FETE—11 days to go!
Principal’s Report

FETE EXCITEMENT GROWING!

It was exciting to open my emails after the long weekend to read all about the behind the scenes activity that has been taking place in preparation for our Fete next week. Our planning committee, being wonderfully led by Michael Jackson, has stepped into overdrive now as the event draws near. Whilst most of the planning is now well in place, we still require volunteers on various activities throughout the day. If you haven’t popped your name down yet, we hope you may consider helping out for an hour or two. Please follow all of the Fete news closely over the next week for all of the last minute details.

All proceeds from this year’s Fete (as well as past fundraising proceeds) will be used to install four new playgrounds across the school this year. Planning for these playgrounds began last year with five playground companies presenting to our Facilities & Finance subcommittee. We are now at the design stage and we hope to have the new equipment installed during the second half of this year. Our students will be so excited when they see the scale of these changes ahead!

STAFF TRAINING DAY REPORT

Our hard working teachers had a very busy day last Friday for our second staff training day this year. The program for the day focused on our maths program and was facilitated by Rob Vingerhoets who is recognised as one of Australia’s leading consultants in this field. During the morning session, Rob engaged the staff with further strategies for challenging students in maths; particularly those students who manipulate numbers very confidently. As we completed a number of maths problems ourselves, it was really interesting talking about the different strategies that we each used to solve a problem. This certainly highlighted the advantages of thinking broadly and recognising that there are many ways to solve a problem.

During the middle session of the day, teachers worked on strategies for accurately assessing each student’s progress as they learn each essential outcome and then apply their understanding. Rob emphasized the importance of collecting data regularly and carefully using this information to plan the next stages of each child’s learning.

After lunch, Rob worked with each level of the school to look at our current planning mechanisms in maths and to investigate how these could be further strengthened to ensure we are meeting the needs of our most able learners in maths and carefully tracking the needs of all students. Overall it was an
extremely productive program for the day and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Crissy Samaras (Junior School & Maths Leader) for organising such a successful program for the school.

**WELCOME PICNIC THANK YOU**
The hot weather didn’t dent our wonderful community spirit last Tuesday evening with around 100 parents and students joining in our Welcome Picnic/BBQ. It was great to see lots of new prep families mingling together and also meeting existing families from the junior school area. On behalf of everyone who attended I would like to express my sincere thanks to Tania Brown (Prep PLC Leader) for organising the event, as well as a big thank you to many of the year one parents who provided some very tasty salads!

**ENGRAVED PAVERS**
Over the weekend we have undertaken a major upgrade of our paving in front of the gym. Over recent years the roots from the trees had made many sections of this area quite uneven and unsafe. In addition to levelling out the existing paving, all the planter boxes have been extended and covered with synthetic turf, which has come up wonderfully. However, the very exciting news is that all of the engraved pavers that were ordered late last year as one of our fundraisers, have now all been placed throughout this area.

Thank you to all parents who supported this fundraiser last year. You now have a wonderful lasting legacy of your association with the school.

**WELCOME MELANIE FARRUGIA**
We extend a warm welcome to Melanie Farrugia who will be working in 3L every Wednesday for the remainder of this year. Melanie has worked at Point Cook Primary School across many year levels over the last ten years. I have every confidence that Melanie & Dianna Lane will work very closely together to ensure a seamless provision for all students in Year 3L.

Enjoy your week
Jim Cahill
Principal

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**ASD and School Based Strategies.**

**WNPS are now members of AMAZE (formerly Autism Victoria).**

**Amaze Event—Sunday 7th April—Walk for Awareness, Wear Blue and Have Fun Together.**

ISP Coordinator

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**This week’s School Councillor is—Megan Taylor**

I’m really pleased to have been elected to the WNPS Council this year. My husband and I have two daughters at WNPS: Sophie, who is in Year 4R and Chloe in Prep H. I really believe Willy North is an excellent school and being part of the School Council gives me a chance to play an active role in its ongoing success. And, just because I never do anything by halves, I’m also a Class Representative for Prep H, which is another great way to be more active in the school community. Right now, all my spare time is being spent on starting up my own Corporate Communications consulting business, specialising in employee communication and change management. It’s lots of fun and, to be honest, just a little bit scary as anyone who has started their own business can attest!
The pitfall of using other children as benchmarks

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Have you ever compared your child’s behaviour, academic progress or social skills with a sibling or your friend’s children?

Comparing your child with others is a stress-inducing and, ultimately, useless activity.

But it’s hard to resist, as we tend to assess our progress in any area of life by checking out how we compare with our peers.

When you were a child in school you probably compared yourself to your schoolmates. Your teachers may not have graded you, but you knew who the smart kids were and where you ranked in the pecking order.

Now that you have kids of your own do you still keep an eye on your peers? Do you use the progress and behaviour of their kids as benchmarks to help you assess your own performance as well as your child’s progress? Or perhaps you compare your child to yourself at the same age?

Benchmarking children’s progress with that of other children is not a wise parenting strategy. Inevitably, it will lead to parent frustration as there will always be a child who performs better than your own on any scale you use.

Kids develop at their own rates

Each child has his or her own developmental clock, which is nearly impossible to alter. There are slow bloomers, early developers, bright sparks and steady-as-you-go kids in every classroom. The slow bloomers can cause the most concern for parents who habitually compare children to siblings, their friends’ kids and even themselves when they were in school.

The trick is to focus on your child’s improvement and effort and use your child’s results as the benchmark for his or her progress and development. “Your spelling is better today than it was a few months ago” is a better measure of progress than “Your spelling is the best in the class!”

Gender matters

It’s no secret that boys’ and girls’ brains were developed by different architects. One major difference lies around timing, or maturity. The maturity gap between boys and girls is anywhere between 12 months and two years. This gap seems to be consistent all the way to adulthood.

Quite simply, girls have a developmental head start over boys in areas such as handwriting, verbal skills and relationship skills. Boys benefit greatly from teaching strategies designed for their specific needs. They also benefit from having teachers and parents who recognise that patience is a virtue when teaching and raising boys, as it seems to take longer for many boys to learn and develop.

Kids have different talents, interests and strengths

So your eight-year-old can’t hit a tennis ball like Novak Djokovic, even though your neighbour’s child can. Avoid comparing the two as your child may not care about tennis anyway.

It’s better to help your child identify his or her own talents and interests. Also recognise that the strengths and interests of a child may be completely different to those of his or her peers and siblings.

Avoid linking your parenting self-esteem to your child’s performance

As a parent you should take pride in your children’s performance at school, in sport or their leisure activities. Seeing your child do well is one of the unsung pleasures of parenting. You should also celebrate their achievements and milestones, such as taking their first steps, getting their first goal in a game or getting great marks at school.

However, you shouldn’t have too much personal stake in your children’s success or milestones, as this close association makes it hard to separate yourself from them. It may also lead to excessive parental pressure for kids to do well for the wrong reasons – to please you!

The maxim “You are not your child” is a challenging but essential parental concept to live by. Doing so takes real maturity and altruism, but it is the absolute foundation of that powerful thing known as “unconditional love”.

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Michael Grose Presentations
PO Box 107 Balnarring Vic 3926 +61 3 5953 1798 1 (03) 5953 1722 e office@parentingideas.com.au
All rights reserved. For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges please visit our website.
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Rosters…

Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF) - Helpers Needed

This week, Friday 15th March we would like any parents that can assist with FFF duty to meet in the staffroom at 9.00am. A roster is being finalised, however more assistance is required. 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 parent or family members are always needed, so, if you can spare any of your valuable time it would be greatly appreciated.

Thursday 14th March—Fran Mitchell
Thursday 21st March—Help Needed
Friday 15th March—Kay Lynn
Friday 22nd March—Kellie Walker

Please remember that Lunch Orders are only available on Wednesday, 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. Stock that was on order has arrived. Please collect any orders from the office. The Prep Polo shirts have arrived and are ready for collection from the office. If you wish to make alternative arrangements, please contact the office. Delivery of the Prep Rugby Windcheaters is still a couple of weeks away. Please check the newsletter for notification of when they have been delivered.

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 child/ren 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 place 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.
ART NEWS

On Tuesday 19th March, WNPS will be running their school Cross Country Trials at Cherry Lake. The 11 and 12 year olds will run 3km and the 10 year olds 2km. The following schedule is when your child will be participating:

- 4.00pm – 10 year olds (8 and 9 year olds)
- 4:15pm – 11 year olds
- 4:30pm – 12 year olds

All participants need to attend the trials in order to be considered for the team. Parents also need to be in attendance, unless arrangements are communicated with me prior. Parental assistance is required on the afternoon in order for the children to run in the correct direction. Please contact me if you are available to assist.

Sarah Nobbs
Sports Coordinator

Community Notice Board

Williamstown Auskick Registration Day 2013. Date: Saturday 16th March. Place: Bayside Oval (Bayview St Williamstown, Bayview Ovals). Time: 11.00am - 1.00pm. Cost: $70 (you can also register and pay online by visiting http://www.aflauskick.com.au). Auskick begins Sat 13th April until Sat 10th August 9.00am - 10.30am). Assistance also needed in Coaching roles for various year levels. For any question contact Tyrone Lewis 0411 510 176

Netball Players Wanted—Willi Tigers Netball Club is looking for U9, U11 & U13 players (girls & boys) for next season which starts on Saturday 20th April. Players train on Wednesday afternoon in Williamstown and play games on Saturday afternoon. If you are interested please contact Ruth Vicino 0407 366 484 (ruthv70@gmail.com) or via willi.tigers@gmail.com ASAP.

Host Families Needed—In June-July 2013 Student Exchange Australia New Zealand Ltd will be receiving exchange students from Europe, Canada, the USA, and Latin America. We are looking for volunteer host families to welcome these students into their homes for between 2-10 months. Contact Sandra Harders on (02) 9997 0700 for more information.
Grocery Stall—Donation of food each week

The Grocery stall at the FETE needs your donations. This week is PACKET Week.

A bag has been placed in your child’s class to place you donated PACKET item.

FETE 2013—Souvlaki Stall

Can you help?

We need someone to run a Souvlaki Stall.

We have everything sorted but we need someone to put their hand up and take charge on the day.

If you think you can help, call Ruairi on 0410 233 555 or Michael on 0425 779 168

Dollarmites School Visit - “SPEN” is visiting Williamstown North!

“SPEN” is coming to our SCHOOL ASSEMBLY on MONDAY 18TH MARCH to talk to us about the exciting Commonwealth Bank School Banking program.

Through the program, primary school kids can bank at school, giving them hands-on banking experience in a fun and interactive environment.

The School Banking program includes an exciting and exclusive Rewards Program designed to encourage children to get into the habit of making regular savings. Every time your child makes a deposit at school they receive a Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once they have individually collected 10 tokens, they can be redeemed for an exclusive Dollarmites reward item. Students will have lots of fun saving their tokens for these cool items.

SPEN will be excited to see you all on Monday 18th March

Remember, School Banking day is every Wednesday.

Parents - If your child does not have a Youthsaver Account, Susan Brailsford, our Commonwealth Bank School Banking Specialist will be in the Hall Foyer to open School Banking Accounts immediately after Assembly on Monday 18th March (3.30pm-4.00pm). All you need to bring is your Photo ID (e.g. Drivers Licence). Too Easy!

Any questions please call Leanne Sutton, our School Banking Coordinator on 0424 221 752 or Susan Brailsford, School Banking Specialist at The Commonwealth Bank 0422 116 040
susan.brailsford@cba.com.au

Important information: Terms and conditions issued by Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 for Youthsaver Account are available from the Bank and should be considered before making any decision about the Youthsaver Account.
Proud Sponsors of our FETE

PLATINUM SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS

SILVER SPONSORS

BRONZE SPONSORS
THE WNPS 2013 FETE
MEGA RAFFLE

1st Prize – 55 Inch Full HD LCD TV from The Good Guys Hoppers Crossing, rrp $1,200

2nd Prize – One Priceless Autographed & Authenticated Cricket Bat by Mike Hussey (framed in box) donated by the Commonwealth Bank

3rd Prize - Retail and Beauty Extravaganza (over $500 in vouchers and treats from Sarah Jane Massage, Muse Hair Gallery, Tulle, Brown Sugar, Essential Lingerie, Blue Illusion, Embrace and more)

4th Prize - $500 Voucher from Ziggurat Design Royal Arcade, Bags, Scarves, Jewellery and Gifts

5th Prize – $300+ Family Photographic session, with viewing, design and 8x12’ print from Aver and Line

6th Prize – One Exquisite Hand Made Quilt with matching pillowcases valued at $300 from Assembly Hall, Williamstown

7th Prize – $250 Sporting Goods Pack from Sportspower, Williamstown

8th Prize - $200 Voucher from Dream Academy, Williamstown including annual enrolment, 5 Free Dance Classes and 2 Free Singing Lessons

9th Prize – $200 Ladies Pamper Pack from Hairhouse Warehouse, Williamstown

10th Prize – One Beautiful Sterling Silver and Rose Gold Pendant Bracelet rrp $169

11th Prize – $150 Homewares Pack from Britt & Beck Homewares, Williamstown

12th Prize – $100 in Dinner Vouchers, Victoria Inn, Williamstown

13th Prize – $100 Menswear Voucher from Brixton Pound, Williamstown

14th Prize – $100 Children’s Clothes Voucher, Always Young, Williamstown

TICKETS $2.00 - DRAWN 2.00PM CENTRE STAGE ON FETE DAY

24 MARCH 2013 - WINNERS NOTIFIED BY PHONE OR MAIL

TICKETS WERE SENT HOME WITH THE ELDEST CHILD ON WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH
Volunteering has been a bit slow with 200 positions still to fill…….

If indecision about what to volunteer for is holding you back, here are some ideas:

**Dad's:**
- Fulfil your **BBQ'ing** destiny and raise money for the school while you are at it!
- Or spend some time selling food and drinks to the hungry hoards at the **Canteen**
- More of a behind the scenes kind of guy? How about helping out with **Set up or Pack Up**

**Or harness your hidden talents:**
- Green Thumbs (**Garden Stall**)  
- Artists (**Body Beauty Art**)  
- Golfers (**Mini Golf**)  
- Carnival Callers (**Show Bags**)  
- Organisers (**Children's Activities**)  
- Sales-people (**White Elephant**)  
- People with **First Aid Knowledge** (To help with patching up patrons!)  
- Not to mention all the extra general hands we will need during the day (Marshalls and Gatekeepers (**Event Management**))

Remember that the fete is a major fundraising event for the school. The money that we raise contributes to making Willy North the wonderful learning environment that it is.

**SO GET MOVING AND SHOW US WHAT YOU ARE MADE OF!**
Williamstown North Primary School Fete - 2013 Volunteer Form

Please Return to the School Office or email to: domtoniburton@yahoo.co.uk

Name ______________________________________________________________
Phone ______________________________________________________________
Email ______________________________________________________________
Child Name _________________________________________ Class ___________

Special Roles:
I can help with First Aid □

Parent Volunteers:
I can help out at the following times:

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Auskick Station</th>
<th>Body Art and Beauty</th>
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Williamstown North Primary School Fete - 2013 Volunteer Form

Please Return to the School Office or email to: domtoniburton@yahoo.co.uk

Name ______________________________________________________________

Phone ______________________________________________________________

Email ______________________________________________________________

Child Name _______________________________________

Class _______________

Special Roles:

I can help with First Aid □

Parent Volunteers (Cont):

I can help out at the following times:

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FETE—Off and Running

Fete 2013 - Discount Rides Order Form
In today's newsletter appears the Discount Rides Order Form for the upcoming Fete. This order form was sent home on Friday 1st March 2013 to the eldest in the family. Please return the order form prior to Monday 18th March 2013 to receive the discounted price. Purchases made after this date will need to be made on Fete day from the Ticket Sales Booth.

ELEPHANT STALL—FOR THE FETE
White Elephant Stall - Fete
The White Elephant Stall raises a significant amount of money to do much needed work around the school, by selling good quality toys, books, puzzles, bicycles, sporting goods, CD's, DVD's, bikes, scooters and small household items. Items that sell well are clean, working and intact; we do not accept items that are broken or have parts missing.

If you could look through your garage, book shelves and kids’ toys and pull out some things for the White Elephant Stall. Please bring your items to the green container which is located behind the portables at the rear of the staff car park. For safety reasons, it is best to enter from the school yard, not the car park.

White Elephant Stall Collection Times:
Tuesday 8:30am - 9:15am and
Thursday 3.15pm - 4.00pm
Saturday 16th March - 10.00am-11.30am
Saturday 23rd March - 10.00am-11.30am

To prevent vandalism and theft, donations of goods must be made only when the container is attended; under no circumstances are goods to be left at the container whilst it is unattended.

There will also be two Saturday collections before the Fete - keep an eye on the Newsletter for further updates. Thank you for your generosity.

Please contact Liz Hunter on 0413 284 201 or Leanne Sutton on 0424 221 752 for further information.

GARDEN STALL – WANTED
Garden Stall
Fete isn’t a Fete without a garden stall, and a garden stall isn’t a garden stall without plants.

We are asking friends and family of the school to donate potted plants for sale at our garden stall. Please bring plants on the morning of the Fete. Here are some great ideas:

- Buy a punnet of herbs/flowering annuals/veggie seedlings at the plant nursery and plant them into pots (even old baked beans tins work well with a few holes punched into the bottom). They will be growing nicely in time for the Fete if you do them in the next two weeks.

- Do you have a plant somewhere in the garden that isn’t where you want it? Transplant into a pot and bring it along to the Fete for us to sell.

- Getting bored with your indoor plants? Bring them to our Fete and we’ll sell them, and you might even go home with something new to revamp your decor.

Email Virginia with any questions or queries vmfk@intemode.on.net
Virginia Millard
Williamstown North Primary School 2013 Fete

CAKE STALL

One stall that is always a family favourite is the cake stall. However, to be successful we need lots and lots of home made cakes, biscuits, slices and any other sticky and sweet Fete treats that you can think of.

Favourites from the 2011 Fete were:
- Giant biscuits
- Date & nut loaves
- Tea Cake
- Toffee
- Slices
- Gluten Free Cakes
- Carrot Cake
- Plain Sponge
- Rocky Road
- Cup Cakes
- Rum Balls
- Apple Cake
- Brownies
- Honey Joys
- Fruit Cake

(please no cream as we have limited fridge space)

All goods need to be **home baked** and wrapped in bags or layers of cling wrap and have an ingredients label attached. Cup cakes, toffee and other treats that can be sold separately can be dropped off in plastic containers. Please drop off your items in the ART ROOM on Saturday 22nd March between 1.30pm and 4.30pm.

If you are not a baker, then get the kids or grandma to help. Here is a website you can use for inspiration. [www.taste.com.au/recipes/collections/fete+recipes](http://www.taste.com.au/recipes/collections/fete+recipes)

If you have any questions please contact me on dtoplis71@gmail.com, Thanks Davena Toplis
WNPS 2013 FETE
ALL DAY RIDE BANDS
DISCOUNT ORDER FORM

This is your only opportunity to order your ‘All Day Rides Band’ at the discounted price of $20. On Fete Day ‘all day bands’ will be $30 and single rides will be $4.

THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE AT A DISCOUNT CLOSES ON MONDAY 18TH MARCH

$20 DISCOUNT ORDER

Student Name: ___________________________ Class: ___________________________

Number of Bands @ $20 each: ______________

Total Payment with order: ______________ Contact Phone: _______________________

BANDS WILL BE SENT HOME – FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2013

Ride bands will be sent home with students on Friday 22nd March.

Any uncollected bands will be held at the Ticket Sales Booth on Fete Day under the Student named above.

PAYMENT WITH ORDER

Cash, Cheque, EFTPOS (please circle)

Visa or Mastercard (please circle and fill in below)

(Please note we do not accept Diners and American Express.)

Cardholder’s name ________________________________

Card Number ________________________________

Expiry Date ______/_______

Cardholder’s Signature ________________________________

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL LEANDRA MICALLEF 0417 373 802
Brings to you a FREE Single Parent Family Fun Day

Sunday 7th of April 2013.
12 noon – 5.00pm

The wonderful Logan Reserve in Altona has plenty to offer, Melways reference is 54 H11

Free BBQ and Drinks

Free kids activities and games

Free face painting, Membership Specials
+ So Much More!!

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL!!

Please RSVP to Moush on 0430 504 119

or info@singleparentsactivekids.org

Get Active Sports lead the way in providing children the opportunity to try sport for the first time in a fun, affordable and friendly program.

$80 for 6 weekly indoor sessions
Includes a ball, bat or racquet for your child to keep!
No additional costs or uniforms required

For all children aged 3-8 years

One sport each term

Saturday or Sunday Mornings

Cricket  Tennis  Soccer
Basketball  Aussie Rules

Check our website for a venue near you!

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Come in and say Hi to Julie and the Team.