Prep Parent Information Session for 2015
Prep Children
Welcome to
Williamstown North
Primary School - 1409
Members of Staff

Jim Cahill - Principal

Wendy Emin – Assistant Principal

Crissy Samaras – Junior School Manager

Giorgia Moss – Senior School Manager

Current Prep Teachers
Tania Brown – Kaitlyn Hayes – MaryAnn Skidmore - Emily Millman
School Purpose Statement

WNPS is a dynamic and inclusive learning community that promotes personal excellence, creativity and empowerment.
Williamstown North PS - About US 1

✓ Williamstown North is a Community School.
✓ Developing relationships with children and parents is important to us.
✓ Regular open communication, via various media.
✓ Differentiation in the classroom to meet the needs of all students and to teach the children from their level of need.
✓ An emphasis on student wellbeing.
✓ School well resources with extensive resources in our Resource Centre
  — Fiction and Non-Fiction Books
  — Numeracy equipment
  — Literacy equipment
  — Science equipment
  — ICT equipment e.g. iPads, computers
  — Guided Reading & Take Home Books
A strong commitment to Literacy & Numeracy.
Curriculum Provision – Shared Inquiry.
School Values
  Respect (For yourself, others and the environment),
  Responsibility (To be relied upon to do the right thing),
  Resilience (To stay calm and bounce back) &
  Commitment (To learning and achievement).
Awards & Recognition – Thumbs Up and Student of the Week.
You Can Do It! (YCDI!!)
Strong emphasis on developing students Social Skills.
Anti-bullying Incursion – ‘Cool Calm Kids’.
Reading Recovery Program (Year 1 Students)
Williamstown North PS - About US 3

- Strong Transition Program in Term 4.
- Children get to experience ‘school’ (meet teachers, special tours, locate the toilets, play areas) and participate in activities in the Prep rooms as well as meet their Year Buddy.
- Survey Prep parents during Term Two and use feedback to review our Transition & School Procedures.
- Kay Margetts, from Melbourne University, a renowned expert in children’s development and successful transition to school presents at the 2015 Prep Parent Information Night in Term 4.
Williamstown North PS - About US 4

- An Inclusion Support Coordinator to support children with an ASD Diagnosis.
- Support for parents.
- A whole school focus on inclusion and building teacher capacity.

- Before and After School Care;
  - Term 1, children are taken to or collected by ASC Staff.
  - Term 2, ASC provide a list of names for teachers,
  - Term 3, Teachers remind children.
Getting to Know Your Child

- Upon enrolment, if there is any specific information that the school needs to be informed about to assist your child with a smooth Transition to school please let us know.

- Developing relationships with children at all ages plays a crucial role in their engagement with their teacher and thus has a positive impact on their social and academic achievements.

- Encouraging and developing friendships at all the social behaviours associated with this is also very important. We place children with some children from their pre-school group, but assist them throughout the year to broaden their friendship base.

- Part of getting to know your child is to find out where they are at with their learning when they commence school.
Student Safety

Parents want reassurance that their child will be safe when they come to school. This is very important to us as well. We offer:

- A separate play area, including large sheltered areas,
- Secure fencing; higher fencing around the student play areas,
- Snap lock clips on gates,
- School processes for all visitors to report to Admin,
  - Late Pass
  - Early Leavers
  - Visitors Tag
- A Buddies Program,
- Compulsory Dress Code,
- Additional staff on Yard Duty in the playground, wearing fluro vests.
Student Safety

— Employ a designated First Aider with Level 3 training including CPR as well as 12 additional staff with Level 2 training including CPR.

— All staff, including teaching and Ed Support Staff undertake Anaphylaxis training.

— Extensive school processes for any child with an Anaphylaxis reaction, Medical Condition or Allergy.

— Three supervised School Crossings.
School Environment & Leadership Opportunities - 1

- Important for all children to feel safe and happy and wanting to come to school.
- Importance of a ‘student voice’ at all year levels.
  - Listen to children in the playground.
  - Seek their feedback.
  - Offer praise and encouragement for all achievements.
- Important for all children to feel empowered and positively assertive.
School Environment & Leadership Opportunities - 2

- Promoting students to undertake Leadership Responsibilities.
  - School Ambassadors
  - House Captains
  - eLearning Leaders
  - ‘Hosts’ at school events
  - Children making announcements/reporting
  - Classes ‘hosting’ Assembly
  - Buddies

- Monitors from Prep to Year 6. This really boosts a child’s confidence and feeling of importance.
ICT/Multi Media Centre

ICT (Information & Communication Technology) is a cross curricular area with learning occurring in the classroom, in specialist areas and in the Multi Media Centre.

In our Multi Media Centre, students are engaged in evaluating and creating Multimedia texts – such as webpage's, animations, movies, pictures & comics. There is a strong literacy focus to these sessions.

Students also learn basic skills that are required for creating, thinking and communicating in other areas of the curriculum; creating pictures, word documents, presentations, pamphlets and webpage’s. They explore useful visual thinking tools, learn about locating information on the Internet and manipulating data. Students learn tools for communicating, such as email and online communication tools.

— ICT Specialist
— Computer & Laptop Trolleys
— 1:1 Learning Program (Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6)
— IWBS (Interactive Whiteboards) & Interactive TV’s
Children have a 45 minutes session each week for PE.

They are taught a variety of fundamental motor skills and games related to:

- Running
- Skipping
- Hopping
- Gymnastics
- Ball Skills

The children also have experiences in dance & fitness activities.

The students take part in sports activities such:

- Tabloid Sports – Prep to Year 2
- Swimming Program Prep to Year 6
Performing Arts at Williamstown North is a vibrant and positive learning community with a focus on student success; every student can succeed because every student can improve.

- A classroom based program where each student receives a 45 minutes Performing Arts session.
- An after school keyboard program is provided by ABC Music Group a professional and student focused organisation.
- An Instrumental Program.
- Additional performance opportunities.
LOTE - Japanese

We offer a culturally based Japanese program, where children learn the reading, writing and speaking elements of the language within a broader cultural context, enabling them to also learn about life in Japan. The aim is to engage children in their Japanese lessons by using lots of fun, art-based and hands-on activities that appeal to children of all age levels and abilities. Wherever possible, the Japanese program will also form links with the children’s classroom Shared Inquiry.

Prep children will explore basic Japanese language elements, including greetings, numbers, shapes and colours, through fun activities such as songs and games. The children will be engaged with individual and group art activities, based around the Japanese culture. Hands-on activities, such as dressing up in Japanese Kimonos, will enrich their experience of learning Japanese.
Visual Arts

Visual Arts is an important area of learning at Williamstown North Primary School. We value imagination, creativity and original thinking and this is especially evident through The Arts. All students attend the Visual Arts Room for a 45 minute lesson per week, taken by a Specialist Art teacher. During this session, students use a range of art media and materials to plan, make and present artwork which communicates their experiences, feelings, observations and ideas.

The Williamstown North Primary School Visual Arts program aims to develop and encourage the children’s self expression and visual awareness through creating, making, presenting and reflecting. Children are encouraged to explore and respond to art in past and present contexts, and as relevant to their experiences.

All art experiences from Prep to Year 6 are sequential to build on their skills and understandings. They are designed for students to reach their potential at each stage of their development.
Additional Activities

School Lunchtime Activities
Science Club
Computer Club
Art Club
Resource Centre – Reading
Tinkering Club
Games/Activities Club
Gardening Club
Japanese Club
Chess Club

Extra Curricular Activities
(External Providers)
*Keyboard – After School
*Instrumental Music – After School
*Guitar – After School
*Soccer – After School
*Dance – Lunch time
*Kelly Sports – After School
Learning Beyond the Classroom

**Incursions & Excursions**
Children have the opportunity to participate in a range of Incursions and Excursions that they experience to enhance and further develop their learning in the classroom.
Prep children typically experience
— Meet a Life Saver
— Prep Disco and BBQ
— Fire Education
— Car Education
— Anti-Bullying Incursion

Children also undertake learning opportunities beyond the classroom
— The Veggie Gardens
— In the Sandpit
— Outdoor large Chess Board
— Buddies Program
Parent Partnership

- Parent Involvement (Student Banking, Canteen, Uniform Shop)
- Helping in classrooms
- School Council and Sub-Committees
- Incursions & Excursions
- Swimming & Sporting Programs
- Fundraising – 2015 Fete, Art Show
- School Events (Tabloid Sports, Community Social Nights)
- We conduct Information Sessions for parents
- Mother’s & Father’s Day Stalls
- Class Representative Program

Parents do not require a Working With Children Card (WWCC) for helping in the classroom, however it is recommended parents obtain a WWCC when their child starts school. This would enable a parent to assist with an activity at short notice and avoid the disappointment of not being able to help due to not having a WWC card. A WWC card takes up to 6 weeks to process and is valid for 5 years.
Designated School Neighbourhood

Thank you for your attendance

Arigatoo Gozaimasu (Thank you in Japanese)