

Student Wellbeing Report



Training for Trades

Training 4 Trades has now finished for 2014. The tea trays made by the seven year 6 students look fantastic and everyone had a fantastic time. I wish to thank Wodonga Senior Secondary School for allowing this program and a VERY BIG thank you to the teacher Paul Lempriere.



Walk to school month

As part of Walk to School month in October, Healthy Together Wodonga is supporting local primary schools with the initiative, which aims to highlight the benefits of being more active and a fun way to help get the 60 minutes of exercise children need each day. WWPS students who are interested have received a passport to keep the stickers received from the school crossing supervisor each day they walk, ride or scoot to school. Students who participate for a majority of the school days in October will go into a draw to win one of two vouchers for Sports First valued at \$150.00 each. Please see Melissa Potter for information or visit walktoschool.vic.gov.au.

Melissa Potter

Fruit/vegetable Break



It has been decided to introduce a fruit break for those families that wish it. This will be a chance for students to get a small piece of fruit/vegetable from their bag at 10am to eat while they continue working. For this to work it needs to be non-messy foods only. Suggestions include a small apple, banana, grapes, chopped up carrot or celery. Things that would be unsuitable would include oranges, watermelon or large pieces of fruit.

Get ready – the 2014 Walk-A-Thon is coming!!

This year's theme will be...Movie Characters – dress up as your favourite Movie Character. The date for our walkathon will be Friday, November 7th, 2014. So start planning your outfit and standby for more information.



Canteen News

Helpers needed! A reminder that if you would like to help out in the canteen, there are still openings on Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you would be happy to be an emergency helper (only called in if someone is away), that would be great as well. Please contact me at the canteen.

Roster –October:

Wed 22 Renee Crump
Thu 23 Jill Hedditch
Fri 24 Teresa Booth



Grade 6 Assistants:

20-24 October: Brock Thompson and Jordan Melbourne.

Susan Edwards, Canteen Manager

School Banking News - Term 4

There are 2 exciting School Banking competitions running this term with some great prizes on offer. For every School Banking deposit made between October 20 and November 30 you will receive one entry into the competition (up to a maximum of 6 entries). So the more you save, the more chances you have to win a prize.

Prizes include:

40 GoPro HERO3 White Edition Cameras
150 Slip N' Slide Double Wave Riders
For more information visit commbank.com.au/deepseasavers



SEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA'S SMART SCHOOL SAVERS

Entering is easy, school children can simply visit the blog and tell us in 50 words or less what they are saving for and how they plan to save their money to achieve it. There are some awesome prizes up for grabs.

Six regional winners will receive an iPad for themselves and one for their school

One talented national winner will be selected from this group to receive \$1,000 to go towards their savings goal. The search is open until 5pm on Friday 31 October 2014.

Enter now at commbank.com.au/smartschoolsavers

Rewards Update

Term 4 Rewards are now available with 2 new items released - the *Projector Cup* and *Sea Streamers*.

As you can see, there is lots happening in School Banking this term, so don't forget to bring in your bank book every Wednesday and make sure you fill in your deposit slip each week.

Good luck and happy saving.
Dee Ivic, School Banking Coordinator

Thursday 15th October 2014 Term 4 Issue No. 14

ASSEMBLY Monday 20th October 1/2 Brown Held in The Gym 9am Start

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 17th October Working Bee 3:30pm-5:30pm (See page 2)
Wednesday 29th October Graduation Photos for Year 6
Friday 7th November Walk-A-Thon (See page 4)



Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

Principal's Report.

Dear Parents/ Carers



Farewell to Ms Guy

You are invited to attend a short farewell to Ms Guy, who after a long career in education, is retiring on Friday. This will be held in the Gym from 3pm – 3.20 pm tomorrow. Ms Guy has been our Visual Arts teacher for many years, and more recently has also taken on the Performing Arts role at the school.

Maureen has always been extremely interested in and passionate about the Arts and has achieved many outstanding pieces of artwork from our students. Some of these pieces are on display around the school – either as murals or as paintings proudly displayed in the Administration area, or in passageways or the Resource Centre. Ms Guy was also adamant that our students have opportunities to perform in and to see live performances, hence her work and organisation in taking a group via train to the theatre and Art Gallery in Melbourne each year – something adored by our students and their families. On behalf of everyone concerned with the school, we thank Maureen for her hard work, passion and dedication to Wodonga West PS and the students she taught across all those years.

We all wish Maureen a very long and happy retirement. We know she will be kept very busy with her lovely home garden, her family and her many trips abroad she is hoping to take, as well as keeping up with her love of the ARTS. Happy Retirement!

Koorie Educational Support Officer (KESO)

I would like to inform you all that we have been allocated a new KESO to work with our Koorie families and students at the school. Cathie Egan will join our staff (every Monday morning) and be here for any families who might like to visit and have a chat. Cathie has lots of experience in this role and has access to a range of excellent resources.

One of her roles is to engage families with their child's education, and where this does happen, there is always greater outcomes achieved by the students. Cathie will have a regular item in the Linkletter so watch out for it. She will also be running a range of activities for our Koorie families, and will be introduced and speak with us all on Monday at assembly. We look forward to working with Cathie in this role as she supports our Koorie students and their families.

Staffing

As Mrs McDonald, our Physical Education Specialist is on Leave for 6 weeks, Mr Jo Carrucan is replacing her for this time. Mr Carrucan is well known by our students as he has done lots of Casual Relief Teaching at our school. Please introduce yourself and make him feel welcome if you run into Jo any time. Mrs Welsh will be returning from her Long Service Leave on Monday and we thank Ms Guy for taking her class for the last 2 weeks.

Linking Learning Project Officer

The Linking Learning Project Officer has been appointed for the City of Wodonga. Anne Shears (previously the Hume Region's Literacy Coach and Assistant Principal at Wodonga West P.S.) has been chosen to lead this important initiative across the Wodonga Government Primary Schools and the City of Wodonga. This is a three year role. The project is designed to develop a whole of City approach to best practice in supporting all the stakeholders involved with Literacy development from birth to 12 years of age, including parents and professionals. This is one of only eight projects across the State, and Wodonga West is the lead school. Anne will be working Wednesday – Friday and can be contacted at the school on those days.

Regards,

Jocelyn Owen

Proud to be a Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden school



Learning for Living

Farmers Market

A big thank you to everyone who helped out with our Spring SAKG stall at the Farmers Market last Saturday. Thank you to **Judy Kenny and Lou Newman** and the volunteers and our Year 3-6 students who have produced an extensive range of preserves in their classes throughout the year. We raised approximately \$470 which will be directed straight back into the program to benefit it. Thank you to the following staff who gave freely of their time to assist on the day: **Maureen Guy, Greg Forster, Lauren Donohue, Rebecca Simboras, Gilda Nicol, Sharon Pearl, Carleigh Chenoweth, Adrienne Merrick, Jocelyn Owen and Sharon Mawby.** Thanks also to **Gary Mawby, Dee Ivic, Shelley Muscat, Narelle Leaver, and Jill Hedditch** and also the families who kindly brought their children along so they could experience helping at the market. We had some wonderful ambassadors for our school at the market so a huge thank you to **Mikayla Ivic, Tryone Burns, Liam Watson, Joshua Muscat, Nat Hedditch, Harman Tutt, Lilly Mathey, Megan Booth and Erin Leaver** who proudly wore their school uniforms and aprons and served on the stall or provided tastings to the market crowd. We will also be having a stall at this year's Children's Fair in two weeks time.



Foundation students 2015

This week letters have been mailed to families confirming our Transition program which is starting in Week 6. Buddy expressions of interest and training will be conducted very soon for interested year 4 students. We look forward to welcoming our newest WWPS members to our school in forthcoming weeks. Currently I'm visiting preschool settings and seeing our pre-schoolers at work. They will receive a little card to take home to let you know I have visited the Centre and spoken with them.

Sharon Mawby,
Assistant Principal

Thank You Students.



As many people are aware I am about to retire from teaching. After a career spanning over 40 years, it's finally time for Me Time! I feel I have been very lucky to have a career as enjoyable as this, especially my many years in the Visual Arts. I have spent 25 wonderful years at Wodonga West Primary School having been appointed as Arts Teacher in 1990.

I have taught thousands of students in that time and hope that I managed to instill a love of art into their lives. Many students have returned to visit over the years, with fond memories of their time in the studio. The many murals around the school were created by year 5/6 students over many years, and the Newspaper fashion events featured highly on the calendar every 2 years.

In 1996 I had an exciting year teaching in Toronto, Canada and showed my multicultural students there some good old Aussie stuff- footy, sausage rolls and lamingtons!

I thoroughly enjoyed working with students on Musical Productions: Kids In Paradise, Dragon.com, Quest and Vegemania.

In 2005, a parent, Ros Kerr nominated me for a National excellence in Teaching Award, which was presented to me at Wodonga Arts Space at our Newspaper Wedding Event.

I will be a fraction sad at leaving the pupils but rest assured with gardening, painting, travelling and relaxing and spending valuable time with family and friends, I think I will cope to an A+ standard. If you see me around please remember me, but introduce yourself first so that I will remember you!

It has been a pleasure working with students past and present and to the parents I've come to know and all those students.

Thank You and Farewell.
Maureen Guy



Spring Working Bee: Friday October 17th 3:30-5pm



We hope as many families as possible will stay on after school and assist in making our gardens look spectacular. Our focus will be the area parallel to Lawrence St and also the Community garden behind the pizza oven. We also want to remove the Canna Lillies outside the SAKG garden fence so these are available to families who would like to take these very hardy plants home to beautify their gardens. Please bring along your own tools and enthusiasm. Many hands make light work.

How Sounds Become Words By Dr Bruce Perry M.D.,Ph.D.

Words are our most amazing invention, but human communication starts when words have no meaning. It starts by gazing, rocking, stroking, kissing, humming, the sight, sound, smell, and touch of a loved one, a bath of physical sensations. It is in these first nonverbal interactions that one human becomes connected to another and the back and forth of communication begins. The infant's cry means, "I'm hungry or scared or cold or tired." The responsive caregiver's actions mean, "It's safe. Eat now. I bring warmth, comfort and pleasure. You are loved." To the newborn, the sounds of "I love you" are, at first, meaningless. But over time, by holding, rocking, gazing and gently stroking — as the sounds "I love you" are whispered over and over — the baby learns the meaning in the word. The sound becomes a word. To the lucky infant, love is the responsive, safe, and warm rhythmic touch — the smile, the hum and the adoring gaze.

When language does not develop in the context of caring relationships, we lose the meaning that words can convey. With no adult to ever hold, treasure, and respond to the babies needs, she doesn't have love and doesn't learn the meaning in the word love. And in this is a lesson for us all. Language is born in relationships.

For each newborn, exposure to repetitive spoken language *in a relationship* provides the stimulus for neural organization that will allow that child to develop complex language capabilities — the capacity to understand and to communicate using "words." This learning process requires that language be derived from social-emotional communication. The face, not the voice, is the major organ of human communication. Words have become our shortcuts.

Nonverbal Communication Is at the Core of All Language

Only a fraction of our total brain is dedicated to verbal communication. Indeed, the vast majority of our communication with others is nonverbal, and a huge percentage of what our brains perceive in communication from others is focused (even without our being aware) on the nonverbal signals — eye movements, facial gestures, tone of voice, ability to respond to question, the move of a hand, or tip of the head. Even as one area of the brain is processing and attending to the words in an interaction, more areas are continually focusing on, and responding to, the nonverbal actions that accompany the words. It is through nonverbal communication that we learn the meaning of words.

In the end, the language we teach our children is the fabric woven from our actions. And, as the child grows into our adult world, we can help her learn the true meaning of our most important words. For all of our children, the word love should become a simple syllable — a four-letter symbol — that represents the best elements of a responsive, nurturing, and adoring relationship.

Putting the Meaning into Words

- The most effective communication is a combination of words and matching actions.
- Facial expression is the most important of all social communication "instruments." When the words don't match the expression, trust the expression.
- To truly communicate, use your eyes, your smile, your touch, the music of your voice, and the consistency of your actions.
- Get down on the floor and make sure your eye contact is level with the child. Don't always make the child gaze up to make eye contact.
- Show young children how to use words. Put words to your actions, feelings and thoughts. Narrate your actions to young children: "Now, I am going to wash my hands. I use soap (hold it up) to help get the dirt off my skin."
- Children don't learn language from flashcards or audio or videotapes. We learn language — verbal and nonverbal — from people.

Words Their Way

We have been working hard on our Word Sorts and spelling generalizations this year. In the last six months of implementation we have had great success with our Words Their Way Spelling Approach. 88% of our students have progressed in their spelling knowledge and it is great to see this being applied in their writing each day. Congratulations to our students and teachers on their enthusiasm and dedication to this approach. A big thank you to you, the parents and caregivers, for your support in this new and exciting approach to spelling.

If you have any questions about this approach please feel free to contact me.

Carly Chenoweth, Literacy Leader

