

**OUR VISION**

*Growth Through Learning*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*Cambridge Primary School strives to equip and empower lifelong learners that contribute collaboratively to build a positive, inclusive, and successful school and community.*



# Cambridge Primary School

Respect-Integrity-Self resilience -Excellence.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Welcome back to Term 2!

I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable break, and that our students have returned feeling refreshed and ready for another exciting and productive term of learning. This term, we remain focused on enhancing student growth, with continued emphasis on Literacy, Numeracy, and Wellbeing.

We have a jam packed term ahead, filled with wonderful opportunities for student engagement including our Mother's Day Stall and Breakfast, District Cross Country, Movie Fundraising Evening, open classrooms celebrating students learning, Year 6 Camp, excursions, incursions, Breakfast Club, and many other enriching school activities.

Our Year 4 students have recently returned from Camp Wyuna in Queenscliff, perhaps a little tired after a few sleepless nights, but with plenty of great memories! The camp provided meaningful opportunities for personal development, helped strengthen the sense of community within the year level, and gave students the chance to immerse themselves in the natural environment. A big thank you to our dedicated teachers and generous parent volunteers who made this experience possible.

Last week, our Year 5 students spent an engaging day at Sovereign Hill. The excursion offered a rich, immersive experience particularly focusing on the heritage of the 1850s gold rush and the environmental context of the era. We hope this memorable day sparked some wonderful conversations at home as students shared their insights and highlights with their families.

As we continue to work hard to strengthen communication between families and teachers, we encourage parents and carers to reach out if you would like to arrange a meeting. Please contact your child's classroom or specialist teacher to organise a mutually convenient time. We also continue to support students in developing their organisation skills, including the consistent use of their diaries to record homework (nightly reading), important dates, and reminders. Diaries are also a great way for parents and carers to communicate directly with teachers. Your partnership and input are highly valued and play a vital role in supporting your child's learning and development.

**Let's continue to build strong relationships between school and home.**

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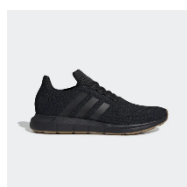
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**Uniform**

Wearing our school uniform with pride is essential. Please ensure that you send your child/ren to school in our full school uniform. If you are unsure of our uniform policy, please visit our website.

A reminder of the schools' uniform expectations – specific jewellery i.e. ear studs and sleepers can be worn, but no necklaces, bracelets or rings are to be worn. Hair ties and bows must be school colours. All students are required to **wear black school shoes or black sport shoes**.

School Uniform can be purchased from Noonies at 54 Old Geelong Road, (next to Spotlight).



**Internet safety**

Internet safety is essential in today's digital world, especially for children navigating the online space. As technology continues to evolve, it's important for parents to stay informed and actively guide their children in making safe and responsible choices online. Please take the time to explore this link for valuable resources and tips on keeping your child safe while using the internet.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>		<b>Term 2 2025</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>		Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
<b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Mother/Special Person Stall
<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>		District Cross Country
<b>9<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Mother/Special Person Day Breakfast
<b>15<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Movie Fundraiser Night
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>		Breakfast Club Whole School Assembly 2.30pm
<b>26<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Athletics Carnival 3-6
<b>28<sup>th</sup> May</b>		Year 6 Camp

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## **CCTV at our school**

Cambridge Primary School has decided to use a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system at our school.

Our school has an obligation to ensure the school environment is safe and secure, and fulfil our duty of care to students, staff and visitors. The CCTV system will assist our school to fulfil these obligations and to prevent and manage other inappropriate behaviour on school grounds. CCTV will also provide enhanced capability to protect our school's assets against vandalism and theft.

Cambridge PS will follow Department of Education and Training policy requirements for the design, installation, management and use of the CCTV systems. This policy is available at <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/cctv-in-schools/policy>

A CCTV Privacy Notice is available on our school website, and includes more information about our school's use of CCTV: <https://cambridgeps.vic.edu.au/cctv>

CCTV will begin being rolled out in stages which started in the recent April school holiday period.

If you have any questions or concerns at this stage, please contact the school via email: [cambridge.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:cambridge.ps@education.vic.gov.au)

## **Curriculum News**

### **Staying Connected with Your Child's Learning and Teachers**

At Cambridge Primary School, we value strong partnerships between families and staff, and we know that open communication plays an important role in supporting student learning and wellbeing.

### **Contacting Teachers**

If you would like to speak with your child's teacher, there are a few ways to get in touch:

- Email: You can contact teachers via the school email at [cambridge.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:cambridge.ps@education.vic.gov.au). Your message will be forwarded to the relevant staff member.
- Brief conversations: If your message is short and can be communicated in just a couple of minutes, teachers are generally available for a quick chat after school.
- Longer discussions: For more in-depth conversations, we ask that you arrange a suitable time to meet with the teacher or to receive a phone call.

As outlined in our school's Communication Policy, staff aim to respond to all communication within 24 to 48 hours. We appreciate your understanding and patience as our teachers prioritise time with students during the school day.

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**Google Classroom – A Window into the Classroom**

Students in Years 3 and above regularly use Google Classroom to receive tasks from their teachers and submit completed work. This platform is also accessible from home and can be a great way for you to engage with your child’s learning.

Rather than hearing the familiar “nothing” when you ask what they did at school, encourage your child to log in and show you their recent activities on Google Classroom. It’s a simple yet effective way to stay informed and involved in their education.

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us create a positive and productive learning environment for all students.

**Jess Green**

**Assistant Principal**

**Tracking Attendance Through House Points – Let the Competition Begin!**

This term, we’re putting a fun twist on attendance by tracking it through our House system! Each week, attendance data will be tallied for Barber, Dowling, Carruthers and Westmill, with percentages displayed on Compass, in the Newsletter, and at our assemblies. The House with the highest overall attendance at the end of the term will earn a special reward—so every day counts!

Let’s work together to stay healthy, show up, and support our House. Who will take the crown this term? Watch this space!



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# WELLBEING AT CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY

## This Week's Focus: Integrity – Doing What's Right, Even When No One Is Watching

At Cambridge Primary School, **Integrity** is one of our core values — and it's something we actively model and teach every day. When students act with integrity, they show honesty, responsibility, and courage in their words and actions.

● **What does integrity look like at school?**

- ✓ Owing up to mistakes
- ✓ Being honest, even when it's hard
- ✓ Keeping promises and following through
- ✓ Speaking up if something feels wrong
- ✓ Treating others with fairness and respect

We encourage families to reinforce this value at home by having conversations about honesty, trust, and doing the right thing even when it's not the easiest option.

### PROTECT: Child Safe Standards at Cambridge

At Cambridge, every child has the right to feel safe, respected, and supported. We follow the PROTECT Child Safe Standards, which ensure our school is a space where:

- ✓ Student voices are heard
- ✓ Adults take action to keep children safe
- ✓ Respectful relationships are at the core of every interaction

As a community, we all have a role in promoting child safety and wellbeing. If you or your child have concerns, we encourage you to speak with a teacher or a member of the Wellbeing Team.

To learn more, visit:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/protect.aspx>

### CONVERSATION STARTER AT HOME

**"Can you think of a time you did the right thing, even though it was hard? How did it feel afterward?"**

Talking about integrity helps children build moral reasoning and confidence in their values

As always, thank you for being an incredible part of our Cambridge community. Let's continue to model and celebrate **Integrity** in all we do – for ourselves, for each other, and for our students. If you have any questions or would like support from the **Wellbeing Team**, don't hesitate to reach out.

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# WELLBEING AT CPS

## SUPPORT SERVICES

### Parenting & Family Support

•Parentline

☎ 13 22 89

A confidential phone service offering parenting advice and support for families with children 0–18 years.

•Child FIRST / The Orange Door

☎ 1800 319 353

Support for families needing help with parenting, housing, family violence, or child wellbeing.

•Raising Children Network

🌐 [raisingchildren.net.au](https://raisingchildren.net.au)

Evidence-based parenting resources from birth to teens.

### Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing

•Kids Helpline

☎ 1800 55 1800 | 🌐 [kidshelpline.com.au](https://kidshelpline.com.au)

Free, 24/7 counselling for children and young people aged 5–25.

•Beyond Blue

☎ 1300 22 4636 | 🌐 [beyondblue.org.au](https://beyondblue.org.au)

Support for anyone experiencing anxiety, depression, or emotional distress.

•Headspace

🌐 [headspace.org.au](https://headspace.org.au)

Youth-focused mental health support (ages 12–25) including counselling and group programs.

### Child Safety & Family Violence Support

•Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre

☎ 1800 015 188 (24/7)

Specialist family violence support and crisis accommodation for women and children.

•1800 RESPECT

☎ 1800 737 732 | 🌐 [1800respect.org.au](https://1800respect.org.au)

National sexual assault, domestic and family violence counselling service.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

We're excited to announce the return of **Breakfast Club!**

Open to all students, this is a great opportunity to start the day with a

• healthy meal and a positive mindset.

📅 **Breakfast Club will run in:**

•Week 5

•Week 8

•Week 11

📍 **Where:** Big Gym Foyer

🕒 **Time:** From 8:15 AM

**Pauline DaSilva – Assistant Principal**

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**CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

# MOVIE NIGHT

**\$25 FAMILY OF 5 \$7 ANY ADDITIONAL**

**THURSDAY | 5:30 PM**  
**15 MAY 2025 | 7 PM MOVIE STARTS**

**CAMBRIDGE PRIMARY OVAL**

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE \$ 4/  
DRINKS \$2 OR BOTH FOR \$5**

**POPCORN  
SNACKS/RAFFLE AND  
MORE \$1 \$2 AND \$4**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT  
- NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD ON THE NIGHT  
BRING A PICNIC BLANKET- NO CHAIRS**

**SCAN TO PURCHASE TICKETS**

**FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT : COMPASS**

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## **Dyslexia Information Sheet**

### **What is Dyslexia?**

Dyslexia is a neurodevelopmental condition that affects **reading**. People with dyslexia have differences in the way that their brains process the sounds in words (phonological awareness) and how quickly they are able to process this information (fluency).

It often occurs alongside dysgraphia (difficulty with written expression) and dyscalculia (difficulty with mathematics).

### **How is Dyslexia diagnosed?**

Dyslexia is usually diagnosed by an Educational Psychologist, but specially-trained Speech Pathologists may also make a diagnosis. Dyslexia is a type of Specific Learning Disorder and is diagnosed using criteria in the DSM-5 (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual).

There is no specific test for dyslexia. Educational Psychologists and Speech Pathologists will use a range of different assessments to gather information about the person's reading skills. An important part of the criteria is that the person must have had reading difficulties *for at least 6 months, despite evidence-based targeted intervention*.

### **Why is Dyslexia difficult to diagnose?**

There is often confusion or disagreement between professionals about how best to diagnose dyslexia. Here are some of the factors that make it challenging:

- **Changing diagnostic criteria.** Dyslexia used to be diagnosed only if a person's IQ score was above a certain level (meaning that the difficulties were specific to reading and did not affect other areas of learning). This has now changed and people can be diagnosed with dyslexia regardless of their IQ score.
- **No specific cut-off points.** The DSM-5 does not specify what 'evidence-based targeted intervention' must involve or how frequently the person needs to be receiving intervention.
- **No specific characteristics.** Contrary to what many people think, characteristics like letter reversals, or writing backwards, are not 'official criteria' for a dyslexia diagnosis.
- **No defined levels of severity.** Dyslexia can look very different for different people. Some people might have only mild difficulties with reading, whereas others might be very significantly affected by literacy difficulties.
- **Co-occurring conditions.** People with reading difficulties might also have difficulties in other areas. These need to be properly assessed to determine whether other factors might be impacting a person's reading ability (e.g. ADHD or a language disorder).

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**What support should be provided for people with Dyslexia?**

*Explicit systematic phonics interventions* are the most effective type of intervention for people with dyslexia or those who are showing early signs of dyslexia. This involves teaching the relationship between letters and sounds, and understanding that words can be broken down into individual sounds. People with dyslexia need more practice with these skills to become fluent/automatic readers, compared to others.

For older students and adults with dyslexia, it is important to acknowledge that reading and spelling is much more effortful and time consuming. Technology such as audiobooks/read aloud programs, and dictation/speech-to-text software can be useful when the person has to read or write large amounts of text.

**Things to remember**

- Regardless of whether a person has an official diagnosis of dyslexia or not, they can still improve their reading and spelling skills through an explicit systematic phonics approach.
- For some families, receiving an official diagnosis of dyslexia can provide relief or validation but this can also be an expensive process. A dyslexia diagnosis does not allow access to any extra school funding and does not meet criteria for NDIS funding.
- If you think that your child might have dyslexia, a good place to start is to talk to your child's classroom teacher and discuss a support plan.

**More information**

- Dyslexia-SPELD Foundation (video explanation) <https://dsf.net.au/learning-difficulties/dyslexia/what-is-dyslexia>
- Diagnostic criteria information <https://www.psychiatry.org/patients-families/specific-learning-disorder/what-is-specific-learning-disorder>
- Spelfabet Website and resources <https://www.spelfabet.com.au/>

Created by Sarah Draper, Speech Pathologist at Cambridge Primary School, 2025.

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**Year 4**



The Grade 4 students had a wonderful time on camp last week. The sun was shining in Queenscliff and the students showed our school values at all time. From archery, pizza making, movie night, canoeing, beach games and much more there were happy campers all round.



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**Year 5**

Last week the grade 5's went to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat and had the best day ever!! We learnt how to pan for gold, we walked in a mine where miners were searching for gold, we went into a class where we learnt how to write in fancy cursive script with a fountain pen, we learnt how to write on chalkboards with calcite, we watched gold being melted and poured into an ingot, we saw some old artefacts and learnt what they were used for and most excitingly we ate some yummy old fashioned lollies.



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**CANTEEN**

If you would like to place a lunch order, you can go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) and set up an account or you can write your child's name, grade and order on a brown paper bag with correct money inside the bag.

If you order an icy pole the bag will have a stamp on the bag that says CANTEEN, your child has to bring the bag back to the canteen and I will give the item to them.

You can find an updated Canteen menu and price list on the website community section under canteen.

If you pick up your child early from school and they have a lunch order please make sure that you get the lunch order before you leave the school grounds.

**OUR SCHOOL PARTNER**



**RayWhite**

**Looking to buy or sell your home?**

Contact your local area specialist today.  
**Jeff Gaul**  
0406 270 790  
[jeff.gaul@raywhite.com](mailto:jeff.gaul@raywhite.com)

For every home sold through mention of the school, Cambridge Primary School will receive a generous donation.

[raywhitewerribee.com](http://raywhitewerribee.com)