



Wednesday Weekly

4
November
2015

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From the Principal

BRISBANE SCHOOLS VISIT TO WNPS

Last Friday, we hosted several visitors from four different schools in Brisbane – *Fig Tree Pocket State School, Graceville State School, Moggill State School and Indooroopilly State School*. Our visitors had heard about the exciting work we have undertaken in order to enhance the teaching and learning practices and programs in our school. Consequently they travelled all the way to Melbourne in order to spend the day at our school to observe and hear all about our school's continuous improvement journey to excellence. Needless to say, they were most impressed and our students must be commended on their exemplary conduct and capacity to articulate their learning journey. As a result of the visit, we look forward to having a continuous partnership with these schools.

AYLA TSOUMBAKOS

Many students and parents have become aware of the courageous plight of one of our ex-students, **Ayla Tsoumbakos**. Aiden and Ayla attended WNPS for many years, leaving last year when the family relocated to Warburton. I have been approached by many parents and students expressing grave concern and offers of assistance in a time that is very challenging and devastating for Ayla and her family. Ayla was in ICU and in a state of induced coma as a result of nectrotising myositis, a severe but rare form of invasive muscle infection. As a result of this horrible disease, Ayla is fighting to stay alive and is likely to lose both her legs and possibly other limbs. Her family is currently residing at Ronald McDonald house and each day brings new challenges and hurdles.

I have spoken with the Principal of Ayla's current school in Warburton and he has informed me that the community has banded together to assist the family. I have also made contact with Ayla's parents to let them know that we are thinking of them all. There are many members of our school community who would like to assist the Tsoumbakos family offering support in any way possible. It appears that due to upcoming escalating medical costs, financial support would be most welcomed. As a result, we are offering people the

opportunity to come and sign a donation book and make a financial contribution. Funds will be pooled with those raised from Warburton PS and donated to the family. I know many of you would like to get behind this incredibly strong and courageous family by donating whatever you can. We will be taking donations up to the end of this month.

Children can express anxiety, fear and sadness upon hearing of such sad news. If at any stage you are concerned about your child, please come and speak to your child's classroom teacher, Jamie Jaquinta (Assistant Principal) or myself. Counselling support for your child is available upon request.

WATSONIA RSL REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Remembrance Day provides opportunity for us as a nation, to pause and remember all those who have died in war. Originally called Armistice Day, on 11 November each year at the eleventh hour, a minute's silence is traditionally observed to remember those who have died or suffered in wars and conflicts. Several of our Year 5 and 6 students will be participating in the Remembrance Day Commemorative Service at Watsonia RSL next Wednesday. On behalf of the WNPS community, a wreath will be laid by our school representatives, whilst other students will read a poem called *In Flanders Fields*. It is a moving ceremony, commemorating the sacrifices of members of our armed forces and we invite members of our school community to join us.

In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



Tina King (Principal)



Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Hi everyone

I trust you enjoyed your day off yesterday (for those of us lucky enough not to have been at work). We drew two Melbourne Cup Sweeps on Monday afternoon congratulations to the little jockeys whose horses crossed the finishing line for a prize as 1st, 2nd 3rd and last. A great race, jockeys! Prizes will be handed out this week.

To extend on the Spring Carnival theme, the children requested to make things that you might see at the races. Monday afternoon they had fun making their own little Cup, ladies' hats and fascinators and men's top hats. Congratulations to our winners, enjoy your treats.

Continuing on from last week's comments regarding our little midnight visitors in the gardens, the net is now on and seems to have solved our problem. Sadly our little guests will have to go and fill their little bellies elsewhere.

Sorry!!

With a short week comes a short column for me this week.

Enjoy the rest of yours!

Stay Cool ... Jenny



WE NEED YOU!

Watsonia North Primary School has the opportunity to review the structure of our written reports. We would love your feedback to assist us with the process. Please give us five minutes of your time to respond to a quick survey. The survey is online and just requires you to type the following url into the address bar of your browser.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6RYKCO>

Have your say, be a part of change at Watsonia North Primary School.



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ICAS – SPELLING

Dear families of students who participated in the *ICAS Spelling* test – the certificates of achievement have arrived and will be handed out in assembly on **Monday 9 November**.

Thank you for your support.

Sarah Pollnitz

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.



Poppy Appeal

POPPIES ARE ON SALE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE

fundraising committee

CAROLS NIGHT
10 DECEMBER @ 5PM

We are all asking all parents for help with our upcoming Carols Night.

The type of help needed is

- Assistance on the sausage sizzle stall (even if for a short time)
- Set up and pack up of market
- Face painting and colour hair spraying
- Handball competition assistance
- Anything else that may come up



If you think you can help in any way please contact Maria Cogger:

maria.cogger@gmail.com or contact the office.

Your help would be very greatly appreciated.

Fundraising Committee

SCHOLARSHIPS

2017 Scholarships
NOW OPEN!

Visit our website
for more details.



1:1 PROGRAM PAYMENT

Just a reminder to the Year 3/4 families that the portal for payment for the laptops is now open. Deposits are due **TOMORROW (5 November 2015)**.

Address for the portal where you can make payments for the 1:1 package for 2016 is:

<http://portal.lwt.com.au/WNPS>

Please follow the prompts to complete the process.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact either Zara Demeris or Jamie Jaquinta.

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****2016 ENROLMENTS ARE OPEN****
New timetable at:
www.dancestreet.com.au
All ages - Toddlers thru Adults
DANCE, HIP HOP, ACRO, LYRICAL, TAP & SINGING



Trophies & Awards

- ▶ Trophies
- ▶ Awards
- ▶ Engraving
- ▶ Name Plates/Labels
- ▶ General Signage
- ▶ Safety Signs

Craig Martin
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Leadership @ WNPS

Term 4 - Week 5

School Captain Nominations 2016

- **Nominations close Thursday 5th November to the School Office by 3:30pm.**

School Captain nominees for 2016

- The Principal and Assistant Principal convene a meeting with the School Captain nominees on Friday 6th November at 12:30pm.

Year 3 and 4 Leadership Development Program

- Year 3 and 4 students continue to develop their understanding of the leadership process at Watsonia North Primary School in preparation for voting for School Captain in Week 7.

Leadership @ WNPS

Week 6

School Captain Nominees 2016

- **Application forms due Wednesday 11th November to the School Office by 3:30pm.**

WNPS School Captain Advisors

- On Thursday 12th November, the School Captains and Vice-Captains of 2015 review all nominee application forms and make recommendations, based on the leadership criteria, to the WNPS Student Leadership Selection Panel.

WNPS Student Leadership Selection Panel

- On Thursday 12th November the WNPS Student Leadership Selection Panel, which consists of the Principal, Assistant Principal, Year 5/6 Teacher representative and a Specialist Teacher representative will meet to shortlist the nominees.

School Captain Nominees 2016

- **Successful applicants will be notified Friday 13th November.**