



Wednesday Weekly

3 February
2016

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COOL CARE: 9432 3213

From the Principal

WELCOME BACK

A very warm welcome back to school is extended to all members of our school community. I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break over the festive season and holidays. This year, we have a large number of new families who have moved into the area and we welcome these students and their families to our school. Our Prep students have had a wonderful start, settling in quickly and familiarising themselves with their new environment. We welcome several new staff this year - **Miss Jacinta Benson** (Year 1), **Miss Ashlee Sandars** (Year 2), **Ms Kristie Morrison** (Year 5/6) and **Mr James Monk** (Year 5/6). Congratulations also to **Miss Elena Tsalikis** who was working in the ICT program at Watsonia North last year, and is now working in Year 3/4. All are very excited to be at Watsonia North and we look forward to the contributions and positive impact they will have on our school.

We welcomed back from family leave **Ms Michelle Sterjovski** who will be working two days a week in the ICT program alongside **Miss Bonnie Lewis**. There is certainly something in the water at WNPS with the arrival (and pending arrival) of several newborns. Congratulations to **Mr Trent O'Sullivan** and his wife **Belinda**, on the safe arrival of baby **Gemma May**. All are doing well and needless to say Mr O'Sullivan is over the moon. He hasn't been this excited since Collingwood won the premiership! **Ms Zara Demeris** has commenced her family leave and we are expecting to hear some news over the coming weeks.

Staff have been very busy over the holidays preparing classrooms, organising resources and planning programs. We once again look forward to working with you all throughout the course of the year. School life provides a myriad of experiences and we encourage families to become involved in both the formal and informal happenings at the school.

The weekly newsletter is an important means of communication and we ask you to read it diligently each week. If you would like to subscribe to an electronic copy of the newsletter, please contact Jill in the office who will add you to the distribution list (see over for more info).

SCHOOL STRUCTURE FOR 2016

Our school structure for this year has 22 classes grouped into 5 professional learning teams: Prep, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 and the Specialist team. Classroom programs are supported through specialist programs in Physical Education, Art, Music, Information and Communication Technology (ICT). Further enhancement of classroom programs is provided through specialist support in Literacy and Numeracy.

	Year Level/Program	Staff Name	Location
Junior School	Prep	Jacqui Matters	Room 15
	Prep	Ali Browne	Room 16
	Prep	Mark O'Halloran	Room 17
	Prep	Chloe Hanley	Room 18
	Year 1	Melissa Greatrex	Room 12
	Year 1	Sue Pearson	Room 13
	Year 1	Jacinta Benson	Room 14
	Year 2	Katrine Smith	Room 8
	Year 2	Vikki Lygo	Room 9
	Year 2	Ashlee Sandars	Room 11
Middle School	Year 3/4	Elena Tsalikis	Room 19
	Year 3/4	Nick Kuhn	Room 20
	Year 3/4	Sarah Pollnitz	Room 21
	Year 3/4	Emily Rogers	Room 22
	Year 3/4	Scott Eastwood	Room 23
	Year 3/4	Sarah Linsen	Room 24
Senior School	Year 5/6	Ruth Reidy	Room 1
	Year 5/6	Kerryn May	Room 2
	Year 5/6	James Monk	Room 3
	Year 5/6	Julianne Haldon	Room 4
	Year 5/6	Kristie Morrison	Room 5
	Year 5/6	Tony Moore	Room 6
Specialists	Literacy	Kerri Glowacki	Literacy Office
	Literacy	Jenny Storer	Literacy Office
	Maths	Julie Austin	Maths Office
	ICT	Bonnie Lewis Michelle Sterjovski	ICT Room
	Music	David Perry	The Centre
	PE	Trent O'Sullivan	The Centre
	Art	Clare Meehan Jaliya Rudd	Art Room

continued ...

AREA INFORMATION NIGHT & NEWSLETTERS

Each year level is offering an information evening where information booklets and newsletters will be distributed. This key information contains details relating to each year level's organisational aspects, curriculum initiatives, programs and events. Information outlining extra money requests for the year will also be distributed at the session. This information sheet is designed to provide families with an indication of what requests will be made for additional money to cover various year level excursions, event and activities.

A note has gone home providing details of the information nights but in case you have missed it, the sessions will be held on Thursday, 11 February as follows:

Time	Year Level	Location
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Preps	Room J16
	Year 5/6	Library

7:00 – 8:00 pm	Year 1	Room J12
	Year 2	Room J8
	Year 3/4	Room M21

SUMMER MONTHS & SUNSMART

The school's Sunsmart policy requires all students to wear hats when playing or working outside from the months of September through to April. **The only acceptable hats for our students are those supplied as part of the school uniform**, as they provide protection to the face, ears and neck. Children who do not have hats are required to play and work in the designated shade areas.

The application of sunscreen is also a requirement during the warm months when UV levels can be quite high. Children are asked to apply sunscreen in the morning before arriving to school and to re-apply at recess and lunchtimes. Departmental regulations prohibit staff from applying or supplying sunscreen. Teachers will however provide children with prompts and reminders for re-application if they have a roll-on or tube of sunscreen in their bag.

Students are also encouraged to drink lots of water throughout the day in order to remain properly hydrated. Children have access to their drink bottles within their classroom and are therefore encouraged to bring their water bottles to school daily.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

A reminder to school families that school contributions (which have been set and endorsed by School Council), need to be finalised as soon as possible. It is always a financial challenge to ensure that our students are getting the best possible educational opportunities, services and facilities. Without your support, via these contributions, we simply could not offer all that is available at Watsonia North. On behalf of School Council,

we would like to thank the many families that have paid their fees and we look forward to continued levels of high support. Please remember that EFTPOS facilities are available at the office.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

The bringing of any unnecessary personal property to school is strongly discouraged, particularly any valuable items such as mobile phones, iPads, iPods, calculators, toys, sporting equipment etc. The Department of Education does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, parents, staff and visitors.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

It is an expectation that students attend normal school hours every day of each term. There will be times when due to illness and other unforeseeable circumstances, students will be absent from school. In such circumstances, parents/guardians need to provide a written or verbal notification of the absence to the classroom teacher. On occasions, families decide to take holiday periods during school terms. **Please note that such requests must be submitted in writing to the Principal for approval.**

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council plays a critical role in setting the key directions of the school within Departmental guidelines. For the information of all families (particularly those parents who have their first child at school this year), the following is a list of the broad **Roles and Responsibilities** of our School Council.

- Determining the educational policy, goals and priorities of the school within the framework of the school development plan and statewide guidelines.
- Approving and monitoring the school budget (including school-generated funds).
- Ensuring that all funds coming into the hands of the council are expended for proper purposes.
- Entering contracts for purposes consistent with the school's development plan.
- Developing the school's student dress code and the student code of conduct.
- Reporting annually to the school community and to the Department of Education.
- Employing non-teaching staff and casual relief teachers.
- Exercising a general oversight of the buildings and grounds and ensuring that they are kept in good order and condition.
- Providing for necessary cleaning and sanitation services.
- Generally stimulating interest in the school.

Each year, half of our School Council retires and an election is held to fill these vacant positions.

I would like to thank the following Councillors whose term of office ceases in March this year:

Maria Collins (Vice President), **Derrick Watson**, **Greg Anderson**, **Nick Laskaris**, **Jamie Jaquinta**, **Kerri Glowacki** and **Maria Cogger** (Fundraising Committee Rep).

These individuals have contributed much personal time and effort in ensuring continued growth and improvement for our school and we thank them for their commitment.

Shortly, all families will be sent information about School Council Elections for this year. I urge you to consider nominating.

Tina King (Principal)

**SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS:
INDIVIDUAL & CLASS
PHOTOS:
WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY**
Students will receive
ordering information shortly

SCHOOL BANKING



Welcome back to all our school savers and bankers. School bank day is every TUESDAY starting next week. WNPS school banking is with the Commonwealth Bank, Watsonia. The school receives commission for every deposit made and every new bank account opened.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO OPEN A SCHOOL SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR YOUR CHILD?

Rose Alberti, CBA School Banking Specialist, will be coming to our school on **Wednesday, 10 February** from 8.30-9.30am and 2.00-3.00pm to assist parents and guardians with applications to open a school savings account for your child/children (all year levels). Rose will be set up in **Room J10** (in the Junior/south building). Parents/guardians will need to bring their DRIVER'S LICENCE to complete the application. Now is a good time to start saving for their first car – it comes around quickly!

Thanks, Leanne Brook
(School Banking Coordinator)

Advertisements in the Wednesday Weekly are included in good faith; however, neither Watsonia North Primary School, nor the Department of Education can endorse or accept responsibility for the goods or services offered in these advertisements.

Canteen News

Welcome back everyone and a BIG HELLO to all the new Prep families.

The canteen is open every day for lunch orders and counter sales. Please write out your lunch orders on a paper bag and enclose money inside the bag. Remember to write your child's name, room number, and your choice of food. Correct money is appreciated, but if change is required, it will be taped to the outside of the bag. Don't forget to write 'SAUCE' or 'NO SAUCE' if ordering hot food. **Please do not use staples or sticky tape to seal the bag.**

The canteen could not run smoothly without the help of our wonderful parents (and grandparents), and once again, we are asking for volunteers to help out on Wednesdays, Thursdays and ESPECIALLY Fridays, as this is the busiest day. If you would like to help, please fill out the form below and return it to the office or canteen. A roster will be sent home to you via your child next week.

If you did not get a copy of the new price list, you can pick one up from the canteen or office. Our canteen menu is consistent with guidelines promoted by the 'GO FOR YOUR LIFE – HEALTHY EATING POLICY'.

We look forward to a fun year ahead!
Cheers – Di & Karen!

CANTEEN ASSISTANCE

Yes, I would love to help in the Canteen!

My preferred day in the canteen is:

WED 12-1.30pm THUR 11.45am-1.30pm FRI 11.45am – 1.30pm

Once per term Twice per term

Your Name:

Phone Number:

Child's Name: Rm:

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



Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Hi everyone! Welcome to Cool Care for 2016. We trust you all had a happy and safe holiday break we might all ask "where did the time go?" Ah well, we are all back for another exciting year. It is great to see you all and hear of the many adventures from the holidays. The children appear to have grown centimetres in that time.

Cool Care has begun even busier than last year. Our ninety places each afternoon are quickly filling up with several afternoons nudging 80 and over.

If you are intending using Cool Care this year, I encourage you all to complete a 2016 enrolment and lodge them with me to ensure places are available. If you would like an Enrolment form, please contact me watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au or call 9432 3213 or come in and visit us at the beginning or end of each school day in the Centre.

The Sun Protection policy remains in place until May this year, therefore the children require their hats and sunscreen (optional) each afternoon during Cool Care. If your child prefers to leave their school hat in their classroom tub overnight, please ensure they have a spare bucket or slouch hat in their bags while with us. We have blue bucket hats for sale (for Cool Care use only) for \$6.20 if you would like to purchase one for your child. The blue hats remain in Cool Care, therefore ensuring your child has one available each session.

Each week we have a 'Lucky Lunch' complimentary raffle for all of the children registered in Cool Care during the current year. The criteria is that the child needs to have attended during the week of the draw and their registration current. Each child is entitled to win once throughout the year. A complimentary lunch from the school's amazing canteen to the value of \$5.00 is the weekly prize. The winner is provided with a specially marked lunch bag for their use, with Di and Karen in the canteen knowing the \$5.00 has been paid for the specific lunch. Drawing challenges appear to be equally as popular this year. Our first challenge will commence next Monday.

A reminder to all of our users once again this year, the importance of notification if your

child/ren are not going to attend booked sessions. If your family has any type of booking made with us and the child/ren will not be attending, please call on 9432 3213 to notify us of their absence. After care sessions especially, we do not rest until we find a missing child. It is not a pleasant experience if children are missing from our roll without notification. If by chance your contact numbers change, please advise us also.

Fee payments are required at the conclusion of each week of care for permanent families and at the end of the day of care for casual users. Statements are provided to families requesting them, otherwise a current balance can be obtained from us during our sessions. If new to our service or unsure of our protocols, please contact us - the door is always open!!

Have a great week everyone, call us if you need us. Stay Cool, Jenny

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR EMAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW:

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION 2016

PLEASE TICK ONLY ONE OPTION

*Please note that the emailed Wednesday Weekly is in **FULL COLOUR***

Your Name/s:

Eldest Child's Name:

**** IMPORTANT!****

Eldest Child's Home Group in 2016: Home Group (eg J8):

- I am currently receiving the Wednesday Weekly by email and would like to continue to do so – I **have confirmed my eldest child's room number in a reply email to Jill.**
- I am currently receiving the Wednesday Weekly by email, and do not wish to continue. I would like a hard copy of the WW sent to my child each week.
- I would like to start receiving the Wednesday by email.

*To confirm your email address, please send an email by **Friday, 12 February** to:*

lewis.jill.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

**** In the subject heading please state 'Wednesday Weekly' and your family name and eldest child's home group:**

For example:

Subject: Wednesday Weekly – Jones Family J8

- I would like to receive a **black and white** 'hard copy' of the Wednesday Weekly sent to my child each week.
- I do not wish to receive a copy of the Wednesday Weekly.

PE & Sport News

ABOUT SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA (SSV)



School Sport Victoria (SSV) actively promotes school sport for all Victorian school students, Years 4 to 12, as a means of supporting schools in developing their students' health and well-being. SSV operates under the auspices of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Membership of School Sport Victoria is open to all Victorian schools, providing the opportunities to participate in programs that extends from grassroots intra and inter school sport, to district, division, region, state and national levels. Students attending schools affiliated with SSV are eligible for selection in Victorian Teams to compete in 2016 School Sport Australia National Championships. Further information is available from me or on the School Sport Victoria website, www.ssv.vic.edu.au Parents are encouraged to regularly visit the site.

FIXTURE – SUMMER SPORT 2016

ROUND 1	FRI, 5 FEB	Bundoora PS v WNPS (away)
ROUND 2	FRI, 12 FEB	Greensborough PS v WNPS (away)
ROUND 3	FRI, 19 FEB	WNPS v Watsonia PS (away)
ROUND 4	FRI, 26 FEB	WNPS v Watsonia Heights PS (home)
ROUND 5	FRI, 4 MAR	WNPS v Streeton PS (home)
ROUND 6	FRI, 11 MAR	St Marys PS v WNPS (away)
ROUND 7	FRI, 18 MAR	WNPS v Norris Bank PS (away)
FINALS	WED, 23 MAR	No make-up rounds due to short term

WNPS INTERSCHOOL SPORT POLICY

Just a reminder to all families that our interschool sport policy can be found on our school website at: http://www.wats-north.vic.edu.au/school_policies.html

VENUES FOR INTERSCHOOL SPORT

- Bundoora PS – cricket played at Telfer Reserve, all other sports played at school grounds.
- Greensborough PS – cricket and rounders played at War Memorial Oval, basketball and bat tennis played at school.
- Watsonia PS – all sports played at school grounds. **NO ROUNDERS TEAM.**
- Watsonia Heights PS – cricket played at Central Oval, Glenice Street. All other sports played at school grounds.
- WNPS – cricket played at Warrawee Park, Jacqueline Road (10 minute walk) – all other sports played at school grounds.
- St Mary's PS – cricket played at Whatmough Park, Greensborough, all other sports played at school grounds.
- Streeton PS – all sports played at school grounds.
- Norris Bank PS – sports played at school grounds or across road (short walk) Greenhills Road, Norris Bank Reserve. **NO CRICKET TEAM.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Thursday, 4 February – WNPS Swimming Trials 1.00-3.00pm (Years 3-6) at the Yarra Plenty Swim School.
- Friday, 5 February – Interschool Sport (WNPS v Bundoora) away.
- Tuesday, 9 February – Footsteps Dance Program starts for Years 3-6.
- Wednesday, 17 February – Watsonia District Swimming Carnival (10am-12.40pm) at Watermarc Greensborough.

Trent O'Sullivan (PE & Sport Coordinator)

Leadership @ WNPS Term 1 - Week 2

Year 3/4 & 5/6 Leadership Forum

- The SRC role statement, responsibilities and election process will be outlined by staff on Tuesday 2nd February, 2016.

SRC 2016 Nominations

- Nominations open at 11:30am on Tuesday 2nd February, 2016.
- Student's may only nominate ONE student from their class.

SRC 2016 Nominations

- Nominations close at 3:30pm on Friday 5th February, 2016.

Leadership @ WNPS Term 1 - Week 3

SRC Speeches

- All students nominated may present a speech to their class peers on Monday 8th February.

SRC Voting

- Each class votes for their SRC member immediately after the speeches.

Successful SRC candidate is announced.

- Votes are counted and the successful candidate is announced to the class.



WNPS will continue to use our school app, called 'tiqbiz'. The app is used to communicate electronic information to our school families. The app is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and Windows phone devices. If you don't have a mobile device, there is also an app available for computer, both Mac and PC. To access the app, you will need to download **tiqbiz** from the app store, register a **free** account, then find *Watsonia North PS*, and tick our school. When you are ticking the school boxes, please make sure you tick on "Whole School" **AND** the specific Year level/s that apply to your family. You will receive the information with a push notification, much like a text message directly to your device. Any last minute changes or reminders, we'll be able to reach you to keep you completely informed and up-to-date. We hope you will enjoy using this great communication tool!



Performing Arts News

WHY MUSIC?

I occasionally get the question of “why do children study Music at WNPS?” Our school is notable in that we have had a classroom Music program since the 1970s, and we are now being sought out by other schools for advice on how to run classroom and instrumental Music programs. Music education is a “big thing” in the research world at the moment, as the neurological, cognitive and physical benefits for children are very compelling. In the same way that Music Therapy is used to assist hospital patients in their healing process, regular music activity contributes to many aspects of wellbeing. However, I prefer Maestro Richard Gill’s justification: “We teach Music because it is a **good thing!**” Please speak to Mr Perry at the school if you have any other questions.

CHOIR

Senior Choir is now recruiting! Application forms were issued to 2015 choristers and to students who may be interested in becoming part of our school choir. More application forms are available at the Music Office and many have already been returned. I urge all children in Years 5 or 6 who are interested in singing to consider joining, as there are a lot of exciting plans this year! WNPS will be performing as part of the massed choir in the **Victorian State Schools Spectacular**. Not a compulsory event, places are limited and will be restricted to students who are members of the choir. Preference will be given to children in older year levels. This is always an exciting event and a great opportunity for our students. **Parent helpers:** If you would like to assist in coordinating choir uniform in 2016, or in any area of the WNPS choir program, please contact Mr Perry on music@wats-north.vic.edu.au

RECORDER

Is your child in Year 3? They will need a recorder! This is a separate item to be purchased and most families do this through the school. We sell recorders for \$9 and a note for this will be sent to all families of Year 3 students today. There is also the opportunity to take up group recorder lessons with Tony Barnden for a lower than usual price – please indicate on the form at the bottom of the recorder if you are interested in this.
David Perry (Performing Arts Coordinator)



Celebrating 50 Years

Providing excellence in Education for the community

SATURDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2016

VENUE – NEVIN PARADE, VIEWBANK

TIME – 11 AM TO 5 PM

OFFICIAL CEREMONY – 2 PM IN GYMNASIUM

- **Come and meet past and present school friends, teachers and community leaders**
- **Re-kindle your school day memories with visual reminders from each decade**
- **See the huge changes over the years to buildings, grounds, equipment and learning areas**
- **Visit the vibrant learning environment that serves the children of today and see the children perform for your entertainment**

Bring along any memorabilia that relates to your school years to share with others



Certified Practising Accountants

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REGISTRATION & FAMILY DAY

SUNDAY 14th FEBRUARY

Time: 10am to 12pm

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