



Newsletter: Thursday 3 April 2025

Vision:

Our school empowers all students to embrace learning, achieve their personal best while developing their emotional, social and physical wellbeing, and through this make positive contributions to the community.

WELSHPOOL AND DISTRICT PRIMARY SCHOOL No: 5396

Wellbeing

Following on from last fortnight's newsletter where we highlighted the importance of Gratitude, this week we unpack empathy.

Why Empathy Matters

Empathy is at the heart of creating a compassionate and inclusive community. When students learn to empathize with their peers, they develop stronger interpersonal skills, increase their emotional intelligence, and contribute to a more respectful and understanding classroom atmosphere. In turn, this leads to a more collaborative and engaging learning experience for everyone.

At home, practicing empathy helps strengthen family bonds. When parents model empathy, children learn to communicate openly, solve problems together, and respond to challenges with patience and care.

Empathy in the Classroom

In our school, we believe that empathy plays a key role in academic and personal growth. It's not just about understanding other people's feelings but also about acting with kindness and respect. Teachers and staff work to create a classroom culture where every student feels heard, valued, and supported. Through activities such as group discussions, role-playing, and collaborative projects, students are encouraged to practice seeing things from different perspectives. This not only enhances their social skills but also fosters a sense of belonging and acceptance.

How Parents Can Encourage Empathy at Home

Empathy is a skill that can be developed with practice. Here are some simple but impactful ways parents can encourage empathy in their children:

Model Empathy: Children often learn by observing their parents. Show empathy in your own interactions—whether it's with family members, friends, or even strangers. When your child sees you actively listening and responding with care, they'll be more likely to mirror those behaviours.

Encourage Active Listening: Teach your child to listen attentively to others without interrupting. This helps them understand the importance of hearing someone's feelings and perspective before responding.

Discuss Feelings: Help your child identify and label their emotions, as well as the emotions of others. Use books, movies, or everyday situations as opportunities to talk about how characters might be feeling and why.

Praise Kindness and Understanding: When your child shows empathy, whether it's comforting a friend or standing up for someone, acknowledge and celebrate their efforts. Positive reinforcement will encourage them to continue acting thoughtfully.

Teach Conflict Resolution: Disagreements are a normal part of life, but they can be opportunities to practice empathy. Help your child learn to resolve conflicts by encouraging them to understand the other person's point of view and find solutions that respect everyone's feelings.

Empathy in Action

We've seen firsthand the incredible power of empathy in our students. Whether it's a student offering a comforting word to a peer having a tough day or a group of classmates working together to support one another during a challenging project, acts of empathy are woven into the fabric of our school community.

We are proud of how our students continually show care and kindness towards one another. Their empathy not only strengthens their friendships but also creates a safe and welcoming space for everyone.

Looking Ahead

As we move forward in the school year, we encourage both parents and students to make empathy a priority in everyday life. Together, we can continue to foster an environment where kindness, understanding, and mutual respect are the cornerstones of all our interactions.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students grow not only as learners but as compassionate individuals. Let's keep nurturing the power of empathy, one small act at a time.

As always, if you require anything please do not hesitate to contact us, either via the office or directly to the classroom teacher.

Reminder that term 1 concludes Friday 4th April at 2:30. Students will be dismissed at this time and the bus will run at this earlier time.

Term 2 will commence on Tuesday 22nd April due to Easter Monday. Week 1 will be a short week with ANZAC Day public holiday on Friday 25th.



**Gabrielle Boyd
Principal**

Little School, Big Heart

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Address: 5960 South Gippsland Highway, Welshpool Vic 3966
Phone: 03 56881460 Mobile: 0428 444 292

End of Term Easter Celebration

Please join us to celebrate a fantastic Term 1

When: Friday 4th April

12:00 Easter Hat Parade

12:30 Easter Egg Hunt and Shared Picnic Lunch

BBQ lunch provided by Parents' Club

1:30 Easter Egg Raffle

2:20 Early dismissal



All Welcome



UPDATED:

REMINDER TO PARENTS, WHEN ENTERING ABSCENCES ON COMPASS, LATE OR EARLY LEAVERS.

If a student is **absent** from school, please ensure you make the appropriate entry on Compass with the relevant code applicable on the day of the non attendance. Unexplained non attendance must be identified. If you choose '**parent choice**', please explain why in comments section, so we can re-code if necessary.

If a student is **late** or leaving **early**, parents/guardians must sign them in/out on the Ipad in the office, and place the printed slip in container in office for admin role marking.

Thank you again for your understanding in this matter.



For the month of March and April. We would like to wish the following students a HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!

**Beau, Nhius, Cara,
Hoorain**

Student Awards



Congratulations to the following students who received Student of the Week Awards:

Week 8

- P/1 – **Camilla** for her resilience
- 2/3 – **Kyle** for his hard work in maths
- 4/5/6 – **Beau** for his positive attitude in maths

Week 9

- P/1 – **Emily** for challenging herself in her learning
- 2/3 – **Jazaa** for demonstrating the school values
- 4/5/6 – **Parishay** for positive attitude



Congratulations to **Harvey, Cian, Aleea, Ethan and Will** who have received **REC Awards**

Congratulations to all the students who have earned reading awards.



Music Award

Keyra is very enthusiastic and shows great joy in music class. She always puts in a really good effort when learning new things and is able to use her new skills in classroom activities.

Mrs Dower



GLASSES FOR KIDS PROGRAM

If you would like your child to participate in the program please return the consent forms by **24 April 2025**.



GLASSES FOR KIDS IS COMING TO THIS SCHOOL

The Glasses for Kids program will be visiting this school to provide eligible students with **FREE** vision screening, then testing and glasses (as required)



Scan this QR code to find out more on the GFK website



STATE SCHOOLS RELIEF | GLASSES FOR KIDS | VICTORIA | Department of Education

A Victorian State Government and State Schools' Relief Initiative
Questions? Please contact: the GFK team via info@glassesforkids.com.au

GLASSES FOR KIDS SIGN UP TODAY!

The Glasses for Kids program will be visiting this school to provide eligible students with **FREE** vision screening, then testing and glasses (as required)

Visit Date/s 14 MAY 2025
 School Contact Gabrielle Boyd
 Forms Due 24 APRIL 2025

Scan this QR code to find out more on the GFK website



STATE SCHOOLS RELIEF | GLASSES FOR KIDS | VICTORIA | Department of Education

A Victorian State Government and State Schools' Relief Initiative
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Get up to \$500 for education costs

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months, and **ANZ will match it up to \$500**.

To be eligible, you need to meet these requirements:

- 18+**
18 years or older
- \$**
A regular income (you or your partner)
- Computer icon**
Attend free online financial education workshops
- Checkmark icon**
Are studying yourself or have a child at school, or starting next year
- Health Care Card icon**
Current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card

Saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WITH FOSTER LIBRARY:

EVERY DAY OF THE HOLIDAYS
Search and Find activity and craft table.

MONDAY APRIL 14 10:30 am
Fabulous Foil Art @ Foster Library. Make a picture or pattern using our stencils or create your own design.

THURSDAY APRIL 10 10:30 am
Super Spinners @ Foster Library

TUESDAY APRIL 15 3:30 pm
Lego Club! @ Foster Library

WEDNESDAY APRIL 16 10 am
Air Dry Clay creator session at Toora Hall. Make a paperweight, model or ornament to keep.

See all Mijji school holiday programs: scan QR code below or go to mijji.au/april25



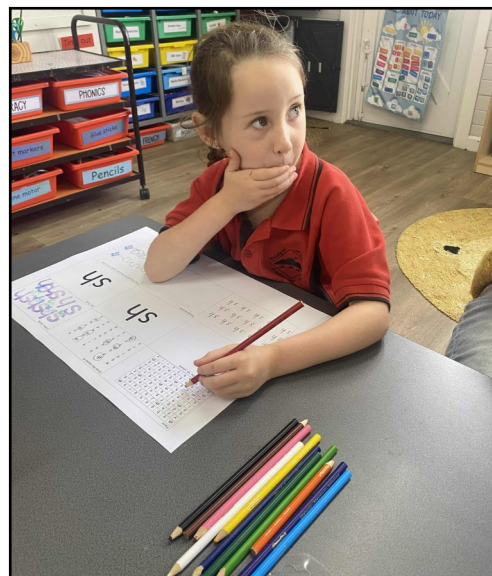
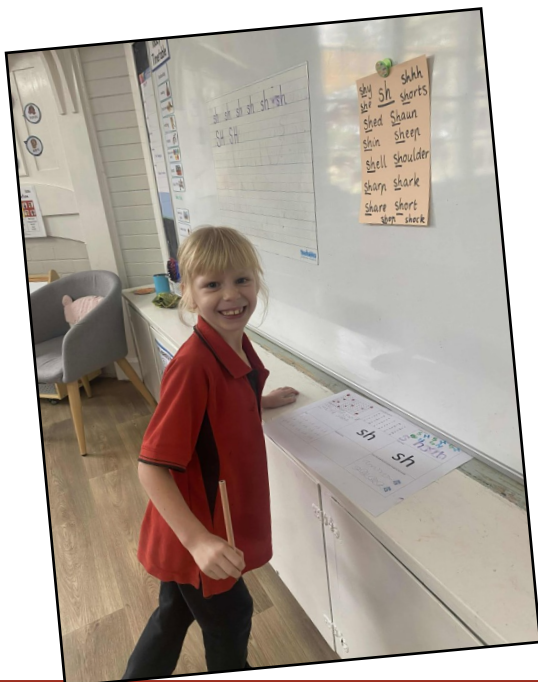
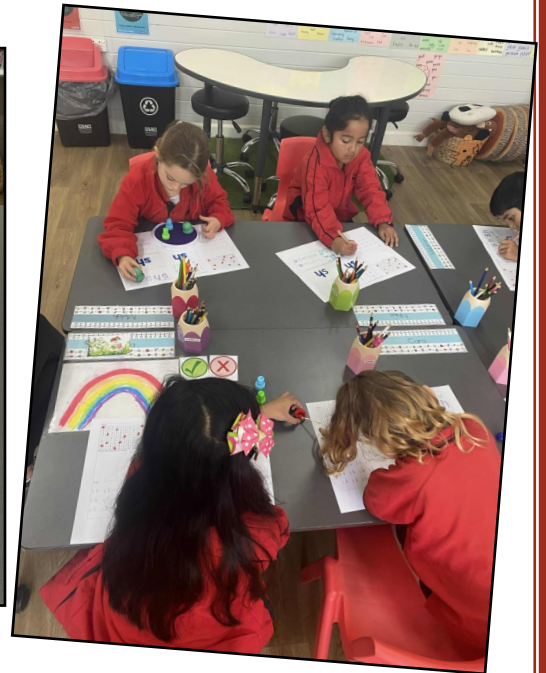
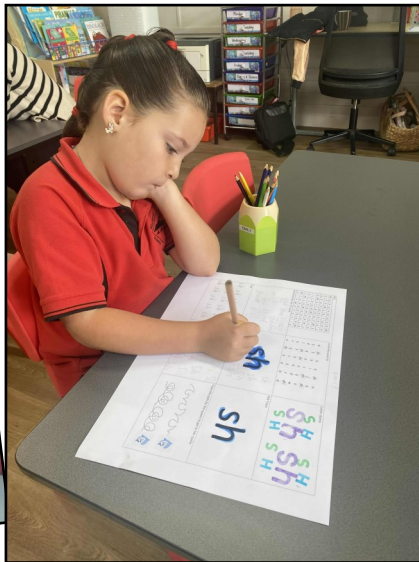
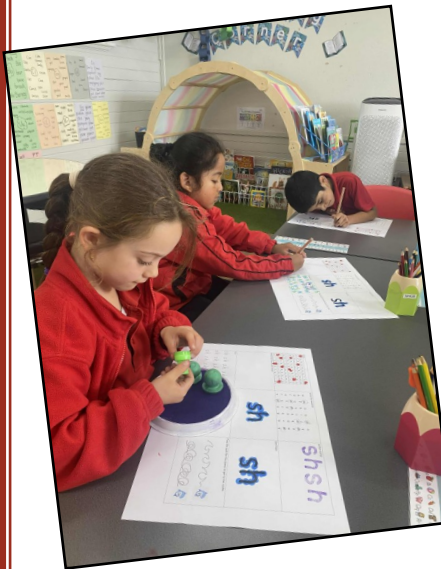
P/1 Classroom



It has been a busy and exciting term filled with learning, creativity, and growth in the P/1 classroom. It has been lovely seeing our prep students become more comfortable in school, creating new friends and learning. Great work to our grade one students also, for stepping up and becoming great leaders in our classroom. The class has been actively engaged in hands-on activities, explicit lessons and fun classroom games that have helped students build both academic and social skills. Students have made great progress in their reading, seeing some amazing fluency, sounding ability and comprehension. It has been great to see lots of students reading each night to reinforce their learning from school. Students have been working hard on their letter formation in writing, ensuring they are using their dotted thirds. In maths, students have been doing a deep dive on all things number with the whole school maths topic of counting being explored. Thank you for a lovely term, P/1 student.

I hope everyone has a restful holiday and come back to school ready for a busy term 2!

Mrs Wade



2/3 Classroom



Well done to all students in Grade 2/3 for their fabulous start to the 2025 school year. It has been amazing to get to know all students in the way they learn, their personalities and their interests.

To finish this term, we are busy publishing and illustrating our narrative writing about a magic present. The students have loved having the freedom to take their story wherever their imagination leads them.

In maths, we have been challenged with a scavenger hunt, searching for hidden easter eggs around the school, focusing on how we can use maps to find our way around.

Another big congratulations to all students on their home reading for Term 1. There has been a lot of motivation to earn pom poms, leading to many students having meet reading milestones.

We have had a very busy term, but that has not stopped the 2/3 class from having lots of energy.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holidays and cannot wait to see everyone again in Term

Miss Matthews



4/5/6 Classroom



What a cracking start to the year the 4/5/6 students have had! It has been such a joy getting to know them individually and as a class. I have learnt so much from them and really enjoyed sharing in their journey in the senior classroom so far. Some highlights include the outstanding attitudes at Athletics day, sharing our class novel Blueback and becoming jointly invested in the main characters and their story lines, and learning how to create and follow maps. It has been wonderful to support the 4/5/6 students in developing their friendships in the playground and finding new learning partners in the classroom. I am really proud of their open-mindedness, willingness to give things a go and enthusiasm for their learning.

Well done to everyone for their positive start to the year and I cannot wait to return for Term 2 and continue the learning.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you ever require anything: mia.reber-ewin@education.vic.gov.au

Miss Reber



School supplier for school shoes



Inside/Out Clothing has been chosen as a school supplier for school shoes. If you wish to use your SSB uniform allocation to purchase appropriate footwear for your child, inside/out clothing can help you with their range.

Please ensure you take your SSB code/voucher number provided. If you don't know your code/voucher number or if unsure how you allocated, come into the office and see Sandra who can provide you with your code/voucher number and double check the allocation is available for uniform on the SSB portal.

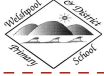
\$400



School Saving

Bonus

Insideout Clothing & Footwear is now a school saving bonus supplier for
Welshpool & District Primary School
See us at 19 Main St, FOSTER



Parents & Friends Association (PFA)

Welshpool & District Primary School
Parents' Club

Easter RAFFLE

2025 EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS
\$1.00 / TICKET

Prizes include:
x2 Sides of Lamb (1st + 2nd Prize)
Multiple Easter Hampers
Local delivery only
Winners notified by phone

RAFFLE DRAWN: FRIDAY 4TH APRIL
Tickets to be returned by 28th March 2025

THANKYOU, FROM THE PFA

| <u>SCHOOL BBQ ROSTER</u> | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| <u>Term 2 2025</u> | |
| <u>April</u> | |
| Wed 23 rd | |
| Wed 30 th | Sandra |
| <u>May</u> | |
| Wed 7 th | |
| Wed 14 th | Sandra |
| Wed 21 st | |
| Wed 28 th | Sandra |
| <u>June</u> | |
| Wed 4 th | |
| Wed 11 th | |
| Wed 18 th | |
| Wed 25 th | |
| Wed 2 nd | |

WE CAN'T PROCEED WITHOUT YOU VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In order to continue our Hotdog/ BBQ Wednesdays we are seeking more volunteers.

If you can assist us with any dates please contact with Lisa Van Kuyk or the school office.



HOTDOG WEDNESDAY ORDERS IN BY WEDNESDAY 9AM



WDPS HOTDOG ORDER FORM

NAME: _____

| | Description | \$ | QTY | Total \$ |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----|----------|
| Hotdog | | \$2.00 ea | | |
| Drink | Choc/Straw/Plain Milk | \$1.50 ea | | |
| | Juice Box | \$1.50 ea | | |
| Icy Poles | Various Flavours | \$0.50 ea | | |
| | | | | \$ |