

NEWSLETTER

Term 1
February 23rd, 2016

Exceptional Educational Experiences

DATES TO REMEMBER

Leadership Camp (selected Gr6's)	22 nd -26 th Feb
Grade 6 Sailing Camp	29 th Feb - 4 th March
Swimming away 11:30-2:30:	1 st , 3 rd , 8 th , 10 th March
Clean up Australia Day – Whitfield	9am Fri 4 th March
Labour Day (Public Holiday)	Mon 14 th March
Grade 3-4 Camp (15 Mile Ck)	15 th - 18 th March
School council & AGM @ 7pm	Tues 15 th March
Parent/student/teacher interviews	22 nd & 23 rd March
Term 1 ends 2:30pm	Thur 24 th March

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

The school calendar dates in the pink text box above, provide you with the excursions and events that are happening at the school in the next few weeks. It is important that parents take notice of the events and dates (write them in your dairy/calendar), as we now have the general permission form for local school excursions during school times.

Stick the latest newsletter on your fridge !

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The next School Council is the AGM (followed by a school council meeting) It will be held on **Tuesday 15th March @ 7.00pm**. All parents have been supplied with a Self-Nomination Form – please return these if you are interested in joining school council. All parents, regardless of whether you are on school council or not, are welcome to attend. Please consider being part of this fantastic group that help shape the direction of our school.

PREPS REST DAYS

The new preps will continue to have rest days each Wednesday. Full week begins after the Labour Day public holiday.

OSH

Please phone **0448 298 467** to make bookings for OSH or to cancel a permanent booking. Please do not ring the school number for OSH or changes to end of school day arrangements, (we are often teaching and can't retrieve school phone messages until after 3:30). Leave all 'end of day' arrangement messages on the OSH phone – this is checked just prior to dismissal.

'THUMBS UP' AWARD

The Principal's 'Thumbs Up' Award recipients are students that have been seen doing great things at our school. The latest recipients are:

Amy: For her great reading after school and good help in the P-2 classroom.

Amilie: For her effort and focus on improving her reading skills.

Judd: For sharing and including people in plane making at recess.

Prep-3 Social & Emotional Literacy class

We started a new class talking and learning mainly about ourselves!

This week in our 'Monday afternoon' class we talked about feelings and emotions. We practiced faces and expressions for different emotions and how our body changes when we feel different things (body language). We also drew pictures about what types of things can happen to lead us to feel different emotions (triggers).



This week we learnt that everyone has an invisible bucket and that we should not dip into other people's buckets. We talked about things that make us happy and sad. If we fill someone else's bucket we fill our bucket too.
By Seamus and Isabelle.

PARENT HELPERS

Thank you to the parents that have helped with the swimming program and have helped listen to students read so far. Please arrange a swap or let us know at school if you cannot make the session.

	Swimming helper
Tuesday 1st March	Cathy & Peter H
Thursday 3rd March	Kate G & Suz
Tuesday 8th March	Cathy & Kate G
Thursday 10th March	Rosie & Sammy

Thanks to Nicky, Rosie and Kate G who have offered to listen to our little ones read. Please contact the school if you too would like to listen to reading. Thank you ☺



Literacy corner

HOME READING

We again have 'Home Reading' this year across the school. These little yellow books (P-2) and green books (3-6) have lots of great tips for parents to help their child learn to read and they have sticker awards to reward the children for their efforts. Praise and encouragement goes a long way and can be added to the comments section as well.

We already have some students who have read for 25 nights!

Congratulations to Tom, Viveka, Darcy, Charlotte R, Mikaylee and Summer. **Well done!**

3-6 Class – Writing about Artefacts

In class we are writing about an artefact.

I have brought a very special doll. It used to be my grandma's then my mum's and now mine. It is dressed up to go to a ball. It is wearing a pink and light pink



dress and a necklace. Other people brought a photo, something special something from when they were a baby or something old to write about.

This is the second time I have written about artefacts. I like doing artefacts because we get to bring something from home and I like to write. By Amilie

ITALIAN

In Italian we have been learning about Italy's direct neighbours like France, Slovenia, Austria, and Switzerland. What it looks like and how to tell the difference between its islands and France's islands and how there are two countries in Italy, Vatican City which is the only country in the world that can lock its gates and the other one is San Merino. We also did the top ten facts in the first week and what we did was we saw two videos and wrote down at least ten facts we like, but the year three's and four's only had to do five. I recon it was cool as. By Angus

CAMPS

We have some great camps coming up this term. We currently have some grade 6's attending a Leadership Camp. The grade 6's and I will be on the cluster sailing & transition camp at Rye all next week. Reminder to parents that we will be leaving from 15 Mile Ck camp at 7am. Students will complete a Yachting Australia –Start Sailing 1 course, and will have an awesome time while doing it.

The grade 3-4's have a 4 day/3 night camp at 15 Mile Creek with the cluster. Please return medical and permission forms ASAP.

****Note – students need to be dropped off at the camp between 10:30 – 11am on Tuesday 15th. Pick up is at 2pm on Friday 18th March.**

PAYMENT PLANS

As the year progresses we have many great excursions and camps to offer our students. The school and parents association subsidise a great proportion of the cost of these. We do rely on the payments from parents that we ask for.

As for previous years, parents are able to plan ahead and make payments towards camps and excursions coming up – or to pay off existing excursions in instalments.

Remember to make sure your family name is in any EFT – internet banking transfers.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) details:

Acc. Name: Whitfield District Primary School

Acc. Number: 10107371

BSB Number: 063-531

GARDENING

At the start of gardening this year Mr Van Bergen came around and put some garden lime on the gardens. Then everyone weeded until there were no more weeds. Some people had to fertilise on the second week then we helped other people. This week I weeded like everyone else, then we had to turn over the compost that was fun. The last thing we did was make a sign for the spaghetti squash. And sometimes we take the vegetables to cooking and cook with it. Over all gardening is AWESOME! By Darcy



INTEGRATED STUDIES

This term we are learning about water. The 3-6's did an experiment of evaporation and put water in a tray, an open plastic cube, a jar and a cylinder. They all had 100ml in them and we also put some on the ground. We also learn about water in science and we found water points around the school. We also 'tasted', 'felt', 'listened', 'smelt' and 'looked' at 5 different water samples. We also watched a video of a really rainy town. It had aboriginals in the town. It even flooded so they had to fish for food. We also did a chart with questions. The questions were where does water come from? What is water used for?

Who or what uses water? And how can I use water responsibly?
By Cope



Numeracy corner

The integrated theme of water has lent itself nicely to some measuring activities in mathematics. Students have been measuring evaporation as well as using time. In 3 ½ hours 100mL of water totally evaporated from the tray (pictured above). 85mL had evaporated from the flan ceramic dish. 34mL had evaporated from the plastic cube. 15mL had evaporated from the jar and only 4mL had evaporated from the narrow cylinder in that time.

Look for measuring opportunities around the home. Simply noticing liquid amounts on packaging of items in the fridge or pantry can help develop the understanding of measuring capacity.

EVERY DAY COUNTS – school attendance

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

Remember...

*Phone the school **5729 8286**,

*Phone or text the principal **0428 298 286**,

*email whitfield.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

*or supply **a note** before or after the absence.

All school newsletters are available on the school website; www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au

COOKING

Last week we had cooking.

First we went to the garden bed to harvest. There was so much food to cook with. There was cherry tomatoes, parsley, basil and other things. When we got to Edi we split into groups. The groups were the 3's, 4's, 5's and the 6's. Some year three's did it for their first time. They did cutting practise and made a fruit salad with Mr V.B. The grade sixes made Bolognese for sailing camp. The year four's and five's made toasties and a pesto. They were really nice. When we finished the cooking we all sat down and tried the toasties and fruit salad. I love cooking. We rinsed our dishes got on the bus and came back to school.

By Charlotte R



Excess Garden Produce

Is your garden producing more than you can use, preserve or you had so many that you simply don't want to see any more of them?

Then the Kitchen Garden program may be able to use your excess produce.

Please let the school know and we will check if Carla can use them in Monday or Wednesday's cooking session.

Email: van.bergen.mark.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

SCHOOL BUS TRAVELLERS

If your child is having a 'sleepover' at another student's house and is catching the bus to get there, please notify Wendy. It is important that the bus rolls are accurate.

Please call Wendy in the morning if your child is not catching the bus to school.

Mobile **0418 989 938**, her home phone **57 298 331**, and she is also on **UHF Ch 40**. With all these options available there are no barriers to offering Wendy the courtesy of informing her of changes to your child's bus usage. Thanks ☺

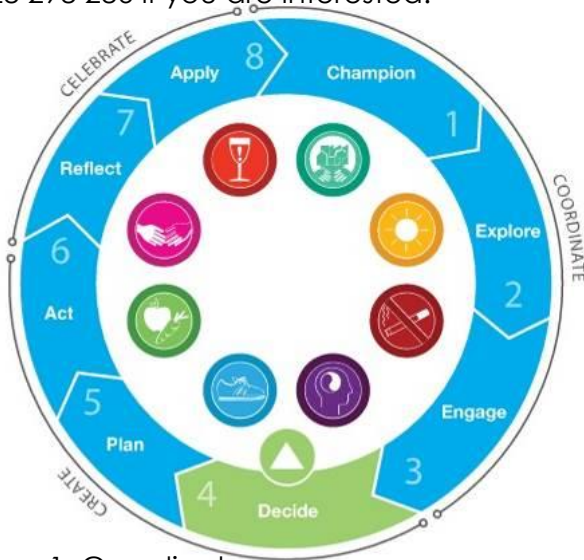
Health and Wellbeing Committee

Whitfield District Primary School has signed up to the State Government - Achievement Program.

achievement
program



We are seeking interested parents to be part of a 'health & wellbeing' committee. Our first meeting to explore the Achievement program will be tomorrow at 2pm at the school. A representative from Gateway Health will be meeting with us to explain and assist us with the program implementation. Please call me (the principal) on 57 298 286 or 0428 298 286 if you are interested.



Phase 1: Coordinate

Members raise awareness of the Achievement Program, put together a team and then determine the health priorities of their school.

Phase 2: Create

Members develop a health and wellbeing plan based on their health priorities and put it into action. The Achievement Program for schools coordinates action across eight health priority areas, but it's best to focus on only one or two at a time.

Phase 3: Celebrate

Members review their work and reflect on the resulting healthy changes. At this point, settings will be recognised by the Victorian Government as a Healthy school.

Health Priority Areas

The Achievement Program supports settings to coordinate health and wellbeing actions across relevant health priority areas, including healthy eating, physical activity and mental health and wellbeing. There are eight health priority areas for schools Evidence-based benchmarks, tailored to early childhood services, and primary and secondary schools, have been developed for the health priority areas. These assist settings to implement best practice and take a whole-school/service approach to health and wellbeing.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Clean Up Australia Day for schools is taking place on Friday 4th March. Come along at 9:00am if you'd like to help us clean Whitfield.



Cancer Council Victoria recommends using SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. However sunscreen alone will not provide adequate protection against overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.



Cancer Council recommends five steps to protect against sun damage during the daily sun protection times (when the UV level is 3 and above):

1. Slip on sun-protective clothing.
2. Slop on SPF30 or higher sunscreen – make sure it is broad-spectrum and water-resistant. Put it on 20 minutes before you go outdoors and re-apply every two hours.
3. Slap on a hat – that protects your face, head, neck and ears.
4. Seek shade.
5. Slide on sunglasses – make sure they meet Australian Standards.