



# Wednesday Weekly

9 March  
2016

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## From the Principal

**A REMINDER THAT MONDAY 14 MARCH IS THE LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY. SCHOOL WILL NOT BE OPEN ON THIS DAY.**

### WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWC)

A reminder to all our volunteers and helpers that the school maintains a register of parents who have a current Working With Children Check (WWC). Thank you all the people who have presented their cards to the office staff. If you have not already done so, or have not applied for the WWC check we ask that you give this your due attention.

### EVERY DAY COUNTS – SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they'll have missed more than a year of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The School Annual Report for 2015 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Watsonia School

Council to be held on Tuesday 15 March commencing at 6:00pm. The Annual Report provides a means for the school council to inform the school community of what has been achieved and how the school is performing. Annual reporting is also an important tool for effective governance within schools and is useful in:

**Keeping the school community informed:** schools are important to their local communities. Parents and families, students and school staff make considerable contributions to their school. School annual reports provide one way of informing these groups on what has been planned and what has been achieved.

**Contributing to school planning:** the annual reporting process provides a useful opportunity for schools to reflect on what was planned and what was actually implemented, and what impact this has had on meeting the needs of students. This will inform the future plans of the school.

The Annual Report for 2015 will be made available later this month on the State Register found on the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority's website <http://www.vrqa.vic.au>

You may also access the report by visiting our school's website at [www.watsnorth.vic.edu.au](http://www.watsnorth.vic.edu.au)

### CURRICULUM DAY - INQUIRY LEARNING

Last Friday, staff engaged in continued professional development relating to Inquiry Learning as a model of practice. Learning using the inquiry approach, involves students forming their own questions about a topic and having time to explore possible answers.

In line with world best practice and through the support and work of **Dr Jeni Wilson** (educational consultant), staff have structured units of work around through lines (conceptual understandings) which outline key concept statements and generalisations. These statements of understanding formulate our inquiry learning units. Staff valued the opportunity to engage with Jeni, who continues to work with us as a critical friend in order to provide focused teaching and learning through the inquiry approach.

*continued ....*

## MATHEMATICS FOR PARENTS

What a wonderful turnout we had last night, with over 70 parents in attendance for the session with **Michael Ymer**. As a renowned maths expert, Michael shared his extensive knowledge and wisdom relating to the teaching and learning of mathematics. He highlighted the importance of linking numeracy to real life mathematical situations and provided strategies for parents in assisting their child/children to become efficient problem solvers. A very big thank you to **Mrs Julie Austin**, for organising the session and to Michael for his ongoing work with our school.

## STUDENT LEADERS 2016

Please peruse our special feature in this week's newsletter containing a photographic display of our elected Student Leadership body for this year. We congratulate all students who have been elected to the various leadership roles.

*Tina King* (Principal)



## fundraising committee



The WNPS Fundraising Committee are running an **EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE**. Please help us by donating chocolate Easter eggs/bunnies. Donations need to be handed to the school office by **FRIDAY, 18 MARCH**. Raffle tickets have been distributed to all families – additional tickets are available from the school office.

### FOR SALE

Brown leather 2 seater couch - \$80  
Good condition  
Call Ben on 0428 986 947

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



**Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours**

Hello everyone. As many of you may be aware, all Early Childhood and Care services are now under legislation to meet National Quality Standards and regulations. The National Quality Framework that is formed through these standards requires all services to be assessed and rated against the Framework and all elements within. The assessment and rating process is designed to be a cooperative approach with opportunities for services to discuss and supply evidence on how they are meeting the National Quality Standard and embracing outcomes for children. Cool Care has not yet had their assessment visit however, we expect this will occur in the not too distant future, more than likely sometime next term. As a community owned service, we are extremely proud of our achievements thus far, and will endeavour to display and showcase the work the children and educators do together during these visits. We believe the positive and friendly relationships we have with our families forms a huge part of the successful operations of Cool Care. We will endeavour to share our experiences with the assessor during their attendance and look forward to doing so. If you would like to know more about the National Quality Framework and the Assessment and rating visit, more information is available on the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website [www.acecqa.gov.au](http://www.acecqa.gov.au) Judging is currently underway in the 'Imaginary World' drawing challenge. Grace and Maggie will be announcing their winners once the judging process is completed, so stay tuned for their exciting announcements. To extend further on this theme, children participating in the art and craft area last week have created an amazing brightly coloured display which has resulted in many complimentary comments from parents as they collect and drop off their children. Gardening Gurus have been hard at work again this week. Our beautiful little sunflowers have been put to rest and the gardening plot is in preparation for new plants early next term. We have a couple of bags of sunflowers seeds free to a good home so if you would like some seeds, please let me know. That's it from me this week folks, have a great week – enjoy your long weekend and the colourful sights of Moomba in our magnificent city.

Stay Cool, Jenny

# PE & Sport News

## LAST WEEK'S RESULTS ROUND 5



Sport	WNPS	Streeton
Basketball Boys	24	10
Basketball Girls	26	8
Bat Tennis Boys	32	9
Bat Tennis Girls	26	24
Rounders	11	13
Cricket	1/112	4/22

## INTERSCHOOL SPORT THIS WEEK

**Round 6:** WNPS v St Marys (away) 9.30-10.50am. Cricket at Watmough Park and all other sports at St Marys PS.

## DIVISION SWIMMING

Well done to all of the students who attended the Division Swimming Carnival at Northcote pool last Wednesday. We had some outstanding individual results – well done!

They will both now go on to compete in the Northern Region Swimming Carnival today. Thanks to all of the parents who supported the event!

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

# Performing Arts News

## MUSIC MENTORING

Have your children told you they are doing music with their classroom teacher? That is because some of the classroom teachers at WNPS have been participating in the National Music Teachers Mentoring Program. Ms Browne, Mrs Pearson, Miss Lygo and Mr Eastwood have been working with Mr Perry this term to develop their skills in teaching music activities as part of their regular classroom program. They did a great job in teaching their classes the songs "Wishy Washy Washerwoman" and "The Penguin Song". This is one of the first steps in increasing the amount of music experiences for students at the school. More to come!

## CHOIR

Senior Choir is in full swing! We have healthy numbers of around 25 in this year's Senior Choir, and with a very exciting distinction compared to previous years: we have **more boys than girls** in the Senior Choir! It is obvious that choir has become a well-regarded and valued activity at the school, as we had around 70 choristers from Years 3 – 6 in 2015, with great turnouts at all performances and competitions. Intermediate Choir (ie all children in Year 3/4) are making great progress on their two songs, which will be performed at an assembly soon (more on this to come). 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](mailto:music@wats-north.vic.edu.au).

## VIOLIN

Group classes for beginner students in Prep and (possibly) Year 1 will be starting next term. This is at a fixed price of \$120 for ten weeks, and the school organises your violin for you. Please think about whether you would like your child involved in this – I have already had families approach me to express their interest!

David Perry (Performing Arts Coordinator)

**BULLYING. NO WAY!**  
TAKE A STAND TOGETHER  
"Don't be a bystander. It could mean the world to the person being bullied."  
Jayden

Friday 18 March 2016  
[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

**National Day of Action** against Bullying and Violence

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# RELAY FOR LIFE OUT OF SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY

On Friday 18 March we will be having an out of school uniform day in support of the Relay for Life.

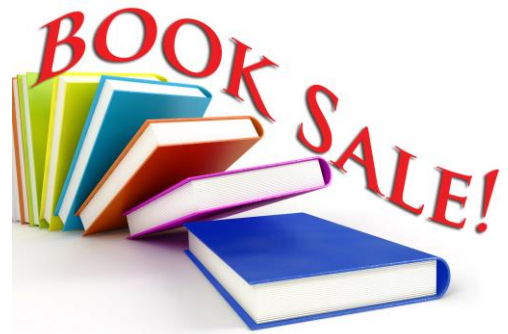
We would love everyone to wear something **purple** or **yellow** or a combination of both colours and **BRING ALONG A GOLD COIN DONATION.**

**A COMMUNITY WALK AROUND THE SCHOOL BLOCK WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE AFTERNOON ON FRIDAY AT 2.40PM.**

**Classes will assemble on the oval and complete one lap of the block to show our support for this great cause.**

**Parents are welcome to come down and join in the walk and be part of this day. Look forward to seeing you there.**

**All money raised on the day will be donated to the Anti Cancer Council and go toward our school team goal.**



## **\$1 Book Sale for Year 3 – 6**

Next week there will be a Second Hand Book Sale in the library on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (16-18 March) at lunchtime. This year the books will be for **Years 3-6 only.**

All books will be \$1 ..... or 2 for \$1 ..... or 3 for \$1!!!

So come along and grab a bargain!!!

**Judy Leigh, Library**



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Rachel Dunne Fuga (DFTA)  
Ph: 0432 949 499  
25 years of teaching expertise  
Former Australian Champion

**\*\*ENROL NOW FOR 2016\*\***

*New timetable at:*

[www.dancestreet.com.au](http://www.dancestreet.com.au)

**All ages - Toddlers thru Adults**

**DANCE, HIP HOP, ACRO, LYRICAL, TAP & SINGING**