2013 Prep Parent Information Session
Welcome to

Williamstown North Primary School - 1409
Members of Staff

Jim Cahill - Principal

Wendy Emin – Assistant Principal

Crissy Samaras – Junior School Manager

Giorgia Moss – Senior School Manager

Current Prep Teachers
Tania Brown - Lisa Gammon - Stella Stamatakis - Emma Healey - Emily Millman
School Purpose Statement

WNPS is a dynamic and inclusive learning community that promotes personal excellence, creativity and empowerment.
Getting to Know Your Child

- Provide specific information for a smooth Transition.
- Develop relationships of all ages.
- Encourage and develop friendships.
- Individual Assessments occur during February.
Parent Partnership

- Parent Involvement (Student Banking, Canteen, Uniform Shop)
- Helping in classrooms
- School Council and Sub-Committees
- Incursions & Excursions
- Swimming & Sporting Programs
- Fundraising – 2013 Art Show, FETE
- School Events (Tabloid Sports, Community Social Nights)
- We conduct Information Sessions for parents
- Mother’s & Father’s Day Stalls and Breakfasts
- Class Representative Program

Parents do not require a Working With Children Card (WWCC) for helping in the classroom, however it is recommended parents obtain a WWCC when their child starts school. This would enable a parent to assist with an activity at short notice and avoid the disappointment of not being able to help due to not having a WWC card. A WWC card takes up to 6 weeks to process and is valid for 5 years.
Student Safety

The 'Key Snap' chain is attached at Recess and Lunch Breaks. If the gate is chained, enter via the front gate or use this entrance and re-attach the "Key Snap" chain.
Learning Beyond the Classroom

**Incursions & Excursion**

Children have the opportunity to experience a range of Incursions and Excursions that they experience to enhance and further develop their learning in the classroom.

During 2012 the Prep children experienced:

- Meet a Life Saver
- Prep Disco and BBQ
- Fire Education
- Car Education
- Anti-Bullying Incursion

Children also undertake learning opportunities beyond the classroom:

- Outdoor covered areas
- The Veggie Gardens
- In the Sandpit
- Outdoor large Chess Board
Williamstown North PS - About Us - 1

- Develop Relationships
- Regular Open Communication
- School Values/Awards
Williamstown North PS - About Us - 2

- Commitment to Literacy & Numeracy
Williamstown North PS - About Us - 3

- Transition Program
- Prep Parent Surveys at the start of Term Two
- Kay Margetts Presenter from Melbourne Uni
Williamstown North PS - About Us - 4

- Inclusion Coordinator
- Butterfly Room
- Before & After School Care
School Environment & Leadership Opportunities - 1
School Environment & Leadership Opportunities - 2

- Leadership Responsibilities
- Buddies
- Monitors
Curriculum Provision - Literacy

Gradual Release of Responsibility Model – Literacy
Reading Hour

* Daily Independent Reading for all students takes place after demonstration or explicit teaching in Read Aloud or Shared Reading so that students may ‘practise’ the comprehension strategy they have been learning about.

Whole Class Learning Focus – Short, Sharp, Explicit Modelling Through Read Aloud or Shared Text

Small Guided Teaching Group
Guided Conferencing 1 on 1
Teachers conducting roving conferences

Whole Class Speaking & Listening Opportunities
Articulation Connected to the Focus & Success Criteria for All Students

* Daily Independent Reading – Student focus continues on the Comprehension Strategies, reading their ‘Just Right Books’
Curriculum Provision - Literacy

All classrooms have a ‘Classroom Library’ where students are able to self-select texts, borrow and make choices of the types of books they are interested in having in their rooms e.g. Author, Topic etc.

Reading Satchels/Reading Logs
Each child has their own Reading Satchel and Reading Log to share their ‘Just Right’ Books with you at home on a daily basis.
Curriculum Provision - Literacy

Gradual Release of Responsibility Model – Literacy
Writing Hour

Whole Class Learning Focus – Short, Sharp, Explicit Modelling Through Interactive Guided Modelled, Shared Writing

Small teaching group
- Interactive Writing.
- Language Experience.
- Guided Writing.
- Teacher Conducting roving conferences.

Student engaged in Independent Writing Tasks, working on various aspects e.g.
2. Craft of Writing.
4. Writing Process – planning, composing, recording, revising or publishing.
5. Whole class Writers Notebook.

Whole Class Speaking and Listening Opportunities
Articulation Connected to the Focus and Success Criteria for All Students
Curriculum Provision - Numeracy

Model of the Gradual Release of Responsibility – Numeracy
The Lesson Structure

- Warm Up Activity – 5 to 10 minutes
- Introduction 5 to 10 minutes
- Focus Group 15 Minutes
- Independent or Group Work 30 Minutes
- Share/Reflection – 5 to 10 minutes
Problem Solving Strategies

- Make a table
- Make a list
- Draw a picture/diagram
- Act it out
- Make a model
- Identify a pattern
- Write a number sentence
- Solve a simpler, related problem
- Guess and Check
- Work backwards
Curriculum Provision - Shared Inquiry

Shared Inquiry allows students to develop significant understanding about the focus/question through meaningful teaching and learning experiences.

- Helps students organise the new information and skills in a way that assists them to form concepts and generalisations about their world.
- Demonstrate what they have learnt (knowledge and skills).
- Shared Inquiry has links across all curriculum areas.
- Students adopt/use a high level of thinking and organisation skills.
ICT/Multi Media Centre

ICT (Information & Communication Technology) is a cross curricular area with learning occurring in the classroom, in specialist areas and in the Multi Media Centre.

In our Multi Media Centre, students are engaged in evaluating and creating Multimedia texts – such as webpage's, animations, movies, pictures & comics. There is a strong literacy focus to these sessions.

Students also learn basic skills that are required for creating, thinking and communicating in other areas of the curriculum; creating pictures, word documents, presentations, pamphlets and webpage’s. They explore useful visual thinking tools, learn about locating information on the Internet and manipulating data. Students learn tools for communicating, such as email and online communication tools.

— ICT Specialist
— Computer & Laptop Trolleys
— 1:1 Learning Program (Year 4’s & Year 5’s)
— IWBS (Interactive Whiteboards)
Children have a 45 minutes session each week for PE.

They are taught a variety of fundamental motor skills and games related to:

— Running
— Skipping
— Hopping
— Gymnastics
— Ball Skills

The children also have experiences in dance & fitness activities.

The students take part in sports activities such:

— Tabloid Sports – Prep to Year 2
— Swimming Program Prep to Year 6
Performing Arts at Williamstown North is a vibrant and positive learning community with a focus on student success; every student can succeed because every student can improve.

- A classroom based program where each student receives a 45 minutes Performing Arts session.
- An after school keyboard program is provided by ABC Music Group a professional and student focused organisation.
- An Instrumental Program – Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Drums, Trumpet and Trombone.
- Senior Choir for Years 3 to 6 students.
LOTE - Japanese

We offer a culturally based Japanese program, where children learn the reading, writing and speaking elements of the language within a broader cultural context, enabling them to also learn about life in Japan. The aim is to engage children in their Japanese lessons by using lots of fun, art-based and hands-on activities that appeal to children of all age levels and abilities. Wherever possible, the Japanese program will also form links with the children’s classroom Shared Inquiry.

Prep children will explore basic Japanese language elements, including greetings, numbers, shapes and colours, through fun activities such as songs and games. The children will be engaged with individual and group art activities, based around the Japanese culture. Hands-on activities, such as dressing up in Japanese Kimonos, will enrich their experience of learning Japanese.
Visual Art

Visual Art is an important area of learning at Williamstown North Primary School. We value imagination, creativity and original thinking and this is especially evident through The Arts. All students attend the Visual Art Room for a 45 minute lesson per week, taken by a Specialist Art teacher. During this session, students use a range of art media and materials to plan, make and present artwork which communicates their experiences, feelings, observations and ideas.

The Williamstown North Primary School Visual Art program aims to develop and encourage the children’s self expression and visual awareness through creating, making, presenting and reflecting. Children are encouraged to explore and respond to art in past and present contexts, and as relevant to their experiences. All art experiences from Prep to Year 6 are sequential to build on their skills and understandings. They are designed for students to reach their potential at each stage of their development.
Additional Activities

School Lunchtime Activities
- Science Club
- Computer Club
- Art Club
- Resource Centre – Reading
- Tinkering Club
- Games/Activities Club
- Gardening Club
- Japanese Club
- Chess Club

Extra Curricular Activities (External Providers)
- *Keyboard – After School
- *Instrumental Music – After School
- *Guitar – After School
- *Tennis – Lunch time
- *Soccer – Lunch time
- *Dance – Lunch time
- *Kelly Sports – After School
Designated School Neighbourhood

Thank you for your attendance

Arigatoo Gozaimasu
(Thank you in Japanese)