

# WALLINGTON P.S. NEWSLETTER

Principal: Leigh McLaren School Council Pres: James Watson



9th October 2014



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## DIARY DATES



Thu 9th Oct	Strawberry Fair Meeting 7 pm 
Mon 13th Oct	Artist in Residence Start - Jon Madin Ding Box Parent Workshop 3.30 pm Active After School Sports Start
Fri 17th Oct	Working Bee
Wed 22 Oct	Geelong Cup Holiday
Tue 28th Oct	Music Concert with Jon Madin 2 pm
Thu 30th Oct	School Council Meeting
Thu 6th-20 Nov	Prep Orientation (3 sessions)
Fri 7th Nov	Gr 6 Grad Photos & Whole School Photo Retake
Tue 11th Nov	Water Safety Incursion
Mon 17th-27th Nov	Swimming P-3
Tue 18th Nov	Vic Schools Golf
Thu 20th Nov	Gr 5/6 Police Blue Light Disco
Fri 28th Nov	Queenscliff Music Festival - Whole School

## PRINCIPAL NEWS

Welcome back to term 4. We say that each term is busy but I think this one is more so as we have to prepare for 2015.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

**Active After School Program** commences next Monday with Lincoln Beckworth and Matt Amer. This term we are doing basketball and netball skills. Enrolment forms are available at the office.

### Geelong Cup

Geelong Cup 22<sup>nd</sup> October is a public holiday. Children will not be required at school on that day.

### Enrolments

Currently we have 22 enrolments in Preps. If anyone is aware of other families that intend to enrol I would appreciate if you could let us know so we can plan for 2014. Also if any families are moving for next year can you please also let me know as soon as possible.

### Strawberry Fair



The next meeting of the Strawberry Fair will be on Thursday 9th October in the staffroom at 7:00pm. We need to continue with the organisation of our 31st Fair.

The School Council are asking parents to have a say in what the money raised from the fair should be spent on. The School Council will look at the suggestions and then determine what the funds will be spent on. A suggestion box is on the table in the foyer of the school. Please place your suggestions in by Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Go to the following link for a copy of the Strawberry Fair Policy  
<http://www.wallington-ps.vic.edu.au/page/83/Policies>

### Principal's News (contd...)

#### What is Cyber Bullying?

Cyber bullying is threatening, lying about, stalking or otherwise harassing a person online or via other electronic communication devices like a cell phone. It is becoming a bigger problem as more and more people spend time on the Internet. There are a number of behaviours that are considered cyber bullying, including:

Sending harassing messages

- Impersonating another person and gaining trust
- Posting someone else's personal information
- Posting false or unsavoury information about another person
- Posting private or doctored pictures about another person
- Using the Internet to encourage others to bully the victim

#### How to Prevent Your Child from Being Victimized

Be your child's support system. The biggest way to prevent your child from being a victim is to keep the lines of communication open. The means walking a fine line between a concerned caregiver and an overprotective parent. Your child needs to feel that he or she can come to you without negative repercussions. If they are afraid you'll ban them from the Internet or keep them from going out with friends, they will not confide in you. It also means listening carefully and avoiding the tendency to trivialize what they are experiencing. It may not seem like a big deal to an adult that the most popular kids in school made fun of your child's hair or clothes, but it can be a serious blow to the self-esteem of a child or teen.

**Be firm.** Set rules regarding when and how long your child can be online. Accessing the Internet is akin to inviting someone into your home, so you may choose to only allow Web time when you're at home. Use Internet filters, timers, and whatever else you need to do to protect your child.

**Know the danger signs.** Your child may become more withdrawn or moody. They may spend more time online, or may refuse to use the computer altogether. They may cut off ties with friends. If your child gives any indication that they are being bullied on or offline, take it seriously.

**Educate.** Teach your child what to do in cases where they feel threatened or bullied. They should ignore the offender and contact an adult immediately. They should never engage with the person who is threatening them as that is only encouragement for the behaviours to continue. As an adult, if you feel threatened by someone online, contact the police just to be safe. You can also use built-in measures on certain websites, such as ignoring or reporting someone else.

#### Artist In Residence

Starting next week we have an Artist in Residence – Jon Madin. This will go the next 3 weeks on a Monday and Tuesday. Next Monday there will be a parent workshop to help make Ding Boxes. No previous experience is required. The more parents we have the more boxes will be made. Please bring a drill and handsaw along.

The culmination of the Artist in Residence will be a whole school concert on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 2 pm.

#### The School App

The school App (Skoolbag) is now available for all mobile devices. For instruction please use the following link:  
<http://www.skoolbag.com.au/forparents.php>

This School Mobile App provides us with an easy way to tell parents and carers everything they need to know about school news, newsletters, events calendar, cancellations, school notices, school information, school timetables, parent sick note forms, school documents and much more. No more lost paper in school bags!



*Principal's News (contd...)*

Under the e parent tag, parents can notify the school of a student's absence by completing the form and pressing send. An email is automatically generated and sent to the school's email address. The same applies for updating family details. Best of all it will provide you with updates to what is happening at school, reminders of notes, newsletters etc.

If parents wish to have items placed on the app please contact the office. The more people who have access the App the more effective it will be.

**MOZZIES**

With the onset of warmer weather, the mozzies are out already. Please send your child with a roll-on mozzie repellent for protection against bites.

**ENROLMENT**

A reminder that if there any outstanding enrolments for Preps for 2015 from within our school community that the school is contacted to commence the enrolment process.

**Working Bee**

Our next working bee will be held on Friday 17th October from 3.30 pm onwards. We are asking for people who were rostered on for term three to help and other volunteers. We will have icy poles for the kids too. Jobs will include:

- Cut and remove section of hand rail to improve pathway access. We need a person to help cut a section of hand rail.
- Prepare pathway outside gr 2V classroom.
- Clean up behind garden shed in readiness for shipping container for storage.
- Concrete and repair broken pathway at front of school and outside the library.
- Mow and slash grass around playground and west end of school.
- Trees loped outside art room and garden cleaned of waste and thinned out.
- Tree outside the library to be removed including root system as it is damaging the pathways etc.
- General cleaning and sweeping around main buildings.
- Cleaning up around bike shed.

We have also received some freefall for the main playground and are looking for any volunteers to help start spreading this as soon as possible.

We are also after anyone interested in making tables and seating to be placed around the oval and main building. If you can help please see Mr Vaught.

Thank you.  
Environment Committee

The WPS school parents have been wonderful and supportive in many ways- hard to name them all but we thank them heaps! They are so special to organise Joshys Marrowthon!! In general Josh's Bone Marrow Transplant is progressing very well with a great indication being the DNA test that showed 100% of his blood cells are from the wonderful donor. He now has a totally new blood group- amazing! It is now 62 days since the BMT. Josh has been in total isolation from everyone except immediate family and hospital staff. It is very difficult not seeing friends but the staff have kept him entertained and educated. Josh is blossoming in the arts area- creating music (guitar, drums, singing) and painting. He is usually such a sporty boy but is finding other abilities when confined to hospital. As expected Josh has had a few setbacks as he develops a new immune system, including bacterial, viral and fungal infections and a mild dose of Host vs Graft Disease. Josh has not had a blood transfusion for 8 weeks (as he is making healthy blood) and apart from some drug reactions and allergies, he is responding to treatment well. Josh is generally getting stronger and he has enjoyed 2 weeks 'freedom' out of the RCH ward recently (at a Leukaemia Foundation unit in Nth Melb) spending a few days with Nick bouncing basketballs and riding exercise bike in isolation unit. He also caught up with brother Sebastian who he also misses. He will be in isolation from groups of children for a couple more months. Josh and the family have been overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity shown by their wonderful communities. A huge Thankyou to you all!!!

Additional thanks to those not on poster: **ADART Design (Linda Di Giusto), RixTrix (Ricky Carroll) and Murfs Surf Shop.**

*Hilary Bouma*

**Health and Physical Education Week 13-17 October**

Health and Physical Education is an essential area of the curriculum that provides real opportunities for children to learn how to lead active and healthy lives - now and in the future. It recognises and actively promotes the importance of health and physical education and physical activity for physical, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

Some of the physical benefits include: healthier heart and lungs; stronger bones and muscles; and improved body composition. However, did you know that physical activity can also help to improve self-esteem, reduce stress and anxiety and provide a greater sense of belonging and increased motivation for more physical activity? And don't forget the intellectual benefits: improved concentration, better school performance, improved academic function, enhanced learning and memory and improved mental awareness.

This year Wallington P.S. will be part of over 300 school communities across Victoria, enthusiastically taking up the challenge of promoting and celebrating being healthy and active as part of the Health and Physical Education week during 13-17 October!

**Why don't you take up the challenge at home?**

- ◇ Be active together - go for a walk, ride, or play some outdoor games
- ◇ Teach your children skills to help them be physically active - eg. skipping, throwing, kicking a ball
- ◇ Include an extra piece of fruit or veges at snack and mealtimes
- ◇ Develop a new family activity - eg. indoor rock climbing, trampolining, bike riding, walks along the beach.

**Junior Athletics Day**

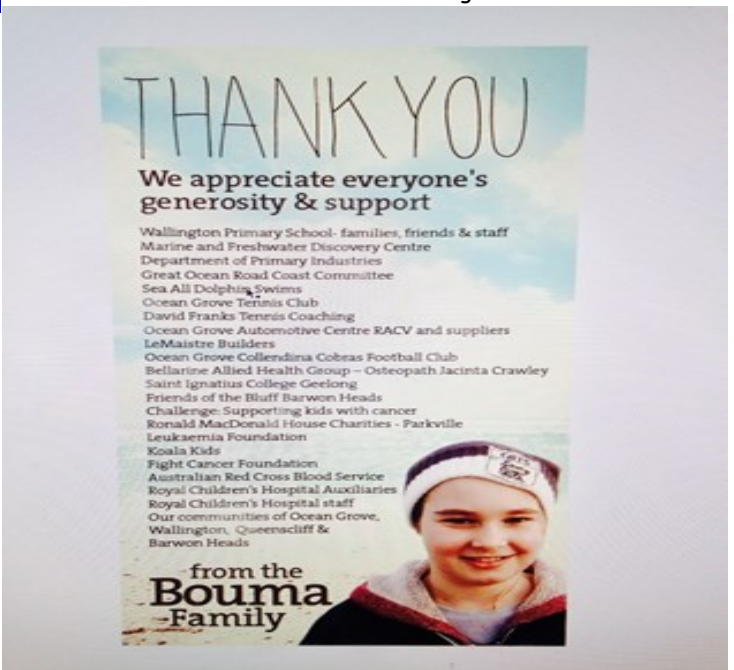
As part of the Wallington Primary School Prep-2 sports program, there will be a Prep, Grade One and two 'Athletics Day' next Wednesday October 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 till 3:30. Events will include sprinting, hurdles, oval relay, High Jump, Shot Put and discus. Students need to remember their drink bottle, sports top, sneakers and hat. Please come along and watch the students in action.

**Western Metropolitan Track and Field Championships**

We also wish Eliza V, Kyle M and Bayley H all the best for next Tuesday, when they travel to Melbourne to compete in the Western Metropolitan Region Track and Field after qualifying in the 12/13 Girls High Jump, 12/13 Boys AWD Shot Put and 10 Girls Long Jump respectively. Good Luck!!

**Student Sporting Achievements**

Over the holidays we also had some of our students excel in their own sporting arena. Congratulations to Bianca L who was crowned the National Champion at the Interschool Equestrian Championships in Werribee and Isabella K who achieved her black belt in karate. Both girls have worked extremely hard outside of school to earn these two achievements. Well done girls!!



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