



Issue 17 – 11th June, 2020

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

It has been a great week at Whittlesea Primary School. A buzz has returned to our classrooms and yard now that we have all students from years F to 6 back onsite. Thank you to our community for your ongoing patience and support as we make modifications to the way we work. We understand that our parents would prefer to enter our grounds and have the ability to connect casually with teachers at the start and end of the day, but unfortunately that is not possible. Thank you for showing our expectation of 'Respect Your School' and observing the current restrictions around school entry. Our slightly modified school times seem to be working well. The mornings have involved only minor changes and afternoons are working well with the children exiting over a staggered 10-minute period. The addition of using our driveway access ramp for years F and 1 has been a successful change and may become part of our normal process into the future.



I'm sure I speak for our whole community in expressing our relief and joy at hearing that William Callaghan was found safe and well in the Mt Disappointment National Park close to our school. Upon reading the details of his rescue it became evident this was no ordinary operation. Accounting for William's special needs, the volunteers and emergency service personnel utilised specific techniques that would be more successful. The teams played Thomas the Tank Engine theme music and encouraged the cooking of his favourite foods in an effort to find him. The reason I found this so significant, is that it highlights the way we now need to meet individual needs and that one size doesn't always fit all. For William, he needed others to consider his sensory needs and not yell out at him. I'm sure that the rescuers all felt the urge to cheer and clap at the sight of him being returned to the camp, but this would have only triggered a negative response. I draw parallels to our philosophy at Whittlesea Primary School. Not every child has their academic/social/emotional needs met in the same way. We employ the right strategy at the right time to meet individual needs and establish a positive climate where all children of varying needs can succeed. Ultimately, the strategies used by the rescue team achieved a positive outcome and at a time with a lot of negative news stories, it was heartening to hear of such a great outcome for William and his family.

Upon advice from the Department of Education and Training, Whittlesea Primary School will be unable to host school tours until further notice. We will, however, be recording a virtual school tour this week. It should be available online soon.

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

CALENDAR

JUNE

June 11	Canteen Reopens
June 26	Last day of Term 2 2.30pm Finish

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

12th June
Polly 00C

15th June
Jada 02F

16th June
Kalan 05P

17th June
Alexis 01P



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

And just like that, winter is upon us and week nine of Term 2 draws to a close. It was so good to have all of our Year 3-6 students back at school this week. Walking around the classrooms, you really wouldn't think that for most of the term students have been learning remotely. It has been great to see the students reconnecting with their teachers and peers, and while the online platform provided daily opportunities to connect and say hello, nothing beats a face to face morning greeting and a smile to start the day.



Thank you to all of our families for supporting our morning drop off and pick up procedures. The staggered start/finish times and entry/exit points are working well and has made the transition, particularly in the morning, very smooth.

It has been great to see so many students return to school with pencil cases and drink bottles. Please remember to send your child with these items for the remainder of the term. We anticipate that this will continue into Term 3. School drink bottles can be purchased from the office for \$7.

Earlier this week you received a Compass notification about Semester 1 reports. Our reports will look a bit different to what they have previously however we expect to return to our normal reporting process for Semester 2. In recognition of the relationship between school and home throughout the remote learning period, parents and carers are invited to submit an optional comment to be included in your child's report for Semester 1. Your comment only needs to be short; between 2-4 sentences in length. We appreciate parent input given you have played an integral role in the learning process in Term 2. This is an opportunity for you to share positive feedback and celebrate your child's achievements whilst learning outside the normal school environment. If your child worked at school during the remote learning period you are still encouraged to write a comment about how you felt they transitioned during this time.

If you would like to complete this optional comment for the Semester 1 reports, **please use the following link and submit by Tuesday 16th June 2020.**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQMT3ZbEemqhC6Cv78wJKDmNU_FF-wN-j6f6YkP3NAU0ms7Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

Finally, for tomorrow and the remainder of the term, students who receive Star of the Week will be filmed with Mr Hoggins receiving their certificates in a short presentation on Friday mornings. This presentation will be shared with the community through Compass later in the day.

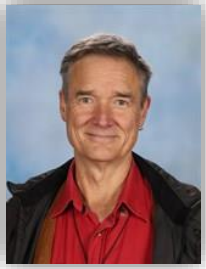
Best wishes for wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

Peter Ackland - school chaplain

School History 1950-1954 - Electricity

Mr **P. G. Kennedy** was the next head teacher of the school and for one year only. He had the support of strong enrolment numbers and a continuing, committed Mothers' Club (pictured below). That year the school was finally wired for electricity. Decades earlier, in 1927 Whittlesea State School was extensively remodelled with "modern lighting facilities and other improvements" (ref: my 12 March Primary Post article). So what kind of "modern" lighting facilities were they? Where they carbide lamps? Gas or kerosene lamps? *From a world invention perspective, in 1920 A. H. Compton invented the sodium-vapor lamp, in 1921 Junichi Miura created the first incandescent lightbulb with a coiled coil filament, in 1925 Marvin Pipkin invented the first internal frosted lightbulb, in 1926 Edmund Germer patented the modern fluorescent lamp and in 1927 Oleg Losev created the first LED (light-emitting diode).*



Weekly Times 1951 pictures of the pupils and Mothers' Club. 1950's AWA wireless receiver (top)

In 1951, **Roy G. Charlton** (1951-1954) became the new head teacher of the school and was the first to purchase and use wireless equipment (the receiver cost £67-12-6). The school was finally able to hear educational radio broadcasts. The school community must have felt a little hard done by considering the Ensay State School in eastern rural Victoria (No.2953) was using a four-valve wireless receiver set back in 1924.

1951 was also the year when swimming lessons became available for both boys and girls. In 1953, the Sloyd (woodcraft) room was converted into a classroom because of pressure of numbers. In 1954, parents used tractors and other machines to level the rear section of the property. Their motivation was to make use of £3 for every £1 from the Public Works Department. This was the early "rumbling", the beginning of an extensive building program to accommodate the rising enrolments. The start of the "Baby-Boomer" generation had reached school age and had to be factored in.

To be continued...



Dear parents and carers,

Term 2 in 2020 has been like no other school term in Victoria's history, and so I am writing to thank you for your support.

As you know, this week Grade 3 to Year 10 students joined Prep to Grade 2, VCE and specialist school students in face to face learning. It is great to see our school communities come together again.

In responding to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic over the past few months, the Department of Education and Training has asked a lot of our teachers and schools, and we have also required your support as parents and carers.

I want to acknowledge the extraordinary effort you have all made in working in partnership with your teachers and schools to support your children while they have been learning from home.

When I wrote to you a few months ago as we transitioned to remote and flexible learning, I acknowledged that it would be a challenging time for everyone, but that it was important to work closely together to provide the best possible support for students.

Many of you have since told me that there have been difficult, rewarding and challenging experiences during this unique and uncertain time that we have been through together. I thank you for your support, commitment, patience and perseverance.

But despite difficulties, I've been impressed to hear inspiring stories of education innovation. The innovative and creative approaches adopted during remote and flexible learning have been outstanding, and many schools will bring new approaches with them to on-site schooling.

Many school communities have forged even stronger relationships and partnerships — with families and teachers gaining a greater mutual appreciation of their shared contributions to school education.

Our schools now have a range of precautionary measures to protect the health and safety of your children, your family, teachers and staff, and your local community.

I hope these measures, along with the knowledge that the Victorian Chief Health Officer and Victorian Government have approached the return to on-site schooling with the utmost precaution and careful planning, have helped ease any anxiety about the return to on-site schooling.

The changes at your school are consistent with health advice, including enhanced cleaning in schools and frequent handwashing. Your school has also asked you to practice physical distancing during drop-off and pick-up times.

Your children may be feeling anxious about returning to school. Reassure your child that it's safe for them to go back to school and reinforce what they've been practicing at home around hand hygiene

Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the Public Records Act 1973 and the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address

and coughing and sneezing. Reassure them that extensive cleaning is being carried out in schools and public transport to keep them safe.

Please remember the health advice: if you or your child is unwell, please stay at home. This is vital to ensuring the effective management of the pandemic.

Information about how to speak to your child about coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found here:
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/Pages/talkingtoyourchildaboutcoronavirus.aspx>

Visit the Department's website for the latest information about coronavirus (COVID-19) at:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

Thank you once again for working with your schools to support your children while they were learning at home and for your patience during the staged return to on-site schooling.

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Atta

Secretary

Department of Education and Training

★ Star of the Week ★

Foundation V Vitale	Awarded to: Duke Wright For: his fantastic effort when drawing pictures to match his writing! Well done Duke 😊
Foundation S Scoberg	Awarded to: Lincoln Cilia For: his amazing effort when stretching words while he is writing.
Foundation C Capito	Awarded to: Summer Farrell For: a great start at W.P.S and doing her personal best in all learning tasks.
Year 1P Perry	Awarded to: Piper Briggs For: For always demonstrating the value of 'Do Your Best' when learning.
Year 1D De Luca	Awarded to: Ivy Millar For: having an amazing return back to school and being super productive.
Year 1FD Fontana/Dunstone	Awarded to: Jasmine Liddle For: stretching out all the sounds in words when doing her writing.
Year 2F Fawcett	Awarded to: Jada Smith For: doing her best in all learning tasks throughout the week. Keep up the fabulous efforts Jada
Year 2S McCormick	Awarded to: Judd Cornish For: writing an amazing persuasive letter about wanting a pet lizard. Well done Judd!
Year 2M Merritt	Awarded to: Jesse Osborne For: continually trying his best in writing. Well done Jesse!
Year 3CPCook/Pearce	Awarded to: Christopher Schmidt For: an amazing effort with remote learning this term. Well done!
Year 3M Mason	Awarded to: Archie McDonald For: showing persistence and resilience when completing remote learning tasks.
Year 3W Wright	Awarded to: Flynn Mathews For: consistently doing his best during remote learning. Well done, Flynn!
Year 4P Powell	Awarded to: Amber Hall For: creatively presenting her inquiry action. Well done writing the script, rehearsing and performing.
Year 4O Overton	Awarded to: Lincoln Andersen-Wells For: maintaining a remarkable record of completing set learning tasks on Microsoft Teams
Year 4M Mondon	Awarded to: Hayden Gallenti For: consistently doing his best in online learning tasks and reflecting on himself as a learner. Well done!
Year 5P Panahinejad	Awarded to: Jordan Heyman For: showing constant persistence during remote learning.
Year 5L Leslie	Awarded to: Nancy Greaves For: constantly striving to get the very best out of herself.
Year 5RM Reid/McAlley	Awarded to: Cayden Ford For: focused efforts in online tasks and completing challenging mathematics activities.

Year 6G Gorski	Awarded to: Luke Barnett For: successfully completing his remote learning tasks, also earning Mathletics and Logic Awards.
Year 6M Maxfield	Awarded to: Emily Urbani For: her great organisational skills during the remote learning period and completing all class activities.
Year 6S Smith	Awarded to: Jett Phillips For: an outstanding effort on Mathletics this week. Very well done!

COMMUNITY NEWS



**WE WILL RE-OPEN -
MONDAY,
15 JUNE 2020
8 am to 1 pm**

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

Please ensure you social distance – 1.5 metres apart

**We are looking forward
to seeing you**

The Whittlesea Monday Market Team & The Whittlesea Showgrounds
& Recreation Reserves Committee of Management

Any enquiries, please phone 0428 821644 or email – whittleseamm@gmail.com