Welcome to
WENDOUREE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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www.wendoureeps.vic.edu.au
Happy Birthday

Our Kitchen Garden Program is seven years old. Last year Stephanie Alexander visited Wendouree PS to help us celebrate and officially open our new Pizza Oven Project.
MESSAGE TO PARENTS

It is our goal to ensure that we all work together in a cooperative team to ensure your child's school days are happy and successful.

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

At Wendouree Primary School we will provide an inclusive, safe and purposeful environment where children are supported to do their personal best as learners and in the wider community. School programs will provide opportunities for students to develop the skills necessary to be actively involved in their learning to achieve success.
TRIBES

A Whole School Approach to Student Welfare

The Tribes Learning Community process, promotes social and academic development by creating a positive learning environment.

OUR BEHAVIOUR BASICS

1. Do what the teacher says.
2. Hands off.
3. Don’t butt in.
4. Hands up and wait.
5. Stay put.
6. Use your own stuff.
7. Keep it clean.
8. Be safe.

At Wendouree Primary School we base our Shared Expectations on eight easy to follow, student friendly written rules, that we call our Behaviour Basics. These basic behaviours are expected to be followed by students at all times whilst at school and during any school related activities.

Our Behaviour Basics work alongside other student engagement programs outlined in this brochure including the TRIBES program which is promoted throughout the school.
OUR TRIBES LEARNING AGREEMENTS

Personal Best - We try at all times to do our own personal best work and put in our own best efforts in everything we do.

Attentive Listening - We pay close attention to each other’s ideas, opinions and feelings. We check for understanding and let others know they have been heard. These are teachable social skills and involve maintaining eye contact, withholding your own comments, paraphrasing key words to show you’ve been listening and using positive body language to show that your are listening with your ears, your eyes and your heart.

Appreciations/No Put Downs - We develop a sense of self-esteem and self-worth through appreciations and recognition of each other's gifts and talents. We say thank you all the time and we don’t take for granted what others do for us. Saying thank you is a VERY important part of our daily learning at Wendouree Primary School.

Mutual Respect - We ensure that each other’s cultural values, beliefs and needs are considered. We respect each other’s individual skills, talents and contributions. When we learn and play together we respect each other's differences.

The Right To Participate - We acknowledge that sometimes it's alright to pass during circle time. Choosing the right to pass means that we prefer not to share personal information or feelings or to actively participate in a group at a particular moment. As circle time is a daily part of our learning we will always be given another chance to participate next time round.
AusVELS is the Prep to Year 10 Curriculum for Victorian schools. The AusVELS differs from traditional curricula because it includes knowledge and skills in the areas of physical, social and personal learning. These are skills which are transferable across all areas of study. At Wendouree Primary School our AusVELS curriculum encourages a flexible and creative approach to learning through an integrated sequence of learning themes.

**PHYSICAL, PERSONAL AND SOCIAL LEARNING**

- **Civics and Citizenship**
- **Health and Physical Education**
- **Interpersonal Development**

**Personal Learning**

Students learn about themselves and their place in society. They learn how to stay healthy and active. Students develop skills in building social relationships and working with others. They take responsibility for their learning, and learn about their rights and responsibilities as global citizens.

**DISCIPLINE-BASED LEARNING**

- **The Arts**
- **English**
- **The Humanities**
- **The Humanities - Economics**
- **The Humanities - Geography**
- **The Humanities - History**
- **Languages**
- **Mathematics**
- **Science**

Students learn the knowledge, skills and behaviours in the Arts, English, Humanities, Mathematics, Science and Languages. At our school the students learn Japanese in Language classes.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING**

- **Communication**
- **Design, Creativity and Technology**
- **Information and Communications**
- **Technology**
- **Thinking Processes**

Students explore different ways of thinking, solving problems and communicating. They learn to use a range of technologies to plan, analyse, evaluate and present their work. Students learn about creativity, design principles and processes.
Our Literacy Program

Our Literacy program aims to ensure that students:

- learn to listen to, read, view, speak, write, create and reflect on increasingly complex and sophisticated spoken, written and multimodal texts across a growing range of contexts with accuracy, fluency and purpose
- appreciate, enjoy and use the English language in all its variations and develop a sense of its richness and power to evoke feelings, convey information, form ideas, facilitate interaction with others, entertain, persuade and argue
- understand how Standard Australian English works in its spoken and written forms and in combination with non-linguistic forms of communication to create meaning
- develop interest and skills in inquiring into the aesthetic aspects of texts, and develop an informed appreciation of literature.

Our Numeracy Program

Our Numeracy program aims to ensure that students:

- are confident, creative users and communicators of mathematics, able to investigate, represent and interpret situations in their personal and work lives and as active citizens
- develop an increasingly sophisticated understanding of mathematical concepts and fluency with processes, and are able to pose and solve problems and reason in Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability
- recognise connections between the areas of mathematics and other disciplines and appreciate mathematics as an accessible and enjoyable discipline to study.
OUR INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

In its simplest form an Integrated Curriculum is one that makes connections across subject areas and with real life experiences. At Wendouree PS our inquiry based integrated curriculum includes such topics such as “Why are Minibeasts Fascinating? What Lies Beneath the Sand? What Do We Dig About Dinosaurs? What’s so Amazing about the Human Body?

The teachers and students explore topics by finding out the answers to topic related questions together. As much as possible we also like to connect this learning with real life experiences and at the end of each topic we always celebrate our learning.
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is provided by approved instructors following guidelines set down by the Council for Christian Education in Schools. It is a non-denominational, approved course and is consistent with our “TRIBES” program. Children are provided with 30 minutes of instruction per week. This is an optional program.

LIFE EDUCATION

Each student participates in the Life Education Program each year. The Life Education program provides each of our students with mandatory drug education information.

BOOK CLUB

Book Club notices and orders forms are generally sent home twice per term to give parents the opportunity to purchase books through this program.

LIBRARY

Students in the Junior School attend Library classes each week. We have a very well stocked library and encourage all students to borrow from the library once a week.
SHOWCASE

Each year students participate in our Performing Arts Showcase. Each class presents an item related to a particular theme. This is a fabulous part of our Arts Curriculum and our students, teachers and families work very hard together to produce each wonderful item.

Our Showcase Evening is held in the Wendouree Performing Arts Centre, next door and parents, grandparents, relatives and friends all enjoy this amazing evening.
Students in Grades 3-6 take part in our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program each week. This is a wonderful program where the students get to grow and harvest produce and then prepare and share this produce as meals together at school. This program relies on the wonderful support of many volunteers as the students work in small groups during this program. If you would like to volunteer to assist in the kitchen or garden classes please contact the school. We would really appreciate your assistance with this amazing program. In 2014 our School won Country Style Magazines’ Harvest Table Competition. We won $5000 for our SAKG program and spent a day with the Country Style team on a very exciting photo shoot.
WENDOUREE PRIMARY SCHOOL, WENDOUREE, VICTORIA
This school on the outskirts of Ballarat has entered every Harvest Table competition, and judging from the photographs with its entry, the students have really got the knack of growing bounteous crops. But according to Mary Dinning, the teacher who coordinated the garden program, the experience has opened up some other perspectives. “Our Harvest Table has taken us on journeys to faraway places... The children have ground lemongrass, chillies, ginger and garlic to make sambals. They have eaten with their hands, in total silence, as is the custom in Balinese feasts. They have come to understand that while we have different customs and foods, the sharing of a meal around a table brings people together.” They also showed dramatic flair in showing the journey from bare table to one carefully covered with a tablecloth; then laden with samples from the garden — and the kitchen. These kids love to cook, as our Melbourne editor Virginia Imhoff reveals on page 91, and pizzas are a speciality — their entry included a dough recipe, then instructions how to make no less than three gourmet vegetable pizzas.

Wendouree Primary School wins $5000.

ABOVE Students at Wendouree Primary School illustrated their journey from a bare table to one laden with their garden produce. FACING PAGE, CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP Annabelle Smith with one of the 18 hens with whom she swapped carrot tops for eggs; her impressive array of fruit and vegetables; planting with assistance from brother George, four; a pressed mulberry leaf; at the sheep property’s airstrip, taking delivery of some seed potatoes from the mail plane.
As well as taking part in weekly physical education classes, Wendouree Primary School is involved in a number of other sporting activities and programs throughout the year. The senior grades compete each year in an inter-school athletic sports carnival at Llanberris Reserve in term one. Our whole school twilight sports carnival is also in term one as is our student swimming program. Interschool netball, football and soccer activities begin in term two and usually run through until the end of term three. Our school has fantastic sports facilities including two basketball/netball courts, a soccer oval and a football oval as well as an indoor multipurpose room.
HOUSE SPORTS

Children in each family are in one of our Houses that are named after three of our early principals. These Houses are Henderson (Blue House), Clarke (Green House) and Williams (Yellow House). We also offer an afterschool Kelly Sports Program for students who wish to take part.

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Students in grades 1-6 participate in our indoor swimming program in term one each year. The students attend lessons each Wednesday in term one and complete a graded swimming program.
Wendouree Primary School has a very proactive Student Wellbeing Program underpinned by our TRIBES Learning Agreements. The DEECD provides support services, if required to us, including Social Workers, Guidance Officers, Psychologists and Speech Therapists. A number of agencies operate within our community to provide support and advice to families in times of need. You may wish to ask the Principal to help you identify and organise the appropriate support. We also have a very effective Leadership Program, Junior School Council, Star of the Week Program and Beautiful Book Work program. Students achieve weekly awards and are presented with certificates and a perpetual trophy at our assembly each week as well as being acknowledged for their achievements in our weekly newsletter.

PARENT PARTICIPATION

School is an educational partnership between teachers, parents and students and when there is active co-operation between these partners we can provide an effective educational program for each student. Having our students feel connected to us is a very important part of them feeling safe and secure at school. Your involvement in school life is very important to us and to your child. You can help by being a classroom helper (we run special training programs for this) or helping with special events or excursions. You can participate in working bees, or offer your particular talents in any way that suits you. We appreciate your participation in our school and welcome the support of aunts, uncles and grandparents as well. Please note that all parents and friends involved in school programs are required to have a ‘Working with Children’ Check. The school can advise you how to obtain this check.
CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS

Our excursion program provides children with a broad range of learning experiences that cannot take place in the classroom. Its importance lies in the educational value it generates before, during and after the excursion takes place. All major excursions require written parental permission.

The school has a camping program for children from Grades 3-6. All children will attend two camps over the course of their senior school education. On alternate years students experience a major excursion which reflects their current Key Learning Area studies.
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The school has a strong commitment to information technology. We are well equipped with a broad range of technology including iPads, a 3D printer, flip cameras, an aerial video quadcopter and a lab-set of laptops. We also have several desktop computers in each classroom.

Daily use of this technology ensures children are given freedom to experiment, problem solve and make complex decisions in a highly engaging, modern environment. The internet is used as a tool for collaboration and communication and safe-online practice is taught at all year levels.

Each of our classrooms is equipped with an interactive smart board. Our philosophy is to integrate the use of digital technology into everyday classroom activities to compliment all Key Learning Areas.
ANNUAL ART SHOW

Each year we hold our annual art show to showcase students work from our visual arts program. This is an enormously valuable celebration of the students learning and a great opportunity for our community to see our students work on display.
SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council consists of seven parents and four staff including the Principal. Our School Council meets monthly. The School Council’s role is a very important one at our school.

It has the responsibility of forming the general educational policy of the school, maintenance of the facilities, and the general welfare of the students. Nominations for positions on School Council are called early each year and elections are held in early March. Further information about this important role can be sought from the Principal.

Our School Council runs a Fete each year to fundraise for our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. This is a great community event and everyone gets involved to help out.
Funds to provide water wisely

FOUR water projects worth $1.8 million will be the starting point for introducing the Living Ballarat project across the region.

The biggest funding announcement was $967,120 to connect Ballarat Grammar and Wendouree Primary School to non-drinking water supplies for irrigating their fields and gardens.

Wendouree Primary School principal Christine Branagh said in particular the announcement would help the school with its Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.

“I think for us it is exciting because we can maintain our kitchen garden,” she said.

“We have put a lot of effort and resources into this and we want it to be sustainable for a long time.”

Ballarat Grammar assistant headmaster Rob Gray said it was about using the right sort of water for the right task.

Mr Gray said the school had experienced some hard times during the drought and struggled to keep its fields and gardens green.

“We had been using the aquifer to water our ovals but, as you know, everyone was tapping into it and soon there was no water,” he said.

“This enables us to have decent playing fields right through a drought, should we have another drought, but let’s hope we don’t.”

Other projects included $503,900 to connect Central Highlands Agribusiness Forum and Ballarat Grammar’s Mount Rowan agricultural research facility to recycled water, $191,900 to allow Pinarc Disability Support to refurbish its office building to capture and re-use rainwater, and $132,000 for a stormwater and harvest and re-use system at Hepburn Springs Golf Club.
IN THE NEWS

IN THE KITCHEN

Each week, Ballarat chef and food writer Suzi Fitzpatrick quizzes industry identities on the food hospitality scene. This week, she had a chat with Werribee Primary School teacher Mary Dining and her pupils.

Mary Dining, a long-time food lover and teacher, conducts workshops with students at Werribee Primary School. She said, "It’s a great way to engage students with food. By making recipes together, they learn about nutrition and cooking." The students had a chance to share their recipes and share tips on healthy eating.

Mary’s passion for food started early, and she credits her mother for instilling a love of cooking. "I grew up in a household where cooking was a family affair," she said. "My mum taught me how to make simple dishes like pasta and stir-fries, which I still enjoy cooking today." The students were keen to learn and had many questions about the recipes.

The students were divided into four groups to prepare a variety of recipes, including pasta and stir-fries. The groups were asked to present their dishes to the class and explain the steps they took to prepare them.

Primary school set to build a pizza oven

Pizzalicious announced they will conduct a workshop on building a pizza oven as part of a project to teach students about the food industry. The workshop will be conducted at the school and is expected to end in a few weeks. The students will be taught how to build a stone oven and make their own pizzas.

The pizza oven will be constructed with recycled materials and is expected to be completed in a few weeks. The students will be able to use the oven to make their own pizzas and share them with their classmates.

Woolworths Stockland and Wendouree PS

Excited: Captain Bligh, 5, with a thank-you banner at the announcement of a visit to Wendouree Primary School by Captain Barnacles. Picture: Justin Edwards

A MANGA underworld has been brought to life for a group of Wendouree Primary School pupils on Thursday. The characters of Captain Barnacles were invited to the school to promote the upcoming Oceanic Live show, which will be held at the Wendouree Centre for Performing Arts on June 11.

The animated children’s TV show has been popular in recent years, with many of its most popular show in Australia. In it, Barnacles and his band of animals take on the task of protecting the environment from pollution.

Prep teacher Shelley Rockwell said the children had a great time with Captain Barnacles. "The children absolutely loved it," she said. "Captain Barnacles was really fond of the pineapple patch."
Wendouree PS aims to reclaim vegie prize

WHEN it comes to growing Ballarat's best vegies, this is the team to beat.

Wendouree Primary School has won the Ballarat Show's home-grown, vegetables competition for three of the past four years. The only bhp was last year, because the school had entered its prize-winning vegies in a national magazine competition.

But Wendouree Primary

School is back to reclaim its patch, so to speak, at the show this weekend.

School captains Beitriss Clydesdale and Liam Veroe are hoping to deliver a basket of the school’s finest to the showgrounds on Thursday.

Beitriss said the food produced in the school’s garden didn’t just look good, it tasted pretty good too.

“We come to cooking class once a week and we can get what we need straight from the garden,” she said.

The school captains were not sure which of the many varieties of vegetables grown at the school might be included in the basket because there were plenty to choose from.

Liam said volunteers, including many of the school’s parents, helped grow the vegetables in the school’s plot.

Entries for the home-grown vegetable competition are open until Thursday at 3pm, ahead of judging at 5pm. It costs nothing to enter and there are three Bunnings vouchers as prizes for the prize getters.

Herbs can be used for displays while pumpkins grown in 2013 can also be used.
WE APPRECIATE YOUR QUESTIONS

You are always welcome to call the school if you have any further questions and we will be very happy to assist you in any way possible.

Principal

Ms Christine Branagh

Phone

5334 1224

Email

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MORE INFORMATION

TERM DATES 2016

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>28th Jan – 24th March</td>
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<td>PREP STUDENTS START SCHOOL ON THE 1ST OF February. Prep students ARE NOT REQUIRED AT SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAYS during the month of February and begin full week attendance in March.</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>11th April – 24th June</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>11th July – 16th September</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>3rd October – 19th December</td>
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SCHOOL HOURS

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>School starts</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00am-11:15am</td>
<td>Lunch (Lunch Eaten Inside)</td>
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<td>11:15am-11:45am</td>
<td>First Recess</td>
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<td>1:45pm-2:15pm</td>
<td>Second Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:15pm</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
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CONTACT

Principal

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