



6th February 2025

Principal's Message



What's On...

February

- 6th Connect to Country Day
- 10th Bookings for Meet and Greet sessions will open on Monday 10th February from 9.30am and will close at 4.00pm on Friday 14th February.
- 11th Curriculum Information Webex sessions commencing at 4.00pm. Parents will be provided with the Webex link via class Seesaw
- 14th Year 6 Interschool Sport begins
- 18th Meet and Greet Getting to Know You sessions Prep, Year1, Year 2, 3C, 3D,3F & 3H between 12.30 - 5.00pm.
- 19th Meet and Greet Getting to Know You sessions 3I, 3J, 3U, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 between 12.30 - 5.00pm.
- 24th Year 6 Leadership Badge Ceremony
- 27th District Swimming Sports

March

- 11th-13th Year 6 Camp - Golden Valleys
- 12th-17th NAPLAN Year 3&5

Dear Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK - A Great Start to the School Year!

Welcome back to school everyone, particularly to our new students and families. Our 2025 Preps have made a great start to their time at Pinewood Primary School. It has been a very smooth start to the school year and the students have quickly settled into a positive and productive learning environment. A special acknowledgement to our Prep students and their families on the beginning of their primary school journey. We understand that this is a big milestone for the whole family, and we are very proud of our prep students for their positivity, resilience, independence, and effort. We would like to thank all staff members for their efforts in building constructive relationships and in supporting students, and parents, in a smooth transition back to school.

The school day commences for students at 9.00am and finishes at 3.30pm. This year our daily timetable has moved to 5 x one-hour blocks per day. We will continue to operate a 'Split Lunch Timetable'. This means that students in Prep-Year 2 have a different lunchtime to the students in Years 3-6. The students enjoy the extra space in the playground at lunchtimes that the Split Timetable provides, and allows the school to offer a full suite of specialist programs to all year levels, each week e.g. Art/Music, Physical Education, LoTE (French) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).



WELCOME TO NEW and RETURNING STAFF

Special welcome to our new and returning staff members for 2025: Mr Samuel Fenton Yr5, Miss Eva Cant Yr5, Mr Andy Chan Yr3, Miss Tayla Kearns Yr5, Ms Irene Frederic Yr3, Mr Archie McDowell Yr1, Miss Qian Lin Yr6, Miss Mia Price Yr2, Ms Roula Konidaris Yr6, Ms Koko Lam, Office Administration.

JANUARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS WORKS

Over the January break carpets in classrooms were steam cleaned, all windows have been cleaned, and new furniture has arrived for some classrooms. Gutters and all solar panels have been cleaned. Yard drainage pits have also been cleared out. The fence running along the rear of the school has been replaced. The installation of the new power substation has commenced and will be completed by the end of term 1 providing the required power to keep the school fully operational. The sports field maintenance program has also occurred over the break.

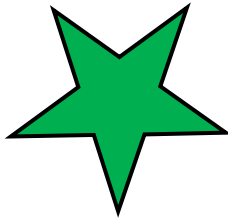


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENT LEADERS for 2025

Our new student leaders for 2025 were announced at our final assembly at the end of last year. The students will be presented with their leadership badges at a special presentation assembly on Monday 24th February. Congratulations to the following Yr 6 students for gaining leadership positions for 2025.

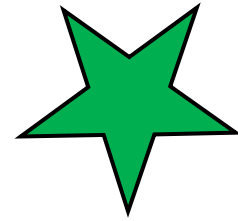


YEAR 6 CAPTAINS FOR 2025



School Captains

Sophia F
Sanira K

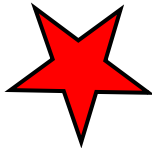


School Vice-Captains

Melody W
Arjuna R

Bebejan Hous Captains (Red)

Dasha D
Aaditya K



Sustainability Captains

Navya P
Sion K
Demi K
Logan K

Performing Arts Captains

Rebecca S
Lexie L

Inga Linga House Captains (Green)

Kellis H
Pratham K



STEM Captains

Timothy R
Ethan L
Caleb C
Ahana S

Sport Captains

Coco Z
Param P



Literacy Captains

Aaron L
Meena C
Audrey W

Miram House Captains (Blue)

Aashka A
Oscar L



Visual Arts Captains

Maggie L
Rhea C
Tharuli MG
Olivia L
Jeremy L

Mathematics Captains

Thoshan
Anvitha C
Sanuthi G

Waterang House Captains (Yellow)

Disha G
Reshan B



French Captains

Pippa D
Harper H

Wellbeing Captains

Zoe C
Kobe H
Rinjiu
Aarav L



COLC- Creating Our Learning Community -2025

The first week of the school year has commenced very well, with students participating in the program, 'Creating Our Learning Community (COLC) for 2025'. The students are really enjoying the engaging activities planned for them by class and year level teachers. The COLC program assists students with settling into their new classes, making new friends and the building of a great teaching and learning environment.



Wurundjeri Captains

Tate R
Aleksandra (Lexi) G

This year, we have a focus on building student 'connection and engagement'. Students from Years 1-6 have participated in a 'Connecting to Country' day, as part of the COLC program. We were very honoured to have Wurundjeri elders, Murrindindi and Pallyan, participate in our Connecting to Country Day Program, with Murrindindi leading a 'Welcome to Country' smoking ceremony' at assembly this morning. Both Murrindindi and Pallyan entertained the students and staff as they played didgeridoos and shared cultural stories with us all.

The COLC inclusive program is designed to build on the Victorian Curriculum learning areas of Humanities, Civics and Citizenship, History, English, and the Arts, Critical and Creative Thinking, and



Personal and Social Capabilities. The COLC program supports the implementation of the 'PERMA +' model, underpinning our 'whole school' approach to wellbeing at Pinewood Primary School.

TEACHER COMMUNICATION TOOL – SEESAW will continue to be the whole school communication tool for parent/teacher communication. Seesaw will be used across all year levels.



COMMUNICATION with PARENTS and CARERS

Our school Newsletter is produced each Thursday and distributed to families electronically via Compass. It can be viewed on our website. Hard copies of the newsletter will be available from the school administration office. Compass is our major method of communication with parents. Please ensure that you check notifications and information via Compass regularly and you have your correct login details. Please contact our school office with any problems or concerns.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION SESSION

We hold parent Curriculum Information sessions in Term 1 for each year level. This year Curriculum Information sessions are scheduled for next Tuesday 11th February. Information sessions will be conducted via Webex and will commence at 4.00pm. Each year level session will be recorded for parents to access later if unable to attend the initial Webex session. Parents will be provided with the Webex link via class Seesaw communication closer to the date.



MEET and GREET Sessions – Getting to know you

To establish vital links between home and school, 'Meet and Greet' or 'Getting to Know You' sessions have been organised for Week 4, Term 1. These initial meetings will be scheduled for ten minutes, occurring on Tuesday 18th February (Prep, Year1, Year 2, 3C, 3D,3F & 3H) or Wednesday 19th February (3 I, 3J, 3U, Year 4, Year5 and Year 6) between 12.30-5-00pm.

The session will be an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher either 'virtually' or in person and to share information about your child. (The online meetings will be held through the Webex virtual meeting platform).

We ask that you login as close to your interview time as possible and exit once your interview/s conclude. You will be able to book your interview time/s with your child/rens' teacher/s using the Compass Parent Portal. Specialist teachers are also available for sessions on these days; however, their spaces are very limited as our Specialist teachers cover many classes.

Bookings for Meet and Greet sessions will open on Monday 10th February from 9.30am and will close at 4.00pm on Friday 14th February.

A parent communication message will be sent via Compass when the Meet and Greet Conferences open.

If you have any issues booking an appointment, please contact the office between 9.00am and 4.00pm to assist you with this on 8847 3200. The teachers look forward to meeting all parents virtually during a scheduled opportunity and finding out more about your child.

EXTREME WEATHER

We have a comprehensive set of procedures in place for when the weather is very hot or extreme. Students are brought inside to the classrooms at recess and lunch times during





periods of ‘wild’, wet, or very hot weather as we have air conditioning throughout our school. For example, whenever the weather is particularly hot (at 33 degrees) we hold a “hot day timetable” where the students stay inside in air-conditioned comfort during lunchtime. We also encourage all students to drink water and to have a plastic, not glass, water bottle with them in class.

Our school has invested in, and maintains, air conditioners in every classroom and other areas, including the specialist rooms, library, FLS areas and the Hall.



Please remember that **school broad brimmed or legionnaire’s hats** need to be worn when students are playing outside and during PE classes when conducted outside. The use of sunscreen is encouraged.

It is important to pack foods in lunchboxes that will not ‘go off’ in hot weather. We recommend that children do not bring cold meats and cheese on very hot days – even food in a lunch box that includes an ice pack can deteriorate quickly and become unsafe to eat.

Fresh fruit is always a good choice as students are permitted and encouraged to snack on fruit and vegetables during class times or at 10.00am for short ‘brain food’ breaks.

TEACHERS ON DUTY FROM 8.45am

A reminder that teacher yard supervision begins from 8:45am and that children are to be accompanied by an adult or booked into OSHClub if they must arrive at school prior to 8:45am.

DENTAL SERVICE- Smile Squad

The Smile Squad team from Link Health and Community is now at our school for the next six weeks! This Victorian Government initiative provides all students with a free dental check-up, preventive care, and treatment—right here at school.

Thank you to the many families who have already signed up. Appointment times will be shared with families shortly. If you haven’t registered yet, there’s still time! Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION —STUDENT ACCIDENT & PRIVATE PROPERTY INSURANCE

The Department of Education and Training (DET), and government schools do not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. Reasonable low-cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. The Department of Education and Training also does not hold insurance, nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff, and visitors. Students are advised not to bring any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school and are not allowed to bring any electronic toys and games to school.

SCHOOLS’ PRIVACY REMINDER for 2025

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools’ Privacy Policy.

Please take time to remind yourself of our school’s collection notice, found on our website on the Curriculum and Policies page.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools’ Privacy Policy — information for parents. This information is also available in ten community languages:

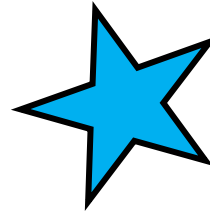
Amharic	Arabic	Dari	Gujarati	Mandarin	Somali
Sudanese	Turkish	Urdu	Vietnamese		

SAFE DRIVING Please remember that speed restrictions in School Zones are now back in place and parking and no-standing restrictions around the school need to be observed. These regulations are enforced by the City of Monash.



STAFFING PROFILE for 2025

PRINCIPAL: Karen Jenkin



ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS: Andrew Thomas & April Warfield

YEAR LEVEL	CLASS TEACHERS FOR 2025
PREP	Maria Athanasopoulos, Maria Kovas, Samantha Baroni, Nadia De Gregorio, Stephanie Voon
Year 1	Amandine Lucas-Lely, Charlotte Gray, Tania Hamamen, Archie McDowell, Justine Tang
Year 2	Wendy Mann, Katelyn Marshall & Jonathan Anderson, Courtney Morrison, Faye Park, Kara Hewitt & Hayley Wilson, Mia Price
Year 3	Moui Ung, Andy Chan, Alex Davies, Karl Fernando, Tara Helfer Irene Frederic, Monica Jones
Year 4	Tracy Hobson, Kathryn Bleechmore, Helen Crockett, Jasmine Lim, Leah Maarse-Davison, Aaron Tait & Rishu Kapoor
Year 5	Sophie Macdonald & Alyssia Templeton, Eva Cant, Julia Coutselinis, Samuel Fenton, Jon Harvey, Tayla Kearns
Year 6	Elizabeth O'Meara, Tom Hatjidimitriu, Troy Hartigan, Qian Lin, Roula Konidaris
Specialist Teachers	ART: Fran Combes MUSIC: Gareth Taylor PE: James Verde & Luke Allen LOTE: Olivia Leontiades, Jacklyn Slade STEM: Bernie Wong & Sarah Pereira
Support Teachers	LITERACY: Helen Dent, Robyn Russell, Janine Kaminski COUNSELLOR: Christina Gaffy EAL: Jenny Falconer MATHS: Enrichment: Angela Katsos, Maths Support: Yue Pan
Student Wellbeing & Welfare	April Warfield (Assistant Principal), Sandra McGregor (Leading Teacher - Inclusion) School Nurse: Grace De Cesare Education Support Staff: Sally, Margie, Maddison, Mia, Jace
Admin Staff	BUSINESS MANAGER: Jan Migliore Reception/Admin: Grace Saxon and Koko Lam IT Support: John Kovas and Joe Dowsett Library Support: Estelle Bowman

It has been wonderful to catch up with so many parents out in the yard this week. Please remember, my door is always open to have a chat or share a concern.

Karen Jenkin
Principal



Healthy, Interesting and Affordable Lunch Packs, Delivered to School
Servicing Pinewood on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday!
Orders received until 8:30am on the day!
2 Course Lunch Pack from \$6.45

Choose a Main Course item, then select 1 or 2 Items from the Snack/Drink Menu to make up a 2 or 3 Course Lunch Pack.

Main Course Menu	2 Course Lunch	3 Course Lunch	Snack/Drink Menu ^{★ = Premium Item (+\$1.00)}
SUSHI HAND ROLLS (2pc) Soy Sauce (GF) Provided			FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES
Teriyaki Chicken Hand Rolls (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Apple pieces, Lemon juice, Cinnamon & Brown Sugar ★
Crispy Chicken (Schnitzel) Hand Rolls (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Cantaloupe and Honeydew Pieces ★
Cooked Tuna Hand Rolls (GF)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Fresh Fruit Combo ★
Avocado Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Freshly Chopped Orange Segments
Cucumber Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Freshly Chopped Strawberries with Grapes
Vegetarian Hand Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Freshly Chopped Watermelon Pieces
Tofu Hand Rolls (GF, V)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Whole Fruit - Apple
			Whole Fruit - Banana
			Carrot, Cucumber, Red & Yellow Capsicum
			Celery and Carrot Sticks with Sultanas
			Cherry Tomatoes, Tasty Cheese & Rice Crackers
			Corn Wheels & Lightly Steamed Broccoli
			Edamame (Lightly Salted)
			Sugar Snap Peas, Beans and Cherry Tomatoes ★
RICE PAPER ROLLS (2pc)			BAKERY - SWEET
Chicken Rice Paper Rolls (GF, H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Choc Chip Cookie
Vegetarian Rice Paper Rolls (GF, Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Finger Bun with Sprinkles
			Fruit Bun
BAKERY All items freshly baked this morning!			Cinnamon Doughnut
Cheese and Vegemite Scroll (V)	\$6.45	\$8.95	Cornflake Cookie
Savoury Bite 'Little Frank' Roll	\$6.45	\$8.95	Choc Cup Cake (GF/DF) ★
Topped with Only Cheese Roll (M)	\$6.45	\$8.95	Blueberry Muffin ★
Cheese and Bacon Roll	\$7.45	\$9.95	Jam Drop Biscuit (GF) ★
Semi-dried Tomato, Olive & Cheese Roll (M)	\$8.95	\$11.45	Banana Slice (GF) ★
Scroll with Ham and Cheese	\$9.95	\$12.85	
Frankfurt 'in a blanket' with Sauce & Cheese (2)	\$10.95	\$13.65	SUSHI
			1pc Tuna Sushi (GF) ★
PIZZA & GOZLEME Served at Room Temp			POPCORN
Ricotta & Spinach Pastizzi (2) (M)	\$7.45	\$9.95	Slightly Sweet, Lightly Salted
Samosa Pastizzi (2) (Vg)	\$7.45	\$9.95	Lightly Salted
Margherita Pita Pizza (M)	\$8.95	\$11.45	DRIED FRUIT / LEGUMES
Ham & Pineapple Pizza Slice	\$10.95	\$13.65	Lime & Black Pepper Chickpeas
Spinach and Cheese Gozleme (V)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Roasted Chickpeas
Lamb and Beef Gozleme (H)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Balsamic & Sea Salt Fava Beans
Mushroom and Spinach Gozleme (Vg)	\$13.45	\$15.45	Dried Fruit Medley with Yoghurt Sultanas ★
			DIPS WITH MINI RICE CAKES
SANDWICHES / ROLLS / WRAPS			Tzatziki Dip with Mini Rice Cakes ★
Strawberry Jam Sandwich (1.5) (Vg)	\$7.45	\$9.95	Spring Onion Dip with Mini Rice Cakes ★
Vegemite Sandwich (2) (Vg)	\$8.95	\$11.45	Spicy Capsicum Dip with Mini Rice Cakes ★
Plain Cheese Sandwich (2) (V)	\$9.95	\$12.85	Avocado Dip with Mini Rice Cakes ★
Simple Salad Roll (Vg)	\$9.95	\$12.85	YOGHURTS / BOWLS
Cheese and Salad Roll (M)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Strawberry Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers) ★
Wholegrain Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	Classic Vanilla Yoghurt (Dairy Farmers) ★
Roast Chicken and Salad Roll (H)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Chia Bowl with Banana, Coconut & Strawberries ★
Roast Beef, Chutney, Cheese & Lettuce Roll	\$11.50	\$13.75	Stewed Rhubarb and Apple with Custard ★
Turkey, Cranberry, Lettuce & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$11.50	\$13.75	
Mild Salami and Salad Roll	\$11.50	\$13.75	DRINKS
Wrap w/Chicken, Tzatziki, Lettuce, Tomato Cucumber (H)	\$12.75	\$14.95	Apple Juice (Nippy's)
'Banh Mi' Style Roast Chicken Long Roll (H)	\$12.75	\$14.95	Orange Juice (Nippy's)
			Chocolate Milk (Nippy's)
SALADS / PICNIC BOXES / FRUIT & VEG			Strawberry Milk (Nippy's)
Steamed Corn Wheels, Broccoli & Carrot (GF, Vg)	\$9.95	\$12.85	So Good Soy Milk
Fresh Fruit Salad - Main Course Size (GF, Vg)	\$11.50	\$13.75	Full Cream Milk
Vegetarian Picnic Box (GF, V)	\$11.50	\$13.75	
Ham Picnic Box (GF)	\$11.50	\$13.75	
Greek Style Salad with Feta and Olives (GF, V)	\$12.75	\$14.95	
Tortellini Pasta Salad (M)	\$12.75	\$14.95	
Mexican Inspired Salad (GF, Vg)	\$12.75	\$14.95	
GF SANDWICHES & WRAPS			
GF Ham & Cheese Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	
GF Cucumber & Ham Sandwich (1.5)	\$10.95	\$13.65	
GF Wrap - Ham and Salad	\$12.75	\$14.95	
GF Wrap - Garden Salad (GF, Vg)	\$12.75	\$14.95	



ORDER NOW

GF = Gluten Free, DF = Dairy Free, H = Nuts, V = Vegetarian, Vg = Vegan

We are a NUT FREE kitchen. Descriptions, dietary and allergen information available on our website