FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hi Everyone from China,

Isn't email convenient! Ty, the staff and I can continue to work together even though I am here on this student study tour - the very first one organised by the Victorian Principals Association - with five of our government schools - including Laurimar Primary School. The other schools were from a different region.

I feel privileged to have been asked by the organisation to join this inaugural tour. I have been most impressed with this educational program and the language and cultural knowledge the children will take home with them. The children have been terrific and they have all embraced and enjoyed everything that has been comprehensively planned for them the last fifteen days with ten of them living at a school. Yes the school has accommodation for students and teachers!

I am hoping that Whittlesea Primary School can offer such an experience to some of our year five and six students next year! The program was heavily subsidised by the education sector in the Jiangsu Province and in the closing ceremony there were many officials who came along to see if the program had been a success. It was and so we are anticipating that this student study tour arrangement will continue for many years to come!
Looking forward to seeing everyone again next week.

Kindest regards,

Bente Stock
Principal

Hello Everyone,

The past week has been an exceptionally busy time at Whittlesea Primary. The sun is out and our children have been engaged in a variety of learning experiences. Our Year 3/4 students have been on local excursions to learn about sustainability, our Year 5 students have hosted an Inquiry Expo, the entire school visited the local courthouse celebrations and of course we had our disco last Friday night!
Disco
Following on from the leadership our Prefects showed in planning and conducting the ‘Walk or Run for Fun’ earlier in the year – this time it was the SRC students who played a major role in leading a whole school event. It was great to see the students taking on the responsibility of distributing food, collecting money (with adult supervision of course) and generally ensuring everything ran smoothly. A great time was had by all and I congratulate Mrs Pearce and the SRC students for their hard work and dedication.

Karting Champion
Congratulations to Cooper Webster who competed in the stars of Karting Championships in Queensland. Cooper won the Cadets category after a close battle with another competitor. Please visit our website for video of the final. Well Done Cooper!

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Assistant Principal

TERM 4 – COMPULSORY SCHOOL HATS

Athletics:
Congratulations to our students who competed in the Northern Region Athletics finals last week. This is a great achievement as the competition is very strong at this level. Results were as follows:
Kayden Doherty – 4th in hurdle
Kane Johnson – 5th in triple jump
Taylah Braddock – 7th in long jump
Tara Watson – 10th in 200m
Jessica Brackley – 11th in discus.
SRC Disco

Last Friday night, 285 children attended the SRC disco. The SRC children worked very hard to organise the disco and did a fantastic job running the night. Special mention goes to Chelsea Milner, Olivia Sorenson and Nathan Gallenti for staying up late to serve food and drinks at the Senior School disco.

A big thank you to all of the staff that helped on the night, as well as Brandi Ward, Jack and Will Fordham and Fiona Gallenti for their extra help.

Sarah Pearce on behalf of the SRC

Asian Literacies Question

All countries have BORDERS. Some countries border other countries. That means that the border of one country touches the border of another country.

There are 14 different countries that border China. Use an atlas (or a map from the internet) and find the name of ONE of those countries.

- Write your answer on a piece of paper. Remember to put a capital letter for the name of the country.
- Write your name and class on your entry.
- Put your entry in the box tomorrow for your chance to win a prize!
YEAR 5 SCIENCE EXPO
WHITTLESEA PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR

The WPS Choir was delighted to be asked to perform at the Whittlesea Courthouse 150th Anniversary celebrations. On Sunday 19th October they joined with the St Mary's Parish School Choir to perform three songs. Congratulations to everyone involved on a great performance.
SPORT – TERM 4

**Cricket:** October 24th at Marymede – District Round Robin for selected boys and girls in years 5/6. Trials will take place during Friday sport time and training taken during recess.

**T-Ball:** November 20th at Mill Park Softball Diamonds for selected boys and girls in years 3/4. Trials and training to take place during recess on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

**Swimming:** December 17th at Whittlesea Swimming Pool - Trials to select swim team for 2015. A notice will be sent home closer to the date.

**Swimming lessons for Early Years children at Whittlesea Pool:** 8 lessons beginning on Monday December 1st. Notice will be sent home soon.

**PE – Gymnastics**
All students will participate in a gymnastics program for the 1st five weeks of this term. Coaches from PIT Gym will be taking the program. It is advised that girls wear shorts or skorts instead of dresses on the day that they have PE. All girls with long hair must have it tied back. The cost for the program is included in the excursion levy, therefore no payment is required.

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Friday 31st October – NO CANTEEN
Friday 7th November – NO CANTEEN

School Banking 2014 - every Tuesday

**SCHOOL BANKING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
Do you have a spare hour on Tuesday afternoons to help out with the students’ school banking? If so, can you please ring the office, thank you.

**Choice**

As a society we value choice and as a school we try to create opportunities for our students to make choices in their learning. An example is an ‘Inquiry’ session where students chose a topic within a particular discipline that interests them. This is done so that a passion and motivation is generated with the increased student interest. Teachers also offer choice within the normal learning framework to allow a student to feel they had some freedom in their learning. Choice is used effectively as a positive form of class management by praising the students for their choice of good behaviour. After all, it is very normal for primary school students to want to please as their first choice.

Choice can be difficult. Some of us develop anxiety over an abundance of choice. Some minds will anxiously wonder what people will think of their particular choices, preferring to wait on the choices of others. Many are reluctant to think differently and are eager to give their choice away. That itself is a choice. A good percentage of our choices are not even rational. It is well known that some choices end up failing us miserably. Choice is linked to risk, leading to denial and selfishness. Choice is also linked to opportunity and courage, creating space for generous living.

We are called to make choices collectively for the good of others. This is a further dimension which we are all encouraged to pursue. We are surrounded by global challenges, environmental and health issues, plus community needs that we don't have the resources to tackle individually. We are a part of a combined choice to make the world a better place for future generations, as challenging as that may sound. We go where life takes us and we learn from our choices.

Peter Ackland - school chaplain
If you have any questions or queries please don’t hesitate to call me on 0426768971 or email me on whittlesea@world4kids.net.

Thank you
Jamey Gould, Manager of Whittlesea World 4 Kids

Bright Stars Early Learning Centre
2 Egret Street, Whittlesea 3757

PH. 9716 2800
Fax. 9716 2899

Bright Stars Early Learning is a privately owned and operated approved childcare centre in the heart of Whittlesea. Nicole and Sarah (Owner/Director & Assistant Director) have over twenty years’ experience between them working within the industry.

For ten years Nicole owned a centre in the Greensborough area that exceeded quality standards. She is now taking on this new challenge after recently becoming a local resident. They are working towards achieving those high standards at Bright Stars, and bring with them fresh ideas and a positive attitude that Bright Stars will become a great asset to children of the local community.

They invite you to come down and meet them, look around the centre and hear about their vision for the future of Bright Stars. Enrolments are now being taken throughout the centre for 2015, with positions in the 4 year old Kindergarten program still available. If you require care for your child either now or in the future please give them a call.
Introduction to Office Skills - Term 4, 2014

Are you looking for work or a volunteer position in an office environment? This short introductory course will help you to build the general knowledge and skills to confidently approach the job market or pathway into accredited training.

Program will cover:
• Building effective and professional communication and teamwork skills
• Understanding workplace culture and environment
• A range of basic administration tasks
• General equipment & IT skills relevant to an office environment

Entry Requirements: Literacy levels suitable to an office environment. Basic computer knowledge an advantage.

Location: Thomastown Neighbourhood House (TNH) & Merilands Community Centre (MCC)

Days: Mondays MCC (27/10—8/12) Tuesdays TNH (28/10—9/12) (no class 4/11)
Times: Mon: 9.15 –12.15 Tues: 9.30am—3.00 pm
Dates: 27 October—9 December, 2014
Duration: 7 weeks (note: in addition to classes participants will be expected and supported to complete a work placement (min. 25 hrs)
Cost:
• Concession: $50 + Service and Amenities $10
• Full Fee: $86 + Service and Amenities $10 conc./$25 non conc.
• FFS (not eligible for subsidised training) $661 + Service and Amenities $10 conc./$25 non conc.

WorkForce Directions

Are you a first time job seeker or considering re-entering the Workforce? This program will offer job seekers support in a small friendly group setting and will assist in addressing barriers to employment.

In this course you will:
• Build confidence and personal effectiveness when seeking work
• Review resume writing styles & prepare a job search action plan
• Learn to apply the “8 Step—Job Search Approach” which includes responding to selection criteria requirements
• Develop interview & presentation skills

Location: Merilands Community Centre

Days: Tuesday
Time: 9.30am—2.30pm
Dates: Tuesday: 11 Nov, 18 Nov, 25 Nov & 2 Dec 2014
Duration: 4 sessions
Statement of Fees: $27 + Service & Amenities fee $10 conc./$25 non-conc. Fee for Service: (not eligible for subsidised training) $206 plus S/A.

For more details ring PRACE on 9462 6077 or visit our website: www.prace.vic.edu.au