



KEY DATES 2026



February

- Wed 4th - Prep Testing - No Preps at School
- Fri 6th - Assembly at 2.40pm in the Stadium
- Tues 10th - Getting to Know You Interviews
- Wed 11th - Prep Testing - No Preps at School
- Wed 18th - Prep Testing - No Preps at School
- Tues 24th - School Photos - Whole School
- Wed 25th - Prep Testing - No Preps at School

March

- Wed 4th - Prep Testing - No Preps at School
- Mon 9th - LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
- Wed 11th - Preps commence full week schedule

DATES AND TIMES TO REMEMBER:

TERM DATES 2026

- Term 1 - Tues 27th Jan - Thur 2nd April
- Term 2 - Mon 20th April - Fri 26th June
- Term 3 - Mon 13th July - Fri 18th Sept
- Term 4 - Mon 5th Oct - Fri 18th Dec

CURRICULUM DAYS 2026

- Tuesday 27th January
- Friday 5th June
- Friday 4th September (TBC)
- Monday 2nd November

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS 2026

- Tuesday 15th December (TBC)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2026

- Monday 9th March - Labour Day
- Friday 3rd April - Good Friday
- Sunday 5th April - Easter Sunday
- Saturday 25th April - Anzac Day
- Monday 8th June - King's Birthday
- Friday 25th September - AFL Grand Final
- Tuesday 3rd November Melbourne Cup

TIMETABLE

Commence	8.58 Line-up Bell-Music 9am 2nd Bell - Roll Marked
Recess	11.00 - 11.30am
Lunch	1.40 - 2.30pm
School Finishes	3.30pm

Message From The Principal

Welcome Back

As a new school year is upon us I would like to start by welcoming everyone back to school for 2026. I trust all of our families made the most of the holiday break and our students are refreshed and ready to learn! I'd particularly like to welcome our Preps and new students to the school. The sense of excitement is always palpable and it was lovely to see prep classrooms packed with families making the most of what will no doubt be a treasured memory. Our preps settled in beautifully and had a wonderful first day, but I'm sure they were very tired!

The school has been relatively quiet over the holidays, but you may notice that the large gum tree in the courtyard has been removed. During our annual inspection late last year, it was found to be quite unhealthy and a danger if we kept it. As such, we have removed it to ensure the safety of our community. It will be exciting for students to finally use our new STEM and art spaces, with the new library ready for students next week.

We have also had a variety of trades working around the school on various maintenance items. We take considerable pride in the condition of our school and this has been recognised by the department, with MPS among the most well maintained schools in the state.

2026 will be another exciting year, with some important tasks and events ahead. This year we look forward to our Art Show in Term 4, not to mention the 5/6 camp later this term and the 3/4 camp later in the year. At some point we will have an official opening of the new building and we begin the first year of our new strategic plan to carry us forward until 2029. We will, of course, be holding the Colour Fun Run in term 4 and we bring it all together with the Year 6 Graduation at the end of the year. In between there will be excursions, incursions, sporting carnivals, Market Day and so much more.

I wish all of our students and families a happy and successful year ahead and look forward to catching up with everyone around the school.

Day 1

The first day of the school year was a great success, with students from F-6 settling in exceptionally well. I would like to thank the staff for making the students feel so at ease, but also acknowledge the work that was put in last year during the transition program. Our students have hit the ground running, which is exactly what we were planning for! I would particularly like to thank the families from 1K and 2TR who came back to a change in staffing over the break.

Communications

Communications will predominantly flow through Xuno as the first port of call, so I encourage families to make sure they have this app. In terms of student learning, teaching teams will be continuing to use the Seesaw app in 2026.



Each year level will provide fortnightly updates, with additional updates on a needs basis. Parents will likely notice that the preps and Year 5 & 6 students will most likely receive more notifications throughout the year than the standard, as there is often a lot going on at both ends, for example the 100 days of prep and the Year 6 graduation. Please do not be alarmed if your child is in Years 1 to 4 and it feels like they are receiving fewer notifications, that's to be expected! For parents that need to contact me, the best option is to email me at Charles.spicer@education.vic.gov.au or to call the school on 9795 2477.

Getting to Know You Meetings – Tuesday 10th February

Notices will soon be sent home regarding our Getting to Know You meetings which will be held on **Tuesday 10th February** from 2:15-6:45pm (approx.). Parents of all students are invited to book a time convenient to them. Bookings can be made via our Xuno online system.

The purpose of these interviews is two-fold. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend to:

- * *Meet their child's teacher to begin an effective home/school partnership.*
- * *Provide information to teachers regarding their child's strengths, talents, issues or concerns.*

Information shared by parents to teachers will assist us to plan for and work as effectively as possible with you and your child throughout the year. Interviews will be 8 minutes in length.

2026 Parent Payments Reminder

Parent payments help the school to operate effectively. At MPS, we continue to keep our contributions very low, however those additional funds are the difference between providing the additional programs, such as a significant investment in technology, that cannot be delivered without the support of families. We would like to thank the parents that have already made these payments and strongly encourage all families to do what they can. Parent payment plans are available if families would feel more comfortable paying in termly instalments. Simply contact Suzy or myself to arrange a plan.

School Council Elections

Information regarding the 2026 School Council election process is also being sent to families via Xuno today. Please keep an eye out for it! I would encourage any interested parent to contact me for more information. School Council is an extremely vital part of the school and it is from council that we take our direction for the general management of the school. Council approves external contracts, provides advice and consent on a range of areas and oversees school finance. Please look out for this if you think you may be interested in nominating or being nominated. Information includes a timeline and summary of the role of School Council.

Parents and Families

Once again we call for interested parents who would like to be a part of the PFA in 2026. Thank you to those who have made contact, but if any other families would like to be involved we would love to hear from you. Please email Mulgrave.ps@education.vic.gov.au if you would like contribute. A meeting will be arranged for interested parents once we have your responses. We look forward to working with you this year!

Parent Helpers

Aside from Council and the PFA, we also welcome the involvement of parents in the classroom, particularly in the junior years where parents can help by listening to students read and providing general classroom support. In the upper years, support becomes more focused around interschool sports, whole school events and the like. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact your child's classroom teacher, as I'm confident they will be happy to have you!

Working with Children Checks (WWC)

We encourage and value parental and community support at MPS. There are many ways that parents, grandparents and friends can assist at our school. Parents are required to obtain a Working with Children's Check that will allow you to be very involved in your child's education. These checks are free for volunteers. Once you have your WWC please come to the office so we can photocopy this and we will add your name to our list of parents who have a current WWC check. To apply please visit <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children>

2027 Enrolments

Given the new building is now complete, there is potential for the Department to increase our school's capacity for 2027. This is not in any way concrete at this stage, but interested families from outside of our catchment will have greater opportunities in 2027. Whilst we are still capped at 450 for this year, we do have space for enrolments at most year levels.

For 2027 Foundation (Prep) enrolments, families can enrol online from the beginning of Term 2. We anticipate that applications will need to be made by **Friday 31st July**. Existing MPS families will have priority, but it would be extremely helpful if current families could enrol as early as possible next term, so that we can identify how many places will be available for new families. Given the nature of the new process, we would be very happy if families could simply call the office in the meantime and advise us if you have a child that will be commencing in 2027.

As per previous years, we will be prioritise sibling claims and new enrolments from inside our Designated Neighbourhood Area. Once we have done this, we will look to provide clarity for those enrolling from outside of our area, as per the Department's guidelines (see below).

The new statewide enrolment process is still being rolled out to school staff, so as we have more information, we will update families accordingly. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office.

Priority Order of Placement

In circumstances when a school may not be able to accept all applications due to existing or future capacity concerns, schools must manage enrolment applications in accordance with the following priority order of placement:

1. students for whom the school is the designated neighbourhood school
2. students with a sibling at the same permanent address who are attending the school at the same time
3. where the Regional Director has restricted the enrolment, students who reside nearest the school
4. students seeking enrolment on specific curriculum grounds
5. all other students in order of closeness of their home to the school.

Gate Opening and Closing Times 8:30am – 3:45pm

The school gates will be opened from *approximately* 8:30am and no later than 8:45am. Parents should note that no staff will be on yard duty to supervise students until 8:45am. Families should not drop their children at school prior to 8:45am, unless attending before school care. This is for their own safety, particularly given that building works will be occurring throughout the year. In previous years we saw a growing number of students entering the grounds as early as 8am without adult supervision. For families where both parents work and therefore need to drop off their children prior to 8:45am, the school provides an Out of School Hours Care program that runs from 7am to 6pm.

As in previous years, students should be arriving by 8:57am (when the music starts) so that they can enter their classroom and be ready for learning at 9am.

The front gate will always remain open during the day for access to the office and as a late entry and early exit point, whilst side gates will be shut. All students arriving after 9am must sign in at the office.

Parents are welcome on site at any time. We only ask that parents remain out of the classrooms prior to school starting as staff prepare for the day ahead. It is also important for students to build their resilience and part of this is entering the rooms on their own (with the exception of preps in the first week or so).

The side gates will be locked at 3:40pm. Any students remaining at school at 3:40pm will be escorted to the gazebo at the front of the school for collection. It is expected that students who are not collected by 3:45pm are registered for out of school hours care, so that they can be placed in care in the event that families cannot collect their children by 3:45pm.

Kiss and Go Parking

A reminder to families that cars cannot be left unattended if you are using the Kiss and Go drop off and pick up zone. I understand the tendency to think that a quick trip to the office won't hurt, but parents leave themselves open to fines if a parking officer is in the area. Often, the first time you will know about it is when you receive the fine in the mail, as most fines are processed from photographic evidence. This will also assist the flow of traffic and ease of pick up and drop off for all families. I would also remind parents that the parking time limit in this area is 5 minutes.



Car Parking

Parents are asked to be mindful of the parking restrictions around the school. Parking officers regularly patrol the school zone. **The staff car park is strictly for staff cars only and parents must not enter this car park between 8am and 4:30pm.** We have visiting staff entering and leaving on a regular basis and I would like to remind families that **pedestrians should not use the car park when entering and leaving the school.** Please use the pathways at the front of the school, via Gladeswood Reserve and on Maygrove Way. The new carpark off Gladeswood Reserve is now available and has added capacity to the tennis club car park. Excellent parking is also available at both the kindergarten entry to Gladeswood Reserve. I would also ask families to be mindful of our neighbours and avoid parking across driveways, **in no standing areas** or on nature strips. We thank you for your support in this matter as student safety is very important to us.

Lunch Orders

We will continue to offer lunch orders on Wednesdays and Fridays in 2026. This year, students are able to order their lunches via Qkr commencing this **Friday January 30th**. Orders must be placed by 9am sharp, but can be pre-ordered in advance. The menu is available via the app. Our canteen service provider is a third party operation, so the school is unable to take late orders over the phone.

Assembly

Assemblies will take place at 2:40pm every second Friday, commencing with a short assembly next week on **Friday February 6th**. Parents are welcome to attend.

Curriculum Days & Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences

A reminder that the 2026 Curriculum Days are as follows:

Day 1 - Jan 27th (Admin and Responsive Teaching PL)

Day 2 - Fri June 5th (VTLM 2.0 & Instructional Model)

Day 3 - Late Term 3 TBC (Wellbeing)

Day 4 - Cup Eve Mon Nov 2nd (Assessment & Reporting)

In addition, the state government has approved a professional practice day:

Term 4 Tuesday 15th Dec (2027 planning)

Labour Day Public Holiday

Parents are reminded that there is a Labour Day holiday on **Monday 9th March**. There will be no school on this day.

School Uniform

Uniforms are available via PSW in Glen Waverley. All students should be attending school in full uniform. This is either the pale blue polo shirt for years P-5 or the navy year 6 polo. A summer dress and winter skirt are also available, along with navy shorts and tracksuit pants and the navy bomber jacket. Hats are required in terms 1 and 4, with school beanies on offer for the cooler months. Should your child be unable to attend in uniform, please send a note to your child's classroom teacher. The uniform policy is available via the school website.

Art Smocks

To protect clothing, all students are requested to have an Art Smock or old shirt that can be worn during art classes.

Staffing

A very warm welcome is extended to our newest teacher, Miss Jana Koryfas. Miss Koryfas will be taking 1K and was a former MPS student herself. We also welcome back Kerry Batt (1BL) from Family Leave. Please say hello to our new staff members if you see them around the school.

Our team for 2026...

Prep: Lauri Brogden (PB) and Bernice Li (PL)

Year 1: Marika Evans (1E), Kerry Batt & Caleb Lazar (1BL) and Jana Koryfas (1K)

Year 2: Emma Harrison (2H) Erica Newnham & Beth Pope (2NP) and Tracy Turner* & Maria Rivas (2TR)

Year 3/4: Nathan Giles (3/4G), Stacy Jones & Lauren Hay (3/4JH), Jay Khoo (3/4K), Sarah Murray (3/4M) and Rebecca Wright (3/4W)

Year 5: Hayley Cutting & Krista Di Iorio (1CD) and Jake Kuzma (5K)

Year 6: Jordan Geer (6G), Kate Hattwell & Evana Durack (6HD) and Lenore Matthews (6M)

STEM: Stuart McIlwraith

Spanish: Maria Rivas

Visual Arts: Dani Pejic

Performing Arts: Sally Bush

Physical Education: Caleb Lazar

Education Support: Marina Vujmilovic, You Meng Hooi, Jacque Nathan, Vicki Goldsworthy, Grace Gardiner, Jacob Nathan and Sue Rimmer

Admin Officers: Viki Ali and Anna Long

Business Manager: Suzy Shaw

Assistant Principals: Stuart Hattwell & Nicola Weerakoon

Principal: Charles Spicer

Accident Insurance

The Department of Education (DE) does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. The Department of Education states that reasonable low cost accident insurance policies are available from the commercial insurance sector. Similarly, DE (which includes the school) does not offer replacement of personal items which are brought to school and are lost, broken or stolen. Sentimental or expensive belongings and toys, including sports equipment and electronic devices, are normally best left at home.

Annual privacy reminder for our school community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy <https://mulgraveps.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Photographing-filming-and-recording-students-Policy.pdf>, describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [[Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education](#)] safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education], please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dari
- Gujarati
- Mandarin
- Somali
- Sudanese
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

Mobile phones

Readers of the newsletter would be aware of the introduction of the state-wide policy on Mobile Phones in Victorian Government Schools and the Federal government legislation around social media use for under 16's. All students are required to turn off and hand in mobile phones to prevent usage during school hours. **This also extends to smart watches where the call and messaging function can connect to the student's phone.**

Devices will be placed in a locked cabinet/cupboard at the start of the day and handed back at the end of the day.

School Council has approved our Mobile Phone policy to ensure it is aligned to DE directives. A copy of this policy is available on our website.

Please discuss this with your child/ren to assist us in following this policy. We thank you for your support in this area.

Hats

A reminder that hats must be worn in terms one and four. Sunscreen and sunglasses are also highly recommended.

Heat Policy

The school operates a heat policy and we keep the children indoors in air conditioned classrooms on very hot days where the temperature exceeds 35°. We have also been asked to remind our parent community about the dangers of leaving children in cars on very hot days.



As always, plenty to get through to start the new school year.

Enjoy the weekend ahead everyone!

Charles Spicer,

Principal

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>



Outside School Hours Care Newsletter



29/01/2026

Mulgrave Primary School

Your
OSHC.

ROCKETEERS

National Pizza Day in After School Care



9 February

Book now

Dear Families

We would like to warmly welcome all students and families back to school for Term 1. We hope you enjoyed a restful Christmas break and a positive start to the New Year.

We are pleased to share a range of enriching learning experiences planned for the term 1 Our program will commence with National Pizza Day, where students will participate in hands-on pizza making while learning about the history of pizza and following a structured, step-by-step process.

Throughout the term, students will also engage in cultural and educational celebrations including Chinese Lunar New Year, National Wildlife Day, Indian Holi Festival, and Chip and Dip Day, offering children a variety of meaningful learning experiences.

Our Big Art Day, held each Friday, will continue to provide students with opportunities to develop and showcase their creative skills, including participation in an art competition.

A further highlight of the term will be Superhero Week, which encourages imagination, creativity, and confidence through themed activities and role play.

In addition, we are pleased to offer parents a complimentary webinar with Dr. Billy Garvey, providing valuable insights into parenting and an opportunity to have questions addressed. We look forward to a productive and engaging Term 1 and thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Meena

Activities coming up

- Back to school Gnome
- Fine a friend hunt
- Bouncy race

Make a booking

Join in the fun of Outside School Hours Care activities and experiences with Your OSHC and Rocketeers.

Book now

Register and book via the app

To attend our program, you must register your child. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your account.



- Easy booking features
- Simple booking calendar overview
- Track your spend
- Detailed account history

Find out more and book now

www.campaustralia.com.au

National Pizza Day

in After School Care

Your
OSHC.

Monday
9
February



Book today ↘
pp.campaustralia.com.au

Child Care
Subsidy
available for
eligible families.

Speak to your Coordinator
to find out more!

by  Camp
Australia

ADVERTISING

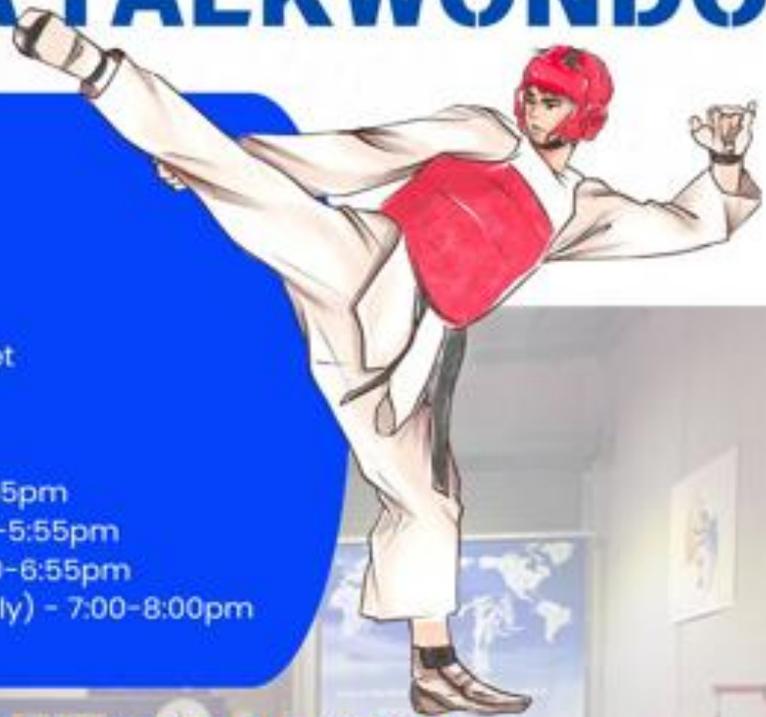
VICTORIA TAEKWONDO

PROGRAMS

- Taekwondo Forms (Poomsae)
- Sparring (Gyorugi)
- Board Breaking (Gyokpa)
- Kicking Techniques (Balchagi)
- Improve Physical Fitness and Diet

CLASSES

- Class 1 (Prep-Grade3) - 4:00-4:55pm
- Class 2 (Grade2-Grade5) - 5:00-5:55pm
- Class 3 (Grade5-Grade10) - 6:00-6:55pm
- Class 4 (High school/Adult/Family) - 7:00-8:00pm



YES! I WANT MY CHILD TO LEARN

DEVELOP
CONFIDENCE

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

RESPECT FOR
OTHERS &
YOURSELF

SELF DEFENSE

LEADERSHIP

DISCIPLINE

CONTACT US

📍 1/11-13 Milgate st Oakleigh South VIC 3167

☎ 0424 894 072 | 0431 544 028

✉ victkd2020@gmail.com

🏠 www.victkd.com.au

📷 victoria.tkd.com.au



TRY OUR FREE TRIAL!



Australian
Taekwondo



ADVERTISING



Tuning in to Kids

Parents
of ages
4-10

Free 6-session parenting program

Mondays, 16 Feb – 30 Mar

10am – 12pm

Wellington Child and Family Hub, Mulgrave

Learn practical and proven skills to help your child respond to big feelings, build stronger relationships and problem solve.



Book online

Scan the QR code or visit

monash.vic.gov.au/Tuning-In-to-Kids

ADVERTISING



FIRST SEASON FREE

Knox Softball Association,
Gilbert Park, Knoxfield

AGES 7 - 10
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
EQUIPMENT PROVIDED
UNIFORM TOPS PROVIDED

Thursdays 5pm-6pm
Starting Feb 12th 2026
For 7 weeks

REGISTER HERE



See event link for more details:
www.softballvic.org.au/events/335256



WHERE
LEGENDS
BEGIN