19th December 2012

‘The Puggle Post’

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.

Being present at school is your present to learning!

Congratulations to our "Students of the Week."

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

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

“What did you learn today?”

Prep B: Charlie Broderick—(Being a good friend)

Prep G: Cody Cartwright—(Being a valuable class member)

1/2 C: Brodie Garratt—(Being a helpful and kind classmate all year)

1/2 H: Jesse Wilkes-O’Brien—(Being a helpful class member)

1/2 M: Caitlyn Hemphill—(Being an amazing classroom helper all year)

3/4 S: Will Vicary—(Learning his timetables)

5/6 E: Colby Lunt—(Showing improvement in Multiplication)

5/6 K: Kiara Upton—(Being a helpful member of the class)

Please visit the school’s website to watch the Grade Six Graduation video.

School finishes at 1:30pm this Friday
Assembly at 1:00pm
Have a safe and happy Christmas.
A final 2012 message from the Principal…. and the Assistant Principal

Dear Families,

What a quick year! As we draw to a close we would like to thank our staff for their ongoing commitment to providing our students with the best possible learning experiences. Every year we up the ante with our expectations…. and every year our staff delivers! This year we refined our “Investigations” in the Prep – Grade two area and it was delightful to watch the little "reporters" and “photographers" reporting back to their peers on what they had observed. The grades three - six staff delivered an amazing CAFÉ program – assisting our students to expand upon their Literacy Skills. The students’ progress in Reading was outstanding and it was wonderful to witness many of our reluctant readers hook into reading.

Grade Six Graduation: What an exciting event last Thursday night as our grade six students dressed in their best and performed and sang for their families, as part of their Graduation celebration. The students shared their aspirations and their highlights from primary school and it was great to see so many family members and friends attending. As one stage of school closes, another opens and we wish them all the very best for their future education. Our students head off to a range of secondary schools and we know they will make many new friends and continue their education journey with success.

Before and After school care — A reminder that this will begin at the start of 2013. All families will receive enrolment information on Book Pick up Day. It is recommended that all students be pre-enrolled — even if you never use the service. (Then if you have an emergency, students are already on the books.) 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 8:15a.m. for any incoming calls. The telephone will be switched to the answering machine outside these hours so please leave a message.

To help you plan ahead……….. 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—12:00 midday.)

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.

Thank you to our school community for their ongoing support and best wishes to all of our staff and families for a safe and happy Christmas, ~ Rhonda Cole and Anthony Potesta
Well, we certainly ended the year on a high. On Friday Mr Potesta, Mr Fearn and I attended the Hume Region’s annual “Permission to Shine” awards. These awards recognise outstanding achievements within schools ranging from Beveridge to Cobram and across to Albury-Wodonga (over 120 schools!)

Last year our Education Support Staff were recognised for their outstanding work with our students in these awards.

In 2013 our Think Links program was awarded the Hume Region Curriculum Innovation Award. This is an amazing achievement and one for which we are absolutely stoked!

The students and staff have been learning together and the relationships developed between students from grades Prep to Grade Six and between students and staff have been wonderful to witness.

Congratulations to everyone involved!!! Our beautifully engraved plate is on display in the foyer — we now have a matching pair.

We have plans to further improve Think Links in 2013 so stay tuned…….

Wishes do come true…..

Thank you to Cameron and Zoe who assisted me on Monday, being little “Principals” for the day as a result of achieving 150 nights of home reading. They enjoyed listening to students read in classes, sorted and repacked the construction sets ready for 2013 and helped in the office. Your help was much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to our raffle winners and many thanks to everyone for your donations.
Wandong Primary School has been placed on the Bushfire At Risk Register for the 2012/2013 summer. Please read the details below. All families will receive an individual letter at the beginning of 2013 with our Bushfire Evacuation plan.

**Code Red Extreme Weather Days Closures**

Schools, kindergartens and licensed child care centres that have been identified as being at high fire risk and on the Department's Bushfire At-Risk Register will close on days declared Code Red. Code Red Extreme Weather Days are declared by the CFA and a number of factors must be met before they will declare one. A Day of Total Fire Ban, is **not** automatically a Code Red Extreme Weather Day.

**We are on the Bushfire At-Risk Register.**

Where possible, up to 3-days notice of a planned closure will be provided; parents and carers should, however, expect that in some instances fewer than 3-days notice may be provided.

Once the final decision to close is confirmed at 12 noon the day prior, this decision will not change – regardless of any changes in the weather forecast. This will help limit confusion and help your family plan for how your children will be cared for when their school, kindergarten or child care centre is closed.

When a school or children's service is closed for bushfire, no staff will remain on site and all out-of-school care programs (including vacation, before and after school programs) will not operate.

The best source of information on whether the school is open or closed is the DEECD website, the direct link to the list is:


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**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

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**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 tjheathcote@gmail.com

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**Literacy**

**Storytelling- part 2**

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.

Story-telling might be about:

- A favourite character from a book or television program.
- Another family member.
- Your child’s favourite toy.

Here are some tips to start your storytelling:

1. Make it exciting, with different voices, puppets, props or a finger play.
2. Start with what interests your child.

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**Thank you Adam!**

Thank you to Adam Dennehy for all of his work in the gardens and school maintenance.

Adam will continue to do the mowing in 2013 but not the gardening.

The position will be advertised early in Term One.
Community Christmas Carols: Well done to the students who represented our school at the Community Christmas Carols at the Wandong Memorial Stadium on Sunday night. You did us all proud and sounded delightful. Thank you!

Wandong Primary School Christmas Concert: We know Christmas is close when we attend our school Christmas Concert. The students sounded delightful and were certainly very excited about Christmas. Many thanks to the families who attended. The weather held up and we were all well entertained by the singing and dancing.
Catching up with our past Grade Six Students.

On Tuesday after school, our 2011 Grade sixes were invited back to our school for a catch-up/chat with our 2012 Grade Sixes. This was part of our “Transition to Secondary School” process. It was great to see our past “grown up” students and an opportunity for this year’s sixes to ask any pressing questions.
Wandong Junior Football Club
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

Student Welfare News
Thank you to the families who have returned their parent surveys and could all families who haven't, please do so as soon as possible.
Here are some fun recipes that we enjoyed at the lunchtime activity club.
Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday. ~ Christmas Cheers, Toni

### SLIME

**Ingredients**
- 1 Cup Lux soap flakes
- 2 Litres hot water
- Electric mixer
- Large plastic bowl
- Food colouring

1. Dissolve soap flakes in hot water in large plastic bowl
2. Add food colouring
3. Beat mixture with egg beaters/mixer until all soap flakes are dissolved
4. Leave to stand over night
5. Add more hot water if needed or to dissolve slime (only add ½ cup at a time) & re beat mixture the following day

**Lux soap flakes are available at most supermarkets in the laundry isle**

**DO NOT** dispose of this mixture down the sink as this mixture may clog drains

### PLAYDOUGH

**Ingredients**
- 4 Cups Plain flour
- 2 cups salt
- 1 pkt of cream of tartar
- 4 tablespoons oil
- 4 cups water
- Food colouring

1. Mix flour, salt, cream of tartar in a saucepan
2. Add oil, food colouring to the water, then add to mixture
3. Cook over medium heat until mixture thickens, stirring constantly
4. Store in airtight container in the fridge

**The playdough is cooked when you pinch it between your fingers & it does not stick to fingers**

### GOOP

**Ingredients**
- 2 pkts cornflour
- 2 cups water
- Food colouring
- Large container

1. Place cornflour into a large bowl
2. Add food colouring to the water, then add to the mixture
3. Stir whisk until smooth & thick consistency
4. Add water if necessary

### SNOW SOAP

**Ingredients**
- 2 cups Lux soap flakes
- ½ -1 cups cold water
- Large plastic bowl
- Cardboard
- Piping bag
- Food colouring
- Electric mixer

1. Put cold water into a bowl & add food colouring
2. Add lux soap flakes & beat mixture until stiff, **do not** under beat
3. Place mixture into a piping bag & pipe onto cardboard

**Lux soap flakes are available at most supermarkets in the laundry isle**

**DO NOT** dispose of this mixture down the sink as this mixture may clog drains
WOW! .... WHAT’S ON @ WANDONG

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

JANUARY 2013
Friday 25th January - Book pickup day
Thursday 31st January - Term one begins for all students

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

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: 29
(Total number of preps: 37)
Grade one/twos: 45
(Total number of 1/2s: 67)
Grade three/fours: 52
(Total number of 3/4s: 61)
Grade five/sixes: 34
(Total number of 5/6s: 79)

Total absence days across the school for this semester {1007}

Congratulations to this week’s winners....

Three/Four Unit
(85% of students had full attendance)
Awesome effort!
“Every day is an important day to be at school.”

One/Two News
All students in Mrs Mac grade only are asked to wear their pyjamas on Thursday for a very special wish from Oliver McKinlay.
Please come to school dressed your pj’s for the day.

A big thank you to Olivia Brincat for finding and handing in our camera at last Sunday Carols by Candlelight concert.
Gail, David, Benjamin and Kate.

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

Have a wonderful holiday break everyone and see you all back at school on the 31st January, 2013 (Thursday).

Merry Christmas