

Newsletter

'ONE IN, ALL IN'

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Issue 1 - 2026

Friday the 20th of February

Jane's Message

Students have made a fantastic start to the school year! It has been wonderful to see classrooms settled and focused, with teachers explicitly teaching and reinforcing the expected behaviours that align with our school values of **Respectful, Safe and Engaged**.

Congratulations to all students who have been demonstrating these values and setting a positive example for others. Many students have been receiving positive praise and tokens for showing exceptional behaviour. Our new positive behaviour system has been a great success, and students are thoroughly enjoying it. Some are happily redeeming their rewards, while others are choosing to save their tokens to work towards a bigger prize. I have even heard that a few ambitious students are banking their rewards in the hope of taking on my role as *Principal for the Day* — I look forward to seeing who earns the job!

Students are looking very smart in their school uniforms. A reminder that all students are required to wear black bottoms (no jeans, please). If your family requires assistance purchasing uniform items, please contact the office — we are here to help.

Students should wear runners or appropriate school shoes each day. Sport takes place on Mondays, so please ensure runners are worn on this day. We also ask that all students bring a drink bottle filled with water only. Juice is not permitted at school.

We are continuing to receive reports of inappropriate behaviour on buses to and from school. Please speak with your child about the importance of travelling safely, respectfully, and responsibly at all times. All students are expected to follow bus expectations, which include being respectful to drivers and other passengers, remaining seated, and following all safety guidelines.

Now that bus agreements have been signed, families will be contacted if students do not meet these expectations. If you have not yet discussed and signed your child's bus agreement, please do so as a matter of urgency. Thank you for your support in helping us ensure a safe journey for all students.

Our School Review is scheduled for March 3rd. If you would like to participate in the parent forum as part of this process, please contact the office. Parent voice is incredibly important, and we value your input as we reflect and plan for our school's future.

Finally, a very warm welcome to all our new students and families. Our Prep students are doing a fantastic job settling into school life, and our new students have transitioned so smoothly it feels as though they have always been part of the Clifton Creek family.

Thank you for your continued support. It is shaping up to be a wonderful year ahead!

Class in the Spotlight



Junior Room

We are so excited to share all the wonderful things happening in our new Junior classroom!

The start of the year has been full of smiles, new friendships, and lots of learning. We would like to give a very warm welcome to all our new students who have joined our room. Starting prep or coming to a new school is a big step, and we are so proud of how bravely and positively everyone has settled in.

Over the past few weeks, we have been busy getting to know each other. We have played games, shared stories, and learned fun facts about our classmates. Building strong friendships and creating a kind classroom community is very important to us. We are also working hard on learning our classroom routines.

This year, we have introduced our new PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) tokens and charts. Students can earn tokens by showing our school values of being Respectful, Engaged, and Safe. We talk every day about what these values look like in the classroom and in the playground. The students are already very excited about collecting tokens and celebrating their positive choices!

Some of our highlights from the first few weeks of school have been;

Amira- PBS tokens and assembly

Lexi- Drawing

Jax- MARC Van

Jaxtyn- Air Conditioning

Owen- Maths!





Calendar

March

Tuesday 3rd School Review

Tuesday 10th Cross Country

Wednesday 11th – 18th NAPLAN

Thursday 12th Deadly Science Incursion

Tuesday 31st Prep- Grade 4 Forge Theatre Excursion

April

Thursday 2nd **LAST DAY OF TERM 1**

Spare Clothes

We kindly ask that if your child comes home with a spare change of clothes provided by the school, please wash and return the items as soon as possible.

We are already beginning to run low on extra clothing for students who may need it during the day. Having these items returned promptly ensures we can continue to support all of our students when accidents or spills happen.

Helping Our Kids Stay Energised at School

We kindly ask all families to ensure that children come to school each day with enough food for **fruit break, recess, and lunch**. Growing and learning takes a lot of energy, and having sufficient nutritious food helps students stay focused and engaged throughout the day.

Please include a variety of healthy options such as:

- Fresh fruit or vegetables (for fruit break)
- Sandwiches, wraps, or other substantial lunch items
- Healthy snacks like yogurt, cheese, crackers, or homemade baked goods

To support healthy eating habits, please **do not pack lollies, chocolate bars, or juice**. Water is the best drink for school.

Thank you for helping us promote healthy choices and positive learning experiences for all students.

ICT – Acceptable Use Agreement

As part of Department policy, all students must have a signed ICT Acceptable Use Agreement returned **before they can use any ICT resources at school**. This ensures that students understand and follow safe and responsible technology use.

Please ensure your child's signed agreement is returned to the school as soon as possible so they can participate fully in all ICT activities.

Kitchen Garden is Off to a Delicious Start!

Our Kitchen Garden program is already buzzing with activity as the Senior students roll up their sleeves and dive into a brand-new year of growing and cooking.

Over the past few weeks, students have been busy preparing the garden beds for the season ahead. They've been weeding, refreshing soil, planting seedlings, and harvesting the last of our summer crops. There has been plenty of teamwork involved — carrying compost, clearing old plants, and making sure each bed is ready to flourish. It's wonderful to see students taking ownership of the space and developing pride in their garden.

We've already enjoyed some exciting harvests! Students picked fresh leafy greens, beetroot, spring onions and other seasonal produce straight from the garden. There's nothing quite like the look of excitement when a student pulls a beetroot from the soil or fills a basket with vibrant greens they've grown themselves.

In the kitchen, that produce has been transformed into incredibly delicious dishes. From fresh salads bursting with colour and flavour to warm, hearty creations, students have been learning valuable skills such as safe knife handling, food preparation, teamwork and cleaning up responsibly. They are discovering how simple ingredients — grown just metres away — can become something truly special on the plate.





January

Jayden – 1st

Felix – 7th

Hailey – 15th

Ollie – 19th

Joey – 22nd

February

Norman – 10th

Evelynn – 18th

Parker – 21st

March

Jack – 3rd

Bus Driver Steve – 4th

2026 School Captains



Positive Behaviour Support



Policy Spotlight



Clifton Creek Primary School

Student Dress Code - School Uniform Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Clifton Creek Primary School on 03 5162 7800 or via email on Clifton.creek.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Clifton Creek Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Clifton Creek Primary School's, School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- Promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- Allow all students to feel equal
- Prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- Ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- Enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- Strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- Enhance individual student safety and group security
- Ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- Prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- Encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role

Scope

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

Uniform and appearance

Clifton Creek Primary School has a gender neutral uniform.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only

Health and safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) to 30 April and on any other day prescribed by the school. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent/carer or student choice.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Purchase of uniforms

Uniform items can be purchased from Nick's Bairnsdale. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact the principal or business manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

Implementation

Clifton Creek Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents/carers by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the student

dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Clifton Creek Primary School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO student dress code

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact students differently.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
 - the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
 - the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence

The principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

Concerns about this student dress code

Clifton Creek Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Complaint Policy*, available on the school website.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions

- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- School Council
- Teachers and other school staff
- Students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

Further information and resources

- Clifton Creek Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Clifton Creek Primary School Complaint Policy
- Clifton Creek Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Clifton Creek Primary School Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- Information in newsletters
- Information to families via uEducateUs
- Student meetings

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Policy last reviewed	Term 2 2025
Approved by	School Council 16/06/2025
Next scheduled review date	Before Term 2 2029

APPENDIX A: CLIFTON CREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season

COMPULSORY UNIFORM ITEMS

Aqua short sleeve polos with school logo*

Plain black shorts, track pants, pants or skorts without decoration or retail brand name

Black polar fleece, hoodie or windcheater with school logo*

Black broad brim hat with school logo in terms 1 and 4*

Black or white socks without decoration or retail brand name

OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS

Black puffer jacket or raincoat without decoration or retail brand name

Plain black skivvy or long sleeve top (to be worn under the school polo)

FOOTWEAR

Appropriate footwear is to be worn including:

- Black or brown school shoes
- Pull on school boots
- Runners

No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

*These items are available from Nick's Bairnsdale. Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.