WIMMERA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Dimboola Campus Newsletter - Friday 6th March 2026

6-26 Horsham Road
Dimboola 3414
Tel: 03 5389 1626

From The Head of Campus

Wimmera Machinery Field Days

On Wednesday 4th March, students in Grades 1–6 travelled to the Wimmera Machinery Field Days at Longerenong and enjoyed a fantastic day exploring the many displays and activities on offer.

Throughout the day students listened to and watched a presentation by Black Snake Productions, had a go at performing CPR at the Ambulance Victoria site, rode on the train, visited the petting zoo, explored the Royal Flying Doctor Service simulator and so much more. Students also spent time in the many sheds speaking with exhibitors, asking questions and learning about a wide range of industries and machinery.

Students were very well behaved throughout the day and represented our school wonderfully. We were also very thankful that the weather was a little cooler than last year, and students did an excellent job of keeping out of the mud after the large amount of rainfall we had over the weekend.

Swimming Carnival

Last Tuesday our students enjoyed a fantastic day at our annual Swimming Carnival. We were lucky that the weather held off for most of the day, with only a few light spits of rain.

Students showed great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship throughout the carnival. It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, whether competing in events, cheering on their teammates, or helping younger students feel ready for their races.

Congratulations to the Blue Team for being the overall winners on the day. It was a very close competition, with Blue taking the win by only a few points, a fantastic effort by all teams!

Congratulations to the following students on being the overall age group champions for the day

Junior Girl Champion: Evie Schneider
Junior Boy Champions- Hunter Mibus
Senior Boy Champion- Harry Lindner
Senior Girl Champions: Milla Bartlett & Violet Emson.

Thank you to staff and families who helped make the day such a success.

Labour Day Public Holiday Reminder

A reminder to families that Monday is the Labour Day public holiday, so there will be no school on this day. Students can enjoy a well-deserved long weekend.

We look forward to seeing all students back at school on Tuesday 10th March.

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From The Head of Campus

Prep Wednesdays

Our Foundation/Prep students will begin attending school on Wednesdays starting Wednesday 11th March.

We are looking forward to welcoming our Prep students for their first Wednesday at school next week and having them join us for a full week of learning.

If you feel that your child is not quite ready for this transition yet, please don't hesitate to come and have a conversation with myself or our Junior Room teacher Mrs. Munro. We are always happy to work with families to ensure each child feels comfortable and supported.

NAPLAN

Students in Years 3 and 5 will begin completing NAPLAN assessments from Wednesday 11th March. NAPLAN is a nationwide assessment that measures students' skills in literacy and numeracy, including reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Students will complete the Writing assessment on Wednesday morning (11th March), the Reading assessment on Thursday morning (12th March), the Language Conventions assessment on Friday morning (13th March) and the Numeracy assessment on Monday morning (16th March).

We encourage students to simply do their best and approach the assessments with a positive attitude. Getting a good night's sleep and having a healthy breakfast will help students feel prepared for the day.

Clean Up Australia Day

Last week our students took part in Clean Up Australia Day, helping to care for our local environment and keep our community looking its best. Equipped with gloves, vests and rubbish bags, students headed out around the school and local area to collect litter.

Students did a wonderful job working together to remove rubbish and showed great pride in helping to keep Dimboola clean and beautiful. It was a great opportunity for students to learn about the importance of looking after our environment and how small actions can make a big difference.

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From The Head of Campus

Welcome to Our New Teacher Aide

We are very pleased to welcome our new Teacher Aide, Mr. Brodie Foster to the Dimboola Campus, who began his role with us on Monday this week. He will be working across classrooms, supporting students in their learning and assisting teachers during lessons and activities.

As a past student of our Horsham Campus, he is already very familiar with the values and community of Wimmera Lutheran College.

He was also quickly thrown into what school life is like as a staff member, attending his first excursion with us to the Wimmera Machinery Field Days this week! It was a great opportunity for him to get to know our students and staff outside of the classroom.

Mr. Foster will work closely alongside Mrs. Elliott until the end of this term as she gradually transitions into the office to take on the role of Office Administrator. This will help set Mr. Foster up for success and provide valuable time for training in the different intervention programs that we run at our school.

He is already settling in well and we are excited to have him join our team. Please join us in giving him a warm welcome to the Wimmera Lutheran College Dimboola community!

Congratulations to Mrs. Gallagher

Congratulations to Mrs. Gallagher on successfully completing the Lutheran Equip training. Equip is a professional learning program designed to support teachers who teach Christian Studies, equipping them with deeper knowledge in theology, biblical literacy and effective teaching practices.

Through the program, teachers strengthen their understanding of Christian Studies, develop their understanding of the Lutheran Education Australia Christian Studies Curriculum Framework, and reflect on ways to plan and deliver meaningful and engaging learning experiences for students.

Well done, Mrs. Gallagher, on completing this important professional development and for your ongoing commitment to supporting the faith and learning journey of our students at Wimmera Lutheran College Dimboola Campus.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend.

Millie Dent
Head of Campus

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From The Executive Principal

Wimmera Lutheran College - Executive Principal's Message
6 March 2026

Strategic planning

On Thursday last week, members of the Wimmera Lutheran College leadership team met with Phil McCredden from Ecclesia Leadership to continue the development of the College's future strategic direction. During the workshop, three key signposts were confirmed that will guide the College moving forward: Shaping Identity, Growing Community, and Transforming Learning.

Within each of these signposts, a number of strategic pillars were identified that will help shape the College's priorities and actions in the coming years. Our next workshop is scheduled for 31 March, where we will work through the practical elements of these pillars - identifying the who, what, where, when, and how required to bring them to life.

This process will lead to the development of a Strategic Intent document for 2026, which will provide clear direction for the College's ongoing growth and mission.

Risk and compliance workshop

Members of the leadership team from all three campuses recently participated in a Risk Management Workshop facilitated by Scyne Advisory on behalf of LEVNT. The workshop focused on strengthening the College's approach to identifying and managing risk across a range of school operations. Participants explored the concept that risk is the effect of uncertainty on objectives, and that effective risk management protects what matters most - our students, staff and resources - while also supporting confident decision-making and innovation.

The session highlighted the importance of environmental scanning using the PESTLE framework (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legislative and Environmental factors) and reinforced the need for consistent risk registers and reporting processes across the College. Key outcomes included developing greater consistency and proactiveness in managing risk, clarifying roles and responsibilities, strengthening communication and reporting, and ensuring continuous improvement in governance and operational practices.

2026 Connect Program

The Connect Program for 2026 also started this week, with the first session held last night and a number of Wimmera Lutheran College staff participating in this year-long accreditation and induction program. Connect is mandatory for all new staff working in Lutheran schools and is designed to help staff understand the ethos, beliefs and practices of Lutheran Education. Throughout the year, participants will explore Lutheran theology, spiritual life, and the important role each staff member plays in supporting the mission of a Lutheran school. Thank you to the combination of Kate Polack, Greg McKinnon and Adam Borgas, who will be supporting our staff as they journey through the program this year.

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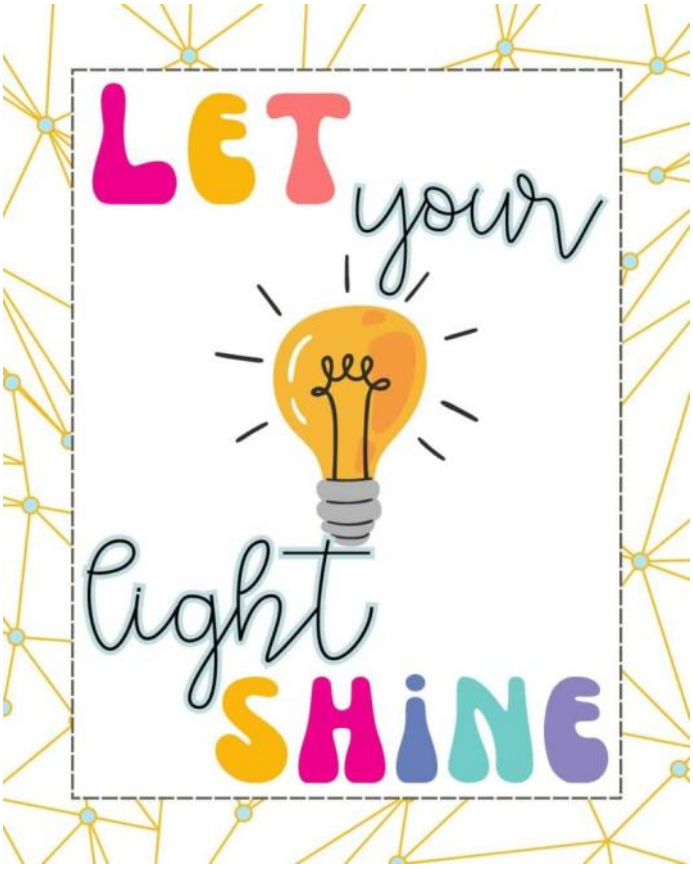
Wimmera Machinery Field Days

Finally, the Wimmera Machinery Field Days took place this week, with students and staff from all three campuses spending time at our WLC site. Thank you to the Promotions team for preparing the roster, setting up the booth, and coordinating our staff and student helpers. From all reports, the student leaders represented the College extremely well and it was wonderful to see Wimmera Lutheran College represented through a combined booth. The field days provide a valuable opportunity to connect with both existing and prospective families, as well as many members of the wider community who share a connection with the College.

Mr Jason Przibilla, Executive Principal



Devotional Thoughts

Trusting God's trajectory and timing

by Jeremy Lie

'Leave your country and your people,' God said, 'and go to the land I will show you' (Acts 7:3).
Read Acts 7:2–8

Stephen reminds his listeners that the story of God's people began with a simple call to be answered. 'The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham,' Stephen says. This was before Abraham had a home, before he had a child, before any one of God's promises seemed certain. God met Abraham *where he was* and called him *forward* into the unknown.

I often understand this dynamic as God loves us as we are, but God does not *leave* us as we are. God often calls us before we feel prepared or ready, but we begin to understand that God is not calling us for our ability, but our *availability.* God does not call those who feel equipped – God equips those who feel called.

Abraham is told to leave his country and his people, yet he receives no immediate reward – not even 'a foot's length' of land. God's promise comes long before its fulfilment. Abraham lives as a pilgrim, trusting a future he will not fully see. Faith, here, is not certainty; it is obedience in the presence of uncertainty.

Stephen also emphasises God's timing. The promise includes suffering, waiting and generations yet to come. God's covenant unfolds slowly, often uncomfortably, but always purposefully. Abraham receives the covenant of circumcision as a sign – a tangible thing to mark an invisible promise. I wonder what tangible reminders of God's faithfulness you have in your life that you can lean on in times of waiting and uncertainty. What memories can remind you of who God has been in the past and who God will be again?

For us, Acts 7:2–8 invites reflection on where God may be calling us to trust without sight. We often want clarity before obedience, but God more often combines his promise with his presence instead. Like Abraham, we may find ourselves living between promise and fulfilment, holding onto God's word while our circumstances seemingly lag behind. Our role is not to control the outcome, but to keep moving forward in faith, trusting that God is already at work ahead of us. Before looking forward, we are encouraged to look back and remember what kind of God we follow.

Lord, help us to trust your trajectory and your timing for our lives. Help us remember who you have been before and to be assured that you are the same God, yesterday, today and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

AWARDS

Awards

Lachie Elliott - For building connections especially ith our newer students, listening attentively in lesson time and showing respect for others.

Harper Rethus - For always showing kindness, introducing herself to others, asking questions and helping everyone feel included (Mrs Munro).

Harper Rethus - For showing curiosity and bravery in asking and sharing ideas/questions about new topics (Karen).

Layla Dent - For showing curiosity and bravery in asking and answering questions about new topics and ideas.

Xavier Mibus (absent) **-** For outstanding leadership. You took responsibility for making sure all students were organised and ready for events, while also encouraging and guiding our younger students.

AWARDS

Awards

Toby King- For using his prior knowledge of spelling resources to support his peers.

Kayleigh Butler - For showing kindness and care by helping a class mate read her questions when she was having difficulty.

Hamish Bartlett - For showing kindness, inclusiveness and an awareness of others in team games.

Matheus Pervoe- For trying his best ot listen, stay with the group and have a positive attitude for our excursion to the Wimmera Machinery Field Days.

Tyson O'Neil (absent)- for showing boldness to work with new people and contribute appropriately in class discussions.

Notices

HALT

Have you heard of the HALT acronym?

This simple but powerful tool can help us better understand and respond to the big emotions and behaviours we sometimes see in children - especially those that seem to appear out of nowhere. Often, these reactions stem from unmet needs. Many children are still developing the ability to recognise internal body signals or find the words to communicate how they are feeling.

Think about how we feel as adults when we are overtired, hungry or feeling misunderstood—our emotions can become heightened too! 😉

The HALT acronym encourages us to pause and consider whether a child might be **Hungry, Angry, Lonely or Tired**. By checking in on these basic needs, we can often reduce some of the guesswork and respond in a supportive way. Meeting these needs helps children feel safe, seen and supported.

It can also be helpful to talk with your child about how they notice these feelings. Where do they feel them in their body? What might help when they start to feel this way? Everyone experiences these signals differently, and some children may find it harder to recognise them. Open conversations, along with gently noticing and naming feelings for your child, can help them develop these important self-awareness skills over time.

I have some useful resources around these topics if you would like more information or ideas.

Karen

Wimmera Lutheran College is committed to providing a child safe and child friendly environment, where children and young people are safe and feel safe, and are able to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives.

Notices

Important Dates

All the below dates are to the best of our knowledge and may change at short notice or be added to throughout the Term.

TERM 1 = 27th January - 2nd April 2026

MARCH 2026

9th - Labour Day Public Holiday - No school

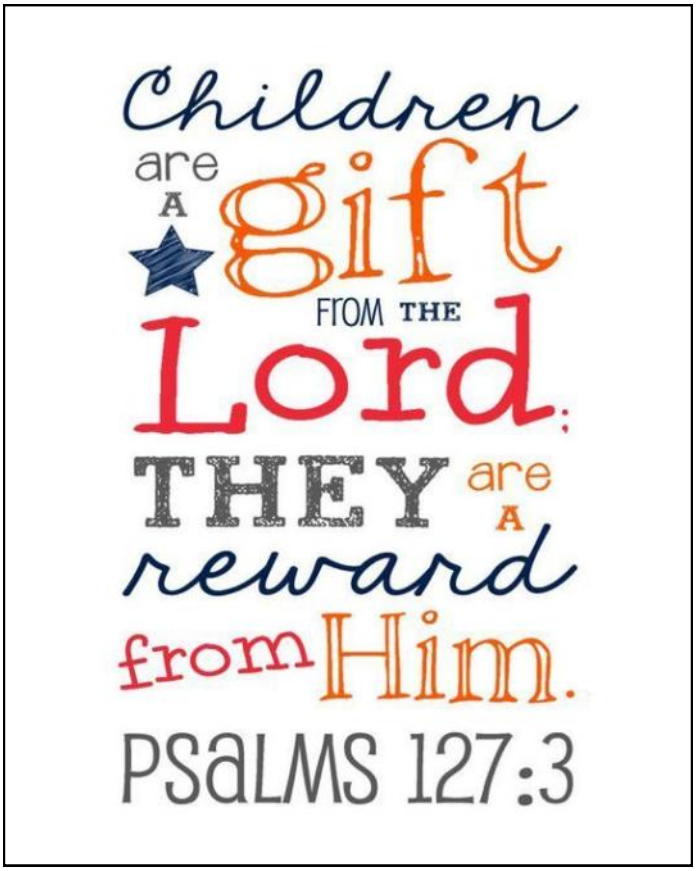
16th & 17th - Parent Teacher Interviews

11 - 20th - NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)

APRIL 2026

2nd - Last Day term 1

20th - First day term 2



AUDIRI APP

Please note that we use the Audiri App for our main form of communication.

You can also use the app to log any student absences and to update any contact details.

If you haven't already downloaded this app, please contact the school office if you require any assistance.

Dimboola-Natimuk Lutheran Parish

Sunday 8th March - 3rd Sunday in Lent

10:00am LR Goroke

10:00am LR Natimuk

10:00am LR Vectis

10:00am LR Dimboola

Sunday 15th March – 4th Sunday in Lent

10:00am LR Goroke

10:00am LR Natimuk

10:00am LR Vectis

10:00am LR Dimboola

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NOTICES

THE CENTRE FOR PARTICIPATION – HORSHAM – HAS TEAMED UP WITH DIMBOOLA CWA LADIES TO PROVIDE FREE FRESH FRUIT AND VEGIES AND FROZEN MEALS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED.

CENTRE for PARTICIPATION

NO FORMS TO FILL IN OR REGISTRATIONS . NOT DEPENDENT ON A HEALTH CARE CARD – AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE IN NEED.

JUST COME TO DIMBOOLA RSL HALL, 113 LLOYD STREET, DIMBOOLA ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON BETWEEN 2.30 AND 4.30 (WILL CLOSE EARLIER IF WE RUN OUT). WE ARE OFFERING THIS SERVICE EVERY WEEK FOR THE DIMBOOLA COMMUNITY SO TELL YOUR FRIENDS.

Around The School

Around The School

Around The School

Around The School