



Wednesday Weekly

2
September
2015

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From the Principal

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF RECOGNITION WEEK

Celebrated throughout the month of August is National Recognition Week for all Education Support Staff (ESS). All year round our teaching staff and students are supported by a wonderful team of committed and hard-working individuals. These individuals work in partnership with teachers to ensure the delivery of high quality educational programs at Watsonia North. To our wonderful ESS team - our cleaner **Steve**, canteen staff **Di** and **Karen**, classroom & library assistants **Meegan, Di, Jacquie, Sue, Jeanine** and **Judy**, computer technician **Chris**, first aid officer **Cheryl**, before and after care staff **Jenny, Donna, Liz, Lois** and **Michelle**, maintenance staff **Michael** and **Daniel**, uniform shop attendant **Jodie** and office staff **Jill** and **Des** - a **very heartfelt thank you for all your wonderful and tireless work!!** We are in great appreciation and recognition of the critical role our ESS team play in every aspect of school life and in so many different ways.

1:1 NETBOOK PROGRAM – YEARS 3/4

Watsonia North is committed to providing a dynamic learning environment that challenges and supports students to perform to their personal best. We continually aim to enhance student capabilities in all areas of the curriculum with a strong focus on students becoming literate, numerate and curious. It is our belief that through better use of technology, coupled with the wealth of learning programs already on offer at the school, we can expand student skills, capabilities and learning outcomes. In an attempt to achieve this, schools across the state have been implementing a 1:1 computer program at their school. Teachers from 1:1 program schools note that students are more engaged with greater motivation to learn, resulting in higher-quality work.

Last year, we attempted to introduce a 1:1 program in Years 3/4 and we required a 90% take up rate for the program to go ahead. After consultation with parents and guardians in the Year 3/4 cohort, whilst many saw the need for the introduction of the program, we fell short of reaching the 90% uptake by only 4%. The major concern expressed by parents was the expense of the device. We have taken this feedback on board and have investigated alternative devices whilst not compromising the potential quality of the program. School Council last night endorsed a proposal to pursue a 1:1 program for students in Years 3/4 commencing 2016, at a much reduced cost to last year's proposal.

An information evening is scheduled for **Monday 7 September commencing at 6:00pm in the Centre**. All parents and guardians of students in Years 2 and 3 this year, together with any other interested families are asked to attend the session. Information is being distributed prior to the session and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to speak to **Zara Demeris** (1:1 Program Coordinator M19) and/or **Jamie Jaquinta** (Assistant Principal).

PROJECTED STUDENT ENROLMENT FOR 2016

Watsonia North is a very popular school choice for many families and as such demand for enrolment at our school exceeds places available. As a result, waiting lists have resulted to ensure we do not go over our ceiling cap. It is that time of the year when we are beginning to make plans for 2016. As a matter of consideration for families who have students on the waiting list, I ask for any current family that is intending on leaving our school (be it next term or at the end of the year) to let us know as soon as possible. Early notification will enable us to consolidate our student numbers and assist with planning for next year.

SUNSMART POLICY

A reminder to all that commencing this week, students are required to bring their hat and sunscreen to school. It is hard to believe that Spring is upon us and in line with our SunSmart Policy, students must wear their hat and apply sunscreen whilst outside during the months of September to the end of April. A copy of the SunSmart Policy is available on the school's website.

FATHER'S DAY WISHES

Wishing all our dads a wonderful Father's Day for this coming Sunday. The children have enjoyed making purchases at the Father's Day stall and thank you to the Fundraising team and volunteers for organising and running the stall. Please enjoy these wonderful quotes from some of our students about their special person whom they will be acknowledging this Sunday:

My dad likes to tickle me – sometimes he pretends to be the tickle-monster!

He's nice because he takes me to my tennis lessons and competitions instead of going to work.

My dad looks after me and buys me toys to play with.

My dad is someone I look up to. I love watching the footy with him and I hope to follow in his footsteps.

My dad is nice because he always plays footy with me.

I love my dad because he is always nice to me and he is very funny.

I like my dad because he gives me sugar after school.

My dad fixes everything that is broken.

My dad looks after me and buys me toys to play with.

Whenever I need him, my dad is always there. He is a great role model.

email: watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au



Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Welcome to Cool Care for another week. It seems of late we have been giving out lots of prizes for one thing or another. The truth is, Cool Care has become so expertly driven by the children (with our help of course), that the events that used to happen occasionally, seem to be on a more regular basis. We love that this is the case, as our philosophy has always been that Cool Care be based on opportunities for the children to learn, grow and become established in many life skills and attributes. What better way to do all these things than experience them directly. Two of our boys have shown their maturity sharing the judging of their little drawing challenge. Time was taken considering a small token prize that reflected the children's interest in drawing. After trawling through the internet in my office, the boys agreed that little erasers would be most useful and appropriate for the budding artists. Each winner of the 'Draw anything you like' challenge has been presented with a small bag of 4, 3D animal erasers. They appear to have been well received. The winners were announced. Our boy entries in the Grade 5/6 area seem to have been missing this time around! The heart-warming responses shown from their peers, is part of what makes these little challenges one of our 'signature dish' experiences. Cheers and congratulations for their mates as their names are announced, makes it all worthwhile. Well done to all the children, a wonderful learning experience. Three of our girls are in the middle of the "Imaginary Tree" challenge this week. Great idea girls, sow, the trees the children have created are fantastic. Judging will be next week. We have been reminding the children that hats are needed from now until the end of the school year. For those children that already have a blue Cool Care hat, they have been cleanly stored and are ready for use each afternoon. For families wishing to purchase a blue hat for their child's use while in Cool Care, we sell them for \$6.20 each. These are available from Cool Care only in a variety of sizes. Please let me know if you would like one. Once purchased, they stay at Cool Care

(clearly named), for use during their Cool Care stay. (These hats **do not** form part of the School Uniform).

Cool Care Master Chef was amazingly successful last Wednesday afternoon. The Ricotta Gnocchi was soooooo yummy, parents that were lucky enough to have a nibble, expressed their delight! We look forward to our fourth term cooking experience. We are currently trying to decide what we are going to make.

I have already had several queries regarding enrolment for 2016. Our enrolment forms will be available during the first week of December.

We hope all is going well for you this term, not many weeks of school let until the holidays, so enjoy the remainder of 3rd term! Stay Cool Jenny



TERM 3 PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS

"Are we theeere yeeet?" Not quite: we have Thursday 3 September – Year 3/4 Curriculum Concert at WNPS Hall; Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10, 11 and 12 September– State Schools Spectacular final rehearsals and performance (Senior Choir). In Term 4, we have: Tuesday 1 December – Prep Concert at WNPS Hall; Performing Arts Concert at Montmorency SC auditorium (TBA) and Choir Tour Friday 4 December (plus one other date TBA). Don't forget the Twilight Night in December, either, featuring a lot of singing from all our students.

YEAR 3 & YEAR 4 CURRICULUM CONCERT THURSDAY NIGHT – 3 SEPTEMBER

Please ensure you have submitted your notice/ticket order for this event if you have not already done so. All Year 3 and 4 students will be involved in this showcase of the Music curriculum. We had a run through of our combined items earlier this week and they are looking and sounding impressive. Also featuring the Intermediate Choir!

David Perry (Performing Arts Coordinator)

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SealPony Soccer is a developmental and participation program that introduces boys and girls aged between 5-10 to the game of football (soccer). It focuses on teaching the basic/intermediate skills.

Fun games and activities ** Great giveaways
For more information, call Joe (0415 388 028) or email: jyamen@optusnet.com.au

EVERY SUNDAY MORNING – starting date 4 October 2015 and finishing date 13 December 2015. Registration Day is on Saturday, 26 September from 10am-11am at James Street Reserve, Heidelberg Heights 3081



FATHER'S DAY STALL THIS WEEK

Dear families WNPS are holding our Father's Day stall in the library on:

Thursday 3 September/Friday 4 September
~ 9am to 11.30am

Please send \$5 with your child on these days if they would like to buy a gift.

(all gifts are \$5 each☺) Enquiries 9435 1285

Hearts in Mind

Term 4 Programs: A wellbeing project for carers
Mindful Wellbeing Course

Reduce anxiety and stress and increase resilience with this unique 9 week course delivered by psychologist Evelyn Bugel for parents and carers – Thursdays, 11am-12.30pm: Cost is \$300* (students & HCC \$200)

Mindful Art Project

Replenish your energy stores through weekly sessions that include a dash of yoga and mindfulness with a splash of creativity – Mondays, 12.30-2.00pm: Cost is FREE!
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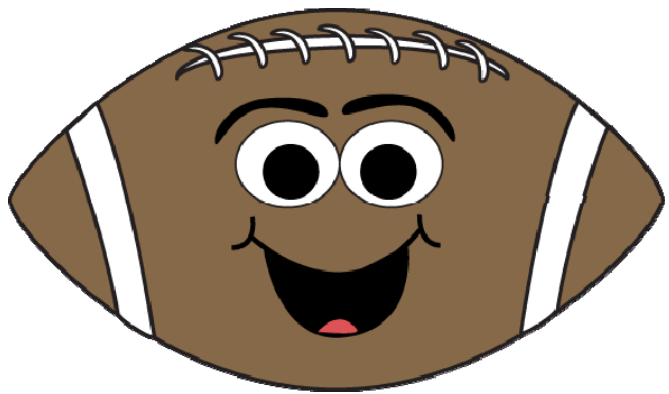
Local Fact #1
Macleod Village has 2 Little Free Libraries

Take A Book – Return A Book

📍 Aberdeen Road, Macleod 📱 Macleod Village

THANK YOU SALLY LOUGHLAND!
Sally, (Evie's mum J17), kindly donated some student chairs for our Junior building. They are making our reading mums very happy AND comfortable! xx





FOOTY COLORS DAY

On the last day of term, **Friday 18 September**, we will be having an out of school uniform day.

We would love everyone to join in the fun by coming dressed in your favourite football team colors.

Please bring along a gold coin donation to help contribute towards the refurbishment of the 5/6

Retreat Area. This is a school priority that we would like our community to support *and raise money for*.

We will be having a whole school picnic lunch and football parade commencing at 12.15pm on the

day. Football activities will be happening at lunchtime for students to participate in.



Parents are more than welcome to come along and join us for the parade.

Looking forward to a fantastic Footy Colors Day! SRC 2015





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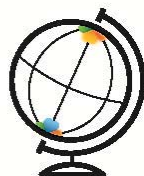
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