

NEWSLETTER

Term 1
February 6th, 2019

Exceptional Educational Experiences

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
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| Cricket Victoria clinic at school (p.m.) | Mon 10 th Feb |
| Welcome Back BBQ - 6pm | Wed 13 th Feb |
| Feb Swimming – away 11:30-2:45 | 15 th – 18 th – 19 th |
| | 21 st -22 nd -25 th 26 th Feb, & 1 st March |
| Cooking – Year 3-6 | Tues 19 th Feb |
| School Council Meeting @ 7pm | Tues 19 th Feb |
| Italian Day @ Moyhu PS | Thur 28 th Feb |
| Year 6 Sailing Camp | Tues 5 th - Fri 8 th March |
| Labor Day (Public Holiday) | Mon 11 th March |
| School council & AGM @ 7pm | Tues 19 th March |
| Parent/student/teacher interviews | 2 nd – 3 rd April |
| Term 1 ends 2:30pm | Fri 5 th April |

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 diary/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 meeting is **Tuesday 19th Feb** starting at 7:00pm. The following meeting is the AGM, it will be held on Tuesday 19th March @ 7.00pm. All parents are welcome to attend school council meetings. Please consider being part of this fantastic group that help shape the direction of our school.

PREPS REST DAYS

The new preps will 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.

All school newsletters are available on the school website;

www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au

'THUMBS UP' AWARD

The Principal's 'Thumbs Up' Award recipients are students that have been seen doing great things at our school. Already we have some recipients!

Nina: For fantastic writing about her holidays.
Mike: For helping new preps understand some of the rules for outside games.

Robert: For his positive start to school and willingness to 'have a go'.

Delilah: For her great 'wonder' questions in Integrated Studies.



Numeracy corner

The school has purchased Mathletics for all students again this year. Students are able to log in at home and do some additional maths practice. Log in details remain the same for all existing students.

Students login and password details for Mathletics and Reading Eggs will be pasted into the inside front cover of their Home Reading books for use at home.

PARENT HELPERS

A huge thank you to all the parents that have helped out in many ways already this year.

Thank you to the parents that have offered to help with the swimming and cooking program. Please contact the school if you too would like to listen to the Year F-3 students reading in the mornings too. Thank you ☺

The **green highlight** indicates where there are still spaces available if you would like to help. Please send a note, text or call the school if you can assist with any of these dates. Thanks ☺

| | Swimming helper | | Swimming helper |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Friday 15 th Feb | Jess / [REDACTED] | Friday 22 nd Feb | Jacob / Kate G |
| Monday 18 th Feb | Liss / [REDACTED] | Monday 25 th Feb | Liss / Dave G |
| Tuesday 19 th Feb | Dave G / Kate W | Tuesday 26 th Feb | Dave G / Kate W |
| Thursday 21 st Feb | Ben J / [REDACTED] | Friday 1 st March | Jess / Liss |

| Term 1 | Cooking helper | Term 2 | Cooking helper |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tuesday 5 th Feb | Rosie / Christos | Tuesday 30 th April | Rosie / [REDACTED] |
| Tuesday 19 th Feb | Dave G / Caz | Tuesday 14 th May | [REDACTED] |
| Tuesday 5 th March | Rosie / [REDACTED] | Tuesday 28 th May | Caz / Sandy |
| Tuesday 19 th March | Dave G / [REDACTED] | Tuesday 11 th June | Nikki S / [REDACTED] |
| Tuesday 2 nd April | [REDACTED] | Tuesday 26 th June | Rosie / Nikki S |

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Phone: 5729 8286

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

web: www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au

PARENT WELCOME BACK BBQ AND INFO NIGHT

We will be hosting a welcome back to school BBQ for all parents on Wednesday 13th February from 6pm. It's a great opportunity to meet the teachers and other parents and hear about all the wonderful programs we've got planned for this term and throughout the year. We're trying a different format this year so please come along if you can. Thank you to those families who have let us know if they are coming, it would be great to have numbers and any specific dietary requirements by Monday (for catering purposes).

SWIMMING

Our 2019 swimming program begins on Friday 15th February. Thanks to those parents who have already volunteered to come and help out at Moore than Swimming. We only need a couple of spots filled if we can. The extra help means that each of our young emerging swimmers can get more practice and attention. Thanks ☺

CAMPS

We have some great camps coming up this term. The Year 6's have a King Valley Cluster Sailing and Transition camp in Rye from the 5th – 8th March. Students will complete a Yachting Australia –Start Sailing 1 course, and will have an awesome time while doing it.

We currently have some grade 6's at 15 Mile Creek on a leadership camp.

PAYMENT PLANS

Invoices/accounts for swimming and excursions will be sent out this week. 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. CSEF forms for concession card holders went home last week, if you need another form we have more at the school.

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



Literacy corner

HOME READING

We again have the 'Home Reading' this year across the school. The yellow books (P-3) and green books (4-6) 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.

Your help and nightly practice is vital. Reading at home has many benefits for your child and you.

It gives your child time to.....

1. Practice reading using the strategies we have learnt at school. (This week we have been learning how to use the pictures, diagrams and illustrations to help us work out the words.)
2. Develop good habits to help with future homework demands. (Make a regular time to read, after school, before tea, before bed or after breakfast. Find a time that suits you and your child.)
3. Have quiet time and a cuddle with you as they learn to enjoy books.

If you have any questions have a chat with the teachers at any time or come along to the Welcome back BBQ on Wednesday 13th February at 6pm.



SCHOOL BUS TRAVELLERS

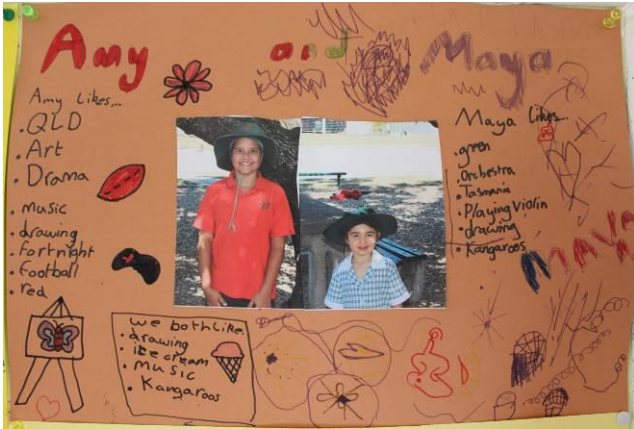
If your child is having a 'sleepover' at another student's house and is catching the bus to get there, please notify Wendy. It is important that the bus rolls are accurate.

Please call Wendy in the morning if your child is not catching the bus to school (and usually does).

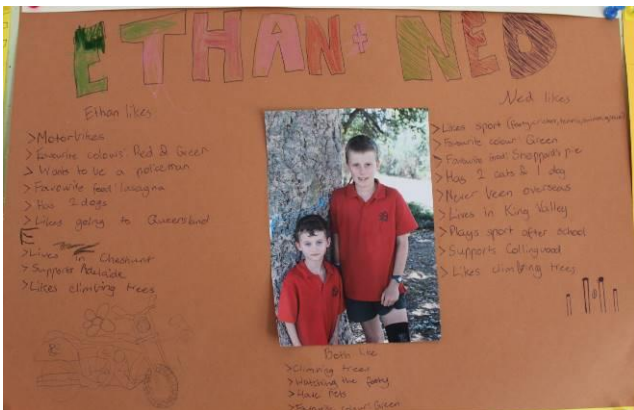
Mobile **0418 989 938**, she is also on **UHF Ch 40**

Thanks ☺

BUDDIES – NEW PREPS



Maya and Ethan have started in prep this year (or Foundation as it is now called). They each have a great buddy (Amy and Ned) that are helping them get to know their new school.



We also have a new student in grade 5 – Robert. His buddy is Mike, who has been showing Roberts the ropes.



INTEGRATED STUDIES

This term we are looking at the continents of Africa and South America. We will be learning about places and discovering the amazing differences and similarities between them. If you have any knowledge, artefacts, photos, or watching things at home about these places, please share this learning with your child.

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 School **0428 298 286**,

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

*Or supply **a note** before the absence.

The school must be informed of all absences by 9am. Same day reporting of absences legislation that was introduced in July last year, means that if your child is absent and we haven't received notification, the school must then contact the parents regarding the absence. It really helps us here at a small school if we don't to chase up absences during the teaching day. Thank you ☺

ENGLISH

To start this term, memoirs will be the focus. We will be listening to and reading some examples of memoirs in class. Students will then be writing their own. So getting out the old photo albums and having a look would be great to re-discover some of those memorable stories from your child's younger days. This may make it easier for your child in a few weeks when we start writing the memoirs.

MATHS

In the area of number, we are beginning the year with counting and place value. Time is the topic for measurement and geometry. So if you can help your child take notice of the time, duration of events, days of the week, months of the year, seasons, and times in their daily routine, this real life learning will help them with their understanding.

We welcome any helpers to the school with maths, sport, music, drama, gardening, technology, science.....any special skills you would like to share with great students please contact the school. We would love to hear from you or someone you know.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Second hand school uniforms

The school currently has some second hand items in its collection. Parents are welcome to have a look and take items that would be suitable for their child, just see any of the staff. Thank you to the parents that have donated uniform items that their children have grown out of.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school **per year**. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6**.



Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

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.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years 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.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.