

"ACHIEVING TOGETHER"



Woody Yaloak Primary School

Website: [www.woodyyaloak.vic.edu.au](http://www.woodyyaloak.vic.edu.au)  
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Principal: Corey Pohlner  
 Phone: 53 42 8565

## 2017 Term Dates

- 31st Jan - 31st Mar
- 18th Apr - 30th Jun
- 17th Jul - 22nd Sep
- 9th Oct - 22nd Dec

**Smythesdale Campus 5342 8565**  
**Scarsdale Campus 5342 8514**

**Snake Valley Campus 5344 9274**  
**Ross Creek Campus 5342 0478**

For Your Diary  
 DECEMBER

Wednesday 6th

- Sporting Schools-Cycling (Last)

- Campus Captain/Vice Interviews Sm, SV & Sc Friday 8th

- Junior Swimming Mrs Mayman, Mrs Wheeler, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Major/Ford, Mr Snibson, Mrs Dwyer, Ms Wood, Mrs Weickhardt and Mrs Hines Classes

- Campus Captain/Vice Interviews RC Monday 11th

- Senior Swimming Mrs Angel, Miss Hannah, **Mr Bell & Mrs Webb's** Classes

- Corangamite Medal Presentations at Ross Creek Campus Tuesday 12th

- Victorian State Wide Transition Day 9am-1.30pm Thursday 14th

- Gr 6 Graduation Dinner Friday 15th

- Junior Swimming Mrs Mayman, Mrs Wheeler, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Major/Ford, Mr Snibson, Mrs Dwyer, Ms Wood, Mrs Weickhardt and Mrs Hines Classes

Permission Note and Money Due

Wed 6th Dec:

- Gr 6 Graduation Dinner

Wed 13th Dec:

- Movie Day & Campus Picnic

OVERDUE

- 2018 Booklist Paperwork (Payment not due until end term 1 2018)

## Principal Message

## Teaching staff for 2018

Last week we finalised our last interview panels for the year. Below I have outlined the staffing arrangements for each campus. I'm sure everyone can appreciate the complexities of staffing. There are many factors that go into this process, which is looked at for the best interests for our students, over our whole school. Within schools staff have specific roles within and out of the classroom. We understand that relationships are very important for each campus and for that reason, we don't move teachers around campuses if there is no need.

All of our planning and final decisions have been based around the student and staff's best interests. We understand that some parents may be disappointed if a staff member has been shifted from a campus because they have developed a good working relationship over time, but we need to make decisions based on the whole school, not specific classroom settings. Some staff have moved into different roles and areas and I know they are excited for the change and challenge. A real benefit of a multi campus school is that we have the flexibility to move teachers around if we need to. This would be different if we had 4 stand-alone schools, students could potentially have the same teacher for 3-4 years of their primary school years.

I encourage our parent community to have an open mind when looking at our teaching staffing arrangements, try to be grateful for what we have and if you have a new teacher, try to work with the teacher to develop those relationships, so that we can continue to work in partnership to help your child reach their full potential, both academically and socially.

In term one, we will have scheduled parent teacher interviews, with the purpose of getting to know each other and work out the needs of your child for the school year. Even in smaller campuses, where you might know the teacher over a number of years, this is still important as your child's needs change each year.

## New Staff in 2018

I would like to welcome Karen Vernon to our teaching staff for 2018. Karen will be teaching in the grade 3/4 at Smythesdale. Karen has been working at Carranballac College, where she taught grades 3 to 9. Karen is a passionate, enthusiastic teacher and brings a lot of experience to our staff. By having taught a wide range of grades, I'm sure Karen has the capacity to challenge all of the students within the class.

We would also like to congratulate Ricky Whitcher, who has been successful in gaining a teaching position in Melbourne for 2018, we thank Ricky for his service and wish him all the best for the future.

Campus	Grade	Teaching Staff
Smythesdale	F/1/2	Deb Mayman- 4 days a week in the classroom Jason Bahr- 1 day a week in the classroom
	3/4	Karen Vernon- full time in the classroom
	5/6	Leanne Beeson-Canty- full time in the classroom
Campus	Grade	Teaching Staff
Snake Valley	F/1/2	Beck Major- 2.5 days a week in the classroom Kate Ford- 2.5 days a week in the classroom
	3/4	Jenna Wheeler- full time in the classroom
	5/6	Stephen Cox- Campus Head and classroom teacher Amelia Breerton- shared classroom teacher

Campus	Grade	Teaching Staff
Scarsdale	F/1/2	Gay Pearse- 3 days a week in the classroom Lauren McConchie- 2 days a week in the classroom
	3/4	Molly Hughes- full time in the classroom
	5/6	Nathan Harris- Campus Head and classroom teacher Chantal Cahir- shared classroom teacher
	Campus	Grade
Ross Creek	F	Wendy Hines- full time in the classroom
	1/2	Trish Weickhardt- full time in the classroom
	1/2	Emily Wood- full time in the classroom
	1/2	Jamie Dwyer- 4 days in the classroom Amber Fitzpatrick- 1 day in the classroom
	3/4	Meghan Hannah- full time in the classroom
	3/4	Jo Angel- 3 days in the classroom Fiona Collins- 2 days in the classroom
	5/6	Grant Bell- full time in the classroom
	5/6	Megan Webb- full time in the classroom

Subject/Curriculum Area	Staff member/s
Japanese	Keryn Rhodes
The Arts	Anna Strybosch
	Leigh Snibson
Digital Technologies	Leigh Snibson
Learning Support Coordinator	Sam Williams

Administration	Staff member/s
Smythesdale	Sharon Nunn
Snake Valley	Rhonda Nunn
Scarsdale	Niki Lindsay
Ross Creek	Brenda Forty

Classroom Education Support Staff	Campus Location
Smythesdale	Kylie Carr and Lauris Allen
Snake Valley	Cassandra Turner
Scarsdale	Richelle Wren

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

## 2018 SCHOOL REVIEW YEAR

2017 is the last year of our schools Strategic Plan. Sometime during 2018, we will be required to go through a self-evaluation period, where we work with staff, parents and students to reflect on the past 4 years. During this time we look at school data over the four years, have discussions with groups of people to gain their insight and plan for the next 4 years. From 2018, a new review and improvement approach will be implemented by the Department. The new approach emphasises continuous improvement, not a fixed destination. It affirms that every student, no matter their background or circumstances, has a right to learn in a school unswervingly committed to improvement.

It steadfastly holds that every school can and will improve. Good schools *will* become excellent schools. Excellent schools *can, and do*, become better.

The Department has assured schools that this approach does not require *more* work from school leaders, teachers and school councils, but *different* work. To achieve school and system improvement, the new approach requires an unremitting focus on collecting and analysing evidence about student learning, teacher practice and curriculum content.

As this time of the year is spent on planning for next year, it was timely to update our school community of our review year in 2018.



### Meet the Professor Day

Last Thursday senior students participated in the, 'Meet the Professor' day at the Australian Catholic University. Students got to venture through the university looking at the different rooms which contained nursing beds, physiotherapy equipment, paramedic equipment and IT specialised areas. Students got to learn about how to manage trauma patients, how to find certain books in a library and what sort of courses are available for everyone to strive towards. At the end of the

day they all got to wear a graduation cape with a hat and enjoy the university games room. Thank you to ACU for providing such an eventful day which the students won't forget about.

We understand to transition for our grade 6's to secondary school is an interesting stage in their life/schooling. Many students are unsure of their future and what career path they wish to take. By giving the students the opportunity to experience a snapshot of university life, it may plant that seed when they seriously start thinking about their career path at the end of secondary school. Thank-you to the teaching staff of our senior grades who made this experience possible.



## CAMPUS UPDATES

### GRADE 6 GRADUATION

This year's graduation takes place at the Woody Yaloak Recreation Facility on Thursday, 14th December. We are very busy with our preparations and hope that students are working on their speeches and practising their songs. It really is a memorable night and a great opportunity to reflect on the wonderful times students have had at Woody Yaloak PS. A reminder that students should be smartly dressed and arrive at the Woody Yaloak Recreation Facility at 6pm.

### 2018 GOVERNMENT TRANSITION DAY (TUESDAY 12th DECEMBER)

On Tuesday, 12th December our school will participate in the statewide transition day which involves all students working in their 2018 classes from 9.00am-1.30pm. Our grade 6 students who are attending government secondary schools will also attend their schools for the day. Year six students who have attended their transition days to independent schools on alternate days are not required to attend our school on this day, to allow the 2018 classes to continue building on their relationships.

### HATS

With the UV rays now increasing, just a reminder that as an accredited SunSmart School, students are required to wear their hats at recess, lunchtime and when outside for class activities throughout the day. Students are not allowed to share hats, if your child does not have an approved school hat, they are available to purchase from the office.

Remember NO HAT NO PLAY

### 2018 BACK to SCHOOL DATES

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> January - Teachers Resume

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> January - Grade 3-6 Commence

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> & Wed 31<sup>st</sup> January – Grade 1/2 will attend testing appointments  
(Booking details will be sent home shortly)

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February - Foundation, Grades 1 and 2 students commence  
(Foundation students don't attend school on Wednesdays in February)

*Corey Pöhlner*  
Principal



**Hey Kids**

***"It's Time for another Blue Light"***

This is an invitation to all local primary school pupils to attend **Ballarat Blue Light's next disco on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December.**

We have plenty more prizes to local attractions to give away this disco, including family passes to Sovereign Hill, Ten Pin Bowling & the Ballarat Wildlife Park. So don't forget to ask your parents if you can come along.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
7PM to 9PM**

**At Sebastopol RSL Hall, Beverin Street, Sebastopol.**

**Entry is only \$7 Per Person.**

Blue Light Disco is drug, alcohol and weapon free.  
It's fully supervised and there are No Pass Outs.

Children must be dropped off and picked up by a Responsible Adult.

For more information call Leading Senior Constable Des Hudson 0409 865 093

Don't forget to watch out for your photos in 2017 on  
[facebook.com/ballaratbluelightdisco](https://www.facebook.com/ballaratbluelightdisco)

You can also follow us on Snapchat at [bbluelight](#).

***We can't wait to see you there!***

**Make sure you wear something with a Christmas Theme!!!!**

# We are eSmart



Our school is proud to announce we are now officially an eSmart school.

Since we first registered with the program, we have introduced many new policies and activities to improve the way our school manages cybersafety, bullying and cyberbullying.

We feel confident our students, staff and the wider school community are now well supported to be smart, safe and responsible users of digital technology.

We encourage everyone in the school community to continue to uphold and promote eSmart behaviours, at school and at home. If you are aware of any incidents of bullying, cyberbullying or risky online behaviour, please contact the Principal or our eSmart coordinator.





## What has the Specialist team been up to?

### Japanese

There's been a thief in Japanese classes recently!! This nasty person steals kids stationery and then makes them say, "It's mine." in Japanese to get it back. What a horrible thing to do!! On a more serious note, sensei has been really impressed with all that the students have achieved this year and is looking forward to another great learning year next year.



Year 3/4 students completing a number counter matching activity.



Year 5/6 students building "Let's Go Shopping" sentences using dice to help them.



Year 3/4 students completing a number counter matching activity.



Year 5/6 students building "Let's Go Shopping" sentences using dice to help them.

### Physical Education - Movement

Sessions at Ross Creek have been starting with fitness and agility circuits.

The skills focus has been 'catching', with skills instruction and games incorporating catching and then 'hitting' – using the hand, small bats, and for middle school, T-ball bats.



Keeping fit and improving our skills at Ross Creek



Patrick holding the hoop for Joel to handball through.



## What has the Specialist team been up to?

### Science

The majority of science lessons in the school are now being taught by classroom teachers, with some support from Ms Pearse.

Chemical science units have looked at states of matter – solids, liquid and gases, properties of materials, physical and chemical changes.

Earth and space sciences have been exploring the Solar System, changes in the sky and landscape, weather, volcanoes night and day, and Earth's resources with a focus on water.

All of the Specialist teachers wish you a happy and safe holidays with your family and friends.



Emity, Tilly and Brandon with the package they designed after investigating the properties of materials.



Smythesdale 3/4 creating landscape elements to test where water flows.



Snake Valley 3/4 created a graph of water use at home.



Smythesdale 5/6 creating a scaled model of the Solar system on the oval – Neptune is the dot near the light tower!



Scarsdale 4/5/6 exploring a chemical change producing carbon dioxide which is inflating the balloon



Snake Valley 5/6 measuring distances to correctly place the planets for a scaled model of the solar System



Investigating candle burning times when placed under various sized jars.



Snake Valley F/1/2 created 'Seasons' posters to show changes over time