Principal’s Report

EDUCATION WEEK

A big thank you to all parents who were able to participate in our Open Classrooms last Thursday as part of our Education Week program. It was terrific to see mums and dads tackling a range of maths problems, working side by side with their children in the classrooms. We were blessed with a lovely autumnal day last Thursday which led to a wonderful opportunity for families to picnic in the grounds after the open classrooms. The front of the school looked amazing as a sea of families enjoyed the opportunity to share a picnic lunch.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our hard working staff who facilitated a range of additional activities last week to help celebrate Education Week. We are very fortunate at WNPS that we are able to show case so many great things that happen in government schools every day of the year!

Reports and P/T/S Conferences

The next couple of weeks are a peak time for staff as they are extremely busy analysing student achievement data and compiling the mid-year reports. In reviewing the feedback we have received from parents in regards to past reports, we have been working hard to explore how we can compile increasingly personalised reports for our students. Part of this focus will be to refer to specific pieces of student work and to highlight the key skills demonstrated in these pieces. So whilst you will find that the comments on the mid-year reports are more succinct, there will be a stronger focus on recognising and celebrating the individual achievements of each student. If all goes according to plan, we hope to distribute reports to students on Thursday 27th June.

To build on the information provided in the mid-year reports, we have scheduled Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences for Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July from between 2:30pm to 6.45pm. (Please pencil these dates into your diary). More information about how to book your preferred time will be provided in the Newsletter near the end of this term. During the P/T/S conferences, students will be able to present their portfolios and demonstrate their progress towards their goals. Parents will also have the opportunity to seek any further clarification about the mid-year reports from teachers.

SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST 2013

Term 2

15th April to 28th June
Monday 3rd June
3/4 CSIRO Incursion

Tuesday 4th June
3/4 CSIRO Incursion

Tuesday 4th June
Year 6 IMAX/Museum

Tuesday 4th June
Year 1/2 Zoo Excursion

Wednesday 5th June
Year 5 IMAX/Museum

Friday 7th June
Ambulance Incursion 5B & 5P

Tuesday 18th June
Ambulance Incursion 6B & 6C

Thursday 20th June
Free Dress Day— 'Camp' Clothes—Gold Coin Donation for Cottage by the Sea

Thursday 27th June
Year 3/4 IMAX Excursion

Dates to Remember

P/T/S Conferences
Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2.30pm to 6.45pm

Year 5/6 Camp—Howqua
29th July to 2nd August

Walking in Autistic Shoes
Donna Williams
Parent Information Session
Monday 12th August
7.00pm to 8.30pm

Year 3/4 Camp—Anglesea
9th to 13th September

Year 1/2 Swimming
Begins 9th September

School Tours
Thursday 6th June—10.00am
Wednesday 26th June—11.30am

Public Holiday
Queens Birthday—10th June

Curriculum Day
Friday 16th August
We look forward to sharing your child’s progress and achievements through this process in coming weeks.

**THANK YOU STEPHANIE TRIKASH**

Due to some unforeseen circumstances, one of our school councillors, Stephanie Trikash, has resigned from School Council. Stephanie has been heavily involved in the school for many years and her enthusiastic and insightful contributions at the School Council level has been valued and greatly appreciated. On behalf of the school community I would like to sincerely thank Stephanie for the many hours she has voluntarily contributed as a School Councillor.

A big thank you to Kara Kreis who has generously volunteered to fill the casual vacancy created on School Council until the end of 2013.

**2014 PREP ENROLMENTS**

We already have in excess of 50 prospective students enrolled for our 2014 prep classes. Thank you to the many existing families that have enrolled siblings for next year. It would be great if we could have most of these on the system by the end of this term. So please drop by the office to collect an enrolment form if you will have a child turning 5 before 30th April 2014, who will therefore be eligible for school enrolment.

Enjoy your Week!

Jim Cahill
Principal

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**For Sale—Year 6 T-Shirts**

The school has the following Year 6 T-shirts available for purchase.

Three, Size 14 Short Sleeve Polo’s—$33.00 each
One, Size 16 Rugby Top—$46.00 each

Contact Judy in the office on 9397 5722 if you are interested in purchasing any of the above items.
Easy ways to develop independence in kids

If you are anxious about your child's safety and tend to be more protective than you want, then start creating JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living, so that kids can learn to stand on their own two feet rather than be dependent on you.

A major challenge for parents is to find ways of safely moving children from being reliant on adults to a position of independence. This can be tough because your natural instinct is to nurture them.

Training for independence starts from a young age and continues into adolescence and beyond. Developing independence is one of the best ways to promote self-confidence.

When you teach children to do jobs for themselves, you send a powerful message that you believe that they are capable. Your actions speak louder than words.

Developing independence in kids can be tricky these days. Recently I heard a brilliant, yet deceptively simple idea that all parents can use to develop independence in their kids of any age.

I attended an advanced presentation skills seminar, conducted by Australian professional speaker Glenn Capelli.

Glenn said that many speakers complicated matters for audiences, making things too complex. One way of making it easy for audiences to learn is to create a JUNIOR VERSION of whatever we are talking about.

He likened this to the way that many sporting bodies have now developed modified versions of adult sports, so kids can learn the basic skills of the sport in fun, enjoyable ways.

I had one of those light bulb moments as I listened, and realised that effective parents create JUNIOR VERSIONS of the GAME all the time to help kids develop the skills of self-sufficiency and independence from a very early age.

Here are some examples:

1. We get toddlers to smooth the doonas and arrange their teddies on their beds – that’s a JUNIOR VERSION of making a bed.

2. We encourage early primary school kids to make snacks, prepare breakfasts and help prepare a meal. That’s a JUNIOR VERSION of cooking an evening meal.

3. We drive primary school kids half way to school and let them walk the rest. That’s a JUNIOR VERSION of walking to school.

4. We let an early teen go to a local cinema with friends. That’s a JUNIOR VERSION of going out without adult supervision.

There are plenty of ways to create JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living every day so kids can become more self-sufficient.

What JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living are you creating for your kids?

If you are anxious about your child’s safety and tend to be more protective than you want, then start creating JUNIOR VERSIONS of independent living, so that kids can learn to stand on their own two feet rather than be dependent on you.

Remember, REDUNDANCY is your aim as a parent!

Similarly, one way for kids to develop self-help skills is to create JUNIOR VERSIONS of what you already do, so they can develop the skill-sets needed to look after themselves, and help out the rest of the family.

Now that’s an idea worth thinking about!

Want your kids to help more at home without being paid? Get your FREE kids’ Chores & Responsibilities Guide when you subscribe to Happy Kids, my regular newsletter for parents at www.parentingideas.com.au.

Comment: www.twitter.com/michaelgrose

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Rosters...

**Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF)**

The parents on the roster for Fresh Fruit Friday for this week **Friday 31st May** are:

- Martin Ray
- Pamela Fernando
- Helen Parker
- Larissa Deeth
- Mette Nielsen
- Michelle Boyall
- Anne Tobin
- Melinda Maskey
- Andrew Savoia
- Dina Simpson

If you are able to help out weekly, fortnightly or monthly, please contact Linda Taylor at, taylor.linda.l1@edumail.vic.gov.au. This is a very happy and social group.

**Canteen**

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, so, if you can spare any of your valuable time, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Wednesday 29th May**—Kaylynn Rasmussen

**Thursday 30th May**—Anne Tobin

**Friday 31st May**—Kaylynn Rasmussen

**Wednesday 5th June**—Meredith Metin

**Thursday 6th June**—Fran Mitchell

**Friday 7th June**—Leanne Sutton & Georgina Evanson

Please remember that Lunch Orders are only available on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and NO Lunch Orders are available on the Last Day of Each Term.

**Uniform Shop News**

The Uniform Shop hours are Mondays and Thursdays from 8.30am to 9.15am. Any enquiries please contact Kara on 0413 008 185. Out of stock items are now back in stock. If you have put in an order for uniform items, please check at the office as they will be ready for collection.

**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 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.

**Working With Children Card (WWCC)**

If you wish to assist in the Canteen, Fresh Fruit Friday, Sport, Swimming, Excursions, or on Camps, you must have a Working With Children Card. Please note that these forms are available from any Australia Post office if you are wishing to apply for a check (note the forms are no longer available from the school). If you have a WWCC provide it to the office staff to be photocopied and a copy placed on file. A WWCC remains valid for five years.

Please note, this year, the second group of our parents who received their WWCC in 2008, will need to renew their WWCC in 2013. If you are in this situation, you will receive a ‘Renewal Letter’ from the Department of Justice. As soon as you receive this letter, please complete the process to renew your WWCC. If you don’t, you may be ‘caught out’ when it comes to volunteering to assist with school activities. Please don’t put it aside, act upon it immediately.

**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.**
Community Notice Board

2013-2014 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE to WNPS families via Williamstown High School. Willy North is no longer selling the books, however Willy High Parents & Friends Group is raising much-needed funds for our school. Books are still only $65 with many new businesses and most of the favorites still included. Order forms are available in the front foyer at WNPS and if you email this to Karen Needs at karenneeds@hotmail.com or phone 0408 547 539 to request your book be dropped into the Willy North office for you to collect. Alternatively, you can pick up a book directly from the High School Junior Campus office at Bayview Street, or the Senior Campus office in Pasco Street - just pop in. Thank you for your support, Sue Breedon & Karen Needs - Williamstown High Parents & Friends Group.

Unwanted Footy Boots—http://www.bootsforall.org.au/ We are currently collecting donations of unwanted footy boots for the “Boots for All” charity who will distribute the boots to clubs and children in need. For all donations please email Virginia at vmfk@internode.on.net if you have booty that your child can no longer use, or place any boots in the tub near the general office foyer.

The Hobsons Bay City Council is hosting a series of free Winter Workshops during June, July and August 2013 to support local community groups and volunteers. The Winter Workshop topics are: How to develop a great idea into a project, Tips on how to write a great funding application, Planning and designing your volunteer program, Volunteer recruitment and selection, Volunteer orientation and training, Volunteer supervision and support, Volunteer recognition and program evaluation, The Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. Please refer to the attachment for more information including topics, dates, times and how to book your place. If you would like more information, please email commdev@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au or telephone 9932 1001. A copy is also located on the school website under ‘General Notices’.

Artz Collective are so excited to announce that we will be holding a two day Musical Theatre intensive school holiday program on 11th and 12th of July for kids aged 5 to 16. Taught by industry professional guest teachers, and hosted by our Principal, Ms Ziggy Clements, they will learn about all aspects of Musical Theatre - singing, dance and acting. It's going to be loads of fun! Call 9939 6320 for further information.

We are Running for a Great Cause!

It that time of year again when Aysha, Leila, and myself (Bonnie) have signed up to RUN for a great cause!!!

This year we will be running on 21st July in The Age Run Melbourne to raise more MUCH NEEDED funds for the Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA), and we were hoping that you’d be able to support us in our fundraising efforts.

Raising funds for CERA is especially important to us because of our gratitude toward the outstanding knowledge and support they provide to our community. If you don’t already know, CERA is dedicated to eliminating preventable vision loss and blindness and reducing its impact on individuals and the community through quality research into the causes, treatment and prevention of eye diseases and offering support to people with low vision.

Bonnie (Aysha & Leila’s mum) is employed at CERA as a research fellow and clinical psychologist, and is a recent recipient of the CERA Excellence in Research Award 2013 – University of Melbourne - for exceptional effort in translational research that has led to a change in clinical practice.

Last year, Aysha and Leila raised over $1000 on their own, and we we're hoping to raise even MORE this year. Please help us to break their existing fundraising record!!!

We appreciate your support of this great cause and our exciting adventures!

If you wish to donate please visit our team web page at:
ART NEWS

This year the theme of Education Week is Cultural Diversity. To celebrate Education Week in the Art room, students have been creating artworks based on different cultures. The Prep students have been working on making Japanese cherry blossom pictures, the Year 1/2 students have been making and decorating Chinese fans and Lanterns, the Years 3 to 6 students have been creating boomerangs using Aboriginal dot style painting and also making Indian henna hands.

The results have been awesome and much of the students work is already out on display in the main corridor and in the foyer of the main entrance (off Melbourne Road). More work will be placed on display over the course of the week. Please take some time to have a stroll and enjoy the artwork. The students are very proud of their work, and love to see people enjoying the art work displays.

Congratulations to Anais O'Toole who has been awarded the Artist of the week award for the amazing results she achieved when designing and painting his boomerang. Also a big well done to Year 2I who have won the Class Art Award this week. They consistently produce great work, effort and attitude during our art sessions and are very deserving of this award.

Julie Kelly—Visual Arts Teacher

Junior School Council Report

The JSC will be running a Gold Coin donation, ‘Dress Up Day’ on Thursday 20th June. The theme of the day is to come dressed in your favourite ‘camp’ clothes. This is because the charity we are raising money for is a children’s camp called Cottage by the Sea.

Cottage by the Sea, one of the oldest Australian Children’s charities is a non-government, not for profit organization that empowers disadvantaged children by supporting them in developing their mind, body and wellbeing by providing leadership and outreach programs in a positive, healthy, seaside environment. If you would like to learn more this charity go to http://cottagebythesea.com.au/

Start saving those gold coins, as the class that raises the most money will receive a surprise reward!

Celebrate World Environment Day in Hobsons Bay with a week of FREE sustainable food focussed community events.

In line with the 2013 Global World Environment Day theme – ‘Think.Eat.Save: Reduce Your Foodprint’ – Hobsons Bay City Council is hosting the following events:

- **Wednesday, 5th June** – **THINK: Eating for Sustainability Forum** – hear from Millie Ross, Lauren Burns, Rod May and Professor Barbara Norman, with Vasili Kanidiadis as MC. Free organic food and drinks. Hosted by Councillor Angela Altair as part of her 2013 Mayoral Program.

- **Thursday, 6th June** – **EAT: Cooking for Sustainability Workshop** – cook and share a delicious three course meal using organic, local and seasonal produce.

- **Saturday, 8th June** – **SAVE: Gardening for Sustainability Workshop** – Learn how your garden can save you in a number of ways; food miles, waste, chemicals, money and more!

For more information or to book your place, please see the attached information or visit the Council’s website.
STUDENT BANKING 2013

Does your child have a Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite account?
Did you know that for every NEW child that starts banking at school – we get $5.00 commission?
PLUS we get 5.00% commission on all deposits.
This is a great fundraiser for our school.

We have School Banking every Wednesday

Just bring your deposit book in with your $ and hand it to your Teacher.
Your deposit will be processed and your child will get their book back the same or next day.
The Student Banking program is aimed at helping students understand core financial values and money management skills. The emphasis on this program is on regular savings and not the value of each deposit so there is no minimum deposit amount, it is more of a fun and engaging activity for the students to enjoy!

DON’T HAVE A BOOK?

........Call into your local Commonwealth Bank Branch and open a School Banking account – it’s simple; all you need is Parent photo I.D and child’s Birth certificate – you can start banking at school straight away!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school office or call our School Banking Specialist Susan Brailsford M: 0422 116 040 / email susan.brailsford@cba.com.au
The School Banking Team

Win a share of the Dollarmites’ treasure by saving in Term 2 of School Banking.

The Dollarmites have found some amazing treasure on Savings Adventure Island and both your child and school could win a share of it in Term 2 just by saving.
First prize is a $5,000 family adventure holiday to anywhere in Australia, with $500 spending money. Plus, the winning student’s school will also receive $5,000 to spend as they wish. What’s more, there are 25 Runners-up Kid’s Adventure Packs, worth over $700 each, to be won. Each adventure pack includes a Wii U, night vision goggles, a waterproof camera, walkie talkies and a Razor eSpark electric scooter!

For you chance to win, students need to simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 2. To find out more, talk to your School Banking Co-ordinator or visit commbank.com.au/adventureisland

After School Care

Dear Parents/Guardians.
Children had a great afternoon last Thursday serving parents coffee, tea and muffins for a gold coin donation, which will be donated to the Cancer Council. The children raised a total of $103.65. Thank you to all the parents who contributed.
Parents remember to check the blue lost property basket at aftercare on collection of your child/children, the basket is again filling quickly.
The Holiday Program is also fast approaching, please remember to keep a look out on the oshclub website for upcoming holiday programs.
Thank you
Leanne
Oshclub Coordinator
Prep Enrolments for 2014

Telephone — 9397 5722  Website — www.willynthps.vic.edu.au
e-mail — williamstown.north.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Provisional Enrolments

A Parent Information session was held on Tuesday 7th May. Provisional Prep enrolments for 2014 will commence on Wednesday 8th May. ‘Enrolment Forms’ and the ‘Preliminary Information Sheet’ are now available from the General Office. A copy can also be download from the School Website from Wednesday 8th May.

Please Provide

1. Proof of Age (Birth Certificate).
2. Certificate of Immunization.
3. Proof of Residential Address for Primary Carer (3 Documents) (Drivers Licence, a Rates notice and a third document with your full name & residential address).

Enrolment Policy

Please note that in line with the “School Ceiling” endorsed by the South Western Regional Director, only families who reside within our defined school neighbourhood are able to seek enrolment. A map defining the school neighbourhood is available on the school website.

Parent Information Session

“Finding Out About Williamstown North Primary School”

An Information session for prospective 2014 Prep Parents was held on Tuesday 7th May from 7.00pm to 8.00pm at the school.

Additional School Tours will be conducted on

- Thursday 6th June at 10.00am and
- Wednesday 26th June at 11.30am.

Additional tours will be facilitated on request during Term 3 by contacting the office on 9397 5722.

The ‘2014 Prep Parent Information Night’

is held for Parents of “Confirmed Prep Enrolments”.

Tuesday 26th November 2013, 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Kay Margetts from Melbourne University will speak on “School Readiness” and “School Expectations”.

Transition Program

Our Kinder to School Transition program for our 2014 Preps will commence the week beginning Monday 14th October, Week 2 of Term 4.

All details regarding transition will be included with the ‘Letter of Enrolment’ confirmation, sent to families at the end of Term 3.

If you have any enrolment questions or concerns please contact the Assistant Principal Wendy Emin on 9397 5722.
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