



THE WILLOW WEEKLY

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Wednesday, the 16th of October, 2024

Willowmavin Primary School resides on the lands of the Taungurung people.

We acknowledge their leaders past and present and pledge to respect the earth, the life and the waters of these lands.

CELEBRATING LEARNING IN ...

4/5/6

Interschool Basketball

Last term, our Willowmavin Basketball Teams competed in the interschool basketball tournament held at Kilmore and St. Patrick's Primary Schools. Our two teams competed against schools such as Wandong, Broadford, Our Lady, St. Pats, Kilmore and Beveridge.

Before we attended the tournament we practised our skills, some tactics and the rules of the game so that we would be prepared for the day.

Both our Girls and Mixed teams competed hard throughout the day. We had to use lots of 'Be Our Best' and 'Resilience' during the day. Our coaches, parents and teachers all noticed our individual and team improvement as the day progressed. Our girls team qualified for the finals and played out a close game, so close that the scores were level at half time! The girls team ended up finishing 4th overall for the day and our mixed team never gave up trying against some very tall opposition!

We would like to congratulate the winning schools and to thank the tournament organisers. We would also like to thank our volunteer coaches, Melanie and Brad, for giving up their time to come and help us with our basketball. We would also like to thank our teammates for the way in which they played the game and supported one another.



Go Willow!





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Celebrations!

Our final term for the year has – in true Willow style – got off to an eventful start. Our Foundation 2025 Transition program continued last Thursday, with our 2025 Foundation students coping incredibly well in their first session with their parents dropping and running – not literally, fortunately! Staff have continued their professional learning in The Playbook series, focusing on building effective teaching techniques to embed in our teaching practice across the school. And finally, of course, our 3 – 6 students have been off to camp, having a fantastic time at UPCC. The busy start has set the tone for a busy term ahead, particularly for the bookends of our school student body. Our Grade 6s now have just over 2 months left of primary school, whilst our 2025 Foundation students will be joining us a number of times this term as they complete their transition from kinder to primary school. We look forward to the learning, the fun and indeed the challenges that lie ahead as we seek to end the 2024 school year on a high.



School Drop Off

We have noticed a great improvement in students being dropped off on time enabling learning in classrooms to commence with minimal interruption from 8:50am. Thank you to our families for prioritising students' arrival to school on time.

Children's Week

Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children. This year, Children's Week will run from this Saturday, the 19th of October, to Sunday, the 27th of October, with thousands of Victorian children and families expected to take part. The theme for the week is 'Children have the right to a clean and safe environment'. There are a number of [free activities](#) that you can be involved in with your children. For more information, please visit the [Children's Week webpage](#).

Welcome

We are excited to announce that we have a maintenance person commencing at the school next week Adrian King, a local Willowmavin resident, will be working on Tuesdays at Willow, assisting us in maintaining the buildings and grounds. Adrian is looking forward to taking up the role and we know he will be a much valued member of the school team. We encourage our parents and families to introduce themselves to Adrian and welcome him to the Willow PS community.

Signing Off

But don't look back in anger, don't look back in anger, I heard you say. At least not today

Mr. O'Callaghan



BE YOUR BEST



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



SAFE



Student of the Week



Term 4: Week 1 Awards



F/1	Connor
2/3/4	Kaiden
4/5/6	Olivia



The **MORE** that you
READ, the more things
you will **KNOW**.
The **MORE** that you
Learn, the more places
you'll **GO**.
Dr. Seuss

25 Sessions Plus

Alex Mason
Ryder Morgan

125 Nights Plus

Olivia Baldwin
Matilda Haines
Oliver Sheffield
Jai Bamford-Newey

50 Sessions Plus

Jack Alnes
Georgia Bradley
Maria Taengtang
Marlee Comer
Xavier Beale

150 Nights Plus

Julian Canham
Harrison Sheffield
Bodhi Sanderson

75 Sessions Plus

Ruby Ellis
Zara Gill
Alice Cram
Louis Campbell
Roman Taengtang

175 Nights Plus

Hannah Pate
Adam Vine
Iliana Taengtang
Keira Ellis
Charlie McKenzie

100 Nights Plus

Jack Hume
Ellie Jenkins
Marlie Beale
Hudson Monaghan

200 Nights Plus

Leticia Vine
Riley McKenzie
Wyatt Blandthorn
Charlie Creed



BE YOUR BEST



RESPECT



RESILIENCE



SAFE



School Saving Bonus

In Term 4, 2024, families with a child enrolled in a government school from Prep to Year 12 in 2025 will receive the one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

The \$400 School Saving Bonus provides families with support for education-related costs, such as school activities and/or school uniforms.

The School Saving Bonus is not available for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

Actions for parents and carers

Before 18 October 2024, the Department of Education is asking parents and carers to:

- Check your contact information on Compass: Ensure your email address and phone number is up to date with us via the Compass app.

Instructions on how to update your details on Compass will be sent out in the school Newsletter and on Compass.

We need to ensure your contact information is up to date as the Department of Education will email you twice:

- in October, to verify your email address

- in November, with your \$400 School Saving Bonus and access to an online system.

Please check your junk mail regularly to make sure you do not miss an important email.

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus, download the School Saving Bonus Information sheet for government school parents and carers, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION
FROM ALL THINGS UNIFORM
FOR FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN ATTENDING
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



Important information about School uniforms 2025

With the \$400 School bonus available to **ALL** students (*that's right ALL, not means tested*) attending public schools, we are expecting extraordinary demand on uniforms leading into 2025.

It's really important to **ORDER NOW** & WE WILL HOLD YOUR UNIFORM ORDER UNTIL NEXT YEAR, AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT WITH STOCK OUTS - (*& there will be!*)

No deposit required ~ **VOUCHERS CAN BE REDEEMED UPON COLLECTION** - it's definitely not to early !!

Online ordering available

~ choose option 'On Account' upon check out & we'll organise and hold your order until you are ready to collect it !

You can also phone 5784 2276 or email info@allthingsuniform.com.au your order.

Any queries, please don't hesitate to contact our store on 5784 2276

For further information, please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus>

Safe Socials – For parents and carers (Primary)

Parents and carers play a key role in guiding their children as they navigate the online world and begin to learn through exploration, play and social interaction.

Parents and carers can prepare their primary school aged child to be safe on social media even if they don't use it yet. You can do this by building good online habits and staying informed about online safety.

Signs a child or young person might need support

A child's online activity might have a negative impact on them if they don't also have a healthy balance of offline activities. Sometimes, your child might show signs that they are having negative online experiences or that they are being bullied.

Your child may not tell you if an online 'friendship' or situation has become compromising or difficult. They may feel embarrassed or ashamed, or afraid it might make things worse.

Be alert to changes in your child's behaviour or mood. Watch for signs of withdrawal, anxiety, sadness or changed interactions with family or friends.

Signs can include:

- less interest in social activities like meeting friends or playing sport
- not doing so well at school
- tiredness, sleep disturbance, headaches, eye strain
- changes in eating patterns
- reduced personal hygiene
- obsession with particular websites or games
- extreme anger when being asked to take a break from online activity
- appearing anxious or irritable when away from the computer
- becoming withdrawn from friends and family

You can learn more about warning signs of bullying on [Bully Stoppers](#) and [warning signs of grooming](#) on the eSafety Commissioner's website.

What to do if your child experiences something unsafe online

There are many ways that parents can raise a concern or get help if there is an incident.

•You can talk to your child's school about any concerns you might have or if something has happened. Schools have policies and processes that can help. They can also work with you to make sure that your child gets extra support if they need it. Contact your child's teacher or the school's wellbeing team to start. Read more about talking to your school on [Bully Stoppers](#).

•If your child has been involved in an online incident it is important that you work together with your school to provide your child with the support they need. Learn how to help your child after an online incident on the [eSafety Commissioner's website](#).

•You can contact the eSafety commissioner for advice and to [report abuse](#). The eSafety reporting system helps parents of children who experience serious cyberbullying and image-based abuse by working with platforms to have the content removed.

•If someone is contacting your child and this contact is unwanted or makes them feel uncomfortable, there are things you can do to help. Read more about child grooming and unwanted contact and what to do on [the eSafety Commissioner's website](#).

•The Alannah and Madeline Foundation provides advice on [what to do in instances of image-based abuse](#) online and through Artificial Intelligence (AI).

How to: Consent & pay for Events

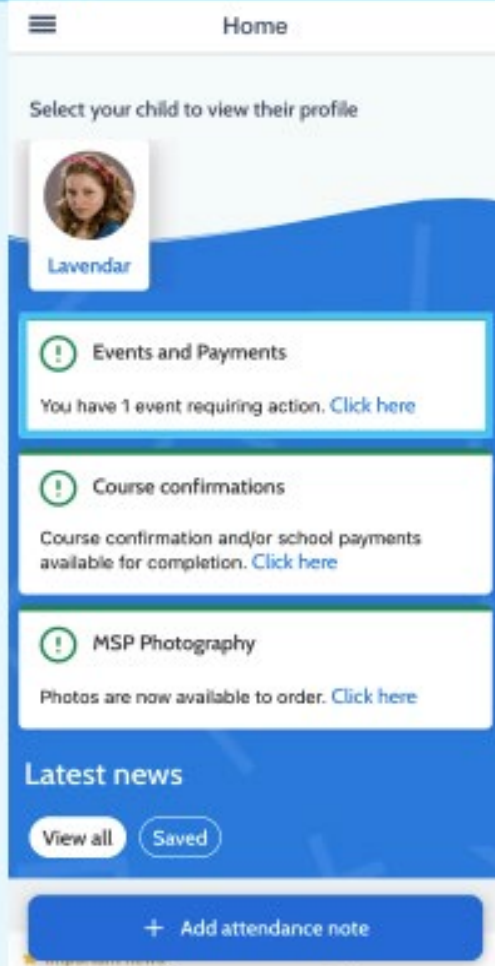
Make payments and give consent easily

Gone are the days of sending the kids to school with cash in an envelope and a signed permission slip!

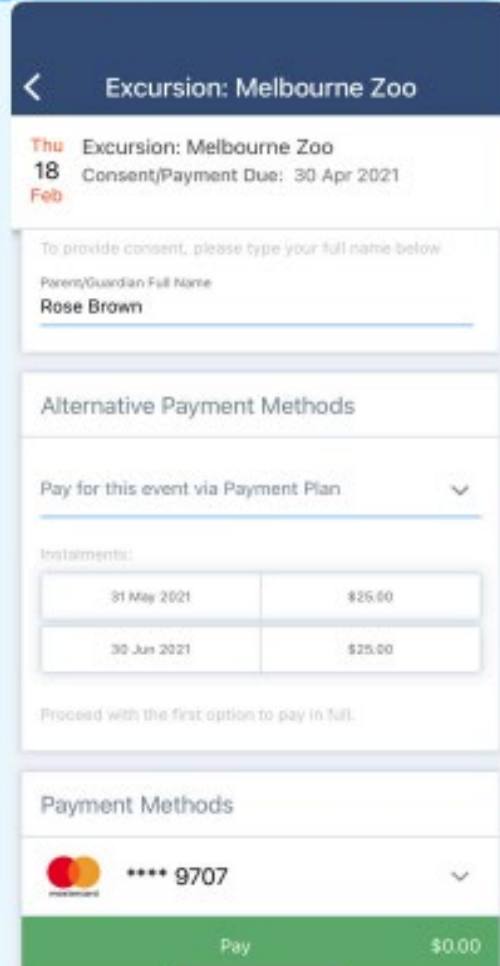
CompassPay sends push notifications to parents and enables them to pay for excursions and confirm medical requirements - all through the Compass Parent app.

Consent and pay quickly and easily via your phone's Compass App!

Step 1 | Click the event banner



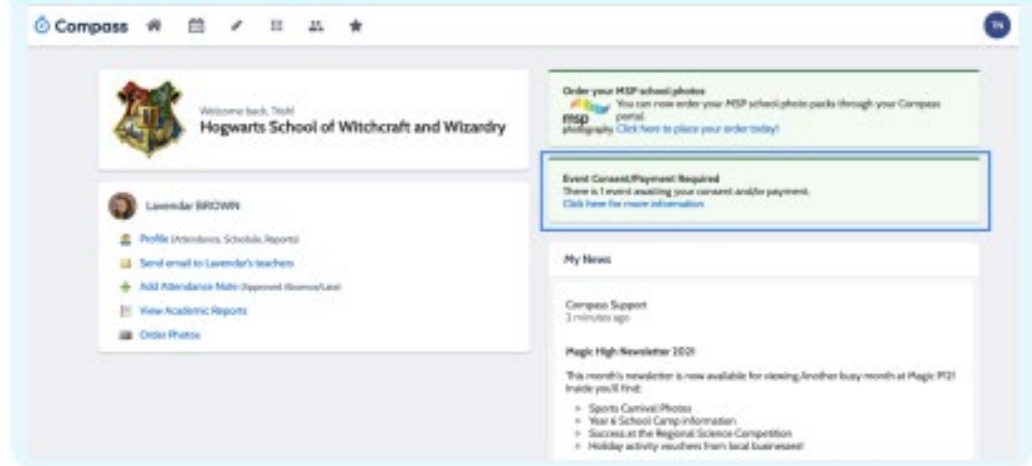
Step 2 | Provide consent/payment



If your child has an event to consent/pay for, simply login to your Compass browser and select the green notification banner on your homepage.

This will take you to your Action Centre where you can process any upcoming Events, for any

Step 1 | Browser



Step 2 | Browser

I agree to provide consent for my child to participate in school activities and to pay for any expenses incurred by my child as a result of participation in any school activity. I understand that this is an official school event and that Lavender BROWN will adhere to the school code of conduct and all other rules and regulations. I agree to meet any medical expenses and/or transport costs incurred in the event of an illness or injury. Further, I agree to meet any transport costs should my child be sent home as a result of misbehavior or inappropriate conduct.

To provide consent, please type your name in full

NOVA BROWN

Confirm and pay

Payment Method: Mastercard Credit --4727

Payment: Total amount \$50.00

Pay in full now

Process

We use CompassPay.com as our payment processing gateway. In clicking the relevant "Confirm and Pay" button to the right, you agree for your credit card to be charged by CompassPay.com on behalf of your school. You understand that the amount charged will be the "total due" or amount indicated to the right. Refunds for cancelled orders will be made to your Compass Balance regardless of original method of payment. This payment and use of the website is in alignment with the Compass School Manager terms and conditions which are available at <http://compass.edu.au/privacy>.

Select an event to fill out the online event form, where you can:

- View the event details and session times
- Update your students' medical records
- Add in additional contact details for the day
- Answer additional questions.
- Provide online consent and payment using your credit card or Compass Wallet balance.

- ✓ **Reduce human error**
No more re-entering your card details over and over, just save your card to your Compass Wallet!
- ✓ **Pay on time**
No need to line up to pay at the office! Consent and pay for your child's event any time of day, no need to rush in during office hours!
- ✓ **Keep everything in one place**
Keep track of all your students events through action centre!
- ✓ **Pay securely**
Pay with a secure platform you trust





How to make Crooks cranky

It is easy to make crooks cranky and it doesn't have to cost a fortune. Some strategies are even free!

"Burglars are lazy, fearful of being caught, and opportunistic" states NHW Victoria CEO, Bambi Gordon, "If they see a quick and easy way to steal property, they will."

Minimise your chance of becoming a victim of burglary by implementing these simple cheap hacks.

General:

- Get to know your neighbours, exchange contact details and check in regularly;

Doors:

- Lock your doors - many crooks gain entry through unlocked doors. Don't take a chance even if you are nearby;

Windows:

- Sliding windows can be secured easily with a metal rod or window restrictor. Awning windows can be secured by fitting lockable window winders;

Garages:

- Garage doors are often overlooked. Your garage door needs to run smoothly and safely with an auto-reverse function. Sometimes they don't close properly or the auto-reverse functions sends the door back up. Make sure it's down & locked before you leave;
- The door between your house & your garage is often overlooked. If access is gained to your garage, you don't want to give them free access to your house;

Garden:

- Keep your property well lit. Motion sensor lighting strategically placed around your home eliminates dark corners and makes it harder for the crooks to hide;
- Keep your garden neat and tidy. Allowing your garden to get unruly is an obvious sign you are either away frequently from the property;
- Prickly plants located under windows can easily deter crooks as they won't be hanging out there for long. My favourite is the Grevillea;
- Keep your letter box clear of your mail and other unsolicited mail. Not only are you at risk of identity theft, you send a message that you are never home;

Spare keys & Remotes:

- Don't leave your garage remote in your vehicle. It makes it too easy for the crooks;
- Don't leave your spare key under your door mat or under a pot plant. You may as well leave your door unlocked! Instead, buy and fit a key safe in a secure place outside or give your key to a trusted neighbour;

Valuables:

- Keep valuables out of sight. The average time crooks spend is only eight minutes - so make it harder for them. Hide your valuables in a secure place or a safe;
- Hot items include mobile phones, tablets, laptops, jewellery and power tools. Some of these items can be marked with 'V' + your licence number by using a UV pen or an engraver;
- Valuable items can include personal documents, such as your passport, tax file number and bank statements. Make sure these are all locked away or you'll risk having your identity stolen;

Holidays:

- Avoid posting your holiday photos on social media. While it can be tempting, media platforms are the easiest way for crooks to know when you are away. Save posting your photos for when you get home!
- If you have plans to leave your property for awhile, you can register your absence with Victoria Police.



How to minimise damage from potholes

Potholes are a common driving hazard capable of damaging your vehicle. Knowing how to avoid them, or at least drive over them safely, is a must for all drivers. Potholes are caused when water seeps into cracks in the road and it causes the surface to weaken and split. Once the pothole has formed, it can easily grow in size & depth.

There are a few ways you can reduce your risk of hitting them. Avoidance is the best strategy - but **DO NOT SUDDENLY BRAKE or SWERVE**. Braking or swerving suddenly may make you lose control or put you in the path of another vehicle.

Instead, keep a firm hold of your steering wheel and keep your wheels straight. Slow down, but release your brakes before impact.

Disclaimer: Current as on 18/09/24.
For more information, visit <https://www.racv.com.au/royalauto/news/what-causes-potholes-how-to-navigate-safely.html>

Did you know?

NHW have a new program "How Safe is My School"

How Safe is My School is a school-based learning program that teaches kids how their surroundings can make them feel and be safer at school.

It is a fun, interactive resource for primary school-aged children. It takes them on a journey to improve their safety knowledge and empowers them to improve safety around their schools.

South Mitchell NHW can work with local schools to make their safety improvements happen.

Contact Carolyn on secretary.smnhw@gmail.com for more information about this program.

Important Numbers

Emergency Triple Zero (000) Fire, Police Ammbulance

Non-urgent crimes: Police Assistance Line 131 444

Report Anonymously: Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

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Rob Mitchell MP

MEMBER FOR McEWEN

www.robmitchell.com.au



South Mitchell NHW

AGM

When: Thurs. 10 Oct. 24
Time: 7.00pm
Where: Community Centre
LB Davern Res.,
Wandong

All positions are declared vacant. Anyone interested in joining our committee, please email secretary.smnhw@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Annual General Meeting, 10 Oct. @ 7pm

If you ever wanted to make a difference in your community, now is your chance! Our AGM is coming soon and all positions are declared vacant. Only 10 meetings each year. It is held at the Community Centre, Wandong.

Kilmore Coles, Saturday 19 October, 9am to 1pm

We are running a sausage sizzle and information session outside Coles in Kilmore on 19 October, 2024, between 9am and 1pm. Talk to us about volunteering with our group and make your neighbourhood safer.

Our Safe Neighbourhood at Gt. Beveridge CC

Join us at the Greater Beveridge Community Centre on Saturday 26 October 10am to 12pm, with representatives from community groups, Victoria Police. Chat to them about volunteering and other safety concerns. We are even fitting anti-theft screws for a gold coin donation.

LJ Hooker Wallan

Whether you are Selling, Buying or Leasing, the team at L J Hooker Wallan has the expertise to assist you every step of the way.

Just drop in to the office for a friendly chat or call 5783 3399 or email wallan@hooker.com.au

Shop 2, Wellington Square Shopping Centre, 81-89 High Street, Wallan VIC 3756

Proudly supported by
Wallan, Kilmore & Broadford

Bendigo Bank



THE WILLOW WEEKLY

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Wednesday, the 16th of October, 2024

What's On...

Dates To Remember

October

- 18^h Hot Lunch
- 24th Foundation transition session

November

- 1st Curriculum Day (Curriculum Development)
- 4th Curriculum Day (Assessment & Reporting)
- 5th Melbourne Cup

December

- 16th Curriculum Day (2025 Planning)
- 19th Community End of Year Celebration Night
- 20th Last Day of Term 4



Birthdays

October

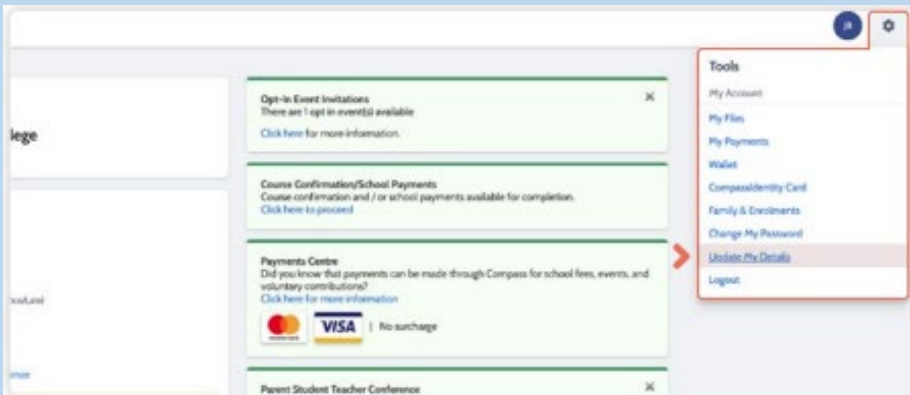
- 1st Sway
- 27th Roman



Hats

From the start of September, through to the end of April, students are required to wear a hat when outdoors. Please ensure you send your child's school hat with them to school as of tomorrow. If you would like to purchase a new hat, they can be purchased for \$10 from the office. If students are not wearing a hat, they will be required to play in designated undercover areas.

How to: Update Your Details on Compass...



If you need to update the mobile number or email address on file for your account, go to the cog menu icon and select 'Update my Details'.



Add in your **new contact** information. This will trigger a notification to the school advising them of these changes.



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