We are in Wadawurrung Country

Invermay Primary School

187 Swinglers Rd, Invermay Vic 3352
Phone: 5332 6396
http://www.invermayps.vic.edu.au/
Email: invermay.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Banking: BSB: 063502
Account number: 10137566

We are proud to be an inclusive school community representative of many cultures and backgrounds

Edition 26-4 **Friday 20th March 2026**

Commitment Cooperation Respect Responsibility Honesty & Excellence

2026 School Dates

Weekly Assembly
3:10pm each Friday
inside or outside (weather dependent)

IPS BREAKY CLUB
Open from 8:00-8:45am each Monday, Thursday & Friday morning
Cereal, toast, juice, milo & fruit provided.
Escort your child into our school gym and check them in with our friendly Breaky Club host Deb.

MARC Van Fridays
Mobile School Library
Each IPS student is able to borrow one book weekly

Tuesday 24th March
Statewide Industrial Action Day

Friday 27th March
Junior School Council
Casual Day - gold coin donation
- - - - - - -
Free lunchtime sausage sizzle for all T Birds to enjoy
- - - - - - -
2-3pm P&F 2nd hand uniform stall

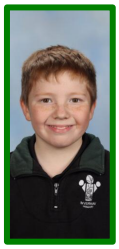
Wednesday 1st April
School Council 7pm

Thursday 2nd April
Final day of Term 1
2pm Assembly
& Easter Raffle prize draw
2:30pm dismissal

Monday 20th April
Term 2 classes resume

Thursday 23rd April
IPS Aths Carnival - all grades

STUDENTS EXCELLING: *Congratulations to the following recipients of my Principal's Medallion over the last fortnight:*



******Thomas Bull:*** *Thomas is always excited to arrive at school and say good morning each day. He always approaches staff with "Hi!" "Excuse me." or "Can I Please?" Beautiful manners Thomas!*

******Luke Weston*** *&* ***Frankie O'Neill:*** *These two TBirds have been super kind and wonderfully responsible this week, going out of their way to make our school a better place. They've been spotted pumping up sports equipment together, watering gardens, helping with JSC icy pole sales (Luke) and spreading St Patrick's Day cheer (Frankie). Thank you for your thoughtfulness and willingness to chip in fellas!*

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Court Upgrade: With Term One fast coming to an end, it was wonderful to see our court resurfacing works begin last week.
All going well with delivery, weather and install, we're excited by the prospect of getting to play on our new court surface in just a few weeks. It will feature dedicated soccer, pickleball and cricket pitch markings.

Casual Clothes Day: Next Friday 27th March our Junior School Council are hosting an IPS Casual Dress Day. For a gold coin donation, we invite all IPS students to leave their uniform in the wardrobe for the day and wear some of their comfy casual threads.
Some students have enquired about slippers on casual day - slippers are fun and just fine for inside, but please also bring along appropriate closed toe footwear for Aths training and outside play. A free sausage sizzle will be on offer at lunchtime, so Mums & Dads feel free to send a little less in lunchboxes next Friday if your child/ren might enjoy a snag in bread at lunchtime.

Industrial Action Update: The Australian Education Union has called on its Victorian members to take strike action on *Tuesday 24th March 2026.* Many school staff across Victoria will be stopping work for 24 hours, seeking a greater investment in government schools, along with parity in salary and workplace expectations with colleagues across Australia.
Staff and union representatives across the state have until 4:30pm today (Friday 20th March) to inform of their intent to work or strike next Tuesday. Principals then have the weekend to plan required adjustments to their school operations for Tuesday 24 March.
School at Invermay PS will proceed on Tuesday, but with some timetable changes likely.
Principals across Victoria will inform families next Monday of any required classroom restructure and coverage for Tuesday in their school. I will communicate these to our school community through XUNO as soon as possible on Monday.

Staffing Update: Gr 2-3 teacher Bec Garlick will be away on long service leave for the final two weeks of Term One. Experienced relief teacher Emelie Hofman will replace Mrs G.

IPS Athletics Carnival - Thursday 23rd April: Please find inside today's newsletter a full page flier with all of the details you'll require for our IPS Aths Day. We hope you can join us!

INVERMAY PRIMARY SCHOOL
P-6 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Thursday 23rd April, 2026

VENUE: Llanberris Aths Track (Ballarat Regional Athletics Centre - access via York Street entry)
TRANSPORT: Students and families to arrange own transport
STUDENT ARRIVAL: 8.45am … for a 9:00am start to competition
COST: $10.00 per student - payable with permission via Xuno
TIMETABLE: **9am:** Individual track events, relay & rotation of field events
12.30pm: Lunch break
1:15pm: Continue field events (High Jump to finish)
2:30-3:00pm: Presentations, pack up and students ready for collection

All Invermay Primary students have been training for a number of weeks now to prepare themselves for a successful and enjoyable day. Our kids will each compete in a sprint, hurdle, relay, discus, shot put, long jump, high jump and vortex event. The focus of the day will be on achieving your personal best, as well as representing your house. **All** students will receive ribbons to recognise their effort in their sprint and team relay. In other events, they will be representing their IPS house affiliation – **Muscatel**, **Swinglers**, **Alkera** or **Dead Horse Gully**, earning points for their house through both their participation and results toward our historic IPS Sports House Trophy.

PLANNING:

- All parents & family members are most welcome to spectate & support your kids for part or all of the day. We look forward to seeing many Mums, Dads, Nans, Pa's and extended family members in attendance. You may like to bring a deck chair from home to move from event to event.
- Families should aim to arrive at 8.45am. On arrival, we ask all students to head to the start/finish area of the running track and check in with Miss Welch, Mrs Garlick and Mr Watts - who will be marking an attendance roll and issuing student i.d. tabs. Children will begin to be marshalled for their first event from 9.00am (400/800m distance race for qualified students).
  ****Parents who are dropping children off but not staying – we ask you to walk your child to our check-in table on arrival. Children can be collected in the same way from 2.30pm.*
- A 30 minute lunch break will be held from approx. 12:30pm for students to relax and chat with school mates or family in attendance. Ballarat Little Athletics Club will have a canteen open from approx 10am - with pies, pasties, hot dogs, hot/cold drinks and snack foods on sale. Otherwise, a normal student lunch and drink or a family picnic will be your best options.
- All students have the option to dress in normal school uniform or their house team colours (Red House, Blue House, Green House or Yellow House) and show their house group allegiance on the day. **NOTE: Clothing should still be appropriate for athletics participation.** Kids should also pack a warm jumper/jacket and pants if necessary to pull over the top during breaks if the weather is on the cool side. Students should also bring a named water bottle and hat please.

In the event of inclement/unsafe weather, an SMS message and Xuno message reading IPS ATHS CANCELLED will be sent at 8am to your listed family contact phone/Xuno account that morning and a normal school day will proceed.

PARENTS CLUB UPDATE

On behalf of our Parents Club, a big thank you to the many families who have been in a position to sell Easter Raffle tickets, or donate an item to our Easter Hamper Raffle. We really appreciate your support. Our fundraising this year will assist us with a couple of wishlist items - a new playground slide and a decorative wall mural. Our Easter Raffle will be drawn at the final assembly of Term 1 - be held at 2pm on Thursday 2nd April. Winners not in attendance will be contacted by phone.

We have a super friendly and active Parents & Friends committee who enjoy getting together socially, as well as to meet and brainstorm school fundraising, school improvement projects and school celebrations. Stay tuned for upcoming meeting dates.

We invite all interested Mums, Dads & Carers to catch up socially at P&F meetings to brainstorm fundraising opportunities, social events and celebrations for our students and wider Invermay community throughout the year.

Our P&F already have a number of ideas and activities booked in for this year - some with a focus on *fun* ... others with a focus on *fundraising*! More help is always appreciated, so please feel free to call in and meet some lovely, like minded people if you have the chance and please feel free to bring along any new or interesting social or fundraising opportunities you may have to share for consideration in 2026. All welcome!

STUDENT LUNCH ORDERS: delivered direct to Invermay PS Monday - Friday ..... order online

Lunch orders can be purchased for delivery Monday - Friday at IPS through ***www.quickcliq.com.au***

If you are considering trying a lunch order, download the Quick Cliq app and follow the first time instructions to get set up and place an order. Fresh SUSHI is now available for delivery to school on a Tuesday & Thursday, but must be ordered 24 hours before as it made to order from a specialist sushi supplier.

All other orders must be placed before 8:15am on the day of delivery, but can be placed days, weeks or even months in advance if necessary. Parents receive an email confirmation once an order has been successfully placed, which summarises lunch order delivery date; student name & classroom; as well as items ordered.

Paul & Sally Doyle, owners of 3on3 Professional Catering, are our hot lunch order providers. Paul and Sally are both trained chefs, who have been providing hot lunches to Ballarat primary & secondary schools for more than ten years. Online orders are delivered at lunchtime to our classrooms by Paul & Sally. Each order comes in a brown paper carry bag with an order sticker detailing student name; classroom; order contents; & any special dietary needs as requested by parents. Some delicious menu choices are available, including Gluten Free options.

IPS SCHOOL DRESS SURVEY

Recently our school council received a letter from one of our students re. adding a dress option to our student uniform. Whilst we already have culottes on our uniform list, we would like to know each family's thoughts on how many of your children would look forward to the option of a school dress in their IPS uniform? A simple 2 question survey has been sent by SMS to each family.

Gr 1-6 TENNIS COACHING

We have eleven Gr 1-6 students taking up the opportunity of tennis lessons with Tennis Australia certified coach, Jo Beattie. Jo returns for her sixth year as our TBirds tennis pro! These are optional classes at cost to parents, though highly subsidised by our school. Please return forms to Mr M in the office if keen to join. Have fun, be committed and enjoy the challenge of learning a skill for life kids.

MHiPS
Mental Health in Primary Schools

Harmony Week 16th - 22nd March

It can feel challenging to focus on harmony when news of conflict overseas dominates our screens, reminding us how fragile peace can be. Closer to home, these global events can stir feelings of worry or uncertainty for our children and families. Yet ***Harmony Week*** offers a gentle, powerful reminder that here in Australia, we have the opportunity—and the responsibility—to nurture respect, understanding, and kindness in our own communities.

This week, our Tbirds embraced Harmony Week through the beautiful picture book *"I'm Australian Too."* The story celebrates the many ways people from all over the world call Australia home, and it sparked rich conversations about what it truly means to be Australian. Together we identified shared Australian values that bring us joy and connection: time at the beach, a love of sport, enjoying the outdoors, and embracing healthy, active lifestyles. These experiences belong to all of us, no matter where our families originally came from.

We also explored the heart of Harmony Week - respecting and celebrating differences. The children were amazed to discover the incredible diversity within our own classrooms. Our families have ancestors from places as near as New Zealand and as far as Finland, and ancestors that were here long before British settlement, with many cultures and countries in between. Hearing these stories helped everyone see how our differences enrich our school and our nation.

Chrisitne McShane
Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

*Congratulations to the following T-Birds who have been recognised for exemplifying our school values of **Commitment**, **Cooperation**, **Respect**, **Responsibility**, **Honesty** & **Excellence**.*

Term 1 Week 7

Congratulations:

Isla R, Matilda, Isla W, Jackson, Brooklyn, Max, Levi & Kalani

Term 1 Week 8

Congratulations:

Luke, Frankie, Locky, Ivy C, Ava, Leo, Carter, Maddison, Harper & Tate
Absent: Mahlia

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is $400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

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

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments**: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:
https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund

Come play netball for Woady!
WARRIORS
WARRIORS
Saturday Competition
— HOSTED AT
LLANBERRIS
Sunday Competition
— HOSTED AT
SELKIRK STADIUM
Teams include:
UNDER 9s • UNDER 11s • UNDER 13s
UNDER 15s & UNDER 17s!
Email us today to express your interest -
netball@woadywarriors.com.au

In one fun-filled day, kids will learn and play footy in a safe, inclusive environment. They'll pick up new skills, play mini-games and get creative with designing a footy or uniform. Plus have a footy goodie bag to take home.

nab AFL Auskick

4-7 YEAR OLDS*

Our youngest players learn footy through fun, age-appropriate games that build skills, confidence and teamwork, led by NAB AFL Auskick coaches.

AFL Superkick

7-12 YEAR OLDS

Older kids level up their footy skills through modified game play and challenging activities that build teamwork, leadership and lasting memories in a fun, energetic day.

*Kids can join NAB AFL Auskick if they are turning 5 in the calendar year (before 30th June in WA).

BALLARAT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

BALLARAT NORTH SESSION
TUES APRIL 7 | 9AM-3PM
C.E. BROWN RESERVE

BALLARAT SOUTH SESSION
TUES APRIL 14 | 9AM-3PM
MT CLEAR REC RECERVE

JOIN THE LAKE WENDOUREE
FEMALE FOOTBALL FAMILY!

WE ARE RECRUITING FOR THE 2026 SEASON!

Are you ready to play footy, make friends and have fun in a supportive, inclusive club environment? No experience needed – all **skill levels welcome!**

Teams Recruiting:

- Under 12 Girls
- Under 14 Girls
- Under 16 Girls
- Senior Women

Build confidence

Learn new skills

Be part of a great community club

LAKERS
LAKE WENDOUREE F.N.C

Season approaching – now is the perfect time to get involved!

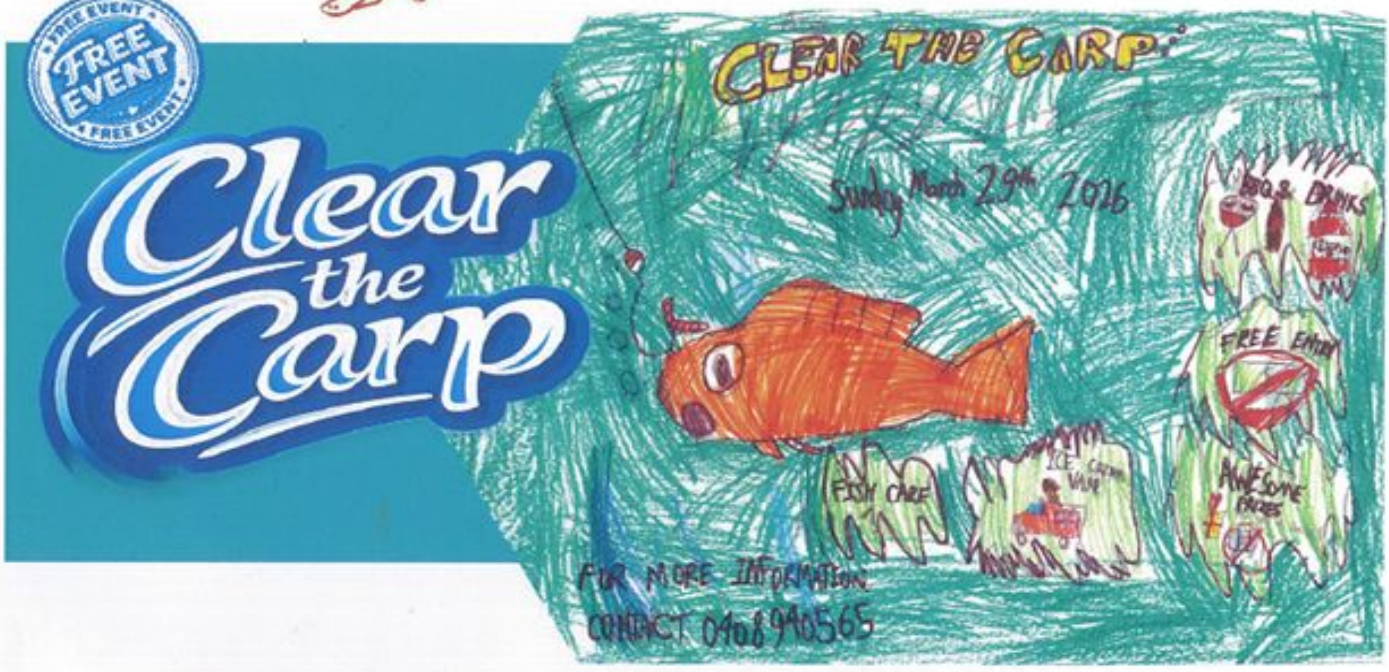
★ **Female Football Coordinator: Jacinta 0425 020 092**

Skipton Primary School

SUPPORTED BY fishcare victoria

FREE EVENT

Clear the Carp



This is a student-led community fishing and environmental action day at Mount Emu Creek, proudly delivered by the Grade 5/6 students from Skipton Primary School. Supported by Fishcare Victoria's Catch a Carp project, the event features fishing clinics, habitat activities with OzFish and carp processing and cooking demonstrations with Keith Bell.

STEWART PARK, SKIPTON

Sunday 29th March

9.00am - 3.00pm

Habitat & Ecology

Fishing Clinics

Carp Processing & Cooking

OzFish POWERED BY FISHCARE VICTORIA

K & G FISHERIES GLOBAL

Catch Learn Protect

Your fishing licence fees at work

THE HOME OF THE

FOREST RANGERS SOCCER CLUB

FOREST RANGERS SOCCER CLUB

For almost 60 years, the Forest Rangers Soccer Club has played an essential role in the Ballarat community, offering much more than a typical sports organization. We provide children and adults alike with the chance to enhance their fitness, soccer skills, and personal development in a safe and welcoming atmosphere.

Our dedicated coaches and volunteers are committed to nurturing not only athletic talent but also the values of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

Come and be apart of Ballarat's fastest growing soccer club and see how we uniquely differ from other clubs in Ballarat!

FRSC

facebook.com/frsc | instagram.com/__frsc | www.forestrangerssc.com | 1 Holly Grove, Wendouree 3355

SJC GROUP
BETTATECH Telstra Partner
WEST EXHAUST 5339 3030 OR 5338 1000
GIANT BALLARAT
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