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

164 families at WPS.
Completed payments = 65% (107 families)

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

“What did you learn today?”

Congratulations to Blue House

Our Blue House students were delighted when it was announced that their team had the biggest total for our Wandong Primary School Mini Olympics last Wednesday.

A full wrap-up is featured on page two of the newsletter, however a lovely letter that Mr Fearn received after the event sums it all up. Please read below:

“Dear Mr Fearn and WPS staff.
I am writing to congratulate you on the excellent organisation of the school Athletics day yesterday. It was obvious that many hours of planning and preparation was involved to ensure a smooth and fun day for all students. May I also offer congratulations to all staff for their enthusiasm (despite the difficult weather!) It was clear that all children were encouraged to “have a go” and all were included in the medal rewards.
Once again, congratulations and thank you to all people involved in an excellent day of fun, sports and friendship.
Well done.” ~ Robyn Mumberson

There will be no assembly on Friday due to Special Friend’s Day

Australian Education Union Strike Action

Families are informed that industrial action in the form of a strike day is planned for Wednesday 5th September across Victoria. Information regarding the planned action, and classes that will be impacted upon, will be sent home early next week.
A Message from the Principal....

Mini Olympics: The weather held out, despite a very cold morning, and we all headed down to L. B. Davern Reserve for the Wandong Primary School Mini Olympics. Mr Fearn had done an amazing job, not only in organising all of the activities and setting them up on the oval before school in the thick fog, but also had staff well prepared with checklists and schedules to ensure the day ran very smoothly. The sun peeked through a few times which cheered everyone up – although a few students did end up on the ground in the odd mud patch.

With a range of activities on offer, all grades participated in age appropriate events and it was wonderful to see the students cheering on and supporting each other. Our school values were evident throughout the day. Students achieved gold, silver or bronze medals, based not only on results in events but also on their willingness to participate and display “good sportsmanship.”

At lunchtime, after we had returned to school, Mr Fearn added up all of the scores. Blue House were awarded the winner’s plaque. Trent and Stephanie accepted the plaque on behalf of their “Blue team.”

Many thanks to the staff for braving the cold; to the students for their willingness to participate in a friendly and supportive manner and to the parents who came along and supported the event. A fabulous fun school day!!!

Curriculum Day: Staff participated in our final curriculum day for the year and, as explained in previous newsletters, we focussed on “Feedback” and “KidsMatter.”

Key learnings from the “Feedback” sessions were:

Feedback given to students by the teacher

Feedback needs to be timely (ie: given as close as possible to when the action was completed)

Feedback specifically related to the task a student is completing OR the process he/she is following will have the greatest benefit for student learning

Feedback told to a child will have more impact that feedback written down – however we need to remember that writing things down for students does allow them to look back at their previous feedback and reflect on their progress.

Feedback given to the teacher by students

There are a range of ways through which students provide formal and informal feedback to teachers.

Students need to be taught how to give specific feedback to the teacher on the quality of his/her teaching – What did the student understand/misunderstand?

Feedback from students needs to be used to reflect on the teaching strategies previously used by the teacher (eg How successful was the teaching for that lesson? Did the students understand?)

Feedback from students needs to be used to change the direction of a series of lessons if the teaching strategy is not achieving the desired outcome.

All staff have goals related to giving and receiving feedback in their annual performance plans. (These were developed in term one.) On Friday we all reflected on our individual progress towards achieving our individual goals. Some staff also refined their goals following the professional learning.

As a school, we are really focussing on the things that make a difference, and effective feedback is a great way to ensure teachers respond effectively to how their students are progressing.

Kids Matter: The KidsMatter initiative was shared with all staff, including our integration aides and business manager Ros. It was wonderful to see Max (from Wandong Bus and Coach) also attend our session. The importance of mental health was explained as were the key concepts of “promotion” and “prevention.” In a nutshell, the more effort we put into promoting mental health, the less chance we have of students and families slipping into the “at risk” category. “A Positive School Community” is the first phase of our implementation of Kids Matter, and as a staff group we discussed possible events and activities that we could introduce or refine to further engage with our school community. Stay tuned for an update from the Kids Matter Action team in the coming weeks.

This Monday 27th at 10am, we will be having a ‘ground breaking ceremony’ at the site of our new landscape seating area. Kevin Hannan, whose Bendigo Bank branch in Wallan, donated $10,000 as part of their community support program will be down to help turn the first sod. The local newspaper will be here to take photos so please come down to share in this great moment for the school.

Have a great week ~ Rhonda Cole
**Literacy and Numeracy Week**

Week 7 - 27 August to 2nd September.

**Monday 27th August**

10:00 a.m. Group of grade five students reading to residents at Dianella Hostel in Kilmore.

**During Numeracy session:** Numeracy Activity across the whole school. Who has the largest name?

*This task focuses on counting, addition, estimating, reading, writing and ordering numbers.*

**Wednesday 29th August**

Buddy up reading morning from 9:15 - 10.00am – students reading to each other and to their teacher.

**Wednesday 29th August – You’re invited!!!!**

Open Afternoon at 3.00 pm for parents, grandparents, and friends to see their child completing their individual Number Fluency tasks.

*Come and join in on the fun!*

**Thursday 30th August**

Dress up as your favourite book character.

(Parade on the asphalt at 9.10 - weather permitting.)

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**Welcome back Sarah.**

Sarah Comopolous will be assisting Miss Giacomini every Tuesday in Prep G as part of work experience. The preps look forward to seeing Sarah and love having her help them with their learning.
Congratulations to the following students who have finished the challenge!

Corey Gibbons, Crystal Thompson, Eloise Harrison,
Lewis Kambouris, Lucas Bartolo, Aidan Bartolo, Georgia Thomson,
Charlie Broderick, Hayley Mumberson, Adara Curry, Bridgette Davies,
Mikayla Gibbons, Hugh Drofenik, Grace Hannemann, Katherine Adam,
Nicholas Adam, Max Davies, Daniel Adam

Remember to enter your books on to the website. The challenge finishes on the 10th September, 2012.

Chook News.....

5 cent Friday...

To assist with the upkeep of our chooks, we collect any loose coins on Fridays. Please send any loose coins along with your child. They will then place them into the class jar for counting. We need to buy grain, nesting straw and fresh greens to supplement the chickens regular meals of lunch scraps.

Last week’s total...$16.75
(This total also contains the money from the sale of the very fresh eggs)

Karate 4 Kids - Karate classes for children who would like to learn Karate will operate at our school in the hall every Tuesday evening. Classes will run from 6:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Children must be over 5 years of age. This is a "Beginners" class.

If you would like to know more, please contact Mark Abela on 0417323669

Woolworth Earn & Learn
Excellent result!

We have collected over 41,200 points.
The completed cards will be sent off to Woolworths shortly so if you have any cards that are incomplete, we have stickers donated from community members to help fill the cards.

SPECIAL FRIEND’S DAY–Friday August 24th 2012

MORNING / AFTERNOON TEA

Parents are asked to supply a plate- (biscuits, sandwiches, cakes etc) for our Special Friend’s Day.

If your child is in PREP we ask you to deliver the plate to the kitchen of our hall between 9:00 am and 11:00 am.

If your child is in Grade 1 /2 we ask you to deliver the plate to the kitchen of our hall between 1:00 pm and 1:30 pm.

Thank you.

Thank you to Coles Wallan

The lovely staff at Coles Wallan have also been busy collecting vouchers for Wandong Primary.

Mr Fearn was very grateful and surprised by the very heavy box.

Father’s Day Stall
Wednesday 29th August 2012

REMEmBER TO Bring SOme MOney TO ScHool so THAT you CAN Buy A gReAt gIfT FOr Dad.

Prices from $1.00 to $5.00
**WOW! .... WHAT’S ON @ WANDONG**

**Friday 24th August**  - Special Friend’s Day
**Monday 27th August**  - Literacy and Numeracy week begins
**Monday 27th August**  - Grade five students visit to Dianella Hostel for reading (Group One)
**Tuesday 28th August** - District Athletics Carnival
**Wednesday 29th August** - Buddy up reading morning
(Open Afternoon from 3pm to watch your children do Number Fluency Tasks)
**Wednesday 29th August** - Tony's Pies of Essendon orders due today
**Wednesday 29th August** - Father’s Day Stall
**Thursday 30th August** - Dress up day ‘favourite book character’
**Friday 31st August** - School tour for 2012 new students
(9:30-10:30am)
**Friday 31st August** - Final payment for 5/6 camp due today
**Friday 31st August** - Final payment for 3/4 camp due today

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sunday 2nd September**  - Father’s Day
**Monday 3rd September**  - Our Story Incursion—Prep–six
**Tuesday 4th September** - Thinklinks session 12:30 -1:30pm
**Friday 7th September** - Footy Colours Day
**Friday 7th September** - Tony’s Pies of Essendon delivery day and pick up day
**Monday 10th September** - Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes
**Monday 10th September** - Grade five students visit to Dianella Hostel for reading (Group Two)
**Wed 12th—Fri 14th Sept** - Grade Five/six camp
**Tuesday 18th September** - Thinklinks session 12:30 -1:30pm
**Wed 19th Sept—Fri 21st** - Grade Three/four camp
**Friday 21st Sept** - Term three payment for netbook due
**Friday 21st September** - Last day of term three

**OCTOBER**

**Monday 8th October**  - First day of term four

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

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**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:** 25
(Total number of preps: 37)
**Grade one/twos:** 51
(Total number of 1/2s: 67)
**Grade three/fours:** 47
(Total number of 34s: 61)
**Grade five/sixes:** 63
(Total number of 5/6s: 82)

Total absence days across the school for this semester {253}

Congratulations to this week’s winners....

Three/Four Unit
(77% of students had full attendance)

Super effort!

“Every day is an important day to be at school.”
“OUR STORY”
Whole school incursion
When: Monday 3rd September
Where: School Hall
Cost: $6.00 per student
OR $10 per family of 2 or more children.
Forms have been sent home with today’s newsletter.

“PARENT’S CLUB FUNDRAISER”
Pie Drive
We have organised to conduct a Pie Drive with Tony’s Pies of Essendon. Tony’s Pies will supply us with a range of their freshly baked pies, pasties, quiches and sausage rolls on Friday 7th September.
All the products will be freshly baked and will be suitable to go straight into the freezer if you wish. Enclosed with today’s newsletter is a yellow order form.
Please return your order and payment to the office before 29th August.

I would like to congratulate all of the staff, students and parents involved with Wakakirri 2012. Everyone displayed all of the school values during the day and represented Wandong Primary School exceptionally well. Everyone should be very proud of themselves. Not only did you perform well on stage, but you also won the Teamwork award for the second time in a row. This shows that everyone involved in the performance worked well together and did their best to help each other.

We finally received the feedback for our performance and I am pleased to announce that we received gold for the “Reduce, Re-use and Recycle component of our performance (having re-used many costumes from our extensive collection and material that was left over from past productions). We received silver for our story, music, characterisation,
This is a large improvement from our previous performance two years ago. We look forward to hearing if we will be progressing to the finals but even if we are unsuccessful in making it to the finals, everyone should be very proud of their contribution towards our performance.
The professional photos that were taken on the day will be available soon. Stay tuned for details!!  ~ Emma Cachia
“What is a Quatrain?” I hear you say. The students in 3/4 Y have this week been writing them. Quatrain comes from the French word for ‘four’ ‘quatre’, this means that these poems consist of four lines. There are four different rhyming patterns: AAAA, AABB, ABAB and ABBA. Each letter representing each line. Here is a collection of some of their fantastic work on Quatrain writing.

From Mrs Yaneff and the students in 3/4Y.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poem Title</th>
<th>Poem</th>
<th>Rhyming Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There once was a cat</td>
<td>My favourite show is iCarly</td>
<td>“Squidge in a Haunted House”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who put on a hat</td>
<td>When I watch it makes me want a website</td>
<td>Squidge lived in a haunted house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>While holding a bat</td>
<td>It reminds me of Bali</td>
<td>He loved a good pat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And then he hit a rat.</td>
<td>I might call my website Funsite</td>
<td>His friends include a mouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>By Coby H.</strong></td>
<td><strong>By Chantel K.</strong></td>
<td><strong>By Max D.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(rhyming pattern AAAA)</td>
<td>(rhyming pattern ABAB)</td>
<td>(rhyming pattern ABAB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“The Cat”</td>
<td>“Squidge in a Haunted House”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There once was a cat</td>
<td>When I was praying</td>
<td>There was a horse called Scout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He is a scout</td>
<td>I started playing</td>
<td>Then she went through a drought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He met a rat</td>
<td>Then I grew a beard</td>
<td>Then she saw the King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And there was a drought.</td>
<td>And I learnt how to read.</td>
<td>The King gave her a ring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>By Ryan A.</strong></td>
<td><strong>By Mariam A.</strong></td>
<td><strong>By Corbin M.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(rhyming pattern ABAB)</td>
<td>(rhyming pattern ABAB)</td>
<td>(rhyming pattern AABB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I once went out</td>
<td>There was once a cat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I went to Scout</td>
<td>Who saw a rat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I went to see a cat</td>
<td>Who whacked me with a hat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who was really really fat.</td>
<td>Then he was dancing on a bat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>By Charlie D.</strong></td>
<td><strong>By Cameron S.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(rhyming pattern AABB)</td>
<td>(rhyming pattern ABB)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TRANSITION**

Recently our grade five students attended the Wallan Secondary College performance of High School Musical Jr. We were lucky enough to be sitting in the front rows for the performance. This is the first time that our grade five students have attended Wallan Secondary College this year. We were invited to Broadford Secondary College to be in the audience for their production but are unfortunately unable to attend due to our Mini Olympics day being scheduled for the same day.

To further prepare our students for secondary school, the grade 5/6 unit have this semester implemented student diaries. Similar to secondary school, these have a student pass page that needs to be signed if a student needs to leave the class during learning time. There is also space for the students to record what they did during the day so that all students can get used to reading a timetable. All students are expected to record when their home learning is due and when they have after school commitments so they can learn to manage their time and plan when they can do their home learning.
Literacy:

Grabbing opportunities to write at home every day.

Part 1

Like Reading, Writing becomes an everyday activity at home. Let your child see you involved in Writing. Try some of these Writing related ideas at home:

~ Write a shopping list or add items to the list and encourage your child to tick off the items as you buy or unpack them.

~ Keep a board onto which you write family messages. Enjoy reading messages from others.

~ Give your child a pad of sticky notes to write reminders for themselves.

~ Hide a little note in your child’s lunchbox – how delightful for a child to get a message from Mum or Dad when they grab out their sandwich!!