

"ACHIEVING TOGETHER"



Woody Yaloak Primary School

Website: www.woodyyaloak.vic.edu.au
 Email: woody.yaloak.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Principal: Corey Pohlner
 Phone: 5342 8565

2025 Term Dates

- 28th Jan - 4th April
- 22nd Apr - 4th July
- 21st July - 19th Sept
- 4th Oct - 19th Dec

Smythesdale Campus 5342 8565
Scarsdale Campus 5342 8514

Snake Valley Campus 5344 9274
Ross Creek Campus 5342 0478

FOR YOUR DIARY 2025

OCTOBER

Monday 13th

- School Council 6pm via Microsoft Teams

Wed 22nd - Fri 24th

- Gr 3/4 Cave Hill Creek Camp

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 4th

- Melbourne Cup Holiday
- Student Free Day

Thursday 20th

- Colour Run

Friday 21st

- Report Writing Day
- Student Free Day



**PERMISSION FORMS
AND
MONEY DUE**

OCTOBER 2025

Due WEDNESDAY 8TH

- 3/4 Cave Hill Creek Camp Consent, Medical Form and Payment DUE



Woody Yaloak Primary School was formed on the lands of the Wadawarrung people of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.
 We also acknowledge the First Nations people throughout Victoria.



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back, everyone! We hope you all enjoyed a restful break and are ready for an exciting Term 4 ahead.

COMMUNICATION UPDATE FOR TERM 4

Effective communication between school and home plays a crucial role in supporting every child's learning and wellbeing. When families and schools work together, students feel more connected, confident, and motivated to succeed.

Clear and consistent communication helps parents stay informed about their child's progress, upcoming events, and classroom activities. It also gives staff valuable insight into each student's needs, ensuring support is personalised and responsive.

Equally important is two-way communication — when parents share updates, feedback, or concerns, it helps teachers make informed decisions that benefit the child's overall development. Strong school-home partnerships build trust, strengthen relationships, and create a community where every student can thrive.

Over recent years, our school has used Class Dojo as a third-party app to share updates, celebrate student achievements, and strengthen communication between families and teachers. It has been a valuable platform for connecting with parents and supporting classroom engagement.

However, as our school has grown and communication needs have expanded, having multiple apps in use — including Class Dojo, Compass, and email — has created a few challenges. Families have told us that it can sometimes be confusing to know where to find the right information or which platform to check for school updates. Similarly, staff have found it difficult to manage messages and ensure consistency across different communication channels.

To make communication clearer, more reliable, and easier for everyone, we are moving toward using COMPASS as our single communication platform. This change will help ensure that all families receive information in one place and that communication between home and school remains smooth, timely, and transparent.

Since the start of the year, COMPASS has been our main communication hub for families. Through the COMPASS app, parents and carers can:

- Stay informed with important school dates and events via the calendar
- Receive timely notifications and reminders
- Access newsletters, excursion information and permission forms
- Submit student absences
- Make payments and approve excursions

This keeps all important information in one place, making things clearer and more convenient for everyone.

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Cont....

From this week, all campus and classroom updates will be shared **only through COMPASS**. This means that **Class Dojo will no longer be used for campus or classroom notifications**.

During **Term 4**, we'll also begin moving private messages (previously sent through Class Dojo) across to COMPASS. Over the next two weeks, families will receive guidance on how to use COMPASS to contact teachers directly via email.

From **Week 5 onwards**, all parent communication will take place through COMPASS. Messages sent via COMPASS will go straight to staff email accounts, helping ensure clear, timely, and consistent communication.

We appreciate your support as we streamline our communication systems and strengthen our connection between home and school.

PARENT PAYMENT POLICIES

Each year, schools are required to review and update their Parent Payment Policy and contributions in line with Department of Education guidelines. These contributions help support our school's programs, resources, and the learning experiences we provide for all students.

Over the coming weeks, our School Council will review and approve the proposed 2026 Parent Payment Arrangements. Once approved, families will receive detailed information outlining the payment categories, contribution amounts, and available payment options.

We appreciate the ongoing support of our families through these contributions, which directly benefit our students' learning and wellbeing. Further information will be shared with parents and carers as soon as the arrangements are endorsed by School Council.

Our next school council meeting is scheduled for Monday October 13th from 6.00pm, via Microsoft Teams. I will be on long service leave from Monday October 13th until October 24th. Eamon Johnson will be Acting Principal during my leave.

Over the coming weeks our leadership team will be finalising our teaching staff and grade structures for 2026, once this is completed, we will share with our school community. Thank-you for your patience, this is always a busy time of the year for schools, and we appreciate your support and understanding.

Thanks for reading!

Regards

Corey Pehlner

Principal

Woody Yaloak Primary School



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 standard curriculum requirements in Victorian Curriculum F-10, VCE and VCAL. - 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: <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Curriculum Contributions</th><th>Other Contributions</th><th>Extra-Curricular Items and Activities</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.</td><td>Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.</td><td>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.</td></tr></tbody></table> Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (eg. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).	Curriculum Contributions	Other Contributions	Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.	Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.	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.
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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.							

JUNIOR BASEBALL SKILL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

LEARN THE SPORT OF BASEBALL

IN A FUN - FAMILY FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

FREE OF COST

STARTING THURSDAY OCTOBER 16TH

PRINCE OF WALES PARK

T-BALL: AGES 4-6 YEARS 4:30-5:15PM

U12: 7-11 YEARS 5:15-6:15PM

12 AND OLDER: 6:15-7:15PM

BALLARAT ROYALS

BASEBALL CLUB

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED



Woody Yaloak Athletics Club



Track & Field Season 2025/26

**Starts 17th October 2025
Fridays, 430pm**

**Runs Term 4 & Term 1
Join any time**

**Haddon Recreation Reserve
\$30 for the whole season**

**Ages Under 4's through
to Under 18's**

**For more info & to register
www.woodyathletics.org.au**



Woody Yaloak Athletics Club is based at the Haddon Recreation Reserve and provides opportunities for athletes under 5 to open age in Track and Field. Event skills development and coaching provided; with further opportunities to compete in Regional, State and National competitions.

www.woodyathletics.org.au | 0410 524 995 | or contact us via Facebook