

Upcoming Events :

- Wednesday 14th Feb – 3rd Foundation Testing Day
- Monday 19th Feb – Whole School Community Assembly @ 9.00 am
- Friday 16th Feb – Year 5/6 Interschool Sports Round 2
- Tuesday 29th Feb – Foundation Information Evening
 - (2024 Foundation Students)
- Wednesday 21st Feb – 4th Foundation Testing Day
- **Wednesday 6th March- Whole School Photos**



Key Dates



Principal's Team Report

It has been a wonderful second week of the term as students have settled into their new classes, with new class friends and in many cases new teachers. We have been focussing on ensuring that everyone is connected to the school and that our 19 classes understand our consistent expectations. It has been very pleasing to see how our Foundation students have continued to learn new knowledge and routines with lots of enthusiasm for learning and general 'school life'.

Today we commenced our Interschool sports competition with our Year 5 and 6 students very keen to compete in the sports of Tee ball, Basketball, and Cricket. We were very proud as we visited the various venues to see teamwork and good sports etiquette being displayed. Please refer to the sports school of this Primary Post to see your results. Win, Lose, or draw, the main thing that is everyone had fun working in teams, and we got to be outdoors and exercising!



Our teachers and students are establishing class routines and showing our school expectations. Our class time is very precious, and we need to ensure that all students have time and space to do their 'best' learning. Teachers are learners as well and this week, as a school we undertook some professional learning on the Google Education Suite. This Google Workspace offers multiple options that will meet both our school's collaboration and communication needs. It provides a range of tools to enhance teaching and learning, such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, Google Docs, and Google Forms. For our students in Years 3 – 6, it will mean that we will slowly transition from Microsoft Teams to a Google Classroom platform. This is a free blended learning platform that aims to simplify creating, distributing, and marking assignments. The main benefit is that it streamlines the process of sharing files between teachers and students.

Over the weekend the mulch around all our playgrounds will be 'topped up' to ensure that they are compliant in terms of both depth and soft fall regulations. The playgrounds are enjoyed by a wide range of students from all year levels. These spaces promote and develop crucial physical, social, emotional, and imaginative skills that are necessary to gain self-confidence, improve coordination, and advance their critical thinking capabilities.

Lastly, as we are expected to have some warm weather throughout next week, it is a timely reminder that all students wear their Whittlesea Primary School SunSmart hats and have their water bottles to sip on throughout the day.

Enjoy your weekend,

Kaylene Kubeil & Rae Gittos
Principal Team



Star of the Week

Foundation D Mikayla Di Mauro	Awarded to: Bonnie Menz For: an excellent start to school and doing her best when counting to 20!
Foundation G Jess Gordon	Awarded to: Chris Saldaneri For: respecting our school by putting rubbish in the bin at break time. Great job Chris!
Foundation F Jess Fontana	Awarded to: Savannah Halley For: Completing amazing 5-star illustrations and writing in your workbook. Keep it up!
Year 1/2F Chantelle Fasone/Carli Scoberg	Awarded to: Jemma Smith For: doing her best in all her learning activities and helping others with their learning
Year 1/2S Stuart Maxfield	Awarded to: Cody Brooks For: making a great start to the term and completing great work, while being an active class member.
Year 1/2M Madison Merritt	Awarded to: Kaiah McCawley For: trying her best on all learning tasks and taking pride in her learning.
Year 1/2B Jai Bowring	Awarded to: Parker Schivo For: Excellent effort during Literacy and Numeracy tasks and helping her classmates succeed.
Year 1/2K Kate Storck/Sarah Pearce	Awarded to: Harvey Moore For: always displaying school values and having an amazing attitude towards his learning.
Year 3/4B Tracy Brooks	Awarded to: Nabeel Khan For: Displaying an enthusiastic attitude in all classroom activities and being a friendly and cheerful classmate. Well done Nabeel!
Year 3/4D Brad Dupuy/Sam McCormick	Awarded to: Keagan Brown For: Displaying a positive attitude in class and always trying his best in all areas of his learning. Keep it up, Keagan!
Year 3/4T Deanne Tuppen	Awarded to: Bonnie Cullen For: having confidence to share her knowledge and input into class discussions. Well done, Bonnie!
Year 3/4Z Zoe Dyer/Jacque Mondon	Awarded to: Lola Mathews For: Completing a detailed holiday recount and continuing to do her best! Great work Lola!
Year 3/4C Elise Cowdery	Awarded to: Hudson Matthews For: Creating an excellent SVT speech and presenting with confidence.

Year 5B Erin Barker	Awarded to: Levi Linton For: Demonstrating our school expectations and completing all tasks to the best of his ability. Excellent start to the year Levi!
Year 5C Jacky Chen	Awarded to: Audrey Cummings For: Audrey has had such a great start to the year! She has settled in quickly and seen constantly to be on task. Keep up the great work!
Year 5M Bree McIntyre	Awarded to: Sarah Hallam For: Well done Sarah on a fantastic start to Year 5. You consistently follow classroom expectations and approach tasks with a positive attitude. Keep it up.
Year 6A Bianca Avolino/Matthew Kirkright	Awarded to: Xavier Bills For: helping his peer succeed by enthusiastically reading their writing, with excellent and engaging expression!
Year 6C Hope Cummins	Awarded to: Kenzie Sutherland For: helping others succeed, particularly when supporting a new student to feel at home at WPS. Love your work, Kenzie!
Year 6P Robert Pain/Betty Tzelepis	Awarded to: Millie Brander For: doing your best in all aspects of learning. Your bright and positive attitude is a joy to see!
PE Vanessa Montalti	Awarded to year: 1/2B For: working as a team and listening to each other.
PE BOOST Verena Smith	Awarded to year: 1/2 F For: cooperating well by talking to each other and being ready when passing the ball in a game of tunnel ball.
The Arts Nerida Ivory	Awarded to year: 3/4C For: doing an exceptional job being respectful in the classroom.
STEM Leonie Gorski	Awarded to year: 6P For: applying their STEM skills to explore and identify the phases in Chromatology.
Chinese Jessie Lui	Awarded to year: 5C For: Trying your best to create a Chinese cover page and showing respect to Miss Liu. Super stars.







Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHiPS) Leader

Dear Students & Families,

My name is Amy Carter and I am the new Mental Health in Primary School (MHiPS) Leader at Whittlesea Primary School. I have vast experience when working in schools and have been in education for 17 years. I am feeling grateful to be here and I am looking forward to being a part of your school community in 2024.

For the first two weeks, I have spent a lot of time in every grade, getting to know your children. I find the beginning of the year so exciting as the school fills up with our staff, students and families and the learning begins!

My role as the MHiPS Leader is designed to provide a proactive focus for the prevention and promotion of mental health and wellbeing for students, staff & families.

As an educator, I am committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment for all students. As a school community, we understand that students reach their full potential when they are happy, healthy and safe and as the WPS Mental Health Leader, this will be at the forefront of all that I do.

Please feel free to come and say hello if you see me out in the yard. I am just loving getting to know you all and look forward to working with the school community in 2024.

Take care & have a wonderful weekend.





Mental Health & Wellbeing

at Whittlesea Primary School

Dear Parents & Carers,

This time of the year can provoke many feelings & emotions for us all. Feelings of gratitude, excitement, nervousness, fear, confusion & sometimes all the above!

I came across this lovely article by Psychologist, *Karen Young* & I felt it is a timely reminder for us all.

This parenting gig can be tough, but please know.. you are the *beautifully imperfect* parent for *your* child and you are doing a wonderful job.

Take care & please reach out if you need.

Amy Carter
Mental Health in Primary School (MHIPS) Leader



The Beautiful Imperfection of Parenting

I love being a parent. I love it with every part of my being and more than I ever thought I could love anything. Honestly though, nothing has brought out my insecurities or vulnerabilities as much. This is so normal. Confusing, and normal.

We have to lovingly make way for the duality of parenting. It's joyful and lonely. It nourishes and depletes. It's tender and maddening. We discover the richest, most luminescent parts of ourselves, while we feel other parts go missing for a while.

We are selfless, loving, and nurturing. And sometimes we aren't. It was never meant to be about perfection. It's about love, and love is never perfect. It's honest, raw, pure. It's irrational and infuriating. It's beautiful, life-giving, and imperfect. So are we. So are our children. Let's not give them a ridiculous ideal to live up to by expecting ourselves or our parenting to be otherwise.

However many children we have, and whatever age they are, each child and each new stage will bring something new for us to learn. It will always be this way. Our children will each do life differently, and along the way we will need to adapt and bend ourselves around their path to light their way as best we can. But we won't do this perfectly, because we can't always know what mountains they'll need to climb, or what dragons they'll need to slay. We won't always know what they'll need, and we won't always be able to give it. We don't need to. But we'll want to. Sometimes we'll ache because of this and we'll blame ourselves for not being 'enough'. Sometimes we won't. This is the vulnerability that comes with parenting.

We love them so much, and that never changes, but the way we feel about parenting might change a thousand times before breakfast. Parenting is tough. It's worth every second – every second – but it's tough. Great parents can feel everything, and sometimes it can turn from moment to moment – loving, furious, resentful, compassionate, gentle, tough, joyful, selfish, confused and wise – all of it. Great parents can feel all of it. Because parenting is pure joy, but not always. We are strong, nurturing, selfless, loving, but not always. Parents aren't perfect. Love isn't perfect. And it was meant to be. We're raising humans – real ones, with feelings, who don't need to be perfect, and won't need others to be perfect. Humans who can be kind to others, and to themselves first. But they will learn this from us.

Parenting is the role which needs us to be our most human, beautifully imperfect, flawed, vulnerable selves. Let's not judge ourselves for our shortcomings and the imperfections, and the necessary human-ness of us.

SPORTS REPORT

Term 1 Interschool Sport Results

Round 1

WPS vs Mernda PS - GOLD A

WPS Cricket Boys: 106

MPS Cricket Boys: 12

WPS Cricket Girls: 56

MPS Cricket Girls: 54

WPS Teeball Girls: 30

MPS Teeball Girls: 4

WPS Teeball Boys: 21

MPS Teeball Boys: 16

WPS Basketball Boys: 32

MPS Basketball Boys: 10

WPS Basketball Girls: 9

MPS Basketball Girls: 12

WPS Basketball Mixed: 23

MPS Basketball Mixed: 15

WPS vs St Joseph's - BLUE B

WPS Cricket Boys: 42

St. Joseph's Cricket Boys: 89

WPS Cricket Girls: 34

St. Joseph's Cricket Girls: 59

WPS Teeball Girls: 13

St. Joseph's Teeball Girls: 17

WPS Teeball Boys: 9

St. Joseph's Teeball Boys: 14

WPS Basketball Boys: 0

St. Joseph's Basketball Boys: 35

WPS Basketball Girls: 0

St. Joseph's Basketball Girls: 26

WPS Basketball Mixed: 4

St. Joseph's Basketball Mixed: 4

Don't forget - the upcoming Swimming Carnival
Bridge Inn North Swimming Carnival
on Tuesday 27th February
Good luck to our students who are ready to compete!



Wowjeka, Our service philosophy at Whittlesea Primary School is to make the students the centre of everything we do. We facilitate lifelong development and growth of the children so that they achieve their full potential as individuals. We strive to develop and support the emotional, social and physical wellbeing of the child. We create positive environments for their learning and curiosity and we also encourage the children to be important members of the local and wider communities. Parents, students and staff are strongly encouraged to work together in partnership recognising our shared values of community, confidence, honesty, excellence and respect. We also include our key values which are Safety, Education, Nurturing, Stimulating and Empathy within the service.



WELCOME BACK, Term 1 2024

A BIG Welcome back to all the Families and Students. We have been super busy for the last 3 weeks with our Holiday Program. The children have been super busy with our summer program with fun crafts, incursions that included a Splashtacular where the children got to have fun outside in their bathers and have water play & Box Derby experience and excursions to the Movies to watch Wish, Ninja course, Rock climbing and Head to Bounce.

We cant wait to see you all back for another super fun Term with you all and cant not wait to meet the new families and Preps starting this year.

Please note that preps who attend BSC and ASC will be picked up and Dropped off to there classrooms to ensure a smooth transition until later in the year where they will become more independent and confident ready to walk by themselves.

We will be starting off with the Term talking to the children about rules and expectations of the service followed by getting to know the new children and having conversations on what they would like to do during the term as this will allow us to plan and keep the service engaging for the children.



Welcome!

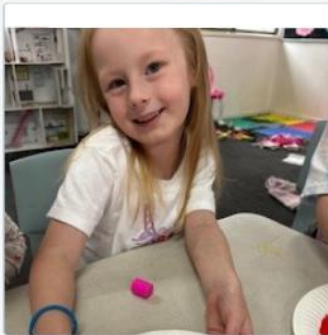
Parents can we please ensure that whilst dropping off and collecting the children we are signing them in and out. This will help us whilst busy with the children as we are conducting headcounts every 30 mins

Hats

Please ensure that children have hats whilst at the service whilst the sun is still out and shining. No Hat No Play

Feedback

Could we please ask our parents to kindly pass on some feedback on the service. Any suggestions, thoughts will kindly help us to improve and keep the service running smoothly. Please find the parent feedback forms located near the ipad on the parent sign in and out desk.



Mexican Day Fun



Rockclimbing Fun

COMMUNITY NEWS



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WANT TO PLAY FOOTBALL IN 2024?

**We are currently seeking players
for the following age groups:**

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U14 Girls & Boys

U15 Boys

U18 Girls

Express your interest asap to:

whittleseajfcsecretary@gmail.com