Principal’s Report

2013 Student Achievement Data

Over the last week, we have begun to analyse in some detail, our end of year 2013 student achievement levels in the key areas of Reading, Writing and Number. This analysis has particularly focussed on the percentages of students who are working above expected levels (A and B gradings) and the tracking of these results against the four year goals set in our Strategic Plan.

I am delighted to report that our improvement trends in these areas have been very impressive and in most cases we have now exceeded the targets we set for 2016.

On average at the end of last year, we had 63% of students achieving above expected levels in Reading, 52% in Writing and 51% in Number.

We can now see that our strategic intent and planning is aligning beautifully to achieve these increasingly impressive results. Ostensibly these results stem from the wonderful efforts of our teachers, who are now working so closely together at each level to ensure that the individual needs of our students are being addressed in the core learning areas. Intervention and extension structures across the school are also now ensuring that all student progress is being closely tracked and students are participating in lessons that are closely linked to their point of need.

This is an exciting journey to be part of for our students and we are grateful for the wonderful parent support that helps to forge a strong learning platform between the home and school environments.

As we continue to enhance our academic provision across the school, we will be charged with ensuring that our student achievements are commensurate with students from similarly advantaged backgrounds across Australia.

School Council Elections

Thank you to the many parents who expressed interest in our recent School Council elections. We feel so fortunate to have such wonderful parental support in so many areas at Willy North!

I am delighted to announce that all vacancies were filled through this election process and the new School Council for 2014 is now in place. Our Council comprises thirteen members; nine elected parents and four staff members (including myself).

Please remember that these members are also ‘your voice’ on council, so please feel free to have input into the policy direction of the school through these councillors.

Our 2013 members are:

Parent Reps: Louise Cooper & Matthew Boyall (both new members), Michael Lynch, Stuart Toplis, Neil Robertson, Samantha Cross, Jo Hayes, Julia Kaye and Megan Taylor.

Staff Reps: Melissa Bull (new member), Giorgia Moss, Wendy Emin and Jim Cahill.

Class Rep Program

We had a terrific turn out for our Class Rep Information Session last Wednesday evening with
approximately 35 parents in attendance. Our Class Rep coordinators, Julie Noonan and Toni Burton, did a great job briefing all of 2014 Class Reps on the parameters of this important program.

This week our newly appointed Class Reps will begin to liaise with classroom teachers and we hope to have our first edition of the eNews out to all parents early next week. Please take a few minutes each fortnight to have a read of the eNews so that you can be aware of the key learning foci in each class every fortnight as well as any upcoming dates and social events.

**Information Sessions**

Thank you to the many parents who were able to attend the information sessions held during this week for each year level of the school. We hope you found these sessions to be informative and helped to provide a clear overview of the learning programs and organisational aspects of each level of the school for 2014.

If you were unable to attend these sessions, we will upload the PowerPoint presentations onto the school website for your reference next week.

**Every Day Counts – School Attendance**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they’ll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- In the case of an extended absence, develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

From 1 March 2014, new laws will mean that parents can be fined for not sending students to school without an acceptable reason.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

As Always, if you would like to discuss this matter further, don’t hesitate to contact Wendy Emin (Assistant Principal) or myself for an appointment.

Enjoy your week
Jim Cahill—Principal

**After School Care**

Dear Parents / Guardians,

There will be a Student Free Day on:

**Date:** Tuesday 11th March (please book prior to the 4th March)

**Time:** 7.00am—6.15pm

**Cost:** $9.00—$48.00 (not including 50% rebate)

- Log onto oshclub.com.au and log in through the After Care site.
- Children are to bring morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and snacks throughout the day.
- We do require a minimum of 15 children to run the day.
- Parents will be notified on Wednesday 5th March if the day will proceed.
- Please remember that Term One is a NO HAT, NO PLAY policy. All children do need a hat for outdoor play. Please provide your child with a hat that they could leave in their bag for After Care.
- Please remember to check the blue lost property basket for your child’s belongings as the basket is already filling up quickly.

Thank you
OSHCLUB Staff
Welcome to 2014 Prep and New Families

Picnic/Barbecue Tea

In the first term of every year, the school hosts a family Picnic/Barbecue tea as a way of welcoming the Prep families and other new families from other year levels to Williamstown North Primary School.

We hope you can make it, and look forward to meeting you there.

Date: Wednesday 26th February, 2014
Time: 5.30pm to 8.00pm
Where: Williamstown North Primary School
Junior Playground

What you need to bring
- Food: Picnic Hamper, BBQ food, salad etc (BBQ’s provided)
- Drinks/refreshments, glasses, paper cups, plates, cutlery, serviettes etc
- Picnic blanket, chair etc
**Rosters…**

**Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF)**

This is a very social and interactive group who volunteer an hour of their time each Friday morning. Thank you to the many dedicated parents that assist with Fresh Fruit Friday. **Fresh Fruit Friday will need parent volunteers for this week and any other Friday throughout the school year. If you are available on Friday, please meet in the Staffroom at 9.00am. A Reply slip is included in this weeks Newsletter.**

---

**Canteen—NEW HELPERS MOST WELCOME**

Julieanne Weir manages our Canteen and is always very appreciative of the time parents or family members can volunteer to help in the Canteen. Julieanne can be contacted via the General Office. New parents or family members are always needed and most welcome. So, if you can spare any of your valuable time, it would be greatly appreciated. Please complete the Reply slip in today's Newsletter.

Thursday 20th February—Anne Tobin  
Friday 21st February—Help Needed

---

**Uniform Shop News**

Primary School Wear (PSW) is now our official Uniform supplier. For all uniform enquiries please contact Kara on her mobile: 0413 008 185, between 9.00am and 5.00pm weekdays (excluding weekends and school holidays).

---

**School Banking**

School banking day is Wednesday. Don’t forget to send in your child’s bank book.

---

**Student Safety**

Please take the time to regularly remind your child/ren about safety, especially when going to and from school. Here are the important points to mention:

- Do not to talk to strangers and never accept a ride from a stranger, or accept lollies or gifts from a stranger.
- Immediately report any issue or problem you may have when going to or from school, to your mum and dad, or to your teacher, the Principal, Assistant Principal or office staff.
- Always get permission from mum or dad before going to play with a friend after school and always let mum and dad know where you will be and what time you will be home.

We advise that, wherever possible, children should travel to or from school with an adult or with their friends, rather than travel alone.

---

**Early Release**

All children collected from school before 3.30pm must be signed out at the Office. Parents will be handed an ‘Early Release Pass’ to hand to the supervising teacher. If a child is signed out at Recess or Lunch time, the Office staff will call the child to the Office and then ensure the Early Release Pass is given to the supervising teacher.

---

**Bikes & Scooters**

Many children ride bikes and scooters to school each day. All bikes and scooters must be locked up in either the Bike or Scooter Enclosure to prevent theft. Please ensure your child has a chain and a lock. All children who ride a bike or scooter must wear a helmet which is a requirement by the Government. The school regularly reminds all children about wearing helmets for their safety. All bikes, scooters, skateboards, ribtics and helmets must be labelled, with your child’s name and class. **Children are reminded they must walk their bike, scooter, skateboard or ribtic to and from the school gates. No bikes are to be brought through the school buildings and we request, where possible, that Scooters are also not walked through the building.**

---

**Working With Children Checks**

As from the 1st July 2013 the process for applying for a Working With Children Check has changed. Due to the continual changes to the forms they are no longer available at School or the Post Office. The only way to apply for a Working With Children Check is online. These forms are available at [http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au)

Reminding Parents, if you wish to assist in the Canteen, Fresh Fruit Friday, Sport, Swimming, Excursions or Camps, you must have a current Working With Children Check. If you have a current WWCC and have not provided a copy to the office, please bring your WWCC to the school office, where a copy will be placed on file. Working With Children Checks remain valid for 5 years.
**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as; uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:

- $200 for prep students
- $510 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $380 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

How to Apply: Contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form.

Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014.


---

**Ordering a replacement WWC Check card online**

Following the successful implementation of the online application form in July this year, the Working with Children (WWC) Check Unit plans to launch an online replacement card service later this year.


**How to use 'MyCheck'**

MyCheck is an easy-to-use online portal that enables Working with Children (WWC) Check applicants and cardholders to manage their check.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Williamstown North Primary School (WNPS) prides itself on constantly striving to provide our students with a learning experience that is of a high standard. The active involvement of parents in the life of a school helps promote a healthy, interactive and engaging learning community for staff, parents/carers, and most importantly for students. With this in mind our Class Representatives Program aims to enhance communication and engagement between teachers and parents/carers, to more actively support learning in the home environment.

Each class has one or two Class Representatives who facilitate regular communication between teachers and parents.

When you ‘opt in’ to the Program, your Class Rep. will add your details to the Class Contact List which is distributed to all families in that class. Your Class Rep. will also send you a fortnightly E-news which provides you with an overview of what is happening in your child’s class, activities you can do at home to support your child’s learning, and details of any upcoming social get-togethers.

If you require any additional information on the Class Representatives Program, please contact Julie Noonan our Program Coordinator at wnpsclassreps@gmail.com

*By opting in to the Program you agree that your contact details can be shared with other parents in your class. These contact details are used for the purposes of the Class Representatives Program only. Any issues outside of the Program need to be raised directly with the teacher or School Principal. Please note you are opting in to the Program for the time your child is a student at WNPS. If at any stage you wish to ‘opt out’ of the Program, please contact the school office at williamstown.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
WNPS Services Program 2014

Below are the services that our school currently provides. If you have some spare time and would like to be involved in one or more of these programs, please provide your details on the Reply Slip below and return it to the General Office.

WNPS 2014 SCHOOL SERVICES PROGRAMS REPLY SLIP

Parent/s Name:  

Child/ren:  Class/es:  

Daytime Phone Number/s:  

I would like to assist with the following program/s: -

- Swap Shop  - Lost Property
- Canteen  - Sick Bay Washing
- Fresh Fruit Friday (See separate sheet)  - Family Life Education
- Student Banking  - Cake Stalls
- Class Social Activities  - Prep & New Families BBQ/Picnic

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY – Reply Slip

A big thank you to everyone who have kindly volunteered to be part of Fresh Fruit Friday in the past. Without your assistance this program could not happen.

We need volunteers for 2014. Please complete the Reply Slip and return it to the General Office to be part of a team that has lots of fun providing fresh fruit to all our students.

I can assist:  

- Weekly
- Fortnightly
- Monthly

Parent Name:  

Child’s Name:  Class:  

Contact Numbers:  Home:  

Mobile:  

Email:  
Canteen Help for 2014

Dear Parents/Guardian,

Canteen lunch days are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and our Canteen is managed by Julieanne. We rely on parents to assist in the Canteen from 9.00am to 2.00pm for counter sales, and to help prepare lunches on these days.

For parents new to the school, it is a great way to meet other parents and become familiar with the school. Children also enjoy seeing ‘mum or dad’ or even ‘nan’ helping.

The tasks are quite easy and new helpers are supported and ‘trained.’

Any amount of time is appreciated. Parents may nominate how often they can assist, whether it be for a couple of hours, or a full day (9.00am to 2.00pm).

We have a ‘Toddler Play Area’ in the foyer of the Gym for parents who have pre-school age children. (Young children are not allowed in the Canteen due to occupational health and safety requirements).

This year, if you can assist for any length of time, please complete the “Reply Slip” below and return to the School Office or send an email to gill.belinda.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please note: our Canteen Manager, Julieanne, is there to assist with all tasks on lunch order days and volunteers do not work unaided. All Canteen helpers are required to have a Working With Children Card (WWCC).

I Would Love to Help in the Canteen

Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________________________________________
Child’s Name: __________________________________________________ Child’s Class: ________
Phone No: ________________________________

Days Available To Work (Please √) Wednesdays: □ Thursdays: □ Fridays: □ Any day: □

Frequency (Please Circle)

WEEKLY MONTHLY TERMLY

OCCASIONALLY (Provide Details) EMERGENCY HELPER (Provide Details)

Preferred Time:

☐ 9.00am - 10:00am (Sort money, check orders, organise change)

☐ 9.00am - 11:30am (Organise ‘non-perishable’ items for orders, assist with recess sales)

☐ 12:30pm - 1:30pm (Pack lunch baskets, assist with lunch time sales)

☐ 9.00am – 2.00pm (All of the above)

* Remember there is a separate ‘Toddler Play Area’ for parents with pre-school age children.
Is your Lollipop person the sweetest?

Nominate your Lollipop person for the 2014/2015 School Crossing Supervisor of the year award.

Pick up a nomination form online at www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au.

Your support of this program will help ensure your School Crossing Supervisor is shown the appreciation they deserve for their commitment to the ongoing safety of our children.

Closes Friday 2nd May 2014

To acknowledge the contribution and spirit of the work undertaken by school crossing supervisors throughout Victoria, an award will be given to a selected school crossing supervisor for their commitment and dedication to the supervision of school crossings.

The recipient of the award should model enthusiasm and successful outcomes.

This award is open to all school crossing supervisors employed in this role stationed at a permanent crossing, or a relief school crossing supervisor.

Nominations for the award must be employed as a school crossing supervisor at any Victorian Council and should demonstrate –

- Professional demeanour and presentation (uniform and equipment)
- Working knowledge of road rules relating to school crossings
- Welcoming, caring, supportive and encouraging to all users of the school crossing
- Helpful – Informative and clear on correct use of the crossing
- Involvement in the school community
- Attendance – no time off (other than illness)
- Punctuality

Municipalities and members of the community will be invited to forward nominations for the award. Nominations will close on Friday 2nd May 2014.
School Crossing Supervisor of the year

Nomination Form

Name of Nominated person .........................................................
Municipality they are employed by..............................................
School .................................................................

Person/Organisation nominating................................................
Contact email...................................................................
Contact phone number..........................................................
Contact address..................................................................

The following template must be used for nominations. In 25 words or more please tell us:

Why you believe the nominated person should be awarded the School Crossings Victoria “School Crossing Supervisor of the Year” award.

Send completed forms via mail or email: schoolcrossingsvictoria@gmail.com
School Crossings Victoria INC PO BOX 3032 Mornington 3931
For more information visit www.schoolcrossingsvictoria.com.au
THE GOOD GUYS®
Jamie’s Ministry of Food Australia
Mobile Kitchen

The Good Guys welcomes Jamie’s Ministry of Food Mobile Kitchen to Hoppers Crossing.
The Good Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation who has partnered with Jamie Oliver and The Good Guys to deliver Jamie’s Ministry of Food throughout Australia.

Jamie’s Ministry of Food Mobile Kitchen
The Mobile Kitchen will be located next to Youth Resource Centre, 56 Derrimut Road, Hoppers Crossing.
Cycle 1 Commences Friday 28th February 2014: Cycle 2 Commences Friday 4th April 2014
The Mobile Kitchen is Open 7 days a week.
For full course details and enrollment requirements log onto: jamie ministeryoffood.com

Kids By The Bay
Children’s centre
Williamstown
Kindergarten Info Evening
Tuesday 25th Feb, 2014 7:00-8:00pm

We would like to invite you to learn more about our 3yr old Kindergarten program.
This session will include meeting the Kindergarten staff, an overview of the Kindergarten year and what to expect for your child in the year before they attend school. We will also spend briefly about transition to school and school readiness.

Parents of 3yr old and 4yr old children are encouraged to attend this session.

Refreshments provided
RSVP: director@kidsbythebay.com.au

We currently have vacancies in our 3 yr old program and 4 yr old Kindergarten program.

All enquiries welcome.

Kids By The Bay Children’s Centre
Enter via driveway beside 6 Cecil St, Williamstown VIC 3016
www.kidsbythebay.com.au

Kids By The Bay Children’s Centre acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government

New Gym – New You!

Join Now
- $0 start up
- Free personal training*

CALL US TODAY
9397 8292

100 Douglas Parade
Williamstown VIC 3016
williamstown@healthyfit.com.au

healthyfit.com.au

*Offer valid on presentation of this flyer to new customers joining this month. Conditions apply.
**FRENCH CLUB!**

**Fun French for Kids**

*Wednesdays 3.45pm - 4.45pm*
*Williamstown Community Centre*
*14 Thompson St*

*Limited places available*

- Our club is starting its 4th year!
- French fun every week through games, stories, songs and activities - a learning program designed especially for 4-11 year olds
- Female speaker and experienced teacher of French
- Enable your child to develop an ear and a feel for the foreign language early

**Little Kickers**

There’s nothing more important than watching your child learning new skills, keeping fit and loving every minute of it! That’s why more and more parents are bringing their children along to Little Kickers classes. Giving your child a head start in sport is a real investment. Ball skills, colours, numbers, social skills, balance, co-ordination and confidence – the Little Kickers programme has it all!

Contact Rebecca on 9008 5405 or 0419 223 727, rowley@littlekickers.com.au


**Single Parents Active Kids**

**Single Parent Family Fun Day!**

*Sunday 14th March, 2014*
*10am – 3pm*
*Logan Reserve*
*Pier Street, Moray Melways Reference 54H1*

- Free BBQ and drinks
- Free kids activities and games
- Free face painting
- Membership specials
- And so much more!

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL:
Please RSVP to Mosh on 0403 501 179
[info@singlesarentactivekids.org](mailto:info@singlesarentactivekids.org)

[www.singleparentsactivekids.org](http://www.singleparentsactivekids.org)

**2014 Family Day & Registration Day**

*Sunday, 16 March from 12.30pm*
*5pm – BBQ lunch included*

Everyone welcome – bring along your family & friends

Fun activities including:
- Jumping Castle
- Radar Gun
- Adults v Kids lacrosse match

**WWLC Training – Wednesday Evenings**

Commences Wednesday, 5 March 2014 at Feron Reserve

*Under 11 – 5.15pm / Under 13 & Under 15 – 5.35pm*
*Under 18 – 5.45pm / Seniors – 7.00pm*

New Members Welcome!