



Parent Newsletter Term 1 Foundation 2017


Dear Parents,


Each year we feel the Foundation students surprise us by settling so quickly to school routines. This year they have simply amazed us by the speed with which they have risen to the challenges of full school days. They are demonstrating confidence in their surroundings and are comfortably dealing with issues such as meeting new friends and trying new activities.



The major emphasis of our program in Term 1 is to provide the children with a variety of activities and opportunities to develop the attitudes and skills necessary to make a smooth transition into school and to learn and practice various school routines.


We hope you find the information about the upcoming term helpful. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Thank you and kind regards,
Catherine Churchward, Robyn Heeps and Helen Sterling

In Mathematics:	In English:
This term we will be introducing and focusing on the numbers 1 to 10, 2D shapes, Length, Space and Location, and Ordinal Number. The children will be completing a variety of 'hands on' activities in order to support the introduced concepts.	In English this term we will be focusing on some of the alphabet letters, handwriting, poetry, shared reading, creative responses to texts and diary writing. The English Online interview, which the children complete during the Wednesday interviews, assists us to form Literacy groups which target individual needs.
Timetable 	<p>Students should arrive at school no later than 8:50am to meet and greet friends, discuss the day ahead, go to the toilet if needed and settle down after the morning rush. At 8.50am teachers will welcome students into the learning environment.</p> <p>School starts at 9.00am and finishes at 3.30pm</p> <p>Recess 11.00 – 11.30 Lunch 1.30 – 2.30</p> <p>Students are given time to eat their food, prior to going outside to play.</p>
Buddies	Each Foundation student has been assigned a Year 6 Buddy. We will meet with the Year 6 students once a week for a shared activity. The Year 6 Buddies also offer great support to the Foundation students in the playground, they are a familiar face for the Foundation students to turn to if they need support and their teachers are not there.
A few extra items...	<p>We are asking each family to bring a box of tissues and some <i>Coles Antibacterial Handwash Pump 250mL OR Woolworths Select Handwash Antibacterial Original 250ml</i> for use in the classroom. Please put your child's name on both and bring it to school at your earliest convenience.</p> <p>To support classroom programs we ask families to donate a range of household items throughout</p>

	the year. These include magazines (suitable for Foundation browsing), egg cartons, cardboard packages, old wrapping paper, birthday and Christmas cards, ice-cream containers, large yoghurt containers etc. Your trash is our treasure! Unfortunately we are unable to accept toilet rolls due to hygiene reasons however glad wrap rolls or the like are great.			
Money	Any money sent to school needs to come to the classroom teacher in a sealed envelope with your child's name written clearly on it.			
 Specials lists		Foundation A	Foundation B	Foundation C
	Library	Friday	Friday	Friday
	Performing Arts	Thursday	Thursday	Tuesday
	Physical Education	Thursday	Tuesday	Thursday
	Art	Tuesday	Thursday	Thursday
	LOTE	Monday	Monday	Monday

 Home Reading and Homework	<p>Reading should be an enjoyable experience for all family members. Make this a special time where you and your child are not distracted. It is expected students will read 4-5 times a week and the books be recorded in their reading log. Take home books are provided and children are also encouraged to borrow books from the local library.</p> <p><i>Mathletics</i> and <i>Literacy Planet</i> will be available to use on your home computers and iPads. Login and password details will be sent home in the coming weeks.</p>
 Nude food lunches and allergies	<p>All students are encouraged to bring 'nude food' lunches. A nude food lunch has no foil, gladwrap or any other packaging. Please unwrap and throw any rubbish out at home, to help us significantly reduce the amount of rubbish scattered throughout our school. Your child needs to be able to manage the opening and closing of lunch containers independently. A labelled drink bottle containing water is highly encouraged. Research shows that children learn best when they are well hydrated.</p> <p>We have a number of children at Wattle Park with severe allergies. As a result of this the school has put into place practices with which we need your support. One of these practices is the <u>removal</u> of <u>peanut butter and peanut / nut related products from the canteen.</u></p> <p>In support of this practice <u>PLEASE DO NOT SEND</u> your child to school with <u>peanut butter sandwiches and/or peanut / nut related products.</u></p>
School Uniform	<p>Our Wattle Park PS school uniform should be worn correctly and be in good condition. Please ensure all items of clothing are named. Check the lost property box near the art room for any missing items. Please ensure hair longer than shoulder length (for girls and boys) is tied up and hair accessories are school colours only. Jewellery is not part of the Wattle Park PS school uniform, including coloured wrist and ankle bands. Students may only wear small stud earrings. School uniform is worn on excursions.</p>
Sun smart	<p>We encourage students to apply sunscreen before going to school. If a child does not have a hat they must play in the top shaded playground. 'Hats away, 1st of May. 1st of September, hats to</p>

	remember'.
 <p>Communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General information and upcoming events are published in our school newsletter. It can be accessed via the Wattle Park Primary website. http://www.wattleparkps.vic.edu.au/ Links to other notices are also provided online. • Please check your child's message pocket in their schoolbag daily for any notices. • Teachers will be available after school to informally catch up with parents. If you have a specific concern, please make an appointment with the class teacher. • Reminders and updates will also be sent out through <i>Compass</i> and our messaging app <i>Konnective</i>. • REMINDER: All teachers are required at staff meetings and professional development sessions every Tuesday and Wednesday from 3.45pm and thus are unable to meet with you on these days. • Whole School Assembly is held every Monday at 3pm in the gym.
Absences	If your child is absent, we require written verification of student absence. In addition to this, any student arriving after 9:00 am or leaving the school before 3:30pm require a late/early leaver's pass. This is to be collected at the office and presented to the classroom teacher. Students must be collected by an adult if leaving the school. Phone: (03) 9808 2165
Birthdays	Children can bring a treat to share on their birthday – nut and egg free please!
Important dates for the diary!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10th February - Foundation BBQ 4pm – 6pm • 13th March – Labour Day holiday • 17th March – School Photos, Movie Night - SING • 21st March – Harmony Day • 28th and 29th March – Parent Teacher Interviews • 31st March - Last day of term (early finish 2.30pm) Free dress day