OUR SCHOOL VISION: Encouraging all members of the school community to work together to create a positive and motivating environment, allowing all students to maximise their educational opportunities in an ever changing world.

PARENT PAYMENTS RECEIVED

162 families at WPS.
Completed payments = 71% (116 families)

Have you recently asked your child/ren......

“What did you learn today?”

Congratulations to our “Students of the Week.”

Prep B: Matilda Bult—(Being a caring classmate)
1/2 M: Wala Al-Ghazawi—(Great reading in the classroom)
1/2 C: Nathan Young—(Being a kind and considerate member of the class)
1/2 H: Callum Webb—(Always being a helpful and polite member of her class)
3/4 C: Erin-Skye Libardi—(Always being a great helper and showing the value of ‘Doing Your Best’)
3/4 S: Jessica Darbyshire—(Concentrating on her NFA task)
3/4 Y: Reece Coad—(Displaying persistence during Numeracy)
5/6 E: Tali Kean—(Persisting with the five/six bike ride)
5/6 K: Hayden Roewer—(Showing persistence and a great attitude on the bike ride)

Christmas Concert Monday 17th starting at 7:30pm

Please come and view our ThinkLinks display in the hall. Today after school and Friday after school.
A Message from the Principal…

Transition visits: Yesterday all students in grades prep – five visited their 2013 classroom and surprise, surprise were able to meet their teacher. This is not usually the case on the first transition visit, however as we could have all 2013 staff here on the day it was possible this year. Transition is a positive feature of our school and we encourage parents to support our decisions relating to where and with whom students have been placed for 2013. Many thanks to the parents who wrote to me with important information that they felt I needed to consider. We were able to deliver on nearly all of the requests. Organising 240 students is a huge task that takes a lot of time and energy. Staff meet at least three times to set up class groupings and these are then further discussed by our specialist teachers, integration staff and the senior leadership team. All students should be with at least one friend they requested, but multiple friendships are not always possible. Part of our role is to support and build resilience in students. I was delighted with the way in which families supported our decisions in 2012 and am looking forward to the same response over the coming week. (An overview of all 2013 staff and their roles is on pages three and four of the newsletter.)

Ascot Vale West visit: What a delightful day we all enjoyed last Wednesday, hosting students, parents and staff from our “companion” school in Ascot Vale. This school kindly grew pansies for us following the Black Saturday bushfire and delivered them to our school to beautify our garden in 2009. Since then we have visited their school and now have finally invited them up to Wandong. Many thanks to the grade three/four parents who kindly sent along some food, that along with our sausage sizzle (funded by Parents’ Club) filled all of the hungry bellies. We look forward to visiting Ascot Vale Primary School again in 2013.

Christmas Concert: Five days to go… hope you have the date in your diary. 2013 teachers will be available for a “chat” from 7:00—7:25 p.m. The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. sharp. We have delayed the start time this year to ensure all parents and friends that need to travel from Melbourne or more distant places can get there in time.

Before and after school care — In 2013 we will be introducing before and after school care, as you are well aware. One of the reasons as to why this is going ahead is because we are having ever increasing numbers of students arriving at school very early (before 8:30 a.m.) Whilst we aim to assist, this is becoming a problem as on any given day we supervise these students in the school foyer—and fifteen children certainly do chat a lot. Parents are reminded to please access the before and after school program from the beginning of 2013 to assist us to overcome this issue. (Please use the pedestrian gate in Rail Street near the bus shelter.) Teachers are not on yard duty until 8:45 a.m. so we encourage parents to please keep children at home until this time. From the beginning of 2013, no students will be allowed entry to the school yard before 8:30 a.m.

Office Hours: A reminder that our office hours are between 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. The telephone will be switched on at 8:15am for any calls. The telephone will be switched to the answering machine outside these hours so please leave a message.

Expected expenses or 2013: To assist with planning for the new year, below is a list of payments for the beginning of the 2013. school year

- **Parent Payments and Voluntary Contributions** ($110 for the first child, $100 for every subsequent child). Remember there is a $10 discount on the first child if you pay in the first two weeks of the 2013 school year.
- **Mathletics** $10 per student (Most families have paid for 2013)
- **Think Links** — $10 per student

These can be paid to the office before the end of this year, or on book pick up day on 25th January (9:00am—12:00pm)

Please note: If you have paid for 2013 Mathletics, your child should have bought home their student access code over the last week. If you don’t have it, please ask your child.

Have great week ~ Rhonda Cole
STAFFING FOR 2013

Rhonda Cole                  Business Manager
(Principal)                 Ros Hulett

Anthony Potesta             Office Assistant
(Assistant Principal)       Jane Drury

PREP TEAM:

Bree Chisholm               Hannah Giacomini
Prep C                      Prep G
Room 3                      Room 4

1/2 TEAM:

Mel McClure                  Carol McIntyre
1/2 Z                       1/2 M
Room 6                      Room 8

3/4 TEAM:

Cathrine Yaneff             Cassie Langdon
3/4 Y                       3/4 L
Room 10                     Room 11

Robyn Beer                  5/6 TEAM:
3/4 B
Room 12

Heather Chisholm
1/2 H
Room 9

5/6 A
Room 1

Kate Crawford
5/6K
Room 2

Emma Cachia
5/6E
Room 5
STAFFING FOR 2013 Continued

SPECIALIST TEAM

Mr Fearn                 Mrs Lewis              Mrs Hempel
P.E. / Human          Visual Arts             Science
Relationships        (Gr 1-6)

INTEGRATION AIDE TEAM:

Annie Beaman                      Donna Baker
Rita Hastilow                Tracey Trenfield

2013 Specialist Programs in more detail

Mrs Lewis will take Visual Arts (Gr P-6)
Mr Fearn will take Physical Education (Gr P-6)
Mrs Hempel will take Science (Gr 1-6)

Mr Fearn will also introduce a brand new program to our school called “Healthy Relationships”. It will be based on two DEECD initiatives “Catching on Early” which looks at relationships and human development and “Prevention and Health Promotion” which looks at healthy eating, being Sun-smart and being active. Each class level (1-6) will do two terms of our “Healthy Relationships” program and two term of Science during 2013.

Preps will do PMP for two terms and Healthy Relationships for two terms. They will not do Science.

During the earlier party of 2013 we will be introducing an Indonesian Language immersion program with our teachers and students learning the language together. The grade levels involved and how the program will run is still being finalised. Families will be updated early next year How exciting!!!!

Now the sad news...........

We are very excited to welcome Mrs Melanie McClure and Miss Jaclyn Adams back to our school from their time on leave. Unfortunately, in welcoming them back, we have to also say goodbye to two other staff. It is with much sadness that we announce that Miss Pratt and Miss McLure will be leaving our school. We have been nothing but delighted with the hard work and dedication they have given to our students, families and to us as a staff. Miss Pratt will be teaching at Upper Plenty Primary School and Miss McLure at Aitken Creek Primary School. We wish both ladies a wonderful time and will miss them, as will the students.

Mrs Rhonda McDermott has recently announced her retirement. She has thoroughly enjoyed her twelve months off and we know she will continue to enjoy her leisure into the future. Good luck!
Thanks Parents’ Club!

Throughout the year our Parents’ Club works tirelessly to raise funds to purchase items for classrooms across the school. Money is raised through events such as Easter Raffle, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, Chocolate Drive, Muffin Break vouchers, Tea-towel orders, Bunnings Warehouse barbecues, Pie drive, Mattel Ticket sales and our special pizza and hot dog lunches.

In total a profit of $6422 was raised over the course of the year. Below is a list of items that we have been able to purchase or deliver due to their fabulous efforts in 2012.

- iPods and iJacks for all classrooms (3-6) so students can listen to reading in an engaging way.
- Reading books for grades 3-6 CAFE Literacy program.
- $3000 to assist with payment for the grass terraced area near the hall.
- Apps for classroom iPads (grades P-2)
- Sausages for students for the visit from Ascot Vale West Primary School.
- Badges for the student leadership team.
- Support materials and resource books for our Science specialist program
- $225 annual subscription for the Library borrowing program
- $500 to support the Wakakkiri school dance event
- Free school hats for all Prep students.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
Social Table Tennis
Expressions of interest are sought for any people wanting to participate in a regular social game of table tennis. The intention will be to eventually build up to the availability of 3-4 tables for a regular night at a very low cost. If you are interested, please email your interest to Tony Heathcote at tiheathcote@gmail.com

The Kilmore Miniature Railway is holding a Twilight Run this Friday 14th December from 5pm until 7pm. Train Rides are $2
Sausage Sizzle and drinks available for further enquiries Tel. 5781 1711

The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Concert on Monday.

Library News
Could all outstanding library books please be returned to the library or office.
Borrowing services will be suspended shortly due to the year end and in order to complete a stocktake.
Please notify the office if you have an outstanding book that you are unable to find.

TRANSITION
On Tuesday 18th December, last years Grade Six students and our current Grade Six students are invited to an afternoon tea at school. This is a fantastic opportunity for our current students to ask current Year Seven students about their experiences at Secondary School, especially any questions they might have after Orientation Day. We are all looking forward to seeing our past students again.

Time: 3:30pm—5:00pm

A very big thank you.
Thank you to Bret Stebbing and Katalin Devecseri.
Bret moved a mountain of mulch and Katalin removed a wilderness of weeds from the gardens during the week.

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPER READER’S CLUB:
Congratulation 100 nights reading:
Nathan Duffy
Congratulation 150 nights reading:
Jesse Wilkes-O’Brien,
Congratulation 250 nights reading:
Hayleigh White, Morgan Smith, Lucas Webb, Ryan Fitzgerald, Zander Gladman Mitchell, Alask Brenkovich, Tara Sibun, Molly Libardi, Caitlin Harris, Jed Lunn, Adara Curry, Wyatt Mundy, Sarah Egan, Shae McDonald

Wandong Junior Football Club
Registration Day
Sunday 17th February 2013

Time 10.00am to 1.00pm
At LB Davern Reserve Wandong
All new Members Welcome
Sausage Sizzle on the Day
Any Enquires Please Contact
Nick Ryan President
Ph: 0428 424 812

The Kilmore Miniature Railway is holding a Twilight Run this Friday 14th December from 5pm until 7pm. Train Rides are $2
Sausage Sizzle and drinks available for further enquiries Tel. 5781 1711

Christmas Raffle
Please return you raffle tickets by Friday 14th December to go into the drawn to win one of the magnificent prizes on offer.

The Kilmore Miniature Railway is holding a Twilight Run this Friday 14th December from 5pm until 7pm. Train Rides are $2
Sausage Sizzle and drinks available for further enquiries Tel. 5781 1711
Muffin Break Muffin Vouchers: Haven’t got your vouchers yet? Time is running out for this great bargain.

Earlier this year we were fortunate to win the Muffin Break Facebook competition. Half of the muffins were sold to families with the remainder of the muffins being provided through a voucher system. Vouchers are available for purchase through the newsletter or directly from the front office..... What a great idea with the school holidays coming up. No doubt many of us will be at Epping Plaza enjoying endless hours of shopping over the holiday break and a cheap nice muffin with a nice cuppa will fill that hunger gap.

Cost: Each voucher will provide you with FOUR Muffin Break Weight Watchers Muffins

Each voucher of four muffins costs **$8.00** each (which totals **$2.00 per individual muffin**) or **3 vouchers**

(12 muffins) **for $20** (which totals $1.60 per muffin)

Vouchers can only be used at the **Epping Plaza store** and are valid until **31st December 2012**.

Don’t forget that these muffins can be frozen so they are also a cheap, nice lunch box filler.

Money raised is **all profit for the school** and will be used to pay for the instant turf we have laid on our new terraced area near the hall. Thank you for your support.

Numeracy

MOVING with maths

These ideas use movement of the body, hearing sounds, using eyes and feeling with hands to experience counting.

1. How many throws can we do without dropping the ball?
2. How many jumps does it take to get to…?
3. How many times can you tap the balloon before it touches the ground?
4. How long does it take you to skip to…?

Yellow House Wins!

Yellow House won last week with the most house points.

Holding the winner's cup this week is

Abby Hurst

I wish I could..............

.....be the Principal for the day with Mrs Cole. Ruby Stebbing assisted Mrs Cole all day with reading groups, doing letters for “Pizza in the Park with the Principal” and had lots of meetings. Ruby also listened to Jesse–James and Callum reading their books

.....Work in the office with Ros.

Charlie McClure and Georgia Thomson were very busy helping Ros in the office. Charlie and Georgia filled uniform orders, sorted the mail, delivered the mail and answered the telephone.

Hayley Browne helped prepare and printed this newsletter for the school, emptied the tubs and sorted the notices. Hayley also answered the telephone.

For Sale:

Four Casio CTK 700 Keyboards.
Four boards with stands, one without. All boards are in good condition and come with a manual book, power adapter, book stand, headphones and carry/storage bag. $120 each for keyboard and stand. $100 for the one without a stand. Available for pick up from Wandong from December 19.
phone: 0415 225 141
WOW! …. WHAT’S ON @ WANDONG

DECEMBER

Wednesday 12th—14th December—“Thinklinks Display” in the Hall before and after school.

Thursday 13th December  - Grade Six Graduation
Students required at 5:45pm. Parents to be seated at 7:15pm

Friday 14th December  - Grade 3/4 break up excursion to the Movies

Friday 14th December  - Prep/One/Two excursion notice due

Monday 17th December  - School Christmas Concert
Beginning at 7:30pm sharp

Wednesday 19th December  - Pizza in the Park with the Principal—(starting at 1:15pm)

Wednesday 19th December  - Grade Prep/One/Two excursion to Jungle Kids—(9:00am—12:45pm)

Friday 21st December  - Last day of term four (1:30 finish)
Assembly is at 1:00pm on this day

(You can check the website for more information or forms)

JANUARY 2013

Friday 25th January  - Book pickup day

Thursday 31st January  - Term one begins for all students

St John’s Anglican Church Wandong
Christmas Services
Christmas Eve—7:30pm
Family Carol Service
Christmas Day Eucharist 8:30 am
All Welcome

There are still bikes stored in the hall left from the bike ride. Please ensure all bikes are picked up by this Friday. Any remaining bikes will be stored in the bike shed over the weekend.

Student attendance in semester two:

“EYES ON THE TARGET”

Staying below 750 absent days for semester three and four.
(approx 3.5 absent days per child)

Number of students per grade level at school every day last week.

Preps: 32
(Total number of preps: 37)
Grade one/twos: 50
(Total number of 1/2s: 67)
Grade three/fours: 45
(Total number of 34s: 61)
Grade five/sixes: 54
(Total number of 5/6s: 79)

Total absence days across the school for this semester {933}

Congratulations to this week’s winners.... Prep Unit
(86% of students had full attendance)
Awesome effort!
“Every day is an important day to be at school.”