Dear Parents,

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to three new families who have joined us this week; Hadiya F, Yashri P and Lucy W.

We’ve been busy over the holiday break; removing a tree blown over in the wind, restoring and securing the northern panels of the two storey building, ordering new outside basketball rings, fixing the stage doors, updating external lighting, just to name a few maintenance issues!

But now it’s back to our core business of education and curriculum. Classroom Team Leaders have been busy compiling newsletters for each year level and they will be distributed this week. The Year Newsletters provide a quick snapshot of what is to be taught this term and important reminders.

At Monday’s assembly, the School Ambassadors, Ewan D, Morgan C, Hayley M, and Zoe K presented a number of Year 3-6 students who achieved outstanding results in the recent Chinese Language Perfect competition. Allegra B 4 S, Estelle B 4B, Emma M 4B and Jeff W 6J achieved Elite awards which recognised their score of over 10,000 points. Truly amazing!

The school was pipped at the post by Matthew
Flinders’ Girls Secondary College in Geelong and was awarded second place in Victoria for Chinese. It was a fantastic achievement by every participating student year 3 to year 6.

Thank you to our past and present Mandarin teachers; Mrs Ainslie Peszynski and Ms Liangzhe Xu who have developed a competitive passion in our students for Chinese Language Learning.

As part of our 100 years birthday celebration a Gala Night has been organised for Saturday 23rd August by our 100th Birthday Committee. It is an event for current and past students, teachers and parents to celebrate this auspicious occasion. Ticket sales are limited so please purchase early and on-line at TryBooking. See attached flyer. Wattle Park Primary School has quite a unique history and it has been interesting to read the ‘snippets’ that Mrs Vicki Phillips has been including in each newsletter. The Gala Night is sure to be an enjoyable and fun night for all. There will be lots of celebrating and reminiscing. So please support this once in a life time school event.

Late last term and again this term, a notice was sent home asking parents if they wish for their child/children to continue SRI, which is our current CRE Program. Forms sent home must be returned to your classroom teacher as soon as possible. If your child does not attend SRI sessions the school will assume that this will not change unless we are notified, hence it will not be necessary to return any information. Next Monday, nine year 5 &6 students, myself and a parent, Mrs Jane Borden are attending Scoresby Secondary College to meet again with the students from five Eastern Metropolitan Region schools who are travelling to China in September. This will be the school’s first ever overseas travel for students. It will be a wonderful experience to meet with our sister school students from Mingde Primary School. I’m sure there will be many stories to tell upon our return, but at this stage we are all just so very excited.

As I look out of my window and see the rain falling in the dark gloom it’s a reminder of the limited visibility on the roads in such weather. So please take extra special care when collecting and dropping off your children at school. Remember an umbrella on such days and make the effort to walk a bit further rather than be tempted to double park your car.

But it’s perfect weather to read a book or solve a mathematics problem. Try this one if you have the time:

The digits from 1 through to 9 are placed, exactly one different digit per box. The five numbers in the middle row add to 18. The first column of three adds to 16, and the last column of three adds to 22.

What is the value of \( P + Q \)?

Regards Gayle

Gone home since last ‘The Wattle’
- Group Photos
- Lice Letters to affected classes
The Wattle Park
Galas
Celebrating 100th Birthday
Saturday 23 August
7:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Event Venue:
Wattle Park Primary School

Band:
The Renditions

Dress Code:
Smart casual with a touch of class

Tickets:
$55 per person | $100 per couple
Drinks to be purchased at the venue.
Event for 18 years and over only.

Come and Celebrate 100 Years of Friendship
Purchase ticket now at www.trybooking.com/FKGR

Please like our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/WattleParkPrimay100
Congratulations to:

**Elite Awards 10,000 points +**
Estelle B, Allegra B, Emma M and Jeff W.

**Gold Awards 3,000 points +**
Andrew T, Oscar K, Cooper M, Flynn M, Tashi S-N, Lu C, Amy C, Sacha T, Ben R.

**Silver Awards 2,000 points +**

**Bronze Awards 1,000 +**

**Credit Awards**
EXCITING LUNCHTIME DRAMA AT WATTLE PARK PS!!!

Junior class (P–Gr2): THURSDAYS - Community Events Room 1:45pm-2:30pm

Senior class (Gr2–Gr6): THURSDAYS - The GYM: 1:45pm-2:30pm

Enrolment options are as follows:

- Online at www.dramatime.com.au and click "enrolments"
- Email the information below to contact@dramatime.com.au
- Post this form to Drama Time 19 William St, Balaklava 5153
- Or call Drama Time on 9528 8598

Please do not return this form to the school, return to the Drama Time office only.

Student name: ___________________________ Grade: ______________________

Parent name: ___________________________ Mobile number: ______________________

Email: ___________________________

School: Wattle Park Primary

An invoice will follow after the enrolment is submitted.

"Else was so excited to tell me about the amazing fun she had and all the things that she's going to get to do in drama." Parent, Ormond PS

"Eden loves her Drama class; she always comes home on Tuesdays with stories from the session." Parent, St Finbar's

"Enrique's confidence has increased enormously over the last few years thanks to Drama Time." Parent, Brighton Beach PS

For more information please call us on 9528 8598 or
head to our website www.dramatime.com.au
A century of service
Wattle Park Primary School Celebrates

WATTLE Park Primary School was established in 1914 for boys from the Burwood Boys’ Home, which was originally named Wattle Park Boys’ Home No. 3841. It was a two-storey wooden building — measuring 26 x 24 feet and costing £404 — on land purchased by the Victorian Education Department from Burwood Boys’ Home (now Cameron Close Retirement Village). Prior to this the boys of school age walked across paddocks to Burwood State School.

By 1942, the number of boys enrolled had risen to 70; however, on 10 September 1942, the senior building of the school was destroyed by fire, with all records lost apart from a school register. A marque was erected in the school grounds as a solution, but this proved to be very cold and uncomfortable, with the sides torn and the earthen floor wet and muddy. In 1943 the marque was abandoned and the school continued in two halls of the Home.

A new brick building (now the library) was opened in 1944 and on 11 July the school officially became Wattle Park State School. It was not until 1951 that it was opened to local children. During the 1950s major improvements were carried out to the grounds and the school grew rapidly in size, with extra classrooms added. Until the 1960s its entrance was from Warrigal Road; however, in 1963 the Education Department acquired five building blocks in Bankside Street, providing land for a new entrance.

The current school occupies about 3.4 hectares, with an enrolment of 380 students from various ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. The grounds provide abundant space for active and passive recreation in a picturesque setting. Wattle Park Primary offers a happy and secure environment in which students are able to value and enjoy learning. The curriculum is designed to cater to individual needs and for students to grow in confidence and self-esteem as a result of:

- achieving mastery of the curriculum, particularly in English and Mathematics;
- developing intellectual, personal, social, physical and creative abilities;
- learning to work effectively as individuals and as members of a team;
- acquiring decision-making, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.

The school has specialist programs in Art, Music, Physical Education, LOTE (Mandarin), Library, and Reading Recovery. All students in Years 3 and 4 participate in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, which involves weekly gardening and cooking sessions. Links with Swinburne and Deakin universities promote excellence in Science. Wattle Park Primary has received a “Towards Victoria as a Learning Community” award from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to promote Science teaching within and beyond the school.

Wattle Park Primary emphasises creating and maintaining a community atmosphere. The school community is actively involved in the local community, including a reading program with residents from Cameron Close and participation in the Back Creek revegetation project.

Improved buildings and learning technology hardware and software have prepared Wattle Park Primary School for a well-resourced and bright future. Recently completed building works include a stadium comprising a full-sized basketball court, a community room and a canteen. This is utilised by both the school community and wider community groups.

A number of functions are planned to celebrate the centenary of Wattle Park Primary School in 2014, and we warmly welcome past students, parents and staff.

For details of the events, please check the school’s website http://www.wattleparkbps.vic.edu.au/ or contact the office.

Ph: 9808 2165 Email: wattle.park.pps@edumail.vic.gov.au

-VICKI PHILLIPS

June - August 2014 BURWOOD BULLETIN 29
WPPS Senior Choir

**Gurrong: New Treasures in an Old Land**

The Boite Schools Chorus, designed and directed by Jane Thompson and James Rigby. This annual concert series now in its 10th year, will celebrate the 35th birthday of iconic multicultural music presenter, The Boite. **Exploring 250 years** of immigration bringing new ideas, aspirations, stories and music to our ancient continent. People have arrived from places of economic or political hardship and strife, seeking security and freedom in a new land, which is home to the oldest living cultures on earth. Performing music from multicultural, anglo and indigenous Australian traditions. Featuring songwriter Shane Howard, singer Margret Roadknight and violinist Ernie Gruner along with a total of 560 students from across Victoria. Together they will bring to life songs of immigration, resistance and celebration of the beauty of the land we all share.

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**WPPS Senior Choir-Wednesday July 30th, 1pm**

The Deakin Edge, Federation Square, Flinders St, Melbourne
Tickets are available through the Boite office, by calling 9417 1983 and at the Melbourne rehearsals on Sun 20th July.
Also through try booking.
Tickets: [www.trybooking.com/FJTR](http://www.trybooking.com/FJTR)

Year 1 girls basketball team (Wattle Park Diamonds) are looking for 1 new team member to play Friday comp.
Training Thursday mornings.
Please see Georgia (Fleur's mum) in the uniform shop if interested.
How can peer groups counter bullying?

Most students are heroes in waiting, but they need to be encouraged to realise it. The idea that you can and should stand up for others, rather than being a passive observer to bullying, is an important value which should be actively promoted.

There are several ways schools can do this:

- Students can sign a pledge or an agreement not to passively condone or accept bullying wherever it occurs and whatever is involved. This reduces anonymity and increases positive commitment.
- Students can receive training in ‘resilience’, a set of skills which predicts good outcomes for young people and is also associated with less bullying in schools. They are then empowered to develop projects to create a positive change in their school or community. These students are often called Resilience Ambassadors.
- Festivals of friendship—these are student run and organised days that broaden connections between students and have been shown to be effective in increasing resilience and reducing bullying.
- Bullying partly occurs when we see other people as less human and less sensitive than they truly are. When we connect people and encourage them to act humanly in the face of bullying, the cultures of schools change. Humility is the enemy of bullying.
- Groups or alliances can celebrate diversity in the school population, and take a stand against racism, sexism and homophobia.

How can parents support their children in countering bullying?

- Be vocal supporters, in a positive manner, for the importance of schools being safe and friendly places where no one feels bullied or intimidated.
- Encourage teachers to conduct programs that involve students in creating great schools.
- Support your child in effectively intervening in bullying incidents. Teach children to use comments like ‘that’s not cool’, ‘don’t be mean’ and ‘come on, you’re a better friend than that’. The effects are powerful and can change schools.
Everyone has a part to play in developing a positive culture and encouraging students to look out for each other.

**How can schools counter bullying?**

The vast majority of students do not want bullying to occur, but often don’t know how to stop it. The rate of bullying in schools is consistent over time—it hovers around 1 in 5 students and has done so for years.

The reason for this is not that prevention programs are ineffective, but that there is consistently a percentage of young people who believe that bullying is an acceptable way to interact. These people need to be educated that bullying is not acceptable—ever.

This means that schools should have ongoing campaigns and programs to prevent bullying, to intervene effectively when incidents occur, to celebrate diversity, and to promote friendship and positive social behaviours.

The culture of a school is set by the leadership and teachers, but it is students and parents that can really make it strong. When students feel empowered to tell adults when bullying occurs, to create opportunities for positive relationships and make commitments not to engage in bullying they can establish a positive peer group culture that makes a huge contribution to the school culture.
JUNIORS – 2014 / 15 SEASON

REGISTRATION
Saturday August 16th

WHERE: BURWOOD RESERVE PAVILLION
Burwood Reserve, Warrigal Rd, Glen Iris

TIME: 9.00 am – 11:00 am

OR: Online at www.burwoodcricketclub.com from August 1st

FOR THE FOLLOWING AGE GROUPS:
• U / 10
• U / 12
• U / 14
• U / 16

WHY START or CONTINUE your CRICKET at BCC
• We have appointed a Professional Club Coach
• We are a Turf Club with multiple grounds playing Dunstan Shield
• Social Functions and Club Nights in our Spectacular new Pavilion
• New BCC Logo Club Cap with Every Membership
• 11 Teams in 2013 with fantastic training facilities

WE WELCOME ALL NEW AND RETURNING PLAYERS!

“COME AND BE A PART OF OUR FRIENDLY FAMILY CLUB”

Bookings are essential phone: 9262 6352
KOONUNG CELEBRATES 50 YEARS
29th – 31st August

Friday 29th August
Koonung Day for all current students
8:30am – 3:30pm

Free Music Concert
Past and current students performing
7pm on the Soccer Pitch.
Bring your picnic rug. Hot food and drinks available.

FIREWORKS 9PM

Saturday 30th August
Open Day 10am- 4pm
Walk around the school and look at all the displays and photos.
Enjoy souvenirs, music and great food.

Saturday Night Reunion
Cocktail event from 7pm in the Senior Centre
$50 per head drinks at bar prices
Semi-formal dress code. Tickets from http://www.trybooking.com/ELIM

Sunday 31st August
Displays in the Library open 10am -12noon

Inquiries
98909662 | 50th@koonung.vic.edu.au | www.koonung.vic.edu.au