

UPDATE

22nd August 2024



Next Weeks Events

- Monday—
- Tuesday—
- Wednesday—
- Thursday— Disco
- Friday— Fathers Day Stall

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 2024

- 23rd— Book Week parade
- 29th— Disco
- 30th— Parent/Carers Opinion Survey closes
- 30th— Father's Day Stall

September 2024

- 1st— Hats must be worn outside
- 1st-7th—National Child Protection Week
- 2nd— Fathers Day Afternoon Tea
- 5th— Sugarloaf District Athletics—selected Gr 3-6 students
- 20th—Last day of term 3

Assembly tomorrow will follow the Book Week parade at 2.20pm—everyone welcome!

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.

Hats are Compulsory!

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 office or the uniform shop for \$10



Contents

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- ◆ School preparations for the bushfire season
- ◆ Community News

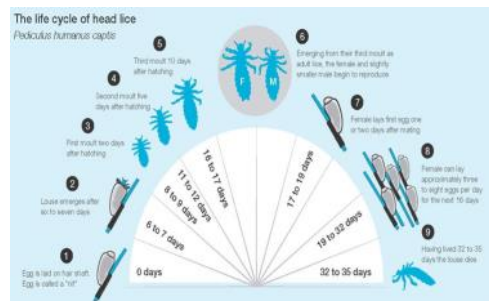
Are you leaving UPPS at the end of year?

It's that time of year again when we are planning our class set ups for 2025. If you are planning to leave our school at the end of the year, can you please contact the office and let us know - we have a waiting list of families who wish to join our community. We need to finalise our class configuration for 2025. We would be very grateful if you'd let us know as soon as possible.

Headlice

We have had several cases of headlice reported over the past few weeks. To contain the spread of the lice it is important that we are all very vigilant. We ask that you all check your child's hair regularly. If you detect eggs or lice please keep your child home until you have treated them and inform the school. **Please read the following information and recommendations.**

- Concentrate on the head—there is no evidence to suggest that you need to clean the house or classroom.
- No treatment kills all of the eggs** so treatment must involve **two** applications seven days apart. **The best practice is to physically remove all eggs after treatment.**
- If you are using lotions, apply the product to dry hair.
- It is important to inspect all family members if one member has nits or lice.
- Only the pillowcase requires specific laundering; either wash it in hot water or dry it using a clothes dryer on the hot or warm setting.
- There is no product available that prevents head lice
- Tying long hair back can help prevent the spread of head lice
- Combs with long, rounded stainless steel teeth positioned very close together have been shown to be the most effective, however, any head lice comb can be used.



Weekly Awards

Student of the Week Awards will be presented to:

Alex Tanner for engaging so positively in our New Weather Patterns unit and asking amazing questions that get us all thinking. Keep it up!

Tahlia Chenhall-Gruevski for her sensational work in maths this week! Keep it up Tahlia!!

Quinn Denholm—Quinn, congratulations on your positivity this week. It filters through to all your learning tasks. Well done!

Grace Ryan– Kennedy for all of your help in the classroom with small group work. Thank you so much!

Logan Wright for the fantastic effort that you put into the writing of your book report on Thomas Appleby. Fantastic work Logan!!

Jed Thomson for putting in so much effort at school on Wednesday. It was great to see you achieving such a great standard of work. You can do anything you set your mind to, Jed!

Raina Prasad for being an amazing role model by showing our school values of respect, responsibility and resilience!

Jordan Tilbrook for regularly being on the lookout for ways to be helpful and kind. That's the stuff that makes the world a better place- thanks, Jordan.

Values Awards will be presented to:

Nathaniel Hansa for always displaying a calm temperament and working on sharing your emotions with a trusted person. Well done Nathaniel!!!

Hunter Singleton for showing resilience and knowing your zone and how to respond. You have been able to bounce back so quickly when something has upset you. Keep it up!

Clara Armitage for responding to problems and actively taking steps to get back to the green zone! Well done Clara!

James Ware -Congratulations James for always knowing your zone and responding if needed.

Miranda Micallef for your communication around the zones of regulation and suggestions on how to exit yellow or blue zone. Well done Miranda.

Oscar Walton for knowing his zone and acting appropriately. Well done Oscar for being so responsible.

Charlie Abela for understanding his emotions and using breaks to help himself. Fantastic resilience Charlie!

Xavier Moore for showing the ability to turn a bad day around. Power to you, Xavier!

Students Choice Awards will be presented to:

Taihar Walsh for being resilient when hurt.

Patrick Hannagan for bouncing back after being hit with a ball.

UPPS Legend Award will be presented to:

Sara Zmejkoska

Principal's Report

It's book week!!!!

Our students have been exploring the nominated books and running special lunch time activities, and tomorrow we wind things up with our annual 'dress up' day! We are looking forward to seeing what 'characters' will be joining us at school!

This week we have been focusing on student writing skills in our PLCs and on Tuesday staff undertook some trauma informed practice training. Our Education Support staff had a visit from the AEU this week to answer questions and provide information.

Congratulations to all students who competed in finals over the weekend - I was lucky enough to watch Oscar in his Grand Final for Wallan and they had a great win!! This weekend Bella is competing in the national Boxing Championships in Queensland. We are so proud of what she has achieved in such a disciplined sport and wish her all the very best for the competition.

It's that time of year again when we are planning our class set ups for 2025. If you are planning to leave our school at the end of the year, can you please contact the office and let us know - we have a waiting list of families who wish to join our community. We need to finalise our class configuration for 2025. We would be very grateful if you'd let us know as soon as possible.

Our whole school disco is planned for Thursday August 29! We are excited to run this event and join our students for some groovy dance moves!!!

As always, if you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Please be kind!
Sue

Principal's Awards will be presented to:

Natasha Mouser for showing resilience and responsibility and leadership through your work on book week activities at play times and being able to adapt quickly to problems that occurred along the way. Super effort Natasha!

Maria Zmejkoska for showing outstanding leadership by stepping up and helping when needed and doing this with kindness and respect. Thank you Maria!

Kai Roarty for showing resilience and the ability to bounce back when faced with a problem and for showing respect for his friendships by taking responsibility for his own actions. Super effort Kai - so proud!

Tahlia Chenhall-Gruevski for showing resilience when dealing with unexpected change and having a positive attitude and making the most out of the situation. Well done Tahlia - you're a superstar!

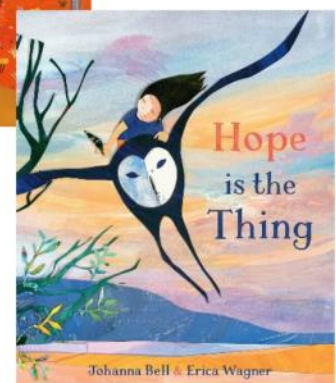
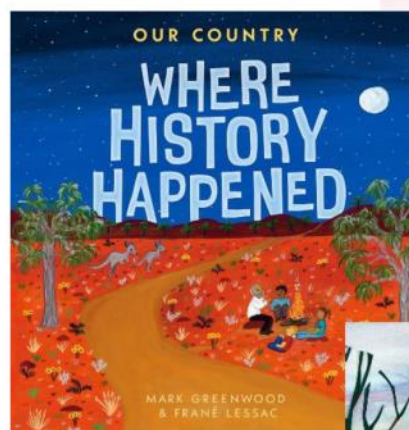
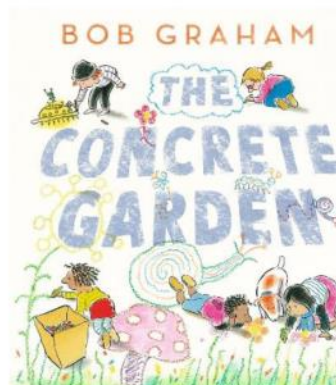
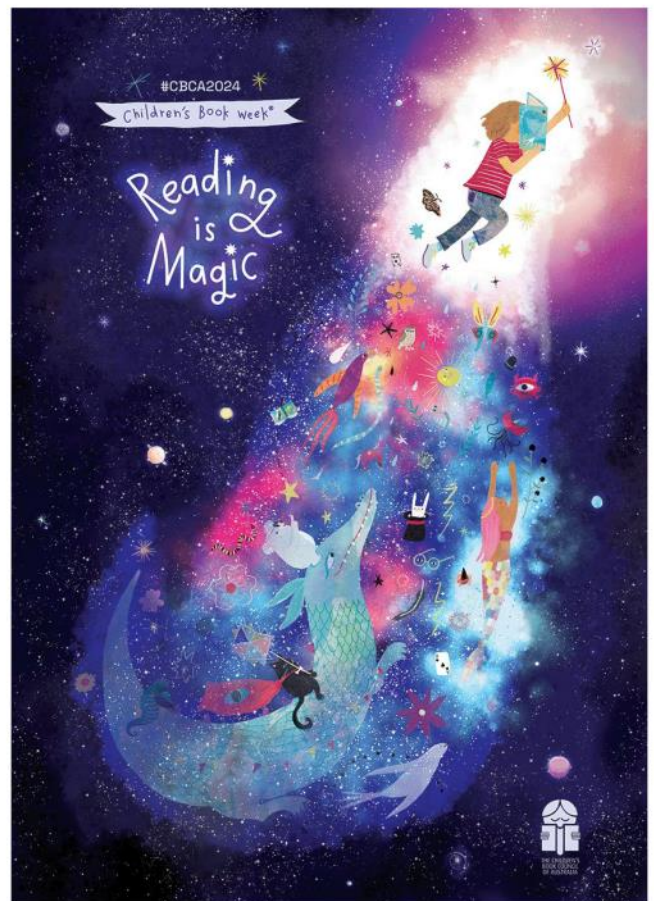
Children's Book Week 2024

It's nearly that time...Children's Book Week! We will be celebrating this special event from Monday the 19th of 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 'Reading is Magic'. Books have the amazing power to transport us to faraway places, new worlds, and other people's shoes. They have the power to ignite our imagination and tug on our heartstrings. That's the magic of a great book!

On Friday the 23rd of August, we will hold our annual dress up day to celebrate our favourite books. We will have a parade around the basketball court before assembly to show off our wonderful costumes. Please bring a gold coin donation to help raise money for books for the school.

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

Until then, happy reading!



A Window into 3/4K

This term the 3/4s have been learning about The Coorong. The Coorong is the setting from our class novel, Storm Boy. We also practised our informative text writing. You can see the text we wrote as a class below...

Where can you find pristine sand as far as the eye can see? Where can you hear the gentle crash of waves against the shore? Where can you see pelicans, starfish, and a variety of shells? The Coorong of course! The Coorong is a National park located in South Australia. It is an enormous area of wetlands that is home to many animals and plants. Read on to find out more about what it is, its cultural significance, and the flora and fauna that rely on it for their survival.

What it is and Where it is Located

The Coorong, an impressive expanse of wetlands, is located in the southern eastern corner of South Australia. But what is a wetland? A wetland is an area of land that is covered by water for the majority of the year. The Coorong is more than 100 km long! That's ginormous! This place is so special that it is protected by the Government as a National Park.



Cultural Significance

The local aboriginal people, the Ngarrindjeri people, consider The Coorong to be very important. This place is special to the Ngarrindjeri people because it is used as a midden. A midden is a site where First Nations people gather, camp and share meals. If you come across an old midden, you might find ancient tools made from stone, bone or shell. If you visit The Coorong, a Ngarrindjeri person could teach you about weaving, the pelican dance and their language.



Flora and Fauna

The Coorong is home to splendid, rare flora and fauna. This wetland is important because it is a habitat to over 115 different plant and animal species. This includes many vulnerable and endangered species. Endangered species are on the verge of becoming extinct. If you go to The Coorong, you can see wonderful creatures such as seals, wombats and wallabies. You can also find over 85 species of magnificent waterbirds such as pelicans, sandpipers and swans. There are less and less safe places for animals, like The Coorong, left.



The Coorong is an area of protected wetlands. It is located in South Australia, and is valued for its Aboriginal history. It is also an important habitat for the many rare plants and animals that live there.

2024 Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey

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

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

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

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open online from **Monday 29 July to Friday 30 August 2024**.

All families are invited to participate in the survey. We need to get a survey return of at least 40 families to make the data useful.

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

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

More information and the link to the survey came home via Sentral on Monday 29th July.

Last year we used the survey results to support our future planning.

Please contact the office if you would like more information.

School-wide Positive Behaviour



This week's SWPBS Value is Resilience.

Students have been learning about the Zones of Regulation, and the way our body feels and behaves when we experience different emotions. This is otherwise known as 'Self-Regulation' (the ability to control your own behaviour).

Classes have been participating in activities and discussions designed to help students recognise when they are in each of the different Zones, and how they feel during each zone. Students have also been brainstorming effective strategies to help them bounce back to the 'green zone' quickly.

You can help support your child/ren with this by using the 'Zones of Regulation' language at home to model how to regulate your own behaviours, and reinforce the use of 'regulating strategies', when we move out of the 'green zone'.

Parents using the staff carpark

The car park in the school grounds is for staff, deliveries, picking up sick children and visitors to the school.

We ask that all parents use the Shack car park for pickup and drop off. **Unless you have asked the office for permission, no parent should be using the staff car park unless you are picking up an ill child.**

Please make sure that all adults dropping off or picking up your children are aware that the staff car park is not to be used. **No student should be walking through the staff car park without an adult.**

Parking on the side of Clarkes road is illegal and sign posted as such.

If you have exceptional circumstances and require the use of the staff car park please contact the office so we can arrange it.

Parents using the OOSH/Care can use the staff car park before and after school hours.

Supervision of students starts at 8.45am and students should not be dropped at school prior to this. If you require your child to be at school prior to this time, you may need to use the YMCA Before School care program.

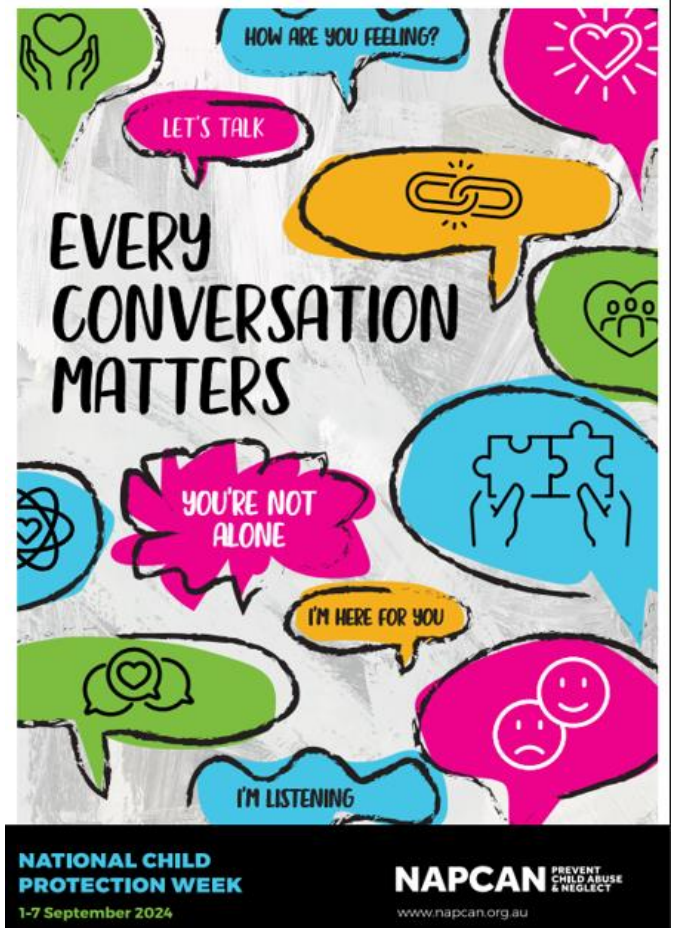
Thank you.

Child Safety And Wellbeing Act

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 National Child Protection Week (September 1-7), 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.

If you do not wish your child to participate please contact the school.



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 completed the DET advised vegetation works in our school grounds, and maintenance on our buildings

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

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, checking our [website](#), 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.

**Australian Plants Society
Mitchell Group Inc**



Annual Spring Plant Expo & Sale

**Saturday 7 September
9.00am—3.00pm**

**Wallan Multi-purpose
Community Centre
42 Bentinck St, Wallan**

**Native Plant Floral Displays
Australian Native Plant Sales
Gardening & Plant Book Sales**

FREE ENTRY

Website:- www.apsmitchell.org.au

Contact:- aps.mitchell@gmail.com

Wallan & Hillmore
Community Bank branches



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>

Absence Notification

The DET Attendance policy requires us to contact parents any day their child is absent without explanation, ON THE DAY.

All roles will be marked right after the morning bell, any student arriving after the bell MUST be signed in by an adult at the office.

Parents/Guardians will need to contact the school no later than 9.30am to explain their child's absence. This can be done via the Sentral Parent App or via phone to the school office, or direct email to the school or your child's teacher. You can also send a written note in with a sibling.

All notes require a brief explanation of your child's absence as we must code it for the different reasons. A date is also essential for legal reasons.

If we have not received a notification of an absence you will be sent an SMS message, which you can reply to, or you can reply via any of the methods above.

The Boilerhouse Theatre Company Presents



September 6th – 21st 2024

Building 22, Jacksons Hill, Sunbury



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

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or via the QR Code

Based on Roald Dahl's Original Novel
Adapted for the Stage by David Wood
By Arrangement with ORIGIN™ Theatrical
On Behalf of Samuel French
A Concord Theatricals Company



Excursion Forms and Payments

Could all excursion forms please be returned whether your child is attending or not. If your child is not attending an excursion, please cross the form and mark as not attending, and the reason why. We spend a great amount of time chasing non returned and late excursion forms. Please try to get forms in as soon as possible after receiving them. And remember no child can attend an excursion unless we have signed forms. Thanks

All excursion forms should be returned to your child's teacher or directly to the office.

Any money sent to the office, needs to be clearly labelled and sealed in an envelope or zip lock bag with the permission form or order form the payment is for.

Please keep permission forms and FAF forms separate.

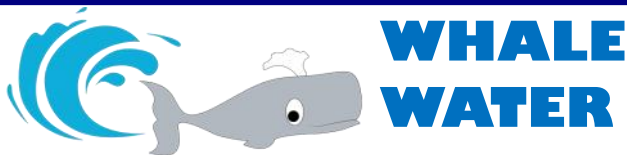
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0499 907 017



TheHub 3756 is a FREE early help program offered by Kids First, Wellways, FamilyCare and Mitchell Shire Council.

Our team of Family Coaches are here to support families and children aged 0 - 12 years within the Wallan community.

What we offer

- Tailored and practical support to meet your individual needs
- 1:1 coaching to build your parenting skills and confidence
- Regular group programs where you can connect with others and grow your support network
- Help to access a variety of safe and supportive specialised services

Get in touch

- thehub3756.org.au
- 1300 253 961
- thehub3756@kidsfirstaustralia.org.au
- Wallan Community Services Hub
42/80 Bentinck Street, Wallan VIC 3756

TheHub 3756

This is a FREE Community Service.

Our team of Family Coaches are here to support families and children aged 0 - 12 years within the Wallan community.

School Bank Account details

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

