

# Lardner & District Primary School

Principal : Jane King Website: [www.lardnerdps.vic.edu.au](http://www.lardnerdps.vic.edu.au) Phone: 5626 1303



**OUR VISION: Building a community of active learners through Empowerment, Engagement, Deeper Thinking and Resilience.**

## Principal Update

### Welcome back!

It has been a terrific start to the new school year and a pleasure to welcome students and families through the school gate this fortnight. At Lardner and District Primary School we value family input and offer a variety of ways for you to take part in school life. Some areas include, classroom reading helpers, excursions and camps (where supervision ratios are required). We are also open to having allied health professionals that see your children on a regular basis, visit the school for these sessions. We have begun 2026 welcoming our youngest members of the learning community, Prep students, who have all settled in well, making friends, enjoying new experiences and demonstrating daily that they are school ready! We also welcome two new families with children in Year 3, 5 and 6. On staff, we welcome Miss Hannah who was the successful applicant of the Education Support Staff role working in the Blue Room with Miss Ivy and Mr Mallon. Hannah is completing her Primary School Education Degree and has quickly become part of the team. Lastly, we welcome Ms Johnson who is supporting the MARC program one day a week working at both Poowong Consolidated PS and Nyora PS. LDPS is the base school for MARC. This means that we employ and coordinate MARC services in our cluster schools. This year we are working with, Ripplebrook PS, Bona Vista PS, Poowong Consolidated PS, Ellinbank PS and Nyora PS.

Last week, a calendar of known events was communicated via SENTRAL. I hope this supports families to plan ahead for the busyness of kids, sports and school activities. To support you further, the newsletter has 'Term Key Date' displayed on the front page each fortnight.

## School Council 2026

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. School council elections take place in Term 1 of each year. The principal is responsible for conducting the election. Elections must be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March. A **Notice of Election** for nominations will open on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> of February. All parents or carers of students enrolled at the school are eligible to nominate another parent/carer or themselves. If you are interested in renominating or nominating yourself or other, please read the attached **Fact Sheet 'School Council Elections – Information for Parents**. We have a possibility of two parent/carer positions open. Nomina-



Newsletter Date  
TERM 1 WEEK 2  
6th Feb 2026



"We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respect to all the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of indigenous Australia".



## Term 1 dates:

- **School Council Meeting**  
Monday 9th February
- **West Gippsland Swimming—selected Students only**  
Monday 23rd February
- **School Photo Day**  
Tuesday 24th February
- **Labour Day Holiday**  
Monday 9th March
- **Lardner/Nilma Sports Day**  
Thursday 19th March  
Geoff Watt Track Warragul
- **School Council Meeting**  
Monday 23rd March
- **Naplan— Students Gr 3 & 5**
- **Farm World**  
Thur 26th—Sat 29th March
- **Farm World Excursion**  
Thursday 26th March
- **Last Day of Term 1**  
**Thursday 2nd April**  
\*Gold coin  
\*Casual Clothes Day  
**Early Dismissal at 2.30pm**

### Our Values:

- **Inclusion:** *We promote an inclusive culture of kindness, care and respect of our people and place. (That's the Lardner Way)*
- **Environment and Sustainability:** *We work with the environment to create learning opportunities, while respecting the traditional land.*
- **A Culture of High Expectations:** *We have high expectations of ourselves and others and celebrate the personal journey of growth for all.*
- **Community Engagement:** *We build student, teacher, parent and community partnerships to enrich learning.*



**NUT ALERT SCHOOL**

tion forms will be available from the front office (or emailed on request) from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February. Closing date for nominations is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of February 4:00pm. If required, a ballot of votes will take place with successfully voted in nominations contacted by 13<sup>th</sup> March. Meetings are held twice a term on Mondays starting at 6.00pm. The first meeting with the 2026 School Council is scheduled for Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

### Living the Values

I like to start the first newsletter each year (and then again during the year) highlighting our values. Values tell us how we must behaviour to achieve our vision and mission.

Our school values are:

- **Inclusion:** We promote an inclusive culture of kindness, care and respect of our people and place.
- **Environment and Sustainability:** We work with the environment to create learning opportunities, while respecting the traditional land
- **A culture of High Expectations:** We have high expectations of ourselves and others and celebrate the personal journey of growth for all.
- **Community Engagement:** We build student, teacher, parent and community Partnership to enrich learning.

### Parent Teacher Meetings/Interviews

These are happening next week on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> (Blue room) Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> (Yellow, Purple and Red Rooms) If you are booked in for a Student Support Group Meeting, you do not need to also book a Parent Teacher Meeting. If you have not yet booked, booking closes Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to attend and wish to communicate with your child's classroom teacher, please discuss an alternative time or the alternative of an email. The Parent/Teacher Meetings are focused on checking in and inviting families to share information they wish us to have to ensure a wonderful year ahead.

### STUDENT FREE DAYS for 2026

Whilst these are not always convenient for families, they provide vital professional learning opportunities for teaching and Educational Staff. With advance notice, I hope to support families in planning and preparation.

Our School Council has approved the following two student free days for 2026

**November 2nd**– Reporting and Assessment

And

**December 17th** - Forward planning

**There will be two more student free day to be communicated when confirmed.**

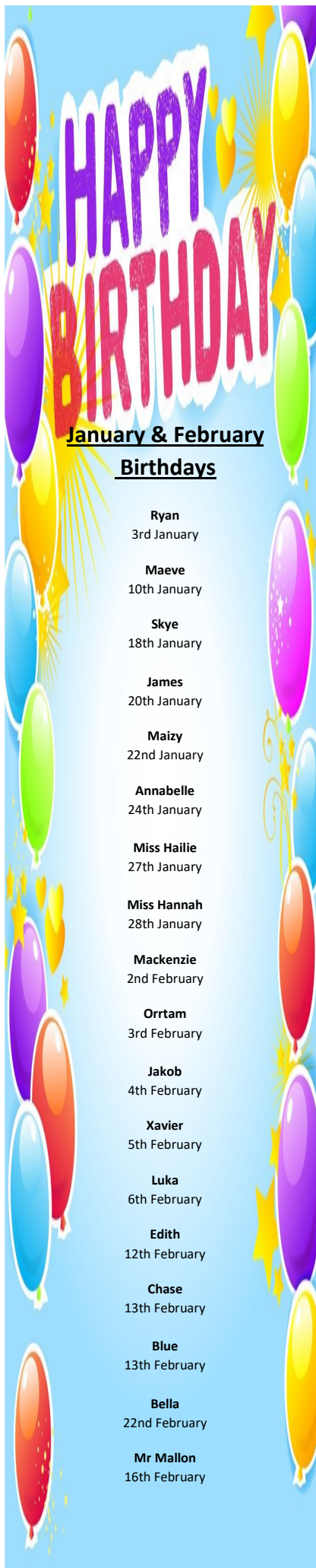
### SCHOOL POLICIES:

Our school policies are available on the school website. These policies are regularly updated. All families are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the school policies.

I wish everyone a lovely fortnight ahead.

Jane King  
Principal

**All children have the right to feel safe and protected.  
We are a child safe school!**



### Prep Students

During February, Prep students come to school from 9.00-3.25 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. **There is no school for Preps on Wednesdays on the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th of February.** Preps will start full-time from Monday 2nd of March.

**To ensure your child is safe on the road, please pick them up at the end of the day from the front gate. Students are not permitted to leave the school yard without their parents. Carline is another great way off dropping off and picking up students.**

### Sun-smart - School hats/ insect repellent/ Drink Bottles

Students are required to wear school hats up until the end of April and then from the start of September. This means hats are required for all of Terms 1 and 4 as well as part of Term 2 and part of Term 3. This is due to frequent high levels of UV from September through to April. If children do not have a hat they will be required to play in the undercover area on the deck. Please apply sun screen to your child in the mornings prior to drop off. Sun screen will be available at school for students to re apply throughout the day.

Unfortunately, mosquitos are often around throughout the day and can be a problem.

Please feel free to apply repellent to your children before school.

**Please send your children to school with a clearly labelled refillable drink bottle each day.**

### Camps Sports Excursion Fund Allowance

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible.

Payment amounts this year are \$400 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on [03 5626 1303 and ask for an application form.

### Absences from school

It is important that all students attend school every day to ensure maximum opportunities for learning. It is a department requirement that all absences are recorded at school on the morning of the absence and with the reason for their absence. Staff are required to follow up on all unreported absences. Please help staff by calling the school and advising if your child will not be attending school and the reason for their absence or by entering it via our Sentral parent portal under absences.

### Fees for 2026

This year each family was asked to supply their students with their stationery/pencil case items. The list of items they require was attached to the booklists that were sent out last year and is on our school website. The school will supply all exercise books for students. There is also a list of contributions that families are asked to contribute to if possible. These contributions are laid out in a table that explains each area and the amount families are asked to contribute towards. These contributions help to run important programs within our school, help with the cost of school grounds maintenance and improvements, new outdoor classroom spaces etc.

Camps, Excursions and Incursions will be charged per student at the time of the event.

### Emergency Management drills & procedures

Each term we practise our Emergency management drills and procedures. These will take place throughout the year to ensure teachers, students, visitors and staff know what to do in a real emergency.



## Carline, Pedestrian and After School Traffic Management Plan:

The beginning of the year is always a good time to review our afternoon traffic management plan. If you have a grandparent or older sibling collecting your child, please ensure you share this plan. It keeps our community safe. A copy has been sent home today with children also.

### After School Student Collect / Pick Up

To support a smooth safe after school environment, Lardner and District Primary has adopted the following after school traffic management procedures.

- Drivers **in carline collect students from the driveway gate** (MARC van access gate).
- The middle gate will be used **for pedestrians**, ensuring all students P-Year 6 continue to be walked over the road with an adult.
- Drivers **should not overtake** in the pick up line. Staff will do their best to keep the line moving in a timely manner.
- The bus stop is the gate out front of the Red classroom.
- Drivers parking are highly encouraged **to reverse park**. Drivers parked past the middle gate (on the opposite side of the school) are required to turn left and follow the carline. This helps pedestrians cross and prevents vehicles pulling out in front of those using the carline.



### 2026 Staffing and emails

#### School Office

**Principal**— Jane King

**Administration**—Heather Roberts

**Intervention Support**

[lardner.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:lardner.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

[jane.king@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:jane.king@education.vic.gov.au)

[heather.roberts@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:heather.roberts@education.vic.gov.au)

[wendy.gallagher@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:wendy.gallagher@education.vic.gov.au)

#### Red Room (Gr 5/6)

Kristy Rollinson

Amelia Linzner (Aide)

[kristy.rollinson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kristy.rollinson@education.vic.gov.au)

[Amelia.Linzner@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Amelia.Linzner@education.vic.gov.au)

#### Purple Room (Gr 4/5)

Kath Snell

Holly Hatch

Hailie Vandeligt (Aide)

[Kathleen.snell@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Kathleen.snell@education.vic.gov.au)

[holly.Hatch@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:holly.Hatch@education.vic.gov.au)

[Hailie.Vandeligt@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Hailie.Vandeligt@education.vic.gov.au)

#### Blue Room (Gr 2/3)

Steven Mallon

Ivy Yixiu (Aide)

Hannah McMahon (Aide)

[steven.mallon@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:steven.mallon@education.vic.gov.au)

[ivy.yixiu@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:ivy.yixiu@education.vic.gov.au)

[Hannah.McMahon@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Hannah.McMahon@education.vic.gov.au)

#### Yellow Room (Gr Prep/1/2)

Lisa Child

Angella Campbell (Aide)

[Lisa.paterson@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Lisa.paterson@education.vic.gov.au)

[Angella.Campbell2@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Angella.Campbell2@education.vic.gov.au)

#### SPECIALISTS

**Art/Sustainability**—Anna Lockwood

**LOTE/Indonesian** —lan Mynard

**PE**— Brad Child

**MARC/Library**—Brad Child

**Performing Arts** - Holly Hatch

[anna.lockwood@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:anna.lockwood@education.vic.gov.au)

[lan.mynard@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:lan.mynard@education.vic.gov.au)

[Bradley.child@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bradley.child@education.vic.gov.au)

[holly.Hatch@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:holly.Hatch@education.vic.gov.au)



### Student Medication

Just a reminder that all student medication need to be brought into the school office in its original container. Any student that requires any medication needs to have a medication administration form filled out and signed by their parent.

**Please make sure that all your Asthma, Allergies and Anaphylaxis forms are renewed and up to date.**

### Have your asthma action plan ready!

**With a new school year here, it is important to ensure your child/children's ASTHMA ACTION PLAN is up to date. Call your Local GP today!**

### Sports Day

Our Lardner/Nilma Schools Athletics day has been booked for Thursday 19th March and will be held at the Geoff Watt Athletics Track, Burke Street, Warragul. Please mark this on your calendar or in your diary.

More information to follow

### School Photo Day—Date Change

Our school photo day is now being held on Tuesday 24th February.

School photos will be taken on the day by Simon @ Home Grown. Photo slips will be handed out next week so please keep an eye out for these coming home with students.

### Farm World

We will once again be helping with the rubbish collection this year at Farm World. This is the schools major fund raising event and is not a difficult job. It requires adults to drive Kubota's with trailers around the site and empty the bins delivering the rubbish to big skips. There are several shifts of approx. 2-3hrs in length. Young children are not able to be on the kubotas with you however you will receive an entry ticket for the day that you volunteer so that you can have a look around farm world before or after your shift.

Please think about what times you may be available to help out. Farm World is running from March 26-28 this year. Please keep an eye out for information and requests for volunteers that will be coming out soon.

Many hands make light work!

### Book-club

Book-club catalogues will be sent home with students.

**Orders are to be submitted online at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP).** Every dollar you spend our school gets 10c in rewards to be spent on books for the school.

### School Times and Speed Zone

Just a reminder that during school times our road becomes **40kph**. Please ensure you slow down for the safety of our students and school community.

### MARC

Most Thursdays at Lardner children get the opportunity to borrow (& then return) books from our mobile library service. Books can be borrowed for up to two weeks and they can be reborrowed if they want them for longer or returned earlier if they've had enough of them! Whilst it is not compulsory, I would kindly ask that students bring a bag (of their own choosing) to put their books in. This helps us to look after them and hopefully makes them harder to lose!

If ever there are any problems/questions/issues/accidents with the library books please feel free to contact me at the school. Mr Child.

# Yellow Room

This year we have welcomed 9 new Prep students to Yellow Room, 6 with older siblings and 3 new families.

To start the year, we have been concentrating on setting up our routines and establishing class and school rules. The Grade 1 students have been excellent leaders and role models to the new students. It was great to hear all about holiday events and the Grade 1 students have written about these experiences. Prep students have been introduced to Milo Monkey and 2 of his friends (Sally the snake and Felix the frog).

Congratulations to Noah and Emily who have been elected as the Yellow Room Junior School Council representatives for Semester 1.



## Red Room

Welcome back to 2026. We hope you had a wonderful break and spent some quality time with family and friends.

With quite a few more students in our room this year, Red Room has become a bustling hive of activity. A few changes to our classroom set up has created a learning space that allows for both explicit teaching and collaborative learning.

The first week and a half has been spent reconnecting with our classmates, establishing expectations, learning new routines and generally getting to know how we will work together to achieve great things.

In Literacy sessions we have been learning about Port Phillip Bay and the creatures that inhabit it's waters. So many weird and wonderful plants and animals to learn about.

Numeracy sessions have been focused on representing and interpreting data. We've combined data from two different surveys and turned that tabled data into side-by-side graphs to make comparison easier.

Humanities and Science sessions will begin once we have settled into the new routines.

Keep an eye on the classroom windows as we fill this space with the wonderful learning we have been doing.

# Appendix A

## Fact sheet 1: school council elections – information for parents

### What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the broad direction of a school, in accordance with Ministerial Order 1280 Constitution of Government School Councils, and the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*. In doing this, a school council may directly influence the quality of education for students.

### Who is on the school council?

For most primary school councils, there are several possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent member category** – more than one-third of the total members must be from this category according to Ministerial Order 1280. Department employees can be parent members at their child's school providing that they are not engaged in work at the school.
- **A mandated elected school employee member category** – members of this category make up no more than one-third of membership. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional community member category** – members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experience. Department employees are not eligible to be community members.
- A small number of school councils have nominee members.

For all schools with a Year 7 and above cohort, there is an additional category of membership:

- **A mandated elected student member category, two positions.**

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

### Why is parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills and a range of experiences and knowledge that can help inform and shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

### Do I need special experience to be on school council?

Each member brings their own valuable skills and knowledge to the role, however, in order to successfully perform their duties, councillors may need to gain some new skills and knowledge.

It is important to have an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

### Code of conduct for school councillors

School councils in Victoria are public entities as defined by the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

School councillors must comply with the Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. The Code of Conduct is based on the Victorian public sector values and requires councillors to:

- **act with honesty and integrity** – be truthful, open and clear about their motives and declare any real, potential or perceived conflict of interest and duty

- **act in good faith in the best interests of the school** – work cooperatively with other councillors and the school community, be reasonable, and make all decisions with the best interests of students foremost in their minds
- **act fairly and impartially** – consider all relevant facts of an issue before making a decision, seek to have a balanced view, never give special treatment to a person or group and never act from self-interest
- **use information appropriately** – respect confidentiality and use information for the purpose for which it was made available
- **exercise due care, diligence and skill** – accept responsibility for decisions and do what is best for the school
- **use the position appropriately** – not use the position as a councillor to gain an advantage
- **act in a financially responsible manner** – observe all the above principles when making financial decisions
- **comply with relevant legislation and policies** – know what legislation and policies are relevant for which decisions and obey the law
- **demonstrate leadership and stewardship** – set a good example, encourage a culture of accountability, manage risks effectively, exercise care and responsibility to keep the school strong and sustainable.

### Indemnity for school council members

School councillors are indemnified against any liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by the council or any other person in respect of anything necessarily or reasonably done, or omitted to be done by the councillor in good faith in:

- a. the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a councillor, or
- b. the reasonable belief that the act or omission was in the exercise of a power or the performance of a function of a council.

In other words, school councillors are not legally liable for any loss or damage suffered by council or others as a result of reasonable actions taken in good faith.

### How can you become involved?

By participating in, and voting in the school council elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

### What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for nominations in Term 1 of each year. Council elections must be completed by 31 March, unless varied by the Minister for Education.

If you stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or, you can nominate yourself in the parent member category. You can only be nominated by another member of the same category that you are eligible for (e.g. a member of the parent electorate may only nominate another parent of that electorate).

Department employees with a child enrolled at a school where they are not engaged in work, are eligible to nominate for parent membership at that school.

Return your completed nomination form to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt via post, email or by hand delivery.

## Term Dates

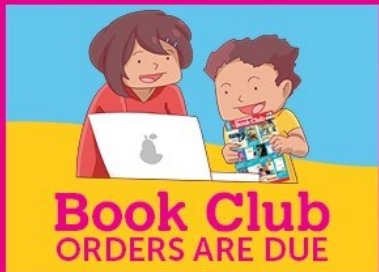
	Start date	Finish date
Term 1	Students start Wednesday 28 Jan	Thursday 2 April
Term 2	Monday 20 April	Friday 26 June
Term 3	Monday 13 July	Friday 18 September
Term 4	Monday 5 October	Friday 18 December

### STAFFED OFFICE HOURS

Our school Office will be staffed on Monday's, Tuesday's, Wednesday's & Friday's between 9am and 3pm.

If you need to drop anything off at the office at other times please post it in the mailbox at reception.

### DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC

#### Book-club

Book Club orders are due back by:  
Monday 17th February

You can place your child's order online at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](http://scholastic.com.au/LOOP)

## IS IT BULLYING?

### NOT NICE

When someone says or does something **unintentionally** hurtful and they only do it **once...**

That is **Not Nice**

### MEAN

When someone says or does something **intentionally** hurtful and they do it **once...**

That is **Mean**

### BULLYING

When someone says or does something **intentionally** hurtful and they **keep** doing it, over a period of time, even when you tell them to stop or show them that you are upset...

That is **Bullying**

