

Issue 36- 29th October 2021

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

We welcomed new announcements yesterday from the State Government relating to COVID 19 restrictions. The easing of rules will be welcome news for all, especially leading up to Christmas. Here at school, we still await further confirmation from the Department of Education and Training (DET), but from the Premier's press conference it seems apparent that masks will remain a requirement in primary schools for Years 3-6, staff and visitors when indoors.



A significant shift is likely in relation to how schools deal with cases of COVID-19 and the isolation periods required for close contacts. The language has changed to 'exposed' individuals and the requirement for 14 days isolation has been eased. Whittlesea Primary School has been very lucky to not have any COVID cases onsite throughout the pandemic. Reality is that many other schools have had multiple cases – through no fault of their own and we have been extremely lucky. In the event of a case, we will implement the latest procedures and processes at hand. DET have introduced a new 'Antigen Rapid Testing' protocol which will reduce the time exposed students need to remain at home after a positive case. Leading up to graduation in particular this is welcome news, and it remains our preference that students spend more time at school and less at home.

More information will be available soon as the latest announcements were only recently released. In general though, it is pleasing to see so many aspects of daily life returning to normal.

Our Book Week parades were a great success on Monday. Due to the controlled nature of this event with a single static location and the separation of year levels, we were able to accommodate parents onsite as an audience. Unfortunately, the Colour Run is very different in nature and at this time the same accommodations couldn't be made for this event. Thank you to all our amazing families who supported students to come dressed as their favourite character. Some of the ingenuity and imagination was outstanding and the children really enjoyed the experience.



Until next week,
Ty Hoggins

CALENDAR

November 22	F-2 Swimming Program Begins
November 23	Year 6 ACMI Excursion
November 24	Year 5 ACMI Excursion
November 25	Foundation Zoo Excursion
December 2	Year 6 Graduation

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

21st November
Wade 01C
Tanah 02S

22nd November
Angus 3/4M
Ashton 5/6P

23rd November
Summer 01C

24th November
Max 3/4W
Mikaylah 5/6S



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

It's hard to believe that we have reached the end of week seven and there are only four more school weeks left in Term 4. Did someone say 36 days until Christmas? With remote learning and lockdown behind us, we are looking forward to several key events to round out the year.



Our parent garden group have been back onsite, weaving some spring magic with their green thumbs. Various natives have been planted behind the basketball courts, along the access ramp and into the start of the oval. A handful of native plants were also installed along the embankment between the courts and the oval. Hebes were planted in the two planter boxes next to the basketball courts. These plants are evergreen and produce purple flowers in summer and autumn so they should look lovely year-round once established. In the garden bed in front of sensory room, an array of bromeliads that were donated by parent, Jennifer Long (thanks Jen!), have been planted. Did you know that Brazil is home to most species of bromeliad and that most bromeliads only bloom once in their life? I can't wait to see what they look like once they mature. Thank you again to this dedicated group of parents. If you are interested in spending a few hours on a Friday helping our green thumb crew please contact the office for details.



Next week sees the beginning of another very busy week for our school. On Monday, our intensive swimming program for our F-2 students begins, with four lessons next week, three lessons the following week and concluding on Monday 6th December. Please see last week's Compass post for the latest schedule and dates. On Tuesday we have the first of our internal transition sessions. Due to swimming, our transition for F-5 will be staggered throughout the week however we will return to a normal internal transition program for Tuesday 30th November, followed by the state-wide transition day on Tuesday 7th December. Our Year 6 students also attend their long awaited ACMI excursion on Tuesday, and our Year 5 students attend on Wednesday. With the Year 6 graduation and Christmas assembly just around the corner, we are looking forward to an exciting end to the 2021 school year.

And so, what has probably been the most anticipated countdown to an event so far this year...apart from the return to school after lockdown, is, yes, that's right...the Colour Run. As I write this, I am full of anticipation for the day ahead. I hope the rain holds off. However, if the previous three colour runs are anything to go by, it will be an amazing experience for everyone. Make sure you check out our socials for images of the event.

We have been overwhelmed by the fundraising effort from our school community. We will post a final fundraising total in next week's Primary Post but as of this afternoon the total stands at

Money Raised

Online

\$15,267.62

*Estimated amount only

REMINDER

ALL PRIZES MUST BE ORDERED BY 12PM MONDAY 22ND NOVEMBER.

If you have raised money offline, please return your money and prizes requests on Monday so these can be entered manually at school.

ALL MONEY RAISED OFFLINE MUST BE HANDED IN BY WEDNESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER.

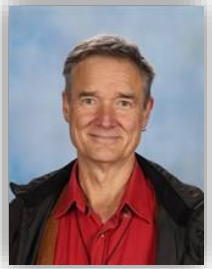
All money collected after Monday 12PM cannot be used towards prizes. Prizes will be uploaded Monday afternoon to assure delivery before the end of the school year.

As we reflect on the week that was; our Book Week parade, the conclusion of 3-6 swimming and the Colour Run; we look forward to the weeks that lay ahead and even brighter days as summer inches ever closer.

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

Peter Ackland - school chaplain

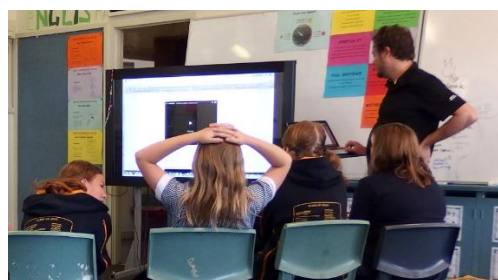
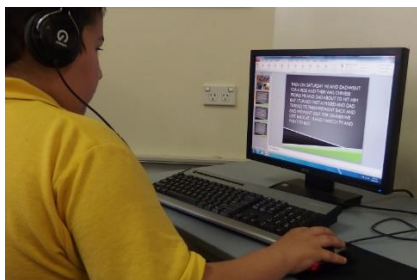


School History 2014 Term 1

The beginning of term heralded the first online **Primary Post** for families to read wherever and whenever on their devices. The paper version would continue for all families for another three years.

Year 6 students had their own locker, complete with combination padlock. Year 6 classes moved between their different classrooms and their teachers taught different sections of the curriculum. This was done to further simulate a secondary college education model.

The school was increasing its technology resources. Each classroom now had an interactive big screen or an interactive whiteboard. There were 90 netbook computers and 60 iPads distributed about the school. The library (and some classrooms) housed the older desktop computers. Other resources included iPods, Wii, flip video cameras and digital cameras.



The first school community event was the **Twilight House Sports** (Thursday 20 February starting at 5:30pm). The weather was kind and everyone who came enjoyed themselves. It concluded with the highly competitive male and female parent/guardian sprints.



In swimming, 27 students swam at the District Competition and the Whittlesea Primary School took out the 10 year and 12 year age groups and came first overall. It was the fourth year in a row that WPS had won the District Finals. **Zac Ferguson** was outstanding with five firsts. He went onto the Whittlesea Division Finals and won four of his races.

As part of improving and motivating her staff, Principal **Bente Stock** arranged for a student free day (March 3) so that they could break into groups and visit different schools: Moomba Park PS, Derrimut PS and Essendon PS. All staff had an opportunity to observe other educators teach and to hear other school leaders talk about their school.



Drawing Club each Friday (weather permitting), **Ty Hoggins** supervising Friday sport, and on the last Friday of term the **SRC** organised a 'daylight' School Disco 12:45-1:25pm (P-2) and 1:30-2:15pm (3-6).

To be continued...

★ Star of the Week ★

Foundation V Vitale	Awarded to: Andre Tanoai-McMaster For: doing his best with all of his learning. You superstar, Andre! 😊
Foundation P Perry	Awarded to: Chloe Bordignon For: making new friends during investigations.
Foundation M Merritt	Awarded to: Jack Barnes For: doing his personal best writing and stretching all his sounds. Well done!
Year 1JA Fontana/Kaur	Awarded to: Cadence Arthur For: being a quiet achiever in our class and doing her best.
Year 1F Burgess	Awarded to: Summer Farrell For: writing an excellent letter to Duncan from the yellow crayon.
Year 1M Maxfield	Awarded to: Samantha Fisher For: writing a great letter, detailing why her crayon quit.
Year 2D De Luca	Awarded to: Kayla Sandow For: being a great team member when working collaboratively with her peers!
Year 2S Gordon	Awarded to: Paige Frappa For: being a resilient member of our classroom. Keep wearing your smile.
Year 3/4W Wright	Awarded to: Josh Caminito For: working fluently with numbers to continue patterns, and improving in using units of measurement
Year 3/4M McCormick	Awarded to: Alexx Cato For: writing an incredibly detailed plan for a picture story book. Well done 😊
Year 3/4T Tuppen	Awarded to: Spencer Sullivan For: concentrating on his work throughout the week and continually making the right choice. Well done, Spencer!
Year 3/4C Cummins	Awarded to: Mason Murnane For: always doing his best across all learning areas. Well done, Mason!
Year 3/4F Fawcett	Awarded to: Gabby Conley For: the outstanding effort put in when writing your narrative. Great work Gabby!
Year 5/6G Gorski	Awarded to: Memphis Tofte Su'a For: applying a positive mindset to all areas of her learning.

30-day recycling challenge

Day 1



Keep your recycling loose, not bagged

Day 2



Raid the fridge for withered/sad looking veg and make a scrumptious stir fry

Day 3



Collect bits of foil into the size of a tennis ball then recycle in your bin

Day 4



Dispose of food waste in the FOGO bin or home/community compost system

Textile challenge

Day 5



Search the house for unwanted bedding, towels and clothes

Day 6



Donate good quality clothes to charity and take bedding and towels to the local animal shelter

Day 7



Start an art project with discarded materials, post on Instagram and tag @cleanawayAU

Day 8



Put your council's waste services phone number on the fridge to easily report service issues

Day 9



When shopping choose items made out of 100% recycled material

Day 10



Switch disposables for reusables

Day 11



Say no to soft plastic bags when shopping, take reusable shopping bags instead

Day 12



Make bin liners with old newspapers for your recycling bin. Do not use biodegradable bags as these are not recyclable

Day 13



Start a sewing kit for clothing repairs

Day 14



Take soft plastics to your local supermarket and drop off at a REDcycle bin

Day 15



Collect old electronics at home and drop off at Officeworks

Day 16



Organise a Plug-a-thon to pick up litter in your neighborhood and recycle the materials collected

Garage and garden challenge

Day 17



Clean up the garden and collect green waste, chemicals, paint, tyres and old appliances

Day 18



Take a trip to your local transfer station to drop off the materials for recycling

Day 19



Keep your glass jars for food storage containers

Day 20



Shop at your local op shop, buy secondhand

Day 21



Wear a reusable mask and put disposable masks only in general waste. Cut the straps.

Day 22



Read recycling labels to make sure you know where each part of the packaging goes

Day 23



Use coffee grounds for a natural exfoliant, and have a good scrub when you're in the shower

Day 24



Collect eligible plastic bottles and drop off at your nearest container collection point (if available)

Day 25



Research brands that make recyclable products for your future purchases

Day 26



Declutter your collection of books and magazines, and drop them off at your local street library

Day 27



Find a local repair café for broken household items

Day 28

greenius

Get the whole family together and visit greenius.com.au for recycling learning, games and quizzes

Plastic free challenge

Day 29



Bring reusable containers and buy food from a bulk food store or your supermarket's bulk food section

Day 30



Make your own beeswax wraps, a great weekend activity to do with the kids

CLEANAWAY
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COMMUNITY NEWS



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Whittlesea Swim Centre

Whittlesea Swim Centre has opened for the season: <https://www.whittleseaswimcentre.com.au/>
2021/2022 SEASON: Mon 1 Nov 2021 - Thu 31 Mar 2022

Whittlesea Swim Centre is an outdoor pool complex that caters for people of all ages and abilities. If you are looking for some summer fun, Whittlesea Swim Centre is the place to be!

Facilities and Programs include: 25m Main Pool with 6 lap lanes & public area (Hoist access available), Learners Pool, Toddlers Pool & Splash Pad, Children's Waterslide, Aqua Aerobics
Family Change rooms, Outdoor Family Area, Shaded SunSmart Area.

Aqua Aerobics

Running 2 classes per week:

Monday 5.15pm and Tuesdays 10am, classes run for 45 minutes and can be booked via the Active World app or we can take walk ups on a casual basis too.

Swimming lessons

Our weekly swimming lesson program has now commenced with places still available for 6 months to adults who would like to swim with us this summer. Classes run weekday mornings, weekday afternoons and weekends (depending on level). A swimming lesson membership is only \$9.15 per week and includes a weekly lesson and access to the centre outside of lesson time.

GOswim Holiday Program

We are now taking expressions of interest for our GOswim Holiday program, further details are available here <https://www.whittleseaswimcentre.com.au/learn-to-swim/school-holiday-program>

Job opportunities

We are also recruiting, we are offering to cover the costs for qualifications for suitable candidates, full details about our Simply the Best Summer Jobs are available here <https://belgravialeisure.com.au/simply-the-best-summer-jobs/>



Return yourself to the library today! All Yarra Plenty Regional Library (YPRL) branches are now open, and they can't wait to see you again. However, due to the current government restrictions, only people under 16, and anyone who can provide proof of double vaccination, are allowed in branch.

For those who are able to come along and visit the library, you can now browse the collection, access the computers, and use the self-service printing and scanning, and WiFi services.

YPRL are still offering online storytimes three days a week, along with digital programs including Code Club, Maker Space online events, and craft activities.

For more information, please visit the YPRL website: www.yprl.vic.gov.au, or contact the Whittlesea Library on 9716 3028

Whittlesea Library is located at 57 Laurel St, Whittlesea