

Friday 22nd August
2025
Issue 13

LINK LETTER



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From the Principal

Tony Ryan

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone has enjoyed a great book week and have enjoyed the lovely sunshine across the past few days. It was awesome seeing all the fantastic costumes as part of our book week parade yesterday and great to see so many of our parent/carer community in attendance for the event. I also want to thank our staff for the fun and effort they bring to this event and particularly Kathryne and Ms Wise for their organisation and coordination of activities and events across the week.

Speaking of great events, we also had our Science Fair last week, with our grade 6 students presenting a range of fascinating science experiments and showcasing the deep science learning that they have experienced at school. Big thanks to our science team Mrs MacDonald and Mrs James for their coordination of this event.

We also have some exciting events coming up across the next week or two. Our grade 2 students are heading out for an excursion next Tuesday when they visit Bundoora Farm. I'm sure this will prove to be a rich learning experience for our students.

On the same day some of our year 1 and year 5 students will be participating in a Building Language Learners workshop as part of our Mandarin program.

Term 3

- **Monday 25th August**
ICAS Maths
& Whole School Concert
Practice in the GP Room
- **Tuesday 26th August**
Grade 2 Excursion to
Bundoora Farm
- **Tuesday 2nd**
September Grade 5
Bundoora Secondary
College Excursion &
Great Book Swap Day
- **Wednesday 3rd**
September District
Athletics
- **Friday 5th September**
Mens Breakfast
8-9am in the
GP Room
- **Tuesday 9th**
September School
Concert Practice @
PRACC
& School Concert @
PRACC Evening
- **Wednesday 10th**
September School
Concert @ PRACC
Evening
- **Friday 12th September**
Division Athletics
- **CURRICULUM DAY**
Monday 15th September
Students are not
required at school
- **Wednesday 17th**
September
Open Classrooms
Celebration of Learning
3pm-4:40pm
- **Thursday 18th**
September
FOOTY COLOURS DAY
- **Friday 19th September**
Last day of Term 3, 2pm
Assembly and dismissal
from classrooms at
2:30pm.

Term Dates 2025

Term 1: January 30 -April 4
Term 2: April 22 -July 4
Term 3: July 21 -September 19
Term 4: October 6 -December 19

WHPS Men's Breakfast:

To all the great men in our WHPS community who support our students so well, please mark Friday 5th September on your calendar and please come and join us for a coffee and breakfast snacks from 8-9am.

2026 Enrolments:

The school is currently working through our prep enrolment offers for next year. If there are any families in our community that has a sibling looking to start next year and hasn't submitted an enrolment application form with the office, I urge you to do so soon so we can finalise class sizes and structure. If you need assistance with this, please see our office staff.

2026 Student Requests:

If parents have any requests that need to be considered for their child in 2026, these must be sent through via email to the Principal. Ideally we like to receive these requests during Term , but they must be received by October 31st at the latest. Requests received following this date, won't be considered. Please note that this process is not to select your child's teacher but rather to put forward any special circumstances that need to be considered. Any concerns raised in previous years will not be considered unless it is sent again for the following year. This is because many issues or previous concerns from prior years are historical and may no longer be relevant. Please do not put requests through to staff.

Please also note that whilst the school actively considers parent requests around special circumstances, there are many factors that go into the composition of classes, and not all requests can be accommodated. Thank-you in advance for following this process.

Instrumental Music Program:

Many in our community will be aware that our Instrumental Music Program has changed hands with long time owner Adam Roach negotiating a transition to Matt Stone and the Noise Craft company. We thank Adam for his substantial contribution to our school community over an extended period and wish him all the best for the future.

Matt visited the school earlier this week to visit classrooms and introduce himself. He has also been in touch with those families currently engaged with the instrumental music program to try to achieve as seamless a transition as possible.

Staying Well:

There has been increased prevalence of a number of contagious illnesses across our school and the wider community. In particular we have seen cases of Influenza and Covid reported. We ask that parents/carers contact the school and make them aware of such diagnosed cases. As always, we ask parents/carers to be vigilant in assessing the health of your child and keeping them home if they are unwell, until all symptoms have subsided and it's safe for them to return to school. It's important that we take these steps to protect the health of our loved ones and everyone else within our community. The department of health has prepared the following advice regarding recommended exclusion periods for a range of illnesses.

<https://www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases/school-exclusion-table>

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

2025 Parent/Carer Opinion Survey:

WE WANT OUR PARENTS/ CARERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Caregiver / Guardian Opinion Survey will be open online from Friday 22nd August to Friday 19 September 2025. Details are listed below and also distributed today via Compass on how to complete the survey.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / caregivers / guardians who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

To complete the survey, simply:

1. Click on the link below, or copy and paste the text into your browser. This link will take you directly to the survey.

<https://research.orima.com/parent>

2. Select the School and Campus name below.

School Name: Watsonia Heights Primary School

Campus Name: Watsonia Heights Primary School

3. Enter the School PIN below.

PIN: 591162

4. When complete, please click on the 'Submit' button at the end of the survey to submit your answers. Please note that the survey will time out after 60 minutes of inactivity.

PLEASE NOTE: Only one parent / caregiver / guardian from your household is invited to complete the survey on behalf of the student's family. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school if your child's family lives in two separate households, so both households can have the opportunity to provide their feedback.

To protect your responses, please DO NOT share the survey link and PIN with others, or on a public website, forum or similar.

Please be assured that your responses are completely confidential. Please speak to your child's teacher or our school office if you would like more information.

Thanks TheirCare!

A huge THANK YOU to our Concert Major Sponsor, TheirCare, for their generous support of this year's school concert – Game On!

TheirCare plays an important role in our school community as an extension to the school day, we're very grateful for their sponsorship helping bring this event to life! This donation aids in covering the cost of the costumes, theatre hire and more.

Make sure to check out the amazing work they do providing quality before, after school care and holiday programs for our WHPS families.

I also want to thank Matt from our new instrumental music program company **NoiseCraft** who has kindly supported our concert raffle with prizes involving free instrumental music lessons. We appreciate the contributions of the above partners in supporting the school concert.

2 tickets round for Concert

The current first round of Concert tickets will close on Wednesday 27th of August.

Please make sure (if you haven't already) to jump onto the website below and purchase your 1 or 2 tickets per family for the upcoming WHPS Concert.

<https://www.pracc.com.au/Whats-On/All-Events/Watsonia-Height-Primary-School-Game-On>

It's a Boy!

We extend our congratulations to Ms Ally Clarke and her partner Ant on the birth of their 3rd child Rory born on Aug 13th. Both Mum and bub are doing well and Ally reports that Rory's brother and sister are completely smitten with their new baby brother!

Sunsmart:

A reminder that we will be entering our Sunsmart period on September 1st. All students will be required to wear a WHPS sunsmart hat once we enter this period. After a short reminder period, those without hats will be directed to designated shaded 'no hat no play zones.' This is also a good reminder for everyone in the community to ensure all school uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name. We tend to find that named items have a tendency to find their way back to their rightful owner.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Regards,

Tony

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

Across the Acting Assistant Principal's Desk:

Fiona McLean

Year 5/6 Athletics Day 🏃♀️🏃♂️💬

On Monday 11th August, our Year 5/6 students took part in their Athletics Day—and what a fantastic day it was! It was wonderful to see so many students participating enthusiastically, proudly wearing their House Colours, and most importantly, having lots of fun. One of the highlights of the day was watching students cheer on their peers and even run alongside friends to encourage and support them in completing their events. This truly reflected our STRIVE values and the strong, caring friendships that make our school community so special. A huge thank you goes to Massa, who worked tirelessly to plan and coordinate such a successful event. We are also incredibly grateful to the many parents who volunteered their time to assist with running events, as well as our dedicated staff who supported students throughout the day. It was a wonderful celebration of teamwork, effort, and community spirit—well done to everyone involved!



Science Fair 🧪🌟

On Tuesday 13th August, our Year 6 students showcased their scientific curiosity and leadership by running a range of exciting experiments at our Science Fair. The students did a fabulous job of organising and presenting the activities, engaging younger students and sparking plenty of wonder and discovery along the way.

A huge well done to Mrs MacDonald and Mrs James for coordinating such a fantastic event. Their hard work and enthusiasm ensured it was an enjoyable and educational experience for everyone involved.

The Science Fair was a true celebration of learning, teamwork, and curiosity— a fabulous effort from all! 🌟



Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

Prep Play Date 🎉👧👦

On Thursday 14th August, we welcomed children and their families to our Prep Play Date—and what a wonderful afternoon it was! The session had a PE theme, and it was fantastic to see the kinder students getting involved in the fun activities with such energy and enthusiasm.

A big thank you to Massa for organising the activities, to our amazing Prep Team for coordinating these special events, and to the staff who volunteered their time to support the children on the day. We also thank the families who brought their children along to join in the fun.

Our next Prep Play Date will be held on Thursday 28th August with a Science theme, and we look forward to seeing lots of children join us for another exciting session! 🦋🌟



Supporting Children with News and Media

In recent weeks, we have noticed that some students are arriving at school feeling worried or unsettled after seeing or hearing about news events. While it's natural for children to be curious about the world, some news stories—especially those about disasters or conflict—can cause anxiety or distress.

Parents and carers can play an important role in helping children process what they see and hear, and in supporting them to feel safe and reassured.

The Raising Children Network has developed some excellent advice for talking with children about difficult news stories in ways that are supportive and age-appropriate. You can access this resource here:

👉 [Raising Children Website](#)

Growing Gratitude ☀️

Did you know that practising gratitude can actually make us feel happier and calmer? Gratitude is all about noticing the good things in our lives—big or small—and taking a moment to appreciate them. It might be a friend who spends time with you, someone who helps you, your favourite meal, or even a sunny day!

At school, we are encouraging students to take time to think about what they are thankful for. Practising gratitude helps us build stronger friendships, bounce back when things are tricky, and enjoy the little moments in every day.

Why not try this at home? At dinner or bedtime, share one thing you are grateful for today—it's a small habit that makes a big difference!

Have a fabulous weekend everyone!

Fiona

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort!!

Across the Acting Assistant Principal's Desk:

Catherine Trethowan

A Note About Head Lice in Our School Community

We're aware that head lice can crop up from time to time in primary school—while not a serious health concern, they require prompt attention to keep everyone safe and learning. Under the Department of Education and Training guidelines, when a student is found with live head lice, we will phone/email home to let you know. Students should remain at home until after treatment has started. Please note that the presence of eggs (nits) alone is not a reason for exclusion.

Treatment recommendations include wet-combing with a conditioner and a fine-tooth comb or a proven insecticide, always following product guidelines carefully. Once treatment has begun, students may return to school—no clearance certificate is needed. (see betterhealth.vic.gov.au for more details with their full fact sheet)

To reduce stigma and help prevent spread, we communicate respectfully and discreetly with families—and encourage weekly checks at home as an effective measure.

Attendance Matters!

Regular school attendance is ***crucial to your child's learning journey***—from building foundational skills to developing friendships and self-confidence. ***Winning at school starts with being here every day!***

If your child is unwell or will be away, please enter an Attendance Note via Compass as soon as possible—preferably before the absence. This helps teachers mark rolls correctly and keeps you informed of your child's school day.

How to Add an Attendance Note in Compass:

1. Log into Compass.
2. Click "Add Attendance Note / Approved Absence / Late".
3. Choose the appropriate reason (e.g. Illness/Medical).
4. (Optional) Write a brief description.
5. Select the start and finish dates (and times if needed).
6. Click Save.
7. (Optional but helpful) Send an email to the classroom teachers to let them know—especially useful if your child is absent a few days.

A big thank you to everyone for the amazing **Book Week Parade**. The colour, imagination and effort that went into costumes was outstanding, and it was such a delight to share the celebration together. A big thank you also to Kathryne and Mrs Wise for organising all the amazing events across the week, including author visits, the always entertaining Meerkat Productions, Library Book Hunt and classroom book activities. What superstars!

Kind regards,

Catherine

News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Book Treasure Hunt - Monday 18th

A huge thank you to all the book-lovers who joined us to kick off Book Week with our annual Book Treasure Hunt fun on Monday, August 18th after school. It was wonderful to see all the teams searching high and low throughout W.H.P.S for those cheeky hiding books!



Congratulations to our 2025 **Book Treasure Hunt champions** Grace, Lauren and Octavia!
And to **Sophie** who won the gigantic **Book-Lovers hamper!**

Awesome Authors - Adrian Beck & Jack Heath

We were delighted to host amazing authors Adrian Beck and Jack Heath this week. They shared who their love of writing started, along with tips & tricks about the creative process behind their books. It was a fantastic opportunity for our book-lovers, who left their sessions bubbling with writing enthusiasm and big smiles!



Adrian and Jack chatted to our book lovers in the Library after their sessions. It was smiles all round especially when Bunji was crowned Adrian's favourite Library pet!



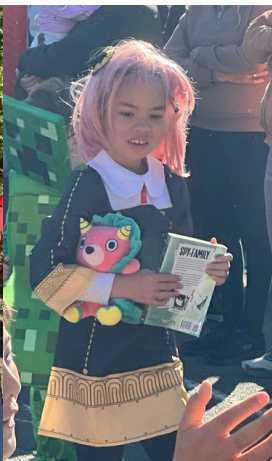
News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Book Character Parade - Thursday 21st

What glorious sunshine we had when your fabulous book characters all came to life on Thursday!

A **GIGANTIC** thank you to all our families for helping your little book-lovers put together their amazing outfits! We know how much work you all put in and we couldn't create these wonderful memories for our students without you!



Only **363 days** until our 2026 Book Parade!
Who will you dress up as????

News from your Library

Book Week Fun

Meerkat Productions - The Garden of Broken Things

This morning, the wonderful actors from Meerkat Productions treated us to a beautiful adaptation of Freya Blackwood's *Garden of Broken Things*. With a couple of guest actors thrown in for good measure! It was fabulous and had us singing the theme song for the rest of the day!

One small hello, can grow and can grow!

Like a garden so wild and from long ago!

A chat and some laughter can make loneliness leave!

So one small hello is waht we all believeeeeeeee!



Student of The Week

Week 4

CONGRATULATIONS



Finn, Zara, Evie, Olaf, Jessie, Ryan, James, Mack, Henry, Natalia, Matisse, Sam, Billy, Melody, Ryan, Eila, Zoe, Ardin, Ryan, Faith, Logan, Indie.

Week 5

CONGRATULATIONS



An, Harry, Ziggy, Adeline, Margot, Arthur, Byron, Javier,
Mika, Michael, Jackson, Mia, Willow, Shorley, Bianca, Mila, Oscar.

Congratulations!

WHPS FOOTY COLOURS DAY

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

**Please wear your footy colours
and if you can, a gold coin
donation for WHPS**

**A special food order is on QKR.,
if you would like party pies or
sausage rolls!**



NoiseCraft Studio

Helping Kids Grow Academically & Emotionally Through Music

Your New Instrumental Music Program at Watsonia Heights Primary School

Dear Watsonia Heights Primary School Families,

I'm excited to announce that NoiseCraft is now providing instrumental music lessons at Watsonia Heights Primary School. For the past 25 years, I've had the privilege of working with local primary schools, and we're excited to bring our instrumental music program to your school.

Music lessons are a fun and powerful way for children to grow, fostering creativity alongside academic, social and emotional development. By balancing challenge with success, they build confidence, resilience and problem-solving skills, **creating strong foundations for success and life skills they will carry into the future.**

Our lessons are tailored to each student's needs, with music that is developmentally appropriate, relevant, and engaging. **Our goal is to ensure every child feels connected to their learning and confident in their progress.**

We look forward to getting to know the school community and meeting the students. If you'd like to chat about how music could support your child's development, please call or email me at the details below.

Warm regards,
Matt Stone
NoiseCraft Studio

**At School
During School
Hours**

In-School Music Tuition



Keyboard - Guitar - Drums

Unlock your child's full potential through the power of music

Children will learn music that is relevant to them in a supportive and fun environment; learning at a developmentally appropriate level that balances challenge and success.

Lessons are tailored to each child's individual needs, fostering both emotional wellbeing and academic growth. This holistic approach equips children with essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and resilience, benefiting all aspects of their lives.

- ☐ **Group Lessons** \$23 per lesson (2-3 per class)
- ☐ **Private Lessons** \$35 per lesson



To enrol or for further information

Call/Text: **0418 596 008**

Email: **noisecraftstudio@gmail.com**

Singing - Taking expressions of interest

Sponsor Our School Production

Support theArts.

Promote your business.

Be part of the magic.



Be Part of Something Special

This year our school production brings the stage to life with music, dance, and storytelling—showcasing the incredible talents of our students. We are excited to offer local businesses the opportunity to sponsor our upcoming School Production - a vibrant end-of-term concert that brings together students, families, staff, and the wider school community to celebrate the Performing Arts.

Our Vision

With the support of local businesses, our students are given the opportunity to shine on stage, build lifelong memories, and experience the joy of performance.

Your Support

- Costumes
- Technical support
- Licensing
- Venue Hire & Transportation



Benefits For Sponsors

As part of your sponsorship, your business will be featured in the professionally designed digital concert program, on event materials, and during the live performance.



Increased Brand Exposure Locally

Reach a highly engaged school community with your business message.



Support Education & Creativity

Help foster confidence, teamwork, and artistic expression in students.



Gain Brand Recognition

Be acknowledged in our program, on stage, and across digital platforms.

As this is a business sponsorship, your contribution may be claimed as a marketing or business expense. We'll provide an official invoice outlining your sponsorship benefits for your records.



Sponsorship Packages Offered



INCLUSIONS	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
COST	\$100	\$250	\$500
Logo in digital concert program	✓	✓	1/4 Page Advertisement
Logo shared on 'thank-you' slide at the show	✓	✓	✓
Social media mention		✓	✓
Verbal thank you during concert			✓
Advertisement in the school newsletter for 1 month			✓

Concert Night Raffle

Not ready to become a sponsor? Donate a prize for our Concert Raffle instead!

You can still support our school production by donating a prize for our Concert Night Raffle.

This is a fantastic way to contribute while gaining exposure on the night.



How to Book

To reserve your sponsorship, please scan the QR code below and follow the prompts. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please Note:

- Artwork must be supplied as a high-resolution PDF or JPG



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Monday 28 Jul - 15 Sep
3:45PM - 5:00PM



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School



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New signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road in Greensborough



Project update July 2025



Map of the new signalised pedestrian crossing.

What we're doing

We're building a new signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road, south of Greenhill Road in Greensborough to improve pedestrian safety and access to bus stops.

As part of the improvements, we will also:

- Relocate the northbound bus stop at Greenhill Road/Diamond Creek Road approximately 100m south so it's closer to the new signalised pedestrian crossing.
- Remove the existing pedestrian refuge north of Greenhill Road.
- Install pedestrian fencing in the median of the new signalised pedestrian crossing.

- Consolidate bus stops with low usage in the area by permanently closing the bus stops at Avandina Crescent/Diamond Creek Road and Spring Street/Diamond Creek Road.
- Trim and remove two trees and some low-lying vegetation.

To make these improvements, we will need to remove up to four on-street parking spaces outside 100 and 102 Diamond Creek Road.



What's next

We're currently in the development stage of the project, which involves undertaking technical assessments and site investigations that will inform the final design.

Major construction works to build the new pedestrian crossing are expected to begin in early 2026.

Why we're doing it

The section of Diamond Creek Road between Civic Drive and St Helena Road is a key connection to local schools and amenities.



The new signalised pedestrian crossing will improve pedestrian safety for everyone, including local students and bus users.

Between May and July 2023, there were two crashes resulting in the serious injury of two students within this section of road.

Pedestrians are completely exposed to the full force of a crash, making them some of the most vulnerable road users. The new signalised pedestrian crossing will assist pedestrians to safely cross the road, including students and bus users accessing the bus stops.

This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Victorian Government under the Road Safety Program.

Find out more

For more information, visit transport.vic.gov.au and search for "New signalised pedestrian crossing on Diamond Creek Road in Greensborough," call 133 778, or email DOTroadprojects@transport.vic.gov.au



BRING A FRIEND TO TRAINING DAY

GIRLS GET READY

2025 SEASON AGE GROUPS

U11/U12

BORN 2014/2013

THURSDAY 04 SEPTEMBER 2025

6:30PM - 7:30PM

ELDER STREET RESERVE

U09/U10

BORN 2016/2015

FRIDAY 05 SEPTEMBER 2025

5:00PM - 6:00PM

GREENSBOROUGH COLLEGE

U07/U08

BORN 2018/2017

THURSDAY 04 SEPTEMBER 2025

5:30PM - 6:30PM

ELDER STREET RESERVE

2026

INTERESTED IN REGISTERING FOR 2026?



SEASON RUNS APRIL-SEPT 2026
(WITH PRE-SEASON TRAINING COMMENCING
FEBRUARY 2026)

WWW.WHFC.ORG.AU
INFO@WHFC.ORG.AU
OR PHONE PAT O'CONNOR (0499 777 050)

FREE TO JOIN





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- ✓ **Quality Education & School Readiness**
A curriculum aligned with the Early Years Learning Framework, fostering early literacy, numeracy, and critical thinking skills.
- ✓ **Safe, Modern & Stimulating Environment**
Designed to inspire learning, creativity, and a love for discovery.
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