

# NEWSLETTER

Term 1  
February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## Exceptional Educational Experiences

### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| CERES incursion about 'waste' 4-6s | Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb  |
| Welcome Back BBQ - 6pm             | Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb   |
| Cooking - Year 3-6                 | Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb  |
| School Council Meeting @ 7pm       | Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb  |
| Hockey clinic at school (a.m.)     | Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb   |
| Swimming 11:30-2:45                | Feb 28 <sup>th</sup> , March 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> |
| Year 6 Sailing Camp                | Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> March                                 |
| Cooking - Year 3-6                 | Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> March   |
| Labor Day (Public Holiday)         | Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> March  |
| School council & AGM @ 7pm         | Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> March  |
| Swimming 11:30-2:45                | March 20 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Parent/student/teacher interviews  | 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> March  |
| Term 1 ends 2:30pm                 | Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> March   |

### SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

The school calendar dates above, provide you with the excursions and events that are happening at the school this term. It is important that parents take notice of the events and dates (write them in your diary/calendar). It is important to know when things are as we have a 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 18<sup>th</sup> Feb** starting at 7:00pm. The following meeting is the AGM, it will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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. This year we have a school review (term 2), and we will be seeking parents views and ideas.

### PREP REST DAYS

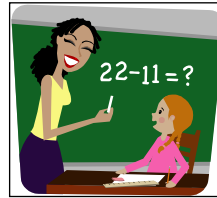
The new preps will have rest days each Wednesday. Full week begins after the Labour Day public holiday.

### OSHC

Please phone **0448 298 467** to make bookings for OSH or to cancel a permanent booking by 3:00pm. Please do not ring the school number for OSHC or changes to end of school day plans.

### OSHC - 3:30 -6:00pm. Monday - Friday.

OSHC is a valuable service that the school operates. It is a Federally Funded Program that is administered through Centrelink and parents can receive rebates ranging from partial to full cover (of the \$12 session) depending on income. We have some new bookings this year, but would like some more for the service to remain viable for the school. A huge variety of activities are available and dependent on the children using the service. There is a cooking focus on Wednesdays and Fridays at the end of week is movie and popcorn. Healthy afternoon tea is supplied every day. Qualified staff, Pam & Leigh run the program which has been operating for over 20 years. Please contact them on 0448 298 467 for bookings or enquiries, or check the OSHC Facebook page for program updates and special themed events.



## Numeracy corner

The school has purchased Essential Assessments for online maths learning this year. Students are able to log in at home and do some additional maths practice. Students login and password details for Essential Assessments and Reading Eggs have been pasted into the inside front cover of their Home Reading books for use at home.

### PARENT HELPERS

Thank you to the parents that have offered to help with the swimming and cooking program.

Please contact the school if you are able to listen to the Year F-3 students reading in the mornings too, it is a great help. Thank you ☺

| Term 1                              | Cooking helper    | Term 2                               | Cooking helper  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>   | Petra / Rosie     | <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b> | Rosie / Petra   |
| <b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>  | Mel.G / A-K.P     | <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April</b> | Mel.G / A-K.P   |
| <b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> | Tara / Kaye       | <b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>   | Caz / Petra     |
| <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Mar</b>  | Mel.G / Tara      | <b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>   | Mel.G / A-K.P   |
|                                     |                   | <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>   | Caz / Nikki     |
|                                     |                   | <b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June</b>  | Rosie / Nikki   |
|                                     | Swimming helper   |                                      | Swimming helper |
| <b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>   | Petra / A-K.P     | <b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | Petra / A-K.P   |
| <b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>  | Jess.Y / Kate.G   | <b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>  | Jess.Y / Jamie  |
| <b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> | Kate.W/Nikki/Jake | <b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> | Kate.W / Nikki  |
| <b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | A-K.P / Liss      | <b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | Jamie / Dave.G  |

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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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 and what you can do at home to help your child/ren. 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 2020 swimming program begins on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> 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

## **Funding to help families get kids back to school.**

Support will be available for eligible families with students in government and non-government schools from the impacted local government areas. Support will cover uniform items including school shoes, books and stationery, and other items that kids need to use at school. Eligibility criteria apply - you can find out more information here:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/safety/Pages/bushfires.aspx>

A letter and application form has been supplied with this newsletter.

## **Bushfire Financial Assistance**

Emergency financial assistance is available to eligible fire-affected community members in Ararat, Alpine, Ballarat, East Gippsland, Glenelg, Golden Plains, Indigo, Mansfield, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Southern Grampians, Towong, **Wangaratta**, Wellington and Wodonga council areas.

The programs listed on the web link below address different needs. Your eligibility will depend on your circumstances and the program criteria.

[https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief/#financial\\_and\\_legal\\_assistance](https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief/#financial_and_legal_assistance)

You can contact the Bushfires Case Support Program for further advice.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-victoria>

Affected households may be eligible to apply for a range of payments. Applying for one payment does not prevent households from applying for others.



# 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.

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 your child 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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**

### BUDDIES – New Students

We have five new Prep students this year and all of them have made a fantastic start to their schooling. We also have three more new students in other grades.



Liam with his buddy Emilio



Zoi with her Prep buddy Ellie



Ruby with her buddy Amy



Lalia sitting on her buddy Casey

Luca (we welcome to the school in Grade 6) with his Prep buddy Maxwell



Sylvie (we welcome to Grade 1) has a big buddy in Isabelle



Welcome Issy in Grade 4 (left) with her buddies Normie & Hope

### INTEGRATED STUDIES

This term we will have a focus on water. We will be integrating this topic into English, Science, Maths and of course P.E (swimming).  
Term 2 topic is Space.  
Term 3 topic is Asia (Japan - Olympics)  
Term 4 topic is History

### 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.

All school newsletters are available on the school website;

[www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au](http://www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au)

## ENGLISH

To start this term, we will be reading a range of texts and genres that incorporate our theme of water. If you have any texts or posters that has anything to do with water (water cycle, water to produce crops, water in space, floods, lack of water, etc.) it would be great to share with your child at home and/or your child could share with their class.

## 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](mailto: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 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 have to chase up absences during the teaching day. Thank you ☺

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



**COMMUNITY FREE EVENT**  
**MYRRHEE MOVIE NIGHT**  
**SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 7PM**

**BBQ & DRINKS FOR SALE**  
**OR**  
**BYO**

**ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TOWARDS**  
**THE RENOVATIONS OF THE HALL**

Presented by



SUMMER IN THE PARKS 2020

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**.



# EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

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.

## 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, we would welcome any more that your family no longer needs (our stocks are getting a little low). Thanks ☺