

Issue 5– 4th March 2021

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Today our students were treated to a fantastic performance to celebrate the Chinese New Year. It was great to be able to allow a performance group onto our school grounds under the current COVID restrictions and the looks of amazement on our student's faces confirmed that it was a great experience.



Through these types of opportunities our students can engage in rich learning. Perhaps they will create artwork of their own Chinese lion, or maybe a descriptive writing piece that uses the lion as a central character. Just engaging children in conversation will help develop their oral language skills. We hear from parents regularly – 'I ask them what they did at school today and they always say – nothing!'. Our advice is to ask the 'right' questions. Some of these may include: -

- What was something new your teacher taught you today?
- In maths (or any other curriculum area) what did you create today?

CALENDAR

March 8 th	Public Holiday Labour Day
March 17 th	Twilight Sports Night

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

5th March

Noah 3/4M

7th March

Jett 00M

9th March

Tamsin 5/6G

11th March

Michael 3/4F



Teamkids.com.au provide these 10 questions as alternatives to 'how was school today'?

1. What was the best thing you did today?
2. What was something different that happened today?
3. What made you laugh?
4. Who did you play with?
5. What are you looking forward to about tomorrow?
6. What did you learn about in music/PE/library?
7. What's something your teacher said to you today that made you think?
8. If you could change one thing that happened today, what would it be?
9. What part of your day went the slowest? Why?
10. What games did you play at lunchtime?

All these types of prompts are more specific and will lead to improved responses as they prompt deeper thought than just – how was school today?

In closing, I have some sad news to share. Jake Hough will be leaving our school to pursue opportunities in the fitness industry and will conclude his role as our Physical Education teacher at the end of the term. Jake has been an outstanding influence on our school and he will be sorely missed. We do however, wish him all the best for his exciting future. A replacement for his role will be recruited over the coming weeks. Applications are welcome on the Department of Education's Recruitment Online website.

Until next week,

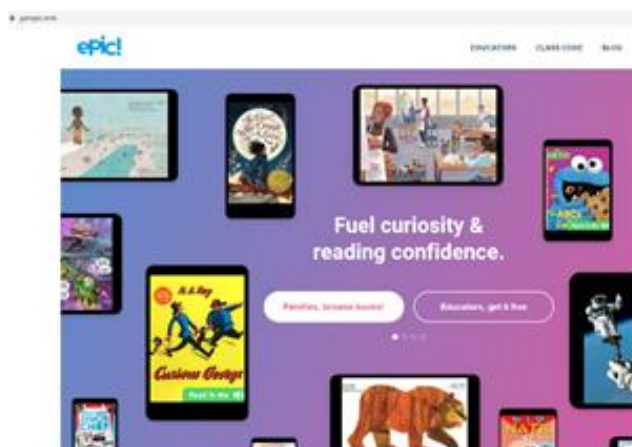
Ty Hoggins
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Hasn't the weather shifted this week? As the mornings and days start to get cooler, we encourage students to wear their house beanies to and from school. Hats will continue to be worn outside during breaks until the end of term in line with our school Sun Smart policy. All house beanies are available from our school office for \$15 each.

GetEpic! continues to be a very popular platform with our students. It is easily accessed at home through a laptop, iPad or smartphone. If you haven't explored GetEpic! yet, follow this link [GetEpic!](#) and use the class code below to access your child's class page name to get started.




CLASS	CODE	CLASS	CODE
FP	qvb7063	34W	kpe3671
FV	zah0015	34M	utj5338
FM	rtg2548	34C	rz7380
1C	cty1659	34F	cqn1110
1JA	avq1610	340	qrj8839
1M	zuv0558	56RM	ehi0837
2S	gwj2541	56P	ryj6349
2D	ted6790	56L	wja1473

Further to this, students will, on occasion, be reading, viewing and researching online throughout the day. To assist with this we encourage all students to bring personal headphones to school. This article has featured in a previous newsletter. Headphones do not need to be expensive, Officeworks sell suitable headphones for students across F-6 for \$6. Older students can use ear buds however it is preferred they also have a built in microphone.



Call-out for Personal Headphones

In light of Covid-19 health guidelines, we ask that families provide students with a pair of headphones for their own personal use in the classroom and while working on their personal device. Teachers often use digital technologies to support student learning by asking students to listen to texts and to record themselves reading.


Please provide students with a pair of headphones which feature a built-in microphone, students in prep to year 2 will need to leave these at school, students in year 3 to 6 will need these to travel to and from school each day with the student's device. We recommend over ear headphones, such as 'Keji On-ear Wired Headphones with Microphone Black' \$6.00 from Officeworks





Prep to Year 2

Personal headphones to remain at school for use in the classroom

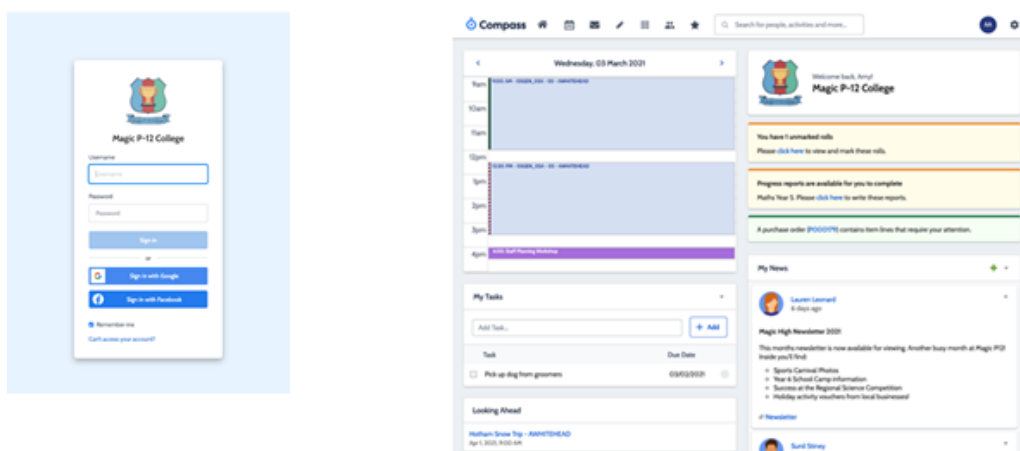


Year 3 to Year 6

Personal headphones to travel with the device to and from school each day

When you next login to Compass you will notice there has been an interface upgrade to the parent portal. This is a school wide update with additional updates occurring throughout the year. The functionality of Compass has not changed, it will only look different. Here are some examples below;



Finally, congratulations to all of the students that represented our school last Tuesday at the 2021 Whittlesea Division Swimming Championships. We are extremely proud of all of you.

Best wishes for a wonderful long weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

BOOKCLUB

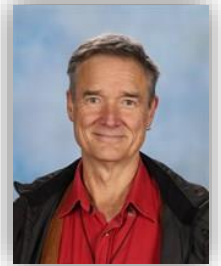
Issue 2 of the Scholastic Book Club is out now! This program provides our families with a convenient way to bring the best in children's literature into your home. Did you also know that every purchase through the Scholastic Book Club program generates rewards for our school, supporting us to purchase a range of resources?



Orders are due by the 11th March, 2021.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN REPORT

Peter Ackland - school chaplain



School History 1991 – At School 4

This is part four of four collections of school life in the book “At School 1991”, handmade by the grade 3’s and 4’s, found in the time capsule that was pulled out of the ground in 2016. This time the pages from the book cover house sports and sport in general.



“Netball: Last week the teachers played netball against the school team. The teachers won. Mr. Cardile dressed like a woman. They all played well. Everyone barracked for the teachers.” (Ross Cardile a teacher 1985-1991)

“Our School has 2 netball teams. They play against other schools in the Bundoora district. Sometimes they play against the teachers but they can’t beat them.”



“We have 4 Houses, Blue, Green, yellow and Red. I am in Red House. There are red House people in my grade. Last year we got second place. We can win points by doing yard duty and working well in each class room.”

“House Sports (Luke Rainey): At the end of the year we have House sports. We have sprints, relays and ball games. We give 1st, 2nd and 3rd tags. We have lots of events. Some of the little kids fall to the ground. Some people get hurt.”

“Sports Teams: We have sport every Thursday. All of the kids line up in their sports groups. There are six teams. The teams are Bonecrushers, Fantastic Foxes, Fighters, Dodgers, Midnight Cats and the Sizzling Snakes. The games that we have played so far are rounders and dodgeball.”



“Sports teams: On Thursday we always have sports teams. When we get out of our Classrooms we line up in our six sports teams. The teachers tell us the games we are playing and when the whistle goes we start. The teams have to get the most points in the competition.”

“Cross Country Race (Leigh Sparks): Each year the grade three, four, five and sixes have a cross country race up the hill at the back. We have age groups, the ten and elevens run two km, the twelves and older run three km. The top ten runners go to the district cross country race at Bundoora.”

“Basketball: At our school we play basketball nearly every day. I can’t slam it because I’m too small. I can do a skyhook and get it in. I can get a three pointer in sometimes.”

To be continued...

★ Star of the Week ★

Foundation V Vitale	Awarded to: Angus Watt For: helping his classmates succeed. Fantastic Angus! :)
Foundation P Perry	Awarded to: Norah Burke For: an amazing first week of learning at W.P.S
Foundation M Merritt	Awarded to: Jett Barnett For: trying his best with his maths learning. Great effort!
Year 1JA Fontana/Kaur	Awarded to: Zane Studwick For: helping others succeed by encouraging his peers and being a good friend.
Year 1F Fasone	Awarded to: Adeline Johnson For: Always doing her personal best in all learning areas and actively participating in class discussions.
Year 1M Maxfield	Awarded to: Eva Reilly For: being a champion of our school values by helping others, respecting her school and always doing her best
Year 2CR Cook/Redmond	Awarded to: Aria Hickling For:
Year 2D De Luca	Awarded to: Noah Henning For: taking initiative for his learning and moving to a quiet space to focus!
Year 2S Smith	Awarded to: Tanah Davis For: great teamwork when helping others to solve our mega 100s chart puzzle. Well done!
Year 3/4W Wright	Awarded to: Hanah Elsey For: consistently doing her best. Well done, Hanah!
Year 3/4M McCormick	Awarded to: Harrison King For: having a positive attitude towards all learning tasks and continually trying to improve his personal best when learning about place value.
Year 3/4O Overton	Awarded to: Jessica Chalmers For: Jessica Chalmers for producing high quality learning by doing her best
Year 3/4C Cummins	Awarded to: Grace Greaves For: being a positive role model and always helping others succeed.
Year 3/4F Fawcett	Awarded to: Xavier Dundas For: using his imagination and excellent descriptive language to create how own character. Fabulous efforts Xavier!
Year 5/6S Powell	Awarded to: Benji Dwyer-Barnes For: being organised to complete his learning and always trying his best.
Year 5/6R Reid/McAlley	Awarded to: Indie Multani For: always contributing meaningful responses to class discussions, working hard on learning tasks and going out of her way to help others. Great start to the year Indie!
Year 5/6G Gorski	Awarded to: Kiarn Taurima For: confidently presenting in discussions and developing a joined handwriting style.
Year 5/6P Panahinejad	Awarded to: Ryder Barrett For: his insightful contributions to our class discussions
Year 5/6L Leslie	Awarded to: Lulu Sobh For: For showing outstanding place value knowledge in Maths
PE Mr Hough	Awarded to: Edmund Conley For: being a positive leader by helping others succeed in PE.



WHITTLESEA PRIMARY SCHOOL HOUSE BEANIES

Our school 'House' beanies are available for purchase at the office for \$15 each. Get in quick before it gets cold!



SPORTS REPORT

Round 4 Fixture- 5th March

Home Team	Away Team	Tennis/Tee Ball Venue	Cricket Venue
Whittlesea P.S Cougars	Ashley Park P.S	Whittlesea P.S	Walker Reserve
Mernda P.S	Whittlesea P.S Panthers	Mernda P.S	Waterview Reserve North

*MPS vs. WPS are 'scratch matches'- not for points

Bridge Inn North District Swimming Results

Last Thursday our swimming squad competed in the Bridge Inn North District swimming carnival at Watermarc Greensborough. Our students were up against swimmers from eight other schools and we achieved some great results with our school coming 1st overall, making us the Bridge Inn North District Champions for the third year in a row!

Congratulations to all of the students who came first or second overall in their event or relay who will now be competing at the Whittlesea Division finals on March 2nd. All of our students made our school proud, doing their best and displaying our community expectations at all times. Well done!



Bridge Inn North Representatives:

Blake	Allshorn	Hamish	Lilley
Edmund	Conley	Bailey	Luscombe
Gabby	Conley	Archie	Mathews
Kalan	Ellis	Flynn	Mathews
Madelyn	Gittos	Lara	Parker
Margaret	Gittos	Lucy	Parks
Darcy	Graham	Hayden	Roche
Nancy	Greaves	Tadhg	Smith

Panther's Hot Shot Report

The Panther's had a bye last Friday, but we used this time to work on our serving, forehand and backhand skills.

The improvement was obvious when we played a mini round robin competition. The happy voices of our wonderful tennis players could be heard on the oval, laughter, calling fault one, calling fault two and encouraging our partners to hit the ball.

Our quote for Hot Shot Tennis is:

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." - ...

Hot Shot Tennis is a modified tennis game that allows schools that do not have access to tennis courts to play this wonderful game.

Interesting fact:

Tennis dates back to 12th century France when it was played in the form of a handball game called 'paume' or palm. The game involved hitting a ball back and forth by hand. In time, a black leather glove was used and then from there a handle was added to the glove, which formed the first racquet.

The Panthers are looking forward to showing our competitors our new skills next week.
Mrs Gorski

Cricket

Last week the Panthers cricket team played at home against Hazel Glen. The rain just held off enough for us to play, but the ball was slippery which made it challenging for both teams. In the end, Hazel Glen won both matches with the boys losing 110 - 113 in a close match, and the girls losing 111 - 89.

Twilight Sports Night

Twilight Sports Night will take place on Wednesday 17th March from 5pm to 7pm. Further information will be provided next week.



DIGITAL LEARNING

Digital Learning



As we reach the halfway point in the term, we pause to celebrate the fantastic learning taking place in our classrooms. For students in years 3 to 6, the bring-your-own-device program has allowed for a digital-rich, powerful learning experience with plenty of personalised learning through all areas of the curriculum.


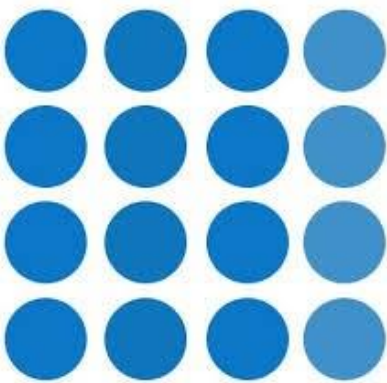




Classes have established collaborative learning spaces using Microsoft Teams, engaged students with interactive quizzes, enhanced maths sessions with targeted learning tasks.

We continue to encourage our learners to balance their online learning with hand-on learning resources that support key concepts and enforce reasoning skills.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our leadership team and classroom teachers have recently evaluated the digital learning platforms used in our teaching and learning programs, including the use of Reading Eggs and Mathletics. We have trialled numerous other platforms and on review have decided to change our digital learning platforms for 2021. Moving forward, children will have access to the following online platforms. These digital platforms meet the needs of classroom teaching programs and can also be accessed at home.

English	Mathematics
<div data-bbox="347 398 550 600"></div> <div data-bbox="347 600 550 633">Sunshine Online</div> <p data-bbox="118 667 786 902">Sunshine Online offers over 800 levelled eBooks that can be used as shared books in the classroom, or by individual students. Each text has supporting activities focussed on comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, grammar, fluency and writing. The Sunshine Online platform is an easy to use and new features will be added across the 2021 year.</p>	<div data-bbox="949 409 1337 790"></div> <div data-bbox="1005 813 1279 846">Essential Assessment</div> <p data-bbox="798 846 1492 981">This resource supports teachers and learners to identify the child's key understandings to design a sequence of learning that meets their specific needs. Website: essentialassessment.com.au</p> <p data-bbox="798 1014 1492 1149">Like Mathletics, students will be able to access the 'My Numeracy' feature which takes them through tasks that are personalised to their own needs and changes based on their developing skills and understandings.</p> <p data-bbox="821 1182 1468 1373">Sunset Maths is another feature of Essential Assessment which is designed to support children's learning of the four processes; addition, subtraction, multiplication, division as well as some tasks that promote fluency in financial maths, geometry and statistics.</p>
<div data-bbox="199 1379 699 1659"></div> <div data-bbox="419 1664 480 1697">Epic!</div> <p data-bbox="118 1731 786 1832">Epic! Has a collection of over 40,000 texts, including fiction and non-fiction titles in an eBook or audio book form. Some texts also have a 'read to me' feature.</p> <p data-bbox="118 1832 786 1928">Each text is levelled and aimed at primary aged children. Children may access the general library, as well as having texts set for them by their teacher.</p>	<div data-bbox="1037 1379 1241 1581"></div> <div data-bbox="1037 1585 1241 1619">Sunshine Online</div> <p data-bbox="798 1653 1492 1787">Sunshine Online offers a range of texts that focus on mathematical concepts. These can be used both during shared reading sessions in the classroom, and independently by children.</p>

Warm regards,

James McAlley and Kellie Redmond
Learning Specialists

Before & After School Care Weekly News

Theme calendar:

Past themes...

Feb 1-5: All about me

Feb 8-12: Health & Hygiene

Feb 15-19: Chinese New Year

Feb 22-26: Sustainable Oceans

Upcoming themes...

March 1-5: World wildlife week

March 8-12: Science week

March 15-19: Saint Patricks Day Week

March 22-26: It's a Party week

March 29-April 2: Easter week

Week 2&3 –

During the 4th week of OSHC. The theme we did was sustainable oceans. The students created their own ocean animal for our display, some did sharks, some did fish, someone even did SpongeBob! We also looked at the effect of pollution has on the ocean by doing an experiment. We also created ocean playdough by using the colours blue and green

The menu this week was really yummy. Some of the snacks we had was banana bread and custard, corn chips and salsa, different types of fruits and vegetables and an antipasto platter.



Educators: Hayley and Lauren



**Autumn
Holiday Program**
**Welcome to
the Jungle!**



Animal Antics



Volcano Science



Movie Time



Mindful Moments

Book Now at www.theircare.com.au

Save up to 85% with the Child Care Subsidy

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS



SUNDAY MARCH 7th

Join a local team at www.cleanup.org.au
Can't find a local team? Enjoy some family time & clean up in your area. Please ensure Covid safe practise are adhered to and appropriate safety pre-cautions taken.



Look for a community group to join?
Whittlesea Township - Boomerang Bags
Whittlesea Community Centre
Thursdays 10-2pm
New Members Welcome!

There are lots of tasks other than sewing, or it's a great place to learn a new skill.

#Say no to plastic

This Earth Hour, people are encouraged to make the #SwitchforNature to support Australia's switch to renewables-based economy

- Switch to solar power
- Switch your ride
- Or just #SwitchOff your lights for Earth Hour to show your support for Australia becoming a renewables powerhouse.



We now have over 8kg of bread tags!
Thank you to all the students and community members that continue to donate to this project.
Please keep bringing your bread tags to school!

Interesting Info & Facts

South Australia is leading the way nationally with the action to ban single-use plastics to happen from from 1 March 2021. With Victoria just announcing that single-use; straws, cutlery, plates, drink-stirrers, expanded polystyrene food and drink containers, and cotton bud stick will be banned from sale or supply in Victoria by February 2023.

COMMUNITY NEWS



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FOR
BEGINNERS

TENNIS LESSONS

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30% DISCOUNT
AND A NEW RACQUET FOR
FREE!



FOR MORE INFORMATION
TEL: 0425 831 666
WEB: WWW.TOPLINETENNIS.COM
EMAIL: BRAYDEN@TOPLINETENNIS.COM





OPEN INFORMATION AFTERNOON

12-2pm, SUNDAY

14th MARCH 2021

Whittlesea Agricultural
Society Administration
Building, Gate 1 McPhees
Road, Whittlesea

(03) 9716 2835

info@whittleseashow.org.au

Did you know the Whittlesea Agricultural Society
is a non profit volunteer organisation?



Come along to our open afternoon and speak with us about the Whittlesea Agricultural Society Council. Hear about our upcoming events & social outings and chat with Whittlesea Show Superintendents.

Free sausage sizzle & heritage display
We look forward to welcoming you!

Heritage • Art • Photography • Animal Nursery • Attractions • Homecrafts
Cattle • Poultry • Sheep • Young Person's Competition • Horses • Education
Farm & Garden • Beef Herd • Trade Space • Works • Woodchop • Food Expo
Fun & Games • Rural Ambassador • Horticulture



Bee a pollinator!



Whittlesea Community Garden

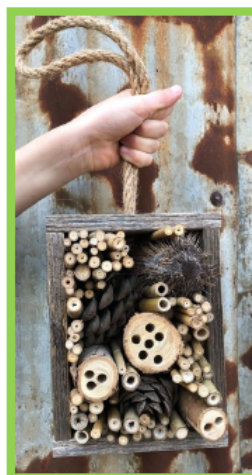
Join us at this hands on
workshop to learn all about
native bees and build your own
Bee Hotel

Time: 10.30am

Date: Thursday 18 March 2021

Venue: Whittlesea Community
Garden

Laurel St, Whittlesea
(next door to the Library)



Numbers are limited and due to new COVID-safe regulations
you must register your attendance by 11 March.

Email communitygarden@whittleseach.com.au

or call 9716 3361.



GET ACTIVE IN 2021



Kick-off or continue your healthy habits this year by leaving the car at home and getting active. Walking, riding and scooting to school are great ways to help kids get the exercise they need for the day, ensuring they arrive to school alert and ready to learn.

Part-way is OK!
Live too far away?
Why not park your car a few blocks
from the school and walk the
rest of the way?



Walking, riding or scooting to school has so many benefits:

- Build life-long healthy habits
- Spend quality family time together
- Socialise with other school families on the way
- Ease traffic on our roads



For more information and tips on how to stay active in the City of Whittlesea visit the Active Whittlesea Facebook page. [Facebook.com/ActiveWhittlesea](https://www.facebook.com/ActiveWhittlesea)



**City of
Whittlesea**