



FOUNDATION INFORMATION



Learning together



Kindness - Excellence - Fairness - Creativity



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Westall Primary School!

As the new Principal of the school, I would like to highlight all of the wonderful things at our school and invite you to visit and find out for yourself!

You will find that the school is on the way to being completely rebuilt with new buildings and facilities! The school is also collocated with Westall Hub - the City of Kingston facility that offers a local library, Maternal Health Nurse, Kinder and many other services.

Our school is a harmonious multicultural community where everyone is highly engaged in their learning!

The school demonstrates excellent learning growth in Literacy (English) and Numeracy (Maths), and delivers Inquiry learning to students using the Walker Learning Approach.

The school has a strong after school and inter-school sport program, which students speak very highly of.

The school also has a canteen on-site, so students can purchase their lunches each day.

There is a lot to like about our school, and I invite prospective students and their parents/guardians to contact the school for a tour or further information.

Peter Jeans
Principal

SCHOOL VALUES

At Westall Primary School we have 4 key school values. Our students learning and development is fostered in an environment that promotes Kindness, Creativity, Fairness and Excellence for students, staff and all members of the community.

KINDNESS

CREATIVITY

FAIRNESS

EXCELLENCE

Our vision is to be a curious, inspired and empowered community.

ENROLMENTS

Please click the QR code or visit our website for further information on how you can enrol your child at our school. In addition, call the office and organise a time to take a school tour. We look forward to meeting you and having your child become a valuable member of our school.

<https://www.westallps.vic.edu.au>



COMPASS

Compass is our schools main communication tool for your child's attendance, wellbeing, learning and assessment reports. You will be able to let the school know if your child is absent and check their reports.



3 easy steps

1. Download the free app (iOS, Android, Kindle Fire)
2. Sign up as a parent
3. Enter your code!

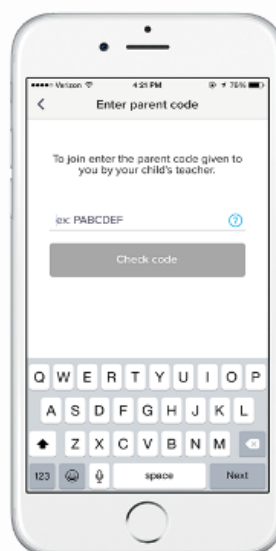
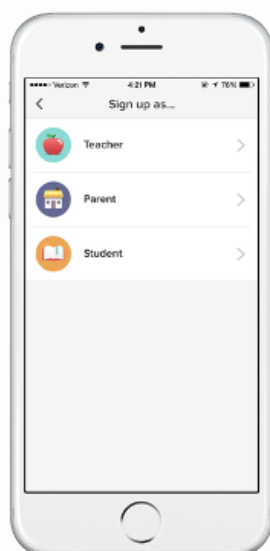
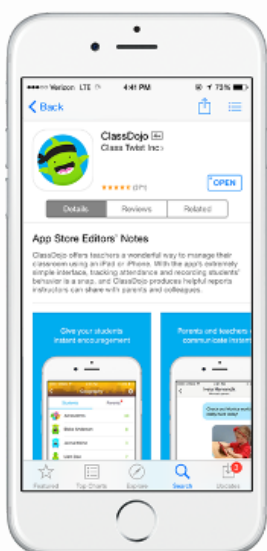
CLASS DOJO

Class Dojo is an educational tool we use to connect teachers with their students and families. This private classroom communication tool allows us to establish amazing classroom communities and keep you up to date with your child's learning and development at school.

We regularly communicate with you through messages, photos and videos, to showcase your child's learning throughout the week.

We build a **positive culture** by encouraging skills such as "Helping others" and "Perseverance".

We want all **parents engaged** in our classroom, to see what we're learning every day!



3 easy steps

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ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

EVERY DAY COUNTS

It is essential that all students attend school every day to ensure they have access to quality learning and education which contributes to their overall success in achieving learning outcomes.

Our **target** as a school:

- Every student must only have a maximum of 10 days away per year.
- Only 10 or less students away everyday.

Daily attendance to school is imperative to your child's learning and development throughout their school life. Regular absences can impact your child's learning, cause them to fall behind and affect their ability to accomplish learning goals.



if your child is unwell please keep them at home and visit your local doctor.

If your child is absent from school, please call our school office or add an attendance note on COMPASS to explain the reason/s for their absence.

STUDENT LEARNING

Your child will receive daily instruction in English and Mathematics following the Victorian Curriculum. Additional subjects are taught during Inquiry lessons using the Kathy Walker Investigation model.

Your child will also attend PE (Physical Education), STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), AUSLAN (Australian Sign Language) and PMP (Perceptual Motor Program) lessons every week.

INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLANS

Students with additional learning needs, will have an Individual Education Plan. This plan outlines the adjustments, goals and strategies necessary to support a student's needs to enable them to achieve their learning and developmental goals.

SPECIALIST CLASSES

At Westall all students attend specialist classes which are PE, STEM, AUSLAN and PMP every week.

PE – Physical Education

Physical Education is designed to increase active play and teach students fundamental skills through engaging in a range of fitness activities, sports and games. PE also involves Health Education that promotes positive health and wellbeing among students.



STEM – Science Technology Engineering Mathematics

STEM integrates Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics into learning. This approach focuses on teaching students' essential skills they require to problem solve, think critically, be creative and work in teams.



AUSLAN – Australian Sign Language

Auslan is the language of the Australian Deaf Community. In Auslan students learn how to use hand gestures, facial expressions and movement of arms and body to express themselves instead of using sound to communicate and speak to one another.



PMP - Perceptual Motor Program

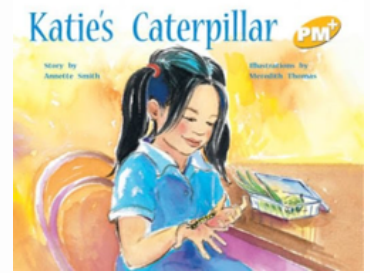
PMP is designed to engage students in a range of movement-based activities that focus on improving their hand/eye coordination and hand/foot coordination, balance, fitness, locomotion and eye tracking skills.



HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME LITERACY

What you can do at home:

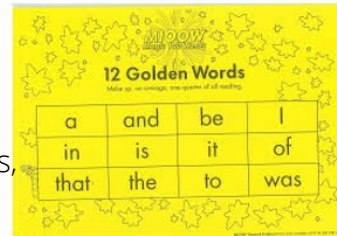
- Read with your child
- Draw pictures
- Practise reading words
- Find counting songs and rhymes to sing with your child.



NUMERACY

What you can do at home:

- Count objects (toys, blocks, jumps, steps, throws, pictures, food items)
- Group objects by colour
- Number hunts when you are outside walking, at the park, at the supermarket
- Cook with your child using a range of measurements.



BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE

- Spend time with your child. Read, play, share activities, express feelings, talk about successes, difficulties, uncertainties and plans.
- Provide a safe environment where life is predictable and where routines and relationships help children to be calm and relaxed.
- Provide challenges. Open opportunities to learn new skills, to collect, to play, to relate, to help, to make.
- Praise specifically. Recognise and name strengths and achievements.
- Have high expectations – of behaviour as well as of achievement.
- Help set achievable goals and have clear guidelines for behaviour.
- Know who your children's friends are and what they are doing.
- Don't put your worries on your children's shoulders.
- Make sure your children have a balanced diet and enjoy plenty of exercise.
- Give moral guidance. Know your values and demonstrate them clearly both in what you say and in what you do.

SLEEP

Please ensure your child is getting enough sleep every night. The right amount of sleep will enable your child to effectively focus and engage in their learning.

Children who consistently get a good night's sleep:

- are more creative
- can concentrate on tasks for longer
- have better problem-solving abilities
- are better able to make positive decisions
- are more able to learn and remember new things
- have more energy during the day
- can create and maintain good relations with others.



LUNCHES

All students have a snack, brain and lunch break every day. Please ensure you pack enough food for your child for each break. A balanced diet with the right foods contributes to your child's growth and development, and enables them to focus better in their learning.

Examples of healthy foods you can include in your child's lunchbox are: fruit, vegetables, sandwiches, wraps, yoghurt and fruit bars.



ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Children should have a maximum of **30 minutes** screen time each day (e.g. on the iPad, watching tv, computer time). We encourage children to spend time playing with friends, being active, exercising, reading, and drawing rather than playing on electronic devices.

Increased use of screen time can have a serious impact on your child's wellbeing, sleep/wake cycles and their overall ability to learn and develop at school.



SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS

CHECK 1

If hearing and vision defects go unnoticed in the early years, a child will face learning difficulties at school. So, have your child's hearing and vision checked before they start school to avoid problems later.

CHECK 2

Learning to read and write is a developmental process and before these skills can be acquired, a child must have an understanding of how to co-ordinate their body. There is a strong connection between basic physical and academic ability.

CHECK 3

If your child can perform most of the tasks below, they should have no problems settling into the school environments.

CAN YOUR CHILD:

Physically:

Can your child independently.....

- Dress and undress themselves?
- Know how to take off their jumper when they're hot?
- Open their lunchbox and unwrap their food?
- Unscrew and screw up their water bottle?
- Manage to turn a tap on and off?
- Go to the toilet, including use of a urinal or toilet cubicle with a lockable door?
- Wash and dry hands?
- Use a handkerchief or tissue correctly?
- Cover their mouth/nose when they sneeze and/ or cough?
- Manage packing a school bag?
- Put things away after using them?
- Jump with two feet together?
- Climb a climbing frame?

Maybe you could practise these with your child over the holiday period.

We look forward to supporting your child to develop the important skills they require for their learning and wellbeing.

Emotionally:

Does your child...

- Cope with separation from family members?
- Control their anger?
- Do things for themselves?
- Look after their own things?
- Persist when completing a set task?

Socially:

Can your child...

- Follow directions?
- Take guidance from adults other than family members?
- Experience being a part of a large group?
- Listen to teachers and other children?
- Use proper speech and not baby talk?
- Adapt to changes in their routine?
- Do what is asked?
- Express their needs?
- Share with peers?
- Know how to take turns?
- Talk to adults?
- Sit still and listen to a story or music for 15 minutes?

STUDENT WELFARE AND BEHAVIOUR POLICIES

At Westall we value the importance of your child's wellbeing. We strongly believe that all students should feel safe, respected and valued at school and in their community.

We have an effective school wide Behaviour Education Programme.

CHILD SAFETY

Our school is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers. We are committed to the safety, participation and empowerment of all children.

At Westall we have strict guidelines in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children. We have an updated Child Safety Code of Conduct which outlines these policies and procedures.

Please click the following link or QR code to find out more information about our schools Child Safety Policies <https://www.westallps.vic.edu.au/important-information>



SAFETY

At Westall we value the importance of your child's safety. The student's safety is priority and we have taken the necessary precautions to ensure their safety. Every teacher at our school is registered with Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT). All our education support staff have a Working with Children's Check and Police Check.

Any non-family member who has been asked to pick up a student from school, must receive permission from that child's parents/guardians and notify the school about the arrangement. Upon arrival, they must show their ID to the office staff and sign in, before picking up that student.



DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Our school has a designated drop off and pickup zone called "Kiss & Go", located on Brady Avenue. If you park in the surrounding side streets near Westall Primary School, please use the pedestrian crossing to safely bring your child into school and/or pick them up.

Please see our school website for an updated copy of our Traffic Management Plan
<https://www.westallps.vic.edu.au>

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

At Westall Primary School we have a Before and After-School Care program from 7:00-8:45am and 3.30-6.00pm. If you are unable to drop your child/children at school by 8:45am and collect them at 3.30pm, this is an excellent way of getting great help where your children are really enjoying themselves too. If you have a healthcare card you are eligible for the childcare rebate. For further details please ring 1300 072 410 or visit www.theircare.com.au and click on 'Book Now' to register your child's details.



CANTEEN

Our canteen offers a fantastic variety of delicious and nutritious snacks/lunches prepared daily by the catering company. The canteen is opened daily at recess and lunch from Monday to Friday. If your child would like a lunch order, please write your order on an empty paper bag, including students name, teacher and class on top. To see all the available food options, please ask your child's teacher for the latest menu list.

SWIMMING

Westall Primary School runs a 10 day swimming program each year. The swimming program is an important part of all children's education and focuses on stroke development, water safety skills and personal development. All swimming classes will be taken by qualified AUSTSWIM instructors. The swimming centre, pool water and bus are all heated.

WESTALL HUB

The City of Kingston local council facility offers a range of services including a Local Library, Maternal Child Care, Kinder and many other services. The Westall Library provides the community with access to a wide range of educational, social, cultural and recreational opportunities and resources. Our teachers and staff use the Westall Hub Library regularly throughout the year to allow students to borrow books and access available resources.

WEBSITE LINKS

Hub - <https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/Services/Family-and-Children/FCC/Westall-Community-Hub/Library>

Maternal & Child Health -

<https://www.kingston.vic.gov.au/Services/Family-and-Children/Centres/Westall-Community-Hub/Maternal-and-Child-Health>

Kindergarten (3 and 4 year old) -

<https://trycs.org.au/kindergartenlist/westall-kindergarten/>

