

Friday 23rd October 2020

Issue 18

LINK LETTER



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Michael Kent - PRINCIPAL

Hello What a wonderful start to the term! It's amazing how great schools are when there's students in them! It really has been so fantastic to see everyone back at school and re-connecting with the people, places and programs. Our classrooms have been a buzz over the past fortnight with some many conversations to be had. Our first day back was great with our Footy Day celebrations and shared BBQ lunch. If you are a cat or a tiger – good luck for the Grand Final this weekend. Well done to the Vixens and go the Storm!

Obviously, a short week this week with the Grand Final public holiday scheduled for Friday, meaning no school for our students. also remind you of the upcoming Student Free day on Monday 2nd November (prior to the Melbourne Cup holiday).

Book Week

It's been a hub of excitement this week as the students and staff have enjoyed all of the book week celebrations. Definitely the highlight was the dress up and parade on Wednesday. Some of the costumes were inspiring! Thanks to everyone for their efforts and also a special thank-you to Kathrynne (our amazing librarian) for all her hard work in making this week so much fun for everyone.

I hope you enjoyed the many photos and videos that have been shared with you over the course of the week. We very much missed having our parents here to enjoy the fun and laughter!! As we all know, building a love of books is a HUGE part of supporting the learning development process and journey. Whatever you can do at home to build this love of books is something that will empower your children every day and well into the future!

The term ahead...

As I shared in the last newsletter, we are very mindful of supporting students back into school. So far this has proven to be hugely successful with students once again finding their 'flow' at school and building their stamina or a full school week, filled with many learning, social and personal growth opportunities. I also shared with you that we will be focusing on supporting the learning for each individual commencing at their appropriate starting points.

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STAGGERED ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES:

**Prep to Grade 2
times are 9am -
3.15pm**

**Grade's 3-6 times
are 9.15am-3.30pm**

REMINDERS

**Monday Nov 2nd
Curriculum Day**

**Tuesday Nov 3rd
Melbourne Cup
Day**

**Tuesday Nov
17th School
Photo Day**

2020 TERM DATES

TERM 1 - 30TH JAN-27TH MAR
TERM 2 -14TH APR -26TH JUN
TERM 3 -13TH JUL -18TH SEPT
TERM 4 - 5TH OCT - 18TH DEC

This means that our initial assessments of students has allowed us to develop individual and group learning goals for the upcoming weeks and months. We will continue to monitor progress and re-assess each students' development prior to our end of year reports being shared with you.

Please note these reports will be different from the previous end of year reports. They will be similar to the June report that you received but they will include an academic assessment for literacy and numeracy. Of course, this year is an extraordinary year and therefore the progress of each person will fluctuate and vary across the year. Therefore, the assessment at the end of this year may reflect some growth and in some situation a stabilizing of progress. Irrespective of these reports, each individual is to be celebrated for their effort, resiliency and ability to cope through the most challenging of situations this year. As I have said many times, the academic and life success of our students will not be defined by the end of year report or the current test result. All students will continue to be supported throughout this year and in the years ahead to ensure learning momentum can continue and any missed learning opportunities from 2020 will be addressed in time. Students will not be disadvantaged by this disrupted school year.

Some parents may be worried about their child's progress during the period of remote learning and wondering whether their child would benefit from repeating a year of school. Research shows that repeating a year level is not recommended and can lead to poorer outcomes for students. It's understandable that parents may think that another 12 months at the same year level will give their child an opportunity to catch up or mature, however this is only the best option for a student in exceptional circumstances. In most cases, research tells us that repeating a year level is not an effective strategy as it often negatively impacts academic achievement, wellbeing, engagement, and school completion.

We have a large number of supports in place to ensure all students can continue to thrive throughout this year and beyond. I thank-you again for all your support from home. As always, if you have any question or concerns please contact your child's teacher.

Asthma

A reminder to all families to please ensure your child's asthma plan is up to date and all related medications are also 'in date' and available. Seasonal changes can sometimes trigger asthma in students and the school is diligent in following appropriate procedures to ensure the wellbeing of all students.

Sunsmart

In line with our Sunsmart policy, for the remainder of the year all students are required to wear their hats when at school for all outside activities. Don't forget our uniform can be purchased from PSW, whom have a click and collect process at the moment.

School Fees

Next week we will be sending out our 2021 school fee documentation. This seems crazy to be considering this whilst the uncertainty of the current year continues. However, we have to keep moving and planning ahead for a full 2021 school year.

Please note that we are still awaiting confirmation on the possibility of conducting some of our planned term 4 activities. Once these have been confirmed or cancelled we will then be able to reconcile the 2020 family accounts. Therefore, once we know more and can plan accordingly, if there are 2020 accounts that are requiring credits for 'non-activities' we will apply these to the 2021 school fees, hence reducing the required amount for next year. If your child is currently in year 6, we will refund any surplus money to you.

Please note that we will not be able to get a clear picture of this until we are advised on what activities/events/incursions /excursions /camps etc.. we are able to facilitate in term 4. Once we have more information, we will transparently communicate this with everyone and apply the appropriate reconciliations to family accounts as required.

2021

If you are planning on departing WHPS for any reason in 2021, please contact me asap so that places can be offered to those on enrolment waiting lists. 2021 planning is well underway. Please note that any requests for grade placements are to be emailed to me directly. Please refrain from contacting classroom teachers in regard to this. All requests will be directed to me. Please also be aware that this process is for special considerations, not to request certain teachers.

I hope you have a great weekend enjoy the finals fever!!

Regards,
Michael

News from your Library



Beautiful Book Week!



Tremendous Treasure Hunters!

Thank you to all families who joined in the Book-Loving Treasure Hunt fun on Monday afternoon and you are all soooooooooooooooooo clever with your book-loving knowledge!

Congratulations to the **Greenhalgh family** and who were the first through with the **50!!** correct answers and were crowned the **2020 Book-Lovers Treasure Hunt Champions!!**

The quiz is still available as an activity on you child's Seesaw if you would like to test your wits over the long weekend, and finish off your Book Week with a fun family challenge.



Dazzling Dress-Up Day



Wow Wow Wow!!! How clever are our WHPS Book-Loving families!! Sending a big **THANK YOU** to all families for supporting your little Book-Lovers and we couldn't put on this wonderful day without you! What a sensational job you all did to over-come the ups and downs of the current restrictions and create hundreds of **AMAZING** (and much loved) characters!! The creativity you showed by using things you already had at home is something that **MacGyver** would have applauded!!

!We thank you for supporting your child's life-long love of literacy and not just during the best week of the year, but every day of the year! Below is the web link for our 2020 Book Week Parade and nothing stops the Book Parade at WHPS! Great job **SUPERSTARS!**

<https://youtu.be/hGCi0zwWtxU>

Amazing Alice and Her Friends!

The WHPS team **LOVES** Book Week just as much as our students and we had so many fantastic characters teaching this week!

An honourable mention goes out to the **AMAZING 3/4** team who surprised their students by bringing to life characters of their Term 4 class novel.

Our 3/4's are adoring their trip down the rabbit hole this term with the classic story of **Alice in Wonderland** as part of their Creativity Inquiry topic.



News from your Library

A SPOTLIGHT on our Great Grade 6's (and 5's :)



Well done to our **AMAZING Gr 6's** who went all out with their costumes in their last year of Book Parades. It has been so wonderful to see your characters evolve each year over your WHPS journey and I know you Book-Loving will be a life long joy you will take with you into secondary school. Great work superstars and you are so inspiring to us all. And a big congrats to our gr 5's too, who brought us everthing from **Miss Trunchbull** to the hugging **T Rex**.



Thank you to Bec and the team at **Bunnings Eltham** for their ongoing support of our **AMAZING Green Team!** We are so grateful for our recent donation this week and **Green Team** is very happy to be back into their wonderful work of beautifying our school. Go **Green Team!**

Students of the Week



WEEK 2

***Prep N - Hazel, *Prep M - Dusk**

***1M - Bella, *1R - Koby, *1D - Axle, *2M - Heather, *2HT - Ben,
*2T - Whole Class**

***34A - Maverick, *34M - Harvey, *34K - Fern, *34G - Whole Class**

***56J - Cailey, *56H - Mackenzie**

Specialists:

***Science - Elijah (3/4K), *Music - Adelaide (Prep N), *PE - Amy (3/4K),
*Mandarin - Zac (3/4D)**

Well done to all of our superstars!



Wellbeing in Grade 1

One of the best things about being back at school is playing with our friends! We spent so much time at home with our families and got used to seeing our friends over video chat. The grade 1's have been learning all about being a helpful friend and practising to use these skills to solve social problems independently.



Being a helpful friend is...

Helping them when they are sad - Chloe 1D

Being respectful - Nahara 1D

Listening when they are talking - Maddie 1D

Stopping doing something straight away if someone says stop - Samantha 1D

Not interrupting when they are talking - Evan 1D



1R said friendship is...

Playing together

Kindness

Laughing

Looking out for each other

Being helpful

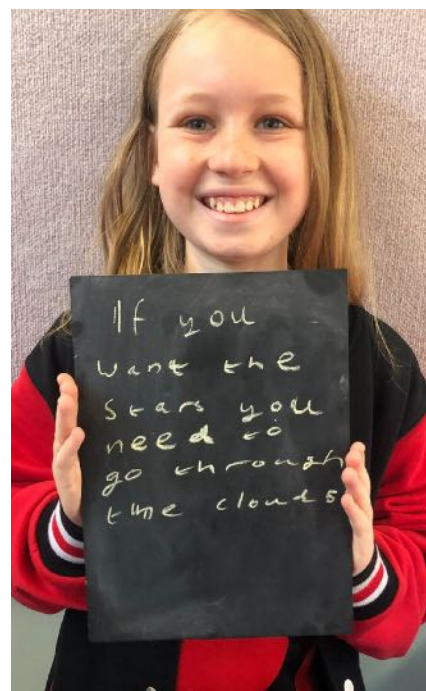
Caring

5/6 Term 4 Update

It has been an overwhelmingly positive transitional back to life in 5/6 and we are feeling energised and inspired to be back together. We are so proud of the resilience and persistence during the remote learning period, which has been discussed at length in class.

Wellbeing - Student wellbeing has been a core focus returning to school and will continue to always be our top priority at WHPS. We have covered topics including coping strategies, friendships, problem solving and will continue to focus on building independence in preparation for transition into 2021.

Literacy - Students have been thoroughly engaged in our advertising unit which has been integrated into both Reading and Writing. This will flow onto our next unit on debating with students building on their knowledge of persuasive techniques and devices. We have also begun reading our class novel, Shadow House, which is an intriguing and mysterious genre.



Numeracy

Throughout Term 4, we will be revisiting and extending on our core number skills including fractions, multiplication and division. This will be taught and embedded in other key numeracy areas such as measurement and geometry. We have been running extension groups in Maths

Inquiry

We have been exploring our curiosity in our Inquiry unit where students have been investigating our driving questions "My curiosity is leading me to....". During these lessons, students will be exploring, researching, creating and presenting their discoveries.

Events

Due to ongoing restrictions, please note the following events are subject to change or be cancelled and may take on a different format to previous years. WHPS staff are doing everything they can to make these events as memorable and amazing as they can be in the current environment.

Groovy Gate Gazing Art Exhibition @ Visitor Carpark
Grade 5 and 6 camp (TBC)
Curiosity showcase
Grade 6 Fun day
Grade 6 Graduation





Thank you!

We raised \$2705

for Hair with Heart



Thank you for all of the incredible support for my Hair with Heart chop! So many families sent along a gold coin donation on footy/crazy hair day and visited my fundraising page to add extra donations. My initial goal was to raise \$200. I then upped that to \$500 and then \$1000 and we have absolutely smashed it raising a whopping \$2705! The hair and money will be so greatly appreciated. The funds raised through Hair with Heart support Variety's grants and programs for kids who are sick, disadvantaged or who have special needs. Variety provides support for kids who lost their hair due to a medical condition, through grants for wigs, funding the Variety Alopecia Areata Adventure Camp and providing therapy grants. One specialised can wig cost up to \$6,000 and lasts two to three years so the cost is prohibitive for many families. Because of the support from our amazing Hair with Heart community, Variety provides grants for kids across Australia who have lost their hair due to medical conditions such as alopecia, cancer and trichotillomania.

Thanks again for all of your incredible support.

YALLAMBIE PARK PRE-SCHOOL

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2021

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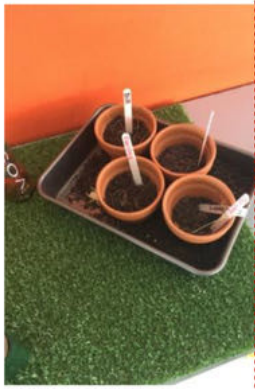
TheirCare October Newsletter

Reminders for Term 4:

NO HAT, NO SUNSCREEN = NO OUTDOOR PLAY

- Please remember to bring hats to TheirCare!
- We use SPF 50+ coles brand sunscreen. If your child requires a specific type, please pack it in their bags.

Due to COVID-19 our policies have temporarily changed for pick up and drop off times. Only one parent can enter the room at a time. We ask that you please wait outside until the room is free. We would appreciate it if you could collect your child and leave immediately so that no one is waiting outside for too long. Thank-you and apologies for the inconvenience.



We have planted some seeds, now to watch it grow! We are currently working on making a natural environment in our room. If you have any suggestions or anything you would like to donate, please get in touch.



To stay connected during this time Lauren and other TheirCare Coordinators spent their Friday morning zoom meetings playing dress ups!

WELCOME BACK THEIRCARE FAMILIES!

We are so excited to be welcoming back our families that we haven't seen for a long time. We have missed seeing each one of your lovely faces! It's been a quiet couple of terms with an average of 1-3 children attending most days. Our program is now open for everyone who wishes to attend the service, you no longer require a childcare permit. Please ensure your bookings are up to date on the online system. Our policy is that if a child is booked in and doesn't arrive, we will look for them. This includes making announcements, calling parents and then calling police if there has been no word. It is very important that we know your child is safe so please cancel the bookings online if you don't need them.

We hope to see you all very soon 😊

October Birthdays

Mason – 5th
Jenaya – 7th
Ellen – 8th
Sienna – 9th
Flynn – 10th
Ryan – 11th
Joanne – 12th
Lucas – 12th
Isaac – 15th
Ember – 16th
Bailey – 19th
Eleanor – 23rd
Winnie – 23rd
Charlotte – 27th
Derin – 29th
Matilda – 30th
Grace – 31st

TheirCare Holiday Program – Ocean Odyssey

Look at all the fun activities we have been up to!



Making Clay Animals
for Claymation Video



Octopus Cupcakes



DIY Diorama



Beach in a Jar