Dear Parents,

Student Leadership Positions are held in high regard by the Principal, staff, parents and community. Year 6 student leaders are representative of Wattle Park Primary School and the standards of which the school community espouses into society. The Year 6 student leaders are key participants in both the modelling of standards for younger peers, and the proactive development of student behaviours and attitudes across the school.

They are involved within a range of leadership opportunities embedded within the school curriculum and annual calendar. These may involve collaborative decision-making, public speaking, team work skills, reporting, coaching and mentoring other students and community initiatives. Student leaders are active participants at Wattle Park functions, assemblies and school representative events. The Year 6 and Foundation Buddy program is essential in assisting the smooth transition of our Foundation students to the school. The Year 6 leaders will be presented with their badges next Monday 18th February, at assembly.

The following week on Monday, 25th February, students will be presented with their Student Representative Council Badges.

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY
Mon 18th  Parent Teacher Evening 3.50-6.50pm
Tue 19th  Chinese New Year Lunch
Thur 21st  District Swimming Carnival
Thur 28th  Division Swimming

MARCH
Wed 6th  Curriculum Day
Thur 7th Incursion Classical Indian to Bollywood
4pm Official Opening of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden
Fri 8th Regional Swimming
Mon 11th  Labour Day Holiday
13th—27th Bike Ed — Year 6
Fri 22nd Summer Sport Round Robin Year 5/6
Thur 28th End of Term 1

APRIL
Mon 15th Term 2 Begins

UNIFORM SHOP OPEN:
MONDAYS AFTER THE AFTERNOON ASSEMBLY & THURSDAYS 8.30-9.30am
At last week’s assembly Mr John Davey and I presented Scarecrow badges. Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their class peers to be the environmental caretakers of our school:


For a number of years, Victoria has conducted a ‘Premier’s Reading Challenge’ for primary and secondary school students. Over the past four years a similar initiative to increase student and family fitness has been conducted called ‘The Premier’s Active Families Challenge’ please read the below information if you would like to participate.

THE PREMIER’S ACTIVE FAMILIES CHALLENGE
The Premier’s Active Families Challenge provides a great opportunity for all Victorians to get active and enjoy the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Registrations are now open! You can support the Challenge by encouraging your students and their families to register and complete 30 minutes of physical activity for 30 days from 4 March to 14 April 2013.

Participation is free and there are great incentives just for signing up including:
20 free YMCA passes per family or team; 15% discount at Rebel Sport; One hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Park Reserve; One free child entry to the Melbourne Aquarium; One free child entry to the National Sports Museum and MCG Tour.

Students will also have the opportunity to nominate their school for the chance to win between $350 and $1000 in Rebel Sport vouchers.

Participating schools are also eligible for coaching clinics from VIS Challenge Ambassadors. Clinics are on a first-come, first-served basis and run from 18th February – 15th March 2013.
For more information and to sign up visit www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/challenge or contact 1300 463 684.

Last Tuesday, I accompanied the Year 4, 5 and 6 swimmers who participated for the chance to represent our school in the upcoming district sports. Many thanks to Mrs Melinda Downes for her organisation, in what was a smooth and well planned operation. Congratulations to all participating students. We certainly have some students who swim like fish!

On Wednesday 13th at approximately 4.30p.m., there was a sickening car accident on the corner of Banksia Street and Warrigal Road. Luckily no-one from the school community was involved but it proved to be a timely reminder of what is possible if people- motorists and pedestrians are not vigilant being sensible and safe on our roads and footpaths.

This week at pick-up times I have observed cars doing u-turns in Banksia Street endangering children and parents’ cars entering the staff car park at dangerous speeds. None of this is permissible. Parents please take extra special care of your children at drop off and pick-up times. Whitehorse City traffic inspectors do make random visits to view and fine illegal motorist activity, but the cost of a driving infringement is inconsequential when compared to the injuries a child could sustain.

Enjoy the summer weather, but I must admit I am wishing for just a drop of rain to refresh the gardens and lawns.

See everyone on Monday and don’t forget the Family/Teacher meetings for all classes.

Regards Gayle
School Council Elections 2013 – Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council for Wattle Park Primary School. All DEECD Government schools in Victoria have School Council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of the school within centrally provided guidelines.

There are 3 possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected parent category.** Department employees can be parent members at their child’s school.
- **A mandated elected Department employee category.** The Principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
- **An optional community member category.** Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.

The term of office for members is two years. Half the membership must retire each year and this creates vacancies for the annual school council elections.

All you need is the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

Nomination forms for vacancies on School Council are available from the Office. If you cannot come to school to collect forms, we would be pleased to receive a telephone call from you requesting that we send forms home with your eldest child.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted in the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

A minimum of eight meetings are held each year (usually the 4th Tuesday) and the annual general meeting is held in March.

**Vacancies:**

4 Parent members of Council
1 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development members.

The time line for this most important process is as follows:

- Notice of Election and Call for Nominations distributed on Friday **February 15th.**

- Nominations close at 4.00pm on **Friday 22nd February**
If the number of applicants exceeds the number of vacancies, an election will be held. Ballot papers will be distributed on Friday **March 1st**

The ballot will close at 4.00pm on Friday **March 8th**

The new council will meet for the first time on **Tuesday, March 26th**. It is impossible to overstate the importance of an effective school council. This group has responsibilities in virtually every area of school organization, and is an integral part of a school’s decision making processes.

As such, I would take this opportunity to both urge and encourage interested parents to consider nominating for school council, and stress that you do not have to have specific expertise in education to become an effective member of council.

The only prerequisites to being an effective school council member are the ability to attend monthly meetings, the time to serve on a council committee, an interest in your child’s education, and the enthusiasm to work with other parents and teachers in the best interests of the Wattle Park Primary School Community.

If you are at all interested, please consider this opportunity carefully. Additional information can be obtained by calling me at the office. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 26th March, after which the 2013 School Council will meet.

**Scarecrow Monitors**

[Image of a group of children]
2013 Annual General Meeting

The Parents and Friends Association
of
Wattle Park Primary School

Invite you to Attend our

Annual General Meeting

To be held in the Staff Room on

Monday, 25th March 2013
8pm.

All PFA positions are open and vacant and seeking interested parents to get on board.

The PFA is a great way to make a real contribution to the school as well as to get to know other families within the school community.

Nomination forms can be found at the school office.

Interested?

Please call Sue on 0413 990 152 for more information.

Light refreshments will be served on the night. Everyone is very welcome!!
**OSHCC TIMES**

Wattle Park Primary School OSHC phone: 0401 293 830 Coordinator: Nicole

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**OSHCC NEWS**

Welcome back to the new school year. My staff and I have noticed so much growth (both in height and in maturity) of our OSHCC superstars over the holidays and we’re very excited to get to know our new attendees.

This term we’re starting some new traditions, including group games before we leave Before School Care (such as Bang, 21 and Time Bomb), and continuing some of the old (the star chart is always a winner!)

We also welcome our new Foundation families to OSHCC. If you haven’t yet enrolld, feel free to drop in and see what kind of games we’re playing and what activities we’re up to.

Come join the fun! We offer emergency, casual and permanent bookings and would love you to see you before or after school care.

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**REMINDEERS**

Please, let us know if you decide to collect your child from school before our After School Care program starts. Drop by the room, give us a call or send us a text. This is VERY important as we know your child is safe and can then mark our rolls accordingly.

Contact Camp Australia with any changes to your usual schedule. Using the parent portal online, or calling the customer service hotline will ensure that your booking is correctly processed and recorded on our rolls.

Parents, you may not know that you can add any comments about our activities and such to our Reflective Journal. Your kids have been encouraged to add their own ideas, likes and dislikes, but we would love to have your input as well. Our Journal is located on the table to the left of the sign-in/out sheets.

How to get started: Before using our programs register online for an account. Registering is quick and easy. Visit our website to begin www.campaustralia.com.au

Once registered you can make bookings and cancellations, view your statements and manage your details anytime online.

Save on Care: You can save 50% or more on Before and After School Care fees with the non-means tested Child Care Rebate. Almost all families are eligible. To find out more call our Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343 Monday to Friday.

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www.campaustralia.com.au
Fashion Club 2013

This year we will be continuing our popular after school program, Fashion Club. We will be offering two session groups a week. Sessions will be available on Wednesday or Thursday. Fashion Club will run from 3.45 to 5.30, for a total of 1 hr and 45 min. Cost will be $18 paid weekly, or if paying all up front a discount of $24 will be applied for a total of $120.

What is Fashion Club? Fashion Club is a fun and creative after school program for budding young designers in grades 3 - 6. The program will run over 8 weeks in term 1 and 2 and beginning on Wednesday 20th February and Thursday 21st February respectively. We will cover both theory and practical elements of fashion design. Some of the things new members will cover over the eight weeks are:

- the history of fashion
- creating a mood board
- discover design inspiration
- discuss individual style and influences
- make an accessory
- basic sewing skills
- create a t-shirt print
- learn the use of croquis (fashion figures) in design
- create a hand-made flower embellishment
- discuss the impact of current fashion trends on the environment

Most importantly we will discuss the distorted images presented in the media, and how these are manipulated for a fantasy world. We will discuss concepts of body image and self-esteem and the impact that the media can have on these. Existing Fashion Clubbers will expand on the skills they learnt last year and deepen their insight into the fashion process.

Please feel free to leave any comments or concerns on the form below, or contact Rebecca via phone on 0434 990 235 or email on ealbuna@ealbuna.com.

Please return this form to the office by Tuesday 19th February.

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Fashion Club Expression of Interest

Student Name: __________________________ Year Level: ___________________

Preferred Day: (please circle) Wednesday Thursday

Parent email: __________________________

Parent phone: __________________________

Comments: ____________________________

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Wattle Park Primary School proudly presents

Friday 15th March 2013
Bottom Oval

What you need to know:

- We need parents to help out for one-hour shifts on the BBQ, Movie Food Stall, Wine Bar, Security, on the door. Rosters to be out shortly.

- We welcome sponsorship for your business to advertise on the big outdoor screen. Contact Tash Sinclair, Darcy 4S, Rery 2P & Hamish FB natasha.sinclair@bigpond.com / 0412-153-653 or Nat Macdonald, Bailey 3H & Wilson 3L natmacdonald@tpz.com.au / 0418 355 420 for more info.

- If a sausage in bread or a bag of popcorn and fairy floss isn’t your thing, we are offering Gourmet Hampers for the first time. These must be pre-purchased. Look out for order forms in the ‘Movie Pack’ coming home soon.
The colouring-in competition is back! The winners of each year level will be rewarded with a Family Movie Pass.

- You will be rewarded for purchasing your tickets early! Pre-purchased tickets $35 for a family pass and $10 for a single ticket. Ticket order forms will be sent home in the Movie Night pack. Tickets on the night will be $40 for a family pass and $12 for a single ticket.
- You asked for a night meeting, so we are delivering! The next movie night meeting is on Thursday 28th February at 8pm in the staff room. The more the merrier!

Other PFA News:
The Parents and Friends Association AGM for 2012 was initially advertised for Monday 25th February. This has been re-scheduled to after the Movie Night, on

Monday 25th March at 8pm.
All PFA positions are vacant in 2013 and we are seeking interested parents to take the reins on this very important role in the school community (with outgoing members as valuable resources to assist with the transition). All very welcome!

For any enquiries, please contact Suzie Pitman on 0408 182 316, Alison Dunn on 0413 384 320 or Sue Daglish on 0413 990 152.
To all of the parents who joined up at Anytime Fitness Burwood, well done! Your membership has provided WPPS with $200 to spend on sporting equipment.

Wattle Park Primary School has been granted a Community BBQ to raise funds for our school on Sunday 24th March at the Box Hill store on Middleborough Road.

There will be an opportunity for you to get involved – keep on eye on forthcoming newsletters!
'NEW' After school tennis lessons and gameplay programs starting at Wattle park tennis. Program covers all strokes and game play daily, in a nurturing and fun environment. Also private and semi private tennis lessons available. Jr racquets supplied free, if needed. Sessions conducted by experienced and dedicated Tennis Australia Professionals. To enroll for term 1, or for more information, please phone Director Val Cerqualia on 0409581322 or email val@energytennis.com.au. Visit www.energytennis.com.au.