Hello everyone,

It truly is a privileged experience to be Principal of Whittlesea Primary School. Over the past couple of days, I’ve enjoyed reading fantastic writing pieces from our foundation students, shared in inquiry projects with our year 6 students and viewed our children working cooperatively across new class groupings during our transition sessions. It is always a treat when Rae and I have visits to our office from students sharing their fantastic learning.

Leading into the last month of school for 2016, I encourage parents to ensure that all children come to school each and every day. There has been a noticeable drop in attendance rates over the past few weeks and we need all parents to embrace the mantra – ‘It’s not OK to be away’. Children missing a day or two here and there or coming to school a few minutes late adds up over the course of the year to huge losses in instruction and ultimately negatively impacts upon their academic progress.

In the coming days you will receive in the mail information relating to the 2017 Booklist and Excursion levies. This year the information will contain a newly updated ‘Parent Payment Policy’. This policy creates consistency across government schools and clarifies the purpose for the fees and their use at a school. All payment requests now fall within three categories – Essential, Optional and Voluntary. Our booklist is a fee towards essential items vital for our school to provide a quality education program across all aspects of curriculum delivery. Without your commitment to supporting your child’s education financially, our school could not continue to provide the outstanding opportunities we currently facilitate. As an added incentive, our school council have introduced an initiative whereby we are offering a family pass to Funfields for 1 in every 100 complete payments. The winner will be selected randomly through a prize draw conducted after every 100 complete payments.

Our school council have also been proactive in planning a range of fundraising activities for 2017. A more immediate action has been to register for a loyalty / reward program with United Petrol stations. Our school now has an account and by signing up our community will enjoy two benefits. Firstly, you’ll enjoy a 2 cents per litre discount at United petrol stations. Secondly, your purchase will also contribute 2 cents per litre directly to Whittlesea Primary School as a reward rebate. Create your account today at http://new.unitedpetroleum.com.au/clubrewards/

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Hello everyone,

Wow, what an amazing transformation our new portables have had! Every day there are improvements to the facilities and surrounds; note that the external painting is complete and the stairs and safety rails have been fitted. The landscaping has also commenced and we have been able to reuse the existing pathway and rocks. We anticipate that the portables will be fully fitted out in the next few weeks. This is a fantastic addition to our school and our teachers and children are looking forward to using these wonderful learning spaces moving forward.

At last night’s School Council meeting a number of important policies were ratified and will be available on our school website shortly.

- Communication Procedures and Schedule
- Supervision and Duty of Care
- Critical Incident Management
- Early Leavers
- Head lice
- Fundraising
- Student Leadership

A reminder that next week on Wednesday 23rd November we have our Year 5 Stay Late between 3.15pm – 6.30pm and our F – 4 Mega Stay Late on Friday 25th November starting at 5pm through to 7pm. Fingers crossed for great weather as I know our teachers have planned some amazing activities and experiences for our children.

Finally, for those Year 5 children interested in applying for 2017 School Captains, the last day for submitting an Expression of Interest is Friday 25th November. These can be handed to Mrs Gittos or Toni in the office by 3pm.

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Hello everyone,

The last day for depositing into the CBA School Banking system is Tuesday 6th December and the last day to order rewards is Tuesday 29th November.

Please note that to get your bonus interest you must make one deposit per month. Don’t forget to deposit in December and January.

Thank you.

Jennifer Long
School Banking Coordinator

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SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

The last issue of the Scholastic Book Club for 2016 went home this week. Orders and payment are due by Friday 25th November. Due to end of year time restraints no late orders can be accepted. If you would like to order and pay online please to go https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/

A reminder that Whittlesea Primary School receives 20% commission on all orders which go towards new library books and classroom resources for all our students.

Thank you.

Jennifer Edwards
Book Club Coordinator

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RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED

2016 Christmas Carnival  Raffle Donations Wanted!

If you have a business, or know someone who can donate goods or services for our Christmas Carnival raffle please contact or pass on goods to Toni in the office.

Thank you!
### Star of the Week

| Year 1 Capito      | Awarded to: Ruby Chiodo  
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Writing a fantastic recount about her weekend.</td>
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| Year 1 Miller      | Awarded to: Ryder Barrett  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Giving beautiful compliments to our PATHS kids throughout the week.</td>
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| Year 1 Starkey     | Awarded to: Daniel Thomas  
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Showing our school value of confidence when confronted with a bee in the classroom</td>
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| Year 2 Goetzke     | Awarded to: Luke Barnett  
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>For: Showing persistence in his learning</td>
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| Year 2 Panahinejad | Awarded to: Hayley Chalmers  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Improving her number skills in mathematics</td>
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| Year 2 Vitale      | Awarded to: Jade Mavric  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Focusing really hard on her writing and being enthusiastic when reading her persuasive writing</td>
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| Year 3 Kaur        | Awarded to: Aaron Abbondio  
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Always having a positive attitude towards his learning</td>
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| Year 3 Walsh       | Awarded to: Maddie Robertson  
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For: Consistently displaying our school values. Well done Maddie!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Mion/Wilson</td>
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<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Cook/Tolmay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Dunstone</td>
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CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to both Kitt Perry and Angel B Ferguson for their recent success at the 2016 Whittlesea Show.

Kitt entered items from home into the Home Crafts Pavilion and won several awards over five different categories. Points were awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd and were totalled up at the end. Kitt put in a lot of time and effort over many weeks and was rewarded on Show weekend with recognition for Most Successful Exhibitor in Cooking, Confectionery and Handcrafts. This allowed him to receive the biggest prize in the shed – Most Successful Exhibitor Home Crafts – School Classes 2016.

As well as his success in the Home Crafts Pavilion, Kitt also won the Boot Throw for Under 12 Boys. This is a free activity held on both days of the Show in the Main Arena. Overall, Kitt had a very successful weekend and he should be very proud of the dedication he has put in to achieve these great results.

Angel B also had a very successful outcome winning five ribbons alongside her pony “Storm”.

Angel B won the following categories –

Best Rider in the 6 – 8 years age group
Best Handler in the 6 – 8 years age group
Best Trick in the open age group
The Walking Race for under 8 years

Lastly, Storm won a very special category for being the “Hairiest Pony!”

Congratulations to both Angel B and Storm for their successful partnership and to Angel B for all the hard work she puts into training her pony.
Teasing is Not a Laughing Matter

Somewhere back in the early days of white settlement, an Australia psyche grew that reflected disapproval of the vain, or the tall poppy, or simply one who took themselves too seriously. Since the Aboriginal culture had this ‘larrkin’ psyche, along with convicts, it is not surprising that “taking the micky” out of someone is a core part of our culture, like it or not. For our own amusement, we rubbish our mate, and s/he in turn will laugh and tease back. At least that is how Australian culture is perceived.

Unfortunately, this mocking of another has a sting in its tail. It is hard for the unsung hero or the quiet achiever to find encouragement or even solace. Australian culture disapproves and endeavours to pull those people down and at the same time have some fun doing it. This kidding around is also a way of showing affection, and the teaser and the teased can swap roles. This works if there is some amount of maturity and sensitivity, but not so when a joke cuts deep and hurts the feelings of the receiver. When the teaser's intent is to humiliate and ridicule, as does happen, the line is crossed into psychological bullying and this can leave a negative self-image on the one who has been made the lesser.

Here are some helpful rules for managing this often harmful area in the Australian psyche. We must show the difference between friendly teasing and hurtful harassment. The one being teased must clearly speak out if the topic is hurtful. The teaser must be able to receive the same teasing in return. All must be careful to “listen” for the feelings of the one being teased and be good at reading body language. We have teased in the past to pull down the tall poppy, but now let us challenge the old ways and be ready to congratulate the unsung hero and encourage every quiet achiever. Let us give slack to those who take themselves seriously.

Peter Ackland - school chaplain

KIDSMATTER

Positive separations

Separating from loved ones can be distressing. Early childhood services and schools are supportive environments where children have many opportunities to grow and learn through their positive experiences. However, when children are separated from their parents and carers they can feel distressed. This is a common response from about six months of age and can continue into the early years. Some school children may also experience some separation distress.

Children may show their distress in different ways. Whereas some may be visibly upset, others may have physical symptoms such as headaches, nausea or tummy aches. Other children may show their distress by appearing nervous, being restless, clingy, or by being quiet and withdrawn.

Distress from separating from their parents or carers is a common feeling for many children when they first go to an early childhood service or start school. They may be feeling a little unsure in a new setting with new people. Children’s distress is generally short-lived and they are quite often happily playing within a short time of their parents or carers leaving. Over times, children learn to feel safe in their new surroundings and gradually experience less separation distress.

Children vary in their levels of emotional sensitivity. Some children worry about lots of things, while others are more carefree. Most are somewhere in between. Separating from parents and carers can be distressing for children, and can result in behaviours that are hard to manage - like screaming, tantrums or refusal.

Understanding and managing separation distress is the first step involved in helping a young child to feel comfortable to be apart from their parent or caregiver.

Helping children to cope with separation distress is best achieved when parents or carers and early childhood services and schools work together to create positive separation experiences for children.
STATE SCHOOL SPECTACULAR

THE VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS

SPECTACULAR
2016 / THE ELEMENTS

The highlights package of the Victorian State School's Spectacular will be aired on Channel 7 on Saturday December 3 at 7pm.

SUN SMART

A reminder that Whittlesea Primary School is a ‘Sun Smart School’ and hats are compulsory in Terms 1 and 4.

School hats can be purchased from the uniform shop: Northern Regional Uniforms, Unit 21, 8 Oleander Drive, South Morang. All hats must have a Whittlesea Primary School logo.

Children who do not have hats (lost or otherwise) are not permitted to play in uncovered/non shaded areas of the playground.

SCHOOL CROSSINGS

A reminder that children using the school crossings must not

- Bounce their balls
- Ride their scooters or bikes

Please talk to your children about the importance of following the crossing supervisor’s directions as we need to keep all of our students safe while crossing the roads.
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.**

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.

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 do not have names written on them. 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.

**We also have a large collection of items in the office - drink bottles, umbrellas, jewellery, a watch and a purse. If your child has lost an item please ask them to visit the office and see if any of these belongs to them. Thank you.**

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](http://www.flexischools.com.au)

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 **Saturday 19th November**. 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](https://www.facebook.com/saturday.community.market.whittlesea)

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**WHITTLESEA TENNIS CLUB**

**TENNIS LESSONS**

74 Laurel Street, Whittlesea

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**WE SPECIALISE IN LESSONS FOR BEGINNERS**

**BOUNCE INTO OUR TERM 4 SPRING 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

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**ENROL NOW FOR**

**TERM 4 2016 LESSONS**

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

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Community Carols, Saturday 10th December

@ St Mary’s School,
20 Fir St Whittlesea

Santa @ 6:45
Carols 7:00 PM

Hosted by WMI
(Whittlesea Combined Churches)
&
Whittlesea Combined Schools
Gospel Concert Sunday

November 20 – 2:00 – 5:00 PM St Mary’s School, 20 Fir St. Whittlesea

Whittlesea Combined Churches present
Carter and Carter


Adults $10  Children $5  Family $25

Tickets available at the door or at: https://www.stickytickets.com.au/43041
Information 0418 598 364

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Free Trial

Come and train with us at the Whittlesea Swim Centre this summer!

Trial squad sessions at Whittlesea
9am & 10am Saturdays
Pool entry and small fee for a 1 hour professionally coached session
Casual sessions From November to March

Contact us
www.millparkswimclub.com
Ph: Club President - Derek 0406 477 311

1st Session is Free
Pool entry only

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The Lemon Tree Project
Changing the world, one street at a time

Thursday 24 November 2016
10am—11am
Cnr Walnut & James Streets Whittlesea

Please join our local students for the tree planting & community celebration of partnerships