

Issue 4- 24th February 2023

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Great news – we have interested parties ready to put forward proposals to run our canteen. To ensure we achieve a quality service for our students and families, a tender process will be conducted by school council. This involves the formation of a sub-committee who assess the proposals and make a recommendation to council. A timeline has been established and we expect a new service to be in place for Term 2.



Next week we farewell Josh Parks from our school council. Josh has served for 12 years, the last 10 as president. In this time he has seen significant improvements at our school and has been an important part in leading the governance of the school. Over the time of Josh's tenure the following are key projects in which Josh has been instrumental: -

- Synthetic grass development (Soccer Pitch area)
- New buildings, playgrounds and shade shelters
- Principal selections
- New uniforms
- Graduations
- OSHC contracts
- School reviews
- BYOD program

To have the support and experience of a president like Josh has been a huge asset to our school and we warmly thank him for his time and dedication to our school.

The school council nomination period has concluded, and we can proceed without the need for an election. The confirmed council appointments / reappointments for 2023 are:

DET representatives – Rae Gittos & Betty Tzelepis

Parent representatives – Susan Leeson, Julie Hodges, Anna Larkan, Shelby Toulson & Lyle Winter

Thank you to these parents / staff who will fulfill 2-year tenures.

Our new playground is quickly nearing completion. The last remaining piece of the puzzle is the soft fall surfacing which will be a combination of rubber and bark. Our school has opted to contribute an extra \$30,000 to increase the component of rubber soft fall. This material is superior to the bark which requires constant top up and maintenance. Our kids can't wait to play on the new equipment in the coming weeks.

CALENDAR

March 2	Foundation Teddy Bear Picnic 4pm-5pm
March 6	Whole School Photos
March 13	Public Holiday Labour Day

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wishing the following children a very Happy Birthday!

27th February
Bailey 06P

29th February
Amelia 05B
Riley 05B

4th March
Jade 3/4W



Finally, attendance is a priority for our school and the education department broadly. Data is tracked frequently, and we have some students regularly missing days of school. Every missed day accumulates to represent a large amount of missed schooling over time. If your child has an attendance rate of less than 80% they will miss well over one whole year of school during their primary years.

Those with poor attendance will be followed up through our attendance procedures. Teachers regularly call home to follow up absences and letters may be sent for chronic absences that go unexplained. Please support your child to be at school every day they can be. While illness will account for the odd day here and there, every other day is vital. Poor academic progress and high absence rates go hand in hand so please ensure your child is in regular attendance at school.

Have a great weekend,

Ty Hoggins
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Hello everyone,

Thank you to all our families for attending Parent, Student, Teacher conferences with your children earlier this week. We trust that providing an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher early in the term has promoted a positive avenue for future conversations about your child's learning journey this year. For varying reasons, we know that some of you were unable to make a conference time. Please contact your child's teacher via Compass to make an alternate time over the coming week, either in person or over the phone.



This week your child brought home their first list of spelling words and on Monday next week, all students in Years 1-6 will bring home their second spelling list. These spelling words align to the next Write to Read codes/rules as well as personal spelling words identified through writing conferences and for some students, words from their Oxford word list.

This week, students were learning about Rule 1: 'qu', sooky la la, where the letter q is always followed by the letter u.

Next week, the spelling focus is Rule 6: - the letter i cannot go at the end of English words and so the letter y takes its place. So why does the word 'ski' end in an i, you might ask? Well, not all words are of English origin. The study of the history of words is known as Etymology. The word 'ski' is Norwegian, from Old Norse 'skíth' meaning 'billet, snowshoe'. Another common word ending in i, 'aioli' is French in origin, from a combination of the words ai (meaning "garlic") and oli (meaning "oil"), making both the word and the food literally a mashup of garlic and oil. Muesli, of Swiss German origin, was invented by Maximilian Bircher-Benner, a Swiss physician and nutritional pioneer who developed muesli around 1900 to help treat his ill patients. Muesli translates to 'mush' or 'puree'.

We encourage you to support your child in learning to say, spell and write their words from their list during the week. Students will continue to learn and practice these words throughout the week during focused spelling lessons. Please remind your child to return their word list to school every Friday.

A reminder that Monday 6th March is SCHOOL PHOTO Day. Please ensure your children are on time and wearing full school uniform. Hair accessories should be white, navy, or yellow in colour and socks should be navy, black or white (no visible logos).

Next Tuesday, our swimming team will compete at the Whittlesea District swimming event at WaterMarc in Greensborough. We look forward to hearing about their success upon their return.

Best wishes for a wonderful weekend with your family 😊

Rae Gittos
Assistant Principal

★ Star of the Week ★

Foundation F Fasone/Betty	Awarded to: Judie El Jassem Congratulations Judie on always having a positive attitude and settling down to work immediately. Your drawings super detailed and include many colours.
Foundation G Gordan	Awarded to: Cruze Coomber For: always doing his best when writing his letters. Keep it up!
Year 1F Fontana	Awarded to: Molly Kempen For: using the five senses in her writing, when writing about making pancakes. Well done!
Year 1M Merritt	Awarded to: Tahlia Spiden For: sorting nouns, adjectives and verbs and explaining what they mean. Fantastic!
Year 1P Powell	Awarded to: Eden Webber For: using her letter sound knowledge to write sentences using interesting words.
Year 2M Maxfield	Awarded to: Abigail Blake For: using her creative talents to make colourful and engaging presentations which make her work stand out.
Year 2A Avolino/Mondon	Awarded to: Norah Burke For: using paragraphs to separate ideas in her writing!
Year 2K Kaur	Awarded to: Thomas Petrevski For: trying his best to work towards his writing goal of adding more detail to his writing.
Year 3/4B Barker	Awarded to: Zane Studwick For: creating a thrilling, tension building alternative to a well-known fairy tale. Well done, Zane!!
Year 3/4D Di Mauro	Awarded to: Peyton Clifford For: helping others succeed during our maths learning. Great Job 😊
Year 3/4S Daniels	Awarded to: Duke Wright For: his amazing work in mathematics
Year 3/4W Wright	Awarded to: Kory Morrell For: fantastic reading and reasoning during F&P assessments
Year 3/4C Cowdery	Awarded to: Lillian Ford For: cheering others on and always being the first to offer to help others 😊
Year 5B Burgess	Awarded to: Hugo Lilley-Ranft For: persisting at completing multiplication algorithms and showing success. Well done 😊
Year 5T Tuppen	Awarded to: Will Basset For: creating an engaging tightening tension for his pebble, rock, boulder about a haunted house. Well done, Will!
Year 6L Leslie/McAlley	Awarded to: Olivia Tomarchio For: demonstrating a commitment to achieving your writing goal, creating a very engaging narrative story.
Year 6C Cummins	Awarded to: Isabella-Rose Perinovic For: having a growth mindset and working hard to achieve her multiplication goals. Well done!
Year 6P Panahinejad	Awarded to: Max Braddock For: his improved effort in writing
PE Freeman	Awarded to: Hunter Andersen-Wells (34S) For: giving his best effort and being a great teammate in PE.
PE BOOST Smith	Awarded to: Ellie Carr For: outstanding fair play during our games in PE. Great job!
STEM Reid	Awarded to: Braylen Flynn Designing a nesting box with consideration of design features as well as drawing each view with precision. Great work 😊



Invitation

You're Invited



Thursday | 4-5pm
2nd March | Soccer Pitch

Foundation Teddy Bears Picnic

*Come along to meet our wonderful staff
and our Foundation community.*

*Bring along a picnic rug, snacks
and teddy bear.*

We look forward to seeing you there.



Mental Health at Whittlesea Primary School

Mornings can be hard for everyone. This is a friendly reminder parents, to check in with yourselves so you can best support your young person be the best version of themselves.

Drop offs in the mornings can be challenging! I have worked with many families over the last 15 plus years in supporting their youngsters transition into school or childcare. Some days are easier than others, so I have compiled some tips that may help you, help them!

Remember that your child feeds off your emotions

Morning drop offs can be just as hard for parents; however kids often perceive and reflect our own emotions. Make sure your body language says, "You're going to have the best day!" Smile, be positive and keep your hugs warm and friendly. If you're showing signs of distress, chances are your child won't feel comfortable enough to say goodbye. Come see me for a debrief, check in with a friend or call the school in an hour to check in with the teacher. (Though, rest assured if your youngster is that worked up, for so long, you will hear from us!)

Say goodbye

It might be tempting to sneak off once you see that your child has settled into an activity or learning task (especially if you anticipate tears), however this can cause panic when they do look up to see that you've suddenly gone. Leaving without a proper goodbye creates a sense that this is the place where a parent or carer takes me, then disappears.

Emphasise where you are going and when you'll be back. We commonly believe that young children are oblivious to what's happening around them, but this isn't necessarily true. Your child really will appreciate you trying to explain what's going on. For example, "I'm going to work for a little while. You're going to do some learning, have some plays and not long after second break, I'll be back to get you."

Don't linger

Drawing things out, especially if your child is upset, can exacerbate things. Try to keep the drop-off short. It can be hard, but say goodbye and let your child recover their emotions in the arms of a trusted teacher. Don't go back in, even if your child is upset. Instead, give the school a call an hour later to make sure the tears have stopped.

Bring a comforter or security object from home

These can be transitional objects that can make the separation easier for children. It might be a favourite toy, a photograph of a family member or family pet to help them feel close to you throughout the day.

Talk positively about your child's day

Discuss the process of saying goodbye and what your child might encounter that day. What sorts of activities will there be? Who will they play with? We all need to rush to work but it's important to give your child time to settle in. Their feelings of trepidation are very real, however showing them that you trust the environment and their classroom teacher will make all the difference in ensuring that they feel safe throughout the day.

Here are some conversation starters you could ask on the car drive or walk home!



Read books to your child about starting school:

Books are also excellent tools to use to show your child what school might be like. One of my favourite books like this is "Franklin Goes to School". It's a sweet story about a turtle who is nervous about going to school and ends up loving it. Make it a routine before bed time to read a book such as this and have a conversation with your child. Ask them what they would like to do at school. Tell them what you liked best when you were there age. This is your chance to get them pumped for school! You know your child better than anyone and you should feel confident that you'll be able to tackle any sort of challenges during drop off. Every child is different and what may work with one may not work at all with another. So try all sorts of different tricks! Be positive and don't get discouraged!

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.



This week the children have been super engaged with our healthy eating week theme. We have revisited the healthy eating pyramid and created a new display to put up in the room. The children had lots of fun colouring in and sticking the fruits and vegetables to the chart and also having interesting conversations. We also made cute paper fruit crafts which we also display in the room.

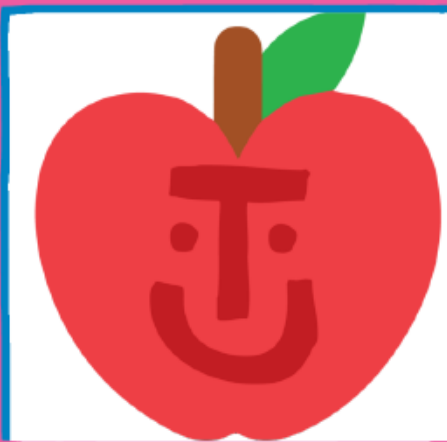
We also have started to raise money to the Unicef Turkey earthquake and have a chart up in our room. This is done by the children helping around the room or just being positive or helping out a friend. Children are encouraged to put stickers towards the chart to raise money.

The children have also been loving the new games and dolls we have brought for the room. PFD - National Pancake Day was a success. The children made delicious coloured pancakes that were blue, pink and purple and enjoyed eating them and adding thier favourite toppings to it, did some pancake colouring in, played some active games and enjoyed playground play.



Family Photos

WE are kindly asking if parents can please bring some family pictures in as we would like to fill our family tree wall up.



We are kindly asking for feedback and if you could take a couple of minutes before leaving the service to let us know on how we are doing, suggestions you may have or ideas to bring into the service.




Please remember to make sure the children have hats

TIMES

Before School: 6:45AM - 9:00AM


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


CONTACT HEAD OFFICE

 1300 072 410

 info@theircare.com.au

CONTACT SERVICE

 1300 072 410

 whittlesea@theircare.com.au

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!

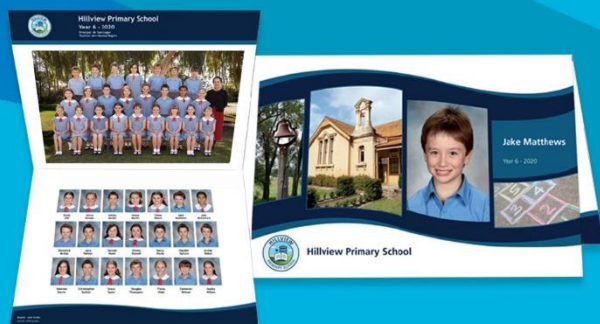
FAMILY PHOTOS



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

SPORTS REPORT

Term 1 Fixture 2023

Week 4	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 17 th February	Basketball	St. Mary's	WPS
	T-Ball	St. Mary's	WPS intra-school practice
	Cricket	Walker's Reserve	

Week 5	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 24 th February	Basketball	WPS	Mernda Central
	T-Ball	WPS	Mernda Central
	Cricket	Walker's Reserve	Mernda Central

Week 6	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 3 rd March	Basketball	St. Pauls	WPS
	T-Ball	Painted Hills Reserve	WPS
	Cricket	Painted Hills Reserve	Walker's Reserve

Week 7	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 10 th March	Basketball	WPS	Ashley Park Primary
	T-Ball	WPS	Ashley Park Primary
	Cricket	Walker's Reserve	Doreen Recreation Reserve

Week 8	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 17 th March	Basketball	Mernda Central	WPS-BYE Intra school practice
	T-Ball	Mernda Central	
	Cricket	Mernda Central	

Week 9	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 24 th March	Basketball	WPS	Mernda Park Primary
	T-Ball	WPS	Mernda Park Primary
	Cricket	Walker's Reserve	Waterview Reserve

Week 10	SPORT	GOLD	BLUE
Friday 31 st March	Basketball	St. Josephs	WPS
	T-Ball	St. Josephs	WPS
	Cricket	Waterview Reserve	Walker's Reserve

COMMUNITY NEWS



WE SPECIALIZE
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FOR
BEGINNERS

TENNIS LESSONS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

TEL: 0425 831 666

WEB: WWW.TOPLINETENNIS.COM

EMAIL: BRAYDEN@TOPLINETENNIS.COM



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

arts.whittlesea.vic.gov.au



City of
Whittlesea



- 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.

