



THE WHITTY NEWS

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Engaging learning experiences provide wonderful opportunities for our students to make connections across all areas of the curriculum. Listening, asking questions and applying new knowledge and skills makes learning relevant and meaningful.

Our students and staff have been exploring new ideas and building deeper understandings as they learn, play and grow together. We hope you enjoy the articles and stories they all share in our newsletters.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The next school council meeting is our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 22 March at 7.00pm. All parents are welcome to attend.



This is the perfect opportunity for us to thank our council members for their invaluable work throughout 2021 and over the course of their time with us at Whitfield District Primary School. Your support, ideas and commitment have contributed to the ongoing success of our school. Thank you!!!

FAMILY PICNIC

We are looking forward to hosting our Family Picnic on Thursday 24 March from 6.00pm (fingers crossed for perfect weather). This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to finally meet as a community. We'll share information about our plans for 2021 and how you can support your child at home. Hope to see you there.

HEALTH INFORMATION—School Sores and Lice

There have been a couple of cases of headlice and one case of Impetigo (school sores) over the last week. Please check your child's hair for pesky critters and monitor for signs of sores.

Impetigo is a skin infection that presents as a red area or crop of small blisters which turn into a sore with a yellow crust that gets bigger each day. They are commonly found around (or in) the nose and mouth or on the mouth and legs. Sores are highly contagious so it is important for you to see your doctor if you suspect an infection. This will ensure you have an accurate diagnosis and antibiotic treatment. Students can return to school once they start treatment as long as the infected area is completely covered with a watertight bandage.

Students are also able to attend school once they have been treated for headlice. A follow up treatment is required after 7 days to ensure success.

CSEF APPLICATIONS

If you are eligible, please complete the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) application form and return it to the office as soon as possible.



Dates to remember:

School Council AGM	Tue 22 Mar
Cooking (4-6)	Tue 29 Mar
KVC Curriculum Day (no school for students)	Fri 1 Apr
Student Learning Conferences	Mon 28 Mar Tue 29 Mar Thu 31 Mar
Last day of term 1	Fri 8 Apr
First day of term 2	Tue 26 Apr

COMMUNITY VOICE

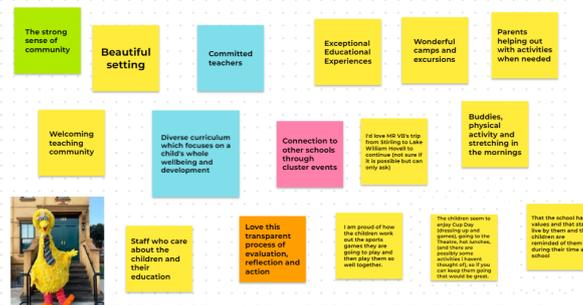
Our staff and students have shared their ideas about our school.

We have been reflecting on these responses and using the ideas to inform our planning and decision making.

We've shared some of the key themes on page 3.

We'd also like to hear and share your thoughts... Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to add ideas to our jamboard. We'll also have our posters up at our picnic and we'll share your ideas in our next newsletter.

1. What do you love about our school? What are you proud of? What do you want us to continue?





THUMBS UP! My thumbs are up this week for Johann, Ellie and Ethan.

They have all worked hard to achieve their learning goals (our school value in focus this week).

Ellie: For your positive attitude to learning. You have interesting ideas and you're able to clearly talk about about your learning, how you are going and what you hope to achieve.

Johann: For listening respectfully, asking questions and taking on feedback to improve your learning! You have worked hard to achieve success.

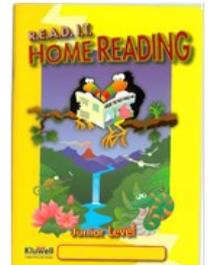


Ethan: For committing to having a go. You worked hard to achieve your goals at swimming and you used your experiences to write a wonderful and honest recount about your feelings and achievements. Congratulations—there's nothing like the feeling of being able to swim! We're very proud of you.

Home Reading...

Reading is such an important lifelong skill. Reading at home:

- helps your child get to know sounds, words and language, and develop literacy skills.
- encourages your child to learn to value books, stories and information.
- sparks your child's imagination and stimulate curiosity.
- helps develop your child's brain, ability to focus, concentration, social skills and communication skills.



And as Dr Seuss says *"Oh the places you'll go..."*

Congratulations to all our students who have already chalked up 25 nights of reading!



I think we're going to knock it out of the park this year! And look at our Foundation students go—they're off to a flying start! Thank you to all the adults out there, taking the time to share a book with our kids!

Charlie

Archie

Elwyn

Taiya

Joshua

Sylvie

Ethan

Maya

Liam

Maxwell

Chloe

Ruby K

Grace

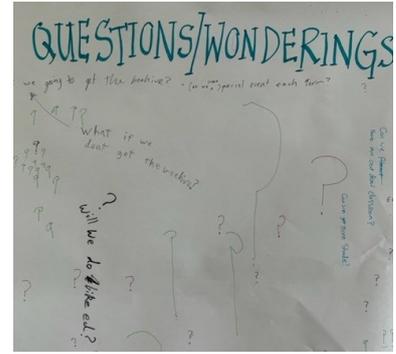
Evie

Maddison

Esther

Ellie

Student Voice...



Students' Ideas

Staff Ideas

Things we love about our school...

"Not too many kids"

"Small, active and engaged community"

"Area of space to play"

"Great kids"

"Camps" "Cooking" "Chickens"

"Passionate, collaborative and experienced staff"

"Teachers"

"Rich and diverse learning experiences"

Things we'd like to improve...

"Our classroom (look, style, vibe)"

"We'd like to continue to improve our teaching and learning and embed the Workshop Instructional Model."

"Taller monkey bars"

"Our grounds—we'd like to get into the gardens, lay some new mulch and get the playground project from 2021 underway."

"More books"

"We've been learning about our school values, and we'd love to see all students coming to school with a positive and inclusive mindset."

"Toilets"

"Our library, we're slowly reimagining our library resources and learning space—stay tuned!"

Our Questions...

Our Actions...

Questions/ Wonderings

"Are we going to get a beehive?" - "What if we don't get the beehive?"

Sarah and the 4-6 students have written a grant application to purchase a Flow hive... now we wait!

"Can we have an outdoor classroom?"

We're planning... our outdoor furniture should be here next week and our shade sail has been ordered.

"We will do bike ed?"

We hope so!

"Can we have a special event each term?"

Every day is a special event! But yes, we hear you. Let's talk some more!

PLEASE COME AND HELP US

We're working hard to try and beat the weeds but, as they say, many hands make light work! If you have a spare 15 minutes we'd love your support... you don't need any tools or specialist knowledge. We can show you what to do! **Tammy**

GREEN THUMBS NEEDED

We need hands in the school gardens! Come in any time you have spare. It can be during school, after school or even on the weekend. The students have been working hard in the garden beds each week: weeding, harvesting and planting, but we can certainly use your help and expertise.



Thank you, **Elsy**

Swimming...

Our Grade F-3 students have been learning to add interest to their recounts by thinking about how they feel. Their reflections on swimming are very impressive!

Sylvie

I was so excited for swimming. I was about to burst! I learnt how to do side stroke and tread water for four minutes. I think the most challenging thing was survival backstroke because I ever get the feet right. My favourite part was doing freestyle. I love swimming!



Taiya

I like swimming. I liked laying on my back.

Ethan

I felt worried when we first started swimming because it was so hard.

I learnt to swim! I learnt to swim all by myself! It was so good. The hardest thing was the rope swing. The best thing was the lollies!



Ellie

Swimming was the best! I was happy and excited. I was most excited for the last day because I was going on a rope swing and I was going to buy lollies. It was very, very, very fun.

Maya

I was so excited to go swimming. But I was sick on the first two days.

I practised treading water. Now I am better at treading water. I thought it was hard to tread water with clothes on.

I thought it was very fun when we had free time.



Joshua

Best Swimming Ever

I was so excited when it was the last day of swimming. We got to go on the noodle. It was fun. When I swam from the deep end all the way to the shallow end. I felt happy and proud. After that, we got lollies!

Maxwell

Swimming was fun but I didn't like it because it felt like there were less swimming days. The two things I liked was the rope swing and I also liked the diving off the edge into the water. I liked going on the pool noodles. It was awesome!

Archie

I liked jumping off the edge. I liked swimming with the kickboard and lying on my back.

Evie

I felt really happy when I did backstroke. I liked the lessons.

Taiya

I liked laying on my back.

Chloe

I was really excited for swimming and the pool and when I learned backstroke and forward stroke and life saving. Back then we did diving then we did treading water. Treading water was really tiring for my legs. We did treading water for one minute, then we did diving. My favourite thing was going on the rope and lollies—I got a sour wrap.

Liam

When we got off the bus, I was excited. I learnt lifesaving, backstroke and treading water because it can save your life. The most challenging thing was the dolphin kick because it was hard. You have to kick your legs and keep your head and arms still. The most enjoyable part was the rope swing because it was fun.

Bonnie

I felt nervous at swimming because I didn't know how to. Then I could swim and my favourite was floating on my back. I liked swinging off the rope. I liked swimming. I learned how to do bubble turns.

Grace

On the first day of swimming I was nervous. I was in the last class. We all learnt lots of stuff. My favourite was treading water. It was hard the first time but I got better. It was fun too. I love to play after the lesson. I love swimming.

Ruby

I was excited for swimming. We had two weeks of swimming. I found out that in freestyle that you blow bubbles down at the floor. I learnt some new things. They were diving, swivel backstroke, dolphin kick and a jump that you're not supposed to put your head under water. The best thing about swimming was the last day because we got to go on the rope swing and you got to have lollies.

Charlie

I was good at swimming. I like doing doggie paddle. I learnt bubble turns and I liked kicking with the board.



Melodee

When I was swimming I liked bubbles turns and I loved jumping off the rope. I liked jumping off the side at the deep end and I liked going under the little thing in the middle of the pool. I was so happy when I swam. Mostly I was happy.

Maddie

Swimming was fun, enjoyable and exciting. I loved swimming. I want to do swimming at home. It was fun but I was worried to do bubble turns. But when I did it I could do it to the deep end. I was proud of myself because I did it for eight days. My teachers was good. I liked swimming.

Elwyn

I liked kicking with the kickboard and I also liked floating. I liked diving off the edge.

