Dear Parents,

As I type this Newsletter, Megan and I are on a lunch break from the EMR 2012 Leadership conference- ‘Forward Directions- Leading the Way’. This morning we have listened to two keynote speakers Professor Yong Zhao, Presidential Chair and Associate Dean for Global Education at the University of Oregon U.S.A, and Professor Fernando Reimers Director of International Education Policy at Harvard University U.S.A.

Their presentations have certainly provided food for thought as we contemplate our new Strategic Plan which will set the direction of the school for the next four years. A lasting impression from Professor Reimers talk, is that more and more of the world is coming into the classroom, in terms of variety of students and variety of information and knowledge that is now available to them. Over the past two weeks Megan and I have been conducting staff, parent and student focus groups to help us evaluate what, in their opinion Wattle Park has been doing well in its teaching and learning programs, what we could improve and the ways in which to do that. Every year when I meet with the year 5 and 6 focus groups, I’m always so impressed with their honest, open and constructive insights. By way of example consider the following.

“By far the strongest part of class instruction is the group work. It’s beneficial working with other students, telling you how to do things. Students learn information from the student with the knowledge, the student with the knowledge learns more by explaining it to others.”

Next week is shaping up to be one of our busiest with extra-curricular events. Book Week, Standardised Sports for all year 3 -6 students, Level 4 excursion, and to finish off the week, Olympic Day on Friday.

All necessary forms and notices for these events have been sent home in hard copy and are also available on the school’s website. Please ensure that you have read all of the documentation about these events, or contact Joy or Vicki at the office with any questions.

Believe it or not, the signal to herd over 400 Principal class members into the next presentation is the ringing of a large hand bell. It’s ringing so I must fly! I’m very much looking forward to popping into tonight’s Grade 2 Party Mathematics Night.

Regards Gayle
Schools’ Tree Day 2012

How lucky were we! Despite a downpour earlier in the day, students in Grades 6, 5, 2 and 1 walked to Lynden Park in Camberwell in dappled sunshine, to plant 800 tube stock, as part of Schools’ Tree Day 2012. Adrian from the City of Boroondara and Rob Brierley from the Friends of Back Creek showed the children how to dig a hole using the “hole diggers” provided, take the plant out of the plastic tube and then plant it in the pine barked beds along the footpath.

The children worked in groups with the older children helping to dig the holes for the younger children. The plants were mostly grasses and ground covers. Interestingly Adrian said that there were very few schools which now participated in Schools’ Tree Day in the City of Boroondara and highly valued the involvement of Wattle Park students for the past eleven years.

We finished with a cupcake and a drink to celebrate the day, provided by the Friends of Back Creek. A highlight was the “snake” of tubes which were joined together to show the children how many were planted. Thank you to the parents who joined us for the planting and a special thank you to Michelle Wridgway who has joined us for many of the plantings in past years. With Sam in Grade 6, it was an event that she did not want to miss!

Vicki Phillips on behalf of the Grades 1, 2, 5 and 6 teams.
Hi everyone...
Just a reminder about some of the events that are planned for term 3.

Our first upcoming event will be an Olympicathon which will be held on Friday August 10th. The day will be free dress (Olympic/ sporting attire with a gold coin donation) followed by an Olympic Special lunch. There will be a variety of sporting events to be held in the afternoon for the kids to participate in and we will be looking for extra parental help that afternoon. So please if you can spare an hour or two... please contact your class rep. We are still sorting out the finer details so watch this space.

Please don’t forget the Annual Trivia Night, one of our major fundraising events for the year, which will be held on Saturday August 25th. The night will be held in the gymnasium and will be the usual trivia followed by a disco - so don’t forget your dancing shoes - and ladies - please no heels.

If you have the energy - dress up - you and your table. There is no set theme this year - we’ll leave that to your own creative spirit.

As usual it will be BYO everything including nibbles, drinks, glassware and cutlery.

You can purchase tickets through the school office before August 10th if possible and organise yourselves into tables of 10 - 12 people.

Parents who would like to donate any goods or services for our silent auctions or goods for our wheelbarrows (ie liquids), you can do so by leaving them at the office or by contacting Suzie Pitman on 0408 182 316 or 98086272

So come on guys get excited!! If you’ve been to our trivia nights before you know it’s a great night and if you haven’t...You’re in for a big night.

Start saving those cold coins now and bring lots of cash and a credit card (sorry no eftpos).

Finally we will be holding a disco for the kids on Thursday 20th September. The night will be split with the younger children partying first and the senior school to follow. We will also be offering a wine and cheese night for the adults.

There will be more information to follow.

Save the Dates
- Monday 13th August PFA/Trivia Night Meeting 7.30 PM
- Saturday 25th August WPPS Trivia Night
- Thursday 30th August Father Day Stall
- Monday 10th September PFA Meeting 9AM
- Thursday 20th September Disco
- Monday October 15th PFA Meeting 9AM
- Monday 12th November PFA Meeting time TBA
- Friday 15th March 2013 WPPS Movie Night
Daffodil Day 24\textsuperscript{th} August 2012
- supporting Cancer Council

This year Wattle Park Primary School will be fundraising for the Cancer Council by participating in Daffodil Day. This Day helps raise awareness and funds for people with Cancer. The SRC will be visiting classrooms selling merchandise including:
Wristbands and Daffodil Badges!

On Friday the 24\textsuperscript{th} of August we will be having a whole school fundraising day to show our support for Daffodil Day. Students and teachers will be asked to make a gold coin donation and wear something yellow to show their support!

Please see the SRC or Mrs Tuck for more information on how

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**Trivia Night Class Donations**

Please check your emails for a message from your Class Representative. Each class has been asked to donate an item for the Trivia Night.

Please place all donations in the box near the office.

We appreciate your assistance in helping to make the Trivia Night a huge success.

Suskia Malafu
On behalf of the PFA
WATTLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL PRESENTS

THE

SCHOOL OF TRIVIA

VELEOR MAGISTER

Enrolments are now being considered for the

School of Trivia IV

It’s time to study again and prepare for your entrance exams.

Teams will be admitted at 6.30pm to the School Hall with classes commencing promptly at 7.00pm. Late arrivals may incur penalties, or at the very least be publicly scolded by the principal. All students are required to participate in the scheduled entrance exams. School contributions will be augmented by partaking in silent auctions and games held throughout the night. Your conduct will be strictly monitored, those displaying unruly behaviour should expect consequences to their actions. Successful results will be rewarded appropriately.

Credit card/ETPOS facilities will be available

SATURDAY, 25TH AUGUST 2012
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.

Piano Lessons

Bernadette Packer will recommence Piano Lessons on Friday 3rd August. Bernadette is in training with her new guide dog named Ruben.

Gone home since last ‘The Wattle’

- Standardised Athletics Year 3-6
- Working Bee Sunday 5th August—Grade 5 Parent and Students
- Enrichment Program Term 3 2012
- Olympic Day Friday 10th August with Sponsorship Form and Special Olympic Lunch Order form