



Prep Curriculum Newsletter

Term One 2026

Welcome to Woodville!

Thank you to all our parents and carers for the great work you have done in preparing your child for school and for making it such a successful transition.

Please arrive on time (by 8:40am) in the morning for a smooth school drop off. If you are running late, (after 8.50am) please go to the office to sign in your child. A quick, no fuss 'goodbye' in the morning helps settle children into their school day. Please try to be at school on time in the afternoon (3:00pm) as it causes distress to children if no one is there to pick them up when the bell rings.

In the coming weeks, your child will bring home their blue Communication Folder. These will be used to send notices and readers home. Reading will begin on Monday 23rd of February. Instructions and information about this folder will also be included. Please ensure you check this folder every night for important notes which your child may bring home.

It would be greatly appreciated if your child could bring a box of tissues to school. Thank you to those families who have already done so. Please name all items that are removable e.g. hats and jumpers/jackets so if they are misplaced, they can be returned to your child.

Please ensure that you bring along **all** of your child's school supplies as we are busy making books and pencil cases for them to start their learning. The teacher will hand out supplies during the year as your child requires more, hence why we ask for everything to be bought in at the beginning of the school year.

Thank you to those families who have logged onto COMPASS please check this regularly as whole school information and notices are posted on there. You also use COMPASS to book a Meet and Greet Interview time which is happening on Tuesday 24th February 2026. Please also be aware your child's teacher may contact you via COMPASS Connect for quick messages.

Literacy

The three key areas in Literacy are Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

Students have started the Phonics Program and are learning how to write and say the sounds letters make. Along with the phonics program we are practising writing our name and holding a pencil correctly. Take home reading will begin on Monday 23rd of February. It is vitally important that you spend 15 minutes each night reading with your child. Your child will bring home a book to read each night and change it the following morning. Please also remember to complete your child's Reading Log (this is the yellow diary) so that we have a record of the reading completed at home.

Numeracy

There are three strands covered in Mathematics. These are Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability. We are learning to read, write and count to ten. Students are practising counting using concrete materials while others are practising writing digits correctly.

Integrated Units

We are investigating a unit called 'All About Me' for the first part of the term. This unit of work investigates ideas such as friendship, emotions, and families.

Visual Art

During term 1 Prep students will become familiar with the art room environment and expectations, with a strong focus on the safe and responsible use of materials and equipment. They will develop foundational art-making skills such as cutting, drawing, gluing, painting, and basic construction while working with a variety of materials including pencils, paints, pastels, and markers.

As part of the curriculum, students will explore colour through painting activities and shape through a range of collage and drawing experiences. These learning opportunities will encourage creative thinking and support experimentation with new ideas. Students will also begin to build their art vocabulary and visual literacy by observing and discussing a variety of artworks, including illustrations from children's literature.

LOTE - Japanese

Students will begin to learn basic Japanese greetings accompanied by appropriate gestures for everyday interactions. They will explore high-frequency vocabulary used in daily life, such as numbers 1–10 and a variety of colours. Through shared reading and listening to songs, students will develop an ear for Japanese pronunciation, intonation, and rhythm. They will also be gently introduced to Japanese cultural celebrations, including Setsubun (Bean-Throwing Festival), and Hinamatsuri (Doll's Festival).

Physical Education

This term the students will be practising their listening skills in PE by responding to the whistle. The students will be learning about and practising their fundamental motor skills. These skills include running, jumping, agility, balancing and skipping. The students will also learn about the importance of fair play, encouragement and working in a team.

Music

During Term One students in Prep will be learning about the elements of music through fun, hands-on activities using percussion instruments.

Children will explore four key elements of music:

- Tempo – how fast or slow the music is
- Dynamics – how loud or soft the music is
- Pitch – how high or low a sound is
- Rhythm – patterns of long and short sounds

STEM

This term in STEM our Prep students will be introduced to what STEM is and why it is important in our world. Through the Design and Technologies and Digital Technologies 2.0 curriculum, students will engage in a wide range of hands-on learning experiences. These will include introductory robotics activities, simple science investigations, and early engineering challenges. Students will explore how things move, how they can be built, and how technology can help solve problems. A strong focus will be placed on curiosity, exploration, and learning through play. These experiences help build confidence, creativity, and foundational problem-solving skills. Students will be encouraged to ask questions, test ideas, and share their thinking.

Library

During the year, Preps will be visiting the library for personal borrowing and browsing. Students will bring home a book to read and enjoy for the week. Library books can be returned at any time of the week into the classroom library tub.

Specialist Timetable

	Prep A	Prep B
Monday	STEM	Library
Tuesday	Japanese	STEM Music
Wednesday	Music P.E	Japanese
Thursday	Art	P.E Art
Friday	Library	

School Uniform

It is pleasing to see the Prep students wearing their school uniform with pride. Well done for being such fantastic role models for our school. Keep up the great work! All students are expected to be in full school uniform every day. The correct uniform includes the school polo shirt, navy shorts/skirt or school dress. Jumpers and pants are expected to be navy blue. Hair ties and clips are asked to be blue or white. Footwear must be appropriate for school. School shoes should be black and sneakers predominantly black or white. Woodville Primary School is a sun smart school and a 'No Hat No Play' policy exists in terms one and four. However, hats can be worn all year round and are for sale at our school office for \$10.00.

Stud earrings or small sleepers and watches are permitted. For safety, other jewellery must not be worn i.e: bracelets or necklaces, unless worn for religious or cultural purposes.

To help prevent the spread of **head lice** students must tie up shoulder length or longer hair (a plait will often help with longer hair also). Please name all articles of clothing/hat as this will assist in children reclaiming them if lost.

A copy of the Uniform Policy is available from the front office.

S.M.A.R.T.S Goals

Student S.M.A.R.T.S Goals are uploaded regularly to Compass for you to look at and discuss with your child. Students are given S.M.A.R.T.S for Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

EVERYDAY COUNTS!

School is better when you're here.

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...



Do I have to go to school?

Yes, in Victoria everyone aged from 6 – 17 has to go to school.

Missing one day a fortnight is the same as missing four whole weeks of school a year!

From Foundation to Year 12 that adds up to 1.5 years of school!

School is better when you attend. Your friends and your teachers notice that you are away and wonder if you are OK.

Why is it important that I go to school every day?

Right now, being at school is the most important thing you need to do for your future. School helps you build good habits for later on in life. You might think school is just about Maths and English but you're also learning about how to work with other people and how to solve problems.

Being at school every day also means you are becoming more independent as a learner and interacting with your friends and teachers. If you are at school you can get help from your teachers and friends and won't have to try to learn things in your own time.

Being an adult probably seems far away but we know that young people who attend school more frequently have better outcomes after school too. This means they earn more money, have better job opportunities and are generally healthier. So being at school really does make a difference!

Do my parents need to let the school know if I am going to be away?

Yes. Your parents need to notify the school of your absence as soon as they can within three days of your absence. If they know you are going to be away, they should try to tell the school before the day or days you are away.

If you're away from school too much and don't have a reasonable excuse like a serious illness, your parents might get a letter from the principal asking about why you're away.

Are there any good reasons to be away from school?

No. Unless you are very unwell or there is an event like a funeral, you should be at school. Every day you are away is a day of classes and social connection you miss out on. Taking a day off for your birthday or go shopping isn't a good reason to miss school.

Even medical and health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays. This includes family holidays. Your parents are encouraged not to plan holidays during the term but to organise these during the school holidays.

If you do have to be away for some reason, your parents need to contact the school and let them know what's going on. Depending on the situation, the school might provide schoolwork for you to complete.

Getting to school on time every day can be about having a good routine.

If you find yourself running late or missing school because you're disorganised, try:

- Asking your parents for help getting ready
- Having a set time to go to bed
- Leaving all technology out of your bedroom
- Packing your school bag the night before with everything you need
- Having a set time for breakfast
- Planning to meet up with a friend so you can travel to school together.

What if I am having problems getting to school?

Sometimes, though it can just be hard to go to school. Whatever the situation is, staying away from school isn't the answer. Many people want to help you. Try talking to:

- Your parents or another adult family member
- A trusted teacher
- Wellbeing Coordinator.

**Thankyou,
Prep Team**

Ms Holly Wilkinson, Ms Liz Lange & Ms Gail McCredden