8th August 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.”

Prep B: Dargam Al-Ghazawi—(Having a positive attitude towards all of his learning)

Prep G: Findlay Edwards—(An amazing effort in reading)

1/2 C: Kaitlin O’Neill—(Showing the value of ‘Doing Your Best’)

1/2 H: Wyatt Mundy—(An improved attitude towards all areas of school)

1/2 M: Brodie Reid—(Taking pride in the presentation of all tasks)

3/4 C: Shani McLeish—(Always having a go at all learning tasks)

3/4 S: Thomas Simon—(Asking questions about our Inquiry topic ‘Dreamtime’)

3/4 Y: Daley Gibbons—(Always demonstrating ‘Doing Your Best’ during Numeracy)

5/6 E: Tali Kean—(Writing a very descriptive horror narrative)

5/6 K: Yasmin-Grace Coombes—(Working hard to achieve his weekly writing goal)

5/6 P: Jordan Nativo—(Showing the values of ‘Care’ and ‘Friendship’ through his willingness to help others)

Curriculum Day: Our final Curriculum Day for this year is on Friday 17th August. Students will not be required to attend school on this day.

Parents Payments Received

164 families at WPS.
Completed payments = 64%
(106 families)

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

“What did you learn today?”
A Message from the Principal....

Dear Families,

**Kid’s Matter:** Two weeks ago, Cassie Langdon, Cathrine Yaneff, Alison Stone (our parent representative) and I attended two days of professional learning for the Kids Matter initiative. The initiative will be introduced into our school, with the action team meeting over the coming weeks to get the ball rolling. Please refer the Kids Matter update later in the newsletter for more details.

**National Tree Planting Day:** Our Tree Planting Day last Friday was a big success with many areas of the school yard now planted out. The area near the chook yard is slowly transforming, thanks to the delightful totem poles created by each classroom in their recent art classes. The addition of greenery amongst the poles adds to their appeal. The addition of mulch has further improved the grade six area under the big blue shade sail. Additional plantings around the big gas tank and behind the cricket nets look fabulous. Many thanks to all students for their hard work, and to Adam and Lisa Dennehy for their organisation of the plants and planting areas.

**Adults verses Students Basketball Match:** A fun afternoon was had last Friday as the adults took on the students in basketball. The adults got out to a big lead but the students slowly pegged them back. When the game was halted due to the start of the whole school assembly, the adults were two points up. The students are eager for a re-match so stay tuned for a future event.

**Intergenerational Program:** Over the coming term, our grade five students will be involved in a program with the elderly residents of Dianella Hostel in Kilmore. Our students will visit the hostel in groups of ten, spending around one hour reading and conversing with the residents. The aim of the program is to give the residents the opportunity to mix with younger people. We see this as an opportunity for our students to promote our school values of “Care”, “Respect” and “Doing your Best.”

Have a great week ~ Rhonda Cole
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.

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...$12.05
(This total also contains the money from the sale of the very fresh eggs)

Congratulations to Yellow House Hayley Cashen and Abby Hurst (Yellow House captain and vice-captain) are proudly hold the winner’s trophy.

Bushfire Safety Plan

The school has a Bushfire Safety Plan to keep our students safe in the event of a bushfire. This plan includes evacuation procedures and emergency contact information. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Planning for 2013.

Exiting students:

We are now in the initial stages of planning for the 2013 school year. To assist us with staffing, please indicate if your child WILL NOT be returning to Wandong Primary School next year. (Please fill this in even if you have told the office.)

Child’s name/s: ................................................................. Room/s: ............

New arrivals:

Alternatively, if you know of a relative/friend who we should be expecting next year (ie: new enrolment), please list their details below so we can check these against our records.

Their name: ..................................................... Your name: .........................

Please return to the office tomorrow if possible. Thank you!

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL SUPER READER'S CLUB:

Congratulations to the following students who have finished the challenge:

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.

If you need help entering the books please contact the office.

Congratulations to the following students who have finished the challenge:

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.

If you need help entering the books please contact the office.

Congratulations to the following students who have finished the challenge:

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.

If you need help entering the books please contact the office.

Congratulations to the following students who have finished the challenge:

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.

If you need help entering the books please contact the office.
WOW! .... WHAT'S ON @ WANDONG

Monday 13th August  - Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers and cards need to be sent to the school
Monday 13th August  - School Council Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Monday 13th August  - Conveyance Allowance forms due
Monday 13th August  - Mini Olympic House Sports Forms due
Wednesday 15th August - Mini Olympic House Sports day
Thursday 16th August  - Expression of interest for swimming due
Friday 17th August  - Curriculum Day - No students at school
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
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
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

Monday 3rd September  - Our Story Incursion—Prep-six
Friday 7th September  - Footy Colours Day
Friday 7th September  - Tony’s Pies of Essendon delivery day
Monday 10th September  - Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes
Wed 12th—Fri 14th Sept  - Grade Five/six camp
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)

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: 30
(Total number of preps: 37)
Grade one/twos: 55
(Total number of 1/2s: 67)
Grade three/fours: 50
(Total number of 34s: 61)
Grade five/sixes: 65
(Total number of 5/6s: 82)

Total absence days across the school for this semester {143}

Congratulations to this week’s winners....

One/Two Unit
(82% of students had full attendance)

Super effort!

“Every day is an important day to be at school.”
Woolworth Earn & Learn

JUST ONE WEEK TO GO!

The Earn & Learn program finishes on the 12th August, 2012. We have collected 26,600 points and are well on our way to reach our target of 25,000.

Yay team, we have reached our target.

Now can we get to 30,000 before the 12th August???

So keep eating, keep collecting and help us reach our goal.

If you have any cards that are incomplete, we have stickers donated from community members to help fill the cards.

Upcoming Curriculum Day - Friday 17th August.

Staff will use our final curriculum day for this year to further investigate our 2013 priority of “Feedback” and to begin planning for “Kids Matter.”

At the beginning of the year, we spent one full day looking at the ways in which we give students feedback and the types of feedback that are most effective for student learning – that is feedback about the task the student is completing and about the student’s ability to monitor their progress. Our next step is to discuss the ways in which staff can receive feedback from students – whether it is through the results of data collected, the behaviour of students during a learning activity or the level of motivation and engagement displayed by the student. In the second half of the curriculum day, we will investigate the Kid’s Matter initiative and set steps in place to further involve our community in school life and support the development of mental health for all members of our community.

Literacy

ASKING your child questions

By asking questions you can support your child to:

- share their enjoyment of reading and writing.
- develop a better understanding about the characters or topics.
- develop a sense of empathy for others.
- develop their values, attitudes and beliefs about the world.
- broaden their experience and knowledge of the world.
- foster their imagination.
- consider the important points in what they are reading.

Mrs Langdon’s ThinkLinks

Mrs Langdon’s Thinklinks group is going to be doing scrapbooking. If anyone has any materials that can be recycled such as ribbons, wrapping paper etc it would be much appreciated.
Kids Matter at WPS

Kids Matter is a national initiative that aims to contribute to:

- improving students mental health and wellbeing
- reducing mental health difficulties amongst students
- increasing support for student's experiencing mental health difficulties

A key message during the two days of professional learning recently completed by our Kid's Matter Action Team was....

“Successful Schools Start with Healthy Minds.”

“As a parent we are looking at Kids Matter as a way of broadening our ideas for the ways in which we can involve and invite our families into the school—especially those families who are not currently actively involved in our school for whatever reason.” - Alison Stone.

“I was amazed at what we are already doing at Wandong Primary School and I look at Kids Matter as an umbrella under which we can tweak our ideas and add new events into our school.” - Cathrine Yaneff

“The most important thing we need to learn about is Mental Health—what is it and why it is important to have a healthy mind and a positive attitude towards life.” - Cassandra Langdon

“For a school to be proactive in their whole school approach, we need to promote mental health through a comprehensive early intervention and prevention process.” - Sharon Blackwell (SSSO Hume Regional Office)

“The words “Mental Health” can immediately cause worry and anxiety. During our Kids Matter professional learning we learnt about mental health and the difference between mental health and mental illness. A focus for our school will be to support the development of mental health for the entire Wandong Primary School community—the staff, students, parents, visitors and guests. Supporting mental health will have a positive impact on our school as a whole.” - Rhonda Cole

More information about this initiative can be accessed at the website:
www.kidsmatter.edu.au. We encourage you to have a look.

Stay tuned for more information

“PARENT'S CLUB FUNDRAISER”

Pie Drive

We have organised with Tony’s Pies of Essendon to conduct a Pie Drive, 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.
Artroom News!

It has been a busy start to term three and I am excited to say that all grades have now completed their garden poles which are now installed in the area in front of the chicken house. Students in years five and six created individual ceramic tiles for their poles, while all year one-four students submitted a design to be voted upon by their classmates before a final idea was chosen. The final design was then completed by all members of the class. Prep students learnt about the technique of stencilling, as used by Indigenous Australians on rocks and cave walls, and took turns applying paint over the pre-cut stencils.

Personally, and on behalf of the school community, I send a huge thank-you to Adam Dennehy who, together with some of our 5-6 students, dug the holes and concreted in the poles.

If you haven’t had a chance to see the new artwork, please take the time to come and have a look!

In other classroom news, all grades are well under way with their current themes. With term three’s focus on cultures, students in P-2 are investigating aspects of the Olympics and Paralympics games. Prep students have learnt about the awards given to athletes in ancient times, as opposed to current day, by creating their own Olympic wreaths.
Supporting Students with Allergic Reactions:

Our school is continuing to support students who suffer from allergic reactions.

Artroom News!

Year one and two students have used clay to begin re-creating the London Olympic mascots, and have discussed styles of previous Olympic torches while constructing their own in the style of the current London Olympic torch.

Year five and six students have been given the challenging, yet exciting task of considering the needs of a rapidly growing global community, by designing and constructing future cities. They began by using their net-books to explore the program Google Sketch-up. They investigated a number of tools to create three dimensional images and built upon their knowledge of creative architecture. While working in small groups, students have made predictions of living conditions in a city 100 years from today. They have completed initial designs and are soon to begin the construction process. Please take the time to discuss your child’s ideas. While some of their ideas involve underwater or space cities, they are required to consider legitimate needs such as, nutrition, education, work and recreational facilities. This promises to be a thought-provoking activity and I look forward to sharing the outcomes with you!

Andrea Lewis.