

Issue 2- 10th February 2023

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

It is the end of Week 3 already and most programs are up and running with great success. Our Breakfast Club will relaunch on Monday February 20th. To our new families, the Breakfast Club is led by a volunteer team and funded through the government's school breakfast club program. We access most supplies through Food Bank and provide a delicious breakfast to those who choose to attend every Monday morning. We are always on the lookout for additional volunteers, so if you have time to spare on a Monday morning please contact the office – we'd love to have you involved. A big thank you to Casey Brown and her team of dedicated volunteers. Particularly, we acknowledge the generous support of the Whittlesea Rotary Club. Pancakes are on the menu again for the 20th and we'd love to see a large group of our students in attendance. A reminder that all students need consent through Compass Events.



Privacy - Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#).

Please take time to read our school's collection notice, found on our website <https://whittleseaps.vic.edu.au/our-school/#policies>

We ask parents to also review the [guidance we provide](#) on how we use [Microsoft 365](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using [Microsoft 365](#), please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information is also available in ten community languages.

School Uniform – Our school has a long-standing uniform policy which is regularly revised and updated. As a school council responsibility, this policy outlines clear and explicit expectations for student uniform. Last year a new supplier was engaged, and our students look terrific in their updated polos, skorts and microfibre shorts. Over the course of this year all students will transition to these updated items. The policy is on our website and included in this newsletter. We appreciate your support in following this policy and enabling your child to meet these expectations.

CALENDAR

February 13	Whole School Assembly
February 14	Foundation Info Night
March 6	Whole School Photo Day

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

5th February
Xavier 06P

6th February
Charlie 3/4B
Lewis 3/4S

7th February
Nathaniel 3/4W
Mason 06C

8th February
Kade 00F

9th February
Dash 01F

11th February
Fletcher 01F
Lillian 3/4C
Oscar 3/4D

12th February
Jackson 3/4C
Brody 06L

13th February
Thomas 00F
Ethan 06C
Charlie 06P



The uniform policy is listed as an agenda item for our upcoming school council meeting, and I welcome any parent feedback over the coming two weeks prior to this meeting. Please send an email to Whittlesea.ps@education.vic.gov.au. Throughout Term 1 there will be a renewed focus on compliance with this policy. We understand there has been discussion relating to long hair and I am happy to clarify the school's current position. Students are encouraged to tie back long hair due to safety and hygiene reasons. As it is not noted as policy it is not a rule as such, but teachers will ask students to tie back hair when they feel it is appropriate for the learning and play environment. This topic is also scheduled for discussion at our first school council meeting and any of your input is welcome in the lead up.

Assembly – Our first assembly is scheduled for Monday next week. We welcome the state member for Yan Yean, Lauren Kathage who will present badges to our School and House Captains. Parents are welcome to attend as we will also be presenting various awards.

Have a great weekend,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone

It has been great to have a week of sunshine again. The school grounds are looking 'spick and span' thanks to Paul, and our parent gardening team. Our outdoor libraries are also in and will be full of books next week, ready for students to access, before school, during the breaks and learning time.



Parent Student Teacher Conferences

This term, we will be hosting Parent Student Teacher Conferences on Tuesday 21st February between 11:30am-7:00pm. This is a ***Variation to School Hours Day*** and students are only required to attend their PST conference time with you.

During your 15-minute conference, your child's teacher will share early learning progress. You will have the opportunity to hear about how your child has transitioned into the new school year and ask any questions you may have about how your child has settled, both organisationally and academically and socially and emotionally. Today, your child will bring home a pre-conference survey for you to complete and return next week. This information will assist our staff to prepare for your conference. To book a conference time, access your child's profile via the Compass App on your phone. If you do not have access to Compass, please call the office. If you find you are unable to make any of the available times, please email your classroom teacher via Compass to make an alternate time or call the main office. Please note that bookings will close Friday 17th February at 10am.

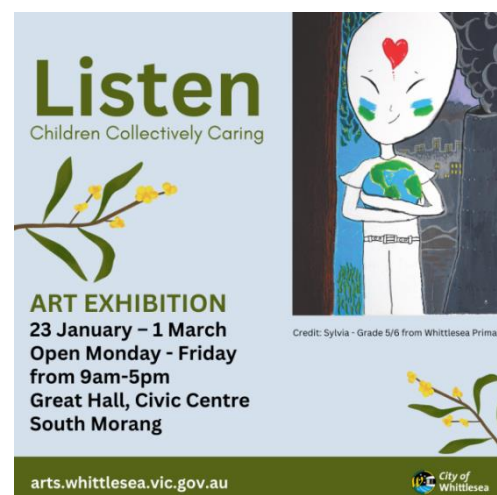
School Logo Hats

A friendly reminder that during Terms 1 and 2, until the 30th of April, school hats with the Whittlesea Primary School logo must be worn when learning and playing outdoors. This includes both breaks and PE, 34 sport and 56 (interschool) sport. In Term 3, commencing 14th August, school hats are again required outdoors as per the DET Sun protection policy. Hats can be purchased online through Academy Uniforms or in person at their Thomastown store.

City of Whittlesea Exhibition

The City of Whittlesea have recently opened an exhibition in the Great Hall at the Civic Centre in South Morang. The exhibition comprises a selection of works created by students for the Collectively Caring for Climate project in 2020.

Students in Years 3-6 created art works and many of these were printed as sidewalk stickers that were showcased around the footpaths of our school and Church Street. Whittlesea Primary School has 14 student works included in this exhibition. The image used to promote the exhibition was created by ex-student, Sylvia Hallam, now in Year 8 at Whittlesea Secondary College.



Travelling to and from School Safely

Please continue to talk to your children about travelling safely to and from school. All bike and scooter riders are required to wear a bike helmet in Victoria. Mandatory bicycle helmet laws were introduced in July 1990. This applies when riding: on roads and road-related areas such as footpaths.

School *crossing supervisors* assist children and adults to safely cross busy roads around schools, at drop-off and pick-up times. Students are expected to walk bikes and scooters across the road and hold footballs and basketballs securely.

Church Carpark

It is also timely to remind parents about the safe and appropriate use of the church car park. It is through the generosity of the Whittlesea-Kinglake Anglican Church that our families continue to use this carpark as a drop off and pick up point. ***Please refrain from using the Disabled Parking Bay unless you have a valid parking permit.*** We have a number of families that utilise this space to drop off and pick up their children. Victoria Police will continue to monitor the carpark and issue fines when cars do not display a valid parking permit.

Uniform

New uniform items, including the school logo hat, can be purchased online using the link below. If you order by Wednesday night, your items will be delivered to the school the following Thursday. Alternatively, you can visit the Academy Uniforms warehouse in Thomastown. The estimated arrival of the soft-shell jacket is mid-March.

<https://academyuniforms.com.au/>

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

School Council Elections – Information for Parents

We have 5 vacancies for parents to join our School Council this year.

To stand for election, you will need to arrange to complete a nomination form or for someone to nominate you as a candidate in the parent category. Once the nomination form is completed (available from the office), return it to the office by the close of nominations on Friday 17th February by 4.00 p.m.

Along with a nomination, we ask each candidate to provide a brief background statement. This can be used to introduce new councillors to the community, or to enable an informed decision to be made should an election be necessary.

Notice of Election: **Friday 10th February 2023**

Nominations Close: **Friday 17th February 2023**

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.
- A mandated elected DET employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in February each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider:

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do.

WHITTLSEA PRIMARY SCHOOL PHOTO DAY



MONDAY 6TH MARCH 2023

Orders can now be made through your Compass Portal via your email link or under the **COMMUNITY** tab

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW TO ENSURE OUR BEST PRICES!

FAMILY PHOTOS



Family/Sibling photos are available for students attending school. Orders must be placed by **11:59PM** the day before photo day.

Parents with 3 or more children can receive a concession with our **Premium** or **Classic** packs. To take up this offer, please contact us prior to photo day.

GROUP STYLE



We're here to help.

9466 7331 | admin.nem@msp.com.au


msp
photography

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT









Star of the Week



Foundation F Fasone/Betty	Awarded to: Blake Sanders For: Congratulations Blake on being super brave and writing your very first sentence. "We went in the garden."
Foundation G Gordan	Awarded to: Giosue Goci For: completing your amazing 5 star illustration and writing in your workbook. Keep it up!
Year 1F Fontana	Awarded to: Hunter Murphy For: Having a positive week and completing all of his learning tasks. Well done Hunter!
Year 1M Merritt	Awarded to: Thomas Bodagh For: trying his best when copying words from the board. Well done!
Year 1P Powell	Awarded to: Remi Murphy For: doing her best when reading and making 2 digit numbers
Year 2M Maxfield	Awarded to: Tyler Williams For: writing some engaging stories and being helpful in the classroom.
Year 2A Avolino/Mondon	Awarded to: Hudson Matthews For: taking initiative to set himself up for successful learning!
Year 2K Kaur	Awarded to: Jett Barnett For: showing a huge improvement in his reading. Amazing work Jett!
Year 3/4B Barker	Awarded to: Charlie Stewart For: consistently contributing to group discussions and helping his peers with their sizzling starts during writing.
Year 3/4D Di Mauro	Awarded to: Paige Frappa For: helping others succeed and doing her best 😊
Year 3/4S Daniels	Awarded to: Nathaniel Bundy For: For helping classmates succeed
Year 3/4W Wright	Awarded to: Lujayn El Jassem For: enthusiasm and persistence in reading. Well done, Lujayn!
Year 3/4C Cowdery	Awarded to: Elliot Powell For: creating new and exciting ideas for narrative writing. Well done Elliot, I can't wait to read your writing pieces when they're complete! 😊
Year 5B Burgess	Awarded to: Billie-Rose Alway For: excellent descriptive writing and extending her vocabulary use.
Year 5V Vitale	Awarded to: Tyrone Folder For: recalling multiplication facts using efficient strategies. Keep it up, Tyrone! 😊
Year 5T Tuppen	Awarded to: Rhys McClaren For: For being brave and showing his amazing writing to the class.
Year 6L Leslie/McAlley	Awarded to: Flynn Mathews For: showing excellent collaboration skills when completing group literacy tasks
Year 6C Cummins	Awarded to: Ethan Farrugia For: writing so descriptively using the 'paint a word picture' strategy. Great job, Ethan!
Year 6P Panahinejad	Awarded to: Ivy Dawson For: her use of expanded noun phrases to create sizzling starts. 😊
The Arts Capobus-Thorpe	Awarded to: Taylor For: Trying her best to complete her 'Scribble' artwork. Great work, Taylor.
STEM Reid	Awarded to: Keira Augustus For: a fantastic start to STEM by using an inquiry mindset and helping others in the class. Great work
Chinese Liu	Awarded to: Daisy Leeson For: trying her best to learn and say rabbit in Chinese. Well done!



CLUBS SCHEDULE TERM 1

	Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 st break	Disco Club Mr Hoggins Soccer Pitch 	Games Mrs Burgess Classroom 	Drawing Club F-2 Joseph Senior Library 	Games Joseph Senior Library 		
				Whittlesea World		
2 nd break	Story Writing F-2 Mrs McCormick 	Basketball 3-6 Joseph Bball court 	Basketball 3-6 Joseph Bball Courts 	Basketball 3-6 (odd weeks) Joseph Bball Courts 	Story Writing 3-6 Mrs McCormick 	Mandarin 3-6 Ms Liu Mandarin Room 
	Sensory Space Ms Betty (Mon, Tues & Weds) & Ms Jaross (Thurs & Fri)					



Uniform Policy

PURPOSE

The uniform dress code will foster student pride in their appearance and the recognition of belonging to Whittlesea Primary. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the dress code.

AIMS

- To promote equality amongst all students
- To further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with our school
- To provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community

GUIDELINES

- The wearing of school uniform will be compulsory for all students
- The colours of the school uniform will be navy blue and gold, with the exception of a navy and white summer dress and will consist of a combination of items from the designated uniform list
- Daily footwear will consist of only traditional black school shoes (Lace up or Velcro only, no slip-ons) or black runners
- Socks must be plain navy, white or black – no logos
- Students may change into any appropriate athletic footwear for PE / Sport lessons, regardless of colour
- Hair colours should be natural shades only. Hair accessories must be blue, gold, white or black only. Clear nail polish is acceptable. Students are also encouraged to wear a wristwatch. Smart watches with the capacity to make calls, text or take photos or videos are not allowed to be at school and should be treated as a mobile phone (refer to Mobile Phone Student Use policy)
- Piercings are to be limited to gold / silver sleeper earrings or studs to be worn in the ear lobe(s) only. No other forms of jewellery are acceptable
- Students participating in all school events (sport, choir, art and excursions) or representing the school in other activities must wear the designated school uniform
- Students will be permitted to wear their WPS House Wristband as part of their school uniform. No other form of wristband will be permitted
- A navy blue sun smart school hat with a school logo is a compulsory item during Terms 1 and 4 and a navy blue beanie can be worn during Terms 2 and 3
- Items of religious or cultural significance may be worn; head scarves should be school colours
- A Whittlesea Primary School bag is compulsory for all students
- A special year 6 commemorative jacket will be offered for purchase to all students in year 6 each year
- Upon discussion with the Principal/Assistant Principal, special payment arrangements can be made for those parents who find it difficult to purchase uniforms items

If a child is not wearing school uniform, the following steps will be followed:

- 1) **First incident** - Verbal request to student and a non-uniform notification slip to parents. Entry added to Compass
- 2) Student will change into the WPS uniform jacket/pants for the school day if available
- 3) **Second Incident** – As per actions in (1) and (2) and phone call to parents by class teacher.
- 4) **Third Incident** - Referral to the Principal or Assistant Principal to follow up with a phone call
- 5) **Fourth Incident** - Letter home from School Council

IMPLEMENTATION

- The student dress code including details of uniform items and the place of purchase will be published in the newsletter at the start of each term. The policy will also be available on the school website www.whittleseaps.vic.edu.au
- It will be the responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure their children are wearing the correct school uniform. A note must be produced to explain any deviation from the policy and given to Principal/Assistant Principal.
- The responsibility for the implementation of the School Uniform Dress Code rests with the Principal, Assistant Principal and classroom teachers.
- From time to time, parents may donate second hand uniform items that can be used at the discretion of the Principal and Assistant Principal.

RESOURCING

- The School Uniform Shop will be outsourced to Northern Regional Uniforms for the term of the contract.
- All families will purchase uniform garments from the above-mentioned supplier and these items will remain unaltered in their appearance. Embroidered copies will not be permitted as it will be a breach of copyright and contract.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last reviewed and approved by school council on Tuesday 24th March 2020 and is scheduled for evaluation and review in March 2023.



Mental Health at Whittlesea Primary School

As we come to an end to another school week, I would like to touch on the importance of having strong routines in place and how it can benefit both our mental health as adults and the young people in your family as well. Routines set out how families organise themselves to get things done, spend time together and have fun.

Why routines are good for children

Safety, belonging and relationships

Routines can be part of an organised and predictable home environment, which helps children and teenagers feel safe, secure and looked after. Having a predictable family life can also help children cope during development changes like puberty, or life events like the birth of a new child, divorce, illness or a house move.

Skills and responsibility

Having chores as part of family routines helps children and teenagers develop a sense of responsibility and some basic skills like time management. These are skills children can use for life. Children develop skills that they can use later in life and fosters a sense of independence.

Healthy habits

Routines can teach younger children healthy habits, like brushing their teeth, taking medicine regularly, exercising, or washing their hands after using the toilet. Routines can reduce stress, and lower stress is good for children's immune systems. Bedtime routines help children's bodies 'know' when it's time to sleep. This can be a big help when children reach adolescence and their body clocks start to change.

Why routines are good for parents

Routines take some effort to create. But once you've set them up, they have many benefits:

- When life is busy, routines can help you feel more organised and in control, which lowers your stress.
- Regular and consistent routines can help you feel like you're doing a good job as a parent.
- Routines help your family get through your daily tasks more efficiently and free up time for other things.
- Routines often mean you don't have to sort out disputes and make decisions. For example, if Sunday night is pizza night, no-one needs to argue about what's for dinner.

What makes a good daily routine?

A good routine is one that suits your family. It also has three key features.

Well planned

In a good routine, everyone understands their roles, knows what they need to do and sees their roles as reasonable and fair. For example, your children know that they take turns with washing up and drying up each night after dinner. As children get older, they can have a say in planning routines.

Regular

Good routines become part of everyday family life. For example, you might all look forward to Sunday night barbecues with your children's grandparents.

Predictable

In a good routine, things happen in the same order each time. Everyone knows what to expect for the day. For example, you always wash school uniforms on the weekend, so you know they'll be ready for Monday morning.

Mental Health at Whittlesea Primary School

OCTOBER

MY WEEK

2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
22	23	24	TODAY	26	27	28
GRANDPARENTS	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	CLEAN PLAYROOM
BBQ	PLAY OUTSIDE	HOMEWORK	BAKERY STORE	SWIMMING		
	SPEED THERAPY	TAKE A BATH	DONUTS	PAZARAS		
		SCREEN-TIME			MOVIE NIGHT	PLAY SOCCER



Here are some examples of schedules that you may be able to use at home! If you would like copies, please let me know and I can send them through Compass! :)

Have a safe weekend and stay safe!

Katalin

ACTIVITY PLANNER

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
6:30 AM					
7:00 AM					
8:00 AM					
9:00 AM					
10:00 AM					
11:00 AM					
NOON					
1:00 PM					
2:00 PM					
3:00 PM					
4:00 PM					
5:00 PM					
6:00 PM					
7:00 PM					
8:00 PM					
9:00 PM					
10:00 PM					

REACH
OUT.COM



Wominjeka, Our service philosophy at Whittlesea Primary School is to make the students the centre of everything we do. We facilitate lifelong development and growth of the children so that they achieve their full potential as individuals. We strive to develop and support the emotional, social and physical wellbeing of the child. We create positive environments for their learning and curiosity and we also encourage the children to be important members of the local and wider communities. Parents, students and staff are strongly encouraged to work together in partnership recognising our shared values of community, confidence, honesty, excellence and respect. We also include our key values which are Safety, Education, Nurturing, Stimulating and Empathy within the service



Welcome Back

Hello and welcome back to another school year and the start of Term 1.

We have been super busy getting the children back into routine and going through our expectations in the service. The children have been super busy and engaged with the start of term activities which involve all about me / getting to know you theme based. This will allow our new children enrolled and preps to become familiar with BSC and ASC.

In the room we have a parent feedback box that we would kindly appreciate for any ideas, suggestions or general comments as this will help improve us within our service. The box will be located next to the tablet on the sign in table



COMING UP

Over the next few weeks the activities will be based off the staff as we are settling into a new term and getting to know all the children with what their interests are and what they would like to do. We are also excited to meet our new parents and get more suggestions for our feedback box :)

We are also focusing on more fun and exciting displays around the room so stay tuned

Menu

Our weekly menu follows Nutrition Australia's guidelines and is created with the children and families. All Cultural needs are considered and any dietary requirements are to be discussed with the program. BSC meals include cereals, wholemeal bread, milk, water and fruit. ASC meals include fresh vegetables and fruit along with suggested food from the children



Be Sunsmart

Please also remember to have hats whilst outside during play



TIMES

Before School: 6:45AM- 8:45AM

After School: 3:15PM-6:30Pm

CONTACT HEAD OFFICE



1300 072 410



info@theircare.com.au

CONTACT SERVICE



0447 542 696



whittlesea@theircare.com.au

Listen

Children Collectively Caring



Credit: Sylvia - Grade 5/6 from Whittlesea Primary

ART EXHIBITION

23 January – 1 March

Open Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm

Great Hall, Civic Centre, South Morang



- SAVE THE DATE -

Resilient Communities

Workshop Series

Build your skills in the art of sustainable, climate-resilient living and community connection with the Resilient Communities Workshop Series.

The workshops run throughout the year and will look at a variety of subjects, including keeping backyard chooks, seed saving, mending fabrics and mindfulness. Participants will have opportunities to create items and take them home, and those who attend every session will be entered into a prize draw at the series end.

Community Climate Conversations

Wednesday 8 February, 6pm-7.30pm
Online

Keeping Backyard Chooks

Saturday 11 February, 10am-12pm
Ganbu Gulinj Community Centre,
55 Macedon Parade, Wollert

Home Food Preservation

Saturday 4 March, 10am-12.30pm
Kirrip Community Centre,
135 De Rossi Blvd, Wollert

Seed saving

Saturday 29 April, 10am-11.30am
Fountain View Room,
25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

Coming Back to Life: Connection in Times of Crisis

Saturday 6 May
10am-2pm (includes lunch)
Fountain View Room,
25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

Thrifty Gardening

Wednesday 21 June, 6pm-7.30pm
Online

Energy Matters: Beat the Heat and Kill the Chill

Thursday 13 July, 6pm-7.30pm
Online

Basic Mending and Textile Repairs

Saturday 19 August, 10am-11.30am
Location TBD

Discovering Biophilia: Mindfulness and Observation in Nature

Saturday 30 September
10am-12pm
Fountain View Room,
25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

Urban Foraging 101

Saturday 7 October
10am-12pm
Fountain View Room,
25 Ferres Blvd,
South Morang

Series Wrap up Celebration and Showcase

Saturday 25 November
10am-12pm
Fountain View Room,
25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang



free



Scan the QR code to register

We recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.



City of Whittlesea