Dear Parents,

Ninety-two year three and four students along with six staff members and four parent volunteers travelled to Arrabri Camp, Warburton for a three day camp. Blessed with sunny skies, the students experienced a range of outdoor activities including mini golf, archery, flying fox, giant swing (I can’t even manage to watch that one!) sensory trail, orienteering and rock wall climbing. These activities are certainly challenging, promoting persistence, resilience and team work to succeed.

But the most important part of any camp is being able to manage oneself and building confidence in your own abilities. That may be showering independently, trying different foods, finding a missing sock, developing new friendships or setting the tables for dinner.

Students certainly had wonderful opportunities to challenge themselves in a supportive and nurturing outdoor setting. Special thanks to teaching staff; Ms Megan Ganter, Mr. John Davey, Ms Robyn Gilmour, Mrs Amanda Dwyer, Mr. Drew Baxter, Ms Tracy McPhee-Lam and parents Mrs Suzi Pitman, Mr. Dave Bell, Mr. Nick Dunn and Mr. Scott Sutherland for their participation and superb supervision of all students. It is a truly rewarding experience being involved in a school camp but also totally exhausting! You don’t actually relax until all students are returned safely to school. It is a huge responsibility watching over our most precious people for 72 hours!

While the year 3 and 4 students were on camp Years 5 and 6 students took the opportunity to participate in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program with chef Nadia Gallo and gardener Julie Jensz. From all accounts they enjoyed their sessions immensely. Recently I have been in contact with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation trying to confirm a date for the official opening of the kitchen and garden. It will hopefully be scheduled sometime in term 4 after the school concert, which is rapidly approaching!
Today I conducted a school tour for a Mrs Marie Golding, who was a prep teacher at Wattle Park from 1973-1983. Mrs Dianne Grant, grandmother of current students Grace, Olivia and Hugh accompanied Marie as they both told stories of the school in days gone by. Mrs Golding had been watching the changing landscape of the school as she drove down Warriegal Road and couldn’t wait any longer to view the substantial buildings. Marie was certainly impressed with the facilities of the school and also by our children who she considered ‘very studious’ as well as talented with technology.

Mrs Golding brought along a newspaper cutting from ‘Box Hill Gazette’ which highlighted a circus event conducted at the school. So we have now officially begun a file, collecting articles and memorabilia for the school’s one hundredth birthday celebration in 2014. If you have or know of anyone who has information about the school’s history please see or contact Mrs Robyn Hunter or Mrs Joy Roberts in the office.

Last Saturday night a fun time was had by all who attended the school’s Trivia Night. There were strange green creatures, Star Wars characters, ‘Jeanuises’ and a very glamorous Great Gatsby group in attendance. Many thanks to the PFA for the successful organization of the night, raising over $5,000 dollars for the school. This money has already been used to help purchase the banks of ipads and netbooks throughout the school.

Good luck to all the years four, five and six students who are participating in the District Athletics Sports on Monday at Rieschieks Reserve. Please note that there will be no assembly on Monday the 3rd September due to the district sports. Our next assembly will be conducted on Monday the 10th where ICAS certificates for Spelling and Science will be presented.

A reminder that students are expected to be wearing their Wattle Park Primary School hats at recess and lunch times as of next week. If your child does not have a Wattle Park Primary School broad brimmed or legionnaire’s sun hat these are available from the uniform shop. Please support us in supporting your child by making sure that your child comes to school with appropriate protection now that UV levels are on the rise.

Another reminder about no parking in the staff car park. A recent incident saw one staff member in their car narrowly being missed by a reversing car speeding back up the drive! It is difficult for all who drive to school to find a parking spot in the surrounding streets. Consider walking, riding or scooting to school. It is not only great for developing students’ physical fitness but is also a great way to invigorate mind and body to start a day of focused learning.

There is a great article in this month’s New Scientist espousing the importance of physical activity throughout one’s life and the impact this has on lessening diseases as we grow older.


A number of staff are taking Long Service Leave or personal leave at this time of the year, Mr. John Davey replaced by Ms Samantha Kwong, Ms Helen Sterling replaced by Ms Hannah Coloe, Mr. Drew Baxter being replaced by Ms Libby Syles and Mrs Kathy Skantzos replaced by Ms Rebecca Finney. Please welcome these casual relief teachers into our school community. We are indeed fortunate that we are able to employ such high quality replacement teachers.

A reminder that students are expected to be wearing their Wattle Park Primary School hats at recess and lunch times as of next week. If your child does not have a Wattle Park Primary School broad brimmed or legionnaire’s sun hat these are available from the uniform shop. Please support us in supporting your child by making sure that your child comes to school with appropriate protection now that UV levels are on the rise.

Special mention of two Level 4 students, Freya P 5S and Lucas M 6T who proudly represented the school last Tuesday night at the Mont Albert and Surrey Hills Rotary Speech Night contest. Lucas confidently spoke on the topic - ‘If I Could Be Principal of My School’ (he actually gave me a few good tips and suggestions) and Freya on the topic ‘It All Happened So Quickly’. Superb performances by both of them, with Freya being awarded the Winner’s trophy. Megan, Anna, Cynthia and I chuffed with pride. Congratulations Freya.

Enjoy your weekend whatever you choose to do. Perhaps read a book or solve a mathematics problem to celebrate the end of Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Regards Gayle

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**AEU STATEWIDE STOPWORK ACTION – PLEASE READ**

As part of its industrial campaign relating to the enterprise bargaining process, the Australian Education Union has called on its members to stop work for a period of twenty four hours **NEXT Wednesday 5th September, 2012**.

A letter will be sent home to all families on Monday outlining which staff will be taking action next Wednesday; consequently this stop work will severely disrupt classes and Specialist programs at Wattle Park Primary School next Wednesday.
Mont Albert and Surrey Hills Primary School’s Rotary Speech Night

Premier’s Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the 156 students who have already completed the Premiers Reading Challenge at WPPS! Just a friendly reminder that the challenge does come to an end next week so please ensure all books have been entered online. Once the books have been verified you should receive a message to say that your child has ‘Completed the Challenge’. All data must be finalised no later than the 10th September. Keep up the great reading everyone! 😊

Gone home since last ‘The Wattle’

- Lice Reminders to affected classes.
- Replacement Staff for Teachers on leave.
Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program – Level 4 Experience

On Tuesday the 28th of August the Level 4’s were given the opportunity to have a go in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. We all participated in activities in the garden. Some of these activities were:

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<td>Getting mites out of chickens’ feet</td>
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<td>2. Weeding the terraces in front of the office with Gavin</td>
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<td>3. Harvesting produce, including cabbage, parsley and spring onions</td>
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<td>4. Digging up weeds in the orchard</td>
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Afterwards we headed to the kitchen to create a delicious lunch with the produce we had harvested earlier. We separated into groups and began working. After an hour of hard work we sat down to eat our pesto gnocchi with hummus, bread and coleslaw. It was scrumptious, really fresh and delicious and all the better for being made by US!

- . . the down side was we then had to clean up!

Student Quotes

What did you think of the SAKG program?

“It was nice to finally have a go.” – Grace, 5S

“There were a lot of great activities.” – Nathan, 5S

“It was a lot of fun to have a go in the kitchen and cook for the first time.” – Harry, 5C

“It was fun eating as a group like one big family.” – Olivia, 5C

“I enjoyed eating food that we made; it gave you a sense of achievement.” – Conall, 6T

“I really liked the program; it shows everyday life skills and is terrific fun!” – Samantha, 6T

“I’ve got a smile on my face. Now it’s me doing it after being jealous of my sister. Now I’m the one saying HA! IT WAS FANTASTIC!” – Catherine, 6N

“The kitchen garden experience was a really great way to learn how to cook and save the environment. It was an exquisite experience!” – Angelo, 6N

This experience made us think about where our food comes from. How much energy it takes to produce food and how far food travels to get to Australia, compared to the fresh resources in our school garden. It encourages us to be sustainable at our own house and to PROTECT OUR PLANET and think about the difference it can make. This was an extra bonus as the Level 4 Integrated Unit this term is P.O.P (PROTECTING OUR PLANET).

Written by Indi 6N
Photo Collage by Chiara 6N
FOUNDATION 2013 ENROLMENTS

It is that time of year when schools are preparing for the following year and student numbers are critical to the school’s staffing structure.

Could you please complete the required Student Admission Enrolment Form if you intend enrolling your child at Wattle Park Primary School in 2013. This form is available from the main office or on the school’s website. It can be forwarded by mail if requested.

If you are aware of any families who may live near you and have not enrolled, please encourage them to put in their enrolment forms as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Monies brought to school:

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING WHEN STUDENTS BRING MONEY TO SCHOOL FOR SCHOOL PAYMENTS:

- Money **MUST** be in a sealed envelope with **student name, class and what the money is for**.

- Only bring money to the office if students have been requested to do so, otherwise all money to go to the student’s teacher. Again in a sealed clearly marked envelope.

- **No money to be brought to the office which is not in an envelope.**

- Please have the correct money in the clearly marked envelope.

Many thanks
Term 2 and 3 have flown this year; it has been wonderful to see all children at Wattle Park P.S. again access the fantastic resource which is our Library. Although the Library sessions have been shorter and the focus has been on assisting the children with browsing selections and encouraging them to borrow, we are constantly reviewing and considering implementation possibilities. I am especially pleased to see our Library open in ‘2012 – The National Year of Reading’. For more information about ‘The National Year of Reading - 2012’ please go to www.love2read.org.au. I sincerely thank those parents who have supported the program by reminding the children to bring their Library bags on their Library days and encouraging them to borrow. I have tried to keep Library days consistent but it has been necessary for Library to fit into the timetable and so at times changes have been unavoidable. Just a reminder that your child’s Library day for Term 3 is:

**WEDNESDAY: 2S 2L 3B 3D 4D 4G 5C 5S 6T 6N**  **THURSDAY: FG FH FM 1P 1S 2H**

Any children participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge need to take their completed lists to Anna Saarksjavi for verification. There are tubs of PRC listed books in the Library for all levels. If your child needs books to complete their list, please encourage them to come to the Library and I will help them locate specific titles.

**Children’s Book Week** is celebrated during August with the theme this year ‘Champions Read’. This annual event highlights the importance of reading, and draws on the joy of stories and the creativity of Australian writers. Book Week is also about encouraging students to read; learn about new books; to share favourite writers and illustrators; to look again at old favourite books, in maybe a different way and to take time to read. This year’s shortlist again includes many well loved Australian authors including Alison Lester, Jackie French, Emily Rodda, Nadia Wheatley and Bob Graham. I have purchased all of the shortlisted titles; these will be available for all children to browse during their borrowing sessions. All titles will then be available for borrowing when the winners have been announced at the end of Book Week.

Our Book Week celebrations have included a fantastic performance for the whole school from the Tony Bones Theatre Company. On Tuesday, August 14th Foundation-Grade 2 viewed a performance of the ‘Picture Book of the Year’ shortlisted title, ‘No Bears’ by Meg McKinlay and Grade 3-6 viewed a performance of ‘Bungawitta’ by Emily Rodda. Both performances and after show question times were highly entertaining and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

As part of our celebrations we also held our Wattle Park Book Fair. It was fantastic to see such an enthusiastic response from the school community. We had an enormous number of families visit the Library and browse through the Book Fair. There was a great variety of quality titles to select from and I hope everyone has enjoyed their purchases.

*This year the Book Fair raised $2110 in sales commission!*

Every cent of this money has already been spent purchasing new titles for the school. Mostly new books have been purchased for the Library, but I have also been able to include extra titles for Listening Post packs, Literature Circle texts and some non-fiction Guided Reading texts. We also received generous donations for the teacher wish lists from the Pittman, Witt, Ross, Martin, Wridgway, Anderson and Porter families. Some of our new books will be on display as they are processed, at the front of the school underneath the television and on the ‘New Arrivals’ shelf outside the Library so please come and have a look at some of the items purchased through your generosity.

Thank you to our Library assistants: Sabrina Seymour, Sam Wridgway and Kitty Grant who did a fantastic job managing the variety table at each session. Special thanks also to Michelle Wridgway. This will probably be Michelle’s last Book Fair for Wattle Park. Every year I have run the Book Fair, Michelle has generously assisted. Her pleasant and efficient manner is a major reason that the Book Fair always runs so smoothly. I have sincerely appreciated her
help over the years. It has also been great fun Michelle! Most importantly “thank you!” to the school community who have so enthusiastically and generously supported our Book Week activities.

The Library is open every Wednesday and Thursday lunchtime for browsing and borrowing, chess, board games and drawing. Lunchtime sessions have been enthusiastically attended by a large number of children. Outside the Library is a display board which will now feature any Library news or information about any of these events and activities.

Thank you to a dedicated and efficient team of helpers- Kathy Dryden, Linda Shelley, Rita Meguerditchian and Janette Witt. Having such great help means that both staff and children have the quickest access to new resources. Our Camberwell High School work experience student, Angela Wridway was a fabulous help during Library sessions with the Junior School students and with reshelving and processing loans and returns. Thanks Angela, it was lovely to have you back at Wattle Park. Special thanks must also go to Sam Wridgway’s grandma, Sandra Parker for the absolutely beautiful job she did recovering all 12 of the large Library cushions. They were in a terrible state after many years of use. These beautiful, clean cushions now look as good as new and are in great demand. Thanks Sandra!

We are very fortunate to have families at Wattle Park who generously donate their time. If you are interested in helping with processing at home or in the Library please drop into the Library or send me a note; you will be most welcome!

Kim Wheatley Librarian
MUSIC NEWS

There has been a great deal happening in Music throughout this term!

SENIOR CHOIR
As you have no doubt heard already, on Thursday 16th August, our Senior Choir performed at BMW Edge as part of a Mass Choir. It was a fantastic experience for the children and a wonderful Concert to watch. The theme this year was Timor Leste with our special guest choir Koro Loriko straight from East Timor also performing on the night.
Well done and congratulations to the 31 children who participated in the Boite’s Schools’ Chorus for 2012!

DRUM KIT
A couple of weeks ago we had a full drum kit donated by Peter Burgess who runs Hydra Recording Studios in Burwood. He was replacing the drum kit in one of his studios and we thank Peter for his donation to our School. The children have already enjoyed testing the acoustics in our Music Room.

SCHOOL CONCERT
Our School Concert for 2012 is fast approaching. The theme this year is “BACK TO THE MOVIES” with all classes practising their songs from a selection of movies. The children are very excited as they have been workshopping their items in Music classes. It is always a journey as they contribute ideas, create the actions and dance moves and in many cases help arrange the songs. Once again the class teachers will coordinate the costumes with notices being distributed to parents where needed.
We all look forward to wonderful performances and amazing efforts by the children to entertain you all.

BACK TO THE MOVIES
Thursday 18th October, 2012
George Wood Performing Arts Centre
Yarra Valley Anglican School
Kalinda Road,
Ringwood
7.00 pm start

Lorelle Caulfield-Lloyd
Music Teacher
Holiday Programs designed for fun!

Activities include:

- Awesome excursions each week*!
- Loads of Sports
- Heaps of Arts and Crafts
- Qualified, Fun and Friendly Staff
- Cooking yummy food
- Special Theme Everyday
- Cool Games and Prizes
- Swimming**

Visit: www.oshclub.com.au to enrol and to check out exactly what is on everyday.
Find your nearest location on the reverse.
Queries call: 8564 9000

*Meat programs
**Swimming at some programs
Give some time back to yourself - build strength & tone, energise your body & calm your mind, reduce stress & tension with yoga.

At White Space Yoga, we offer yoga classes in a nurturing and intimate environment that are ideal to help busy mums rejuvenate and reenergise. Conducted in a boutique studio, beginners to advanced students can practice together to achieve the benefits of yoga.

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**ABOUT**
- Close to the school
- Small and intimate classes - maximum of 16 students to a class
- Garden outlook in a lovely warm studio

**TIMETABLE**
All classes are one hour. Please arrive 5-10 minutes early.
- Bookings required

**PRICES**
- Casual $18
- 10 class pass $150
- Cash only
- Mats provided

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www.whitespaceyoga.com.au
TERM 3 SCHOOL HOLIDAY BASKETBALL CAMP

AQUALINK, BOX HILL, WED 26 & THU 27 SEPT. 2012

HEAD COACH
Nigel Purchase - 250 NBL game player Melbourne Tigers 1984-92 & Brisbane Bullets 93. ABR Head Coach & Director leading a team of Playball Basketball coaches.

CAMP DETAILS
Aqualink Box Hill, Surrey Drv, Box Hill. Wed 26 & Thu 27 September (Week 1 of holidays) 6-13 year old children. 9:00am - 3:00pm

COST
$110 or including pair of AND1 basketball shoes $145

STANDARD
For beginners to intermediate, children grouped accordingly

REGISTER
At: www.playballbasketball.com under Information tab, download the registration PDF or phone 9585 6123

REGISTER ON WEBSITE UNDER INFORMATION TAB

PLAYBALL BASKETBALL TEL. 9585-6123
SEPT-OCT HOLIDAY TENNIS CLINICS
Mon - Fri: 24th Sept- 5th Oct
Fun for all ages:
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Orange Ball 7-9 yrs
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Teen Extreme 13 + yrs
AT: Burwood, Deepdene & North Kew Tennis Clubs
(see over for times etc)

GET INTO TENNIS
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www.toptenn.com
PO Box 80, Burwood, Vic 3125 Email: tennis@toptenn.com
PUTTING THE FUN BACK INTO FUNDAMENTALS
Hello,

We are pleased to let you know that we are more than happy to offer a **Free initial check up, and a further 20% discount off the first dental treatment** for all the children enrolled at your school.

At Surrey Hills Family Dental Clinic (SHFDC) we believe in preventing oral health problems before they become an issue.

We have number of treatments and strategies to provide preventive care. The dental services we provide include:*regular dental check-ups * teeth cleaning and polishing * fluoride treatments * application of sealants to protect your child from tooth decay * provision of custom made mouth guards to prevent sports injuries * encourage proper nutrition and dietary habits * regular brushing and flossing * routine assessment of risk for developing cavities * early detection of crowding and prompt orthodontic referral as required * dental health education.

Please allow us to help ensure your child has a happy smile for life; **today**

On presenting this flyer the child is entitled to a **free initial consultation** and a further **20% discount** off the first dental treatment.

Kind regards

The Team at Surrey Hills Family Dental Clinic
Box Hill Little Athletics Centre

Season 2012-2013

Registration Days

Sept. 1 & 9
(2pm – 4pm)

Hagenauers Reserve
Barwon Street, Box Hill North

(U6 to U16 Boys & Girls)

ENQUIRIES

Alan 0414 366 827
boxhill@lavic.com.au
www.bhlac.org.au

Season commences October 6, 2012