

# Wednesday Weekly

29 October  
2014

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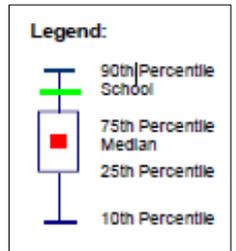
COOL CARE: 9432 3213

## From the Principal

### PARENT OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

Parent opinion about how our school is progressing is crucial in meeting current and future student needs and we value it greatly. Each year, all Government Schools ask a sample of parents/guardians to complete the Department of Education's *Parent Opinion Survey*. The purpose of the survey is to obtain a cross section of views about the school's performance and direction. Questions relate to school climate, student behaviour and student engagement.

In September, families were randomly selected (via a computer generated list) and asked to complete the survey. The sealed results were forwarded to the Department for analysis and last week we were in receipt of the results (see below). As the table below illustrates, our school has received most favourable results, with the school mean considerably above state means. The use of opinion data as a measure of school performance is a very important step towards making our school the best it can possibly be and these results are a continued endorsement of the school's quality teaching and learning programs.

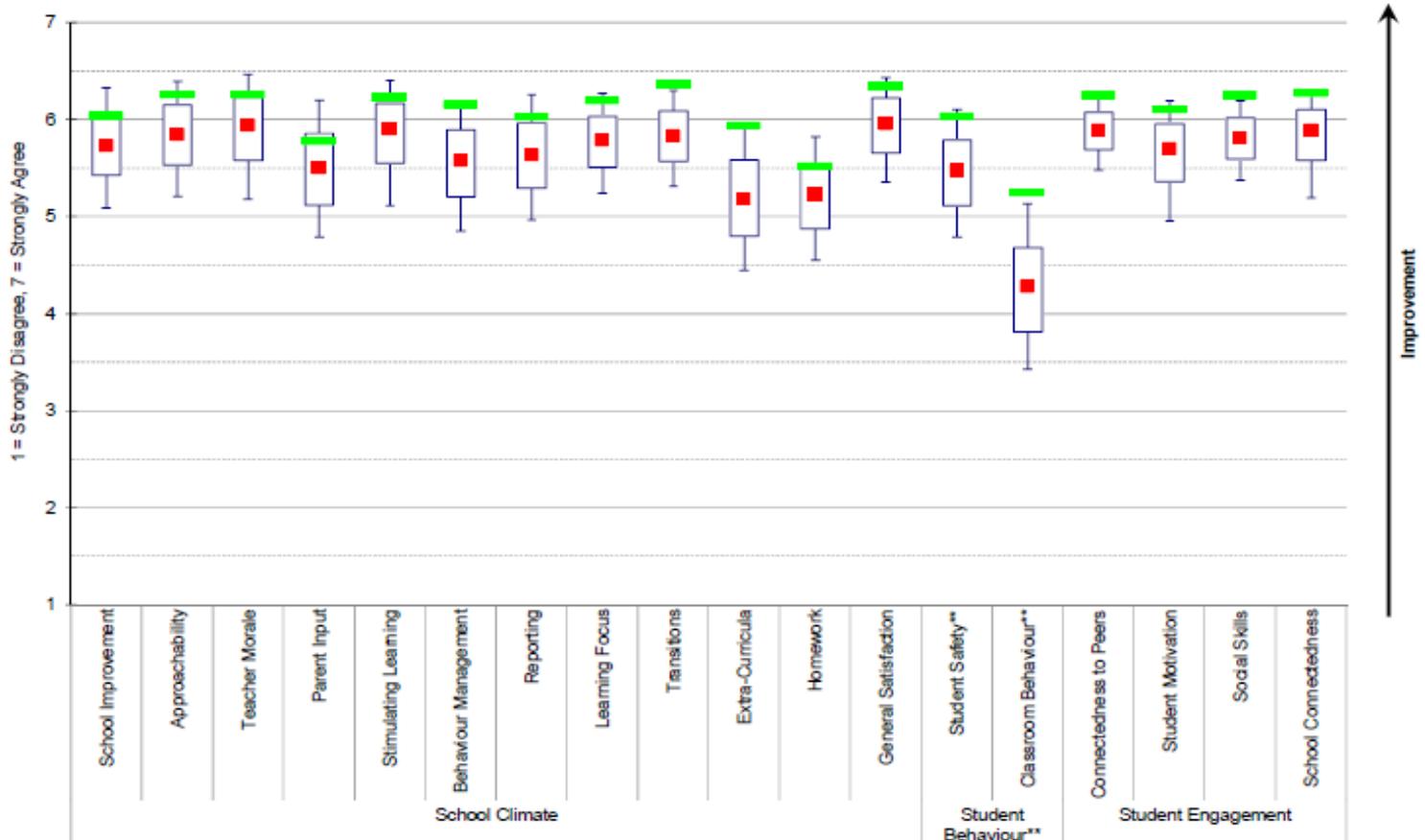


#### 2014 Parent Opinion Survey

School Number: 4988

School Name: Watsonia North Primary School

School means plotted against distribution of state-wide school means



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (CONT)

### SCHOOL DEFIBRILLATOR – LEADER LOCAL GRANTS WINNER!!!

As per the article below/attached, our application in the Leader Local Grants program has been successful and our idea has been voted by the community as the best idea to receive a \$1,000 grant! This is fantastic news and we thank everyone who voted. On top of this, we received a donation of \$500 from Barry Plant Real Estate after being approached by one of our parents. Trish Manna (mother of Josephine and Natalia) contacted Barry Plant Director, David Moxon seeking a donation towards the purchase of the defibrillator. David was most obliging and I would like to sincerely thank him and his company for their support and kind contribution. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Trish who initiated contact in order to source the donation.

To date we have raised \$2,900 dollars and we are not too far off our target of \$3,400. Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated and to Leader Newspapers and Barry Plant Bundoora for their generous contributions.

Our wonderful office manager, Jill Lewis has initiated this fundraising drive and has actively sourced grants and donations. Without her drive and commitment we simply would not be in a position to purchase the defibrillator.

### SCHOOL DISCO

A wonderful night was had by all in attendance. I always enjoy the children's dance moves and some tell me that they learn their moves from watching their parents! Congratulations to the SRC, Mrs Sarah Linssen, Ms Julianne Haldon and the PFA for all their work and planning. Many parents and staff assisted on the night and we thank them for volunteering their services in order to make the event possible.

### MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY

Next Tuesday 4 November is the Melbourne Cup Holiday. **Please note that the Monday before the holiday is not a scheduled student free day, with the school operating as usual.** We understand that there will be some families who may be away for a 'long weekend'. If this is the case and your child/children will not be in attendance on Monday, we ask that you provide written notification of the absence to your child's classroom teacher.

*Tina King* (Principal)

# Defibrillator, smart idea

## FIRST-AID PREPAREDNESS A VITAL LIFE SKILL FOR STAFF, PRINCIPAL SAYS



WATSONIA North Primary School will soon have a potentially lifesaving defibrillator after winning a \$1000 Leader Local Grant.

Principal Tina King said the school would buy the device as soon as possible, and the model would be easy to use.

She said all teachers had been trained to use defibrillators as part of first-aid training.

She said given many sporting clubs and shopping centres were starting to keep defibrillators on-site, it made sense for a large primary school to have one.

She said the ageing population and the fact that more grandparents were involved in school events meant first-aid preparedness was vital.

"It could have benefits off-site as well," she said.

"I found myself in a situ-



Watsonia North PS has won this round of Leader Local Grants and will spend its \$1000 on a defibrillator. It made sense for a large primary school to have one, the principal said. Left to right: students Hunter, Amy and Charli. Picture: RICHARD SERONG

ation where I was first on the scene at an accident and I was doing CPR.

"I never thought I would have to put these skills to the

test – the chances are if anyone is going to have a heart attack it would be the staff or the parents.

"That's not to say children

don't have them, but this is just a safeguard.

"We have a lot of grandparents picking up children from school as well so it will

be a very handy piece of equipment to have."

The school has 510 students, 50 staff and more than 600 parents.

email: [watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au)



Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Hi everyone,

Of course, next Tuesday, there will not be a Cool Care program due to the Melbourne Cup holiday. We will be holding our inaugural Melbourne Cup Sweeps for the children and educators to be drawn next Monday. The sweep will include any children attending Cool Care on Monday. We will place their names in a tub and pull out a horse to coincide with their name and the children will become the 'jockeys'. If you know your children will not be at school next week, please advise us before the commencement of care next Monday morning to ensure your family will not be charged for your absence/s. The children have decided they would like to create a joint Melbourne Cup/Flemington Racecourse display. We will be working on that together during next week.

Some of you may have noticed our little gardens are flowering. The Bird of Paradise and the petunias have several colourful blooms. We unfortunately needed to do a 'double take' on our lettuce plants. The snails and slugs obviously had a party in our absence devouring every lettuce plant in existence. We have since resourced organic ways to keep our lettuce safe. A sprinkling of sawdust along with the purchase of new plants, we are now able to report we have healthy little lettuce plants poking their heads up.

Please call if you have any Cool Care queries – Enrolment forms for 2015 will be available during the first week in December. Good luck if you are having a friendly wager on the Spring Carnival.

Stay Cool, Jenny

**\*\* SPECIAL GROUP PHOTOS –  
RESCHEDULED DATE \*\***

Please note that the Special Group photos have been rescheduled to **TUESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER**, due to the inclement weather last Monday.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR SPORTS UNIFORM AND YOUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IF RELEVANT.



## DISCO

Thanks to all the helpers on Friday night. I hear it was a great night and the kids all had a wonderful time.

## ELECTION DAY BBQ

**Saturday 29 November**

We are now looking for people to help with the cooking and selling of sausages on the day. We will be setting up at 7.30am and packing up at 3.30pm. If you can spare 2 hours on the day (7.30-9.30, 9.30-11.30, 11.30-1.30, 1.30-3.30), please contact Wendy Thornton at [wendyjt72@bigpond.com](mailto:wendyjt72@bigpond.com).

Thanking you

**Cara Wilkins (PFA Secretary)**

## PE & Sport News

### DIVISION FINALS - BASKETBALL

**A BIG CONGRATULATIONS** to our boys' and girls' Interschool sport basketball teams for playing outstandingly at the Division Finals held last week at Viewbank PS. Both boys' and girls' teams won 1 game and both lost their second game by 1 point, unfortunately narrowly missing out on progressing to the next level of competition. A BIG THANK YOU TO Mr Eastwood and Matt Stewart for coaching the teams, and the parents for driving, scoring and supporting our students.

### DIVISION FINALS - SOFTBALL

**Well done Girls!** Our Girls competed yesterday at the Division Softball Championships held at Alphington Grammar School. Again, our team won one and lost one. What a fantastic effort to all competing. Thanks to Mr Eastwood and to the parents that transported and supported our team.

### Prep-Year 2 Tabloid Sports

What a fantastic fun morning it was yesterday with our students in Prep to Year 2 participating in the Tabloid Sports morning. Thank you to the Year 6 Leadership Captains that assisted with the running of the activities and, once again, thank you to the parents that came along to cheer them on.

**Trent O'Sullivan (PE & Sport Coordinator)**

## Remembrance Day

*Remembrance Day in Australia commemorates the noble sacrifices of armed forces and civilians during times of war. At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, one minute of silence is observed across the country to mark the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front during WWI after over four years of gruesome warfare.*

The moment in 1918 when hostilities ceased was originally named Armistice Day, becoming a time when allied nations honoured the brave sacrifices made by all who fought and lost their lives during the First World War. At the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments renamed November 11 Remembrance Day to mark and remember all who have fallen in times of war. The ritual of observing one minute of silence was first proposed by Australian journalist Edward Honey in 1918 and continues to be universally practiced on Remembrance Day each year. Unlike ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day is not a public holiday in Australia but services are held at 11am at War Memorials and cenotaphs in suburbs and towns across the country. Traditionally, the Last Post is sounded by a bugler followed by one minute of silence. After the minute of silence, flags are raised from half mast to masthead as Rouse is played. Remembrance Day is observed across the world in the United Kingdom, Canada, France, South Africa, The United States of America, Bermuda, Ireland and New Zealand as well as in Australia. In many of these locations, two minutes of silence is observed at 11am.

## The Poppy Appeal

The Red Poppy emblem is a symbolic of those who have fallen in times of war and the Poppy Appeal is run in the lead up to Remembrance Day.

During the First World War, red poppies were among the first plants to bloom in the devastated battlefields of northern France and Belgium. In soldier's folklore, the vivid red of the poppy came from the blood of their comrades soaking the ground, making the poppy symbolic of the bloodshed in trench warfare. The Poppy was chosen as the emblem of remembrance after Canadian military physician, John McCrae wrote the moving and powerful poem *In Flanders Fields*. John McCrae is popularly believed to have written the poem on May 3rd 1915 after he witnessed the death of his 22 year old friend, Lieutenant Alexis Helmer the day prior. The poem was first published on December 8 of that year in the London based magazine, *Punch*. To this day, the poem remains one of the most memorable war poems ever written. It is a lasting legacy of the terrible battles of the Ypres salient in the spring of 1915. The Poppy Appeal contributes significantly to the fundraising work of the RSL. The largest fundraising activity of the Appeal is the sale of poppies beginning in late October each year. Poppies are available in various denominations from \$1 to \$50 and the money raised is used to assist both current and former serving members of the Australian and Allied defence forces and their dependents when in need. The RSL encourages all Australians to purchase a poppy and 'Remember in November.'

**POPPIES ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE**



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**NEW Super Mums Class Monday 9:30am**

 **Dance Street**  
*Fun, Fitness, Technique*

*St Peter's Hall, Alma Rd Bundoora*  
**All Ages – toddlers to adults**  
*Dance, Hip Hop, Unison (performance singing), Tap, Adult Dance Fitness, Adult Tap & Social Ballroom*

**Adult Tap - Wednesday Nights**  
 2015 enrolments now open!! *New classes include:*

- Junior Hip Hop
- Junior Troupe Comp Class
- 3-5 Years Tap

**\*\* NEW FLOOR COMING 2015 \*\***

Visit [www.dancestreet.com.au](http://www.dancestreet.com.au) for full timetable  
**RACHEL DUNNE FUGA (D.F.T.A) – Principal**  
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**Please note that the Monday before the Cup Day holiday is not a scheduled student free day, with the school operating as usual.**

**Interested in playing netball?**  
 Why not join  
 the largest, most successful Club in the Diamond Valley  
**Diamond Creek Netball Club**

**2015 CLUB Registration**  
 Monday 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Anytime between 4-6pm Although it is never too late to join!!  
 Registration forms available from clubroom anytime or can be downloaded. [diamondcreeknetball.com.au](http://diamondcreeknetball.com.au)  
 Uniform - \$65 always available from clubrooms  
 All games played Saturdays at Diamond Creek Netball Complex  
 Training Monday after school  
 4-5pm 9/U & 11/U  
 5-6pm 13/U,15/U,17/19U

**Free Netball to all new club members**

Cost to join the club and register with Netball Victoria (per annum)

9/U & 11/U	\$120*
13/U & 15/U	\$120*
17/19U	\$100*

(\*Subject to change depending on Netball Victoria Membership)  
 For further details call the clubrooms 9438 6098 or call Kaye Ralph (Club Coordinator) 9718 2393/0428 898 393 or  
 LOOK US UP [diamondcreeknetball.com.au](http://diamondcreeknetball.com.au)

