NEWSLETTER

COLAC SOUTH WEST P. S.
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http://www.colac-sw-ps.vic.edu.au

Respect Engage Achieve Care Honesty

Colac South West Primary School is a Child Safe School.

18th September 2026

Vision Statement: *At Colac South West Primary School we will provide opportunities for all students to achieve to a high standard in a supportive, challenging and engaging environment where all members proudly display the values of **R**espect, **E**ngage, **A**chieve, **C**are and **H**onesty in order to equip them with the necessary skills and values to prepare them for the future.*

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

PROTECT

THE EDUCATION STATE | VICTORIA State Government Education and Training

Colac South West Primary School is committed to the **child safe standards.**
These standards are in place at our school to prevent and respond to allegations of child abuse.
Should you need further advice or wish to report a concern regarding child abuse you can contact:

- Colac South West Primary School Principal – Xavier Davis on 5232 1170
- DFFH Child protection on 131278
- Colac Police on 5232 8200 or call 000

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Colac South West Primary School is located in Gulidjan Country of the Maar Nation.
We pay our respects to the Gulidjan people - past, present and emerging, as the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live, work and play.

STUDENT PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

The school offers yard supervision from 8:45am and after school until 3:30pm. Parents are reminded that there is no teacher supervision outside of these times. Children are invited to attend Breakfast Club on Tuesday and Wednesday between 8:15am and 8:45am in the BER. All staff have a Briefing from 8:30am - to 8:45am each Friday.

October	
Monday 5th October	Term 4 Starts
Wednesday 7th October	Years 3-6 Bike Ed during PE & 3-6 Sport
Thursday 8th October	Walking School Bus
Friday 9th October	Years 3-6 Bike Ed during PE & 3-6 Sport Regional Athletics – Selected Students

STUDENT FREE DAYS

Monday 2nd November	Student Free Day
Thursday 17th December	Students Last day of School - 3.15pm finish

New School Polo – Have Your Say

This week we have shared two options with families for our proposed new Colac South West polo top. While our current school uniform will continue to be able to be worn throughout 2027, we will gradually move towards having one consistent school polo that is clearly identifiable as Colac South West. Importantly, every student will receive one new polo top free of charge as part of the transition throughout 2027.

We would really like families to have a say before a final decision is made, so please take a couple of minutes to complete the CSW Polo Top Options Community Feedback Survey. The two designs have now been shared, and the feedback from students, staff and families will help us decide which direction we take. This is another small but important step in continuing to build a strong and recognisable identity for our school. **CSW Polo Top Options Community Feedback Survey – Fill out form**

Supporting Students Following a Sudden Loss

Our school community was saddened this week by the sudden passing of former Colac South West student Aidan Proctor on Monday evening. Our thoughts are with Aidan's family, friends and everyone who knew him. For some students, the impact of a sudden loss may not be immediate. Children can process grief in very different ways, and feelings or questions can sometimes become more evident over the days and weeks that follow. The information we have shared with families notes that primary-aged children may show grief through changes in sleep, appetite, behaviour, school performance or physical complaints, while others may simply need time before they are ready to talk. The most important things adults can do are listen, answer questions honestly and in an age-appropriate way, maintain routines where possible and give children time and space to express how they are feeling. As we now move into the school holidays, if you have concerns about how your child is coping or would like some guidance or advice, families can contact **Colac Area Health – Family Support Services on 5232 5140**.

End of Term

Term 3 has been an incredibly full term, with camps, Book Week, Father's Day, State Schools Spectacular, sporting events, celebrations and plenty of learning happening across the school. Thank you to our students for the way they have continued to work hard and represent our school, to our staff for the enormous amount they put into making these opportunities happen, and to our families for continuing to support the school. I hope everyone has the chance to slow down a little over the break, spend time with family and friends and come back refreshed for the final term of the year.

Stay safe and enjoy the holidays. Go Swans!

Xavier Davis
Principal
Colac South West Primary School

Celebrating Our Premiers' Reading Challenge Achievements!

A huge congratulations to all of our students who have taken part in the Premiers' Reading Challenge this year! It has been wonderful to see so many of our students embracing the joy of reading and discovering new books and stories.

Our **Prep–Year 2 students** have listened to a phenomenal number of books since March! A very special congratulations to:

Xander – 202 books
Aneila – 212 books
Ruby – an incredible 261 books!

We are also incredibly proud of our **Year 3–6 students** who independently read **30 or more books** as part of the challenge. What an outstanding achievement!

Congratulations to: Shiloh (48), Piper (30), Febriana (30), Maddy (41), Ella (33), Sadie (74), Imogen (31), Frankie (33), Isabel (54), Mahli (34), Psalmody (39), Rylee (73), Willow (35), Eli (33), Kaelyn (30), Eleesiah (32), Lily H (50), Leah (60), Max (35), Kaylum (31) and Ahliah (30).

All students who met the Premiers' Reading Challenge requirements will be presented with their certificates once they arrive, which we expect to be early in Term 4.

We are so proud of the commitment, enthusiasm and love of reading shown by all of our participants. Keep reading, keep exploring and discovering the wonderful world of books!

Room 11 **Miss Mills**	**Aisyah Ubaidillah** **Archie Wajlerski**
Room 5 **Mrs Ellis**	**Chelxane Llubit**
Room 3 **Miss Rodgers**	**Fabian Guterres**
Room 4 **Mrs Coles**	**Zayden Brown**
Room 6 **Miss Fernando**	**Onyx Morrow**
Room 7 **Miss Watts**	**Jasper Gill**
Room 9 **Mr Coop**	**Ari Gaylard**
Library **Mrs Allan**	**Fabian Guterres**

Art **Mrs Allan**	**London Lofts**
P.E. **Mr Felekos**	**Jackson Ubaidillah**
Music **Ms Trewavas**	**Psalmody Twemlow**

Mrs Boyle	**Evelyn Graham**
Mr Balboni	**Lily Higgins**
Mrs Uwland	**Evangelina Coop**
Mrs Jeffreys	**Sekove Waqanivalu**
Miss Laura	**Koopa Spokes**

Happy Birthday to this student. We hope you have a wonderful birthday today!
Mahalia Shoul

Happy Birthday to these students who celebrate a birthday in the holidays!

Mitchell Anderson
Arthur Pope
Lilly Wilson
Ella Kirkman
Aweng Atem
Jaxon Hay

ED CONNECT Australia

MID YEAR UPDATE

COLAC SOUTH WEST PRIMARY

A warm welcome to the new volunteers who have more recently joined!

3	75	70
Total Volunteers	Hours Given	Students in the Classroom or Program with a Volunteer

Volunteer with EdConnect Australia

Our school is a member of the EdConnect Australia program, providing us with trained learning support volunteers who help students achieve success - in school and life.
Just one hour per week makes a life-long impact!
If you or someone you know is interested in getting involved, contact EdConnect below.

'I have found every week to be a rewarding and joyful time.'

'The students seem genuinely happy to see me arrive. Waving and saying 'Hi."

Phone 1800 668 550
Website www.edconnectaustralia.org.au
Email edconnect@edconnect.org.au

Follow us

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program is now open!

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program is now open! Get in quick as applications will close at 10am on 13 October or earlier if the budget allocation is fully exhausted.

If your family or child has a Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, you may be eligible for up to $200 to put towards the cost of your child's participation in sport and active recreation activities.

Important Dates:

Round 11 open to apply for a voucher or reimbursement: 10am on Tuesday, 15 September 2026 and will close 10am on 13 October or earlier if the budget allocation is fully exhausted.

Reimbursement expenditure dates: from **1 May 2026** to submission of application

Vouchers expiry date: Tuesday, 27 April 2027.

The *Get Active Kids Voucher Program* helps eligible families get their kids involved in organised sport and active recreation activities by providing financial support for the cost of membership and registration fees. Eligible children may be able to receive up to $200 each.

Special consideration also applies for children residing in care services, as well as temporary or provisional visa holders, undocumented migrants, or international students.

To find out if you are eligible, how to apply, what costs are covered and more, visit www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARIES

JOIN IN THE FUN AT COLAC COMMUNITY LIBRARY

We've got your kids covered these school holidays!

Explore our exciting range of events and activities covering literacy, STEM, social connections, and creative exploration. There is something to entertain children of all ages and interests.

Scan the QR code for the full details of all events on our website. Bookings open two weeks before school holidays start.

Playing with Paint (Ages 5+)
Mon 21 Sept, 2:30 - 3:30pm

Interactive Play Storytime (Pre-school)
Tue 22 Sept, 10:30 - 11:30am

Holiday Toddlertime (Pre-school)
Wed 23 & 30 Sept, 10:30 - 11:30am

Library Play Time (Ages 5+)
Tue 29 Sept, 10:30 - 11:00am

Craft a Fabric Badge (Ages 12+)
Thur 1 Oct, 2:30 - 3:30pm

Create a Rainbow Keyring (Ages 8+)
Fri 2 Oct, 10:30 - 11:30am

www.grlc.vic.gov.au

book now

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified.
Bookings essential.
Online www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events.
In person at any library or phone 5231 4613

PURPLE UP.

SHUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DOWN.

MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER

IT'S TIME TO PURPLE UP!

Get your school involved in the

Walk for Respect.

Wear purple, bring your school community together and take a stand against domestic and family violence.

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY TEACHER. EVERY STEP.

Safe Communities. Stronger Futures.

WILL YOUR SCHOOL PURPLE UP

GOLD COIN DONATION to support the Rotary Club of Colac Otway who organised the Walk for Respect.

Rotary Club of Colac Otway | Colac Salvos

Birth Certificate Pop Up Day

Free support to obtain birth certificates

We recognise that without a birth certificate access to many fundamental services is simply impossible. To obtain or replace a Birth Certificate, births must be registered and all application details must match the existing registration records.

Meli is hosting a pop-up event to support families to obtain a birth certificate from Births, Deaths and Marriages

To be supported and access FREE birth certificates, families need to bring one of the below:

- Centrelink Health Care Card; or
- Centrelink Pension Concession Card; or
- Disability Support Pension Card

Please bring with you on the day

Three forms of ID are needed such as:

- Drivers License, Medicare card, and Centrelink card (Health Care Card; or Centrelink Pension Concession Card; or Disability Support Pension Card)
- If the child is subject to a permanent care order, please bring evidence that you have parental responsibility for the child

The following will be provided

- Justice of the Peace onsite on the day to certify your identification documents
- Stations set up to support with each step of the application process
- Printer, scanner, postage onsite to complete birth certificate application

When

Wednedsay the 7th of October 2026
11am - 3pm

Location

Meli Wydinia Kindergarten
19 Dunoon St, Colac VIC 3250

If you would like to book a time, please scan the QR code. Also please come along when it suits you and we will support you as quickly as we can.

MELI

meli.org.au

GIRLS CDCA CRICKET

PLAY LOCAL.
PLAY TOGETHER.
HAVE FUN!

YOUR SUMMER.
YOUR GAME.

COME & TRY CRICKET!

TWO **FREE** OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIRLS NEW TO CRICKET

U13'S	U17'S
AGES 9–12	AGES 13–16

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH
& OCTOBER 4TH
2PM - 3PM

COLAC SPORTS PERFORMANCE HUB
EASTERN RESERVE, COLAC

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST OR TURN UP ON THE DAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
JACCOB RODDA
0408 331 362

COME ALONG AND BRING SOME **FRIENDS!**

MAKE NEW FRIENDS. BUILD CONFIDENCE. LOVE THE GAME.

Robertson Street Playground Renewal

Council is ready to commence the Robertson Street Playground Renewal.

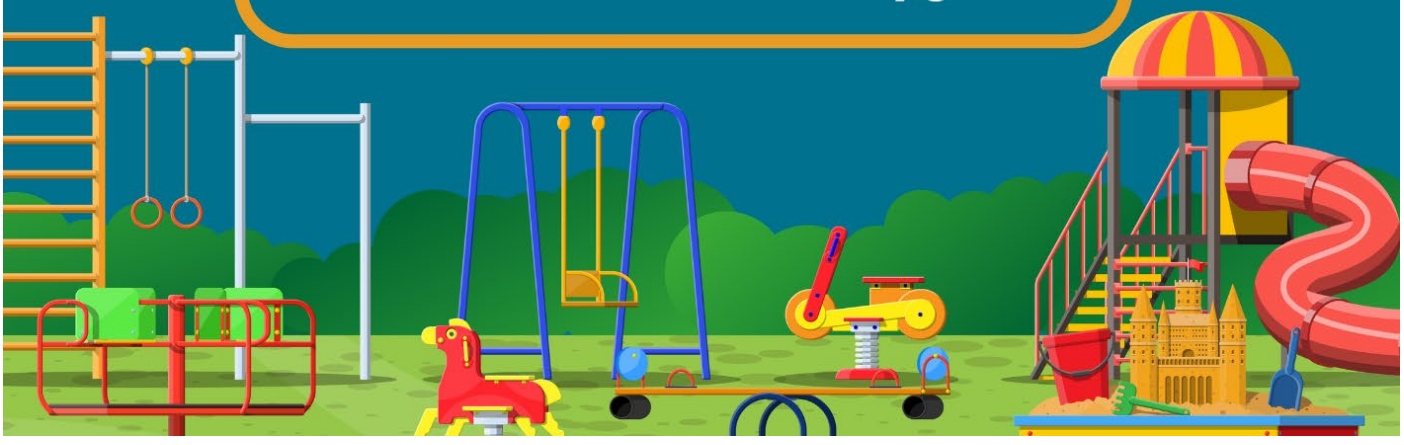
Share your ideas at the community drop-in session and let Council know what you would like to see included in the playground design.

Drop-in Session

Tuesday 22 September 2025

3pm - 5pm

at the Robertson Street Playground.



Barwon Downs

Members of the public are invited to join us for International Observe the Moon Night on Friday Night, Sept. 18 at 7pm.
The free event will be held at Barwon Downs Community Hub
1599 Birregurra-Forrest Road, Barwon Downs
(Behind the CFA Fire Station).

Full Moon names
The 12 traditional full Moons are the Wolf Moon, Snow Moon, Worm Moon, Pink Moon, Flower Moon, Strawberry Moon, Buck Moon, Sturgeon Moon, Harvest Moon, Hunter's Moon, Beaver Moon and Cold Moon.

Strawberry Moon 2026

Buck Moon 2026

Tidal Locking
The far side of the Moon can never be seen from Earth. The Moon whirls around Earth with one side always facing our planet — and it's not as unusual as you would think.

International Observe the Moon Night is a worldwide public event that encourages observation, appreciation and understanding of our Moon and its connection to space science, exploration, and human culture.

Facebook

See you there.

BDAG
Barwon Downs Astronomy Group

email:bdag2026@gmail.com

YOUTH FEST

FREE workshops for young people aged 12-25!

YOUTH SOUNDCHECK WORKSHOP

Interested in music and live events? This workshop is for you!
Learn about the basics of sound production, lighting, and event setup.

Friday 25 September
10:00am - 12:00pm

Colac Neighbourhood House
6 Myers Street, Colac

YOUTH DJ WORKSHOP
WITH DJ BARKSY

Learn how to DJ including mixing, beat matching,
and track selection

Friday 25 September
1:00pm - 3:00pm

Colac Neighbourhood House
6 Myers Street, Colac

Colac Otway SHIRE | VICTORIAN YOUTH FEST | VICTORIA State Government | COLAC Neighbourhood House The Heart of Our Community

Register now
www.colacotway.vic.gov.au/Youth-Events