



29/01/2026

Principal's Report

Welcome back everybody to the 2026 school year. We hope that everyone managed to find some quality time to relax with friends and family during the summer break and that the start of this year has been a positive one for you all.

This year, we again welcome new families to GWSPS across all year levels, including our new Foundation families. We know that the whole community joins us in welcoming you all to our school and trust that your time with us is positive and enjoyable.

Each year when we return, it is a pleasure to see such happy and enthusiastic faces, eager to renew old friendships, make some new ones and get back into some interesting and enjoyable learning. When we chat to students, they share lovely holiday stories but are also looking forward to their new school year. We would like to thank you, the parents, for your efforts in preparing your children so well for the start of the school year. Throughout the year, we will share through the newsletter, the many opportunities that our students have to shine.

Our Foundation children commenced school today. Miss Gibson, and all staff are looking forward to getting to know all our new families and students throughout the year.

A big thank you to the staff for all the preparations they have made for the 2026 school year, as they have already spent countless hours over the past weeks; the cleaners ensuring a fresh and welcoming environment, the Office and Education Support staff with various administrative tasks, the OSH staff for running another fun-filled Holiday Program, and the teachers setting up dynamic learning environments and forward planning to ensure a smooth start and exciting curriculum for the students this year.

Once again, we have started the year with our 'Learning How to Learn' program. The purpose of this school-developed program is to engage students in a range of activities that help build strong relationships with their teachers and peers, and to establish clear expectations for the 2026 school year. This is a crucial part of the curriculum as it paves the path for a happy and successful year of learning for all students. We know that relationships are at the core of all learning. Having spent the time to form a relationship based on trust and respect and getting to know each other beyond the roles of 'teacher' and 'student' (interests, family members, friends, experiences, hopes, fears etc.), we are able to truly begin personalising the learning experience for the children we teach.



We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure all children can achieve their highest potential. We recognise that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school, knowing that a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities, asking that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring:

1. Attendance at school daily and arrival on time, ready for the day's learning experience
2. Completion of all homework assignments given by teachers
3. Daily reading to develop a love for literature and to improve critical language skills
4. Sharing school experiences with you so that you are aware of his / her school life

Working and "learning together" we can achieve great results. In any given year we provide many opportunities for parent involvement within the school: volunteering for excursions and camps; and being a member of the Fundraising Committee, who do such an amazing job of raising funds for the school and creating a caring culture with numerous events. Parental support of the teachers and the school's programs is also vital and includes displaying a positive attitude towards your child's learning, so I encourage you all to be fully involved in your child's education. ***Education is a partnership!*** Let's all work together to ensure the best future for the children that we have in our care.

Existing parents will be aware that we run a fortnightly newsletter with a 'Dates to Remember' edition every other week. Each of these editions will contain lots of important information, dates and reminders so please be sure to read both versions of our newsletters. School families will be notified via a Compass alert, which will inform you of the availability of the current Newsletter or Dates to Remember on our school website at <https://www.gwsps.vic.edu.au/newsletter> Alternatively, you can obtain a hard copy at the office.

In addition to our weekly Newsletter/Dates to Remember, year levels will be providing a quarterly (once a term at the beginning of each term) overview of what your child will be learning in the classroom for the term ahead. Information relating to a specific year level event will continue to be communicated via Compass and/or our community newsletter throughout the year.

Staffing News

We'd like to officially welcome Miss Hannah Cook – Level 4 classroom teacher, and Ms Clare Flood – STEM teacher, to our wonderful School Community.

A huge congratulations to Miss Ebony Gibson who got engaged to her partner, Matt, over the holiday period. We wish Ebony and Matt all the very best in their future. Wonderful news!

Mr Jenkins is currently on leave, and we look forward to Mr Jenkins' return on Monday 16th February. In the meantime, all Performing Arts classes will be taken by Ms Kelsey Dixon.

Swimming Trials

Many of our Year 3 – 6 students took part in School Swimming trials today.

The following successful students will be advancing to the WESA District Swimming Trials on Thursday 12th February.

12-13 Boys

Austin S & Jaxon L



11 Boys

Kimbrel H & Jacob B

9-10 Boys

Jason F, Ojas S, Randal H & Michael A-B

12-13 Girls

Ariana S & Evelyn Lam

11 Girls

Zahra P, Napapat S & Cindy L

9-10 Girls

Adelyn L

A big thank you to Miss Jessie Hare for coordinating this event! Well done to all students who participated!

Attendance and missing school

The following extract comes from the DET website: <https://www.vic.gov.au/attendance-and-missing-school>

Going to school every day is an important part of your child's education. Children and young people learn new things at school every day, connect with friends, have fun and develop good habits that help them to succeed. Attending and participating in school will help your child:

- develop important skills and knowledge to help them learn
- develop social and emotional skills such as good communication, resilience and team-work
- establish friendships with peers which help develop self-esteem and a sense of belonging.

There is no good number of days for missing school. Being away from school for 1 day a fortnight adds up to missing 4 whole weeks of school a year. Where possible, you should avoid your child missing school, for example, make appointments for your child outside of school hours and keep family holidays to outside term time.

Supervision of Students in the Playground Before and After School

To ensure that students are appropriately supervised, we ask that students arrive at school after 8.45am each morning. If you elect to send your child/ren to school prior to 8.45am, it is important that you understand that they cannot be supervised until the school gates are open and yard duty teachers begin their assigned duty from 8.45am. Similarly, at the end of the school day, the school will ensure the appropriate supervision of all students until 3.45pm and after this time it is the responsibility of parents to collect/supervise their children. Any children not collected after this time will be sent to our After School Program.

Please be aware that sending children to Before or After School Care will incur a fee!

Meet the Teacher Interviews

Shortly you will be receiving a notice inviting you to book online a 'Meet and Greet' session with your child's teacher. Please be sure to follow the instructions as outlined in the notice and take this very important opportunity to organise a time to meet with the teacher. Interpreters can be organised – please refer to the Compass post. If you are having difficulty completing this, please speak to your child's teacher or contact the school. The meet and greet dates are as follows:

Levels 1 to 4 - Tuesday 17th February, between 1:40 pm – 6:40 pm.

Level 5/6 - Wednesday 18th February, between 1:40 pm – 6:40 pm



School Council

Information relating to vacancies on School Council will be distributed shortly. Please look out for this if you are interested in nominating or being nominated for 2026. Information will include a timeline and summary of the role of School Council. Our next and final school council meeting for the current membership is on Tuesday 24th February. Please contact the office if you'd like to attend as a visitor.

Student Accident and Private Property Insurance

The Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents/carers of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance or transport as well as any other transport costs.

In some circumstances, medical or other expenses will be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely that the Department is liable for negligent acts or omissions of its staff or volunteers.

Our school does not have a whole-of-school student accident policy or ambulance cover. This is not a compulsory requirement for schools. Where there is no whole-of-school policy in place, it is the responsibility of parents/carers to look into their preferred options in this regard. The Department cannot provide advice to parents/carers on the purchase of individual student accident policy or ambulance cover.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

No Hat, No Play

Please be reminded that the 'No Hat No Play' policy is still in effect.

Assembly

Our first whole school assembly will take place on Friday 6th February at 2:50pm in the school gym.

Chinese New Year

Tuesday, 17th February marks the beginning of the 2026 Chinese New Year. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our community who celebrates this significant event a Happy New Year!

Mobile Phone Policy Update

Please be advised that there has been a change to our Mobile Phone Policy effective immediately. Namely, all smart watches will now be required to be signed in at the office for safe storage along with any mobile phones, at the beginning of each day.

For further information, you can read our updated policy in the following link:

[Mobile Phone Policy - Glen Waverley South Primary School](#)



Con Vellios
Principal



NAPLAN 2026

Information for parents and carers



Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. As students progress through their school years, it is important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy. NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum, and allows parents and carers to see how their child is progressing against national proficiency standards. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with more information about students' educational progress. NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working, and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Online NAPLAN tests are designed to provide precise results and are engaging for students. The tests are tailored (or adaptive), which means that each test presents questions that may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses. This helps students remain engaged with the assessment. Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content aligned to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.

What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by letting them know that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. However, it is not necessary for parents and carers to do this. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.



ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers. See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [NAP – Public demonstration site](#).

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window starts on **Wednesday 11 March 2026** and finishes on Monday 23 March 2026. Schools **must** schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.



Victorian High-Ability Program Primary

This year, the Student Excellence Program continues to offer various initiatives aimed at supporting government schools in creating a dynamic learning environment and enhancing teacher capacity to nurture and challenge high-ability students. At Glen Waverley South Primary School, we are dedicated to fostering the growth of our students academically and socially.

Throughout the year, selected students will have the opportunity to participate in the Victorian High-Ability Program, an initiative coordinated by the Department. This program caters to high-ability students in Years 5 to 8, providing them with access to 10-week online extension and enrichment courses in English and Mathematics. Delivered by Virtual School Victoria, the virtual program aims to expand and enhance students' skills in these key subjects.

The selection process for the Victorian High-Ability Program is overseen by the Department, focusing on students' academic performance. Parents of selected students will receive further details about the program from the school.

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to participate in the Maths Victorian High-Ability program this term:

VHAP Maths Course - Patterns: from Symbols to Secrets

From Grade 5 - Cindy L, Lachlan O, Lucas Y, Kimbrel H,

From Grade 6 - George H, Nathan K, Ilias K, Jal N, Evelyn S



Tineke Reincke
HAPL Coordinator



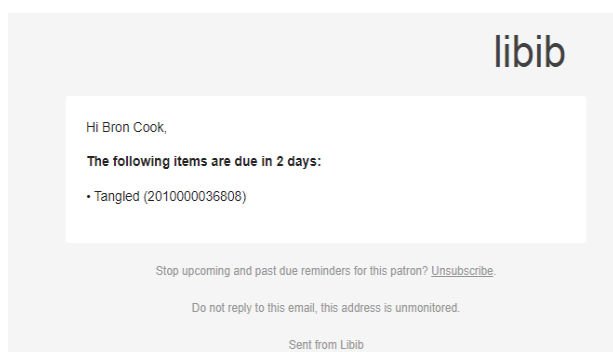
Library News

In Term 1, classes will visit the library on the following days:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
None	1/2T 1/2L 1/2S	5D 5S 6C 6D	3A 3E 4A 4C	FG

Each week, classes will visit the library with their teachers. During this time, they will share a story, complete a related activity and have time to browse and borrow. All students should have a named library bag to protect their books. This can be any type of reusable bag.

Books are loaned for 14 days. Students are encouraged to return their books each week, even if they are not finished, and reborrow them rather than waiting for them to be overdue. Parents will receive a reminder email 2 days before their student's book is due back. The system will also send up to three reminders once a book is overdue, letting you know the books have not been returned. Students with overdue books will not be allowed to borrow further books until their overdue books are returned. Students should return their library books to their classroom on or before the day of their lesson.



We have lots to look forward to in the library this year! Library Lovers Day is held annually on February 14. We also have National Simultaneous Story Time in Term 2, where students in schools all around Australia are encouraged to join in reading the same book at the same time. The NSS book for 2025 is “Luna Roo” written by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd.

Term 3 is packed with events, kicking off with Book Week in August. This year’s theme is A Symphony of Stories - stay tuned for more details about school-based activities this week, including our much loved Book Character parade, a Book Fair, and more!



This term also sees the return of our family library activity. Please see the page in this newsletter for more information. Return your creation to the library for display once complete.

Happy reading!



Term 1 Family Library Activity

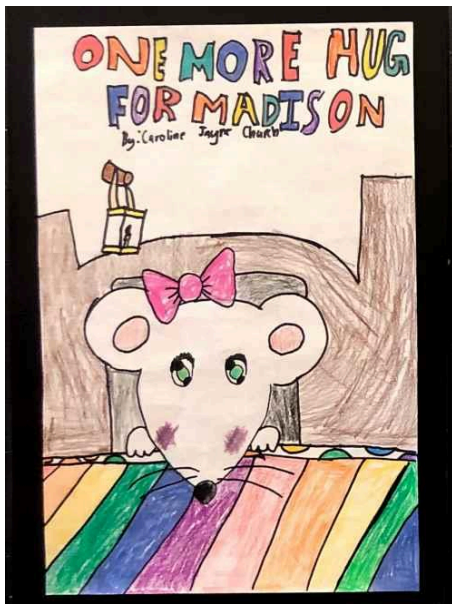
To celebrate Library Lovers' Day, this term's Family Library Activity is to create a craft or poster inspired by your favourite book to read as a family. Take a look at the images below for inspiration!

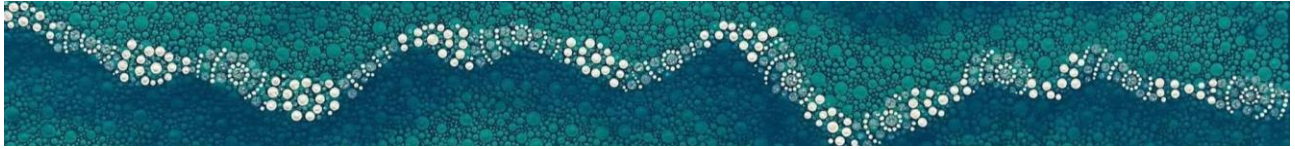
Please return all crafts and posters to the library on your scheduled library day, or bring them to Ms Cook in the Library at lunchtimes. All characters will be displayed in the library for families to see until the end of term.

I look forward to seeing what your family will share with us!



Bron Cook
Library





Your Marrung Lead

The Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan is a strategy of the Victorian Department of Education to ensure that all First Nations Victorians achieve their learning aspirations and that all students learn about the cultures, histories and contributions of First Nations Australians.

As the Marrung Lead for Glen Waverley South Primary School, my role is to help teachers, students and families understand and work towards these goals, and to act as a contact point within the school for First Nations students and their families.

Some important events we are looking forward to celebrating this year include:

National Reconciliation Week - theme All In!

NAIDOC Week - theme 50 Years of Deadly

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day - theme to be announced

During this year, we also plan to launch our school-based Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). A RAP is a formal commitment to reconciliation. It documents how our school will strengthen relationships, respect and opportunities in the classroom, around the school and with the community. If you are interested in being part of our RAP Working Group, please contact me via email (bronwyn.cook@education.vic.gov.au) or arrange an appointment through the school office.

I look forward to sharing more about this role and the work our school is doing in this area as the year progresses.



Bron Cook
Marrung Lead

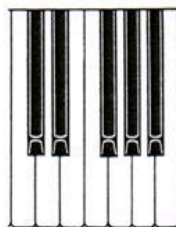


Music



Violin and Piano Lessons

Vacancies exist for individual violin and piano lessons held during school hours at GWSPS. Please contact Marika on 0400-604-701 for further information or queries.



Mad On Music

All Gr 2-6's – Do you want to learn KEYBOARD or SINGING ?

This is your CHANCE to enrol for Term 1, 2026!!

1. Go to our website at www.madonmusic.com.au
2. Fill out the online enrolment form and click the submit button
3. Mad On Music will contact you once you have received your place

To save disappointment, please enrol by Friday 6th February 2026.



All Grade 1's - Do you want to learn KEYBOARD ?

Enrolments are NOW being taken for students to commence KEYBOARD in Term 2, 2026!

1. Go to our website at www.madonmusic.com.au
2. Fill out the online enrolment form and click the submit button
3. Mad On Music will contact you once you have received your place

To save disappointment, please enrol by the Friday 20th March 2026.



GUITAR TUITION PROGRAMME



2 TRIAL LESSONS AVAILABLE FOR A FEE

Contact today!

ALBERT AXIAQ
Associate Diploma of
Education (Music)
Bachelor of Arts (Music)

🎵 MOB: 0409411815

C'MON LEARN MUSIC NOW!

Vacancies exist to trial the Guitar Tuition Program during school hours. anyone who wishes their child to participate contact Albert Axiaq on 0409411815, including the purchasing of a guitar.



Glen Waverley South Primary School

ABN 49 140 012 401

29th January 2026

Birthday Treats at School

To avoid disappointment and to support the safety and well-being of all students, we request that Parents/Guardians read the following guidelines carefully.

We have a number of students at our school who are anaphylactic. Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Certain foods and insect stings are the most common causes of anaphylaxis.

It is very difficult to monitor the ingredients in foods that are brought in for birthdays. It is for this reason that we ask families to please follow these guidelines when bringing food to the school for a birthday.

These guidelines will be strictly adhered to by all staff.

- **No birthday lolly bags, no gift bags**
- **Only ONE item per child eg. one lollypop or one chocolate treat (freddo frog, kit kat etc)**
- **A list of ingredients MUST be supplied**
- **Food MUST be individually wrapped**
- **No nuts**
- **No homemade food**

If birthday treats do not meet the above guidelines, the treats will be returned home.

Birthday treats are to be delivered by the parent/guardian to the school office.

They will remain at the office until the end of the day when they will be distributed to the students by the classroom teacher at 3.30pm.



Change of Details

If there has been a change to your living arrangements or contact details that the office may not be aware of, please complete the form below and return to the office as soon as possible.

Student Name:		Class:
Student Name:		Class:
Student Name:		Class:
Student Address:		
Parent (A)	Name:	
	Email:	
	Phone:	
	Address:	
Parent (B)	Name:	
	Email:	
	Phone:	
	Address:	
Parent Signature:		Date:



Second Hand Uniform Shop

Glen Waverley South Primary School offers the opportunity for its school community to purchase second hand uniforms at a discounted rate.

The second-hand uniform shop is in Interview Room 1 (in the reception area). The second-hand uniform shop is open **Mondays between 3.30pm – 4.00pm**.

If you have any school bags or school clothing items (other than hats) that you no longer use with the current 'RESPECT' logo, consider donating these to the second-hand uniform shop. You can leave these at the office any time between 8.30am – 4.30pm.

The uniform prices are as follows.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| • Short Sleeve Polo (Navy)\$ 5.00 | • Skort.....\$ 5.00 |
| • Long Sleeve Polo (Navy)\$ 5.00 | • Summer Dress.....\$12.00 |
| • White Polo (Yr 5 & 6 only)\$ 5.00 | • Bootleg Pants\$ 5.00 |
| • Crew Neck Windcheater\$ 5.00 | • Track Pants\$ 7.00 |
| • Hooded Windcheater\$ 7.00 | • Girls Winter Skirt\$15.00 |
| • Bomber Jacket\$25.00 | • Girls Winter Tunic\$15.00 |
| • Unisex Navy Shorts\$ 5.00 | • School bag\$10.00 |



Please note no hats will be sold in the Second Hand Uniform shop.





Dates to Remember

January 2026

Friday	30 th	Normal school day for all students (Foundation students finish at 1:00pm)
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February 2026

Thursday	5 th	First full day for Foundation Students (9.00am – 3.30pm)
Friday	6 th	Assembly at 2.50pm
Thursday	12 th	Lv 3-6 District Swimming (selected students)
Friday	13 th	Level 5/6 Interschool Sports – Round 1
Tuesday	17 th	Lv 1-4 Meet & Greet Interviews

March 2026

Wednesday	4 th	Lv 3-6 Division Swimming (selected students) Twilight Sports 4.30pm – 6.00pm
Wednesday	11 th	Lv 3 & Lv 5 NAPLAN Writing
Thursday	12 th	Lv 3 & Lv 5 NAPLAN Reading
Friday	13 th	Lv 3 & Lv 5 NAPLAN Conventions of Language
Monday	16 th	Lv 3 & Lv 5 NAPLAN Numeracy
Friday	20 th	Harmony Day Ride2School Day Assembly 2.50pm



Calendar for Foundation Students – Term 1, 2026

January/February 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	27 January Curriculum Day Students do not attend school.	28 January No Foundation classes. Meet & Greet Interviews	29 January Foundation students 9.00am–1.00pm	30 January Foundation students 9.00am–1.00pm
2 Foundation students 9.00am–1.00pm	3 Foundation students 9.00am–1.00pm	4 No Foundation classes. Student assessments	5 First FULL DAY Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	6 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm
9 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	10 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	11 No Foundation classes. Student assessments	12 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	13 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm
16 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	17 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	18 No Foundation classes. Student assessments	19 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	20 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm
23 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	24 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	25 No Foundation classes. Student assessments	26 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm	27 Foundation students 9.00am–3.30pm



Calendar for Foundation Students – Term 1, 2026

March 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	3 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	4 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	5 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	6 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm
9 Labour Day Public Holiday School Closed	10 Curriculum Day Pupil Free Day	11 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	12 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	13 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm
16 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	17 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	18 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	19 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	20 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm
23 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	24 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	25 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	26 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	27 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm
30 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm	31 Foundation students 9.00am-3.30pm			



2 FREE TRIALS

SwimWorld has been serving the community for over 50 years. Our mission is to ensure that every member of the community and beyond Learns to Swim, learns to survive and above all else enjoys the water. Learning to Swim is a skill for life and one of the greatest gifts we can impart upon our child. We pride ourselves on our highly trained coaches, our structured and progressive lesson plans, all of which ensure that learning to swim and survive is a fun and happy experience.

BABIES & TODDLERS: 4 months - 3 years

- Water familiarisation.
- Front and Back kicking skills.
- Independent movement.
- Introduction to survival skills.

SQUAD

- Technique refinement
- Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates.
- Speed.
- Endurance.
- Safety & Survival.

BEGINNER: 3 years +

- Introduction and progression of freestyle, back stroke and breast stroke.
- Survival skills, introductions and refinements.
- Building endurance through efficient swimming techniques.

ADULT

Adult beginner:

- Little or no experience.

Adult intermediate:

- Refinement of individual skills including breathing and strokes.

Adult advanced:

- Improve endurance and hone skills.

myswimworld.com.au
452 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley

9560 4433



Glen Waverley South Primary School
ABN 49 140 012 401
29th January 2026

Building Skills for Life

Infant Aquatic Program

**Vital life
saving skills**

**Experienced and
trained coaches**

**First Class
lessons**



Phone: 9560 4433

myswimworld.com.au



452 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley



WINTER
2026

Register Now

BE PART OF A FUN AND SUPPORTIVE BASKETBALL
FAMILY. FIRST-TIME PLAYERS AND SEASONED ATHLETES
ARE ALL WELCOME AS WE OPEN THE COURT FOR
LEARNING, TEAMWORK, AND GREAT MOMENTS.

REGISTER NOW:

WWW.SYNDALSTORM.COM



Glen Waverley South Primary School

ABN 49 140 012 401

29th January 2026

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