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: Lily Devitt (Having a go at writing words beginning with “Gg”)
Foundation F: Jayda Dickson (Consistently doing her best work)
Foundation K: Sebastian Schillaci (Displaying the value of “Friendship” & being a kind caring class member)
Foundation T: Matilda McCarty (Consistently showing respect and being a great classmate)
1/2A: Jaide Browne (Extending & challenging herself in Numeracy)
1/2G: Seth Barrat (Displaying a great effort when writing independently about his “Me Bag”)
1/2M: Samuel Shingles (Showing determination to complete his Maths tasks)
1/2P: Robert Fair (Working hard to learn all his letters of the week)
1/2S: Joshua Robertson (Diligently identifying vowels in his phonics lessons)
1/2V: Cohen Mitchell (Excellent work in phonics)
3/4B: Cooper Meulenmeesters (Displaying confidence and persistence in his learning)
3/4M: Emmeline Nastevski (Contributing well to class discussions)
3/4W: Blair Fitzpatrick (Trying his best to be a good listener and complete his learning tasks)
5/6B: Georgia Thomson (Showing continual persistence in trying new & difficult tasks)
5/6T: Sheryden Greeno (Demonstrating a commitment to completing all set learning tasks to a high standard)
5/6Z: Jesse Tremayne (Always doing his best in new and challenging activities)

Reminder
Friday 19th February - Early Assembly start at 2:45pm
Wednesday 24th - Parent Reporting Forum at 2:45pm & 6:00pm

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

Dear Families,

It has been very amazing, and heart–tugging, to observe the support and care shown by our school families over the past week. The funeral of Leanne Wilson was certainly a very sad event and touched many people. A huge thank you to everybody that was involved in assisting the family throughout this difficult time. Whilst many people cooked for the lunch after the service, others transported food, assisted with serving or even stayed to clean up. I know Anthony Calleja is extremely grateful to everyone for their support. It is certainly a very tough time for him and his four beautiful boys and our thoughts are with them all.

Parent Sharing Session: Well, you all should have booked in through Sentral and should have all enjoyed an opportunity to meet your child’s teacher today (or tonight). Developing strong communication ties is essential for a successful school year. Teachers and parents, who are on the same page, reinforce the same messages.... and the students reap the rewards. When teachers are building relationships with their students, any additional information provided by families can certainly assist to make this bond even stronger. Thank you to those who were able to participate. If you were unable to do so, please make an appointment with your child’s teacher in the very near future.

Student leadership selection: Over the past week, we have been completing the process of selecting our senior school student leaders. Grade six students have been preparing and presenting speeches for the roles of school captain, school vice-captain, house captain and house vice-captain. All will be announced at assembly this Friday. Assembly will start at 2:45 p.m. to allow time for all of the presentations to be completed. How exciting!!! Tomorrow, all of the grade five students will be trained as peer mediators. Our peer mediators have a major role within the school, assisting others to solve problems. They will work in pairs, one day per week for an eight week stint. Our first group of peer mediators will be presented at next week’s assembly.

Next week, classes will select their Student Representative Council. Each class will vote in two students who will assist me with fundraising.

It’s a busy time!!!

Wandong Parents and Friends Association. A notice went home yesterday outlining our new structure for WPAFA. It will certainly be a very exciting year and we hope we can rely upon your support. Please return the second page of the notice if you are able to help... every little bit counts.

School Council Elections: We are now in nomination phase for our 2016/2017 School Council. All families should have received information on Monday night – please see me if you have any questions or concerns.

Appointments with staff: As you can imagine, staff are very busy before and after school – either setting up/packing up classrooms, attending meetings or returning phone calls. It is very important that parents are given the full attention of staff, if there is to be a discussion occurring. For this reason, we recommend you book in a time for any formal discussions ahead of time. All teachers must attend weekly meetings on a Monday and Wednesday straight after school. By booking in a time, you will not be rushed off by staff. These bookings can be made through the office – just leave a message with Jane and the teacher will get back to you within 24 hours. Thank you for your understanding.

Sentral – Parent/Carer Information Sessions: Thank you to everyone who has booked their information session with their classroom teacher through Sentral. As of today, we have 86.34% of families booked in. Sentral will be used extensively this year for a variety of applications and purposes. It is important that all families register to use the system. If you are still experiences difficulties or don’t have access to a computer or the internet, please contact the office. Sentral can also be used through your smartphone. Later in the year, Sentral will be releasing an official ‘App’ for both Android and Apple.
A Message from the Principal Team (continued...)

School Council meeting: The following was discussed at the School Council meeting on Monday evening:

- Nominations are now requested to form the 2016/2017 school council. All families have received information and nomination forms can be collected from the office
- School Philosophy was completed. This will be a shared with all families with next week’s newsletter
- Future Directions forum last year - Rhonda to update families on what has already been addressed from the concerns/suggestions in next week’s newsletter. Once the new School Council is formed in March we will begin to look at other concerns.
- School Staffing Structure for 2016 was explained
- Grade 1/2 Incursion was approved
- Parents and Friends structure was explained and the list of proposed fundraising and fun events for 2016 was ratified
- School budget will need to be reviewed as it was based on 360 students and we have 352 students enrolled
- Rooms 3 and 4 (1/2M and 1/2A) have been repainted over the Christmas holiday break and had new carpet was laid last weekend. This is part of our cyclic upgrade – Rooms 1 and 2 were painted and recarpeted at the start of 2015 and room 5 will be done the same at the start of 2017
- A quote to reinstall the playground was accepted and this will be done in the coming weeks. Later in the year we may approach Bendigo Bank for a replacement shade sail. (Our previous shade sail was not able to be re-used.)
- Once playground is installed, we will top up all soft fall under tall playgrounds
- No working Bee in term one needed

Until next week - Rhonda Cole

Are you eligible for Conveyancing Allowance?

The eligibility criteria varies depending on the type of school attended and where it is located.

**Students attending a government or non-government school must:**

* attend their nearest government or non-government school/campus appropriate to their year level at which admission is permissible
* be enrolled at a school/campus outside Melbourne’s metropolitan conveyance boundary
* reside 4.8km or more by the shortest practicable route from that school/campus attended
  * be of school age (5 to 18 years old at time of application) and reside in Victoria.

Forms are available from the office and **must be returned by 19th February.**

The DET will **NOT** accept any late applications

Reports Forum

This year, we are beginning to implement the new Victorian Curriculum to drive what is taught in the classroom. We now have the opportunity to review and enhance the way teachers report student learning progress to families.

We are holding parent forums on Wednesday 24th February at 2:45pm and 6:00pm to seek input from families. Help us to develop our reporting 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
**WOW! ... WHAT'S ON @ WANDONG**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 19th</td>
<td>2016 District Swimming Championships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 22nd</td>
<td>2016 School Council Nominations close at 4:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24th</td>
<td>Parent Reporting Forum at 2:45pm &amp; 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 25th</td>
<td>Classroom Helpers information session (9:05am in the staffroom)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29th</td>
<td>Classroom Helpers information session (2:45pm in the staffroom)</td>
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<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st</td>
<td>Parents and Friends Association meeting (9:15am in the staffroom)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 6th</td>
<td>2016 Kilmore Country Music Festival stall (JJ Clancy Reserve opposite Trackside) 1st 2016 fundraiser for PAFA (more details next week)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 7th</td>
<td>First meeting of 2016/17 School Council meeting (including AGM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 9th</td>
<td>2017 School Tour (9:30am – 10:30am)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14th</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday <em>(No students required at school)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th</td>
<td>WPS Family 1 Grand Prix at Wandong Raceway (LB Davern Reserve)</td>
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**FIREWOOD RAFFLE**

Firewood raffle tickets have been sent out today.
If you would like to be in the draw please return your ticket with $5.
Extra tickets are available at the office.

**What’s gone home this past week?**

The following notices were sent home between Thursday 11th February and Wednesday 17th February:

**Whole school:**
- Art Room Little Tips information
- WPAFA news flyer & 2016 event schedule
- 2016 School Council Election information
- Firewood raffle ticket

**Selected Families:**
- 1:1 Netbook Program (Yrs 3-6) 2016

**Selected Students:**
- 2016 Mitchell South School Sports Association District Swimming Championships permission & payment form

**Individual grade levels:**
- **Foundation:** Nil
- **One/Two:** Nil
- **Three/Four:** Nil
- **Five/Six:** Nil

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

**PARENT PAYMENTS RECEIVED**

246 families at WPS.
61 Completed payments  
25%
Performing Arts, Visual Art & Sports Award

Certificate Winners

**Visual Art Award**
William Burns
(Creation of a mixed media portrait)

**Performer of the Week**
Cody Faralla
(Displaying confidence during a game and encouraging others to add dialogue to a performance)

**Sports Award - Best on Ground**
Carly Davon

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ARE YOU MISSING ITEMS FROM YOUR 2016 BOOKLIST ORDER?

Whilst a number of items that were on back order from our 2016 booklist supplier (Office Corporate) were distributed last Wednesday, should you still have any outstanding items from your order please contact the office.

Please note the Reflex Ultra White 80gsm Copy Paper A4, Simplee Soft Facial Tissues and Dotted thirds paper are delivered to the main school office and sent out to the classrooms on an as needs basis.

If you did not purchase copy paper and tissues from the booklist could you please supply these to the office as soon as possible as we are in the process of compiling a list of those parents/guardians that have not supplied these items and their family account will be charged accordingly.

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!

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Update about V/Line services

Our program of additional maintenance continues on our VLocity fleet with some services being replaced by road coaches.

We now have a stable service plan which will continue until mid-March to help provide certainty for customers so they can plan their travel.

In recognition of these ongoing service disruptions, V/Line is now offering free travel on coaches replacing trains.

Customers do not need to touch on and off their myki or buy a ticket when travelling on coaches that replace V/Line train services.

Customers travelling on regular V/Line train and scheduled V/Line coach services will need a valid ticket.

More information about free travel is available at ptv.vic.gov.au

A list of services replaced by coaches is available for staff, students and parents to view at vline.com.au

We apologise for any inconvenience during this period.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact us at comms@vline.com.au.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Melissa McKean, Emma Elliot and Joanne Mazurek for contacting the classroom readers that we received from the Woolworths Earn & Learn program.

Your help is greatly appreciated.
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.

STUDENT MOBILE PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please note that all student mobile phones and electronic devices must be handed into the office in the morning and collected after school.
2016 Health and Wellbeing Expo
10am - 2pm, Saturday 5 March 2016
Wallan Multi-Purpose Community Centre, 42 Bentinck Street

The 2016 Health and Wellbeing Expo will bring together sport, fitness and recreation, lifestyle, nutrition, holistic therapies, positive mental health and sexual health exhibitors.
A range of free demonstrations including healthy cooking, arts, dance, fitness and fun activities for everyone.

For more details and bookings please call 5724 6208 or email jade.freer@middlebush.vic.gov.au
Our SEL (Social & Emotional Learning) focus is.....

JOINING A GROUP

People participate in many different kinds of social groups: sports teams, clubs, and many more. A class is also a kind of group. Classmates are part of a social group experience every day at school. Some children are also in classes/groups, such as sport etc. that meet after school or on weekends. A child’s life—and an adults, too—is filled with different kinds of groups.

Becoming successful in a group is not an easy task. It involves many subtle skills of give-and-take, as well as the ability to assert oneself at appropriate times, as children learn and practise new skills.

How you can develop this SEL SKILL at home...

Family meetings can help children learn about taking turns, respecting the opinions of others, and making suggestions. By practising in weekly family meetings, children will become more comfortable with these skills and can eventually transfer them over to groups of their peers.

Final Thought:

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do some much.”