

26TH APRIL 2019, Issue 7

LINK LETTER



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Michael Kent - PRINCIPAL

Hi everyone and welcome back to term 2! I hope you all enjoyed the recent school holidays and Easter weekend. It has been great to have everyone back at school this week and it has been wonderful to hear the students reflecting on their holidays as well as discussing the term ahead and all that wonderful activities we have to look forward to.

ANZAC Day

I hope you all enjoyed the ANZAC Day commemorations and public holiday. This was a timely opportunity to stop and reflect upon the service and sacrifice that many have made during and since the First World War. We are truly blessed and lucky to live in Australia and have all the benefits, freedom and diversity that we all share. I hope you were lucky enough to attend an ANZAC Day service. Thanks to student leaders who represented the school by laying a wreath at the Watsonia RSL service.

On Wednesday, we held a special assembly to discuss all the differing aspects of the ANZAC Day commemorations. This included explanations about:

The Ode, the significance of the Poppy, the date of ANZAC Day, Why we lay wreaths, the Last Post and the significance of a Flag at half mast.

Hopefully this will bring some further understanding as to why we commemorate days such as ANZAC Day and why it is important to remember those whom have given the ultimate sacrifice for our wonderfully safe and democratic country that we get to share and enjoy today.

I thoroughly enjoyed attending the dawn service at Greensborough memorial park. Events such as ANZAC day unite us and remind us of the unique country that we share. We have an obligation to continue this legacy into the future via the attitudes and education of our children.

Lest We Forget!



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IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL

MON 29TH APRIL
3-6 HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL
@ CENTRAL OVAL
11:30-1:45PM

MAY

WED 1ST MAY
PRIMARY MATHS SHOW

WED 1ST MAY
STUDENT LEADERS CONFERENCE

THURS 2ND MAY
MATHS NIGHT

FRI 3RD MAY
ISS
HOME VS NORRIS BANK

WED 8TH MAY
MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE TICKET
RETURNS CLOSE

WED 8TH MAY
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
GR PREP - 2 2- 8PM

THUR 9TH MAY
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
GR 3 - 6 2- 8PM

FRI 10TH MAY
MOTHERS DAY BREAKFAST
8.00AM - 9.00AM

FRI 10TH MAY
ISS
AWAY VS ST MARYS

FRI 10TH MAY
MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE DRAWN

MON 13TH - 17TH MAY
MINDFUL MAY WEEK

TUES 14TH - 16TH MAY
NAPLAN WEEK

FRI 17TH MAY
ISS
AWAY VS STREETON

MON 20TH MAY
DISTRICT CROSS COUNTRY G3-6
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

MON 27TH MAY
CURRICULUM DAY

JUNE

WED 5TH JUNE
DIVISION CROSS COUNTRY

Parent Teacher interviews

As part of our assessment and reporting program we have this year welcomed the addition of parent teachers interviews. This is a direct result of feedback and consultation with our community (including staff). This will be a chance for parents and teachers to discuss individual student progress. Students are not required at these interviews.

These interviews will be held in week 3.

Prep – 2 on Wednesday 8th May from 2-8pm

Years 3-6 on Thursday 9th May from 2-8pm

Parents are asked to log in to compass to book your times. Please note that bookings will be open from 9am Monday 29th April.

Planning Week

In coming weeks our staff will meet to plan out the remainder of the term. We always use the first 2 weeks of a term to immerse the students in the concept of the term. This allows staff to gauge the prior knowledge of the students and also to get an idea of where the students' passions and interests lay in reference to the particular concept. This term the school will be exploring sustainability.

Clubs program

As part of enhancing the educational experience for our students, staff work hard to provide lots of value added learning opportunities. This involves a range of extra curricular activities throughout every week. Staff work extremely hard to provide unique and varied learning experiences for your children. Opportunities such as: lego club, meditation groups, yoga clubs, chess club, choir groups, social skills groups, computer clubs, computer coding groups etc...

NAPLAN

On May 14th, 15th and 16th students in years 3 & 5 will participate in the annual NAPLAN test. These tests are nationwide and provide an insight into student performance under strict testing conditions on one particular day. These tests can sometimes come with some level of anxiety and trepidation. Whilst we analyse the results of these tests to help build a picture of students in differing testing scenarios, we are very much aware that student learning evolves in varied ways for all students. These tests are not the only reflection of learning or performance. At WHPS we maintain a focus on holistic learning that represents the progress of the whole child over time. We offer a breadth and depth of curriculum that is not represented in the NAPLAN tests and we are constantly assessing student performance in a range of settings and curriculum areas. If you or your child is experiencing any concerns regarding NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

Mother's Day

Looking ahead we wish all Mothers, Grandmothers and the special women a very happy Mothers day coming up on May 12th. The school will be supporting this celebration with a Mother's Day breakfast on Friday May 10th from 8 - 9am. We will also be providing the students with an opportunity to provide something special to take home (Friday 10th May).

The special women that impact on our lives and the lives of our students are to be sincerely thanked, respected and celebrated for all they have done and continue to do to enhance the lives of those around them. Thanks for all that you do and I wish you the happiest of days on the 12th – we wouldn't be here without you!!

Parking!!!!

Please be reminded not to use the staff carpark for pick or drop off. Also I urge all parents to please not use the staff carpark entrance to be your drop off area. We have had some dangerous activity by parents whom are using this area as a turn around area. Please refrain from doing this as we have many people trying to enter and exit the school safely.

Hats no more

As we farewell the month of April we also farewell the compulsory wearing of hats whilst outside. However there are often times when wearing hats provides required protection from the sun. Whilst not compulsory, it is a great idea to keep your child's hat in their bag for when these times can arise over the next few months.

Cross Country

All students (Grades 3-6) will be participating in the House Cross Country Competition on Monday 29th April, between 11:30am-1:45pm. The run will be held at Central Oval, (Glenice Street) Greensborough. The students will be running in age group competitions – 8,9,10 years together, 11 years and 12/13 years. All children are encouraged to run and give it a go!

We also encourage students to wear the colour of their house when they run. If you are unsure as to which house your son/daughter is in, please contact the office or your child's teacher. Students are also awarded points for participating for their houses. It is recommended that students wear appropriate running shoes and bring a water bottle to the event.

Cyber Safe

How cyber safe are you? Does your child have access to the internet at home? Do they have access via their phone? Are they allowed to search the internet freely without your supervision?

The staff continue to model and teach our students about the impacts of being cyber safe! This is a very real and current issue with so many young and vulnerable people having access to devices and internet access. This involves social media as well. There are many age restrictions on certain Apps and social media sites. Parents need to be aware of these. They exist for a reason. Many of these software packages are trackable and without appropriate settings being applied, locations are easily visible. Additionally to this is the fact that a young person chatting to another unknown person may seem and feel innocent to the user....how do they (or you, or me) know who is actually on the other end of the chat site???

Here a few of the availed sites and their current age limits:

Snapchat – 12 yrs old to have snapchat

Istagram – 12 years

Facebook - 13 years

Kik, Tumblr, Vine, Omegle – 17+ years

Cyber safety is a real issue. Apart from perpetrators there are also so many examples of cyber bullying that students need to be aware of. There are potential dangers of using such software and communications. We often talk to children about stranger danger...what about cyber stranger danger?

As a school we are committed to educating and promoting safe online practices. We continue to do this via our participation and accreditation as an e-smart school. This involves teaching the students and modelling targeted and explicit cyber safe practices. We also promote a positive and supportive learning culture through our whole school wellbeing programs. This permeates across the school and helps to ensure students conduct themselves in a positive and respectful manner at all times (online or in person). As parent you have a significant role to play in educating, modelling and policing online behaviour and activity. Be aware not alarmed! And most importantly be proactive and educated on the ever evolving cyber world.

If you have any concerns please contact myself or your child's teacher.

Maths Night Extravaganza!

We are so pleased to be hosing our annual Maths Night Extravaganza next week on Thursday the 2nd of May from 6-7pm. There will be lots of fun and fantastic maths games to play in each classroom and we can't wait to share them with you. On the night, you and you child/ren can head to your child's classroom to pick up your game cards and play your first maths game. Families can then head to the other classrooms around the school to learn and play new games. The night will end with dress ups and a Photo Booth in the Discovery Learning room. We can't wait to see you all there!!

Transition to Year 7

The transition process to high school for our current grade 6's has now begun. Students have been sent home with information about the transition process and a transition form to fill out outlining preferences for high school. Please read the information carefully and fill out the form completely. This form is due back to your child's teacher no later than Tuesday the 14th of May. If you have any questions about the transition process, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Grade 1/2 Excursion

As part of our Sustainability Unit Grade 1/2 students will visit the Banyule Rethink Centre. During the 2.5 hour visit the students will experience multimedia, presenter-led, experiential activities that will guide them through the waste minimisation hierarchy of Rethink, Avoid, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Replenish. The show aims to demonstrate how these actions help achieve environmental sustainability. The students will also be able to see how the rubbish they produce is processed in a fully functioning materials recovery centre in action and how science is used in these processes. This is a half day excursion. Students are required to bring their snack and lunch to school as per normal. If you are able to assist with supervision for this excursion please let your child's teacher know. Please submit your permission via Compass.

Young Leaders Conference

On Wednesday 1st May, Mr Hannon and Kathyne will be taking 13 school leaders to a GRIP Leadership conference at Moonee Valley. Our students will receive training and development of themselves as school leaders which will scaffold their future learning for High School and beyond. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students and we are very excited to hear how much they learn on the day!

Warm regards,
Michael



Mother's Day Celebrations at WHPS

Shhhhhh!!!! We've got lots of wonderful things planned for the special women in our lives!

With Mother's Day quickly approaching, we wanted to let you know what we have planned for the special women in our lives.

Mothers Day Breakfast - Friday 10th May - 8am - 9am

We would love for as many special ladies, and their children, to join us on Friday 10th of May from 8.00 - 9.00am, for the Mothers Day Breakfast.

For further information please find attached a notice which was also sent home in hard copy today. To assist us with catering could we please ask you to RSVP via email to communitylinks.whps@gmail.com or the hard copy of the notice as soon as possible.

We are also seeking some amazing Dad's to help us with the chef duties on this morning. If you are able to assist for any of the time could you please also email communitylinks.whps@gmail.com or return the hard copy RSVP to the office.

Mother Day Gifts - Created with Love!

With our WHPS community eager to engage in sustainability projects and reduce our carbon footprint, we use this celebration of the special women in our lives to create something very special.

Each child in the family will have the opportunity to create their own hand-made gift with the cost only \$5 per family.

Please forward your \$5 to the office in a labeled envelope by Monday 6th of May. Gifts will be sent home on Friday 10th of May.

To help us surprise our special ladies could we please ask that you send along a bag of this day for the gift to be 'smuggled' home in.

Mother's Day Raffle - Beautiful Prizes for our Special Ladies

Our Mother's Day Raffle has soooooo many beautiful prizes to completely spoil the special ladies in our lives.

Tickets are only \$2 each with all money raised going towards our delicious Mother's Day Breakfast.

Please see the raffle tickets document attached and please feel free to print as many sheets to enter as many times as you like.

Thank you for your help in advance and we can't wait to spoil all of the very special women at WHPS.

Big Group Hug

Please help our Junior School Council members by supporting the *"PJ's, singlets, socks & jocks make for warm and happy kids & tots"* campaign!

Today our Junior School Council team and Wellbeing captains met with a volunteer from Big Group Hug. Sarah, who is also a parent within our school community, spoke to the students about how we can all make a difference to those in need. Big Group Hug is community-based, volunteer run charity based in Bundoora. The Big Group Hug 2019 *"PJ's, singlets, socks & jocks make for warm and happy kids & tots"* campaign is about to kick off and will run from **Monday 1st April until Friday 3rd May**. We are asking families, staff &/or community to purchase **new** packets of underwear, socks and pyjamas for children sizes 2 to 16 (kids). All items donated go to families in our immediate community who are struggling with hardship, albeit financial, homelessness, single parent families etc. to ease their burden. Through a wide number of outreach services, Big Group Hug happily supply those in need with these bare necessities. A collection point has been set up in the GP room (where before and after school care is located) for you to drop off your donations. I'm sure our Junior School Council members would be very grateful for your support!

**Pj's, singlets
socks &
jocks**

make for

**warm &
happy
kids & tots!**

Thank you
for supporting
our campaign!

1st April - 3rd May 2019



Big Group Hug is a solely volunteer run organisation based in Bundoora that was founded in 2014 to support families experiencing hardship in the community by providing donated goods to help them care for their young children, aged newborn to twelve years old.

Requests for specific items are made through case workers, maternal and child health nurses or other professionals in the community. We aim to help anyone who is struggling to provide the basic necessities for their children, for example: nappies, clothes, nursery furniture, prams, car seats. We pride ourselves on our responsive nature, ensuring that we do everything we can to meet the needs of vulnerable families.

We are able to offer this support because we have a truly caring community of supporters who donate their new or pre-loved items. We are amazed by the community response to our call outs for donations and see our role as mobilising the community to meet the needs of families who need a helping hand.

There are 1.1 million Australian children and young people living in poverty. That's one in every four children in Australia.

By the time they are 15 disadvantaged students are already two to three years behind in key learning areas.

Of those children from Australia's most disadvantaged communities, 1 in 3 start school already behind in key learning areas.



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Welcome Back to Term 2!

A very warm welcome back, we are excited to be back working within your school community for another Term. Children have now had a term to warm up and get settled into 2019, it is time for them to spread their wings and shine. We know how busy yet fulfilling being a parent can be, so that is why we are here to help!

We take care of children in the crucial times before school, after school – and between terms too. Our care programs are well-rounded, meaningful and affordable, based on 30 years of experience. Most importantly, while your child is at school and in our care, you know that they are safe.

Not yet Registered?

Don't worry, it's never too late. Plus, it is free to register.

To attend our care, you must register your child. You can register an account with us at pp.campaustralia.com.au/account/login. Once registered, it's easy to make bookings and manage your booking options online via our parent portal.

Remember, you may be entitled to receive the Australian Government Child Care Subsidy to help you with the cost of child care, visit www.mygov.com.au to find out more.

Program Details

For more information on our service and fees, you may visit our website www.campaustralia.com.au. If you prefer to speak to us, you can contact our friendly Customer Care Team on 1300 105 343 who are available to support our families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - except National Public Holidays. Alternatively, you're welcome to visit us in service and chat with our qualified Educators about the Camp Australia program at your school.

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon!
From the Team at Camp Australia

Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education