

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 1 2024

Thursday, March 28

Last day Term 1, 2024

Optional Casual Clothes (gold coin donation to RCH Good Friday Appeal)

2:30pm FINISH

Friday, March 29

Good Friday – Public Holiday

TERM 2 2024

Monday, April 15

First day Term 2 – 8:50 AM

Tues, April 16 - Fri, April 26

Year 4 & 6 Swimming Program
8 day intensive program

Wednesday, April 24

Wyndham Student
Representative Council Forum
School Captains

Thursday, April 25

ANZAC DAY - Public Holiday

SCHOOL SECURITY

During the holidays, we ask your assistance in discouraging any people who misuse our grounds. If you happen to notice any person on our school grounds who is engaging in any type of dangerous or destructive behaviour, please do not hesitate to call the police on **000, Shield Security on 9974 1488 and the Department of Education Office of Emergency Management on 1800 126 126 24 hours, 7 days.**

WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY

iramoo.ps@education.vic.gov.au
<http://www.iramoo.ps.vic.edu.au>

9741 2803

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Raquel Tweedley

As we conclude Term 1, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the great start our students have made to the school year.

We have maintained a happy, safe and calm environment and managed the continuing state wide teacher shortage very well.

We have enjoyed a few special events and welcomed many of our parents, carers and grandparents along to support their children.

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE

At our School Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday, March 18, office bearers for 2024/25 were elected. Mr Chris Bowen has been re-elected as President and Mrs Jade Austin has been re-elected Vice President. Staff representative Mr Simon Little was re-elected Treasurer/ Secretary.

During our March meeting, Council discussed and endorsed our 2023 Annual Report to the School Community. Parents/carers will be able to view the report on our home page of our website shortly.

SWIMMING PROGRAM YEARS 4 & 6

Our Year 2 & 4 swimming program begins on the second day of next term, Tuesday, April 16. All Year 4 and Year 6 families have received detailed information about this Education Department subsidised program. It is essential that permission forms and parent/carers assessment forms are returned by Thursday, March 28.

JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday, March 21 our Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students and staff thoroughly enjoyed participating in their Cross Country. It was wonderful seeing so many family members supporting their children.

Prep Boys:

Cameron Weber
Archie Lasslett
Jameson Finlow

Year 1 Boys:

Caleb Yeowell
Leo Ransfield
Rishad Mirdha

Year 2 Boys:

Ali Ahmad-Le
Aguer Ater
Noah Catalbas

Prep Girls:

Hay Blut Htoo
Liliana Scicluna
Amalia Cizauskas

Year 1 Girls:

Sophie Woodyard
Gloria Makour
Aki Kamboj

Year 2 Girls:

Isla Stevenson
Chloe Johns
Nashe Chengeta



2025 PREP ENROLMENTS

The Department of Education (DE) has a state wide Foundation (Prep) enrolment timeline.

The timeline advises families when and how to enrol their child into Foundation (Prep) at a Victorian government primary school, including Iramoo Primary School. 2025 Prep enrolments open in Term 2.

Information and resources about the enrolment timeline and procedures can be found at: [Enrolling in Foundation \(Prep\) | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.vic.gov.au/enrolling-in-foundation-prep)

Families are able to enrol their child in Foundation (Prep), 2025 to our school from Monday, April 15 until Friday, June 28 2024.

Further information is available below and flyers have been given to our 'local' kindergartens and childcare centres. If you know anyone who has a child eligible to enrol in Foundation for 2025, who is within our neighbourhood area and doesn't go to one of our local kindergartens or childcare centres, please let them know they can contact our school for more information.

ROYAL CHILDREN HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

In addition to our students' social service collections throughout Term 1 and gold coin donations for our casual dress day on Thursday, March 28 our Iramoo families are able to 'give that they may grow' via our RCH Virtual Tin shake:

Below is our link for our virtual tin shake for the RCH Good Friday Appeal:

[Iramoo Primary School Good Friday Appeal](#)



Thursday, March 28. Last day Term 1

2:30 PM FINISH

Optional Casual Clothes (gold coin donation to RCH Good Friday Appeal)



EVERY DAY COUNTS

CELEBRATING WONDERFUL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

All students are expected to attend school every day.

We congratulate our 122 students who maintained a perfect attendance rate with 0 days of absence during Term 1. All of these students will receive a special certificate on our last day of term in recognition of their efforts. We also had 308 students – 56% who had less than 3 days of absence for the term.

Early next term, we will be holding a lunchtime disco to celebrate the 122 students with perfect attendance as well as the grade with the best attendance rate during Term 1.

During Term 2, we will continue to speak with the children about the expectation that they attend school each day. The positive impacts this has on their learning, emotional and social development will also be emphasised. We will be continuing to work as a team with families to maintain and encourage healthy school attendance rates. Please support your child by ensuring that they continue to attend school every day, unless unwell and by explaining any absences on Compass. If you need assistance with how to do this, please contact our office.



SCHOOL DATA

National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

The annual NAPLAN assessments commenced on Wednesday, March 13 for over one million students across Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Our staff and students were very well prepared and all testing went smoothly and concluded on Monday, March 25.

The online NAPLAN assessments are referred to as 'tailored testing' (sometimes also referred to as 'on demand' testing) and means that the system will provide the students with more complex or simpler questions depending on their responses. The results of this type of testing are considered to be more reliable, especially for the students whose results indicate that they are well above or well below the expected range. Please note that all Year 3 students did their writing test using paper and pencil, not online.

COMMON PRACTICE DAY

The Department of Education and Training has enabled schools to hold the final professional practice day on the same day for all teachers in Term 2. This is to enable the most effective and efficient use of this day.

As a result, our School Council have endorsed our scheduled professional practice day for Friday, May 24, 2024. Students will therefore not be required to attend school on this day.

Our Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) provider, BIG CHILDCARE will be available for all of our families to book all day care during our Common Day on Friday, May 24.

If you are interested in using their services, please send a text to mobile 0484 111 387 or email iramoo@bigchildcare.com

A minimum of 15 students is required for the day to go ahead.

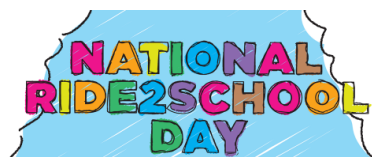
YEAR 4 & 6 ATHLETIC CARNIVAL

On Tuesday, March 5 our Year 4, 5 & 6 students enjoyed a very energetic day. They cheered each other on and tried their best. We would like to thank all of the parents and carers who spent the day helping with the events and supporting our students and staff. Another successful day full of well behaved students and good sports.



NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY 2023

On Friday, March 22 we had over 198 students ride to school to participate in our National Ride2School Day.



HARMONY & CULTURAL AWARENESS WEEK - March 18 - 22

Harmony Week celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Cultural Diversity Week brings the community together to celebrate the colourful sounds, sights, movements and tastes of our state's rich multicultural communities. The week invites us to reconnect, share and express ourselves creatively through this year's theme; 'Connecting through Culture'.

Last week our staff and students celebrated our diverse school community. We engaged in activities, conversations and stories that celebrated our different heritages, cultures, and languages.

<https://www.harmony.gov.au/resources/resources>



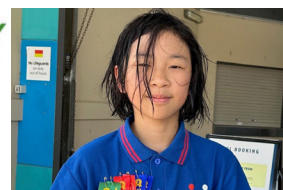
HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

We thank everyone who purchased Hot Cross Buns supplied by our local Bakers Delight at Manor Lakes. We sold 317 packs. That is nearly 2000 Hot Cross Buns that will be enjoyed by our Red & Blue families.

A very big THANK YOU to Mrs Jade Austin and Mr Chris Bowen for their time and effort in coordinating this for us.

SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA WYNDHAM DIVISION SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Melisa Mai 6DB for representing Iramoo PS at the Western Metropolitan Region Swimming Championship at Kardinia Aquatic Centre in Geelong on Tuesday, March 26. Melisa competed in the 12 year old girls 50m backstroke and 50m breaststroke event and we are all very proud of her swimming achievements.



Werribee Bears Rugby League Club Storm Junior League Come & Try and Holiday Clinics in the Easter School Holidays on Monday 8th of April from 5:30pm at Haines Drive Reserve, Wyndham Vale.

<https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register/entity?data=eyJlbmRpdHJZCjE6NTA2MzkyODQsImVudGI0eVR5cGUjOiJwcm9ncmF1n0%3D&source=rugby-league>

<https://profile.mysideline.com.au/register/entity?data=eyJlbmRpdHJZCjE6NTE3NDAxNDMslmVudGI0eVR5cGUjOiJwcm9ncmF1n0%3D&source=rugby-league>



EVERY DAY COUNTS

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PRIMARY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

SCHOOL IS BETTER WHEN YOUR CHILD IS THERE

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates.

It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

IN VICTORIA SCHOOL IS COMPULSORY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6 -17 YEARS

Student Absences

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and developing good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

Family holidays - It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term. If you are planning to go on holiday during term time, make sure that you talk to your child's school in advance, and work with them to develop an absence learning plan.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

School refusal - School refusing children will experience significant emotional distress not only when going to school but also at the thought of going to school; they may be absent from school for weeks or even months at a time. School refusal differs from truancy as children generally stay home with the knowledge of the parents and despite their best efforts to encourage their child to go to school. See: [My child or teenager has anxiety](#)

BEING AWAY FROM SCHOOL FOR ONE DAY A FORTNIGHT EQUALS MISSING 1.5 YEARS OVER 13 YEARS OF SCHOOL

If your child is away

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

Inform the school

- Speak with your child's classroom teacher and find out what work they need to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, **every day counts**. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Training Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Chronic or ongoing attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice being issued to parent/s.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Top attendance tips for parents

- Schools want to work in partnership with parents – act early if you have any concerns by contacting your child's school and asking for advice and support
- Remember that every day counts
- There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes and their social connectedness
- Talk positively about school and the importance of attending every day
- Open and prompt communication with your child's school about all absences is a good idea
- Avoid making routine medical and dental appointments during the school day or planning family holidays during the term
- Seek help from your school if you are concerned about your child's attendance and wellbeing. Schools want to work in partnership with parents to support student attendance and wellbeing.

Further information

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/studentmanagement/attendance/Pages/improve-attendance.aspx>

**FREE
ENTRY**

**KIDS
DAY
OUT**



**FRIDAY 29 MARCH
10AM - 5PM**

MELBOURNE CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

Melbourne's Favourite Family Fun Day!



MAJOR SUPPORTER





PLAY

FOR
the
KICKS



come
find your
awesome

WYNDHAM VALE AUSKICK CENTRE

Starts Friday 3rd May

Wyndhamvale South Reserve,

Wyndham Vale

6pm-7pm



play.afl/auskick



<https://www.playhq.com/afl/register/7280f3>