Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the linkletter.

I hope you are all settling back into the routines of school life as smoothly as your children seem to be. All the students have made a wonderful start to the year. As we come to the end of week 3, things are certainly happening in and around our school. Our year 3-6 students have commenced their inter and intra school sports competitions, Year 3-6 swimming sports, instrumental music classes commencing, our wonderful specialist learning programs have also commenced with loads of fun and learning. Our students have the opportunity of experiencing great extra-curricular lessons in health and physical education, science, art and languages.

Happy Valentine’s day for this weekend to everyone and a special thank-you to the parents who have already been helping in and around the school. We greatly appreciate the support and our students will benefit from your help and commitment.

Student Leadership
At our school assembly this week we had the pleasure of acknowledging and presenting our 2016 student leaders. Every student in our school has a role to play in being a leader. To lead your own learning, expressing yourself, following rules, showing initiative, supporting others, sharing and welcoming others, displaying choices of a positive intent – are all aspects of good leadership. However within the school we also have some more formal roles for our senior students. Elected by the staff our school captains and vice captains are bestowed with role of representing themselves, their peers and the school in differing ways throughout the year. This is a great honour to be named in these roles and I know our elected students will do a terrific job in their roles. Congratulations to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Sam</th>
<th>May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captain</td>
<td>Logan</td>
<td>Matilda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

House Captains and Vice Captains are elected from students by students. Our year 5/6 representatives from each house had the opportunity of talking to their house and outlining why they think that they would be good leaders for their respective houses. As a result we congratulate the following students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Banksia Blue</th>
<th>Wattle Yellow</th>
<th>Boronia Green</th>
<th>Waratah Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Captain</td>
<td>Zara</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Mallory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Captain</td>
<td>Zac</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>Connor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have enjoyed meeting with all our student leaders and we have already established some great plans for 2016. Congratulations again to all our elected young leaders.

In term 1, our school inquiry unit focus is on Community. Each team and each classroom has a specific focus on integrating our curriculum around this school based concept. Each year level has this concept focus and work towards answering some essential questions. The focus is scaffolded throughout the classes which builds upon common understandings. This will allow students, and indeed the whole school to develop our school focus. Included in this focus is the strengthening of our school values.

The school motto of “Strive for the Heights” forms our ongoing school focus. If you believe you can achieve! Hence, our values represent the notion to STRIVE! We have re-set these values and have been working through these with students in class.

Our agreed values are:

S – Success – Our school is focussed on ensuring success for each and every child. This is built on the notion that all children can succeed and that success for one child is quite different to that of another. Success takes many forms and is a very personalised concept. Success also relates to team and school success. WHPS is built upon ongoing improvement and, collectively, we work extremely hard for sustained SUCCESS!

T- Teamwork – WHPS is a team. Staff, students and parents working together for a collective goal of improvement. This relationship between all stakeholders is imperatively important to securing our effectiveness. We promote a sense of team and a unified approach to ‘getting better on purpose’. Relationship development is a highly valued commodity at WHPS. They way we interact and connect with people, learning and life is a focussed goal of our school.

R – Respect – WHPS develops the notion of respect in all that we do! Amongst other things we promote Respect for self, other people, their cultures, individual and collective learning, our physical and global environment. This is a cornerstone of our belief system that promotes empathy and a development of self.

I – Individuality – We are committed to improving and enhancing every individual at our school. We focus on providing an individual learning environment that ensures each child is catered for in their ongoing development. EVERYONE counts and EVERYONE is special. We also see ourselves as an individual school working and aligned within a quality education system. WHPS is special in it’s endeavours and we provide the highest quality learning environment that is individual in it’s uniqueness.

V – Visionary – At WHPS we Strive for the Heights! We are visionary in our pursuits and foresight to be ‘cutting edge’ in our mission and goals. Students and staff are encouraged to set aspirational goals – and to reach them! We have a futuristic vision to education and our high expectations are empowering, realistic and achievable! We can be what we choose to be!

E – Effort – We promote effort! This value is a life long trait that ensures ongoing success for all stakeholders. Whilst we acknowledge, celebrate and nurture achievement we understand the power of effort! People with an instilled work ethic are destined to achieve beyond expectations whilst those with innate skills can relax in self belief. Effort = excellence!

Through these values we are able to focus on establishing classroom expectation and learning foci that include:

- Ensuring students feel safe, connected, respected and valued
- Establishing class routines
- Getting to know each individual learner and their needs
- Building relationships
- Develop a shared understanding of the school values and school code of conduct
- Understanding the learning process and the components for successful learning
- Understanding the brain and how to maximise it’s use, healthy bodies, healthy diets etc…
- Understanding individual learning styles
- Goal setting and reflective practices
- Learning all about Me!
All the students have made an amazing start to the year!!

Year 1-6 Meet the teacher interviews
Thank-you to the parents who took the time this week to come in and meet your child’s teachers. The information that you provided through the touch base forms and through these interviews is invaluable for teachers to get to know you and your child. Most importantly it is helpful for teachers to be able to plan engaging and challenging learning programs for each individual. I hope that you found the online booking system to be helpful and easy. As part of the touch base forms I requested any feedback of ways that we can improve and enhance our school. Thank-you to those whom provided feedback, I appreciate your time and insights. Should anyone have any further feedback at any time please make contact with me. WHPS is a great school, but it’s your school and we are always looking for ways to get better at what we do and improve the spaces within which we teach and learn. I urge you to invest in the school, just as I urge you to invest in your child’s learning and development. Further parent teacher interviews can be requested at any time.

Prep time
Similarly, thank-you to our Prep parents who have been attending the assessment interviews with their children each Wednesday. This time is a wonderful way to understand each child’s needs and to obtain invaluable insight from you. As these continue through February, I urge you all to embrace the relationship between home and school.

Meeting with teachers...

We have a very dedicated and committed staff whom are constantly working hard to provide our students with wonderful learning opportunities. Whilst we encourage and welcome the ongoing communication with parents, I ask that parents please try to keep all corridors and buildings clear during our pick up times. We value the learning time that we have with your children and hope to maximize our day until 3.30pm. I ask you to please wait for your children outside our buildings until the bell rings. Similarly the start of the school day is a vital time for teachers. We often have staff meetings and commitments occurring prior to 9am. Therefore if you require a meeting time please consider crucial teacher times and negotiate a mutual time with your child’s teacher.

As a way to promote this ongoing communication I provide you with the staff email addresses. Please use these professionally and respect the work commitments of staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade/Program</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ally Clarke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:clark.allison.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">clark.allison.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Danielle Wangman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wangman.danielle.m@edumail.vic.gov.au">wangman.danielle.m@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep support and extension</td>
<td>Jenny Humberstone</td>
<td><a href="mailto:humberstone.jennifer.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">humberstone.jennifer.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Mary Stanton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stanton.mary.e@edumail.vic.gov.au">stanton.mary.e@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Jamie Thompson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thompson.jamie.l@edumail.vic.gov.au">thompson.jamie.l@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1/2</td>
<td>Amy Esposito</td>
<td><a href="mailto:reid.amy.e@edumail.vic.gov.au">reid.amy.e@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Support and extension</td>
<td>Emma Kent</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kent.emma.e@edumail.vic.gov.au">kent.emma.e@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>Jessica Rancie</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rancie.jessica.j@edumail.vic.gov.au">rancie.jessica.j@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Shawn Greet</td>
<td><a href="mailto:greet.shawn.s@edumail.vic.gov.au">greet.shawn.s@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3/4</td>
<td>Gemma Albress</td>
<td><a href="mailto:albrass.gemma.p@edumail.vic.gov.au">albrass.gemma.p@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Cherrie McIntosh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mcintosh.cherrie.c@edumail.vic.gov.au">mcintosh.cherrie.c@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Chantelle Mooney</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mooney.chantelle.c@edumail.vic.gov.au">mooney.chantelle.c@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP / PE</td>
<td>Tony Ryan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryan.anthony.j@edumail.vic.gov.au">ryan.anthony.j@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Learning / Support / Extension</td>
<td>Catherine Trethowan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:trethowan.catherine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au">trethowan.catherine.m@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art / music</td>
<td>Sally Beran</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beran.sally.i@edumail.vic.gov.au">beran.sally.i@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Cathy James</td>
<td><a href="mailto:james.catherine.m1@edumail.vic.gov.au">james.catherine.m1@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>Serina Lee</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lee.serina.s@edumail.vic.gov.au">lee.serina.s@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Michael Kent</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kent.michael.a@edumail.vic.gov.au">kent.michael.a@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Open Night and Family Fun Night
On Friday 4th March we will open the school from 5.30-6.30pm. This is a chance to share in your child’s learning environment and class work. Following this from 6.30-8.30pm we will enjoy our Family Fun Night. This provides the
school the chance to welcome our 2016 Prep students and for families to reconnect with some old friends and make some new ones as well!

5.30-6.30pm – All classroom spaces open
6.30pm – Assembly area – Presenting our 2016 Preps
6.45-8.30pm – enjoy some social time with friends
Hope to see you all there!

Watsonia Heights School Council
Are you interested in joining our School Council?
This is a great way to get involved in the school and leading the way in our policy development and school management.

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Watsonia Heights Primary School.
Nomination forms can be obtained from the Principal and must be lodged by 4pm on Friday 19th February, 2016.
Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
<th>Number of Positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the date after the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the 2018.</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the date after the declaration of the poll in 2016 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the 2018.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted. Should the number of nominations exceed the number of vacancies a ballot will be conducted.
If you are interested or require further information (including nomination forms) please contact the Principal.

Library
As you are aware we have this relocated our library to the Jan Bobin Learning Centre (p-2 building). This will provide an engaging and enjoyable learning space for all students. Classes will commence next week and students will immersed in literacy activities that promote and passion and love for literacy and various texts. As parents, you have a huge role to play in developing this passion. Apart from borrowing books for home reading students will focus on building their appreciation and meta cognition around books! Your support in reading to and with your children is an invaluable experience that should be embraced in all homes each night! If you are looking for further ways to support your child’s literacy development, please ask your child’s teacher and READ TO YOUR CHILD EACH NIGHT!

Big Write
As part of our whole school writing program students in Years 1-6 participate in weekly writing tasks (Preps second semester). The pretence of the program is that if students can’t say it – they can’t write it. These tasks require support from every family. Each week students are provided with a writing stimulus to promote their writing skills. Therefore the weekly homework requires students to discuss the topic stimulus with as many people as possible. This is designed to stimulate and generate ideas and mental imagery. This does not require any note taking or planning, simply have a chat with your children. These ideas can then be drawn upon during the free writing sessions back at school. It provides students with the opportunity to mentally rehearse their ideas for writing. Parents are encouraged to have extended conversations with your children around the potential ideas and thoughts that the stimulus provides. We appreciate your help in creating the next generation of authors!
Learning technologies are a powerful resource!
With an increasing growth on the use and importance of learning technologies in education (and indeed life) the school has bolstered its infrastructure and resources with some welcomed additions. We have added to our server capacity with the introduction of some new wireless access points to increase our network capacity. In addition we have purchased and increased our bank of laptops and tablets. As we look to continue providing the latest and greatest learning tools, our 1:1 tablet program is continuing in our 3-6 team. Whilst the benefits of tablets are varied and increasing, they present a new set of learning for schools and educators. Immediately lifting engagement of students, tablets are maximised when used as a learning tool for individual students.

Amongst other aspects, this is enhanced when staff and students have the opportunity of:
1. Customising the apps for purpose and individuals
2. Having access and exposure to immersion and exploration of the device and its capabilities
3. Understanding that just like laptops, tablets are a tool for learning and not a game/toy.

These technologies DO NOT replace the fundamentals of ensuring students are literate and numerate. We still practice handwriting and spend a significant amount of our learning time in written form as well as utilising the technology. As a staff we ensure our teaching and learning philosophies are reflected in the use of such emergent technologies. A very important and significant aspect of our learning at WHPS is teaching students about safe online behaviours.

Kids Matter
Throughout 2016 our school will continue our journey as a ‘Kids Matter’ school. This provides a framework for focusing on children’s mental health and wellbeing. As a part of this initiative WHPS is focusing on continuing our implementation of the PATHS program. Providing Alternative Thinking Strategies is a great way to enhance skills, strategies and reflection amongst our students. We will continue to focus on this throughout the year and parents can keep abreast of what we’re doing via a regular section in our newsletter. Please read below and attached for some general information about the program. Your child may come home proclaiming their worth as the PATHS ‘Kid of the Day’. This is a wonderful way to promote self-esteem and collegiality amongst the classes. When this happens for your child, please value this and help to boost your child’s self-confidence and social worth!!

What is the PATHS ® Curriculum?
PATHS, which stands for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies, is an exciting new curriculum. PATHS was written to help primary school children develop better thinking skills, more mature and responsible ways of behaving, and improved academic performance.

What are some of the goals of the PATHS ® curriculum?
- Increasing children’s abilities to think and solve problems for themselves
- Increasing children’s abilities to use their thinking skills to act responsibly and maturely
- Improving children’s understanding of themselves and others
- Improving children’s feelings about themselves (that is, improving their self esteem)
- Increasing children’s abilities to learn more effectively in the classroom environment

How will PATHS ® help your child?
The authors of PATHS believe that the five goals listed above are critical for efficient learning. When children think independently, feel good about themselves, and act responsibly, then they are likely to be motivated, to work up to their potential, and to persist when they are experiencing difficulties. By teaching your child these thinking skills, PATHS will be teaching him or her how to learn. In addition, the academic skills covered during the lessons should be of educational benefit for your child, both now and in the future. Finally, many parents have noted that the concepts that are taught in PATHS are among the most important goals that they have at home. Therefore, improvement in your child’s skills should also be helpful for you and your child in your family environment.

Why is it important for parents to know about PATHS ®?
Parents are a child’s most important models and teachers. As such, you are the most important influence on your child’s development! The more that you understand about the PATHS Curriculum, the more you will be able to help reinforce and support your child’s skills. Thus, information about PATHS can help you be more involved with your child’s learning and development. By joining together in using positive ways to teach children self-control, emotional understanding, and problem solving both at home and at school, teachers and parents can create better learning environments and enhance developmental growth.
COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How is PATHS being used?
We will be teaching PATHS lessons in the classroom on a regular basis. Each lesson will last about 20 to 30 minutes and will focus on one or more particular skills. We will try to keep you informed about these different areas as we go along, but please let us know at any time if you would like to know more! In addition to the lessons, we will also use PATHS concepts and materials to encourage and model the ideas throughout the classroom day. In this way, your child can learn how to use PATHS ideas with other curriculum subjects, such as reading and arithmetic, as well as in social interactions.

What academic skills will my child learn in PATHS?
A variety of learning skills are taught during the PATHS lessons. These skills include reading, writing, spelling, vocabulary development, logical reasoning, and verbal communication skills.

How soon will I see changes in my child’s abilities to handle feelings and to solve problems?
Every child has his or her own personality or temperament and therefore will use information he or she is learning in different ways. Similarly, each child will also follow a different timetable for showing changes in his or her abilities to handle feelings and solve problems. Your participation with assisting your child in various home activities will help your child with this process, which in turn, may help you see positive results sooner.

Every day counts – school attendance
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begins with students coming to school each and every day. Missing school can have a major impact on a child’s future – a student missing one day a fortnight means missing four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 students will have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Coming to school every day is vital, but if for any reason your child must miss school, there are things we can do together to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.
- For any extended break from school, develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible. If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

ES PD
This week our educational support staff were involved in a comprehensive professional learning opportunity that focused on supporting our students through engaging and dynamic learning opportunities. We are lucky to have such a committed and dedicated support team. Our ES team are always creating new ways to support to the students across our school.

Staff Carpark
Please be reminded that parents are asked not to park in the staff carpark. This presents a safety risk and the safety of our students is paramount!

Working Bee
Please be reminded of the upcoming working bee on Friday February 26th from 4pm.
If you can spare some time to help, it would be greatly appreciated.
We will have a sausage sizzle, drinks and icy poles for families, friends and students to enjoy whilst we complete a few jobs in around the school.
Your support will enhance the physical environment for your children to enjoy.
We hope to see you all there!!
Team Newsletters
This week you will receive a team newsletter from your child’s teacher. This will outline the term ahead and keep you posted on the classroom happenings. Please contact your child’s teacher for any required clarification.

We remember
We recently remembered and empathise with those affected by the Black Saturday bushfires. Friday 7th February marked the anniversary of the fires that claimed the lives of 173 people and many properties. At WHPS we employ our heat policy on any days of extreme weather, keeping students inside, away from the elements.

Emergency Evacuation
In support of our health and safety procedures, this week all staff and students participated in an emergency evacuation drill. Whilst this was a surprise to our new Prep students it provides an invaluable learning opportunity and preparedness for unpredicted emergencies. All the students did an amazing job in evacuating efficiently without incident. Well done to our whole school for their wonderful efforts. As a part of our ongoing commitment to the health, safety and wellbeing of all students we have identified Tuesday March 15th as a whole school curriculum day. This will be a student free day which will allow the whole staff to update their level 2 first aid qualifications. This date will provide a four day weekend with the Labour Day holiday on Monday 14th, curriculum day on the 15th and students being required back at school on Wednesday 16th March.

Year 3-6 Summer Sport
Our interschool summer sports fixture continues, if you have some free time to spare, we would love to see you come along to support our sports stars! Fridays 9-11am!

Are you being Sunsmart??
As in line with the schools policy, term 1 is a sunsmart term. This requires all students to have the appropriate black wide brimmed hat. These sunsmart hats are to be worn during all outside activities during term 1. Students are encouraged to bring their own sunscreen from home. Roll on and sprays are an easy way for students to protect themselves against the elements.

Camps Sports and Excursions Fund - CSEF
Eligible families are welcomed to apply for funding support supplied from the government. A payment of $125 per primary school child is availed to those eligible parents/guardians. Please see the attachment for further details.

WHPS Fair
This year the school will celebrating a School Fair! This will also incorporate our School’s 50 Year celebration. In order for this to be a successful school event we are hoping to gather a working committee to help out! If you are able and interested in helping please send your email to: katewhpsovcommunitylinks@gmail.com
If you would like to find out more please come along to the Committee morning tea meeting on 4 March 2016 @ 9am.

Thanks for helping out and supporting our school.

Enjoy your Valentine’s Weekend!

Warm regards,

Michael
WHPS Swimming Trials:
On Tuesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} of February, WHPS conducted our swimming trials. It was fantastic to see so many enthusiastic students attend and everyone trying their best. I was particularly impressed by how our students encouraged and supported each other. The behaviour of our students was excellent and these students did a great job as representatives of our school. Well done to all!

We also had many parents and relatives attend on the day to support our students. Special thanks goes to those family members who assisted on the day by timing lanes.

District Swimming:
We had a number of strong performances during our swimming trials and have selected a team of 26 swimmers to represent the school at the District Swimming Carnival on Wednesday 17\textsuperscript{th} of February.

Mr. Ryan

WHPS SCHOOL CAPTINS

Congratulations!
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

**Why it’s important**

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

**Getting in early**

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

**What we can do**

The main reasons for absence are:

- **Sickness** – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and settling good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

- **It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.**

- **“Day off”** – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

- **Truancy** – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

WHPS Term 1 2016 Calendar Dates

February 2016
Friday 12th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Away @ Watsonia PS
Wednesday 17th - Preps day off
Wednesday 17th - Gr 3- 6 District Swimming Trials – Water Marc - Times TBC
Friday 19th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Home v Greensborough PS
Wednesday 24th - Preps day off
Friday 26th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Away @ Watsonia North PS
Friday 26th - Twilight Working Bee

March 2016
Friday 4th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Away @ St Mary’s PS
Friday 4th - Family Fun Night - 5.30-8.30
Monday 7th - Gr 5/6 Government Visit Incursion
Friday 4th - WHPS Fair, Committee morning tea @ 9am
Friday 11th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Home v Streeton PS
Friday 11th - Gr 5/6 Government Visit Incursion
Monday 14th - LABOUR DAY - Public Holiday - No School today!
Tuesday 15th - Curriculum Day - No school today!
Friday 18th - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - Home v Bundoora PS
Wednesday 23rd - Gr 3 - 6 Inter-School Sports - FINALS - TBC
Thursday 24th - Last Day of Term 1!! SCHOOL FINISHES @ 1:30PM

April 2016
Monday 11th - First day of Term 2 - 9am Assembly Start
Thursday 14th - School Photo Day

STUDENT BANKING
Every Tuesday.
To open a student bank acct. please collect a pack from the office.

UNIFORM SHOP
Open 8.30-9.00am every Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon.
Order forms available from the office stand and the schools website.
To place an order, please complete order form and submit to the office.
Orders are completed every Tuesday for collection on Tuesday afternoons at the office.
You may also email your order request to Leah or Juanita at watsonia.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
## Summer Inter-School Sport Fixture 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 5th February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 4th March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensborough v Streeton</td>
<td>St. Mary’s v Watsonia Heights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundoora v Watsonia North</td>
<td>Bundoora v Watsonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia v St Marys</td>
<td>Norris Bank v Greensborough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norris Bank v Watsonia Heights</td>
<td>Watsonia North v Streeton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 2</th>
<th>Round 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 12th February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 11th March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s v Bundoora</td>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Streeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia V Watsonia Heights</td>
<td>Greensborough v Bundoora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensborough V Watsonia North</td>
<td>St. Mary’s v Watsonia North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streeton V Norris Bank</td>
<td>Norris Bank v Watsonia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 3</th>
<th>Round 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 19th February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 18th March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streeton V St Marys</td>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Bundoora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Greensborough</td>
<td>Greensborough V St Marys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia North v Watsonia</td>
<td>Watsonia North V Norris Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundoola v Norris Bank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 4</th>
<th>Finals Wednesday 23rd March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 26th February</strong></td>
<td>Note: No make-up rounds due to short term.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia V Greensborough</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia North v Watsonia Heights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s V Norris Bank</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundoola v Streeton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## VENUES 2016
- Bundoora Primary School: Cricket played at Telfer Reserve. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Greensborough Primary School: Cricket and rounders played at War Memorial Oval. Basketball and bat tennis played at school.
- Watsonia Primary School: All sports played at school grounds. **No Rounders team**
- Watsonia Heights Primary School: Cricket played at Central Oval, Glenice St. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Watsonia North Primary School: Cricket played at Warrawee Park. Jacqueline Rd (10 minute walk) All other sports played at school grounds. Away cricket team should get dropped off at Warrawee Park by bus.
- St. Mary’s Primary School: Cricket played at Whatmough Park, Greensborough. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Streeton Primary School: All sports played at school grounds.
- Norris Bank: Sports played at school grounds or across road (short walk) Greenhills Rd, Norris Bank Reserve. **No Cricket team**
## For Week beginning 1\textsuperscript{st} of February 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For his alternative listening and contribution to class discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lylah</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For making a great transition to WHPS and being a wonderful friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For his wonderful effort with all his work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For her enthusiastic writing about her holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alannah</td>
<td>1/2 T</td>
<td>For being such a kind and helpful team mate!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>3R</td>
<td>For being such a willing helper. Well done on a great start to the year!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophie</td>
<td>3/4 A</td>
<td>Form making a fantastic start at Watsonia Heights Primary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>For his excellent effort and participation. Great start to the hear Harry!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For Week beginning 8th of February 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>For being a superstar at 'whole body listening' and always trying her best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asha</td>
<td>PW</td>
<td>For making a great start to prep this year, listening carefully and being friendly towards others!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachie</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For being prepared for his ‘Show and Tell’ and jumping up straight away to share. Well done Lachie!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtney</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For always doing her best and being a wonderful friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For being enthusiastic and interested in learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaxson</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For being a caring and helpful class mate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chayse</td>
<td>1/2 T</td>
<td>For showing such lovely listening skills to staff and peers as well as raising his hand to share.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>3 R</td>
<td>For making such a fantastic start at WHPS and for always being ready to learn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake</td>
<td>3/4 L</td>
<td>For working hard in class and completing his work to a high standard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilly</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>For being so friendly and welcoming to our new arrivals at Watsonia Heights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanesha</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>For being so friendly and welcoming to our new arrivals at Watsonia Heights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zara</td>
<td>5/6 L</td>
<td>For being and active listener and participant in her class throughout the day. Keep up the great situational awareness skills Zara.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
Hello! Are you interested in joining the fight against cancer?

The Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay team will be walking for 22 hours at the Cancer Council’s Diamond Valley 2016 Relay For Life on Saturday 19th March from 12:00 pm at the Willinda Park (Athletics Track), Beatrix Street, Greensborough. To participate in this memorable and rewarding family experience you only have to walk for a 1 hour stint but are welcome to do more. If you have never experienced the Relay before there is music, activities and fun that will keep you and your children entertained for hours.

The Relay For Life is a fun and moving overnight experience that raises vital funds for Cancer Council’s research, prevention and support services. Thousands of Australians participate in over 200 Relays across Australia each year. Some people Relay in memory of a loved one lost to cancer. Some do it to show how proud they are at having survived cancer. Some do it to show they are strong enough to beat cancer. And some simply want to be involved and make a difference. Whatever your reasons, you’ll never forget your first Relay experience!

Last year, under the captaincy of Troy Hoffman, the Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay team raised an outstanding $3210! This year we are aiming for $4000.

If you want to join the team for this wonderful event:

- Register with the Watsonia Height Primary School Relay team at the Relay For Life website [http://www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) see the next page for more details (registration costs $20 per person until 19th Feb, when it becomes $25, this includes a Relay For Life jumper which will be mailed to you).
- Print out a sponsorship form, available here [Please Sponsor Me Form](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) and start collecting sponsorship donations. Collected donation can be paid directly through the Relay For Life website.
- View the team roster here [2016 WHPS Relay Team Roster](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) and let me know at what time you would like to participate in the Relay. We can have more than one team member walking at the same time to give support but we need to fill every hour with at least one team member to keep the WHPS Cape moving.

If you are unable to attend the Relay please consider sponsoring a friend, student, parent or teacher that is doing the Relay.

I will be camping at the Relay with my family and you are welcome to bring a tent and join the WHPS Relay team. The Relay canteen has hot drinks and snacks available all night and BBQ bacon and egg rolls at breakfast. Also expect Team Kill Cancer to have their famous BBQ spit-roast going again this year!

If you have any questions about the Relay please email, text or call me.

Pierre Scotney (Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay Team Captain 2016)
email: pscotney@gmail.com  mob: 0400058729
Cancer Council Relay For Life
Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay Team

Where: Willinda Park (Athletics Track), Beatrix Street, Greensborough
When: Saturday 19th March from 12:00pm to 10:00am on Sunday 20th March 2016

To register with the WHPS Relay team go to [http://www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) website. Select the “Register” tab and enter “Watsonia Heights Primary School” into the “Team” search tab and select “Search”:

Then select “Join” in the returned results screen:

and complete the on-line registration:

You are registering for the Relay For Life event:

Diamond Valley 2016 ➔ Watsonia Heights Primary School

By creating an account and registering for this event, you are agreeing to Cancer Council’s Privacy Policy.
Behaviour Workshop

Parent/Carer workshops Greensborough

Date: Monday 29th February 2016
Time: 9.30am – 3.00pm
Venue: Diamond Valley Library, Civic Drive Greensborough
Cost: FREE for parents and carers. A light lunch is provided.

The Early Days Workshops are for parents and carers of young children (aged 0 - 6) who have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), or who are currently undergoing a diagnosis. Amaze (formerly Autism Victoria) facilitates these workshops in Victoria.

The Behaviour Workshop covers:

- Why behaviour issues develop in children with Autism
- How to identify the purpose of your child’s behaviour
- How to develop strategies that are specific to the purpose of the behaviour
- How to teach your child an appropriate replacement behaviour

REGISTRATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL

To register for a workshop, please go to

http://www.amaze.org.au/events-home/early-days/early-days-workshop-dates/
SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH 2016

LOWER PLENTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

CAR BOOT SALE

TO BOOK A STALL CALL LPSS
(03) 9436 2585
$20 EARLY BIRD
$25 AFTER 27/2/2016

Everyone is Welcome to our friendly School Fete!

Huge Jumpy Castle & Slide
Home Made Breakfast & BBQ
Coffee & Cakes - Plants & Crafts
Heaps of Kids Activities
Come and find your happy pace at the

eltham FUN
run • swim • spin

Fundraising event for kids with Disabilities

SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2016

CHOOSE 1 EVENT OR PARTICIPATE IN ALL 3

RUN / WALK
5-10KM
9am – 10.30am

SPIN
11.30am – 1.30pm

SWIM
12pm – 2pm

FUN
9am – 2pm

Come and join us for the Family Fun Day at the Eltham Leisure Centre with Music, entertainment, food and fun for the kids.

GET A $30 GIFT VOUCHER FROM
ATHLETE’S FOOT GREENSBOROUGH WITH EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

For more details and on-line entry WWW.ELTHAM.YMCA.ORG.AU
RUN / WALK 5-10KM
9am – 10.30am

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early Entry</th>
<th>Late/On the day Entry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (16+)</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child (under 16)</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children under 10 enter free with adult supervision.

Early bird entry closes on Sunday 21 February 2016.
Discount for team entries.
* Family entry is for 2 adults and 2 children under the age of 16 (any course).

Register at [WWW.ELTHAM.YMCA.ORG.AU](http://WWW.ELTHAM.YMCA.ORG.AU)

**SPIN** 11.30am – 1.30pm

$50 registration fee for individual or team
Cycle in the state of the art cycle studio

Register at ELTHAM LEISURE CENTRE RECEPTION

**SWIM** 12pm – 2pm

No Entry Fee
Lap swim in the 25 metre pool

Register at [WWW.ELTHAM.YMCA.ORG.AU](http://WWW.ELTHAM.YMCA.ORG.AU)

Become an Every Day Hero when your friends and family sponsor you in one or all of the events and help to raise money to make a difference to children with disabilities.

[WWW.EVERYDAYHERO.COM.AU](http://WWW.EVERYDAYHERO.COM.AU)

All profits donated to YMCA Open Doors Initiative

Many Thanks to our Sponsors

Like us on facebook
elthamleisurecentre

Eltham Leisure Centre
40 Brougham Street, Eltham
Phone: 9439 2266
[www.eltham.ymca.org.au](http://www.eltham.ymca.org.au)
Welcome to Term 1, we hope you enjoyed your summer holidays!

We would like to thank you all for your contribution to making 2015 such a successful year of promoting health and creating environments conducive of good health in your school.

Some highlights from 2015 include:

1. Banyule Primary School Oral Health Screening Program
2. Health Eating Advisory Service Forums to OSHC & Canteen staff
3. Banyule Community Health Dental Service being a finalist for the 2015 Public Dental Clinic of the Year award
4. St Bernadette’s won 1st place in the Dental Health Services Victoria ‘Make a Face’ competition
5. St Pius celebration to launch ‘Together We Shine’
6. Banyule Community Health’s 40th anniversary celebration
7. Launch of Healthy Schools Banyule Newsletter
8. Health Days with Macleod College & Charles La Trobe College
9. Work experience student Rose from Loyola College
10. Sugary drinks presentation at Banyule YouthFest
11. Walk the Talk Forum

We look forward to delivering even more programs in 2016 and building stronger relationships with all Banyule schools. We are always interested in finding out what’s going on at your school throughout the year so be sure to keep in touch to share ideas, issues, concerns, and celebrations you may be having to acknowledge your school and it’s commitment to being a health promoting environment.

Kind Regards,

Jane Casey & Madalene Ignatiadis
9450 2642 & 9450 2641
jane.casey@bchs.org.au & madalene.ignatiadis@bchs.org.au

Moroccan chickpea and basmati rice pilaf

Serves 4 | 45 minute prep time

Ingredients
- 1 cup dried red lentils (washed and drained)
- 750mls salt-reduced chicken stock
- 200g lean beef mince
- 2 cloves garlic (crushed)
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 onions (finely sliced)
- 2 ripe tomatoes (sliced)
- 8 slices of canned beetroot
- Low-salt BBQ sauce (to serve)
- 4 wholemeal rolls

Step 1
Place lentils in a medium saucepan and cover with stock, bring to the boil, cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes or until tender, drain if there is any excess liquid. Allow to cool.

Step 2
Heat half the oil in a large frying pan over medium heat and cook onions until golden and caramelised. Set aside.

Step 3
Combine cooled lentils with mince, garlic, egg, breadcrumbs and a little freshly cracked pepper. Form into 4 rissoles and refrigerate until ready to cook.

Step 4
Heat remaining oil in same pan onions were cooked in and cook rissoles over medium heat for 5 minutes each side or until cooked through.

Step 5
Toast rolls and assemble with rissoles, onions, tomato, beetroot, lettuce and sauce.

Please feel free to use this recipe in your school newsletter. Recipe sourced from Nutrition Australia
http://www.nutritionaustralia.org/