Art Displays
I strongly encourage all members of our school community to view the displays of children's art work in the passageways of the main building. Our school entered many artworks at the recent Bellarine Show and we were fortunate to receive many certificates and awards for these pieces. Thank you to Ms Macmillan for coordinating the display of the children's work.

Head Lice
We have had some recent reports of head lice within our school. We strongly encourage parents to check their children’s hair regularly and where necessary treat as required. A guide for treating head lice can be found at the Department of Health on http://www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/parents.htm

End of Term
A reminder to all families that school concludes for Term One at 2.30pm next Friday 4th April. There will be an assembly prior to school dismissal in the hall at 2.00pm.

School photos
School photos for this year will be taken on Wednesday 30th April 2014. Further information about these photos will be provided to families shortly.

Parent Information
As I have mentioned in previous newsletters the parents section of the DEECD website provides parents with information about schools and what resources are out there to support you and your child/ren through their schooling life. http://www.education.vic.gov.au/parents/default.htm

Some examples of this information I have included below:

Helping your child to read, write, speak and listen

- Prep-2
  - Story Telling
    - Story-telling is a great way to extend your child’s language and listening skills, as well as expanding their imagination. Either you can tell the story, or encourage your child to tell the story.

- Reading
  - Reading with your child will begin when your child becomes familiar with the story and can take over some of the reading. When your child reads to you, allow time for working out words and ask questions to see if he or she understands what they have read.
  - If your child is trying to read a long or tricky word, give your child time and ask questions like these:

    - Look at the picture, what can you see that might start with that letter? Look at the picture, what word makes sense?

    - Share ideas about texts
      - Talk to your child about how you select books for your own reading. After your child has read a text, encourage him or her to share insights, feelings and understandings of the text.
      - Here are some ideas that may suit your child’s interests:
        - Read about the author or illustrator at their website.
        - Find and read another story by the same author.

    - Grade 3-6
      - These are just some of the ideas that can be found on the DEECD website and I encourage all parents/caregivers to view this website.

    - PFA
      - On Monday the Parents and Friends Association held their Annual General Meeting for 2013/2014. Our PFA work tirelessly within our school for the benefit of all children. I would like to thank all outgoing committee members for the work in 2013 and congratulate Mrs Penny Bailey on her reappointment as PFA President for 2014.

Visit to Homestead
Yesterday the grade five and sixes known as the Community Kookaburras went to the homestead near purple duck to perform and sing for the elderly residents. We sang many songs such as Wombat on a Surfboard, My Only Sunshine, Zebra, We Don’t Care and other solos by the guitarists in the group. There were many more dance actions that we performed than last time. It was very enjoyable for the elderly residents and it put a smile to their face. After we had finished the songs, we got to have a lovely conversation with the kind residents. We love making a difference in our community and we can’t wait to help some more.

By Maddison and Piper

Sovereign Hill Excursion Monday 31st March
All student must be at school by no later than 8.30 am as the bus will be departing at 8.45 am sharp!

Bellarine Art Show
A big ‘Well Done’ to students in grades 3-6. The organisers were very impressed with all the creative and colourful artworks. Please see the display in the main corridor. Our school was awarded second place, for the ‘schools with the most winning entries’. We received a $20 prize for the Arts Program. Some highlights were:

Gr 6 - Decorated Bicycle: 2nd Prize
- Luka K
- Bayley H
- Anouk M

Gr 5 - Painted Gumleaves: 1st Prize & best exhibit
- Cassie W
- Annelise J
- Tom B

Gr 4 - ‘Show’ Pictures: 1st Prize & Special Award
- Jack F
- Amity L

Gr 3—Farm Banner 1st Prize
- Congratulations everyone!

By Judie MacMillan
Congratulations!
Yesterday Kyle M (6L) represented the school at the Western Metropolitan Region Swimming Championships in the 50m Freestyle and 50m Backstroke events. After another two impressive swims and placing first in both events, Kyle’s times have also qualified him for State Level Championships early next term. Well done Kyle!

Hockey Clinics
Last Friday Grades 2-6 were lucky enough to have a representative from Hockey Victoria visit the school and introduce the students to the sport of hockey via fun and interactive drills, skills and activities. It’s been great to see some of the students enthusiastically “show off” their new skills this week and put into practice what they learnt from Gillian.

Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge 2014
This Year Grade 2 - 6 students have the opportunity to take part in the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge. This is another way that the students here at Wallington Primary can further develop their reading skills and literacy appreciation. There will not be any payment involved.

PLEASE NOTE: You can register your own child at home or complete the consent form attached and we will register your child at school.

Students will be issued with a username and password to the challenge website, where they can record the books they read on their own page. Or they can record the books they read in a list on paper and we will upload the information for them.

Thank you and happy reading.

Emily Ducket

Hand Drumming Lessons with Scott McCutcheon
Hand Drumming will be offered again at Wallington Primary School this year as a lunch time activity through term 2. Classes run for eight weeks from the 30th of April until the 16th of June. The classes will run from 1.40 pm to 2.10 pm.

The cost for the eight weeks all inclusive will be $120.

A minimum number of 6 students will be needed for the class to commence.

Please return this slip to the office by 24th of April. Parents will be contacted by Scott McCutcheon should there be enough numbers to start the class.

I give permission for my child………………………………………………….. in grade…………………………………………………… in……………………….. to take part in the Term 2 hand drumming program. Should there be enough students to go ahead with the classes please contact me on ………………………….. to arrange payment.

Signed: __________________________  Name: _________________________

AFL Visit
Yesterday Matthew Stokes and Jackson Thurlow, two members of the Geelong Cats, visited Wallington Primary to give a talk about Leadership and Football. The presentation was both informative and insightful, with the Year Five and Six students able to make many connections to what they have already learnt about Leadership. They also came away with a few new facts about football and how hard it is to be an elite athlete!

Working Bee
A big thank you to everyone who has helped with school maintenance and working bees so far this year. The date for the term 2 working bee is Friday May 16th with terms 3 and 4 to be announced later in the year. Please see roster attached for terms 2, 3 and 4. This roster is to ensure that we have helpers to complete the jobs. If you are able to help on any of the working bees please feel welcome to come and join in. More details to follow next term.

Environment Committee

Lost & Found
A set of keys have been handed in. Please claim at office.

Parents and Friends
Congratulations and thank you the 2014 P&F Executive Committee who were elected to the following positions at the AGM - Penny Bailey (President), Amanda Howard (Vice-President), Diana Lacey (Treasurer). Thanks also to Kerstin Willey (Book Club) and Lisa Mitchell (Secondhand Uniforms). The position of secretary is still vacant – if you are interested please speak with one of the Executive or with Craig Wilson.

A big thankyou to everyone who has helped with school maintenance and working bees so far this year. The date for the term 2 working bee is Friday May 16th with terms 3 and 4 to be announced later in the year. Please see roster attached for terms 2, 3 and 4. This roster is to ensure that we have helpers to complete the jobs. If you are able to help on any of the working bees please feel welcome to come and join in. More details to follow next term.

Next week as a special Easter treat, there will be Cadbury chocolate frogs on sale for 50c each with the icypoles at lunchtime.