

Friday 16th October 2023
Issue 16

LINK LETTER



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Michael Kent - PRINCIPAL

Welcome back everyone to term 4! I hope you have all enjoyed the recent school holiday break and congratulation to all Collingwood supporters. No doubt you enjoyed the Grand Final celebrations.

We're excited to be back at WHPS for the upcoming term. We have lots of wonderful activities planned for our students over the next 12 weeks. Yes, it's a 12-week term (well 11 and half weeks) with school concluding on Wednesday December 20.

It has been fantastic to see and welcome everyone back to school this week. The students have re-connected with their learning, their teachers, and their friends in brilliant fashion. We've enjoyed hearing all the great stories from the recent holiday break and sharing in all the great activities that students have been engaging with over the past two weeks of holidays.

Welcome back to our business manager, Bronwyn Finnin who has returned from personal leave in her worldly travels. We also welcome Jade Thomas to the role of teaching the 1/2 class and also to Lacey DeManuele and Adrian LoRicco both returning from some leave and travel.

Team newsletters will be sent home next week. These will outline the term ahead and the curriculum activities that are planned for term 4.

We are hopeful to finally move into our new building next week. Our year 3/4 students are excited to be heading into their new home along with the whole school being able to enjoy the space during their art classes and their Mandarin classes.

School fee documents have been sent home this week so please be aware of these. With lots of events, excursions, incursions, and celebrations planned for the term we don't want any students missing out. The term 4 fee collections are due on 20th October. As always if anyone is experiencing difficulties with their payments, please contact me directly or Bronwyn our Business Manager.

This week our Prep-2 students commenced their 8 week swimming program at Yarra swim school. Please note that due to the timings of some of these sessions there a few classes whom will be unable to place lunch orders on a Friday. As always, the canteen lunch orders are also available on Monday and Wednesdays.

2023 Term 3

- **Monday 9th October**
Code Camp Commences

- **Tuesday 10th October**
Picture Story Book
of the Year Celebration
& Showcase Afternoon
3.30 – 5 pm in our
Library

- **Wednesday 11th**
October Regional
Athletics

- **Friday 13th October**
Prep, Grade 1 &
Grade 2 Swimming

- **WHPS Trivia Night**
Saturday 28th October
7-11PM at Greensborough
College

- **Monday 16th October**
Grade 1 Toonworld
Incursion

- **Tuesday 17th October**
Grade 2 Toonworld
Incursion

- **Wednesday 18th**
October
Prep 2024 Playdate
&
Grade 5 & 6 Camp
Wednesday 18th to Friday
20th

- **Thursday 19th October**
Grade 2 Sleepover

2023 Term Dates

Term 1: January 31 – April 6

Term 2: April 24 – June 23

Term 3: July 10 – September 15

Term 4: October 2 – December 20

Yesterday our year 5/6 students enjoyed their local walks excursion to Greensborough plaza. This activity supports the inquiry unit of creativity whereby the students are learning about marketing and the persuasive tools used in advertising and sales.

We currently have Smile Squad here at the school to support the dental screening service for those families whom have provided previous permissions. The dental van will be onsite for the next couple of weeks.

Over the next couple of weeks, we have some wonderful learning opportunities planned for our students. A year 1 incursion, the writer's festival afternoon, the grade 2 overnight sleepover at school, the year 5/6 camp, regional athletics carnival and much much more!

Trivia Night

We are very excited to be hosting our 2023 Trivia Night on Saturday 28th October. Due to the construction happening in and around the school we have decided to hold this event at nearby Greensborough Secondary College, and I thank Principal, Pauline Barker and her team for availing their school to us. Greatly appreciated. So, put a table together or nominate to join a table and come along for some fun, laughter, and some trivia. Please see the attached flier for more details on booking tickets.

Term 4

Term 4 will commence on Monday 2nd October.

Please also be aware of the following term 4 dates:

Monday 6th November – curriculum day, no students required at school

Friday 24th November – Professional Practice Day for teachers – students not required at school

Monday 18th December – curriculum day, no students required at school



2024

We are well underway for the planning for 2024. This includes our staffing, programming, and grade allocations. The composition of our grade structure is also being developed.

Preparing grades is an exhaustive process that our whole staff commit many hours to getting right. There are many considerations in developing classes including social, emotional, behavioural, and academic needs of each class. Additionally, we always consult with our students on whom they would like to be in their class next year. Students provide a list of requested peers, of which we ensure at least one of these peers is included.

If parents have any requests that need to be considered, these must be in writing via email to the Principal and must be received by October 31st. 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 are no longer relevant for 2024. **Please do not put requests through to staff.** Thank-you in advance for supporting this process.

Thunderstorm Asthma - be prepared this pollen season!

Grass pollen season, which runs from October to December each year, brings an increase in asthma and hay fever symptoms. It also increases the risk of thunderstorm asthma. For people with asthma or hay fever, especially those who experience wheezing or coughing with their hay fever, thunderstorm asthma can be dangerous.

WHPS will implement a range of measures to keep our school community safe when the risk of thunderstorm asthma increases.

Many of our staff are trained in asthma first aid, and we will monitor the Vic Emergency app to receive thunderstorm warnings, and, where appropriate, keep students indoors when weather forecasts identify greater level of risk.

How you can prepare

During pollen season, there are some things you can do to prepare and protect yourself and your family:

- If your child has ever had asthma: talk to your doctor about what you can do to help protect your child from the risk of thunderstorm asthma, including updating your asthma action plan. Taking an asthma preventer properly and regularly is key to preventing asthma, including thunderstorm asthma.
- If your child has hay fever: see your pharmacist or doctor for a hay fever treatment plan and check if you should have an asthma reliever puffer. These are available from a pharmacy without a prescription.
- If your child has hay fever and experiences wheezing and coughing: it is important to make sure they don't also have asthma. Speak to your doctor about an asthma action plan.
- Where possible, avoid being outside during thunderstorms from October to December, especially during the wind gusts that come before the storm. Go inside and close your doors and windows. If you have your air conditioning on, turn it to 'recirculate'.

Protect yourself this pollen season – managing asthma and allergies matters.

Enjoy your weekend.

Warm regards,

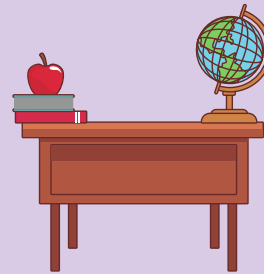
Michael

Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort !!



Across the AP's Desk

Tony Ryan - Assistant Principal



Hello WHPS Community,

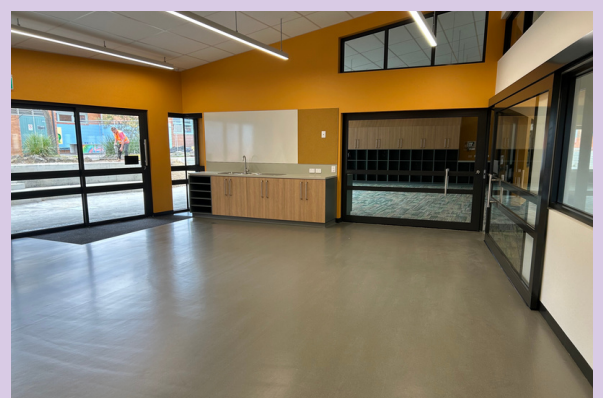
Welcome back to Term 4! Feels weird saying that and makes me wonder where the year has gone (showing my age saying that I'm sure). It's been lovely connecting with students and staff this week and hearing about their holiday exploits. Certainly has been some renewed energy around the place.

The term has started with a bang with lots of great learning experiences. Our 5/6 students headed off to for a walking excursion Greensborough Plaza yesterday as part of their Inquiry unit studies for the Bizarre Bizarre. Our 5/6 students are also looking forward to their upcoming camp at Camp Coonawarra in Gippsland in week 3. This promises to be a fun filled experience and a great opportunity for personal growth.

Our Prep-Year 2 students have begun their Swimming program today, which runs on Friday's across the term. This is a great opportunity to extend important life and water safety skills in a fun environment. Our Prep students will also be receiving a visit from the school nurse next week commencing their yearly visit to Watsonia Heights Primary School.

Building Works:

We have rounded the last bend with regards to our Building project. Our new learning community is complete and we are just waiting on final building inspection reports to be submitted before permitted to occupy the building. We are hopeful that this should come through at some point next week. Our 3/4 team, Mandarin and Art teachers and students have been able to have a bit of a sneak preview of the new building and it's fair to say they are excited by the prospect of moving in soon. We look forward to an officail opening of the building in the near future.



Across the AP's Desk

Tony Ryan - Assistant Principal



Team Jake

I've been in recent contact with a representative of Team Jake and suggested that I would be happy to promote Jake's micro business through our newsletter for those in a position to donate to this worth cause. Please see details below and I encourage you to visit the website for further information www.teamjake.com.au

WOULD YOU LIKE OT HELP TEAM JAKE?

Community Support Needed Please

Jake is a man living with an intellectual disability who has established a micro business with the help of his fabulous support staff. Jake rescues unwanted linen from being thrown in the tip or into collection boxes and helps repurpose these items onto local animal rescue services, Vets, RSPCA, Cat Protection Society and lots more.

If you would like to support Jake by collecting your donations and repurposing them, this is what we collect (weather dependent of course).

This is a free service:

Towels, Hand Towels, Tea Towels, Blankets, Sheets,

*D o n a Pillow Cases- **NO CUSHIONS OR PILLOWS PLEASE.***

Jake also collects pet food for RSPCA and Cat Protection Society. Wet and dry and any collars or leads in good condition

If you have any of these items that you are no longer need or wish to make a donation of pet food - please visit our website at:

www.teamjake.com.au

Under the collections page there is a form, please fill this out and we will get in contact with you regarding a collection date.

We can also be contacted on: 0497 997 745 However, email is our preferred way of contacting us.

The community has been so very supportive of Jake and we thank you for your ongoing contributions to help Jake live his very best life.

We take this opportunity of thanking the local community who have been accepting of Jake and his Microbusiness.

We look forward to hearing from you.

J a n and Team J a k e

I hope everyone is looking forward to the busy term ahead. Have a great weekend!

Tony



We are SunSmart - a note for families

Too much of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. It is also one of the most preventable cancers.

You can't see or feel the sun's UV. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to *Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide!*

Sun protection times

Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available from the SunSmart widget on our school website, in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au and as a free SunSmart app. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.



SunSmart membership

Our school is a registered member of Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Schools Program. We aim to protect children and staff from too much UV.

Sun protection and skin cancer prevention is a shared responsibility. Please help support our SunSmart membership and sun protection efforts by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures included in our policy at school and at home.

During the daily local sun protection times (usually from mid-August to the end of April), **use these 5 SunSmart steps – even if it's cool and cloudy.**

1. **SLIP** on covering clothing

For free dress days, ensure your child wears clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.



2. **SLOP** on SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen

Apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and make sure children have sunscreen in their bag ready to reapply throughout the day. Sunscreen should be reapplied every two hours. Please ensure children get plenty of sunscreen application practice at home so they'll be all set when they are at school. Under supervision, ask children to put a dot of sunscreen on each cheek, nose and chin and rub it in (avoiding the eye area) and sunscreen squiggles or dots on the back of the neck, arms and legs to cover these areas.

3. **SLAP** on a hat that protects the face, neck and ears

Choose a wide-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat. Peak caps and visors do not offer enough UV protection so please leave them at home. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved **school hat**. Please keep this at school so they will always be ready for outdoor activities, outdoor learning and play during school days. For the walk to and from school and weekends, please have an extra **home hat** to help keep children protected at home.

4. **SEEK** shade

Choose shady spots for learning and play whenever possible.

5. **SLIDE** on wrap-around AS1067 sunglasses

When appropriate and practical, help protect the eyes with sunglasses.

Need information in another language? Call 13 14 50 and ask to be connected to Cancer Council Victoria in your language

Congratulations Student Of the **WEEK**

Week 10 of Term 3



**Sienna, Lead Concert Role Actors, Mason, Elijah, Prep N, 1/2A,
Nate, Sienna, Bailey, Mabel.**

Week 1 of Term 4



**Octavia, Hendrix, Emma, Bodhi, Ava, Abtin, Harry, Madi, Mia,
Arman, Lola, Grace, Lucas.**



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Trivia Night

Watsonia Heights PS

Trivia Night

Saturday 28th October

7-11pm @ Greensborough Secondary College

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! \$20 Per person

<https://www.trybooking.com/CMFPX>

To book a table of 10 people please nominate one person to book and pay through TryBooking, by choosing an entire row, or book separately and all choose the same row.

Don't have a table of 10? That's ok! Email us at communitylinks.whps@gmail.com and we can connect you with other parents looking to join a table.

BYO drinks and nibbles and gold coins for games and raffle.

Thanks to the following businesses for generously donating prizes for the night...



Do you have a business or connection to a company who may be able to donate a voucher or product for our Silent Auction or raffle? Please email the Community Links team!



Email us:

communitylinks.whps@gmail.com

MONSTER MASH MINI-FEST

SAT 28 & SUN 29 OCT
11AM – 2PM
LEVEL 1, CENTRE COURT

Face painting, trick or
treating, creepy craft
& live performances!

TUE 31 OCT
2:30PM – 5:30PM
LEVEL 1, CENTRE COURT

Face painting, trick or
treating & DJing at the
Grave Rave!

For more information visit
greensboroughplaza.com.au

**Greensborough
Plaza**



EVERYONE'S WELCOME



**YARRA
PLENTY
WAVES**

**ALL ABILITIES
SWIM MEET**

Able-bodied &
MC mixed heats

ENCOURAGEMENT SWIM MEET



**Sunday
22**

October 2023

Herb Norman Pool
25m Indoor Pool
Liat Way Greensborough
Warm Up at 12:30pm

From our **Youngest Juniors** to our
Marvelous Masters

COME ON GIVE IT A GO!

*Encouragement meet for both
registered and unregistered swimmers*

*The meet is not a qualifying meet and correct
swimming technique will not be strictly
critiqued; it is meant to be fun and give
swimmers a taste of competitive swimming.*

ENTRY FEES

\$9.00

**FREE RELAY
RACES**

REGISTRATION

yarraplentywaves.com.au/swimmeet



Spring Fair

Saturday 14th October
9am - 3pm

Join us for a great day of plant-shopping,
home-made treats and springtime fun.
Support a local charity.

Entry - Gold coin donation

Come and enjoy:

- plants • vegetable seedlings • great variety of heirloom tomatoes
- homemade cakes and preserves • coffee cart • art and craft displays
- site tours and information for new families

Where:

39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster
and
512 Sydney Rd, Coburg
(nursery and cafe only)

A great day out for the whole family.
See you there!

(03) 9848 3695

www.kevinheinzegrow.org.au

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Ladies'
College

Thrive

orientation
program

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www.clc.vic.edu.au