**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Welcome back to the 2012 school year. I hope that you all managed to find some time to relax and enjoy the holiday period.  

A special welcome in particular to the many new families commencing their association with Wattle Park Primary School this year; we had a total of 13 new students across Years 1 to 6 commence this week in addition to our 69 Foundation students (new name of preps due to the Australian Curriculum). I am sure new families will find their time here most rewarding and enjoyable.  

Staff officially returned to school on Wednesday which gave teachers the opportunity to finish setting up their classroom and meet with their new teams for planning purposes. Thank you to staff and parents for their support in making sure that the transition back to school has been positive after a long summer break for our students. Our staff and students across the school from Prep through to Year 6 are spending their first two weeks focussing on an Inquiry Unit titled ‘The First Seven Days’ based on our school values - Respect, Encourage, Value, Care, Challenge and to be Responsible.  

Along with our new students, we also welcomed some new staff members who have commenced at Wattle Park PS this year. We welcome teachers Ms. Tracy Mc Phee-Lam, Ms Anna Saakjarvi, Mrs Cynthia Tuck and integration-aide Ms Michelle Harris. We are delighted to have these staff members join us.  

The Principal Class Leadership structure for term 1 2012 will include Mrs Amanda Dwyer and Mrs Kim Wheatley who will share the Acting Principal position until a fulltime
replacement is appointed for the commencement of term 2, 2012. Mrs Wheatley’s role will encompass Staff Professional Development, organisation of the day to day running of the school as well as providing support in the library. Mrs Dwyer is responsible for the disability and impairment program, liaising with our Regional Support professionals and student welfare needs and all timetabling components.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding these areas mentioned above or the general welfare and wellbeing of your child please do not hesitate to make a time to see Amanda, Kim or myself.

I would like to specially thank Con Ballis, Ashley Pitman and their team of dads for the building work that they have undertaken in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen during the holiday break. We are nearly there! Appliances have been installed, old furniture from the uniform shop moved, old floor coverings removed and discarded building remnants disposed of. I cannot thank them all enough for their time and efforts in their already very busy schedules. It is greatly appreciated.

Today, Robyn Gilmour and Angela Ashley-Chiew (Project officer of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation) have been busily interviewing for the kitchen specialist position. The successful applicant will be announced shortly. Once they have undertaken training through the foundation and visited other program schools, kitchen classes will commence in Term 1 for all grades 3 and 4 students. How very exciting!

Thank you also to the parents, students and teachers who looked after our chickens and gardens during the holidays. The vegetable gardens are looking a treat. Unfortunately a community member kindly helped themselves to most of our ripe tomatoes! Please pass the message around that all of the garden produce is for the students’ cooking classes. What we don’t grow we need to purchase and that all adds to our costs!

Our first Assembly for the school year will be held on Monday, where we will have the opportunity to meet our Foundation students as well as the new students who have commenced Wattle Park PS this year. Parents are always most welcome to our assemblies and this year we have seating for you. As long as there is no more than 100 attendees!

It wouldn’t be a newsletter without a mention and update on the building works! If you happened to have been on the school site on either Wednesday or Thursday of this week you would have witnessed the massive trench that was dug from the Somers Street car park entrance all the way to the end of the main administrative brick building! The purpose being the installation of the electrical cables necessary to provide for all the electrical needs of the new buildings.

One of our new Foundation students Blake accompanied me as we investigated the depth and length of the trenches. The trench was up to Blake’s neck!

The students were wonderful as they went about their play without crossing emergency barriers and staying well away from potential unsafe areas. Thank you to all of the staff who supervised and managed the people traffic during break times.

I leave you with a snapshot of some of our new students at work.

Treasure the time with your children because before you know it they will be graduating and you will wonder where those years went!

Enjoy your weekend.

Regards Gayle
First Day Foundation Photo’s
The year of the Dragon is upon us and in LOTE-Chinese we will be starting the 2012 school year celebrating ‘Chinese New Year’.

Mandarin is commencing for the first time at WPPS and we are all looking forward to many fun and exciting activities and experiences together. We will not only be learning the culture and language of China, but also the big picture of Asia.

The following information may be of interest to you about Chinese New Year celebrations in the wider community; and a request for any interested speakers for our studies on Asia. Please read on for details of these upcoming events!
Chinese New Year Celebrations
-Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th February - Springvale
-Sunday 5th February - Glen Waverley, Kingsway

If you're looking for some engaging entertainment for the weekend, then maybe take the family to see some Chinese New Year celebrations in Glen Waverley or Springvale. The Chinese New Year Festival features traditional and contemporary Chinese cultural activities, festivities, dances, Chinese opera and singing, karaoke competition, numerous stalls of culinary delights, arts and crafts, Chinese chess competitions, lion dances, dragon parades, calligraphy and children's events.

This festival is open to all, young and old and its aim is to share the Chinese Cultural heritage of Melbourne's Chinese community.

Adult Speakers – Asia

As this term is our first time with an Asian language, we are looking for parents, grandparents, or older siblings who may be able to share some of their experiences and knowledge about Asia. If you are interested and have some time to spare, please email peszynski.ainslie.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

More information relating to Chinese events and celebrations will be provided in upcoming notices and on the noticeboard.

年行大运
lóng nián xíng dà yùn
(Good luck for the year of the Dragon.)

Ainslie Peszynski
Just a reminder that school photos are on **Wednesday the 29th of February**.

Please remember the following for that Wednesday:
- To be on time for school
- To be dressed in the Wattle Park uniform
- To bring your completed photo order form in the permanent plastic seal bag.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing all your beautiful smiles on Wednesday.

Kind Regards,
Ainslie Peszynski & Gayle Cope
Wattle Park Primary School Parents and Friends Association 2012
Committee Nominations for 2012

At Wattle Park Primary School the Parents’ and Friends’ Association (PFA) will hold its Annual General Meeting on 21 February 2012, the (Co-Presidents’, Secretary and Treasurer) have resigned from their positions as Officers of the Committee. There is no General Committee that remains in place. The Committee resolved at its December meeting to call for nominations for the positions of President (can be co-), Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and general committee members/existing members can also re-elect.

All eligible parents are invited to nominate for PFA positions – that is, a parent or guardian of a pupil currently enrolled/and attending at Wattle Park Primary School.

Please return the form below to WPPS Office attention Robyn Hunter by Monday, 13 February 2012.

WPPS Parents’ and Friends’ Association (PFA) Nominations Form
Name: ____________________________________ Contact telephone no. _________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________________________________________

Children’s Names: __________________________________ Class: ________________________________

Children’s Names: __________________________________ Class: ________________________________

I would like to nominate for the following vacant positions on the Parents’ and Friends’ Association:
President: _________________________________________________________________
Vice-President: _______________________________________________________________
Secretary: _________________________________________________________________
Treasurer: _________________________________________________________________
General C’tee: _________________________________________________________________

As per School and Government Policy, all committee members must complete a Working With Children Check. Please indicate which situation applies to you.
I have completed a Working With Children’s Check: ___ Card No. ____________________ Expiry: ______
I have applied for a Working With Children’s Check PO Receipt No: _______________________
I would like to apply for a Working With Children’s Check: ____________________________

Signed: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________

Seconded by: ________________________________ Date: ________________________________
WATTLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL & THE PFA BUNNINGS BBQ:

Date: Sunday 12th February
Venue: Bunnings Box Hill, Middleborough Road

We would like to run the same time shifts as last year, and are calling on parents to assist in filling the roster. We require 4-5 people per shift.

- 8.30am to 10.30am (co-ordinated by Andrew Borden)
- 10.30am to 12.30pm
- 12.30pm to 2.30pm
- 2.30pm to 5.00pm (co-ordinated by Jol Sinclair)

Please email Tash Sinclair on natasha.sinclair@bigpond.com with your availability.

All help is appreciated and all funds raised go straight back to the school to assist with additional items for the children.
WATTLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL & THE PFA PROUDLY PRESENT:

The First event for the WPPS Social Calendar is not to be missed.

Come one, come all. Spread the word and save the date:

**Friday March 16th 2012**
Important Canteen News

The Canteen will be open on Monday 6th February. Until a major delivery arrives next Thursday, supplies will be limited. Some items will not be available, and the children will be given an alternative. Thankyou for you understanding.

MAVRAGANI GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOL  Inc

Monday 4.45-8.30pm—All levels at Wattle Park Primary School
Tuesday 4.45-8.30pm—Only High School—VCE at Sussex Heights Primary School
Wednesday 4.45-8.30pm Primary and High School—Sussex Heights Primary School

Full recognition from Education Dept
Since 1976—Levels to VCE
Information 9808 4917 or 0427 004 033
“The goal of the Drama Time program is to help children develop creativity, explore their imaginations, improve communication skills and build self-confidence ... And of course, Drama Time’s great fun!”

Pip Muchin
DIRECTOR
DRAMA TIME

LUNCH TIME DRAMA

THURSDAYS – 1.45 - 2.25pm
Venue: Gym

$14 per class!
Term 1 - $98

If you would like your child to participate in the lunch time DRAMA PROGRAM at
WATTLE PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
in Term 1, 2012 please either mail the form below or email the information to...
Email: rene@dramatime.com.au
Mail: 19 William St, Balaklava 3183

Please do not return form to school office.
Class details will subsequently be emailed. If you don’t have an email account pls include mailing address

Name: ___________________________ Grade: ____________
Parent name: ___________________________ ___________________________
Parent mobile: ___________________________ Home phone: ___________________________
Parent email*: ___________________________
School: ___________________________

PAYMENT OPTIONS [please tick a box]: ☐ Direct debit ☐ Cheque ☐ Credit Card

- Direct deposit: Please insert your name when paying online or at bank. Westpac Bank: 858 03047 ACC 452136
- Cheques: Payable to: “Drama Time Pty Ltd”, Mail to: 19 William St, Balaklava 3183
- Credit card: Visa or Mastercard only. Please note there is a 3% surcharge on credit card.

Ph: 9528 8998

Email: rene@dramatime.com.au
www.dramatime.com.au
**SUPER SUMMER SPORTS**

**WHEN:** Friday after school  
**COMMENCING:** 10th February ‘12  
**CONCLUDING:** 30th March ‘12  
**TIME:** 3:35 PM - 4:35 PM  
**YEAR LEVELS:** 1 – 4

DON’T MISS OUT THIS TERM! This program allows your child to play a range of dynamic and active programs over 8 weeks; these include Goal scoring Hockey or home run TBall, big hit Cricket, fast pass Basketball and Super SOCCER, make Kelly Sports Program the place to be. Develop your child’s motor skills and help build awareness & co-ordination, all in an enjoyable environment.  
**Boys & Girls of all abilities.**

**GYM / DANCE**

**WHEN:** Wednesday (lunchtime)  
**COMMENCING:** 8th February ‘12  
**CONCLUDING:** 28th March ‘12  
**TIME:** 1:40 PM - 2:30 PM  
**YEAR LEVELS:** 1 – 4

This fast paced, highly active and non-stop program is an introduction for your child to the world of dance & rhythm gymnastics.  
**Let the best enter your feet!**  
Our coaches can get your child’s hips swinging, feet rocking and heads bouncing to modern & contemporary music.  
**Boys & Girls of all abilities.**

Kelly Sports is a Registered Child Care provider.

**COST:** $85 each  
**VENUE:** At School  
**MEETING PLACES:**  
Sports: Meet outside office. Gym/Dance: Hall

To enrol, please visit www.kellysports.com.au or fill out the enrolment form below & send with a cheque or credit card details or pay by internet banking:

**Account details:**  
**B.E.A. 013 609 4966 0544**  
**To:** PO BOX 254, Bentleigh VIC 3204  
**Email:** mtoula@kellysports.com.au  
**Payment options available! Do not leave enrolment forms at the school office.**

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### ENROLMENT FORM

#### SUPER SUMMER SPORTS □

**School:** Wattle Park PS  
**Year Level:**  
**Name:**  
**Address:**  
**Room Number If KNOWN:**  
**Post Code:**  
**Phone:** (Home)  
**Medical Conditions / Special needs:**  
**At the completion of after school clinics, does your child:**  
**GO TO AFTER CARE □ **GET COLLECTED □**

**Parents consent:** I hereby authorise Kelly Sports to act on my behalf should my child require medical attention, and release Kelly Sports from any liability for injury incurred by my child at Kelly Sports programs.

**Parent/Caregiver Name:**  
**Parent/Caregiver Signature:**  
**Credit card payment:** (Please tick)  
**Visa □**  
**Mastercard □**  
**Card Number:**  
**Expiry Date:**  
**Amount Paid:** $ **

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