

UPdate

Trudy Whewell, Principal

26th March 2026

5783 1358 / www.upper-plenty-ps.vic.edu.au



Dates to Remember

March 2026

23rd-27th- UPPS Harmony Week
23rd- Grade 4/5A Assembly
Presentation
27th- Hot Cross Bun orders / Raffle
tickets and Easter donations due
27th- School Photo's

April 2026

1st – Foundation Royal Tea Party
1st- 2027 Foundation Parent
information session – 6pm
2nd- Last day of term 1 - 2.15pm finish
No afternoon bus service to Wallan
3rd- Good Friday Holiday
20th- Start of Term 2
27th- School Council

Assembly

Tomorrow's assembly will be at 2.50pm, in the Central Learning Space.

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



♥ Harmony Day Celebration – What a Fantastic Day! ♥

Yesterday we came together as a school community to celebrate Harmony Day, and what a vibrant and joyful day it was! It was wonderful to see so many students dressed in orange or proudly wearing cultural clothing that reflects the rich diversity of our community. The colours, smiles, and shared sense of belonging truly captured the spirit of the day - *everyone belongs!*

A huge thank you to our amazing School Leaders for their hard work and enthusiasm. They organised and ran two lunchtime clubs, each with around 20 students attending. Activities included Harmony Day colouring and heart-themed crafts, giving everyone a chance to reflect on kindness, inclusion, and respect in a fun way.

Our School Leaders also ran the "Guess the Lollies" competition, which was a big hit! We raised \$52.50, and the lucky winner will be announced at our next assembly - stay tuned! 🍬

Our dress-up day raised an awesome \$193, which will go towards a fun cultural experience for students later in the year. Thank you to everyone who contributed - your support makes a real difference.

Days like these remind us of the importance of inclusion, respect, and celebrating diversity in our school. ♥

Awards

Student of the Week

Foundation

Reign N for showing responsibility and independence when packing his bag all by himself.

Grade 1/2 H

Ruby K for being a kind and helpful friend to all her peers. Well done Ruby!

Grade 1/2 K

Musa N for working hard on his handwriting. Keep up the hard work, Musa!

Grade 1/2 M

Kyrom W has been showing persistence and ability to adapt to change. He keeps trying even when things are tricky and is adapting well to new situations. Keep it up, Kyrom!

Grade 3/4 DJ

Tex G, your diagram on how mountains are formed showed great understanding of our current literacy topic. Keep up the good work!

Grade 4/5 A

Aisha L for being resilient, respectful and kind towards everyone at school! Thank you Aisha!

Grade 5/6 PR

Taylan G for your outstanding engagement and thoughtful contributions to class discussions during our Core Knowledge sessions.

Grade 5/6 R

Keith P for the amazing effort that you put into every learning task. Awesome work Keith!

Principal's Award

Jack P for being responsible and very helpful this week

Jordan K for working really hard with his learning every day

Values

Foundation

Mantaj D for playing nicely and treating every one with kindness. Well done, Mantaj!

Grade 1/2 H

Kaylee B for always owning up to her mistakes and learning from them. Great job Kaylee!

Grade 1/2 K

Aniah C for being able to explain our stop, walk, talk process. Well done for thinking about how we can solve problems, Aniah.

Grade 1/2 M

Amelia CG has been showing great resilience, staying positive and bouncing back when things are challenging. Keep up the fantastic work!

Grade 3/4 DJ

Emily C, thank you for always cleaning up after yourself.

Grade 4/5 A

Layne S for showing responsibility and keeping her area clean and encouraging others to do the same!

Grade 5/6 PR

Gus W for being a resilient learner and approaching new or challenging tasks with determination and a positive mindset.

Grade 5/6 R

Alyra C for the leadership you show in our classroom by following procedures, working hard and being a role model. Thank you Alyra!

Student Choice Award

Tucker P for walking away when he needed a break from basketball.

Kaden M for looking after his friend when he fell over.

Principal's Report

End of Term

As we head towards the end of this term here are a couple of reminders:

- Friday 27th March – School Photo Day
- Thursday 2nd April - Easter Hat & Parade 9am & Easter Raffle will be drawn at the end of the parade
- Foundation Royal Tea Party
- Hot Coss Buns orders and raffle tickets due Friday 27th March
- Last day of term 1 – Thursday 2nd April – 2.15pm finish – no afternoon bus service to Wallan

Parent Concerns

There are often parents and families who contact me to speak about some concerns they may have in the classroom. Can I ask that your first contact should always be the classroom teacher to address any concerns, organise a meeting and discuss strategies. The teacher is the best person to understand and know the child's daily learning and social experience, making them the most informed person to address specific issues.

Here is why starting with the classroom teacher is the best option:

- **Closest Connection to the Child:** Teachers see your child in various learning situations and social environments, offering a unique perspective on their academic and social development
- **Faster, Direct Resolution:** Misunderstandings can be cleared up immediately. Many issues can stem from inaccurate reports or simple misunderstandings that a teacher can correct on the spot
- **Building Partnerships:** Approaching the teacher directly fosters a collaborative relationship built on trust and respect, which is better for the child than starting with conflict
- **Avoids Escalation:** Going straight to the principal often makes a problem bigger than it needs to be

Wellbeing and Engagement Dog

Today we had our volunteer Jackie come to school with her trained therapy dog, Ollie. Ollie is a 2½ year old Golden Retriever, who has a calm, gentle temperament and a love for people. Ollie and Jackie have both completed appropriate training. Our school has followed the Department's requirements as outlined in the Animals-Wellbeing and Engagement Policy. Jackie and Ollie spent time in each classroom introducing themselves, discussing expectations and how to approach Ollie. This will continue each Thursday. Ollie will work with small groups of students with the wellbeing team and may spend time with individual students. There are many benefits for having a wellbeing and engagement animal and they include:

- reduced stress and anxiety, including decreased learner anxiety behaviours
- improved physical and emotional wellbeing
- improved self-esteem, empathy and interpersonal skills
- improved relationship building and ability to pick up on social cues
- improved attendance (for disengaged students or students at risk of disengaging)

Farewell Staff

Next week, we will be saying goodbye to Andrea Lewis who will be heading to Kilmore PS. We thank Andrea for her contribution and efforts within our art program at Upper Plenty. We wish her every happiness and success at Kilmore PS.

Trudy



Window into Grade 1/2K



This term the grade 1/2s have been learning all about the seasons. We have learnt about the different changes in the weather and nature that



happen across the seasons of summer, autumn, winter and spring. We also explored how the First Nations people have their own way of naming and tracking the seasons. We were fascinated to see that these were different depending on which part of Australia they were living in. In some parts of Australia, they have just 3 seasons, but in others they have 6! It was amazing to learn how the Aboriginal people notice changes in how wet or dry the creek beds are, what the stars look like, and how fat or skinny the animals are to help them track the seasons.



Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our Mitchell and Murrindindi Schools Network, we are offering a FREE online parent/carer session. This will be held on:

TUESDAY 31st MARCH at 7:00 pm.

You can sign in from the comfort of your own home for a 30-minute information session from Beth Guy, Manager - Student Services Support, Goulburn Area. Beth has a wealth of knowledge that she has shared with many educators in our network, and we are excited to be able to share this information with families.

Meeting Information:

Webinar topic: Parent Session: Mitchell & Murrindindi Network Schools

BRAIN SCIENCE & WHAT DO TEACHERS UNDERSTAND ABOUT HOW STUDENTS LEARN AND HOW CAN PARENTS BE PART OF THE JOURNEY.

Date and time: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 7:00 PM

BOOK NOW HERE: <https://forms.gle/ahmjXCUXLs5B4zv5> (we will email the webex meeting link the day prior)



Understanding brain development in our children and young people.

WHAT DO TEACHERS UNDERSTAND ABOUT HOW STUDENTS LEARN AND HOW CAN PARENTS BE PART OF THE JOURNEY.

THIS IS AN ONLINE 30 MINUTE SESSION FOR PARENTS BEING HELD ON **TUESDAY MARCH 31st, 2026, AT 7PM**

CLICK HERE TO BOOK

and the link will be emailed to you.



UPPS GOT TALENT
COMING TO TERM 2

Audition and concert date to be decided
Work in pairs, triples or by yourself

THE CATEGORIES ARE
DANCE
MUSIC
DRAMA

SOME EXAMPLES ARE
MAGIC
SINGING
PLAYING MUSIC
SPORT TRICKS

UPPS Got TALENT - Coming in Term 2!

The school leaders will be holding a UPPS Got Talent competition in term 2, students can perform by themselves or in groups and can perform in the following categories: Dance, Music, Drama including acts like magic, singing, playing an instrument, sport tricks.

A concert date to be decided once we have entries, but aiming for late term 2.

Parents/Carers will need to give permission for their child to perform, these permission forms can be collected early next term from the school leaders.

The place to be these holidays!

TheirCare

iSpyKIDS

Autumn 2026 HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Secret Agents
- Junior Spy
- Agent Academy
Tues April 10th

Pass the popcorn!

Secret Agent Kit

Maze Runner

The Great Escape!

Book now at TheirCare.com.au
Save up to 90% with the Child Care Subsidy

Scan the first year newcast holiday program location

2027 Foundation Sibling Enrolments

Applications and enrolments for **all** 2027 Foundation students will be completed online this year using the new Vic Student Portal. The portal will be available for parents in the first week of term 2.

If you have a child in 4 year old kinder this year and wanting to enrol for Foundation in 2027, either keep an eye on our website for when the link goes live, or send me an email to be placed on the email list for all information related to Foundation next year, including open days and tours.

melissa.mcphee@education.vic.gov.au

UPPER PLENTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

2027

FOUNDATION

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

WEDNESDAY 1ST APRIL
6PM

WE WILL RUN AN INFORMATION SESSION FOR ALL FAMILIES, BOTH NEW AND CURRENT, WISHING TO ENROL IN FOUNDATION AT UPPS IN 2027 TO EXPLAIN THE NEW ONLINE DE APPLICATION PROCESS AND DATE TIMELINE FAMILIES WILL NEED TO ADHERE TO, TO COMPLETE AN APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT.

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE VIA EMAIL TO LODGE AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR FOUNDATION IN 2027 AND TO BE KEPT UP TO DATE
EMAIL: UPPER.PLENTY.PS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU
WEBSITE: WWW.UPPER-PLENTY-PS.VIC.EDU.AU

School Photo Information

Are you ready for 2026 school photos?

Upper Plenty Primary School

Friday 27th March 2026

There's no need to do anything before photo day.

Further details will be provided when portrait and group images are ready.

Student access codes and order details will be provided to you when images are ready to view and purchase online.

Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.
A.B.N 48 528 494 590
Telephone: (03) 5243 4390
Enquiries: customerservice@arphotos.com.au

ARP
Arthur Reed Photos

Parents using the Staff Car park

This is a reminder that no parent/carer should be using the staff car park during normal drop off and pick up unless they have discussed an exceptional need with the office.

Every family should be parking in the Shack car park and no student should be walking through the staff car park to access the school grounds.

Parking in Clarkes Road is illegal.

Families accessing before and after school care can use the staff car park outside the normal school hours.

Please make sure to let anyone doing drop off or pick up that they need to park in the Shack car park.

🐰🐣 EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS! 🐰🐣

FAF are seeking Donations from our school community, for our Easter Raffle.

All Donations are greatly appreciated. Previously we have had beautiful hampers and lots of single items donated.

Please hand them to the office by tomorrow morning at the latest

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>

Late Arrivals, Early Departures and Visitors

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 can be signed at the office.

All Visitors to the school must sign the **WHITE** visitors book

The book can be found on the reception desk

Early and Late Pick up Car Park Procedure

Parents collecting their children at the 3.15pm pick up (Early pickup) are asked to leave as soon as collecting your child/ren, by 3.20pm, freeing up car parking spaces for families collecting at 3.30pm. Parents collecting at 3.30pm (Late pickup) are asked to not arrive until 3.25pm.

If you are wanting to stay and play after school at the shack playground, you need to be not arriving before 3.25pm and making sure your children know they are on the later pick up time.

A staff member is on duty at the car park until 3.45pm. Any student not collected by this time will be brought back to the school office while we make contact with you.

As always, all cars need to be driven as slow as possible through the car park and parking is in the designated bays only.

Students need to be collected from the teacher on yard duty and are not to walk through the car park without an adult accompanying them.

All Things Uniform

64 HIGH STREET
Broadford. Vic. 3658

E : tracey@allthingsuniform.com.au

P : 03 5784 2276

M : 0407 781 455

You can pop in to the store during normal business hours or make an order via phone or email to the store.

Online Ordering now Available

<http://upps.allthingsuniform.getworkgear.com/>



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

all things uniform



An advertisement for Kilmore Village Medical. The text reads "KILMORE VILLAGE MEDICAL" and "OPENING 16th MARCH". It lists services: "YOUR LOCAL GP", "YOUR HEALTH IS OUR PRIORITY", "GP Services", "Vaccinations", "Pathology on-site", "Allied Health Services", and "Telehealth & Walk Ins". It also features the Medicare Bulk Billing logo and contact information: "03 4714 8400", "www.kvmedical.au", and "Shop 7, 109 Northern Hwy, Kilmore, 3764". A photo of a doctor in a white coat is on the right.

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



1 of 1
Flexischools

Our school is online with Flexischools

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.

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

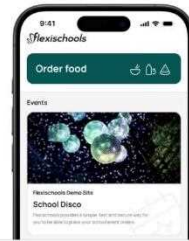
- 1 In the navigation bar, add your student(s) under "Profile" > "Students" > "Add new."
- 2 Add your child's details to the new student profile.



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.



Getting started on 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.
- 5 In the navigation bar, add your student(s) under "Profile" > "Students" > "Add new."

Download the app today

Available on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play



How to order food on Flexischools

- 1 Tap "Order food."
- 2 Select the child, date and service.
- 3 Select the food items you'd like to purchase, then select "View Order."
- 4 Select payment method.
- 5 Hit "Checkout & Pay" to confirm your order.

Download the app today

Available on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play