**DIARY DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 24th May</td>
<td>Division Cross Country @ Eastern Gardens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 26th May</td>
<td>Lightning Premiership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 3rd Jun</td>
<td>Parents Social Trivia Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 10th Jun</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Meeting ~ Hall</td>
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<td>Mon 13th Jun</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Tue 14th &amp;</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Wed 15th Jun</td>
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<td>Thu 16th Jun</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>Fri 17th Jun</td>
<td>Whole school Science day</td>
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<td>Wed 22nd Jun</td>
<td>Prep-2 Cross Country School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu 23rd Jun</td>
<td>Special Lunch Day ~ Subway</td>
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<td>Fri 24th Jun</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 2.30 pm Dismissal</td>
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**PRINCIPAL NEWS**

3 Way interviews Students/Parents/Teachers  
Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th June 2016  
These will be held in the afternoon and early evening. This is an opportunity for students to showcase their work to parents and teachers. It is expected that all students and parents attend this Interview. School reports will be going home prior to the 3 way interview.  
In the “What Your Child has Achieved” comments box, instead of listing what has been covered, teachers will again this year comment on achievement and overall progress. Each term, teachers have sent home information about what is being covered in class, so there is no need to duplicate this in the report. This will make the reports easier to ready and focus more on learning outcomes.

District Cross Country  
On Tuesday we have a number of students representing our school at the Zone Cross Country Run. We wish them well and hope that they have a great experience.

Lightning Premiership  
The Grades 5 and 6 will be travelling to Portarlington to participate in the Lightning Premiership. We have teams in both the football and netball. Thank you to all the parents who have assisted with the teams as they busily prepare for the event. Best of luck to everyone.

Pupil Free Day 16th June  
Children will not be required at school on this Day. Teachers will be working on developing the 6+1 Framework for writing.

DIGITAL Learning  
We often hear this term but what does it mean? As we begin to look at how ‘connected’ we want our children to be we must first look at the benefits that this connectedness brings. Below are points that the Department of Education and Training lists on their website.

Digital technologies can maximise learning opportunities and support learning that is connected, collaborative and global.

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Access to quality resources  
Your child will be able to access high-quality digital resources related to their learning, such as videos, images, website links and documents. The Department provides FUSE – a learning website with resources quality-assured by teachers.

Learn anytime, anywhere  
Your child can learn anywhere – not only in the classroom – capturing what is happening around them and documenting and sharing what they learn. Your child could be:  
- outside taking photos for a science project
- on an excursion recording an interview with an expert
- at home video-conferencing with their teacher or other students
- researching information online.

Self-directed learning  
Your child will have greater ownership over what and how they learn. They can research and document what they learn in a way that best suits their needs.

Connecting and collaborating  
Digital technologies enable your child to connect in real-time. They can become part of a learning community; sharing and receiving knowledge, information and advice. This could be within their class, school or with learners around the world. Learning communities can use collaborative spaces, like wikis and blogs, to: work on projects and create content in groups across remote locations participate in local and international presentations via videoconferencing write reviews and contribute to global book clubs.

The Department provides Global 2, a space for students to blog together at school and at home. See: Global 2

Developing digital skills  
Digital technologies are part of our everyday lives and the future holds exciting possibilities. Your child will learn important digital skills and behaviours so that they can become responsible online citizens and participate in the world of work. Employers are looking for employees who can:  
- use tools and online systems to collaborate, work in teams and evaluate work
- use multiple information sources and media to make decisions and problem-solve
- quickly learn new computer-based programs and applications

Connecting families to learning  
Research has shown that when your child is using digital technologies as part of a school program, your awareness of and involvement in their learning and work can increase.  
- Crossing educational divides
- Digital technologies allow your child to participate in learning activities even if they are remotely located. Your child could:  
  - access classes via video conferencing with a teacher based hundreds of kilometres away  
  - connect with teachers and classmates on Skype or other online services if they are away or ill  
  - download resources at home to complement their classroom learning  
  - participate in ‘virtual excursions’ and chat with experts and other students.

We need to understand the implications of learning technologies and how they are going to influence our children’s lives. We cannot ignore the fact that this is now a ‘digital age’, but we can strike a balance that will benefit our children. The use of Bring Your Own Devices is one model that the school is looking at to assist our students. I have included a link to the Department’s website that will explain other options open to us. It is important that we keep the discussion going so we reach a decision that is adopted by the school community.

Late Arrival to School
Parents/Guardians must sign the ‘Late Arrivals Book’ for their child if they arrive at school after the official commencement time of 9am or if they leave the school earlier than dismissal time at 3.30 pm. This is to ensure the safety of your child and also to maintain accurate attendance records in keeping with the DET (Department of Education & Training) policy.

When your child has been signed in the late arrivals book, they will then be given a ‘Late Pass’ to present to the teacher.

Please have your child at school on time to commence instructions. It is very disruptive to the whole class when a student arrives late and they also miss out on valuable instruction time at the start of the day.

We appreciate that sometimes students are late due to medical and other appointments which cannot be avoided.

If your child arrives late to school without being signed in the Late Arrival Book, a letter will be sent home. This must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to school the following day.

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**Parents & Friends**

Reminder - Parents Social Trivia Night
Friday 3rd June 7pm in the hall.

Teams of 8, $10pp, byo nibbles and drinks. Come along for a night of trivia, games and laughs. Parents, friends and teachers all welcome – note it is a strictly over 18’s event.

Booking forms and payment due by Thursday 26th May

**Stay up to date**

To go on the distribution list for parents and friends minutes and correspondence please email breeschammer@bigpond.com

You can also keep up to date with the latest Parents and Friends news by joining our Facebook group. Search for “Wallington PS Parents and Friends”

**Parent Payments 2016**

Outstanding accounts have been sent home today. Please make payment upon receipt, or if you have made payment recently, please disregard the statement.

Payments can be made at the office via cash, cheque, EFT or QKR app. BPAY option is also available online using your parent statement.

If you have any queries regarding your family account please contact Cho Lay Thomas at the office.

**Assistance with uniforms and shoes**

If your family is eligible, you can receive financial assistance to help meet the costs of your child's education, including uniforms and shoes.

This support is provided by not-for-profit organisation State Schools' Relief (SSR). Over four years, the government is providing SSR with more than $15.65 million. With this funding, State Schools' Relief will provide around 35,000 students across Victoria with new uniforms, shoes, books and more every year for four years.

If you hold a concession card and have a prep child at school this year, you are eligible to apply for assistance with uniforms. Please apply at the office. For more information, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/health/ssrpreuniformsupportpdf

**Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo Bank is offering School Banking for all students every Wednesday morning (just before the start of the school day). Application forms are available from the office.

Any queries can be directed to Bendigo Bank at Gateway Plaza in Leopold Tel: 52501057 or email: Leopoldmailbox@bendigobank.com.au

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**Victorian Premiers’Reading Challenge**

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is now open and we are excited to be participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 9 September 2016.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or ‘experience’ 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier.

To read the Premier’s letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/pre