PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to another edition of our Primary Post newsletter. The start to term 3 has continued to be a very busy one. This week has involved our senior primary students commencing Mindfulness in Action, an 8-week program delivered by the Life Skills Group. This program complements our Values program, Paths Curriculum, our recent focus on character traits and overall social and emotional development. This week we’ve also welcomed the dental van to our school, supporting our community to access dental services. Assessments are complete for those who indicated they wanted to have their children’s teeth checked with subsequent treatment provided onsite.

Last week our community was incredibly saddened to learn of the passing of a mother to two students who currently attend our school. From this tragedy I can report back with great pride the response shown by our children at Whittlesea Primary School. Both Tyson and Jack returned to school after only a short absence and it was excellent to see the other students supporting them - living our value of community by being kind, caring and generous. A number of our staff intend on attending the upcoming funeral and the school will make necessary arrangements while ensuring there is no impact on the learning opportunities of all our students.

Next week I will be proudly hosting a special luncheon for students who received numeracy awards at the end of term 2. This special event is to recognise their outstanding achievement in mathematics and acknowledges each student’s above expected improvement across the past 6 months. To achieve this the children must have dedicated commitment and hard work to their learning and for this they are to be congratulated. It will be a focus to continue to acknowledge each and every child who achieves their best academically. It is not always the child who ranks the highest, yet the child who makes the biggest leap forward that is worthy of such recognition.

Thank you to the group of parents who attended one of the classroom helper training sessions this week facilitated by our Leading Teachers – Deb Armstrong and Kellie Redmond. Participants gained a greater understanding of how they can be an effective support while volunteering in our classrooms. The participants in these informative sessions came away with a greater knowledge and appreciation of how they can make a positive difference to the learning of our children, understanding the structures in place and the language that is vital to support classroom instruction. Thank you to all our wonderful parents who give their time to ensure our children have the best opportunities to succeed at school.

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Principal
ICT Club has been operating in our school for a very long time now. Students can go to the library at first break every day and participate in playing interactive games on computers and iPads. ICT club has also provided opportunities for students to participate in Mathletics activities.

Mathletics is a great resource for students, allowing them to participate in challenging and engaging mathematics activities. The program on Mathletics is designed to suit the individual needs of students and offers differentiated tasks that can be set by teachers. Students complete the tasks and improved results are rewarded through a certificate system, encouraging them to keep completing more tasks. Exceptional efforts by students are acknowledged through Gold Awards at assembly on Monday mornings.

In an attempt to boost the interest and results of students in mathematics, we are asking all parents and guardians to encourage the use of Mathletics at home and school. All students are also welcome to ICT club, which is another avenue for them to practice their mathematical skills.

Congratulations to Chloe Mott and Blake Robinson who also achieved 12 months growth in Mathematics last semester. The special lunch for our 40 worthy participants will be next Wednesday, July 27!!!
Social and emotional learning for students is the second KidsMatter Primary component area that our school is implementing. Social and emotional learning is about developing the ability to care for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships, and handle challenging situations.

This component looks at the best ways of teaching social and emotional skills for all students. KidsMatter provides the opportunity for the whole school staff to have:

- a shared understanding of why this is so important to mental health and wellbeing
- a common language for talking about it
- a shared focus on planning for improvement both within and out of the classroom
- the information they need for selecting the most appropriate social and emotional learning program for their context

Key points for supporting parents and carers with their children’s social and emotional journey will be included in the Primary Post on a regular basis.

Cheryl Abbott

**WHITTLESEA PRIMARY SCHOOL ART SHOW**

The Whittlesea Primary School Art Show will be held on Wednesday 14th September and we would greatly appreciate parent involvement in the coming weeks. If you are available Thursday afternoons from 2:15 and would be keen to help out please email whittlesea.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Thank you.

Danielle McDowell, Art Teacher

**SCHOOL CHAPLAIN REPORT**

**KidsMatter Matters**

As a member of our school’s wellbeing team, I would like to reflect on one of the areas we hope to advance. Our school is one of thousands that have become involved in KidsMatter Primary. This is a shared vision for the healthy hearts and minds of our school community, especially the students. The program enhances morale and resilience, and serves to provide children with a positive school engagement. Social and emotional learning is woven into the education fabric alongside another program PATHS, that has been implemented at the start of this year. Vital to all this is the part that parents and carers play. Thank you to those who returned a survey recently, this was one step of many steps in KidsMatter. We will be able to compare this feedback with others. These are steps in being authentically engaged in KidsMatter Primary, travelling with this proven program for positive outcomes.

As this program further develops in our school, alongside PATHS, we look forward to the positive difference in the lives of our children. KidsMatter Primary is a whole school initiative and will look different between schools depending on the need. The program has been designed to work over a number of years. We are reinvigorating awareness of it at this stage. We have had KidsMatter posters up for a long while and we thought we might add a number of articles to the school newsletter that offer helpful practical advice, under the banner of the KidsMatter philosophy.

Kids Matter is an evidence-based government initiative following a successful pilot study and drawing on much research. A finding states that nearly half of all problems relating to mental health commence before age 14, hence the opportunity for primary schools to adopt such a program to build and support a positive sense of self. KidsMatter offers a carefully staged set of steps that trains and equips the whole school community to play its part in supporting the positive development of students to be better equipped for the unknown future they will have to negotiate.

Peter Ackland - school chaplain
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Star of the Week</th>
<th>Awarded to:</th>
<th>For:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foundation M/ Powell</td>
<td>Willem Henning</td>
<td>writing down the sounds he hears during writing. Well done superstar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Powell</td>
<td>Amber Hall</td>
<td>independently organising her belongings while having a broken arm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Redmond</td>
<td>Jaxon Moro</td>
<td>having a go at new things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Capito</td>
<td>Chase Dennis</td>
<td>writing a fantastic description on an Olympic Mascot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Miller</td>
<td>Kyah Demarco</td>
<td>always asking questions in class and displaying confidence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 Starkey</td>
<td>Hunter Stephenson</td>
<td>being an amazing classroom helper.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Goetzke</td>
<td>Cora Acott</td>
<td>managing her time well in writing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 Vitale</td>
<td>Jade Mavric</td>
<td>having a positive start and settling in at WPS and 2V.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Kaur</td>
<td>Jobe Watson</td>
<td>writing an interesting narrative problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 Walsh</td>
<td>Mia Augustus</td>
<td>a positive start at W.P.S. Keep up the great attitude Mia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 Mion/Walsh</td>
<td>Lillie Coomber</td>
<td>a fantastic effort in all areas of learning this week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cameron Eade</td>
<td>an outstanding effort in writing this week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 Dipaola</td>
<td>Natasha Rogers</td>
<td>her amazing attitude towards her learning. Well done superstar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Year Cook/Tolmay | Awarded to: Chelsi Smyth  
|                 | For: always working to the best of her ability and doing her best learning. |
| Year 6 Dunstone | Awarded to: Lewis Grogan  
|                 | For: the impressive way he has applied himself to learning tasks this week. |
| Year 6 Wright  | Awarded to: Braydan Rogers  
|                | For: confidently articulating his extensive prior knowledge during inquiry. |
EXCURSION LEVY 2016

Thank you to the families who have paid the $70 levy for their children.

If you opted to pay this levy in two instalments please be advised that the second instalment of $35 was due on Friday 10th June 2016.

Excursions/Incursions are planned for most year levels this term. Please make sure to check if you have made payment for your child. These activities are based on user pays and we would like every child to be included.

If you are unsure whether you have paid please contact Donna Gray at the school office.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our school council is looking at developing a master plan for future growth of our facilities at Whittlesea Primary School. If you have experience and skills in architecture, engineering or construction in general please contact the school on 97162140 or whittlesea.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Issue 5 of the Scholastic Book Club went home last week. Orders and payment need to be returned to school first thing tomorrow morning - Friday 22nd July. If you would like to order online please use the online ordering system LOOP –


SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is every Tuesday. Please contact the Office if you would like a school banking pack to be sent home for your child.

CANTEEN

The canteen service provided by Metro Canteens operates every Friday. Families are able to place an online order up until 11:30pm on Thursday each week. You will need to set up an account through –
www.flexischools.com.au

LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to write your child/ren’s names on all uniform items. We have a lot of unclaimed uniform in our lost property that does not have names written on them so we cannot deliver these to the students. Please check your child/ren’s jackets and make sure that they belong to them, we do have children who are missing their bomber and fleece jackets which are named. Lost property is located under the park bench on the side verandah of the office, please feel free to come and have a look through it. Thank you.

CAR PARKING

The Church kindly lets our school families use their car park. Please reverse park, and keep to the actual car park area. Driving beyond this is not permitted. Also, please do not use the disabled car park in the church car park or in the staff car park unless you have a disability permit, we do have parents that require the use of this space. Thank you.
Did you know WHITTLESEA PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS A MARKET?

Why not come!

Our market is held at the College on the third Saturday of the month and is run by the Whittlesea Secondary College and Primary School Chaplaincy Committee to raise money so both schools can have a chaplain – Peter Ackland at the primary school and Eva Natsis at the college.

It is the committee’s main fundraiser and needs your support as a customer and even as a stallholder. There is a good range of stalls including craft, homemade cakes and jams, fresh fruit and veggies, nuts and dried fruit, clothes, DVD’s, plants, dog supplies, gifts and of course enjoy a BBQ sausage or hamburger with a coffee.

The next market is on 20th August. The smaller car boot sites are $10 with the regular stall sites being $20. Just line up at the gate around 7am if you would like a spot. If you have any enquiries please ring 0419 357 395. Check out our facebook page at

https://www.facebook.com/saturday.community.market.whittlesea

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WHITTLESEA TENNIS CLUB

TEennis LESSONS

74 Laurel Street, Whittlesea

WE SPECIALISE IN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS

BOUNCE INTO OUR TERM 3 WINTER SPECIAL

FOR FIRST 10 NEW STUDENTS

Enrol Now & RECEIVE 30% OFF YOUR FEES

and also receive a FREE HEAD Tennis Racquet Pack valued at $40

ENROL NOW FOR TERM 3 2016 LESSONS

For more information please call Topline Tennis on 0425 831 666
Web: www.toplinetennis.com Email: info@toplinetennis.com

HEAD

Topline Tennis COACHING
Certificate III in Education Support (Teacher’s Aide) - CHC30213 - July 2016

This qualification will give you the skills and knowledge to provide assistance and support to teachers and students in a range of educational settings. This includes early childhood education, as well as Primary, Secondary and Special schools.

Graduates work as education assistants/teacher aides and support workers (working with children with disabilities)

Enrolments now being taken for July 2016 course.

Starting: 29th July
Day: Fridays 9:15am to 3:15pm
Duration: 24 sessions, 2 workshops + 100 hour practical placement.
Cost: Concession: $180, Full: $900, Fee For Service—Conc.: $2,685 (limited places) + Service & Amenities Fee

For more details please ring PRACE on 9462 6077 or visit our website: www.prace.vic.edu.au
Our local clubhouse offers a perfect setting for your next function with a modern contemporary layout, smart colour scheme and mood lighting. Whether you are planning a christening, birthday celebration, communion, business conference, anniversary, wake, family reunion, engagement party, wedding or seminar, our facility is sure to impress.

Vista can cater for anything from a high tea to a full buffet, please speak with Sylvia 97162066 - 0417500267