

**Canteen News**

**Rosters for Term 2:** These will be distributed through the oldest child in the last week of term. A BIG thank you to the parents/carers who have recently added their names to the volunteer list!

**Volunteer Roster Mar:**

Wed 25 – Kate Lewis  
Thu 26 – Vanessa Dalliston  
Fri 27 – Teresa Booth/Sonya Stern

**Grade 6 Assistants Roster:**

25-27 Mar: Counter Service – Jenna Barton and Zali Burkitt  
Wed 25 Mar: Stock control – Shelby Brown

*Susan Edwards,  
Canteen Manager*

Hi All,

We have National Close the Gap Day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March!

But what is Close the Gap Day?

Closing the gap is a strategy that aims to reduce Indigenous disadvantage in the areas of life expectancy, child mortality, health, housing, access to early childhood services, education, employment and remote service delivery

There are significant gaps between Aboriginal and the non-Aboriginal community in aspects to all areas mentioned above

Check out these youtube clips for more information on Closing the Gap: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEGG2Gnss3hHq16ONHprFpo\\_STYiG790](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEGG2Gnss3hHq16ONHprFpo_STYiG790)

**“This isn’t just an Aboriginal issue, this is an Australian issue”**

**Jacqueline Martyn, Koorie Engagement Support Officer (KESO)**

**Community News**

VICTORIAN SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES  
Wodonga Centre

**Is offering language classes in the following languages:**

JAPANESE

ITALIAN

FRENCH

PUNJABI

SPANISH

Location: Wodonga Middle Years College  
Mitchell Street Wodonga Tuesdays 4.00-6.00 during Victorian School terms 1-4

Enrol on line at <https://www.vsl.vic.edu.au/enrol/default.aspx>

Please contact Christine Varker  
[dvarker@bordnet.com.au](mailto:dvarker@bordnet.com.au) or 0428310001 for more information.

Lawrence Street Wodonga, 3690 Phone: (02) 6024 1188 Fax: (02) 6024 4257  
Email: [wodonga.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:wodonga.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) [www.wodongawestps.vic.edu.au](http://www.wodongawestps.vic.edu.au)

Thursday 19th March

2015

Term 1

Issue

No. 4

**ASSEMBLY**

Monday April 27th

Administration

Held in The Gym 9am Start

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

Friday 20th March Cultural Activity ‘Indonesian Theme’ Cost \$8 per student

Friday 27th March SLC Crazy Hair Day (Memorial for Adrienne Merrick) - Gold Coin Donation

Friday 27th March END of TERM - School Finishes at 2:30pm

Monday 13th April Term 2 - Curriculum Day - Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 14th April Term Two starts 9am for Students



Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

**Principal's Report**

*Dear Parents / Carers,*

**Parents, Family & Friends ( PFF )**

On Monday, following assembly, we held the PFF Annual General Meeting. It was pleasing to have 8 parent representatives at that meeting, and the PFF is very welcoming of new members at any stage. It is an informal meeting where your presence and involvement means a lot to the school. A large part of the role is to plan activities that will generate locally raised funds for the school, and to prioritise ways of spending this for the benefit of the students. Last year the PFF raised approximately \$6000, and purchased a new colour wheel for the Arts Program, as well as several new Basketball backboards – which have been very popular. I am pleased to announce that the new President for 2015 is **Doreen Fulford**, and the new Secretary / Treasurer is **Katrina Lewis**. We sincerely thank our out-going President, Theresa Booth who did an excellent job in the role. Feel free to attend these meetings ( held monthly ) and to assist this small but hardworking group with their activities. Just an hour here or there really helps and is valued by the group! The first fundraiser for the year is the annual **Easter Raffle. We are currently taking donations of Easter Eggs for the raffle.** Please drop these into the front office. Tickets are \$1 each, and available in sheets of five. This will be drawn on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March ( second last day of term ).

**School Council AGM and Meeting**

Last night we held the School Council Annual General Meeting followed by the first meeting with our new Council for 2015. We farewelled Jacqui Hillas and thanked her for the wonderful contribution she has made to the school for so long since her three children have progressed through the school. We also welcomed our new School Councillor—Luke Denton, He joins our other School Council members for 2015 who are : Shelley Jolliffe ( President ), Jill Hedditch ( Vice President ), Mike Goldsworthy ( Treasurer ), Kaylene Park ( Secretary ), Karen Viney, Greg Forster, Sharon Mawby and myself. We are fortunate to have such capable people on Council who are there to make our school a great school and to give freely of their time to support our school.

**Farewell and Thank You**

Next term Ms. Jodi Burnett ( Rm 6 ) will be taking four weeks Long Service Leave and is then resigning from teaching at WWPS. Jodi has travelled for 2 hours daily to work for a number of years and this has taken a personal toll. I thank Jodi for her time and commitment to the students at Wodonga West Primary School since she has been here and wish her every success for the future. Her position is currently advertised and an appointment will be made next week and our community informed of the outcome.

*Regards,  
Jocelyn Owen*



*Proud to be a Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden school*





## Assistant Principal Report



Last Saturday we had a very successful SAKG stall at the NE Food and Wine Festival. Junction Place was a lovely setting and will look even better next year when it is finally completed. The weather was sunny and there were lots of visitors from outside Albury Wodonga due to other events which were held over this weekend. It was very pleasing to hear many comments from our customers saying they were hoping we were here this year so they could stock up on our wonderful preserves again. This year we decided not to have a cooking class component. We had over a dozen students who willingly gave of their time on Saturday to promote our products. I was extremely proud of our students who assisted both on the stall selling preserves and taking money and also taking tastings around the market. This activity really supports our students' self confidence and some of our volunteer students have been performing this role in previous years. All of our students and helpers received Certificates of Appreciation at Monday's assembly.

*A huge Thank you to Judy Kenny, Staff, Students and volunteers for their efforts in making our store of preserves. Thank you to Lou Newman for the Garden contribution. Thank you also to Judy Kenny, Kaylene Park and Denise Donehue who assisted me with staffing the stall on Saturday. We raised \$557 which goes directly back into this program at the school.*

Sharon Mawby, SAKG Coordinator

### Visitors Sign In Book

Just a Reminder that any parent/visitor coming into the school to assist in classrooms are expected to sign in at the "Visitors Sign In Book" located at the front of the office. It is important that all visitors to the school come directly to the front office rather than going directly to teaching and learning centres.

### Cultural Diversity Week- 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> "Strengthening Our Community" at Wodonga West Primary School



We began this wonderful week of celebrations at Wodonga West Primary School with a very special assembly on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Teju Chouhan (our Multicultural Aide) gave an informative talk about the significance and meaning of "Namaste" and had the whole school practising this form of greeting. We then watched a video showcasing some of the cultures represented at the school. Students from various backgrounds gave a short talk about their experiences. From our traditional owners to our recent arrivals, the school has a diverse cultural population. The students were told about the significance of this week and how Harmony Day is a special part of this week. The colour associated with Harmony day is orange. Orange relates to social communication and stimulating two-way conversations. It represents having a conversation which is just what we did. The message of Harmony Day this year is, "everyone belongs". It is a day to celebrate our school's diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who attends Wodonga West Primary School.



On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, the whole school wrote inspiring messages on orange balloons and plastic plates and tied these to our front fence. The classes discussed the meaning behind this week after reading stories, watching video clips and exploring the Harmony Day Web site. The students then created messages to promote the message of "Everyone Belongs" and how we can achieve this and put these on the balloons and plates.

The staff also held a Harmony Day luncheon. Thank you to Mrs Divina Gracia Hermosura who provide staff with her 'Taste of The Philippines'.

The message the students took away from this week was that they play a very big role in helping our School be the best it can be and where "Everyone Belongs".

Bert Wood, EAL (English as a Second Language)

### 2015 University of New South Wales Competition

Wodonga West Primary School invites interested students to nominate for the University of New South Wales Competitions and Assessments for 2015. These are academic tests for which students can nominate. Tests are conducted from May to August here at our school. Results are available to parents and students online. Please return the slip and nominate the subject area which you choose by **Monday 23rd March**. The costs vary according to the number of students sitting the tests.

- Digital Technologies Years 3-6	Tuesday 19th May	\$8.80
- Science Years 2-6	Wednesday 3rd June	\$8.80
- Writing Years 3-12	Monday 15th June	\$18.70
- Spelling Years 3-7	Tuesday 16th June	\$12.10
- English Years 2-6	Tuesday 28th July	\$8.80
- Mathematics Years 2-6	Tuesday 11th August	\$8.80

\* Please note: If less than 3 students enter a section the entry fee is triple the amount shown.

### University of New South Wales Competition

My child.....  
in Year .....is interested in the subject /area of:-

Please send my family more information.

Name.....

Signature .....

Please return to:

Sharon Pearl,

## Student Wellbeing Report



As Term 1 draws to a close it is a good time to reflect on some of the wonderful things that are happening or have happened around the school.

Kitchen and Garden programs are a great learning opportunity for our students and it is fantastic that so many of our students take part in this.

We have had numerous sporting opportunities which various students across the school have been involved with including Hockey, AFL, Swimming and Blue Earth. Wow, and if that isn't enough we have our Cultural activity this Friday and our younger students and their teachers have been learning Indonesian. I can't wait to see what term 2 has in store.

*I wish everyone a safe and happy Easter holiday break.*

### Parenting ideas

Become involved in school activities. This includes concerts, sporting events, teacher interviews, assemblies and volunteering. Read the school newsletter as this is a valuable source of information and an opportunity to discuss with your child things that are happening in the school.

Melissa Potter  
Student Wellbeing Officer

### AFL Super Clinic

Last Thursday, MYOS students were pleased to be part of the opening of the Auskick Season at Martin Park. Students participated in a range of 'super' activities and were able to interact with North Melbourne football players.

It was a really great day and all students were great ambassadors for Wodonga West.



Susan Macdonald  
Sports Coordinator