

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to Yarra Road Primary School, a school I know you will be proud to send your child to. We can assure you that your child will belong to a safe, respectful, and caring school community, which caters for children of all abilities and backgrounds. We recognise the importance of developing the whole child and conduct programs which cater for the wide range of academic, cultural, physical and emotional needs and interests of our students.

I am honoured and feel very privileged to be the Principal of Yarra Road Primary School. I am always excited and look forward to working with our students, staff and parents with the aim of making Yarra Road Primary School the best school it can be.

Our philosophy centres around our core belief that all children can succeed and we see it as our responsibility to direct our resources in a manner which enables all children to experience success. We have a very committed group of teachers and support staff who respect and value each and every one of our students and each other. We work hard to develop positive relationships with all of the children at Yarra Road Primary and with a collective responsibility we will continue to develop and enhance a school that:

- Strives for the highest academic standards
- Focuses on the development of the whole child
- Upholds the values of our community
- Involves the community in learning
- Has a personalised curriculum for each child

We truly have a fantastic school with a supportive and involved parent community, dedicated and highly skilful staff, excellent resources and buildings and the most fantastic students to work with. We are proud to wear the uniform bearing the name of Yarra Road Primary School and we look forward to you joining our Yarra Road community and helping us provide the best education for all our students.

Ken Darby
Principal

Our School
Values
Respect
Resilience
Confidence
Responsibility
Excellence



THE JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Prep

Our focus is on ensuring a successful entry to school life. To fully support this, in the year prior to commencing Prep, during Term 3, we offer an exciting school experience program to pre-schoolers, than an extensive Prep Transistion Program throughout Term 4 for enrolled students. Experiences in the prep classrooms, as well as the specialist learning areas of the Performing Arts, Visual Art, Physical Education and Indonesian, are provided to help the children build familiarity and confidence in their new school environment. During transition pre-schoolers become acquainted with their teachers and peers and are introduced to the Year 4 students who will become their very important big buddies from the start of their prep year. We see pre-schoolers' confidence greatly increase as they begin to make these important connections with the school.

During the transition program parents are invited to stay and participate in a range of activities. These include meeting key school staff and hearing from a variety of guest speakers covering topics like school readiness, speech and language development and student wellbeing.

During the first year of learning teachers create a safe, happy and inclusive environment where students are welcomed, valued and encouraged to explore and develop to their individual potential. They are immersed in school life and participate in a broad range of whole school activities.

The Prep curriculum places emphasises the children's literacy, numeracy and interpersonal skill development. There are many opportunities to explore physical, creative and digital technology skills. Students learn to work cooperatively with the whole class, and in small groups with peers of peers and we begin to develop their independence.

Year 1/2

After students have completed Prep, it is time to consolidate and extend their learning and provide them with more specific support and extension. Every student in Year 1 & 2 is catered for academically and socially. Students have the opportunity to explore, participate, interact and develop increasing independence. A continued focus on cooperative learning builds important social and collective learning skills. The Year 2 sleepover is a highlight and a transition step into the school camp program.



Year 3/4

In Year 3 and 4 the students continue to extend their independence, responsibility and love of learning. They begin to develop leadership skills in readiness for the transition to senior primary. They attend their first of four annual camps in Year 3. They are given the opportunity to develop skills, teamwork and sportsmanship by participating in the middle school, house sport competition. These experiences consolidate their sense of community and build solid friendships across the level.

Year 5/6

Students in Years 5 and 6 are very well accommodated in the spacious, modern Bower Building. They appreciate and respect the special privileges of learning in the senior building. The proximity of the library enhances the literacy program and is used to support the development of students' research skills. The senior learning program is designed to develop increasing independence and self-reliance in readiness for the transition to secondary school.

We focus on catering for the developing talents and interests of all students. Summer and Winter seasons of interschool sport are a highlight with students playing a variety of sports against other schools in our district and beyond. Auditioning for the lead roles in our annual, whole school musical productions is another major highlight. Senior students participate in many team building activities that support an extensive leadership program. Year 5 students begin their leadership journey through the Prep/Year 5 Buddy Program. Informally leading by example, in Year 6, students can apply for a range of formal leadership positions, which are held in very high regard.

School Houses

All students and staff are members of a House Team. The names of our Houses are related to pioneers of the local district:



Turner House

Mr Turner was the first landowner of the Croydon District in 1840s.

Gatter House

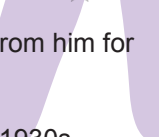
Mr Gatter owned the school land and surrounds prior to 1883.

Power House

Thomas Power was also a land owner of the school site. The land was purchased from him for the school in 1901.

Wilson House

Wilson was the name of a bus company that operated along Yarra Road in the 1930s.



History

Yarra Road Primary School is excitedly looking forward to celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2025. Since 1925 the school has been a place where the community works together to support all children in their learning and social development. Throughout the years we have watched with pride as our students have excelled in many fields. We warmly welcome our alumni back to share their achievements and stories.

“Yarra Road has a great sense of Community, is personable, and has a great Vibe to it”
- Luella, Parent

“I like the sporting events, and the school has fun and interesting learning topics”
- Ruby, Grade 6 student

At Yarra Road your child is not just a student in the school, they are a valued member of our community. They feel seen, their views heard, and are welcomed and respected by all. Your child will have opportunities to engage with all students in their year level as well as other year levels, be supported by teachers other than their own and most importantly, be known.

We pride ourselves on developing students strengths and encouraging them to explore new opportunities and find new passions in their lives. Students who transistion in to High School from Yarra Road do so as well rounded individuals with a real sense of belonging and forever being part of the Yarra Road family.



SPECIALISTS PROGRAMS

Performing Arts – Music, Dance and Drama

All students attend a Performing Arts session each week in our large, well equipped Performing Arts room. They participate in dancing and movement, singing and playing instruments, and drama games and activities. A custom-built stage area is used for all kinds of performances and as a learning space for music theory. Students create their own musical compositions and collaborate with each other. Costumes and props are used to inspire creative drama and we have a huge variety of instruments to create music. Our students love performing on stage, so we provide them with the opportunity to do so every year in our whole school musical productions.

Visual Art

Our light, bright art room is a popular space where student's creativity and artistic skills are developed through weekly Visual Art sessions. A full range of media is explored. Skill development, as well as art appreciation experiences, are matched to the developmental stages of students.

Physical Education

Student involvement in physical activity takes many forms, ranging from individual, non-competitive activity through to competitive interschool team games. Emphasis is placed on developing and combining motor skills, tactical knowledge and sportsmanship, to improve individual and team performance. Development starts in Prep with weekly Physical Education sessions. We target core motor skills, allowing for a strong foundation of skills to build upon as students grow. As they move through the school, PE classes further enhance skill development and introduce students to games, different movement sequences and sport specific skills. Sporting Programs on offer at Yarra Road Primary School include whole school Athletics and Cross Country, Swimming Program, Prep PMP, Year 3/4 house sport, Year 5/6 School Sport Victoria (SSV) Inter School Sport, Year 1 – 6 After School Basketball, Year 1 and 2 Hoop Time Minis, Year 3 – 6 Hoop Time Competitions and opportunities for SSV State Team Pathways.

Indonesian

Indonesian is the Language other than English (LOTE) taught at Yarra Road. Each year level has its own course of study which is based around themes, with a new theme each term or semester. Many special activities are incorporated into lessons. Class lessons include a wide variety of teaching strategies to enable the children to communicate in Indonesian through listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. There is also an intercultural dimension comparing and contrasting similarities and differences between Indonesia and Australia.



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