

Friday 12th December  
Issue 40, Week 10  
Term 4, 2025

OPTIMISM ★ OWNERSHIP  
CURIOSITY ★ INCLUSION

## End of Term 4

The students will finish the 2025 school year on Friday 19th December at 1:00pm. Buses will not be running at this time, so you will need to make alternative arrangements. There will be no lunch orders and students will not need lunch on this day. We will have a final assembly at 12:45pm, where we will farewell our Grade 6 graduating group. They will perform their graduation dance at this time.

### Grade 6 Graduation

We will be holding our Grade 6 graduation at Willow and Ivie on Tuesday 16th December. The students will present their graduation speeches to family and friends. This is followed by their dinner and disco. More information will be sent home to the families of the Grade 6 students.

Our Grade 6 Graduation will be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person. Click on the link on the night to watch the [Grade 6 Graduation](#).

### Farewell

Farewell and thank you, to the families who have their youngest child graduating from Irymple South this year. Some families have been at Irymple South for many years and have had several children go through the school. We farewell the following families: Ablett Family (Anna), Bennett Family (Noah), Bishop Family (Bonnie), Burns Family (Zara), Fisher Family (Avery), Globen Family (Emilia), Hiscock Family (Thomas), Hynes Family (Bentley), Krul Family (Evan), Kuchel Family (Sophia), Kutkhunthod Family (Christina), Mackin Family (Chace), Madigan Family (Mietta), Mammone Family (Claudia), Merrett Family (Jacob), Mulhall Family (Jax), Needham Family (Blake), Pedersen Family (Oli), Porter Family (Chloe), Tynan Family (Will) and the Van Reymersdael Family (Josie).

We would also like to farewell families who are leaving the ISPS community to continue their educational journey in another school.

We farewell the following families: Collier Family (Eliza & Axel), DeAngelis Family (Josh & Amelia), Milne Family (Aubrie), Nocera Family (Claudia & Emilia) and the Piscioneri Family (LJ & Harlee).

### Christmas Choir

Our Christmas Choir sang and represented ISPS beautifully yesterday.

We visited ABC Radio Mildura, the Langtree Mall and Jacaranda Village Red Cliffs to spread some Christmas cheer.

ABC Radio will broadcast our singing and interview on Monday morning (104.3 FM) at 8:45am.

Our final performance will be at assembly on Monday morning.



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The department respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Maddy Hura who is the recipient of the 2025 Donna Shaw Spirit of Kids+ Award. This award recognises her outstanding voluntary contributions to our community.

With an early diagnosis of cerebral palsy, Maddy's daughter Willow, began attending Kids+ in Geelong, for intensive therapy as part of her early intervention plan, leading to promising progress for which her family is extremely grateful.

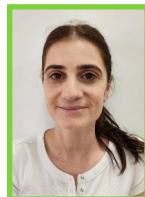
This experience inspired Maddy to address the lack of access to intensive therapy in our community. In 2025, Maddy and her team worked tirelessly to raise funds to bring a group of expert paediatric therapists from Kids+ in Geelong to Mildura. Their goal was to provide an intensive therapy program for local babies and children with disabilities, who often struggle to access these vital services. The Kids+ team immersed themselves in the community, working with nine families, while Maddy coordinated everything from morning coffees to accommodation, supported by generous local businesses.

This year one of our LiA projects raised awareness and funds to support Willow's Walkers. We are so proud of Maddy and the Hura family for their unwavering determination to support not only Willow but all children who require therapies and support.



## Staffing 2026

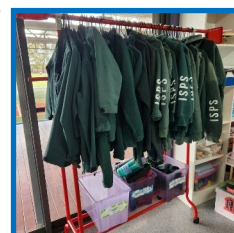
Marie Rocissano will be going on maternity leave at the end of this year. She is expecting her third child in February. We wish Marie, Stephen, Charlotte and Ryan all the best for the upcoming arrival.



Last week, we forgot to recognise Casey Romeo's position as Education Support. Casey assists Elise Thornton in the kitchen to implement the Food Tech program.

## UNIFORM

There are a number of unnamed jumpers and drink bottles in Lost Property. Please take the time to come and check out the rack in the Art Room.



## 2026 STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Over the past two weeks our Grade 5 students have presented speeches to the school community to be considered for students leadership roles. It is a rigorous process and the following students have been elected.

Our School Captains for 2026 are;

**Robert Ale**  
**Ollie Hughes**  
**Charlotte Oliver**  
**Eliza Sleep**

Our House Captains for 2026 are;

Dewry  
**Mason Anderson & Noah Carn**  
Campbell  
**Ariana Karallis & Frankie Mammone**  
Newton  
**Gabe Blundy & Taresa Romeo**  
McCracken  
**Mila Caristo & Malachy Pyke**

Official handover will take place at assembly on Monday morning.

## Student start day for 2026

The first day of school for all students, including Preps, in 2026 will be **Thursday 29th January**. Preps will have Wednesdays as a rest day for all of February. All staff begin work on Tuesday 27th January.

## Reporting

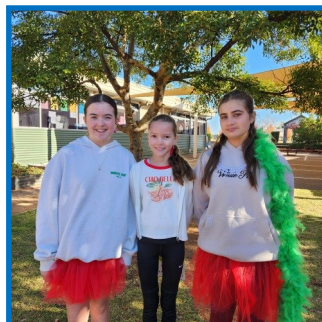
Student reports are being uploaded today via XUNO. You will be able to access your child's end of year report at the end of the school day.



# Leadership in Action

All Grade 6 students develop important leadership skills through the LiA program. These projects provide students with the opportunity to put their leadership skills into action. We know that these skills will support them as they transition into secondary school and their future lives.

We have had many wonderful projects this year, culminating in the Colour Run last week. Thanks to all the Grade 6 students who have provided some lasting memories for all in our community through their projects.





## BEING SUNSMART

As the weather warms up and the UV levels rise we need to be vigilant about being SunSmart.


When at school all students and staff are to wear broad brimmed or bucket hats outside. If they don't have a hat, there are covered areas that are available. These include the assembly area, outside the classrooms and the basketball courts.

We encourage you to refer to the flyer on how to be SunSmart in Victoria.






Our school website has the SunSmart widget, which provides the UV rating and the temperature.


Stay safe this summer season.

# Being SunSmart in Victoria



## When UV is 3+

-  **Slip** on covering clothing
-  **Slop** on SPF50, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
-  **Slap** on a broad-brimmed hat
-  **Seek** shade
-  **Slide** on sunglasses (AS:1067)



**Download the SunSmart Global UV app to find sun protection times for your location.**

**Think UV, not heat!** UV rays can't be seen or felt and can damage your skin on cool or cloudy days.

**When UV is below 3**  
Sun protection isn't required unless you are outdoors for extended periods or near reflective surfaces, such as snow.

March 2023



Scan the QR code or visit [sunsmart.com.au/app](https://sunsmart.com.au/app) to download.







**4-7 YEAR OLDS**

Our youngest players experience footy through playful, age-appropriate activities and games, guided by supportive NAB AFL Auskick coaches. Emphasis is on basic skill development, teamwork, and building confidence, all wrapped up in an exciting day filled with smiles, laughter, new friendships and Good Clean Fun.





**8-12 YEAR OLDS**

Older kids level-up their footy experience with NAB AFL Superkick coaches. They'll participate in modified gameplay and advanced skill-building activities designed to challenge them, strengthen teamwork and leadership skills, and build lasting memories. It's a vibrant day filled with mateship, mud, and plenty of fun!



**MILDURA SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**  
**TUESDAY JAN 27- 9 TO 3 MSP (INSIDE THE STADIUM)**





## AUSTRALIAN GOLF FOUNDATION

## Junior Girls Scholarship Program

Australian Golf Foundation Junior Girls Scholarship program  
Media Release

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**The Merbein Golf Club are offering junior girls' golf scholarships in 2026!**

The Merbein Golf Club has obtained funding from The Australian Golf Foundation (AGF) to support 18 lucky girls to continue to develop their golfing skills.

Scholarships are open to girls aged 9 to 16 and while the program's primary aim is to retain girls in golf by giving girls a shared golf experience, girls new to golf may also be engaged in this program should they demonstrate a commitment to learning the sport.

"This is a terrific opportunity", said Melinda Binding, Community Golf Instructor, of the Merbein Golf Club. "Not only will girls receive 24 coaching sessions, but also a free one-year junior club membership that carries playing rights, to ensure girls can participate in club competitions and obtain a handicap".

The Scholarship program is part of a national campaign to get more girls playing golf. Along with over 165 other golf facilities across Australia, the Merbein Golf Club will be working closely with golf's national body Golf Australia throughout 2026.

"All we ask is that applicants display a desire and willingness to improve their golf skills, obtain a handicap, play in club competitions (or at least social play) and engage in any extra-curricular activity that fosters friendships between scholarship holders".

A total of 18 scholarships will be available for 2026.

For further information and to apply, please contact Melinda Binding on 0447 790 949 or email [communitygolfinstructormj@b@gmail.com](mailto:communitygolfinstructormj@b@gmail.com)



## STUDENTS FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Thursday 1 January 2026, people aged under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport services. This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

Previously people aged 5 to 18 years could use a child myki card and buy a concession fare. To access free travel from January, they must use a new Youth myki card and tap the card on and off

each time they travel. For areas that do not use myki cards, they must show their myki card to travel free.

Young people, their parents or guardians can now purchase a Youth myki for \$5 on [transport.vic.gov.au/myki](https://transport.vic.gov.au/myki)

To buy a Youth myki, customers can create an account or login to an existing myki account, purchase and register the Youth myki, and wait for it to arrive in the mail.

Due to high demand, delivery of the new Youth myki may take longer than the standard 10 business days. Confirmation emails in printed or digital format can be used as a ticket to travel from 1 January, while waiting for a Youth myki to arrive.



## VICSWIM

VICSWIM is a 5-day intensive learn to swim and water safety program for children aged 4 to 12 years, run in the summer holidays. VICSWIM is particularly helpful for those who may not access swimming lessons regularly. The Victorian Government subsidises the program, which is run by Aquatics and Recreation Victoria.

Program details:

Dates: Monday 5 January to Friday 23 January 2026

Time: 5 lessons, 30 minutes each

Location: at 140 venues across the state. To find your nearest location, refer to [VICSWIM 2026 venues](#) In our region, programs are run at Irymple Pool, Mildura Waves, Red Cliffs Pool and Merbein Pool.

Cost: \$43 per child for the week.

For more information and to book (log in required), refer to the [VICSWIM](#) website.

**LEARN TO SWIM**

VICSWIM Summer Kidz Program is a great way for your child to **learn how to swim & stay safe** in & around water!

[vicswim.com.au](https://vicswim.com.au)

**ENROL FOR SUMMER**

**\$43**  
FOR 5 LESSONS!  
\*An additional entry cost may apply at some pools.

ARV AQUATICS & RECREATION VICTORIA  
water safety since 1976  
VICSWIM 50 YEARS 1976-2026

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

# 2025/2026

		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
DECEMBER	11	15	16 Grade 6 Graduation	17	18	19 End of Term 4 1:00pm dismissal	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
JANUARY		29	30	31	1	2	3	4
		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	1	26	27 Staff return for 2026	28	29 Student start for 2026	30	31	1
FEBRUARY	2	2	3	4 Prep Rest Day	5	6	7	8
	3	9	10	11 Prep Rest Day	12	13	14	15
	4	16	17	18 Prep Rest Day	19	20	21	22

## 2025 Dates

### Term Dates

Term 4 Monday 6th Oct - Friday 19th Dec

### School Events

Grade 6 Graduation @ Willow & Ivie -  
Tuesday 16th December

End of Term 4 - Friday 19th December  
1:00pm dismissal (no lunch orders or lunch  
required. Busses will not be running at the  
earlier time)

## 2026 Dates

### Term Dates 2026

ALL students start school on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>  
January 2026.

Staff return to school on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January

**Term 1** Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**Term 2** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

**Term 3** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept

**Term 4** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec

### Night Amongst the Vines

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2026

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### DECEMBER

Isabella Tully (8th)  
Casey Romeo (8th)  
Graycen Gange (9th)

Will Stamation (10th)  
Alessia Caminiti (13th)  
Eleni Taousakis (14th)

