



UPdate

9th October 2025



Next Weeks Events

Monday—

Tuesday—

Wednesday—

Thursday—

Friday— Lawn Bowls Competition— selected students

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2025

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

23rd— Gr 1/2 Sleepover

24th— Choir performance at assembly

November 2025

3rd— Curriculum Day—Student Free Day

4th—Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

12/13/14th— Gr 5/6 Camp

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.

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.



Contents

◆Diverse Learners Week

- ◆Assembly
- ◆Hats are Back!
- ◆For Sale
- ◆Choir
- ◆Awards
- ◆Principal's Report
- ◆Thunderstorn Asthma
- ◆SWPBS
- ◆2025 School Fees
- ◆Bushfire Preparedness

For Sale - no reasonable offer refused!

We will have 4 of the red chairs and 12 of the coloured benches available if any families want some seating for their shed/man cave/she shed/children's cubby etc. We are NOT selling the tables.

If you are interested please contact the office. Any money raised will be put towards the purchasing of new furniture.



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



Weekly Awards

Student of the Week Awards will be presented to:

Reid Azzopardi for always offering to help students in need. Thank you for your kindness, Reid.

Madison De Paoli for the responsibility and the maturity you always display in our classroom. Thank you for being a role model Madi!

Lachie Stott for always trying your best and being a good friend. Well done, Lachie!

Elaina Dwyer-Henderson for a great start back to the term. I love how engaged you've been in class discussions and how positively you've come into the classroom every morning!

Jazlyn Mangat for doing an excellent job when reading the class book of the week with so much enthusiasm. I am so proud of you, Jazlyn!

Kieran Hannagan for demonstrating resilience by staying calm, solving problems, and continuing to try your best. Keep smiling Kieran!

Haydin Gorovic for joining in class discussions and following instructions. Keep up the great work Haydin.

Claire Stokes—Congratulations on an amazing start to Term 4. You have come into the term ready for learning and always ask intriguing questions to further develop your understands. Well done, Claire!

Values Awards will be presented to:

Sara Zmejkoska for always showing responsibility by taking her breaks at the right time. You are a role model Sara!

Charlie Ryan-Kennedy for showing responsibility by using your break time wisely and going to the toilet to ensure you are ready for learning on time. Keep it up Charlie!

Amber Dhaliwal for being organised for learning by using your breaks wisely. Well done, Amber!

Isla Farrugia for making the most of her learning time and following instructions quickly. Keep up the great work Isla!

Zacharia Lesiputty for displaying responsibility for always using your breaks wisely and participating in all learning activities with your full attention. Keep up the great work, Zacharia!

Sedaah Ocean for using her class time wisely. Great job, Sedaah.

Henry Rohde for being responsible and using his break time wisely.

Alyra Crichton, thank you for always showing responsibility by going to the toilet during your break.

Student Choice Awards will be presented to:

Izzy Falls for adjusting quickly and really well and always having a bright smile on her face.

Benji Robinson for coming to school with a good attitude even though you hurt yourself badly.

Principal's Awards will be presented to:

Arvir Jagdev for her impressive answers to our questions during our Wellbeing Walk!

Kyrom Walker for his enthusiastic start to Term 4!

Principal's Report

TERM 4

Welcome back to our final term of 2025! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed quality time together.

We have had a great start to Term 4, with both staff and students returning to teaching and learning with fantastic enthusiasm.

We have many exciting events and experiences planned this term. Some of the highlights include the Year 1/2 Sleep Over, Year 5/6 Camp, Year 6 Graduation, the Colour Fun Run, and the whole school Carols and Awards Night. A calendar with all the dates for these events will be sent home soon, so you can stay up to date with everything happening through the rest of the year.

Please note, there will be a small change to our usual class parties held during the last week of term. This year, we will be providing the food for each student at a small cost to families.

We are looking forward to a fun and memorable Term 4!

KINDER – SCHOOL TRANSITION

Our school transition program for Foundation students starting in 2026 will begin next week. The students will be divided into two groups, each attending five sessions. During the final two sessions, the students will stay for longer periods to help them adjust gradually.

The transition from kindergarten to school is a valuable process that ensures our new students have a positive, continuous, and successful start to their primary education. It also gives us the opportunity to get to know each student before they officially begin in 2026. This helps us support their emotional and social well-being and allows us to plan effectively for their individual learning needs.

LAWN BOWLS

For the first time ever at Upper Plenty, we have a lawn bowls team! They will be participating in a competition in Sunbury next week. This week, the team will be heading to the Whittlesea Bowls Club for a practice session to prepare. We wish them all the best and look forward to hearing about their success!

CURRICULUM DAY

Our next curriculum day is Monday 3rd November which falls the day before Melbourne Cup Day. There will be no school on this day.

Trudy

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.

School Wide Positive Behaviour



This Week's SWPBS Value: Responsibility

What is responsibility?
Responsibility is taking control of yourself and managing your own time. One important part of responsibility is going to the toilet during break times. By doing this, you make sure that you do not miss important learning time. Toilet breaks sometimes can't be helped, but most of the time using the bathroom at recess and lunch will mean that you don't need to go at any other time, and you can focus on your amazing learning!



*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

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

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
CURRICULUM CONTRIBUTIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom consumables, materials & equipment Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials ICT Devices – provision of devices from the shared classroom sets Online subscriptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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



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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](#).



WDCC Junior Cricket

- Play real games of cricket!
- Different game styles to allow kids to progress based on ability.
- Make new friends and be a part of a local community!

Gamedays:

- **Tuesday nights:** U17's Boys
- **Friday nights:** U11's Mixed, U13's Girls, U15's Girls, U18's Girls
- **Saturday mornings:** U13's Boys, U15's Boys

Woolworths Cricket Blast

- Ages 4-10
- Sunday Mornings from 9am
- **Jam-packed** 60 minute sessions
- **Learn skills** through fun & modified games
- Safe and inclusive environment
- Greenhill Reserve, Wallan
- **Contact:** Brooke Matthewman (Woolworths Blast Coordinator): 0438092839

Name: Travis Connors

Title: Junior Co-ordinator

Phone number: 0401 513 188

Name: Scott O'Donnell

Title: Junior Co-ordinator

Phone number: 0434 864 828

Name: Kelly Shinn

Title: Girls Junior Co-ordinator

Phone number: 0421 047 306

@Wallan District Cricket Club @Wallandccofficial

crumbs
& co.

LUNCH ORDER
DIRECT LINE

0491 640 487

Lunch orders via the Flexi School app are now open for delivery on Wednesdays from Crumbs and Co.

Please be aware of cut off times to have orders in on time. Every order will get a confirmation email once it is lodged correctly.

A reminder of our lunch order hotline, if you have any questions about the system, how to order, how to cancel an order if your child is sick/absent and so forth.

Happy to help anytime!

>>> Classroom Selection <<<

Please review your child's classroom when placing your order to ensure the classroom number is correct, to save confusion at delivery.

If anyone needs a hand on how to check this, give us a shout out on our lunch order hotline.

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 Mitchell Shire.

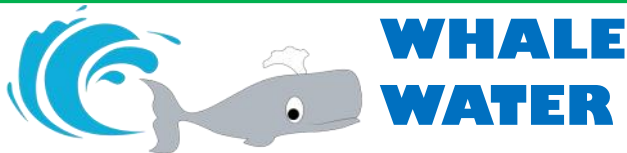
Collaborated with Federation of Indian Associations of Victoria and Mental Health Foundation Australia

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Childrens playground

All enquires please call Susan and Wayne
0499 907 017



LOT48 CAFE



Scan me!



11a Enterprise Way
Wallan



Mon-Fri: 6am - 2pm
Sat: 7am-1pm



School Bank Account details

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

