



Issue 4 – 20th February, 2020

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

This week our teachers hosted 'Meet and Greet' interviews. These appointments gave all our families the opportunity to connect with our staff and share early feedback on student transition and learning. While it is only early in the year, the teachers already have a strong sense for where the next key stages in learning are and these goals are documented for many students within Individual Learning Improvement Plans. Thank you for prioritising the time to come to school and for supporting our work in educating your child.



Earlier this week we had a confirmed sighting of a small snake on school grounds. Unfortunately, the snake took refuge under one of our buildings before it was possible to safely catch and relocate it. Our school has sought the advice of registered snake catchers and we have been advised to remain on the lookout and act promptly if and when there is another sighting. Should this occur our staff have been briefed on maintaining a safe perimeter from the snake and not attempting to capture or harm it. Snakes are of course protected species in Australia and our aim will be to safely relocate any snakes found living on our school grounds. I encourage you to discuss with your child the safe actions to take if they come across a snake at school or in the local community.

Looking forward to next week I have already packed my teddy in the car ready for our teddy bear's picnic on Tuesday. It should be a fun event and a great opportunity to connect with our newest students and their families. See you there Foundation families!

Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY/MARCH

February 20	District Swimming Carnival
February 21	5/6 Interschool Sport Round 2
February 25	Foundation Teddy Bear Picnic
February 26	Foundation Assessment
March 3	SSS Dance Rehearsal
March 4	Breakfast Club Begins

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

23rd February
Jasmine 01F
Lily 04O

24th February
Andrew 00S
Jade 06G

26th February
William 04O

27th February
Bailey 03M



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Thank you to all of our students, parents and carers who attended our 'Meet and Greet' sessions afterschool on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. At Whittlesea Primary School, learning is an important partnership between home and school. Please encourage your child to share their learning with you whenever and wherever possible. Whether it be reading books, telling the time, writing birthday cards, counting money or playing games; every opportunity to extend your child's reading, thinking and problem solving skills will support their learning at school every day.



This week, students from years 3-6 took part in the district swimming event at Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre. Leading up to this event, our swim squad trained early in the morning, twice a week, at the Whittlesea Swim Centre. Congratulations to all of our swimmers and to Mr Hough for his leadership and organisation.



Thank you also to Miss Wooster for attending the early morning training and the many parents and carers that also came along to support. Thank you to Mr Leslie for supporting Mr Hough and the students at the event today. We wish all of the swimmers going through to the division event at Northcote Recreation and Aquatic Centre on Tuesday 3rd March the very best of luck.

Thank you to those families that have supported our school with prompt payment of booklist and excursion charges. School fees for 2020 are set at \$250 per student. Bulk purchasing of student requisites remains our preferred model for 2020. This means parents do not need to replace or purchase stationary throughout the year. There are three payment options available for parents;

1. Upfront payment – due 6th March 2020
2. Instalments – 5 payments of \$50 due 28th February, 28th March, 28th April, 28th May and the final payment due on 28th June 2020.
3. Alternatively, a custom payment plan can be arranged with the Business Manager.

Did you know we offer an alternative to BPAY, with the option of making payments through CompassPay? This can be done in the same way as paying at the office or using BPAY. As shown below, a notification will appear on your Compass dashboard. Once you 'Click here to proceed' on your dashboard

Compass



My News

Course Confirmation/School Payments

Course confirmation and/or school payments available for completion.

[Click here to proceed](#)

Course Confirmation and Payments

Click on a course confirmation/payment process below to proceed.

Confirmation/Payment Process	Status
2020 Booklist -	Not Started
2020 Excursion Levy -	Not Started

These options allow you to either, pay your booklist & excursion charges UPFRONT or alternatively, you can pay by INSTALMENTS. To pay by instalments, you can **edit the amount** you are paying.

General Payment Items

Click on the title of an item for more information.

Item	Amount
2020 Booklist	\$250.00
Total for this section:	
\$250.00	

[Edit Amounts](#)

Donation to Building Fund of \$50 per family or nominated amount (tax deductible) – A contribution of \$50 would be greatly appreciated. Your contribution will contribute towards capital improvement programs such as the establishment and maintenance of play / garden spaces, classroom enhancement and the establishment of more shade structures.

Alternatively, there will be fundraising opportunities that parents are welcome to support. Payment for the Building Fund Donation **cannot be made via Compass**, if you are wishing to make this payment please pay via an alternative payment method.

Once you have made a payment on Compass you will receive a Payment Confirmation from CompassPay via email. Each payment option will remain on your dashboard until all charges are complete. The office will also continue to accept cash and EFTPOS payments for booklist and excursion charges. If you have any queries about CompassPay, please contact the office.

Finally I would like to congratulate Mia Moore in Year 5 on her recent horse riding achievements. Mia rode 'Taffy', a purebred Egyptian Arabian horse, to second place in a games event at a Gymkhana in Beechworth last weekend. This is a fantastic achievement and we wish Mia well for all of her future horse riding events.

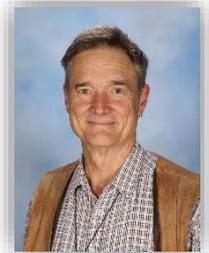
Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN REPORT

School History 1918 – Celebration

In these early years, Whittlesea State School No 2090 used the Mechanics' Institute for large sized community events such as celebrations and concerts. This building in Forest Street Whittlesea was opened in April 1884 and still stands today, being used by New Horizons Church.



I found an *Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser* news article reporting that on 17 May 1918 a 'concert and social' was held at the 'Mechanics Hall' for the 'Patriotic Fund'. A gifted young priest Rev James from Christ Church next door to the school had trained the pupils to present 'two songs with choruses' and these were well received. Other songs were sung by Janie, Mavis and Freda Sutherland, Dolly Olney, and Addie Mason and these were 'loudly applauded'.



Dancing afterward was to piano accompaniment by Mrs Dillon who generously gave her time. Refreshments were provided by parents and friends and flowers and cakes were auctioned. School children went about selling 'button-hole bouquets' and 'did a thriving business' such was their persistence. 'Showers of pennies were thrown onto a large Union Jack, which was placed on the floor of the hall, nearly £1 being netted.' Raffling on this occasion had been disallowed and the total raised was £13 (\$7,000 today?). This was in huge contrast to the £130 the previous year (last article). The three staff, Head-teacher Thomas Jobling, first-assistant Miss Salmon, and assistant Master Stanley Jobling were also acknowledged in the news report.

Seven days later (May 24) the school celebrated Empire Day with the same program of songs (my guess) and again the three school staff were acknowledged.

Another news article for 1918 was printed just days after 11 November 1918 and it is worth quoting in full: "The Shire President (Cr. L. W. Clarke) has arranged for the entertainment of 1000 school children of the Whittlesea Shire at Worth's Circus, Melbourne, on Wednesday next. The day will be proclaimed a public holiday in the Shire, and special trains will leave Whittlesea at 11.30 and 11.55. a.m." How's that for giving children something really special to celebrate the Armistice.

To be continued.

Peter Ackland - school chaplain

Whittlesea Primary School E-waste Collection



Take your E-waste to a better place!

To make recycling e-waste easy, we will be hosting an e-waste recycling skip from **Friday 6 March - Friday 27 March.**

E-waste refers to any household appliance with a battery or cord.

When the skip arrives, you can put any small household electrical items with a cord or battery into it, such as: televisions, computers, laptops, tablets, printers, faxes, scanners, copiers, keyboards, speakers, monitors, gaming consoles, modems, set top boxes, routers, server, vacuum cleaners, toasters, hair dryers, hi-fi equipment, video and DVD players, electronic toys and other household electronic appliances.

✓ **What WILL be accepted:**

Any small household electrical or electronic items with a cord or battery, for example: computers, televisions, vacuum cleaners, printers, toasters, hair dryers, video and DVD players, hi-fi equipment, stereo equipment, digital cameras and video cameras.

✗ **What will NOT be accepted:**

Any whitegoods (refrigerators, freezers, dish washers, washing machines, clothes dryers and microwaves) and solar panels. To dispose of whitegoods book a free collection by calling Kids Off The Kerb on 9982 5600.