

Friday 26th June 2026
Issue 11

LINK LETTER



61 Henry Street,
Greensborough 3088
(03) 94354617

WWW.WATSONIAHEIGHTSPS.VIC.EDU.AU
EMAIL-WATSONIA.HEIGHTS.PS@EDUCATION.VIC.GOV.AU

From the Principal

Tony Ryan

Hello everyone and welcome to our last newsletter of Term 2! As we reach the end of Term, I would like to thank our students, staff and parents/carers for contributing to what has been a very positive and successful semester. The strong partnership between home and school continues to play an important role in supporting student learning, wellbeing and engagement. We greatly appreciate the ongoing support of our families and the many ways you contribute to our school community. As you read this final newsletter for the term, I hope you enjoy reflecting on some of the highlights and achievements from recent weeks.

Year 3 Camp:

Our Year 3 students returned this afternoon from a fantastic camp experience at Mount Evelyn Recreation Camp. It was wonderful to hear of students embracing new challenges, developing their independence, building friendships and creating lasting memories together.

The camp provided a range of engaging activities that encouraged teamwork, resilience and confidence, and by all accounts our students represented the school exceptionally well.

A sincere thank you to our staff team for the significant planning and organisation that goes into providing such experiences. I would also like to extend our appreciation to the parent volunteers who generously gave their time to support the camp. Opportunities such as these simply would not be possible without your support.

Last day of Term 2

- Friday 26th June
2pm Assembly -
2:30pm dismissal
from Classroom

First day of Term 3

- Monday 13th July

Term Dates 2026

Term 1:

- Thursday 29th January
Years 1-6 Students
return
- Friday 30th Preps start
half day
- Preps Wednesday's off
during February (apart
from assessment day)
- Thurs 2nd April term 1
end

Term 2:

- Mon 20th April term
start
- Fri 26th June term end

Term 3:

- Mon 13th July term
start
- Fri 18th Sep term end

Term 4:

- Mon 5th Oct term start
- Fri 18th Dec year end

Science Day:

Thursday was a fantastic day of learning and discovery as students participated in our annual Science Day activities.

Throughout the day, students were involved in a range of engaging science incursions that provided hands-on opportunities to explore scientific concepts, ask questions and deepen their understanding of the world around them. The excitement and enthusiasm on display was wonderful to see, with students thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to learn through experimentation and investigation.

A particular highlight of the day was our Science Fair, where our Year 6 students proudly showcased a wide variety of science projects and investigations. Students demonstrated impressive creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they shared their findings with peers, staff and visiting family members.

The quality of the projects presented was outstanding, and our Year 6 students should be congratulated on the effort, curiosity and perseverance they demonstrated throughout the process. Events such as these provide valuable opportunities for students to develop their scientific inquiry skills while building confidence in communicating their ideas to others.

Thank you to our science team Mrs Mac and Mrs James for coordinating the day's activities, the wider specialist team and staff for their leadership of sessions. It was a wonderful celebration of learning and a reminder of the curiosity and creativity that exists within our school community.

Prep Enrolments for 2027:

As we begin planning for next year, I would like to remind families with a child commencing Prep in 2027 to submit their enrolment application to the school office as soon as possible if they have not already done so.

Accurate enrolment numbers assist us greatly with planning classes, staffing and resources for the coming year. If you know of friends, neighbours or family members who are intending to enrol their child at our school next year, we would also appreciate you encouraging them to submit their enrolment forms promptly. If you have any questions regarding the enrolment process, please contact the office team who will be happy to assist.

ICAS Testing Registrations:

ICAS testing will once again be available for interested students during Term 3. Information regarding registration has already been shared with families via Compass. We encourage families who are considering participation to review this information carefully, as registrations and payments must be completed by the published closing date early in the term. The deadline for registrations is **Monday 27th July at 11:59pm**. Please note that registrations cannot be accepted after the closing date, so families wishing to participate are encouraged to complete the process as soon as possible.



Congratulations:

We offer our congratulations to Mrs Maddy Henskens and her partner Tom on the safe arrival of their second child Tahlia Jade who was born recently weighing 3.71kg. We are delighted to hear that Mum and Tahlia are both doing well and brother Spencer is quite excited about his new role as big brother. Sending our best wishes to the family at this exciting time.

Semester 1 Reports Available on Compass:

I am pleased to advise that Semester 1 student reports were released to families via Compass on Wednesday this week.

These reports provide an overview of your child's achievement and progress against the Victorian Curriculum and reflect the learning that has occurred throughout the first half of the year.

We encourage families to take some time to review the report together with their child, celebrate successes and discuss learning goals for the second semester. We thank our teaching staff for the significant time and effort invested in preparing these reports.

Looking After Personal Belongings at School:

We regularly have conversations with students regarding personal items being brought to school. As a reminder, students should not bring items of significant monetary or personal value to school. While we understand that some items may be special to students, the school cannot guarantee the safety of personal belongings if they are lost, damaged or misplaced.

Students are also reminded that personal items and toys are not to be swapped, traded, shared, exchanged or "won" from other students. These situations often lead to misunderstandings and disputes that can be difficult to resolve.

On a related note, Mr Hunt and I have recently retrieved a surprising collection of items from the school roof. Students who believe a personal item may be among those recovered are encouraged to come and see me. The retrieval exercise also provides a timely reminder that sports equipment should be used in appropriate areas, particularly on our oval spaces where there is less likelihood of equipment ending up on rooftops. Similarly, throwing toys, teddies or other objects high into the air may seem like a good idea at the time, but it often results in those items taking up long-term residence on the roof!

We also ask families to ensure that all personal belongings, including school uniform items, lunchboxes and drink bottles, are clearly named. Clearly labelled items are far more likely to find their way back to their rightful owner and significantly reduce the amount of lost property accumulated throughout the term.

End of Term Wishes:

I hope all families enjoy a safe, relaxing and well-deserved holiday break. Whether you are travelling, spending time with family and friends, or simply enjoying a slower pace, I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to recharge and enjoy some quality time together. It is also a great idea to maintain some holiday reading for students at home during the holiday period to maintain their reading progress and stamina. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning when **Term 3 begins on Monday the 13th of July**. Thank you for your continued support and I wish all members of our community a happy and enjoyable holiday period.

Tony



ACROSS THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S DESK



SWPBS - STRIVE POINTS & TOKENS

This term, we introduced our new positive acknowledgement system as part of our ongoing commitment to School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS). While the arrival of our custom STRIVE tokens was delayed and only occurred part way through the term, students have enthusiastically embraced the new system.

Through student voice, three exciting whole-school rewards were identified for students to work towards together: a Movie Session, Dress Up Day, and a Jumping Castle Session. As we move into Term 3, we will continue building momentum as students earn individual STRIVE Points, which contribute towards both class and whole-school STRIVE Tokens. Students receive points when they demonstrate the positive behaviours outlined in our Behaviour Matrix and live out our STRIVE values each day. It has been wonderful to see students actively engaging with the system, and we look forward to celebrating their collective achievements throughout the year.

UPCOMING LEAVE

As some families may be aware, I will be taking family leave during Term 3 as my wife and I eagerly await the arrival of our second child. I am looking forward to this valuable time with my family.

I would like to sincerely thank the families who have already shared their warm wishes, congratulations, and helpful advice. The tips and stories about navigating life with a newborn and a toddler have been greatly appreciated—and no doubt will be put to good use in the months ahead! In my absence, our Leadership team can be contacted, including our new Acting Leading Teacher (Wellbeing), Andrew Borg, who joins WHPS on a short-term basis.

Y3 CAMP

Before I leave, I am looking forward to an exciting finish to the term as I join the Year 3 students for their upcoming camp at Mount Evelyn. This camp marks a significant milestone, providing many students with their first experience of a school camp and the opportunity to learn new things about themselves. Thank you in advance to our staff and parent volunteers, without whom these events cannot run.

Have a wonderful upcoming winter break, and I look forward to returning in Term 4.

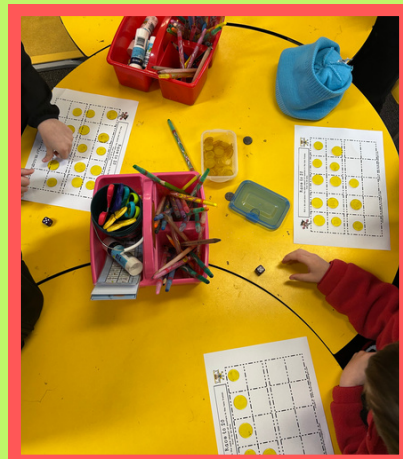
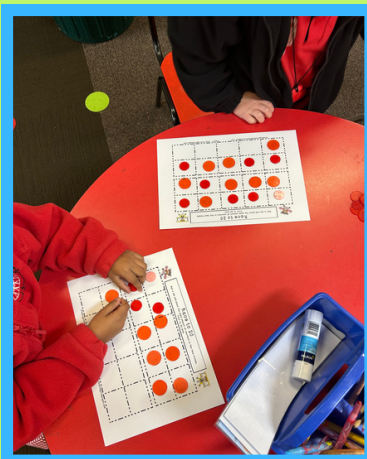
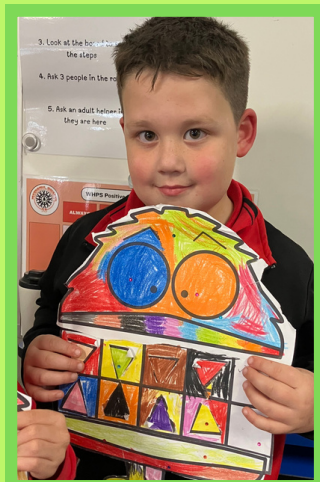
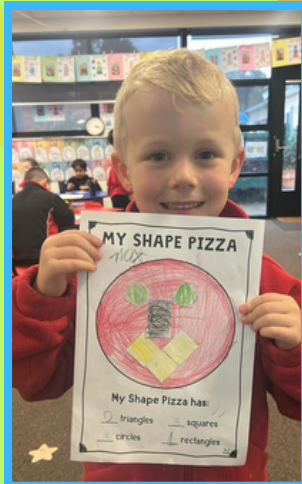
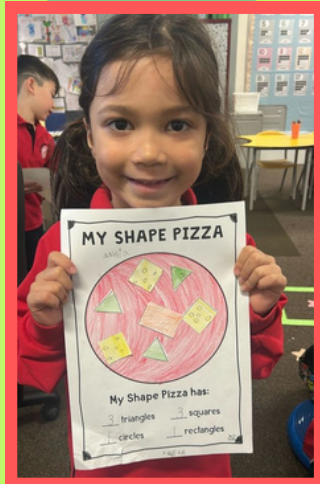
DEBATING COMPETITION

For the first time, Watsonia Heights Primary School participated in a regional debating competition, hosted by Templestowe Park Primary School. A group of Year 6 students represented the school and demonstrated excellent teamwork, critical thinking and public speaking skills throughout the day. In an outstanding achievement for first time competitors, our teams won 4 of the 6 debates they participated in. This success was made possible through the students' dedication and commitment, with team members working diligently at home and giving up recess and lunch times to research topics, prepare arguments and practise their speeches. Most importantly, students embraced the challenge, responded confidently to opposing arguments and represented our school with maturity, respect and enthusiasm. We look forward to building on this success and participating in debating competitions again in the future.



NUMERACY IN PREP

This term in Prep, one of our numeracy topics was learning about 2D shapes. During our lessons, students learned to name a range of 2D shapes, identify the number of sides each shape has, and sort 2D shapes according to their size, colour, and number of sides.

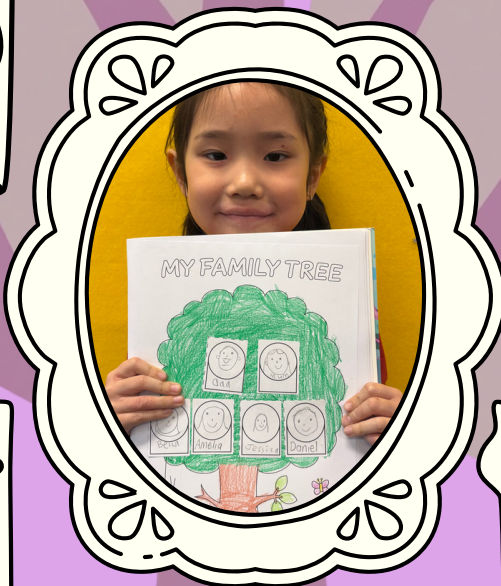
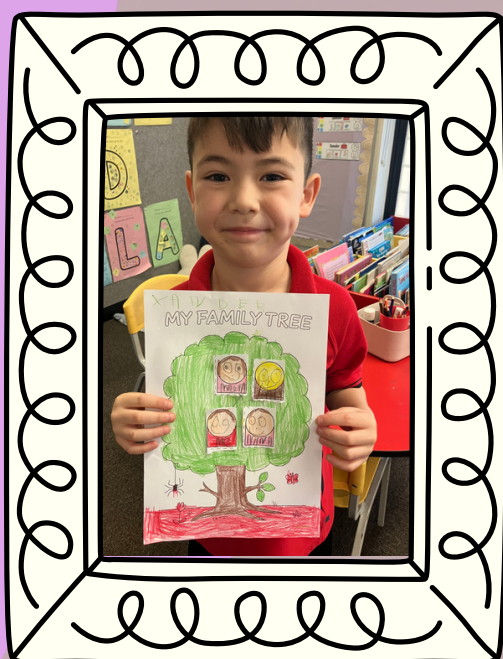


We have been building our understanding of numbers 11-20 by recognising and naming these numbers, counting collections, exploring different ways to represent them, and practising ordering them correctly.

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

INTEGRATED LEARNING IN PREP

Recently, in Integrated Units, we have been learning about families. We have shared who our family members are, explored our connections with them, and discussed special memories we have shared together. We have also recognised and celebrated that every family is unique and that families can look different from one another.





INTERSCHOOL SPORTS

On Friday 19th June, we had our Netball Girls, Netball Mixed and Teeball teams represent Watsonia Heights PS at the Winter Interschool Sports Finals.

Our Teeball team fought hard but unfortunately lost 26-31.

Our Netball Mixed tried their best too, but lost 23-4.

Our Netball Girls team played a nerve-wracking match and came out victorious 15-14! We wish them the best luck at Division Netball in Term 3!

We are so proud of all of the teams that played this season and look forward to 2027!





Dates for your **DIARY 2026**



By Miss Massa

Term 3 - 13th July - 18th September 2026

WHPS 3/4 House Athletics Monday 20th July 2026 @ Willinda Park

AFL 9s Division Thursday 23rd July

WHPS 5/6 House Athletics Monday 27th July 2026 @ Willinda Park

Netball Division Tuesday July 28th

Soccer Division Wednesday July 29th

T Ball Division Thursday July 30th

District Athletics Thursday 20th August @ Meadowglen Athletics Track

Division Athletics Friday September 11th

Term 4 - 5th October - 18th December 2026

Northern Metropolitan Regional Athletics Wednesday 14th October 2026

Grade 5 Camp Sovereign Hill - Wednesday 14th October- Wednesday 16th October
2026

Division Basketball Thursday 15th October

Division Softball Wednesday 21st October

Grade 4 Camp Alexandra Adventure Resort - Monday 26th October- Wednesday
28th October 2026

Cricket Blast Wednesday 28th

Grade 6 Camp Coastal Forest Lodge - Wednesday 2nd December - Friday 4th
December 2026





INTERSCHOOL SPORT CODE OF CONDUCT



SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) Demonstrate appropriate social behavior by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or officials
- b) Students play organised sport for enjoyment. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
- c) Don't let your behavior detract from their enjoyment
- d) Applaud good performance and efforts by your team AND the opponents. Congratulate both teams upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- e) Respect the official's decision. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure of the sport in order to question the decision and teach the children to do likewise.
- f) Never ridicule a player for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivating.
- g) Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players.
- h) Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- i) Encourage players to play according to the rules and the officials' decisions.
- j) Behave in a manner that respects the rights of others regardless of mediums of communication used eg digital mediums such as twitter, facebook, email and texts.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) Play for enjoyment.
- b) Play by the rules.
- c) Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain or coach approach the official during a break or after the game.
- d) Don't be induced into 'throwing' a game for the benefit of another team or individual
- e) Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent and throwing equipment is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
- f) Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- g) Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully, or take unfair advantage of another player.
- h) Co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents.
- i) Behave in a manner that respects the rights of others regardless of mediums of communication used eg digital mediums such as twitter, facebook, email and texts.



Lunchtime Clubs at WJLPS

Our lunchtime clubs have been a wonderful success this term, with Art Club proving especially popular among our students.

Take a look at the incredible work created by our talented artists. Throughout the term, students have made and painted plaster moulds, explored textured painting techniques on canvas, and assembled their unique creations with great creativity and care.

A special thank you to our Art Captains, Adelaide and Hazel, for their enthusiasm and support in helping to set up and run our lunchtime clubs this term.

Keep an eye out for some exciting updates and new opportunities coming next term!

Your Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader – Mrs McIntosh

