

Issue 6– 11th March 2021

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Our Twilight Sports whole school event will now be held on **March 24th**. The original date posted in the previous newsletter was for next Wednesday. This has now been rescheduled to one week later, so please note the new date.



The event has been highly successful in the past. Unlike a traditional 'Athletics Carnival', the Twilight Sports prioritises participation and fun over winning and losing. Students are encouraged to come dressed in their house colours as they will earn points by competing in sprint races. There will also be races for teachers and our parent community so bring your runners!

In addition to the running races on the oval, there will be a series of fun activities set up on the basketball courts. TheirCare, our after school care provider have kindly donated their time and resources to host a sausage sizzle and our school council will be fundraising through the sale of Zooper Doopers.

During COVID these opportunities to come together as a school community have not been possible, so we look forward to inviting our parents to connect and socialise with our staff. Unfortunately, certain COVID restrictions remain and we are unable to extend the invitation to those who are not close family and/or living with our students in the family home. This means that grandparents, aunties/uncles and extended family or friends are unable to attend. All close family that plan to come along are required to be registered using the link distributed on event flyers and compass communication. Multiple family members connected to a student can complete the one entry into the form. Upon arrival at school, visitors will be required to complete a QR code check in as is common place in public venues.

Tomorrow we will support Charlie Krueger of Year 2 as he completes the 'World's Greatest Shave' to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. Charlie will have his head shaved at first break and we congratulate him on his dedication to such a worthy cause.



Until next week,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

CALENDAR

March 24 th	Twilight Sports Night
April 1 st	End of Term 1 2.30pm finish

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

12th March

Levi 01M
Hunter 02D
Harrison 5/6L

14th March

Margaret 3/4M
Melinda 3/4M

15th March

Dahlia 5/6RM
Joseph 5/6RM

16th March

Gabby 3/4F
Kaven 3/4CR

17th March

Cooper 5/6S

18th March

Matthew 5/6S
Madelyn 5/6RM



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

In recent weeks our School Improvement Team (consisting of school leaders and year level/specialist leaders) have worked through a scaffolded PLC inquiry cycle with a focus on **fluency**. PLCs (professional learning communities) bring together teams of teachers and leaders with a focus on success for every student. The work of PLCs is undertaken through regular cycles of disciplined, collaborative inquiry and all year level teams will commence this work in Term 2, working through 6-8 weekly inquiry cycles.



This week, SIT completed the eighth and final module of the PLC training and our team used images and shared conversation to outline our inquiry cycle through a Pecha Kucha presentation. **Pecha Kucha** translates as “the sound of conversation” or “chit-chat” in Japanese.

Through the recent introduction of the Fountas and Pinnell reading assessment, our teachers have collected specific data relating to comprehension. As a SIT team, we identified that fluency within comprehension and in particular, **reading rate** would be the focus for this inquiry cycle.

Fluency is defined as the ability to read with speed, accuracy and, proper expression. In order for children to understand what they read, they must be able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently (in their head). When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation. Their reading is smooth and has expression, acknowledging punctuation, like full stops and exclamation marks. **Intonation** is the way the pitch of your voice goes up and down as you talk or recite something by singing it. An example of intonation is the way your voice raises in pitch at the end of a question.

Children who do not read with fluency sound choppy and awkward. They may have difficulty with decoding skills or they may just need more practice with speed and smoothness in reading i.e. **reading rate**. Fluency is also important for motivation; children who find reading laborious tend not to want to read.

With the help of parents and teachers, children can learn strategies to cope with fluency issues that affect his or her reading. Below are some tips and specific things you can do to help your child at home.

If your child can decode words well, help him or her build speed and accuracy by:

- Reading aloud and having your child match their voice to yours
- Having your child practice reading the same list of words, phrases, or short passages several times
- Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases, acknowledging punctuation
- Reading aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds
- Using books on tapes; have the child follow along in the print copy.

The Department of Education and Training have also published a valuable resource for parents. In particular, for suggestions on how you can help your child read at home, follow this link, [Literacy and numeracy tips to help your child everyday](#) focussing on pages 12 – 17. If in doubt or if you would like some additional strategies to help your child succeed, you can email your child’s teacher through Compass.

At our recent school council meeting we endorsed our school’s fundraising schedule for 2021. Our key fundraising events for this year include;

Term 1 – Bunnings Mernda Sausage Sizzle, Saturday 20th March **SAVE THE DATE**

Term 2 – Cadbury Chocolate drive, commencing week 2, details to follow early Term 2

Term 4 – Colour Run, Friday 19th November **SAVE THE DATE**

Term 4 - Christmas Carnival, Friday 10th December **SAVE THE DATE**

You may have noticed that we have opted for no fundraising activities in Term 3. This was a conscious decision by school council given that this year is a camp year for students in years 3-6. Information regarding the year 3/4 ADANAC camp and the year 5/6 Phillip Island camp, both scheduled for Term 4, including payment options, are being finalised and will be made available early Term 2.

Further to this, our first fundraising event is at Bunnings Mernda on Saturday 20th March. We hope to see you there!

WHITTLESEA PRIMARY SCHOOL



**MERENDA
BUNNINGS**

**SATURDAY
20TH MARCH**

**COME ALONG
AND
SUPPORT
OUR
SCHOOL**



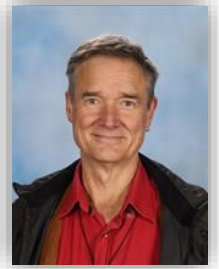
SEE YOU THERE!

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family ☺

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN REPORT

Peter Ackland - school chaplain



School History 1991 – Tom Ward's Staff

1991 was Principal **Tom Ward's** last year so it seems right to pause and acknowledge the team that supported him. At the end of this year, nine out of the eighteen staff left the school for positions elsewhere or retirement, including two long serving staff, Rosemary Hall and Lois Taylor.



Back Row: **Lesley Whitnall** (1989-2007), **Ross Cardile** (1985-91), **Joanne Money** (1988-91)

Second Row: **Anne Reeves** (1983-2004), **Fiona Milne** (1986-95), **Jan Smith** (1989-91), **Sue Gunningham** (1991-95), **Lesley Nichol** (1988-91), **Merle Burton** (1984-91)

Front Row: **Dawn Johnston** 1984-92), **Phillip Miller** (1983-2003), **Peter Huntington** (1986-95), **Tom Ward** (1986-91), **Rosemary Hall** (Office 1976-91), **Trevor Watts** (1986-92), **Lois Taylor** (1976-91)

Absent: **Jim Rees** (1991-2001), **Judy Bell** (1990-91)

Nine staff were continuing and nine staff were leaving at the end of 1991. Those leaving were: **Rosemary Hall** (16 years as office secretary), **Lois Taylor** (16 years general teaching including years as the art specialist), **Merle Burton** (8 years), **Ross Cardile** (7 years), **Tom Ward** (6 years there as Principal), **Joanne Money** (4 years), **Lesley Nichol** (4 years), **Jan Smith** (3 years), **Judy Bell** (2 years). Rosemary Hall and Lois Taylor had both joined the staff in 1976.

FAVOURITE FOODS/DRINKS:

JUNK FOOD:

Pizza, Mc Donalds, Hot Dogs, Chicken Rolls,
Pies, Sausage Rolls, Pasties, Hot Dogs,
Hot Dogs, Lollies, Kentucky.

DRINKS:

Coke, Pepsi, Fanta, 7up, Lemonade,
Creaming-soda, E.T.C

1991 computer printout

Tom Ward's departure made way for a new Principal, **Yvonne Scott** (1992-1999). It would be Yvonne who would see the 'Master Plan' come to fruition.

To be continued...

★ Star of the Week ★

Foundation V Vitale	Awarded to: Aliyah McCawley For: persisting and doing her best when counting collections in maths. Amazing Aliyah! 😊
Foundation P Perry	Awarded to: Kayla Kringle For: Being a positive and cheerful class member
Foundation M Merritt	Awarded to: Nevada Aston For: doing his best when investigating and learning about the letter F. Fantastic effort!
Year 1JA Fontana/Kaur	Awarded to: Hunter Saw For: being a kind and respectful class member all the time!
Year 1F Fasone	Awarded to: Lily Rode For: actively participating in all class discussions and helping others succeed.
Year 1M Maxfield	Awarded to: Tai Vuillermin For: writing a great sentence about his favourite food, macaroni and cheese.
Year 2CR Cook/Redmond	Awarded to: Dylan Pratt For: Being a responsible and respectful member of the class.
Year 2D De Luca	Awarded to: Jamison Dean For: staying in class and completing all of his learning!
Year 2S Smith	Awarded to: Alexis Harvey For: For excellent teamwork and addition skills when playing our maths kahoots, well done!
Year 3/4W Wright	Awarded to: Heidi Gallenti For: doing her best by starting tasks straight away. Well done, Heidi!
Year 3/4M McCormick	Awarded to: Charlie Graham For: outstanding participation during maths investigations! Well done Charlie 😊
Year 3/4O Overton	Awarded to: Billy Cartledge For: demonstrating a passion for his learning
Year 3/4C Cummins	Awarded to: Noah Bodagh For: outstanding effort in writing a narrative plan.
Year 3/4F Fawcett	Awarded to: Stevie McKechnie For: demonstrating respect and care for her school when giving up her time to help the school library succeed. Fabulous effort Stevie!
Year 5/6S Powell	Awarded to: Ned Smith For: having a growth mindset when learning new skills & thinking strategies
Year 5/6RM Reid/McAlley	Awarded to: James King For: fantastic contributions during Maths sessions and working hard on his times tables fluency
Year 5/6G Gorski	Awarded to: Harrison Leeson For: working hard to complete his learning and attempting challenging tasks with a positive mindset.
Year 5/6P Panahinejad	Awarded to: Seth Frappa For: using ICT tools to extend his learning
Year 5/6L Leslie	Awarded to: Maxwell Charity For: Consistently showing great effort and improving his mental computation in maths
PE Mr Hough	Awarded to: Campbell Willoughby For: continuously demonstrating all of our community expectations in P.E
The Arts Ms Walsh	Awarded to: Noah Leeson For: consistently demonstrating our school expectations during Art each week!

SPORTS REPORT

Round 5 Fixture- 12th March

Home Team	Away Team	Tennis/Tee Ball Venue	Cricket Venue
Whittlesea P.S Cougars	Ashley Park P.S	Whittlesea P.S	Walker Reserve (vs MPS C)
Mernda Central College	Whittlesea P.S Panthers	Mernda Central College	Mernda Central College

Hot Shot Tennis

Panthers Hot Shot Tennis versed Mernda Primary School on Friday the 5th of March.

We were eager to show the opposition our new skills and confidently stepped onto the court.

The Panther Girls won 6 sets, serving impressively and able to place the ball in various positions on the court. Such an amazing improvement in our tennis prowess!

The competition was tough for our Panther Boys, but they managed to win 4 sets. Our sportsmanship was outstanding, and all players were happy and proud of their performance.

Mernda Primary School commented on the Panthers positive attitude and comradeship, I am honoured to be coaching such a wonderful group of children and we eagerly look forward to competing next week.

Why is it called tennis?

Tennis comes from the French tenez, meaning "hold!", "receive!" or "take!".

Racket (or racquet) derives from the Arabic rakhat, meaning the palm of the hand.





TWILIGHT SPORTS

**COME DRESSED IN
HOUSE COLOURS!**

**WED.
MARCH
24TH
4:30PM-
6:30PM**

Due to COVID restrictions, attendance is limited to immediate family of currently enrolled students. Unfortunately, extended family who do not reside with current students (grandparents etc.) are unable to attend.

All attendees must be registered prior to the event. Please complete your registration to attend by scanning this code



**RUNNING
RACES**

**SAUSAGE
SIZZLE**

MINOR GAMES

ZOOPER DOOPERS



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!



COMMUNITY NEWS



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?

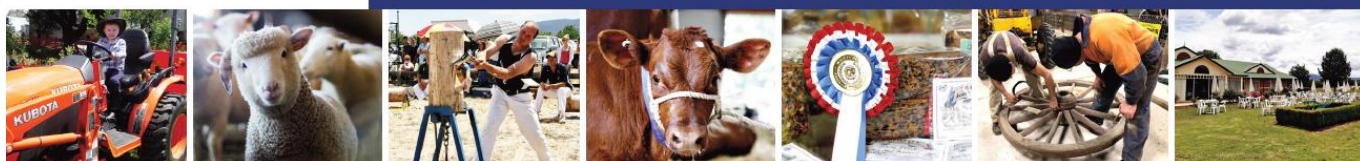


Come along to our open afternoon and speak with us about the Whittlesea Agricultural Society Council. Hear about our upcoming events & social outings and chat with Whittlesea Show Superintendents.

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



Granite Hills

Nature Discovery Walk

Sunday 28 March

105 Hunters Road, South Morang

(Entry via Hunters Road, Mernda)

10am-2pm

(Start your walk anytime between 10am and 12pm)

Enjoy a walk amongst the majestic trees of Granite Hills, and learn about nature. Along the trail children can do nature activities and get a stamp for their nature passport, learning about the trees and the animals that live here.

- 1.8KM HILL WALK
- WEAR STURDY SHOES
- BRING COINS FOR A BARBECUE

FREE
EVENT

GET
ACTIVE

NATURE PLAY
FUN



For more information please contact us on 9217 5542



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Whittlesea



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