

WALLINGTON Primary School

NEWSLETTER



6th March 2015



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Principal: Leigh McLaren School Council President: James Watson

DIARY DATES

| Fri 6th Mar | Bellarine & North Geelong Divisions Primary Schools Swimming Championships |
|--------------|---|
| Wed 11th Mar | P-4 Soccer Clinic |
| Thu 12th Mar | Strawberry Fair Debrief Meeting 7 pm FAIR |
| Mon 16th Mar | Parents & Friends Meeting 9 am in the Hall |
| Wed 18th Mar | Bellarine & North Geelong Divisions Tennis Championships SCHOOL PHOTOS |
| | School Council Meeting & AGM |
| Fri 27th Mar | • End of Term 1 DISMISSAL 2.30 PM |

PRINCIPAL NEWS

Strawberry Fair

The Strawberry Fair can officially be acclaimed a success. We had Over 5000 people attend our fair on what turned out to be a beautiful autumn day. The success of the day is due to the fantastic team effort of parents and the wider school community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our school community that contributed to the fair. The effort that was put in not only occurred on the day of the fair, but many hours /days / months prior. The commitment to the fair is overwhelming.

Whilst the exact figure won't be known for a few weeks yet it is in the vicinity of \$30,000.00. The money will be spent on the development of a children's play garden, extension on the Jon Madin program from last year, and purchase of 10 laptops.

There will be a Strawberry Fair debriefing meeting on Thursday **12th March 7:00pm** at school. In the meantime, come to the front office and have a look at some great photos taken at the Fair.

.. Strawberries Strawberries Strawberries ...



School Council

The first meeting of the 2015 School Council will be held on Wednesday 18th March at 3:45pm. Our School council members this year are: James Watson, Kellie Tobin, Dave Evans, Tracey Frigo, Michelle Hughes, Kerri Wrench, Bernie King and Leigh McLaren. The executive of the 2015 School council will be elected at this meeting.

The Environment and Curriculum committees will meet on **Tuesday** 10th March at 3:45pm.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on **Wednesday**, **18**th **March** first thing in the morning. Order envelopes have been sent home today. If you wish to have Family photos taken, please call up to the office to get an order envelope.

Principal News (contd)

Westpac Rescue Helicopter

Yesterday the Westpac Rescue Helicopter landed on the school oval as part of the units of work that was done last year. Students able to ask questions as well as gain



information about the service. Despite the weather, the students conducted themselves well and asked a wide range of questions.

Youth Champions for Change Workshop

On Tuesday two of our student leaders - Charli and Anouk

had the privilege to participate in the Youth Champions for Change Body Esteem Project workshop in Geelong with other primary and secondary schools from the region. The workshop focused on how we. as a school community, can promote behaviours that encourage good feelings about our bodies. It highlighted the impact that social media can have, and the importance of conscious posting and reducing negative talk. The individual schools also workshopped ideas and developed an action plan relevant to their school.

To celebrate the importance of

recognising and acknowledging the positives within ourselves, the girls have organised all students to write a positive message about themselves, which will be shared at this week's assembly.

Congratulations to Charli and Anouk for their contributions on the day and their hard work and effort in developing an action plan for our school.

Preps & their Big Buddies showing their Positive Messages



PARENTS & FRIENDS

A reminder that the Parents & Friends AGM will be held on **Monday, March 16th** in the hall, so please make a note in your diaries. All are welcome to come along and it would be lovely to see even more new faces. Whilst meetings are fairly informal, there are a number of positions that need to be filled, so please consider whether you are able to take on a particular role or to help with any specific activities during the year.

On the Agenda

- Filling Committee Positions for 2015 President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary
- Confirming activities/social events for end of Term 1 and Term 2
- Appoint at least one Parent Representative for each year level

The Parent Rep role:

- a "go to" person for other parents to provide feedback, ideas etc
- a point of contact for new families to the school
- assist in volunteer coordination throughout the year.

If you would like any further information about the P&F please see one of the Executives – **Penny** (Kieran Yr 6), **Amanda** (Nate Yr 6, Maylee Yr 4 & Rhiannon Yr 1), **Diana** (Max Yr 6) and **Tracey** (Sophia Yr 5). To add yourself to the P&F mailing list please email tracey@pondaestate.com.au

For those new to the school, the P&F is not a fundraising group but aims to foster the sense of community at Wallington PS and to provide social, fun activities for the children and their families. In 2014, activities included the mothers/fathers day stalls, students' disco, hot chocolate day, social nights out, second-hand uniform stall, book club orders, school picnics and the 'Tour de Bellarine' (a family bike ride which was unfortunately cancelled due to weather). Meeting dates/times for 2015 will be set by the new committee according to people's availability. They are usually held in the school hall but also at our local cafes - everyone is welcome to come along, especially littlies who are yet to start at WPS.

STRAWBERRY FAIR - Promotions

... Strawberries Strawberries Strawberries ...

Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to publicise our Fair whether it was through posters, flyers, signs on your car, word of mouth, putting up banners and signs, inviting family, friends and neighbours, organising that fantastic flashing sign on the Bellarine Highway or spreading the word through social media — our 'total post reach' on Facebook in the week leading up to the Fair was 25,500! Getting bodies to the Fair was the first step — the way that everyone at the school made it such a fun day ensured that there are people already talking about return visits!!

Here's a sample of the feedback on Facebook:

First time we have been here, we had a great time, what a nice and friendly place. We will be back next year for sure. The car park organisation and in general the whole setting was great. Visitors from Hoppers Crossing. (Josep)

The prizes were amazing on a spinning wheel...I love my prize that we won!!! Wow awesome prize, thank you, Wallington Primary School!!! (Melissa)

Great day. Congratulations Wallington P.S. parents and community. (Julie)

Great day for my family, thanks to all those who helped and to all those who donated to CFA and SES (Golby)

We had a stall at the **Strawberry Fair** today. Stacey and Rob, you do a great job at organising this great event each year. We had a great day and the crowds we awesome. Look forward to next year. (Virginia)

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY NEWS

sample of the feedback on Facebook (contd):

What an amazing day!!!!! (Sharona)

Great day. Visiting from Melbourne. **Strawberries** and cream, very nice skinny chai latte and a pinot noir from Ponda Estate. Shout out to the parking volunteers, great job! (Jeanne)

Congratulations to all the hard working volunteers and parent community of **Wallington Primary School.** Was a great day and we'll definitely be back in 2016. Visitors from Berwick! (Averil)

Was well worth travelling to. Is a lovely day here at the **Straw-berry Fair**. Been 20 years since we were here, now here with the 3 kids and they're loving it....oh and that pav with strawberries....yummo!!! Thankyou for a lovely day out. (Leanne)

And just a few of the many comments on Instagram and Twitter:

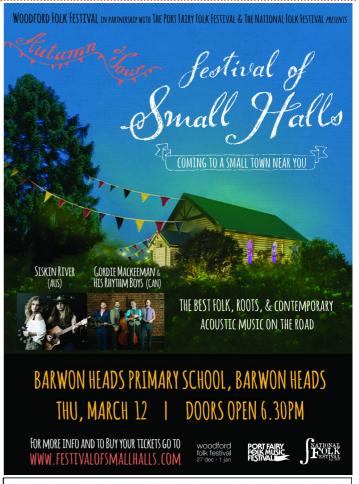
@jesswj...First fair...our new yearly ritual # wallingtonstrawberryfair#daughter#firstyearofthistradition#strawberriesand cream #yummm #3cupsful

@rarebirdsco Fun times today at the # It was our first time visiting, but will not be **wallingtonstrawberryfair!**the last!! Well done to everyone involved in putting on such a fantastic event#wallingtonstrawberryfair#visitbellarine#sundayfunday

@anitadyerphotography Pancakes with strawberries and cream #wallingtonstrawberryfair #countryhospitality

@macaroonkids Who doesn't love a school fair! #wallingtonstrawberryfair is so huge...it's wonderful to see the local community support a local primary school #geelong #geelongcommunityspirit #yaygeelong

@grantburg Great to see a strawberry blonde @Adamcooney supporting the **Wallington Strawberry Fair** today #strawberrybeard



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