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.

Congratulations to our ‘Students of the Week’

Foundation B Whole Class Award: (A truly amazing beginning to their school year)
Foundation F Whole Class Award: (Displaying the value of “Friendship” when settling in to school routines)
Foundation K Whole Class Award: (Completing a fabulous first week of school)
Foundation T Whole Class Award: (Having a super start to school by “Doing their Best” and “Having a Go”)

1/2A: Cody Faralla (Being a great helper in his classroom)
1/2G: Chloe Mazurek (Excellent demonstration of five star quality bookwork)
1/2M: Rebecca Houston (Displaying the school value of “Care” with her friends)
1/2P: Liam Wolfe (Making a great start to Grade Two and earning two gold tickets on the first day)
1/2S: Chloe Milani (Making an effort & being a cheerful member of her class)
1/2V: Emily Arnup (Showing the school value of “Responsibility” and being an excellent role model to her peers)

3/4B: Trinity Hobson (Undertaking her roles in the classroom responsibly)
3/4M: Xavier Hemphill (Consistently trying his hardest and helping others in the classroom)
3/4W: Jett Murphy (Displaying improvement and effort in counting)

5/6B: Lachlan Barnes (Displaying great enthusiasm and fantastic ideas when starting his writers notebook)
5/6T: Shae McDonald (Using higher order vocabulary in her personal writing)
5/6Z: Alisha Frendo (Consistently trying her best and showing great leadership in the classroom)

Reminder

Monday 15th February - School Council Election information going home to families / School Council Information session at 5:30pm / February School Council meeting at 6:00pm (Last meeting of 2015/2016 SC)

Wednesday 17th February - Parent Information Sharing Sessions (2:00pm - 7:00pm) - All F-6 classrooms

www.wandongps.vic.edu.au
A Message from the Principal Team

Dear Families,

I would like to warmly welcome everyone back to, what will be, another exciting and wonderful year at Wandong Primary School. There is a buzz and excitement around the school with a mixture of familiar and new faces – both staff and students.

Parent/Carer Information Sharing Session – WEDNESDAY 17th February

Last Thursday, a letter was sent home informing families of the upcoming Parent/Carer Information Sharing session on Wednesday 17th February. These are 10 minute sessions for families to share information about their child with their classroom teacher. This year, we are using Sentral to book in session times through the parent portal. As well as booking interview times, the parent portal provides parents/carers with 24/7 access to their child’s data. Parents can login to access their child’s report, attendance information and welfare details as well as updating family contact details. So, now that families have logged in to book an interview time, why not have a look at some of the other features the Sentral Parent Portal can offer. As a school, we will be using both the student and Parent Portal extensively this year and into the future. If you require any assistance logging on, or would like to know more about how to use the portal, please let me know. Online bookings will close on Monday 15th @ 9.00am. Please ensure you have made your appointment by this time.

Emergency Evacuation Practice

7minutes 30seconds was all it took to evacuate the entire school to the church car park on Friday. This was a planned emergency evacuation practice where teachers and students knew the practice was going to occur. Everything ran smoothly. Over the coming weeks, we will conduct additional evacuation practices – without letting teachers or students know when they will happen. This will be a real test to see how quickly and effectively we can evacuate the school. We will report back to the school community when each evacuation practice has occurred.

Newsletter Subscriptions & Facebook Page

A reminder to families that you can receive the school newsletter via email. Simply go to the school website, click on the newsletter tab and click on the subscribe icon.

All newsletters are also published in the Parent Portal in Sentral.

Families are also invited to join the official Wandong Primary School Facebook page. Search for Wandong Primary School and request membership. Membership is open to all immediate adult family members.

Reports Forum

This year, we are using the new Victorian Curriculum to drive what is taught in the classroom. With the new curriculum, we have the opportunity to review and enhance the way teachers report to families. We are holding parent forums on Wednesday 24th February at 2:45pm and 6:00pm. Input from families is vital. Help us to develop our report process to ensure we deliver information about your child’s academic progress in a way that is both relevant and meaningful to you. If you wish to attend, please fill in the attendance reply below.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Reporting Forum

Name: _______________________________________

I will be attending the report forum on:

☐ Wednesday 24th February at 2.45pm

☐ Wednesday 24th February at 6.00pm

Until next week - Anthony Potesta

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL IS PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Wallan & Kilmore Community Bank® branches
Hello Everyone

Following are a few of the items discussed at our Parents and Friends Association meeting yesterday:

- Our new 2016 Parents and Friends Association committee members were elected. We welcome Liz Clarke as President, Cheryl Mann as Vice President and Jo Pascoe as Secretary.
- Great to see lots of new parents attending the meeting
- Numerous ideas were discussed for 2016 fundraising activities
- Donation request to be put in the newsletter for the upcoming Country Music Festival
- Parents to nominate if they have a business that would be willing to donate to any fundraisers throughout the year.

Next PAFA Meeting: 1st March 2015 (9:15am onwards in the staffroom)

Thanks
Liz Clarke - PAFA President

We would like to thank our previous committee for all their hard work.
Look out for our PAFA flyer which will come home next week with more information.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Are you interested in, or have you considered joining, the WPS School Council? If you would like to know more about what a school council does and how it is run, I invite you to an informal chat with Rhonda and myself over a coffee in the school staff room at 5.30pm, Monday 15th February. We will talk about the role of the school council, sub-committees, the process of a meeting and the commitment required. Please indicate your intention to attend this meeting by 9:00am Monday by contacting the office. As this is also a meeting night, you are more than welcome to stay and observe a school council meeting. If you are unable to make this time but have questions or would like to chat, please call Rhonda and we can arrange a time.

Penny Edwards - School Council President

2016 SCHOOL BANKING

The school provides a school banking service for both the Commonwealth Bank and the Bendigo Bank. This service will commence this Friday 12th February. If students wish to use the service, we ask that they bring their bank books in on Friday. These will then be processed on Tuesday and returned to students in their classroom tubs. Foundation students should have already received a school banking pack in order to assist with their school banking needs. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office.

We welcome Sharon Delaney as our 2016 School Banking co-ordinator and thank our retiring 2015 co-ordinator Kirstie Roberts for her school banking assistance during last year.

CONTACTERS NEEDED!

Due to the success of the Woolworths Earn & Learn program last year the school now has 235 new classroom readers that are in need of contacting.

If you could spare some time, we will provide the books and the user friendly contact.

If you are able to assist please drop into the school office.
What’s gone home this past week?

The following notices were sent home between Thursday 3rd February and Wednesday 10th February:

Whole school:
- Low immunity and contagious illnesses letter
- Calleja Family bereavement letter
- Parent/Carer Information Sharing Session flyer

Selected Families: Nil
Selected Students: Individual grade levels:

Foundation:
- Important Student Medical Information K-F
- Important Student Medical Information T-F
- Foundation Newsletter - 5th Feb 2015

One/Two:
- Important Student Medical Information 1/2A

Three/Four:
- 3/4 Parents email address request
- Sexuality education class information
- Important Student Medical Information 3/4M
- Important Student Medical Information 3/4W

Five/Six:
- Important Student Medical Information 5/6T
- Important Student Medical Information 5/6Z

Spare copies of notices are in the school foyer in the grade level trays.

EARLY DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL

Parents must come to the office to collect the early departure book and then collect their child from the classroom and have the teacher sign the book.

Students will not be called to the office unless absolutely necessary.

PARENT PAYMENTS RECEIVED

246 families at WPS.
61 Completed payments = 25%

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

“What did you learn today?”
Performing Arts, Visual Art & Sports Award Certificate Winners

Visual Art Award
Mystique Vella
(Presentation of a vibrant portrait)

Performer of the Week
Kayleigh O’Shannesy
(Creating interesting sound effects for different characters)

Sports Award - Best on Ground
Katlan Cook

Thursday is icy pole & ice cream day at WPS

Just send along 50 cents (icy pole) or $1.00 (ice-cream) and keep it in your zippy bag or lunchbox until the icy pole announcement.

Icy poles and ice creams are provided at lunchtime and are delicious on these really hot days.

WOOD FOR SALE

The tree beside the little fort had to be removed in order to make way for the new portables which now means we have a load of firewood for sale.

The wood will be raffled off and each family will receive a $5 ticket next week. If you would like to be in the draw please return your ticket with $5.

Student accident insurance, ambulance cover arrangements and private property brought to schools

Schools and families are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students.

Parents and guardians of students, who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover, are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

In some circumstances, medical or other expenses will be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely, in all the circumstances, that the Department is liable for negligent (careless) acts or omissions of its staff/volunteers.

Student accident insurance/ambulance cover policies are available from some commercial insurers, and can be obtained by school councils on a whole-of-school basis, or by parents/guardians for individual students.

Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and the Department does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. As the Department does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property students, staff should be discouraged from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Schools can provide children with exciting experiences, experiences which may help them better understand how the world works and sports can teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided for the Victorian government to assist eligible families to cover costs for school trips, camps and sporting activities. Schools can use this money to pay for items such as transportation and clothing.

For families with children who are on a government welfare package the Department may be able to provide a special CSEF contribution. Please contact your school for more information.

How to apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download it from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

The special CSEF amount per student is:

$100 for primary school students

$200 for secondary school students.
PUPPY PLAYTIME

We were very lucky to have Mrs Cole bring her six Australian Shepherd puppies in for a visit on Monday. Most of our students were able to sneak a cuddle and some even got a lick of approval, however there were some very tired puppies by the end of the day.

HEAD LICE

The school has been recently notified that a number of parents are having to treat their children for head lice.
The Department of Education and Training regulations state that students should not return to school until after a recognised corrective treatment has been commenced.

Please check your children’s hair regularly.

We also have a natural daily head lice prevention spray which can be purchased from the office for $2.00 per bottle.
BLACKBOARD FOR SALE

After our classroom cleanout last year we now have a medium size blackboard (184cm x126cm) for sale. We are asking $40.00 for the blackboard which is the perfect size for a cubby house so come and grab yourself a bargain but BYO chalk!
What is Kids Matter?

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

KidsMatter Primary provides the methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced students.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is one core component to help improve student's mental and health and wellbeing. Our whole school weekly focus is introduced at whole school assembly and is then explicitly taught to, and practised, by the students throughout the school week.

Our SEL (Social & Emotional Learning) focus is.....

Making New Friends

To teach children the basics of building and enhancing relationships with peers.

Most people want to be friends with others, but meeting new people isn’t always easy. It takes time to get to know another person.

The first step is starting a conversation. Try to think of something the other person might be interested in—something the two of you might both have experienced, such as, “Did you watch the football game last night?” or “Can you believe how much home learning we got?” Once you begin a conversation, the other person will usually join in, and you’ll be on your way to forming a friendship. When you feel comfortable with the other person, you can usually plan to do something together.

Final Thought:

Go out into the world today and love the people you meet. Let your presence light new light in the hearts of others.

Mother Teresa

FAMILY QUESTION TO DISCUSS AT HOME...

Ask...“What would you do if there was someone you’d like to be friends with?”