WIMMERA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Dimboola Campus Newsletter - Friday 20th March 2026

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

From The Head of Campus

NAPLAN Update

NAPLAN has once again been and gone. Our students have done a fantastic job during the NAPLAN testing period. We are incredibly proud of the positive attitude and effort shown by all Grade 3 & 5 students as they completed their assessments.

On the first day of testing there were statewide connectivity issues with the NAPLAN platform, which meant our Year 5 students were unable to complete their writing test as planned. Despite this unexpected change, students adapted extremely well.

Students approached each assessment with focus and determination and did their very best.

Ride2School Day

This morning we took part in Ride2School Day. Students were invited to bring their bikes or scooters and ride to school together.

We met at Schneider Gardens, where staff rode with the students to school. It was a great way to start the day and encourage healthy, active travel to school.

Thank you to everyone who participated and made it such a fun and positive start to the day!

Harmony Day

This week we have enjoyed celebrating Harmony Day at school, with students wearing orange today to recognise the message that *everyone belongs.* It was wonderful to see so many students getting involved and showing their support for inclusiveness and respect.

At the Dimboola campus of Wimmera Lutheran College, we are very accepting of all people and we pride ourselves on creating a welcoming environment where everyone feels valued and included.

A big thank you to the Dimboola IGA for generously donating orange food for our students to enjoy. Your support of our school and community is greatly appreciated.

Throughout the week, students have also been completing a range of activities in class related to Harmony Day, learning about diversity, inclusion and the importance of treating everyone with kindness and respect.

End of Term Reminder

A reminder to families that Term 1 will finish on Thursday 2nd April, with students finishing school at 2:15pm.

The last day of term will also be PJ Day, where students are invited to wear their pyjamas to school. We will be collecting a gold coin donation, with all funds raised going towards the Good Friday Appeal.

There is a poster with more information included in the newsletter.

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Excursion to Nhill – *Heave Ho Off We Go*

Next Tuesday, students will be travelling to our Nhill Campus to enjoy a live performance titled Heave Ho Off We Go. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to experience live theatre and engage with storytelling in a fun and interactive way.

Students will travel by bus with supervising teachers, departing school at 9:15am and returning at approximately 11:30am. Following the performance, students will remain at Nhill to enjoy their recess and spend some time playing with the Nhill students before heading back to school.

All students will need to bring a packed recess on the day.

If you have not returned your child/ren's permission slip for this excursion please make sure to return it on Monday.

We are looking forward to a fantastic morning of learning, creativity and connection across our campuses!

Parent Teacher Interviews

Thank you to all families who attended our recent Parent Teacher Interviews. It was wonderful to see such strong engagement and to have the opportunity to connect with you about your child's learning and progress.

These conversations are incredibly valuable in supporting each student's growth, and we appreciate the time taken to share insights, ask questions, and celebrate achievements together. Our staff always enjoy these opportunities to build strong partnerships with families.

If you were unable to attend or have any follow-up questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher. We are always happy to connect and support your child's learning journey.

Uniform Reminder

With the cooler mornings and warmer afternoons, we are noticing that jumpers are being misplaced, which is completely normal at this time of year!

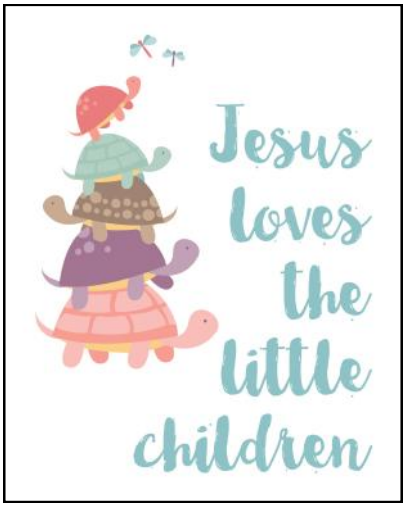
A friendly reminder to please ensure all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name. This makes it much easier for us to return any misplaced items to the right owner.

If your child happens to come home with an item that doesn't belong to them, we kindly ask that it be returned to school so we can get it back to its rightful owner.

Thank you for your support in helping keep everything organised, it is greatly appreciated!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Millie Dent



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From The Executive Principal

Survey and Strategic Planning

After reviewing the survey results that were received at the end of last year, and collating the information gathered from the focus groups (thank you to those families who took time to participate in these important steps), the Strategic Plan steering committee made up of the WLC Executive team has finalised the three key signposts that will help to drive the strategic direction of Wimmera Lutheran College.

Wimmera Lutheran College Signposts:

Shaping Identity

Together we grow from who we are to who we are becoming. Rooted in Christ and shaped by Lutheran education, we explore shared beliefs and values, celebrating unity in diversity. Each school community's unique story contributes to a strong and evolving identity.

Growing Community

We build a strong, inclusive community by connecting with all members of our school. Through support, shared learning, and collaboration, we create meaningful relationships that unite staff and students across campuses. Everyone is valued, and everyone belongs.

Transforming Learning

We believe learning is a lifelong, holistic journey that nurtures every student's growth. By being adventurous, purposeful, compassionate, and relational, we work together to create meaningful, innovative learning experiences. We prepare students to thrive in a changing world.

The next strategic planning workshop will be held on Tuesday 31 March. The focus for this workshop will be on establishing the various pillars and objectives that sit underneath these signposts, and establish the working groups that will complete these tasks. A completed Strategic Intent document is not far away from being finalised.

Later this year, the College Board and Executive leaders will meet to establish the Mission, Vision and Values statements for Wimmera Lutheran College. This collaborative workshop will be another important step forward in establishing the identity of Wimmera Lutheran College.

Marketing and Communications Update

One of the shared positions across Wimmera Lutheran College is the role of the Promotions and Communications Manager and I wish to provide the following update. Mrs Georgia Thomas has taken maternity leave, effective from the end of last week. We wish Georgia and Jamie every blessing as they prepare to welcome their second child. The Promotions and Communications role will be filled by two staff members in Georgia's absence, Ms Cass Dalgleish (who has returned from maternity leave - welcome back Cass) and Hannah Borlase who has accepted a 0.4 contract until the end of this year. Both staff members have worked in this role previously and will do an excellent job of managing WLC's marketing and communications portfolio.

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LEVNT Principal's Retreat

Damon Prenzler and I were fortunate to spend the past few days of this week at the LEVNT's Principal Retreat, held in Hepburn Springs. This three-day retreat provided great opportunity for spiritual reflection, collegial networking and a space for some rest and relaxation. The theme for the retreat was 'For Such A Time As This.' Further detail of how this theme was explored over the course of the retreat can be explained in the following synopsis;

Rapidly accelerating changes in technology, culture, economics and geo-politics present educational leaders with challenges and opportunities not seen for generations. What is the purpose of education in the face of AI? What do parents and wider society expect of the education system and its leaders? What will the most effective schools and leadership teams be doing differently in the time ahead? And, most importantly, how does the Christian educational leader live their vocation fully, respond to God's call upon their lives and unleash the true mission of Christian education - leading young people into a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ?

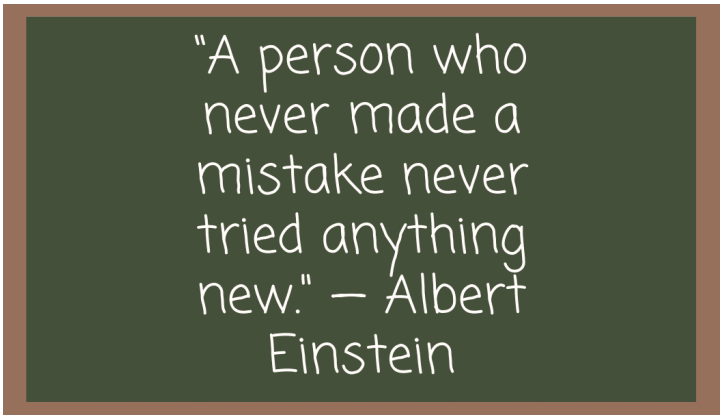
Across several sessions, global educational leadership expert Jonathan Doyle shared a comprehensive exploration of formational historical context, current educational threats and opportunities and a compelling call to return to a deep Christian philosophical anthropology.

The three days were certainly thought-provoking and provided much discussion and debate.

John 15:5

"I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"

Mr Jason Przibilla, Executive Principal



Devotional Thoughts

The light of the world

by Neil Bergmann

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life' (John 8:12).

John's Gospel has many references to Jesus as the light of the world. In John 1, Jesus' incarnation is described as the true light coming into the world, which overcomes darkness, and John the Baptist is described as a witness to testify to that light.

Yesterday's reading in John 3 describes light coming into the world and the choice that we all have to live in the light or remain in the darkness. In John 8, 9 and 11, Jesus describes himself as the light of the world and asks his followers to walk in that light. In chapter 12, he predicts his death when he says that his disciples will have the light just a little while longer. They are called to believe in the light and become children of the light.

This theme of light is continued in John's letters. Paul also uses the image of believers being children of light in several of his epistles (Ephesians, Colossians and 1 Thessalonians), and Peter uses the image of being called out of darkness into light in his letters.

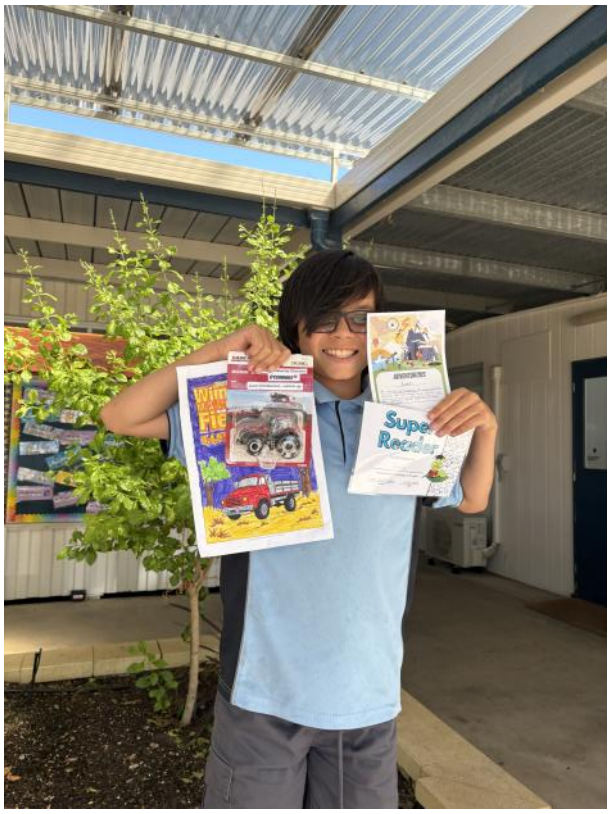
The entire Bible is bookended by the theme of light. In Genesis 1:4, the first thing God created after the formless dark and empty chaos at the beginning of time was light, even before he created the sun and the moon. 'God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness.' This might be read as God separating goodness (light) from evil (darkness) to create a moral universe.

At the other end of the Bible, in Revelation 22:5: 'There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.' So, finally, in heaven, evil (night) will no longer exist, and we will live forever with God, the light of goodness.

This concept of light and darkness describes the choices we must make every day. Certainly, it is not the quality of our moral choices and actions that bring us salvation. We are already saved, and our eternal destiny is assured. However, here on Earth, every day we can choose to live in the light or retreat to the darkness. When we choose to live as children of light, then we can follow God's call to be part of his mission to a hurting world, where many are still in darkness.

Father, give us the strength, the wisdom and the courage to live as children of the light. Amen.

AWARDS



Awards

Liam Collins - For showing persistence to improve his persuasive writing and ensuring his reasons and explanations matched. Reading award for 25 nights of reading. Runner up for the Wimmera Mallee Field Days Colouring Competition.

Kristian O'Neil - For showing focus during Auslan lesson times and in his co-operative play in the yard.

Clara Robson - Reading award for 25 nights of reading.

Darcy Robson - Reading award for 25 nights of reading.

AWARDS

Awards

Milla Bartlett- For achieving her goals in spelling and reading and continuing to extend herself.

Isla Pilmore- For consistently working hard, never giving up, and beginning to take pride in her achievements. Your determination and positive mindset are wonderful-keep it up!

Evie Schneider - For showing curiosity, asking questions and demonstrating her understanding in Christian Studies.

Aurora Ruff- For showing independence and working on building positive friendships.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL AWARDS

Swimming Carnival Awards

Blue House Captains Xavier and Harry hold up the newly engraved shield

Milla Bartlett: Senior Girl Swimming Champion

Violet Emson: Senior Girl Swimming Champion

Evie Schneider: Junior Girl Swimming Champion

Harry Lindner: Senior Boy Swimming Champion

Hunter Mibus: Junior Boy Swimming Champion

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

24th - 'Heave Ho Off We Go' excursion to Nhill campus

APRIL 2026

2nd - Last Day term 1, **School finishes 2:15 pm**

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 22nd March - 5th Sunday in Lent

Parish Service and AGM At Natimuk 10:30am

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

10:00am LR Goroke

10:30am HC Natimuk

With Pr Colin Huf

All invited

10:00am LR Vectis

10:00am LR Dimboola

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.

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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.

NOTICES

ALL FREE!

APRIL 2026 SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

WEEK 1 WEEK 2

Hindmarsh Shire Council

MONDAY 06 APRIL

PUBLIC HOLIDAY
EASTER MONDAY

TUESDAY 07 APRIL

Create and Relate with headspace
Ages 10+
Dimboola Library
10am - 11:30am

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
Ages 10 and under
Dimboola Stadium (Recreation Reserve)
1pm - 2pm

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
Ages 11 and over
Dimboola Stadium (Recreation Reserve)
2pm - 3pm

WEDNESDAY 08 APRIL

Create and Relate with headspace
Ages 10+
Jeparit Library
11am - 12:30pm

THURSDAY 09 APRIL

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
All ages
MECCA Rainbow
11am - 1pm

Create and Relate with headspace
Ages 10+
Rainbow Neighbourhood House
2:30pm - 4pm

FRIDAY 10 APRIL

Level-Up Gaming
All ages
Nhill Memorial Community Centre
12pm - 4pm

scan to register

REGISTER NOW!

Registrations submitted prior to school holidays are much appreciated!

Children under 11 years of age are required to have parent/guardian supervision.

MONDAY 13 APRIL

Science with Ellen
Nhill Library
10am - 11:00 am

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
Ages 10 and under
Nhill College Stadium
1pm - 2pm

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
Ages 11 and over
Nhill College Stadium
2pm - 3pm

TUESDAY 14 APRIL

Science with Jess
Jeparit Library
10am - 11am

Karaoke
Rainbow Neighbourhood House
2pm - 4pm

WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL

Science with Jess
Rainbow Library
10am - 11am

Science with Jess
Dimboola Library
2pm - 3pm

THURSDAY 16 APRIL

Pickleball with Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly
All ages
Jeparit Memorial Town Hall
10am - 12pm

FRIDAY 17 APRIL

Movie: Goat
Nhill Cinema
1pm - 3pm

For more information visit
www.hindmarsh.vic.gov.au/events,
call 03 5391 4444
or email youth@hindmarsh.vic.gov.au.

Hindmarsh Shire Council
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Around The School

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