Hello and welcome to the final linkletter of 2013! 2013 has been an extremely positive year for the school. We have continued to provide the highest quality learning for your children whilst maintaining our positive approach to reaching our goals.

There have been many parents and friends of the school who have continued to provide time and support of our students and our new initiatives. At WHPS we are focused on continual improvement for the betterment of student outcomes. We have a great school and we are thankful to have such a supportive parent community. Your collective and unwavering support allows us to capitalise on developing a comprehensive and broad curriculum that supports the individual growth of each child. This incorporates academic, social and emotional growth.

As the holidays loom, please maintain your connection with your children’s cognitive development. Your discussions, challenges, questions and feedback will have a long term effect on your children. Holidays provide a wonderful opportunity for students to develop through experience and exposure. This time of year brings many social opportunities where students can comfortably build their interpersonal confidence. Thank-you once again to the parents, grandparents and friends who have supported us throughout the year. Your contribution is greatly appreciated and please don’t underestimate the impact that your involvement has. Our students benefit greatly from your input.

Thank-you to the staff who have worked tirelessly and conscientiously to enhance our school and develop your children. I know how hard they work and can assure you that WHPS is lucky to have such a committed, dedicated and competent staff.

**Graduation**

Congratulations to our Year 6 students for their recent graduation. Monday was a fantastic night at the RSL as we celebrated the Primary Years for schooling for our graduating class. I wish all of our Year 6 students all the very best for the next stage of their learning and life journey. Secondary school can present some challenges but I am confident in the preparation and development of our students to succeed in the future.

**Prepps no more...**

As the end of the year arrives, I congratulate all of our Prep students on their successful completion of their first year of school. 12 months ago our Preps were preparing for what lay ahead as the prospect of life at school loomed large. A year on we can celebrate their accomplishments, achievements and successes of a fantastic year of learning and growth. Congratulations Preps, you should be very proud of yourselves.

**CRE**

Thank-you to Julie-Ann Laird who leaves the school this year after many years of service as a parent and as our Religious Education conveyor. Julie-Ann has been a wonderful supporter of the school and her expertise in CRE delivery will be sorely missed.

**Family Fun night**

Thank-you to all the families who attended our Family Fun Night on Friday night. This was a fantastic evening where staff, students, parents and friends had the opportunity to socialize and enjoy some festive cheer.

**Canteen Capers**

Thanks to Suzanne for all of her hard work within the canteen this year. On her behalf I thank the parents who have volunteered their time over the course of 2013. We would love to see you back next year. The canteen will be open for business again as of Friday 31st January.

**WHPS got talent**

Today we had the opportunity of sharing in the many talents of our students. Thanks to Mrs. Thompson for organising the WHPS’ got talent show.
Well done to all the students who took that chance to showcase their skills. This was a wonderful opportunity to grow the confidence of our budding performers. Look forward to seeing you all in 2014.

**Staffing**

2014 will be an exciting and enjoyable year for WHPS. As is the nature of growth in school, we will be running with 10 classrooms next year. Please see the staffing list below and note that some additions may still be made to this.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade/Role</th>
<th>Staff member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ally Clarke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Jenny Humberstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Trudi Waterfall (3 days) / Jennie Roach-Pierson (2 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Mary Stanton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Amy Esposito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Michael Younger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Chantelle Mooney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Jamie Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Jessica Rancie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Lana Buckingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support/Leadership</td>
<td>Catherine Trethowan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Sally Beran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Bev Brooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Cathy James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-6 Cultural studies / P-2 music</td>
<td>Sharni Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom support</td>
<td>Kylie Emmenegger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom support</td>
<td>Izzy Cahill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom support</td>
<td>Debbie Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Admin / Classroom support</td>
<td>Leah Amos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Jen McDonald-Price</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As noted there are some staffing changes for 2014. Sharni Kennedy will be returning from family leave in a part time capacity and Chantelle Mooney returns to the school in a full time capacity after her 12 month Defence Force leave. Angela Toscano was successful in her application to Roxburgh Homestead Primary School and we wish Angela all the very best and thank her for her contribution to WHPS in replacing Chantelle. We also farewell Filomena Mariani who concludes her contract; and we thank her for her service to the school and wish her well in her future endeavours.

We also farewell Ms. Sheree Bretel who has fulfilled a number of support roles throughout the majority of the year. Sheree will also be missed and we wish her well for the future.

I sincerely thank all of them for their hard work and commitment to the school over their time at WHPS. We welcome two new staff members in 2014. Ms. Ally Clarke and Mr. Michael Younger who join the teaching team for next year. Both Ally and Michael were outstanding in their applications and interviews. WHPS will benefit greatly from their insight and input. Both Ally and Michael join our team with a wealth of teaching experiences and academic competence.

As the 2013 school year draws to a close I remind you of some important dates for next year. Please note these dates for the start of the 2014 school year.

**Tuesday 28th January** – Teachers resume
**Wednesday 29th January** – Year 1-6 resume school
**Thursday 30th January** - Prep start (half day)

**Friday 31st February** - Prep half day
**From Monday 3rd February** – Prep start full time (no Wednesdays during February)

2013 Term Dates.
Term 1: 28 January (school teachers start) to 4 April *
Term 2: 22 April to 27 June**
Term 3: 14 July to 19 September
Term 4: 6 October to 19 December

**Term 2 starts on Tuesday 22 April as Monday 21 April is a public holiday for Easter Monday. Please note: Friday 25 April is ANZAC Day.**

3-6 Bookpacks
All 3-6 students will receive bookpacks on the first day of school next year. These books/materials are included in your family fees. Please note these bookpacks are a start-up pack and further resources will be purchased to ensure all curriculum provisions are made throughout the year. Prep-2 students will receive their required resources via the classrooms programs throughout the year.
House Points
Congratulations to Wattle house who earned themselves the wonderful Points Party this week. The effort and achievement of all the students has been outstanding this year. All the houses and students worked well as a team to improve their pint standing! This program is a way to encourage positive behaviors in a supportive manner.

Grant for WHPS
Thanks to School Council and the in particular the Buildings and Grounds committee (namely Cathy Williams) who was successful in applying for a development grant to enhance our Vegetable garden in 2014. Cathy submission yielded $1200 for the school. Thanks to Mrs. Waterfall for representing the school at the awards ceremony.

Wishing you all a very enjoyable festive season and I look forward to another wonderful year of fun, learning and opportunity in 2014.

Thanks again for a fantastic 2013, the year of the Hawks!

Warm regards,
Michael

---

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**December 2013**
Fri 20th Talent Show
End of Term 4 - Dismissal 1pm

**January 2014**
Tue 28th WHPS Staff return
Wed 29th Grade 1 - 6 return
Thu 30th Preps begin

**February 2014**
Tue 4th Swimming Trials for grades 3-6
& Student banking begin

**There is NO Bookpack Collection for Grade 3-6**

These will be given to your child on Wednesday the 29th January 2014.
For Week beginning 16\textsuperscript{th} December 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Findlay</td>
<td>Prep H</td>
<td>Working hard to make great improvement in his handwriting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meisje</td>
<td>Prep H</td>
<td>Working hard on her puppet play.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maitri</td>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>For trying hard with everything you do. Well done Maitri.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ava</td>
<td>Prep W</td>
<td>For trying hard in everything you do. Well done in a great Prep year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobe</td>
<td>1/2S</td>
<td>For being kind and helpful the whole year!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleesha</td>
<td>3/4T</td>
<td>Her organisation and great work habits to complete all her tasks in the given time. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claire</td>
<td>3/4R</td>
<td>Her wonderful performance at the Soiree!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bree</td>
<td>3/4R</td>
<td>Being a fabulous usher and performance at the Soiree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madelin</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>For an excellent job as School Captain throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miki</td>
<td>5/6R</td>
<td>For being exceptionally organized and giving her best effort in doing her work contract.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DANCE for FUN & FITNESS!

Hip Hop, Jazz, Funk, Ballet, Tap & Creative Kinder Dance.

Tanya Kirkright - Choreographer of WHPS annual Concert for over tens years
Qualified ECE & Primary School Teacher

Classes at Watsonia Heights PS Dance Studio.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS PROGRAMS AT WATSONIA TENNIS CLUB

Choose a day that suits

BEGINNERS AND HOT SHOTS

Learn stroke techniques and have lots of fun and games with your friends
Lunch, snacks and drinks provided
10:00AM – 1:00PM each day
$30 per session

Before Xmas: Monday 23rd December (great for the parents with shopping to do)

January: Thursday 9th, Tuesday 14th, Thursday 16th, Thursday 22nd, Friday 24th

COMPETITION PLAYERS

Tennis Round Robin for competition players
Organised competition for those who are looking for extra practice
10:00AM – 2:00PM BBQ lunch, snacks and drinks provided
$30 per child

January: Monday 13th, Thursday 23rd

FOR BOOKINGS OR FURTHER ENQUIRIES TO THE ABOVE EVENTS CONTACT CAMERON ON 0417 149 161

2014 TIMETABLE OUT NOW

Classes for 3 years old—Adult!
No Costume Making, No Uniform
Optional Local Annual concert

Contact us NOW for an info pack.

0408 536 369 tanya@magicmovesdance.com.au

FIRST CLASS FREE FOR NEW PARTICIPANTS