

Wednesday 25th October  
2023  
Issue 17

# LINK LETTER



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## **Michael Kent - PRINCIPAL**

Hello and welcome to the latest newsletter!

I hope you are all well and settling into the full swing of term 4. As usual we have had so much happening in and around the school in supporting and providing a rich and engaging curriculum for our students.

Last week it was exciting to finally move in to our new learning space. We welcomed Colin Brooks to help us celebrate and officially open our new building.

Our year 3/4 students along with our Arts and Mandarin program will be enjoying their new learning areas as of now!

I extend a huge thank-you to all of our community in their patience and understanding in the process of completing and accessing these learning areas. It has been a long time coming and the disruption to our yard and access points has at times been frustrating. So, thank-you!

I would also like to acknowledge the time, effort and commitment of our Assistant Principal, Mr. Ryan for all his work in seeing this project come to fruition. Tony has committed many hours over the past year and half to keep things moving along for our school community.

As we enjoy these new spaces, we now turn our attention to fully furnishing the building, re-instating some playground spaces and landscaping around the building. Watch this space for some further developments over coming months.



I enjoyed the opportunity of sharing the year 5/6 camp last week at Camp Coonawarra. We were blessed with some beautiful weather for the students and staff to enjoy their camping experience. We enjoyed a range of adventure based activities in the picturesque surrounds of East Gippsland. Our students did an amazing job at pushing themselves out of their comfort zone in tackling some of the activities. The overall behaviour and attitude of the students was amazing. It was great to see our school values on display, even when so far from school. The levels of teamwork, respect, individual challenge and effort; ensured the overall success of the camping experience. We received overwhelming positive feedback from the camp staff about our amazing students! Well done to everyone whom participated.



## **2023 Term 4**

- **Friday 27th October**  
**World Teachers Day**  
&  
**Bandana Day**
- **Saturday 28th October**  
**WHPS Trivia Night**
- **Monday 30th October**  
**Grade 2 Incursion**
- **Thursday 2nd**  
**November**  
**Grade 1 Incursion**
- **Friday 3rd November**  
**Prep Breakfast**
- **Monday 6th November**  
**CURRICULUM DAY**  
**Students are NOT**  
**required at school**
- **Tuesday 7th November**  
**Melbourne Cup Day**  
**Students are NOT**  
**required at school**

## **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**

It was a similar story back here at WHPS on Thursday night as our year 2 students enjoyed their overnight stay at school! Once again, our values were shown as students supported each other in participating in and enjoying their camping experience.

I say a huge thank-you to all the staff whom planned and organised these camps. Our staff are extremely committed and I am in awe of their teamwork, hard work, effort, positivity and enthusiasm in making these experiences memorable for all involved.

Thanks to Miss. Massa for her oversight of our school camping program and of course to our School Council for their governance in supporting these opportunities for our school!

Camps really are a highlight of the calendar and the opportunity to support students outside of the classroom is something that we hold in high regard at WHPS!

Also, a thanks to the parents for supporting your children to attend (where possible) and for supporting the school in providing these opportunities.

We also look forward to the upcoming Prep breakfast on November 3rd!

## **World Teachers Day**

This year we celebrate and acknowledge our amazing teachers on Friday 27th October. We are very fortunate to have such a committed and dedicated team of teachers. They work extremely hard for our school and your children. I feel that on this day, if not on any day, it is an opportunity to say thank you for the incredible contributions teachers make to our community. We recognise our teacher's passion, dedication and commitment to supporting all of our incredible students each and every day. More than ever, teaching continues to extend beyond the classroom and our team of teachers work tirelessly to maintain connections through quality relationships, wellbeing programs and the time given outside of hours to ensure the curriculum program is of high quality and is also tailored to meet the individual needs of our students. You can get involved by sending a message of thanks to a teacher who is making, or has made, an impact on your life. We will be thanking our teachers at a special lunch this Friday.



## **Clubs**

Our clubs have re-commenced for term 4 and we are excited to offer a suite of added opportunities for students to enjoy during our recess and lunch breaks.

### **Specialist clubs:**

Coding club (Year 5/6) – Monday lunchtime

Science Club – Tuesday lunchtime

Art Club – Wednesday lunchtime

Soccer club (Year 2) – Thursday lunchtime

Mandarin Club – Friday lunchtime

### **Library Clubs:**

Wednesday lunchtime – Knitting club

Thursday recess - Comedy club

Thursday lunchtime – Chess club

Friday lunchtime – Green team

Library is also open for interested students during break times.

## **Term 4**

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.**

## **ICAS**

We had 127 entries into the ICAS assessments this year across 5 disciplines – Science, English, Mathematics, Digital Technologies, and Spelling. Congratulations to all the students whom participated. Certificates will be sent home with students this week.

## **Regional Athletics**

Congratulations to all the students whom represented WHPS at the recent regional athletics championships. We are so very proud of you all for making it to this level of competition. We also congratulate Monica Symanski for making it through to the state championships in long jump and the 100m sprint. An amazing achievement!

## **Carpark**

Please be reminded that parents are unable to park in the staff carpark areas. This presents a safety risk for students and families where cars are constantly moving to and fro. Thank-you for helping us to look after the safety of all of our community.



## Trivia Night

Please be aware of our upcoming Trivia night. This is a great chance for parents to come and socialise with each other; meet some new friends and connect with our community in a fun and engaging night! This year's event will be held at Greensborough Secondary College on Saturday 28th October. Please see the attached flier for further information.

## School Arrival - 8:30 to 9am

We have recently noticed an increase in the number of students arriving after the bell. It is important that the students are in class, ready to commence learning at 9am sharp as we start our teaching immediately. Students who are late are missing essential learning. If your child arrives at 9.15, they are likely to have missed important instructional information that establishes the morning and daily focus. It is very difficult for students to maintain focus, when there is a stream of students arriving late. Please endeavour to have your child at school at 8.50 so they can complete the morning process and be ready to learn at 9am.

Additionally, we have a growing number of students arriving to school prior to 8.30am. In this instance students will be directed to our before school program. Students can arrive to school from 8.30am although, please be aware that staff are not on yard duty until 8.45am. Thank-you for your support in ensuring the supervision of everyone.

## Keep Reading @ Home

As you know, we work extremely hard to provide the highest quality learning for all students at our school. In order for us to maximise on student capabilities we require your help. As parents and guardians you have a crucial role to play within the learning framework. Your assistance at home in discussing school is an invaluable aspect of student learning. This provides opportunities for students to reflect and consolidate their understandings. As a minimum it would be fantastic to set aside some time each night to share a love of literacy. Reading to your child, reading with them, listening to them read to you and discussing the book (pictures, themes, characters, plot, setting, what might happen next etc..) are all helpful ways of engaging with your child around literacy. Reading each night forms a part of the homework for all students at WHPS.



## Crossing Roads

We regularly hear feedback of times when some of our students don't display safe practices when crossing nearby roads. Students are reminded to concentrate when travelling around roads and especially when crossing roads. We have two crossings that are provided to support students travelling to and from school safely. Please utilize these crossings. We have observed many students and families crossing Elder St in particular at the school exit gate rather than via the crossing. This is quite dangerous.

Additionally, students are reminded that the wearing of helmets is compulsory for anyone riding or scooting to school. Parents are also reminded to please observe local parking restrictions as we often have local council officers patrolling the neighboring streets and issuing fines accordingly.



## School Zones

Children are our most vulnerable road users and to address this road safety issue school speed zones with lower speed limits were introduced many years ago.

Motorists should be aware that children in traffic are not like adults. They can be unpredictable and because they are small, they can be hard to see. So take extra care and slow down when you drive past any school. Research shows that slowing down helps to both avoid crashes and reduce their severity. According to the Monash University Accident Research Centre, an 11 per cent reduction in speed reduces road deaths by 40 per cent. Even a small reduction in travelling speed dramatically increases the chance of a child surviving a collision. Read more about safety on our roads via the Vicroads website. Please observe the parking restrictions and speed limits around the school. Local council and Victoria Police often patrol these areas.

## Sunsmart

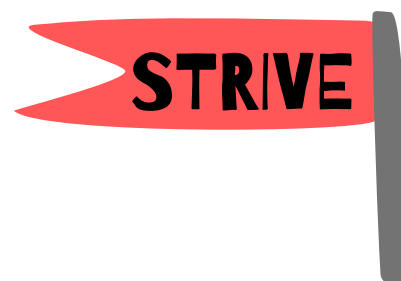
A reminder to ensure all students have an appropriate SunSmart hat to wear during term 4. Please make sure these are adequately named and labelled to avoid lost property. Please be aware that school hats (black wide brimmed) are part of our compulsory uniform.



Enjoy the rest of your week ahead.

Warm regards,

Michael



Success Teamwork Respect Individuality Visionary Effort !!

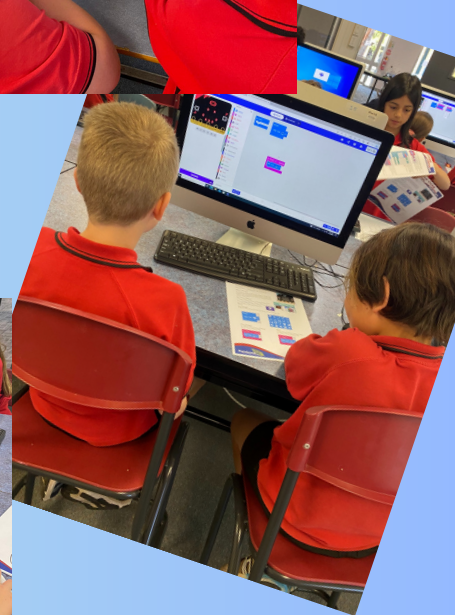


# STEAM Challenge Day

at Bundoora Secondary College

Miss Clay

On Wednesday the 11th of October, twenty Grade 4 and 5 students attended one of four STEAM Challenge Days at Bundoora Secondary College. Students will be competing against other schools in the area in a variety of challenges.



On the first day, the students use coding software to program Microbits to perform various tasks, such as lighting up, movement and music. Students also had the opportunity to plant seeds and tend to the college's farm animals.



# STEAM Challenge Day

## at Bundoora Secondary College

Miss Clay



**In the future, students will be tending back to the seeds they planted, solving a forensic mystery and attempting to recreate a historical piece of artwork.**







# S.E.P.E.P



Last week, all 3-6 students participated in our sports program, SEPEP (social, emotional, physical education program). We have 24 teams who rotate between versing each other, playing additional sports and umpiring.



The teams are: The rats with bats, The crocs with crocs, The red goats, The red raiders, The melbourne goats, The salty fishes, The big monkeys, The golden champions, The home runners, The shining hotdogs, The flying dolphins, The lightning stars, The crazy banana monkeys, The crispy bacon, The goats, The demons, The banana boats strikers, The spring rolls, The perfect pickles, The cheese 'n' Quakers, The waffle winners, The emerald batters, The powerful panthers and the Pepper peanuts.





# JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS



National Bandanna Day  
Friday 27 October 2023

On Friday the 27th of October is our annual Bandanna Day!

Students can come to school wearing the Bandannas they have purchased throughout the next two weeks.

Members of the JSC will be going around to classrooms during lunch eating time to sell this year's bandannas.

They are \$5 and come in an assortment of colours and styles.

All proceeds will go to the CANTEEN Foundation for kids living with cancer.





# Regional Athletics

I was blown away last week by the amazing achievements of some of our athletics superstars at last week's Regional Athletics Carnival. We are so proud of everything they achieved on the day! Thankyou to all the parents that came to support our shining stars! The students who attended the day were

- Willow Glover
- Summer Jonas
- Monica Szymanski
- Kayla Stabb
- Fynn Galletly

A HUGE congratulations goes out to Monica Szymanski as she came 1st in Long Jump and 1st in 100m! She is off to State Athletics Championships!

**Miss Massa**



# GRADE 3/4S GIVE HOMAGE TO THE MAJESTIC KING OF THE POLAR BEARS!

The Grade 3/4s have been on an icy adventure with their latest unit, 'The King of the Polar Bears'. They started the journey by building their background knowledge on the text, which they recently started reading. This involved a treasure hunt of words where they discovered their meanings, hunted down synonyms, and incorporated these into meaningful writing pieces.

As they dived further into the text, they explored the power of verbs, adverbs, and adverbial phrases. These tools helped them understand how the author spun a thrilling tale, that's both vivid and engaging. They also put their comprehension skills to the test, by answering thought-provoking questions about the story, and sharing their ideas with each other.

But that's not all, the students flexed their writing skills by crafting their own captivating paragraphs about the majestic polar bear in different settings.

The students have been wrapped up in the unit with great enthusiasm, and the adventure is set to continue in the coming weeks.





# NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

## Poster competition!

### Win a new bike and helmet

Do you love to draw or design? Well, this is your chance to show off those skills. Ride2School is looking for your help to design our poster for National Ride2School Day 2024!

We want a poster that celebrates the fun of walking, riding, scooting and skating to school and inspires even more students to get active. The winning poster design will become the official National Ride2School Day poster and be shared in schools across Australia for National Ride2School Day on Friday 22 March 2024.

**If your design is chosen,  
you'll win a brand new bike and helmet!**

### How to enter

1. Simply show us your favourite way to get to school (ride, walk, scoot or skate) by drawing in the box on Page 2.
2. Make sure you fill in your details so that we can contact you and your school if you win.
3. Scan the completed form (Page 2 only) and email to [ride2school@bicyclenetwork.com.au](mailto:ride2school@bicyclenetwork.com.au) or mail to Bicycle Network, 4/246 Bourke Street Melbourne 3000

Competition closes Thursday 30 November 2023 and winner will be notified via contact details provided.

*Terms and Conditions of this competition can be found on Page 3.*



# National Ride2School Day poster competition



Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year level: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher email \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL  
RIDE2SCHOOL  
DAY  
Friday 22 March 2024

# *Congratulations* Student Of the **WEEK**

Week 2 of Term 4



Monica, Grace, Adele, Ryan, Toby, Ruby, Frances, Hana,  
Kit, Lily, Lachie, Piper, Olivia, Morrissey, Tilly, Daniel,  
Brennan, Adele, Tara.

Week 3 of Term 4



Annie, Xavier, Matthew, Maddison,  
Will, Harry, Patrick, Luca, Hannah, Mihika,  
2L, Anouk, Lucas, Bella, Henry.

*Congratulations*





# Bringing fun after-school classes to your school



Coding•Curious Minds  
Animation•Minecraft Engineers

See what's on at your school and book at

[www.codecamp.com.au/watsonia](http://www.codecamp.com.au/watsonia)

Get in touch at [hello@codecamp.com.au](mailto:hello@codecamp.com.au) or 1300 263 322

Rated 4.9 on **PRODUCT REVIEW** .COM.AU with over 900 ★★★★★ reviews



# Trivia Night

Watsonia Heights PS

## Trivia Night

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.kevinheinzegrow.org.au)



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REALLY GOOD **ICE CREAM CAKES!**  
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Custom-made with your favourite flavours or **ready-to-go** with ours!



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Feel the movie,  
take control

Now Open

**HOYTS** D-BOX  
MOTION RECLINERS





In the spirit of reconciliation the TheirCare Watsonia Heights acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

## Coming Up

Our themes for the upcoming weeks are Pirate Week (3) and Childrens Week (4) we will talk all about the seven seas and the importance of an eyepatch for a pirate and discuss how important children and how their voices are to be heard.

## Sun Safety

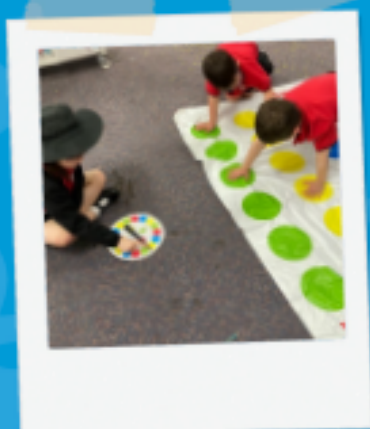
It is time to Slip Slap Slap! Please make sure if your child is coming to their care they bring a broad brimmed hat to be able to have some fun in the sun.

## TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!

Our new toy library allows children to engage with our board games and encourages them to socialise with others.

## Week 1 - Spring Week

We Spent this week learning all about nature and the importance of spring. We linked our learning to the Indigenous Seasons and how they are identified to help us make connections with the community. We developed our fine motor skills by creating flowers with origami and went on a nature walk to connect us with the land. It was great to finally be able to take the students outside for some fun in the sun! We got to try new games like Triangle Tag and old games like Mushroom Tiggly.



## COMING UP

**Monday - Cooking Club**

**Tuesday - Sport Club**

**Wednesday -  
Environment Club**

**Thursday - Craft Club**

**Friday - S.T.E.A.M. Club**

## Week 2 - Wild West Week



This week we explored the Themes of the Wild West. We made and designed wanted posters for make believe creatures, teachers and parents and put them on display in our room for all to see and enjoy. We tested the limits by playing a game of twister to see what shapes we could bend ourselves into. Cooking club enjoyed writing their recipes in their Cookbooks before making yum balls together as a team. We played games like cowboys and had races with our horses.



**TIMES**

**Before School:** 7:00AM - 8:45AM  
**After School:** 3:30PM - 6:00PM  
**Holidays:** 7:00 AM - 6:00PM

**CONTACT HEAD OFFICE**

 **1300 072 410**  
 [info@theircare.com.au](mailto:info@theircare.com.au)

**CONTACT SERVICE**

 **0438 522 874**  
 [Watsoniaheights@theircare.com.au](mailto:Watsoniaheights@theircare.com.au)



**NOVEMBER 12 SUNDAY**  
**10AM TO 4 PM**

**MALAHANG RESERVE, HEIDELBERG WEST**

Join a **free** celebration with the local community. Proudly featuring a culturally diverse program with heaps to see and do for everyone!

Circus play | Live music | Art & craft workshops for all ages | Council displays  
First Nations performers | Come and try sports | Sensory friendly space | Food trucks



For more information and to view  
the full event program please visit  
[banyule.vic.gov.au/MalahangFestival](https://banyule.vic.gov.au/MalahangFestival)



Supported by  
**the Y**



Dogs to be kept on lead. This is a no smoking event.







SCAN ME

# 2023 eltham **FUN** runwalk

Proudly supporting The Pat Cronin Foundation

## 26 NOVEMBER

### 5KM OR 10KM RUN | 5KM WALK



PAT CRONIN  
FOUNDATION

 BarryPlant



ALIGNED  
LEISURE

LEISURE  
FACILITIES



## IVANHOE SUMMER HUB

PLAY FOOTY WITH YOUR FRIEND AND FAMILY THROUGH  
VARIOUS OFFERINGS ALL SUMMER LONG

### PLAY NAB AFL AUSKICK

- 4 weeks \$40
- For participants aged 5-8



### PLAY AFL SUPERKICK

- 5 weeks \$50
- For participants aged 8-12

### PLAY AFL NINES YOUTH & OPEN

- Youth - \$65pp for participants aged 13-18
- Open - \$100pp for participants older than 18

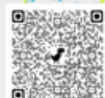


Chelsworth Park  
Tuesdays  
Starts October 31  
Contact - alex.federico@afl.com.au

REGISTER VIA THE QR CODE  
SEE MORE DETAILS



Auskick & Superkick



Nines