

Friday 19th June 2026
Issue 10

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. It is hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of another busy and successful term.

This time of year provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the growth our students have demonstrated, not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Thank you to our families for your ongoing partnership and support throughout the term.

Mid-year Reports:

Our teachers have been very busy in recent weeks as they are completing our mid-year report writing. These reports are an important opportunity to measure student growth and performance across the first semester. A reminder to our community that as a result of the industrial actions that occurred this term, there won't be individualised written comments included in these reports. To provide our parents/carers with as much specific performance information as possible, our reports include performance data against a range of 'I can' statements.

We expect that reading the mid-year report will build upon the information presented at our parent teacher interviews earlier in the term that were conducted to share the progress of our students. We expect the reports to be available to parents/carers from mid next week and will confirm their availability via Compass.

- **Tuesday 23rd June**
Grade 6 Debating Excursion
- **Wednesday 24th**
June-Prep Milo's Birthday Party Day
- **Thursday 25th**
June SCIENCE day

- **24th-26th June**
Grade 3 Camp

Last day of Term 2

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

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**

2026 Prep Enrolments:

A reminder to our families with a child commencing Prep in 2027 that we would appreciate enrolment forms being submitted as soon as possible.

The DET have implemented an Enrolment Management Plan for our school in recent years as we are close to our full student capacity. This has the effect of limiting the number of prep places that our school can offer next year.

Accurate enrolment numbers are essential in helping us plan for next year, including class structures, staffing, transition programs and resource allocation. If you have a younger child due to start school next year, or know of families within our community who are considering enrolment, please encourage them to submit their application as soon as possible. Should you require an enrolment pack or have any questions about the enrolment process, please contact the school office.

Celebrating NAIDOC Week:

Naidoc week is occurring across the school holiday period between the 5th and 12th July. We proudly acknowledge and celebrate NAIDOC Week, as an important opportunity to recognise and honour the history, cultures, achievements, and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Our students engage in a range of learning experiences designed to deepen their understanding of Australia's First Nations peoples and cultures. These experiences encourage respect, appreciation, and reconciliation while helping our students develop a stronger understanding of the rich cultural heritage that continues to shape our nation.

The Power of Reading at Home:

One of the most valuable things parents can do to support their child's learning is to make time for reading together at home. Whether your child is beginning their reading journey or is already an independent reader, regular reading has significant benefits. This is a great practice to continue across the school holiday period.

Reading together helps to:

- Build vocabulary, expression, fluency and language skills.
- Improve comprehension and critical thinking.
- Develop concentration and imagination.
- Foster a lifelong love of reading.

Even 15-20 minutes of reading each evening can make a meaningful difference. For younger children, reading aloud together remains highly beneficial, while older students can enjoy discussing books, articles, or topics of interest with family members.

Thank you for supporting your child's reading journey and helping to create positive reading habits that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Grade 3 Camp:

Our grade 3 students and staff are building excitement as they look forward to heading off on their Grade 3 Camp to Mount Evelyn next week between Wednesday and Friday. I'm sure this will prove to be a great experience for our students and an opportunity for fun and personal growth and challenge in completing a range of adventure activities.

Building Resilience Through Everyday Conversations:

Resilience is one of the most important life skills we can help our children develop. While we naturally want to protect children from disappointment and challenges, learning to navigate challenges and setbacks helps build confidence, independence, and problem-solving skills.

Simple conversations can help children develop resilience. Consider asking:

- What was something challenging you faced today?
- How did you work through and overcome that challenge?
- What is something you learned from making a mistake?
- What are you proud of achieving this week?
- If you faced that situation again, what might you do differently?
- How do you know when you can resolve an issue positively yourself and when you need to seek the help of an adult?
- Providing positive feedback and encouragement about the resilience and problem-solving skills they displayed in navigating the situation.

These discussions help children understand that challenges and setbacks are a normal part of life, learning and personal growth. By encouraging perseverance and reflection, we can help our students develop the confidence to tackle future challenges both at school and beyond.

Keeping Our Students Safe Around the School:

Student safety remains our highest priority, and we ask all members of our community to continue supporting safe practices around the school grounds.

We remind families and students to:

- Use designated pedestrian crossings whenever possible.
- Follow the directions of crossing supervisors.
- Be mindful of traffic when arriving and departing school.
- Avoid unsafe drop-off and pick-up practices such as double parking, parking in staff parking areas or stopping in no-standing zones.
- Display patience and allow extra time during busy periods to reduce congestion and improve safety for everyone.

We also ask students who ride bicycles or scooters to school to dismount and walk them when on school grounds and in the immediate vicinity of entrances, pathways, and busy pedestrian areas. This simple practice helps prevent accidents and ensures everyone can move safely through our shared spaces. Thank you for having these important conversations with your children and your cooperation and commitment to keeping all members of our community safe.

Volunteers Make Our School Stronger:

Our school benefits enormously from the support of parent/carer and community volunteers. Whether assisting with student reading programs, helping in the canteen, supporting excursions and camps, or contributing to special events throughout the year, volunteers play a vital role in enriching opportunities for our students.

We are always keen to welcome new volunteers and encourage parents, grandparents, and family members who have a current Working with Children Check and may have some available time to consider becoming involved. Even a small contribution can make a significant difference.

Most importantly, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our volunteers. Your generosity, time, and commitment help create the vibrant and supportive school community that we value so highly. On behalf of our students and staff, thank you for everything you do.

Term 3 Staffing Changes:

Our school will have some staffing changes during Term 3. Our Assistant Principal Mr Hunt is taking a term of leave as his family is approaching an exciting time with his wife expecting their second child in Term 3. We wish Mr Hunt all the best for this special time for his family.

The school would also like to introduce a new staff member. To support the school's wellbeing and leadership team during Mr Hunt's leave we have appointed **Mr Andrew Borg** to the role of Acting Leading Teacher for Term 3.

We welcome and congratulate Mr Borg on his appointment. Mr Borg joins us from Meadowglen Primary School where he has worked as Learning Specialist and part of their leadership team. We are excited to be adding Mr Borg to our team and look forward to introducing him to our community at the start of next term.

We also look forward to welcoming Ms Davidson back at school one day per week next term as she returns from maternity leave.

We also look forward to welcoming back Miss Massa who has been away on long service leave during Term 2. We thank both Mr Lentini and Mrs Tenace for their work in leading our PE program during Term 2.

Regional Cross Country:

I was lucky enough to witness four of our students compete at the Regional Cross Country in Bundoora on Wednesday. We congratulate Hendrix Purchase, Ellie Elms, Maddy Abdallah and Kayla Stabb for their achievement.

Competing at this level is an fantastic achievement and all four of our runners should be proud of their efforts as they gave their all. In an amazing effort both Ellie and Maddy finished in the top ten place getter and will progress on to compete in the state championships. We wish both girls all the best.

Important Dates:

A reminder that our last day of term is next Friday 26th of June, with a 2pm assembly and 2:30pm dismissal from classrooms. Term 3 starts again on Monday 13th of July.

Looking Ahead:

As we enter the final week of Term 2, we encourage students to continue putting their best effort into their learning and to take pride in the progress they have made throughout the semester. Thank you once again for your ongoing support. We look forward to a positive and productive finish to the term.

Tony





Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines* (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards,

Tony Ryan

Principal

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.

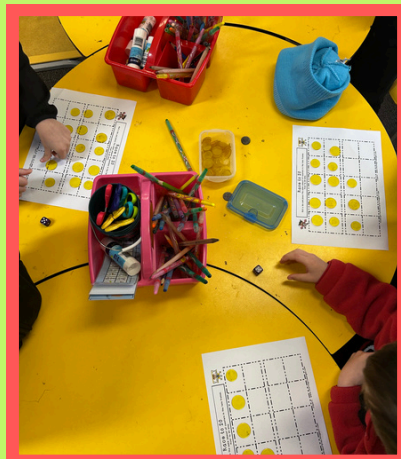
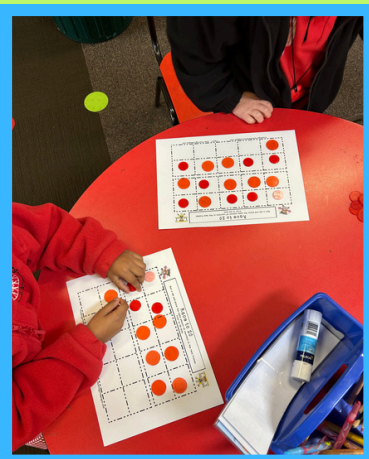
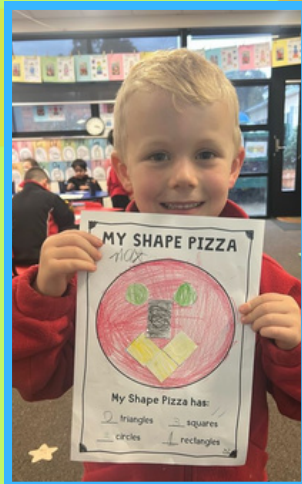
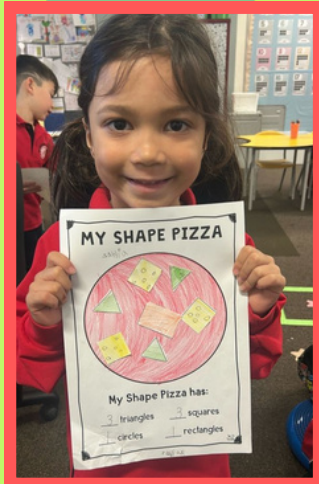
Y3 CAMP

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.

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.

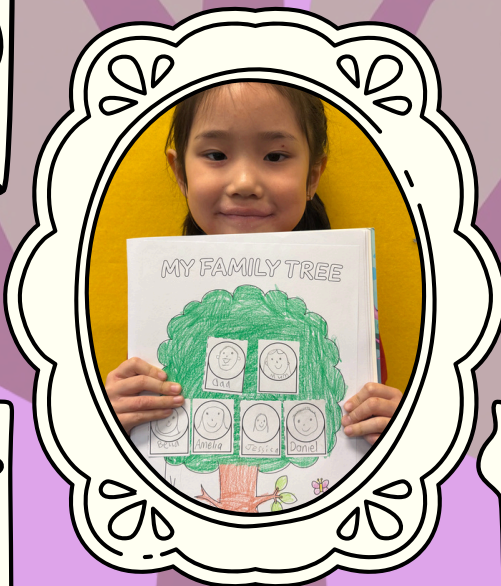
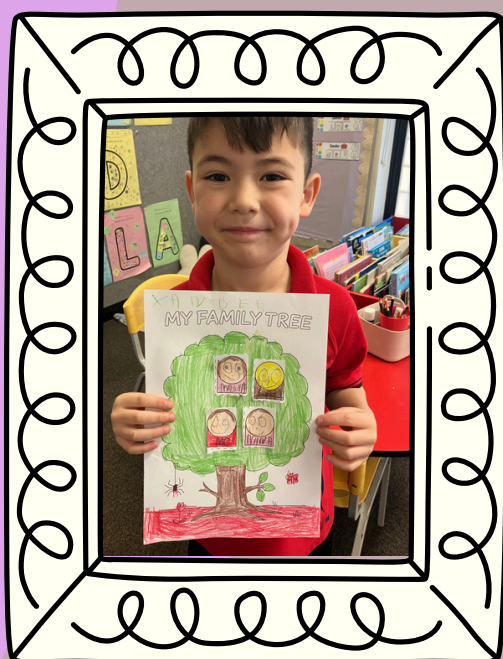


We have been building our understanding of numbers 11-20 by recognising and naming these numbers, counting collections, exploring different ways to represent them, and practising ordering them correctly.

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.



Student of The Week

Week 8



Hudson, David, Jacob, Fleur, Effie, Zander, Regan, Anika, Reggie, Rhea, Leo, Finn, Odette, Magnus, Riley, Nyah, Will, Camilo, Easton, Praise, Archer, Sienna, Tori, Violet.

Week 9



Colin, Llywelyn, Alessia, Jasper, Leo, Lola, Maya, Benji, Henry, Byron, Eden, Margot, Frances, Elinor, Edith, Arlo, Xavier, Mackenzie, Tilly, Theo, Liam.

Congratulations!



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 2 - 20th April - 26th June

WHPS 3-6 House Cross Country Monday 27th April 2026 @ WHPS

Colour Run (P-6) Friday May 1st 2026

WHPS 3-6 House Cross Country BACKUP DAY 4th May 2026 @ WHPS

District Cross Country Monday 11th May @ Banyule Flats Reserve

Division Cross Country Wednesday 3rd June

Northern Metropolitan Regional Cross Country Wednesday 17th June

Grade 3 Camp Mount Evelyn - Wednesday 24th June-Friday 26th June 2026

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

