Hi everyone and welcome to the latest edition of the linkletter.

Amazingly the end of the first term has arrived. Well done to all of our students for making such a fantastic start to the school year. Our Preps are also to be congratulated on the manner in which they have commenced their school life! Well done Preps, already one quarter of the way through your first year of school!!! It has been great to see our students blossoming during the first term.

Thanks to all the parents and friends who have helped us out over the term and also a big congratulations to our wonderful students for their commitment and hard work over the eight weeks. Well done!

With the holidays looming, I wish you all a restful break and a happy Easter weekend. During the holiday period, as always, children are encouraged to continue with their reading and to enjoy some family experiences where conversations can continue to extend the understandings and connections that children readily make.

I’d like to thank all the staff for the way in which they have commenced the year. We have managed to fill the term with so many learning opportunities and our staff are to be congratulated on the way in which they support the students. We are very lucky to have a dedicated team at WHPS. We are just that, a team! All staff are committed and work extremely hard to ensure the ongoing success of all of our students. Amongst other things in term 1, our focus is to establish:

- quality connections and relationships for children
- routines
- develop individual learning goals
- expose students to a breadth of curriculum
- ensure success for each child.

Today your child will be coming home with an Easter book. This is a small gift from the school library program to commemorate the new space and it’s first term birthday! Our school librarian, Kathryn, has chosen the book and sent a message home to each child thanking them for their hard work and enthusiasm in borrowing lots of books over the course of the term! Keep it going everyone, reading is the window to learning! Thanks also to Kathryn for the manner in which she has developed and encouraged each individual as a young reader! Big things ahead for our library program over the course of the year.

A reminder that school resumes on Monday 11th April!!

School Council
This week the School Council met and conducted our AGM. This was an opportunity to share the Annual Report. 2015 was a very successful year for the school with many areas of which to be celebrated. Certainly some wonderful gains in student achievement but additionally, and just as importantly, was the extension of our diverse learning program that promotes a high quality education in a balanced manner that allows the whole child to be developed. 2015 was also a year of review for the school and this also recognised the wonderful achievements and successes of WHPS!
Certainly an area of note within this review is the wonderful contribution made by parents at our school. We are a community based school that has developed a culture of inclusiveness for all. We have amazing students whom are all well liked and respected within our community.

As a result of the review and reflection the school then develops our Strategic Plan. This sets the direction and goals for the school over the next cyclic review period (2016-2019). Evolving from this is our Annual Implementation Plan. This plan simply expands and extends upon the strategic intent of the 4 year plan. Thus providing key improvement strategies, goals, targets and actions!

We have set lofty and aspirational goals for our school and students over the coming period. I make no apologies for this and believe in setting a high standard. However, in order for us to value add to student learning and increase the impact of new knowledge – we need a holistic approach. This includes parental involvement. As a minimum, we implore parents to foster a love of reading with your child. Read to them, read with them, listen to them read, read for fun, read for learning, READ FOR LIFE! This alone will have an impact greater than you can imagine. Every minute spent sharing a love for reading will create a culture, model an expectation and allow for increased vocabulary, literacy skills and access to learning. We have made a great start to the 2016 school year and have already met some of our intended short term goals for this year. We appreciate your continued and ongoing support.

Cultural Diversity
As a celebration of cultural diversity and understanding Ms. Serina Lee this week organised a wonderful incursion for the whole school. The students enjoyed learning and experiencing the Chinese dragon incursion. This was a great way to develop a cultural understanding for our students. We live in multicultural society that is enhanced by the traditions and celebrations of many cultures.

Student Led Conferences
Thanks to all the parents who this week participated in the student led conferences. This was a great way for students to articulate their learning goals and thus setting the future direction for the next semester of learning focus. We appreciate your support in developing the learning focus at home over the coming term.

Representative sports
Congratulations to the Inter school cricket team who represented the school at the recent finals. They won the premiership in the Banyule district. All the students who represented the school during the term are to be congratulated for their wonderful efforts and sportsmanship. I have received some fantastic feedback from other schools about how well our students participated and represented the school. Well done!!

Relay for life
Thanks to all the families who participated in this wonderful fundraising event. Thanks to all the families and students whom supported with their contribution in the out of uniform day (which added a further $276). See attached for further information. Special thank-you to Pierre Scotney whom was the team captain for WHPS this year. Pierre did an amazing job in promotion, co-ordination and participation!

Banyule opportunities – Please see the following opportunities availed in the Banyule municipality.
FREE SKATE WORKSHOPS @ MALAHANG: 
FREE All Aboard skateboarding sessions delivered on Thursday and Sunday afternoons by accredited coaches from OwnLife for all ages between 6 -21 years. No cost and boards and helmets are provided free of charge. Young people under 16 require a guardian to sign them in. See attached flyer for further details.

HOYTS Sensory Friendly Film – Zootopia: Hoyts and Banyule Council are delighted to invite families and people on the Autism spectrum to a sensory friendly movie screening. At this screening you are free to make a noise and move around the cinema. Lights remain on or dimmed and the sound is lowered so everyone can enjoy the experience in a comfortable, sensory friendly environment. Sunday April 10th 10.30am, Greensborough Hoyts Cinema. Book at the HOYTS Greensborough Box office or call (03) 9026 9954 for more information.

PATHS - Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies
One of the foci of our PATHS program is develop students’ understanding of their feelings. In PATHS, the students will learn to recognise when they are having a problem. They will learn that when they have a problem, they need to stop and think, rather than act out their feelings by misbehaving. Self control can be difficult
for all of us! However it can be more difficult for children because children are not as experienced at planning ahead, handling frustration, or being able to use their thinking skills to control their behaviours when they are feeling upset. When children show poor self control, they are likely to behave immaturely, feel unhappy, and do poorly in their school work. Being able to stop and calm down is critical, because we all know that it is very difficult to consider solutions to a problem when we are upset or confused. When we are feeling upset, we often act without thinking about our behaviours first, which often leads to further problems.

The **CONTROL SIGNALS** that will be used in P.A.TH.S. are:

- **RED LIGHT** – STOP and CALM DOWN
- **ORANGE LIGHT** – SLOW DOWN and THINK
- **GREEN LIGHT** – TRY MY PLAN

It is important that the student **EVALUATES** how they went because it may be that the process will need to be revisited because the plan was not successful. Signs have been placed in the classroom and around the school to prompt the students in these actions. Parents can help to use this process at home when a student looks frustrated or upset, a reminder may be given that this may be a good time to think of the Control Signals. A copy of the control signals will be sent home for display. This is the time when our younger students (K-3) will be trained to “Do Turtle”. Next linkletter, information will be given on “Doing Turtle” and how this strategy is being used at school.

Warm regards,

Michael
WHPS Term 2 2016 Calendar Dates

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

CANTEEN HELPERS DESPERATELY NEEDED!!!

Please nominate yourself by placing your name on our roster at the front office if you are able to help – Wednesdays & Fridays.

STUDENT BANKING

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

UNIFORM SHOP

Open Tuesday MORNING 8.30-9.00am and Thursday AFTERNOON 3–3.45pm

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
For Week beginning 21st of March 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Mae</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>For having a go during writing time, even when it’s tricky. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>For always making sure she does her best work. You are amazing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>PW</td>
<td>For always having a go and trying his best and being a good friend in Prep.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td></td>
<td>For being a good listener and friend, always helping to look after others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisha</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For being reliable and a steady worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin</td>
<td></td>
<td>For being so cheerful and a very helpful classmate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakota</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For always being prepared for her show and tell with photos and props.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan</td>
<td></td>
<td>For always doing his best and showing persistence!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storm</td>
<td>1/2 T</td>
<td>For her exceptional efforts and trying her best in all work tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amazing!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brodie</td>
<td>3/4 A</td>
<td>For demonstrating excellent effort and behaviour. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>Always helping his teacher and classmates and being a great teammate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>Showing enthusiasm towards his school work and homework. I also commend Jordan on making good decision in the yard. Keep up the effort!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to the annual Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. Reading is an essential life skill for everyone and the Challenge encourages families to be actively involved in supporting children to read. The Challenge invites children and young people to read a set number of books and record their efforts online. It’s a great way to get them talking about reading with friends and family, and to push themselves to read as many books as they can. Join the Challenge today and discover new authors, get expert tips, book recommendations and more. Participation is free. To find out more about the Challenge and access the booklist visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc

Like us on Facebook to share tips, literary articles and recommended reads www.facebook.com/VicPRC

Privacy and Consent Form (Schools)

By signing this document, you agree to the TERMS and CONDITIONS outlined below. These include consent for your child to participate in the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and for their name to appear on a certificate of completion and for their name to appear in the online honour roll. Please note that the child’s name only will appear on the certificate and online Honour Roll with no other identifying factors. Participating schools appear as a separate list.

Note: Students whose names do not appear on the online honour roll are still able to participate in the Challenge.

Child’s name: ........................................................................................................................................................................

School or early childhood service: ........................................................................................................................................

Year level/class: ................................................... Yes ☐ No ☐ I consent to my child’s name appearing on the online Honour Roll

Certificate name (only if different from name above): ...........................................................................................................

Parent/guardian name (please print): ........................................................................................................................................

Parent/guardian signature: ......................................................................................................................... Date: ........................................................................................................................................

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Definitions: Department refers to the Victorian Department of Education and Training, Person refers to the child/adult listed below in the consent declaration.

1) Privacy Protection

The Department takes its privacy obligations seriously and any personal information collected or used by the Department will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). This law sets out what we must do when the Department collects, uses, handles and destroys personal information. Personal information includes personal details such as an individual’s name and school that could be used to identify an individual.

2) Collection, use, disclosure and storage of personal information

If you provide your consent your school will collect and disclose your child’s first and last name, and the name of the school to the Department. The Department will then:

- Use the information to register your child and to generate an online account (through which school age children can record the books that they read);
- Publish your child’s name and year level on its online Honour Roll located at: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc at the completion of the Challenge with no other identifying factors such as school name.
- Give the name of your child to Finsbury Green Pty Ltd ABN 52 007 743 151 who will then disclose to a 3rd party for the purpose of printing Certificates of Achievement.

3) Accuracy, access to information and withdrawal of consent

The Department will endeavour to ensure that any personal information held about your child is up to date and accurate. You can access, correct and withdraw personal information held by the Department by written request in accordance with the Department’s Information Privacy Policy located at: http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacypolicy.aspx

Consent may be withdrawn at any time by writing to the Department’s Privacy Unit on: privacy.enquiries@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this form, or if you need more information, please contact the PRC Challenge Coordinator at the Department readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au or (03) 9637 3624.

This original has been printed in black and white on recycled paper to reduce cost and environmental impact.
Cancer Council DV Relay For Life
Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay Team

On Saturday 19th March the Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay For Life team took it in turns to walk and sometimes run around the Willinda Park Athletics Track. We relayed for 21 hours from 1:00 pm until 10:00 am on Sunday morning to raise funds for the Cancer Council to help fight cancer. Although there was rain on Saturday it did not dampen our spirits and we were greeted with a blue sky and sunshine on Sunday morning. We shared many memorable moments and emotions; tears, laughter, exhilaration, exhaustion and friendship.

A big thank you to everyone at school who supported the WHPS Relay team, either by donation on the free-dress day or directly to the team. Thank you to those who came to Willinda Park during the event to support the team. So far the WHPS Relay team has raised $1851.

Although we lost count of the total number of laps the team completed, special recognition needs to go to Ashley Finch who walked 100 laps, a distance of 40 km! Ashley collected one bead for each lap which was threaded on to a string, with a yellow bead every 50 laps. Here she is holding her chain of 100 beads.

I now pass the team captaincy baton on to the next volunteer. If you are interested please let me know. We hope to see you at the Relay For Life next year. Best wishes.

Pierre Scotney  (pscotney@gmail.com)
Summer Interschool Sport

Well done to all students that participated in Summer interschool Sport during Term 1 in the sports of Basketball, Net Tennis, Rounders and Cricket.

We are striving to increase our reputation as a school where we enjoy participating in sport, display a healthy competitive spirit, show a strong sense of fair play and good sportsmanship. We see our students as ambassadors, in displaying this vision when they compete against other schools.

Our sporting teams performed strongly during Summer Sport. Our Rounders team was quite unlucky not to make it through to the final as a result of last week’s washout.

Special recognition should be given to the WHPS cricket team, who are 2016 District Champions after a close and hard fought victory in the final against Watsonia North PS. Congratulations to all involved!

Victorious 2016 WHPS Cricket Team

We also direct our thanks to Sarah John, Lisa Commandeur, Shelley Prior and Jess Rancie (super coach) who assisted the school in transporting the team for the final.

Regards,

Tony Ryan
SCIENCE

In Prep this term we have covered the topic of the Five Senses. We have looked at the basic anatomy of the eye and the ear with our models in class. We tested how far we could hear sound waves using a paper clip and we found out that our sense of touch is the most important of all. The children also had lots of fun guessing what was in our ‘feely’ box. We used our sense of smell to guess the item in the jar and we learned our sense of smell is stronger than our sense of taste. Perhaps the most exciting experiment was the taste test. The children were very eager to taste and it was interesting to find out many of the students liked the sour taste of lemon on their tongues!

The Grade 1/2’s this term have been studying Living Things. We have made our mini terrariums and watched them grow over a few weeks. We have had a lot of fun using our digital microscope over the term looking at bugs, ants and bees we have found on our walks in the schoolyard. The detail we can see through our observations has been incredible. The students used the magnifying glasses in the yard to help them classify living things and to categorise them into living, non-living and once living. We have looked at and observed animals and their offspring, the main part of a plant and flying and non-flying insects. Oscar brought in his yabbies for us to see and they were fascinating for us to look at under the microscope – especially when they were racing! Ethan had his Dad Stuart come in and give us a very informative talk about the body and Brain – he had some great props and the students were enthralled. A few weeks ago Siena was kind enough to bring in her pet hermit crab and gave us a very comprehensive run down on his living conditions and how to best look after him. Thanks Siena!

The Grade 3/4’s have looked at Living Things and studied in detail the seven criteria to classify them. We have had many engaging conversations about varied topics and whether they indeed fit into the category of living or non-living. We have also found many interesting things in the schoolyard which we were able to look at under our digital microscope. We looked at how different animals can be grouped and how animals and plants are different. Through our own greenhouses we learnt about germination, photosynthesis, evaporation and condensation.

This term the Grade 5/6’s studied the Brain. We began with a bag of cooked oatmeal in a zip locked bag at each table. What body part did it most feel like? The Brain!
We had a look at our class brain model and then moved on to study the three main parts – the cerebrum, cerebellum and the brain stem (as well as the lobes, the pituitary gland and hypothalamus). We studied how best to keep our brains healthy through such things as diet, music, exercise and water therapy. We had a brain food taste testing day – blueberries, spinach and pumpkin seeds were enjoyed by all! We discussed the detrimental effects lack of sleep can have on our health and the power of positive thinking. We looked at the advantage of brain training games and this week we were able to look at a lamb’s brain to see the parts we had studied.
Visual Arts

Throughout term one grade 5/6 students have investigated ideas and artworks from different cultures and times and looked at some conventions of portraiture such as facial expressions, pose and backgrounds. They began observing portraits by Margaret Preston, Vincent Van Gogh and Freda Kahlo and used this knowledge to create their own self-portraits.

Can you recognise any of these?

They also had a lot of fun completing an observational activity and were really surprised to see their own wonderful portraits of the Mona Lisa by the famous Leonardo Da Vinci.

Here are some of their amazing artworks -

Grade 3/4 students also had lots of fun with their observational drawings and here are some of their artworks-
Students later went on to draw their own parody of the Mona Lisa and have put Mona at the beach, in the park, at the football and even as a Mexican. Here are some of the very clever artworks -

Grade 1/2 students have also been busy exploring portraits and have also created their own Mona Lisa artworks -
Prep Art -

Preps have had fun exploring Painting Marks and used dabbing marks to create a watery background for their Rainbow Fish. They also had experiences creating some very colourful textures and used these for the tail of their fish. Here are some of their wonderful artworks -
你好nǐ hǎo (Hello)! How quickly the term has come to a close! We finished off the short term with a bang by utilising a small grant we received from Banyule City Council (to go towards promoting cultural diversity) to partially fund a Chinese lion dancing incursion to our school. Students across all levels of the school were engaged in learning about the story of lion dancing and the martial arts training required to master it, including a handful of important stances or poses. Some were lucky enough to have a go at being one of the two parts of the Chinese lion! The drums and cymbals echoed through the corridor that morning as a traditional lion dance routine was performed and Watsonia Heights Primary School was blessed with good luck!

祝大家假期愉快zhù dà jiā jiàqī yú kuài! Wishing everyone a wonderful break!

李老师 (lǐ lǎoshi) Ms. Lee
FREE SKATE WORKSHOPS @ MALAHANG:

FREE All Aboard skateboarding sessions delivered on Thursday and Sunday afternoons by accredited coaches from OwnLife for all ages between 6-21 years. No cost and boards and helmets are provided free of charge. Young people under 16 require a guardian to sign them in.
SENSORY FRIENDLY FILMS

WHAT'S ON?
Zootopia
Sunday April 10 at 10.30am

ALL TICKETS $8
Companion & Carer Cards accepted

HOYTS is delighted to invite families and people on the Autism spectrum to a sensory friendly movie screening.

At this screening you are free to make noise and move around the cinema. Lights remain on or dimmed and the sound is lowered so everyone can enjoy the experience in a comfortable, sensory friendly environment.

BOOK NOW

At the HOYTS Greensborough Box office or call (03) 9026 9954 for more information
The Leukaemia Foundation’s World’s Greatest Shave is back this March.

People sign up to get sponsored to shave, color or wax their hair to help the 3,000 Victorians diagnosed with leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma this year.

Registrations are now open for this extraordinary fundraising event, and we need your help to raise awareness in the community.
and more

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Kids in nature

To celebrate Nature Play Week, join us for a morning of fun in the Banyule Flats Reserve. Activities include making nature cubbies, camouflage art, earth painting and discovering water critters and mini beasts. Help make a brew of billy tea and damper and enjoy a yarn!

Sunday 10 April 2016
10.00am - Noon
Banyule Flats Reserve
Plymouth Street, Heidelberg
(meet at Banyule Tennis Club)

Bookings are essential

For further information or to make a booking phone 9490 4222 or visit www.banyule.vic.gov.au
WHAT'S ON

These School Holidays @ Eltham

ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY 29th March
11am – 12pm
Woodwork Workshop

THURSDAY 31st March
11am – 1pm
Bucket Science

TUESDAY 5th April
11am – 12pm
Sand Art Workshop

THURSDAY 7th April
11am – 12pm
Mosaics Workshop

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL as PLACES are LIMITED:
(03) 9430 0100
Check out our website @
to book or for school holiday program details
and other in-store activities

BUNNINGS ELTHAM
BRIDGE & SUSAN ST, ELTHAM

BUNNINGS WAREHOUSE
LOWEST PRICES
ARE JUST THE
BEGINNING . . .
Banyule Sustainable Transport Show

Saturday April 16, 2016, 11.00am – 1.30pm
Banyule Primary School, 50 Banyule Rd, Rosanna

- Try out an Electric Car and an Electric Bike
- Bring your Bike! Safe cycle training, free bike and helmet checks
- Bike Rodeo and funtastic bike & scooter games for kids
- Expert panel – “loosening the stranglehold of the car”
- Presentations, prizes, giveaways and more!

This is a FREE EVENT. For more information contact 8470 8405 or info@sustainablecommunities.vic.gov.au
Classical and Contemporary Vocal, Dancing, Drama and Guitar Lessons
Solo and Group for ALL AGES
info@naturallymusic.com.au
5/19 Enterprise Drive, Bundoora, 3083
Natalie – 0416155267