body listening in class and ignoring all distractions.

Principal's Report

CONGRATULATIONS JAXEN

A Huge Congratulations to Jaxen!

Yesterday, Jaxen proudly represented our school in both the shot put and discus events at the Northern Metropolitan Region Finals — and what an incredible performance it was!

Jaxen not only won both events, but also broke the record in each one! This outstanding achievement has earned him a place in the State Finals, which will be held on 6th November at Albert Park.

We are all super proud of Jaxen and wish him the very best as he prepares to compete at the next level. Go Jaxen!

2026 ENROLMENTS AND PLANNING

If you already have children at UPPS and have not yet enrolled a sibling for the 2026 Foundation cohort, please contact the office as soon as possible. Our transition program has already commenced, and we want to ensure all future students can take part in this valuable experience.

If you have friends or family who are still considering school options for 2026, we encourage you to suggest they call our office to book an individual school tour. We still have limited vacancies for 2026 across some year levels.

Lastly, if your family is planning to move in 2026, please notify the office so we can accurately plan for grade placements and class structures.

Thank you for helping us prepare for a great 2026 school year!

Trudy

Principal's Awards will be presented to:

Kevin Stokes for demonstrating an outstanding attitude and kindness in assisting a classmate in need

UPPS Legend will be presented to:

Juliet Williams

Jemi Stokes

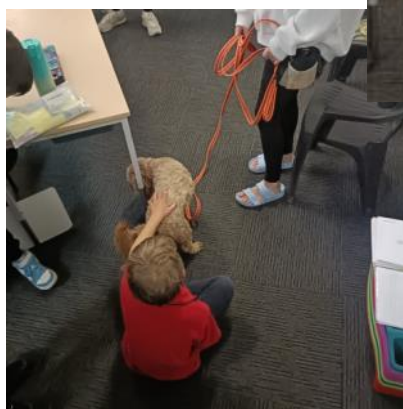
Visit to Gr 4/5

On Friday last week 4/5DD had an assistance dog come into our classroom named Eadie. She was a red cavoodle, and she came into our class so we could learn about assistance dogs because we are learning about therapy dogs and would love a therapy dog for the whole school.

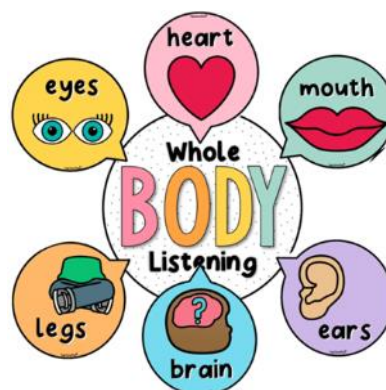
Eadie's owner is Saige. She has Autism, just like Tally in 'Can You See Me', the novel we have been reading for our Core Knowledge this term. Eadie helps Saige in many different ways like helping her manage her emotions, so she doesn't become over stimulated. If Tally had a therapy/assistance dog it would have really helped her too!

We loved having Saige and Eadie come into our class, and we were so impressed with her training! She was able to listen to her owner and even leave a piece of chicken on the floor without eating! Thank you Saige and Eadie for the visit!

Written by Chase K and Grace S, 4/5DD



School Wide Positive Behaviour



This Week's SWPBS Value: Respect

This week, students have been learning about listening with your whole body. Whole body listening means more than just using our ears—it means using our eyes to look at the speaker, our mouths to stay quiet, our hands and feet to be still, and our brains to focus on what's being said. It's one way we show respect to others when they are speaking.

At school, students have been practising whole body listening during group discussions, story time, and when working with partners. They've learned that when we really listen, we understand better, follow directions more easily, and show others that what they're saying matters to us.

Listening with our whole body helps us be better learners and better friends. It builds trust and shows others that we care about what they have to say.

You can support this at home by pointing out and praising moments when your child shows whole body listening—like looking at you when you're talking, asking questions to show understanding, or waiting their turn to speak. These skills help children become respectful communicators at school and at home.

Thunderstorm asthma – be prepared this pollen season

Grass pollen season, which typically runs from October to December each year in Victoria, brings an increase in asthma and hay fever symptoms. It also increases the risk of thunderstorm asthma. For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing with their hay fever, thunderstorm asthma can be sudden, serious and even life threatening.

Upper Plenty Primary will implement a range of measures to keep our school community safe as the risk of [thunderstorm asthma](#) increases.

Many of our staff are trained in asthma first aid. We will monitor the VicEmergency app to receive thunderstorm warnings and, where appropriate, keep students indoors when weather forecasts identify greater risk.

During the season, there are some things you can do to prepare and protect yourself and your family:

- If your child has ever had asthma, talk to your doctor about what you can do to help protect them from the risk of thunderstorm asthma this pollen season, including updating your asthma action plan. Taking an asthma preventer properly and regularly is key to preventing asthma, including thunderstorm asthma.
- If your child has hay fever, see your pharmacist or doctor for a hay fever treatment plan and check if you should have an asthma reliever puffer. These are available from a pharmacy without a prescription.
- If your child has hay fever and experiences wheezing and coughing, it is important to make sure they don't also have asthma. Speak to your doctor about an asthma action plan.
- Where possible, avoid being outside during thunderstorms from October to December, especially during the wind gusts that come before the storm. Go inside and close your doors and windows. If you have your air conditioning on, turn it to 'recirculate'.

Protect yourself this pollen season – managing asthma and allergies matters.

Find out more For more information, speak to your doctor. You can also refer to the [Better Health Channel](#) website.



DIWALI BUS SERVICE

Day/Date: Saturday 18.10.25

Time/ Pick-up Location:

8.50 am – Wallan Secondary College
9.00 am - Greater Beveridge Community Centre
9.15 am – Upper Plenty Primary School
9.30 am – Wandong Primary School
9.45 am – Kilmore Primary School
9.55 am - Willowmavin Primary School
10.10 am – Broadford Secondary College
10.15 am – Broadford Primary School
10.40 am – Station Street (at the Rotunda)

Destination:

**Seymour Community Arts Centre
Anglesey Street, Seymour**

The Diwali Bus will start back from the Seymour Community Arts Centre at 3.30 pm to drop-off families at the above noted locations, reaching the final location by 5.30 pm.

A poster for a Diwali celebration event. It features a large, intricate golden mandala in the background. In the center, there is an illustration of three people in traditional Indian attire (two women and one child) performing a dance. Above the illustration, the text reads 'Connecting Schools with Indian Communities: Diwali Celebration & Mental Health Awareness Event'. Below the illustration, there are two orange boxes containing text about the event. At the bottom, there is a dark brown box with event details and a lighter orange box with a closing statement.

Connecting Schools with Indian Communities: Diwali Celebration & Mental Health Awareness Event

Enjoy a variety of Indian classical, semi-classical and Bollywood-style dances, as well as classical Indian music presentations.

- Indian food tasting - FREE!
- Clothing & accessories stalls
- Diwali sweets & items for sale
- Henna hand painting
- Photobooth for families

**Seymour Community Arts Centre (Seymour College)
Anglesey Street, Seymour
VIC 3660**

**Saturday 18 October 2025
11am-4pm**

Join us for a vibrant community event celebrating Diwali and promoting mental health and wellbeing, hosted by a cluster of local state schools in Mitchel Shire.
Collaborated with Federation of Indian Associations of Victoria and Mental Health Foundation Australia

Dear parent/guardian,

Upper Plenty Primary School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Upper Plenty's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. *Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support, whether that is through fundraising or volunteering your time. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.*

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Susan Egan
Principal

Chris Tanner
President

Ph: 03 57831358

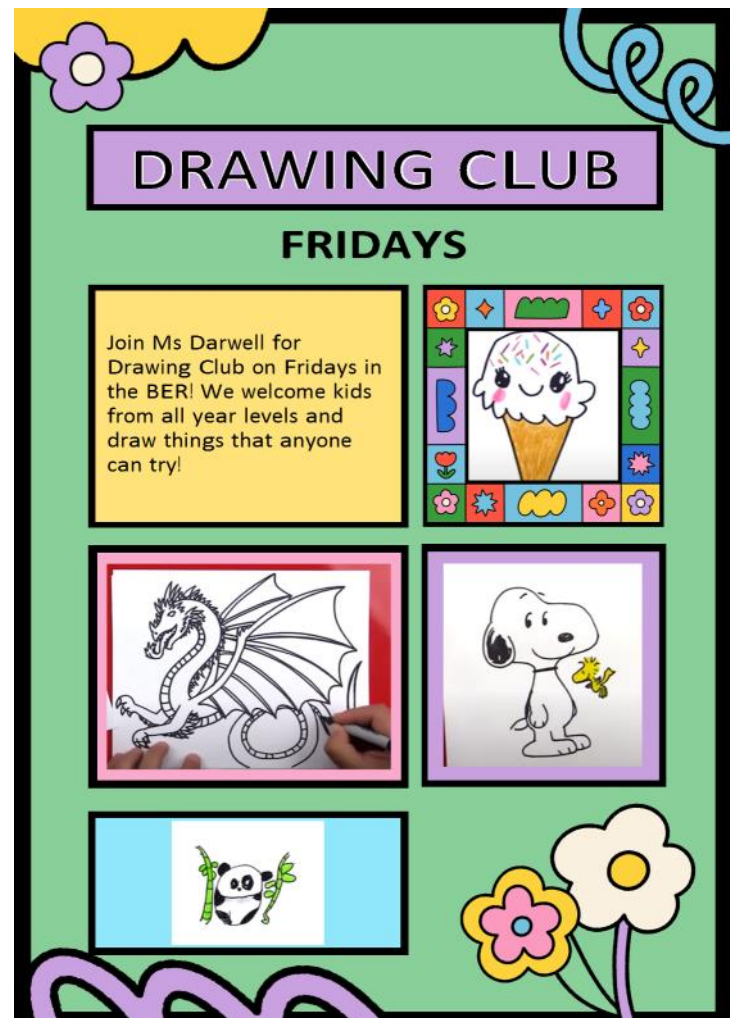
Hats are Back!

The school Sunsmart policy states that all students will wear a broad brim hat at all times they are outside from the **start of September 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 uniform shop for \$10 or from the office.



Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS - Classroom consumables, materials & equipment - Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials - ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets - Online subscriptions - Digital Online Learning Programs	\$70.00
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$70.00

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
Student wellbeing programs	\$50.00
First aid equipment	
School grounds maintenance and improvements	
Sporting equipment	
Total Other Contributions	\$50.00

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Upper Plenty PS offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School camp [See <u>requesting parent payments for camps and excursions one-page overview</u> for more information]	TBA
Interschool sports program	TBA
Excursion to be scheduled (estimated: TBA)	TBA
Total Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$TBA

Financial Support for Families

Upper Plenty PS understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact:

Gail O'Donnell, Business Manager on 03 57 831 358, or email upper.plenty.ps@education.vic.gov.au



*The staff, parents and community of Upper Plenty Primary School
are committed to providing a nurturing, friendly environment
that inspires successful and confident lifelong learners.*

10 Clarke's Road
Upper Plenty, 3756
Victoria, Australia

Telephone: (03) 57831 358
Facsimile: (03) 57832 257

Total

Category	Totals
Curriculum Contributions	\$70.00
Other Contributions (Non-tax deductible)	\$50.00
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	\$TBA
Total	\$TBA

Payment methods

*Direct Deposit

BSB 083 001

Account 92 466 6216

Reference: Child's name

*Pay in person at the School Office by EFTPOS

*Centrepay

*COS

You also have the option to pay the voluntary contribution directly to COS who will then transfer the funds directly to the school on your behalf

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.

School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, we undertake a range of activities to ensure the safety of our school and to prepare for bushfires and grassfires.

An important part of this process is communicating to parents what will happen when certain fire danger ratings are issued to help ensure the safety of students and staff.

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.
Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating** in **North Central fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a Catastrophic fire danger rating will be enacted when the Bureau of Meteorology forecast and related public safety messaging are confirmed. Due to uncertainties in the forecast, the timing of this confirmation may vary. Information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by the Sentral Parent App.

It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and prioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare? Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our website Upper Plenty Primary School, or by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements if our school is closed due to Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the CFA's website.
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

Families are encouraged to action their [Bushfire Survival Plan](#) on Catastrophic fire danger rating days in their district. The safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the department's policy?

The Department of Education annually assesses the fire risk of all schools and early childhood services with the support of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 6). Schools and services that are Categories 0-3 are published on the [Bushfire At-Risk Register \(BARR\)](#). Schools at some risk of bushfire and grassfire are published on the [Category 4 List](#).

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 List to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

The policy also requires that schools at the highest risk of bushfire (those in Categories 0, 1 and 2 of the Bushfire At-Risk Register) enact pre-emptive action plans based on the fire danger forecast for their Local Government Area (LGA).

Who issues fire danger forecasts?

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) provides public fire danger rating forecasts each day of the fire danger period using fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries.

The department uses these forecasts when supporting schools to enact their pre-emptive bushfire actions plans.



Celebrate and support diverse learners

October 2025 is [Dyslexia Awareness Month](#) and [ADHD Awareness Month](#) and 17 October is [Developmental Language Disorder Day](#). It's a great opportunity to learn more about these conditions and how we can support diverse learners in school and at home.

About diverse learners

Diverse learners include students with characteristics of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), autism, developmental language disorder (DLD) and learning difficulties such as dyslexia.

Our school is committed to inclusive education where all learners are supported by evidenced-based teaching practices, which are essential for diverse learners.

Diverse Learners Hub

The Department of Education's Diverse Learners Hub provides evidence-based guidance and resources for teachers and families on how to support diverse learners.

The [hub's website](#) includes:

- information about [supporting students with language difficulties](#), including DLD
- [information for parents](#) about learning difficulties, including dyslexia resources developed by the department's partner, Monash University's AllPlay Learn team, including:
- [parent resources](#)
- [why some children have trouble sitting or staying focused](#)
- [primary students with ADHD](#)
- [secondary students with ADHD](#).

Video case studies

These video case studies may be of interest to you. They feature schools that have exemplary practices in supporting diverse learners. The videos show how:

- Bentleigh West Primary School [uses evidence-based explicit teaching to support students with learning difficulties](#)
- Mansfield Secondary College [supports secondary students with learning difficulties](#)
- Roxburgh College [supports students with language difficulties](#).

DONT MISS OUT

Complete your Teeth on Wheels E-form

Great News! Our school is pleased to announce that the Teeth On Wheels team will be coming back out to our school. If you haven't already completed your form for 2025, please do this now!

Our dental services include:

- ✓ Check-ups
- ✓ Scale, Clean and Fluoride Treatments
- ✓ Fissure Sealants
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- ✓ Fillings
- ✓ Extractions





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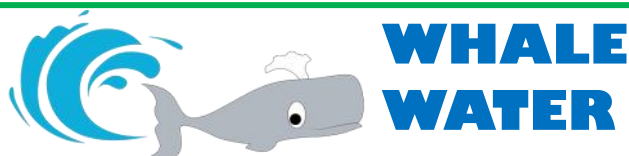


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School Bank Account details

Name: Upper Plenty Primary School Council
BSB 083001
Account Number 92 466 6216

