Principal’s Report

ROCKAPEDIA SUCCESS

What a terrific night we had last Friday as Willy North parents & teachers came together for our Rockapedia event at the Substation. Close to two hundred participants enjoyed a couple of challenging rounds of music trivia followed by a chance to unwind on the dance floor. Throughout the night a number of auctions were held and many parents took up the opportunity to acquire some of the great items being offered. All up, it was a highly successful community event for the school with in excess of $7000 being raised for the construction of our new playgrounds in 2013.

A small team of parents and staff comprised the organising committee and spent the last several weeks sourcing auction items, liaising with the venue and confirming the program for the night. Everything ran like clockwork and on behalf of the school community I would like to express my sincere thanks to the following committee members for the many ‘behind the scenes’ hours that they contributed to ensure such a successful event; gold stars to Renee Cadman, Kerryl Drake, Nat Bird, Tania Brown & Belinda Gill.

UNIFORM SHOP

How lucky we are to have such supportive parents at Willy North. One of our parents, Kara Kreis, has been voluntarily coordinating our uniform shop for over the last three years and during this time she has been well supported by a small team of parents in this endeavour. However Kara is unable to undertake this coordination role in 2013 and so after recent discussions with Wendy and I, we have begun to review our current uniform shop provision. This has entailed meeting with suppliers and investigating more accessible ways of providing uniforms to our school community into the future.

Our uniform suppliers have discussed the possibility of using a retail outlet for our uniform sales which would be open to families six days a week and have the added benefit of changing rooms in the store. One company also offers an online service whereby an order can be placed online and then delivered to your home. So as you can see, we are approaching this review from a broad and creative perspective.

If we were to go down this path, the retail outlets for purchasing uniforms would potentially be placed in Port Melbourne, Laverton or Deer Park, as well as the convenience of online shopping. To help inform our decision making on this important matter, we have included a short survey in this week’s newsletter and would be grateful if you could take two minutes to complete this and return it to the office by the end of the week. Conversely, you can drop me a line at cahill.jim.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

2013 PARENT REQUESTS

Over the coming weeks, I will start to confirm many aspects of our planning for 2013. We have almost confirmed our grade structure and staffing selection processes will continue for another couple of weeks to align with this structure.

I am pleased to be able to confirm that the following teachers have gained permanent tenure at Willy North: Caroline Reid, Lewis Mulvey, Chrissie Van Nieuwkuuyk & James Ritchie.
The next stage of the planning will be the composition of the classes for 2013. With an anticipated 625+ students next year, I can assure you that this is a very complex task that the school devotes many hours to planning. As part of this process, students will be asked to identify five peers from their level that they feel quite connected to and who support their learning within the classroom. These peer requests are sought in no order or ranking and when forming the classes the school will endeavour to ensure that at least one of these peer requests is matched to each child. In building the new classes, teachers will endeavour to develop a sensitive balance of academic capabilities and social competencies in every class at a particular level, as well as considering the peer requests. Again I would like to emphasise that this is an extremely complex task that the school devotes a lot of time to ensure all students are set to succeed in 2013.

For parents, we ask that you appreciate the enormity of this task and understand that like you, we also want the best for all of our students. To this end, I seek your support by trusting our professional judgement in this important area. Whilst we will not be formally canvassing parents for input into this process, if there any extenuating circumstances that we might not know about in regards to your child’s learning needs, then please feel free to send me an email with these details. Please also note that under no circumstances can we accept any requests for teachers, as we have strong belief and confidence in the capabilities of all of our teachers who each bring special qualities and talents to their practice.

**PREP HALLOWEEN DISCO**

The Junior Learning Centre was transformed last Thursday night for our Prep Halloween Disco. Our Prep students had a fabulous time dancing to some ‘spooky music’ in their wonderful costumes. It looked a little bit like ‘Hogwarts’ as they all sat down to the long tables to feast on pizza/fruit/vegetables. Many thanks to our hard working Prep Team for organising such a fun event for our Preps and thank you also to the many other staff that were present. Finally, thank you to the parents who in many instances must have spent several hours preparing costumes.

**EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)**

In this Newsletter, you will find a flyer for parents regarding some of the changes regarding the Educational Maintenance Allowance. If you are a current EMA recipient, or think that you may be eligible for EMA next year, please take a few moments to read through these changes; particularly in reference to the new payment options that will be available in 2013.

**BANDANA DAY THANKS**

A big thank you to all students, parents and staff that supported the Bandana Day promotion last week. We raised a very impressive $1923.00 to support cancer research. We are so very fortunate to part of such a caring school community!

Enjoy your week.
Jim Cahill—Principal

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### Uniform Shop Survey

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong> Would it be more convenient for your family to purchase School Uniforms during normal retail hours? (9.00am to 5.00pm, 6 days a week).</td>
<td>Yes ☐</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong> If the school were to establish a retail outlet, which of following destinations would be more convenient for you?</td>
<td>Deer Park ☐</td>
<td>Port Melbourne ☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.</strong> Would you order School Uniforms online and opt for this to be delivered to your home?</td>
<td>Yes ☐</td>
<td>No ☐</td>
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Facing up to Facebook

If you have a pre-teen or a teenager, you need to become familiar with Facebook and other technologies they are using. Ignorance is no excuse these days.

You can tell a person’s generation by the questions their kids ask. Parents of the 1950’s thought long and hard over issues such as the age their kids left school and when to get them their first bike. Parents raising their kids in the 1990’s pondered the age at which kids should receive regular pocket-money and their children’s use of video games.

In the noughties issues surrounding communication technology keep many parents guessing. The age when kids start using Facebook and other social networking media is a burning issue for many parents of pre-teen and early teenage children.

Kids know more than their parents when it comes to the Internet and social media according to recent research. The Optus Family Communication survey reveals that over half (55 per cent) of Australian children outsmart their parents in technology knowledge before they are 13 years old. A further 30 per cent of parents admit they are behind their children by the time they are 15 years old.

Facebook, MSN and other forms of social networking media are here to stay, so my advice for parents is to learn about social media, even if you don’t want to embrace it. It can be confronting when your child knows more about technology than you, but smart parents these days let their kids teach them what they know about technology.

So if you have a pre-teen or a teenager you need to become familiar with Facebook and other technologies they are using. Ignorance is no excuse these days.

Facebook doesn’t permit kids under the age of 13 to access the site for reasons of personal safety. It doesn’t require proof of age to access the site, so it’s a guideline only. Facebook’s recommendations however, may be useful reference points if you are involved in negotiations with your child over using social networking sites.

More importantly, if young people are using Facebook and other networking sites, they need to fully understand the rules of safe use. Here are some tips:

1. Go through the set-up phase with your child, including establishing a personal profile. Check out the homepage of Facebook and other sites, and use their help sections to answer your questions.
2. Help your young person adjust the privacy settings so they suit their level of comfort. Review them often.
3. Reinforce with your child the importance of never sharing their password, not even with their best friend, a boyfriend or girlfriend.
4. Discuss other safety tips such as the types of information and pictures that should and shouldn’t be placed on their pages, as well as what to do if someone sends inappropriate information or initiates unsolicited communication.
5. Monitor your child’s use by making sure the computer they use at home is in a common area of the house.
6. It’s reasonable to expect that you should know your child’s password and log-in details so you can keep a check on their friends from time to time. This type of monitoring is age-related and may well not be suitable for older teens.
7. Consider getting your own Facebook page and use it as a way of communicating with your child. This has the added bonus of enabling you to keep one eye on what’s happening on your child’s Facebook.

Parents of past generations did their best to keep their kids safe as they negotiated a wider world. I recall teaching my kids stranger danger, drilling safety tips into them as they gained more independence.

As a parent you need to help kids navigate safely and securely in an online world, just as you do in an offline world. Know what kids are doing; spend time teaching them common sense, safety lessons and limit their use of technology so that they stay connected to you and others in your family.

Comment: www.twitter.com/michaelgrose

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All rights reserved. For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit:
www.parentingideas.com.au
**Rosters…**

**Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF)**

Roster for Fresh Fruit Friday for Friday 2nd November are: Martin Ray, Kate Hart, Helen Dixon, Jodie Moore, Leanne Sutton, Kim Goddard, Emily Mohan and Helen Gibb.

If you would like to be part of this lovely group on a Friday morning in Term 4, contact the school coordinator, Linda Taylor at, taylor.linda.l1@edumail.vic.gov.au. This is a very friendly and social group.

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**Canteen—Volunteers Needed!**

Julieanne Weir manages our Canteen and is always very appreciative of the time parents/family member can volunteer to help in the Canteen. Julieanne can be contacted via the General office. **New parent/family member volunteers are always needed**, so if you can spare any of your valuable time it would be greatly appreciated.

The Roster for the next two weeks are:

- **Thursday 1st November**—Fran Mitchell
- **Friday 2nd November**—Tanja Harvey
- **Thursday 8th November**—Paola Flores
- **Friday 9th November**—Helen Gibb

*Please remember that Lunch Orders are only available on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays and No Lunch Orders are available on the Last Day of Each Term.*

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**Uniform Shop News**

Uniform Shop orders can be placed at the office and the order form can be printed out from the school website. The Uniform Shop is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 8.30am to 9.15am.

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**Reminders…**

**School Banking**  School Banking day is Wednesday. Don’t forget to send in your child’s bank book.

**Student Safety**

Please take the time to regularly remind your child/ren about safety, especially when going to and from school. Here are the important points to mention:

- Do not to talk to strangers and never accept a ride from a stranger, or accept lollies or gifts from a stranger.
- Immediately report any issue or problem you may have when going to or from school, to your mum and dad, or to your teacher, the Principal, Assistant Principals or office staff.
- Always get permission from mum or dad before going to play with a friend after school and always let mum and dad know where you will be and what time you will be home.

We advise that, wherever possible, children should travel to or from school with an adult or with their friends, rather than travel alone.

**Early Release**

All child/ren collected from school before 3.30pm must be signed out at the Office. Parents will be handed an ‘Early Release Pass’ to hand to the supervising teacher. If a child is signed out at Recess or Lunch time, the Office staff will call the child to the Office and then ensure the Early Release Pass is given to the supervising teacher.

**Working With Children Card (WWCC)**

If you wish to assist in the Canteen, or with Fresh Fruit Friday, Sport, Swimming, Excursions, or on Camps you must have a Working With Children Card. WWCC application forms are available from our office. If you have a WWCC provide it to the office staff. It will be photocopied and a copy place on file. A WWCC remains valid for five years. Please note, this year, the first group of our parents who received their WWCC in 2007, will need to renew their WWCC in 2012. If you are in this situation, you will receive a ‘Renewal Letter’ from the Department of Justice. As soon as you receive this letter, please complete the process to renew your WWCC. If you don’t, you may be ‘caught out’ when it comes to volunteering to assist with school activities. Please don’t put it aside, act upon it immediately.

**Bikes & Scooters**

Many children ride bikes and scooters to school each day. All bikes and scooters must be locked up in either the Bike or Scooter Enclosure to prevent theft. Please ensure your child has a chain and a lock. All children who ride a bike or scooter must wear a helmet which is a requirement by the Government. The school regularly reminds all children about wearing helmets for their safety. All bikes, scooters, skateboards, riblics and helmets must be labelled, with your child’s name and class. **Children are reminded they must walk their bike, scooter, skateboard or ribstic to and from the school gates. No bikes are to be brought through the school buildings and we request, where possible, that Scooters are also not walked through the building.**
The EMA information below is located on the website. Click the Link below to access this information and the EMA Newsletter Information 2013.


Financial Assistance - Information for New Parents

Financial assistance available to parents with children commencing school in 2013

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA):
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. This allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with education-related costs such as, uniforms, excursions, textbooks, and stationery. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2013, the annual EMA amount is:
- $200 for prep students
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6
- $300 for year 7 students
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16.

How to Apply: Contact the school office to complete an application form for the EMA.
Closing Date: Parents/guardians need to lodge an EMA application form by 28 February 2013.
For more information about the EMA, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/financial/ema.htm

Schoolkids Bonus:
From January 2013, a new payment called the 'Schoolkids Bonus' will be introduced by the Commonwealth Government. The Schoolkids Bonus will be paid by Centrelink in January and July each year to help families with school costs.

Families receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A will receive:
- up to $410 for each child in primary school
- up to $820 for each child in secondary school.

For more information about the Schoolkids Bonus, visit www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/Information/schoolkids-bonus
**Ticket information**

The Ticket Order envelope was sent home **Monday 15th October**, via the eldest child in each family. Once you receive your Concert Ticket Order envelope, this is the process:

1. Return the Ticket Order envelope to the class teacher, via your child, and not directly to the office.
2. This process commenced on **Tuesday 16th October from 9.00am**.
3. The envelopes are dated for seating priorities. Seats are allocated on first come first served basis (date the envelope is returned).
4. Concert tickets are **$16.00 per person** and students performing do not need to purchase a ticket.
5. We request a parent or adult to attend both nights of the Concerts.
6. **Ticket Sales end Friday 2nd November and not 7th November as printed on the Ticket envelope.**
7. Families requesting two separate envelopes, or have any ticket inquiries please call:

   **Wendy Pelns:** 0403 702 734  
   **Veronica Hillhouse:** 0422 163 177

**Auditions**

Auditions for various roles in the Concert will take place throughout this term. The audition process, is open and transparent, it has explicit guidelines and is conducted by a team of teachers. Auditions for the comperes is open to students in Years 5 and 6.

**Parent Helpers**

Parent Helpers are centrally important to the smooth running of the 2012 CONCERT. Wendy, Veronica and Melissa will be calling for helpers in the upcoming weeks. After reviewing the 2011 CONCERT, a key recommendation was that helpers, essentially ushers must be adults and not secondary students. The only exception are those that help backstage.

**CONCERT 2012 is proudly sponsored by Brandon and Noah Lewis**
Dear Williamstown North School Community,

We are inviting you to assist us, once again, in celebrating the Williamstown North Primary School end of year Concert 2012, by becoming a Community Patron Sponsor. The school is looking for a donation of $50, $100, $150, $200 or more, to become a Community Patron of our event. The School Concert is a non-profit event.

Our school Concert is a major celebration for the Williamstown North Community and tickets are much sort after. This year, due to the high demand for tickets, we have again extended our Concert over two nights. Students, parents and the local community join in the celebrations at the Williamstown Town Hall on Wednesday 12th December and Thursday 13th December. We anticipate that all tickets will be sold, with over 1,300 people attending the two Concert nights.

All Sponsors are acknowledged in the following ways:

- Advertising in our School Newsletter;
- Logo/Advertisement of your company put up on a Multimedia 12’ X 9’ Screen by the stage;
- Verbal acknowledgement on the night from our Principal/Assistant Principal;
- Acknowledgement/advertising on the Concert program book;
- Logo/Advertisement of your company on our promotional t-shirts worn by all staff in the lead up to the Concert and on both nights of the Concert;
- Continuous advertising on the schools website from 1st December through to 1st February 2013.

If you could support this wonderful event by becoming a Community Patron Sponsor, please send a cheque made payable to Williamstown North Primary School, or alternatively contact Veronica Hillhouse, Sponsorship coordinator on 0422 162 177, or email: veronical1@live.com.au.

Please include a digital or hard copy of your logo for advertising purposes. The Williamstown North Primary School, school community greatly values your commitment and sponsorship.

Yours sincerely,
Fran McCormick
Mccormick.fran.e@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**WNPS SOCIAL SKILLS**

At Willy North, we are focusing on an identified ‘Social Skill' and associated behaviours linked to our School Values and the You Can Do It! Keys. These are reinforced at Monday Assembly, in classrooms and Specialist classes. Exemplary students consistently demonstrating these skills will be nominated for the weekly ‘Thumbs Up Award’ which is presented at Monday’s Assembly.

We encourage all parents to discuss the weekly Social Skill and associated behaviours with your child/ren.

This week we are continuing our focus on: **Including Others**

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<th>Week 1 to Week 4</th>
<th>Focus</th>
<th>School Value</th>
<th>YCDI Key</th>
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<td></td>
<td>• Caring about others’ feelings.</td>
<td><strong>Respect</strong></td>
<td><strong>Getting Along</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Using a friendly voice to invite someone to play with you.</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Confidence</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Allowing others to join in your game.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Inviting someone to work in your group who is left out.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Getting to know people and taking an interest in others who are not in your close friendship circle.</td>
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This week’s Artist of the Week Award has been awarded to Samuel Willmore in Year 4C for making a great start to his paper mache character - Well done!

We are still desperately in need of more 1.25 litre plastic bottles, without these, the Year 3 students won’t be able to start their paper mache characters next week.......there may be some special prizes for families who bring in a substantial number of bottles!

If you have any, it will be much appreciated if you could drop them into the Art room.

Thanks,
Thank you
Julie Kelly - Visual Arts teacher

Movember
It is that time of year again when something strange happens to the men of Melbourne. You may not notice it straight away, but it will definitely grow on you. It is Movember and the men of the town are growing moustaches to help raise money and awareness for men’s health throughout the month of November.

Men are notorious at skipping trips to the doctors, to the detriment of their health. As the problem of Prostate Cancer and Depression grows in society, we must take a stand to help out in any way we can.

This year, Williamstown North Primary School, Simon Corcoran a Year 4 teacher, will be asking children and families to save up their 10 cent pieces and bring them into school as donations. Each class will have a running tally of their donations with the winning class set to celebrate in style with prizes galore!

So gather up those pesky silver nuisances in the bottom of your purse, or behind the couch, ask your Grandma or Uncle to collect them as well, get the whole family on board, and bring your 10 cent pieces to school. Remember, the more you bring, the more chance you have to win!
## Adventure Park
- Draculas Restaurant
- Funfields

## Melton Waves
- MSAC
- Puffing Billy

## Science Works
- The Anchorage
- Coles Williamstown

## McDonald Altona
- Subway Newport
- Bunnings Altona

## Chemist Warehouse
- Officeworks Yarraville
- Luna Park

## Melbourne Aquarium
- Sun Theatre
- Simone Perele

## Hairhouse Warehouse Altona
- NEO Skin
- Gloria Jean’s Coffee

## Ziggurat Design Royal Arcade
- Sugar Baby
- Dane Nebel’s Tennis Academy

## Raine & Humble Homewares
- Commonwealth Bank
- Lagoon Confectionery

## Kmart Altona Gate
- Lifestyle for Kids
- In-2-Linen

## Pekish @ Yarraville Club
- Paul Barry Personal Training
- Phuarc’s Pet Supplies

## Paul Sadler Swim Land
- Book & Paper
- Donut King Altona Gate

## Zart Art
- Tulle Fashion
- Sweeney Swim School

## Sarah-Jayne Salon & Spa
- Platinum Chiropractic
- Action Indoor Cricket

## Oz Ten Pin Bowling
- Lion Dance Chinese Restaurant
- Newport Specialised Therapies

## Simmers Thrifty-Link Hardware
- The Presentation Place
- Decjuba

## Clear Sky Reflexology
- Parade Deli
- Wok Rite In

## Williamstown Fresh
- Clay
- Willow Child

## Hot Wings
- Damien @Crossfit
- The Cup Cake Queen

## Pippi & Poppa
- Enchanted Books
- Auto Care Detailing Newport

## Elg & Robinson
- PANA Chocolate
- The Book Grocer

## Podiatry Group Melbourne Newport
- Williamstown Osteopathy & Pilates
- Advanced Osteopathic Group Newport

## DLux Carwash
2012 CYBERSAFETY SUMMIT

Last Thursday Tom Roads, Zane Benjanin and a parent representative for each attended the 2012 Cybersafety Summit for primary school students in Melbourne. The boys were selected from over 1000 primary school students who had participated in a “Youth Action Group” (YAG) earlier in the year, which used online forums to raise and discuss issues relating to cybersafety. Some of the posts Tom and Zane had made online were show on posters at the summit.

Participants at the summit included:
- Around 60 YAG participants from across Australia and their parents/careers;
- Teachers from across Australia;
- Members of the Consultative Working Group on Cybersafety;
- Master of ceremonies – Kayne Tremills; and
- Special guest speakers Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, the Australian Federal Police, Moshi Monsters, McAfee and the Australian Communications and Media Authority

Tom and Zane attended a number of workshops for the students, while the parents attended presentations and workshops with other parents and teachers. Here's a brief summary of some of the things that we learned and enjoyed on the day:

Feedback from the students workshops (Tom Roads):

The Cybersafety Summit was great fun and very educational. The student workshops each taught us a different thing and got me thinking about Cybersafety.

The Moshi Monsters workshop was all about the importance of online safety. It was split up into three sections; changing a regular password (mine was cheese) into a difficult password, harder for people to guess, a quiz about what personal details you can share and who you can share them with, and also boring and ‘awesome’ methods of finding information.

The 'In The Shadows’ workshop gave us an informative video about the percentages of people doing things online. We discussed how easily we can accidently put something online that can tell people where we live and what we’re doing, and also tips on being careful about putting things online.

After lunch we participated in a role play using rods to get messages telling us the story. At the end of each part there was a question that you had to answer. The story was about a group of friends, and they all use an online chat space, similar to facebook, called ‘MyPalZone’. A new kid arrives at school, and one of your friends, Riba, recognizes her. She doesn’t like her very much, and tells that to the rest of the group. It turns out that the new girl has an MP3 account and you become friends with her. Riba finds the pictures that she has put on there and adds rude titles to them, then emails them to everyone in the school. After lots more Cyberbullying you convince Anna (The new girl) to tell her parents. The story ends, the principal gives out punishment and Anna is no longer Cyberbullied.

On the whole, we enjoyed a lot of fun learning (fun learning), met Kayne Tremills and learnt a lot about Cybersafety.
I had a great time and now know a lot more about Cybersafety.

Feedback from the Parents / Teachers workshops (Rachel Roads):

The summit provided a wealth of information about the issues surrounding cybersafety, and certainly prompted me to think about how we address safety and security online as a family. The guest speakers gave us some useful points to consider at home, which I'm sharing below:

Dr Michael Carr Gregg presented an array of resources to help build resilient and happy children, and talked about the way the internet has dramatically changed the way he conducts his work as a Child psychologist. A big point that he made is that the official definition of “adolescence” has now been broadened to include children from as young as 10 to up to 27 years. During this time we need to be watching over our children, as one of the last parts of the brain to develop, towards the end of adolescence, is the part that governs perception of risk and risk avoidance. Put simply, our kids don’t understand risk the way that we do, and need to be coached about how to avoid putting themselves and their families at risk when they are engaging with others online.

There are a host of fantastic resources for parents and teachers online, and some of the actions that Dr Carr Gregg suggested we take include:

- Download the Cybersafety Help Button – a free application provided by the Australian government offering online access to cybersafety information and assistance. For information about the Help Button visit: [http://www.dbccle.gov.au/online_safety_and_security/cybersafetyhelpbutton_download](http://www.dbccle.gov.au/online_safety_and_security/cybersafetyhelpbutton_download)

- Watch the ACMA cyberrsmaert video – a 5 minute video that can be found on YouTube or by googling “How cybersmart are you”. I've watched this clip and it will really help you to think about things you can do at home to keep your children cyber safe! [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HjDjKGrzVY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3HjDjKGrzVY)


- Visit the government’s “Bullying No Way” website, which has information for parents, teachers and students: [http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/)

- Take the time to sit with your children and talk about sex education. A good online resource aimed at 10-14 year olds has been developed by La Trobe University can be found at:
• Educate yourself and your children about sleep, and how to avoid sleep deprivation. For more information see: http://www.sleepforkids.org/
• Educate yourself and your children about drugs. For a good resource for facts and advice about dealing with drugs, and a phone app that can be downloaded see: http://www.drugs.health.gov.au/
• Help your children develop a positive self image, particularly girls. There’s another iphone app that Dr Carr Gregg recommended, found at: http://bodybeautifulapp.com/
• Some more video clips that are worth watching together as your children get closer to becoming teenagers include:
  a. “Let’s Fight It Together”
  b. “Jigsaw” http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_08awN70E
  c. “Exposed” http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwrG3FF_6us
• And finally, make yourself aware of the types of online counseling services that are now available for if your children need them. A good resource is “eheadspace” where young people can email, chat or call for help or advice: https://www.eheadspace.org.au/

CyberMum – Alex Merton McCann also gave us an interesting talk about ways to keep our children safe online, focusing more on older teens, but with some interesting points for us all to take home. She talked about a “Secret Life of Teens” study that revealed some interesting discrepancies between what parents think teens are doing online and what they are actually getting engaged in. Two of the main take outs from that report are:
• teens are not telling parents everything they do online, so you need to stay connected with your teens; and
• most teens share personal information online (~95%), so you need to talk to your kids about the dangers of doing so

Alex also stressed the importance of our children’s digital reputation going into the future. Anything our kids are doing online can be found by potential employers or partners etc., so there is a need to think about what they are doing now and how that may affect them in the future. Some suggestions Alex made for keeping in touch with our teens include:
• Get involved in your child’s online world – be friends with them on Facebook and other sites
• Talk to your children, and encourage them to speak up if they feel uncomfortable about anything that is happening online
• Establish rules together – such as time allowed online, not sharing personal information, agree appropriate sites that can be used
• Start a “collect and drop” or “kiss and drop” zone – collect all electronic devices together overnight where they can be charged (and you know they are not being used)
• Educate your child like you would in the offline world:
  o teach manners and respect
  o talk about online safety
  o discuss how online friends may not really be “true” friends
  o discuss digital reputation – the “currency” of the future
  o talk about cyberbullying and encourage kids to talk to you or a teacher if it happens (remember to printscreen, block and report if it happens to your children)
  o talk about “digital citizenship” and the importance of standing up for your friends
• Use technology – set your security settings, parental controls, and use good software to limit access to inappropriate content
• “Shoulder surf” – there’s nothing wrong with checking up to see what your children are doing online to keep them safe

For more information about Alex and the work of CyberMum see:
http://www.facebook.com/McAfee

We also participated in a workshop discussing “Online Rights and Responsibilities”, which will help to formulate communications strategies for the Safer Internet Day on 5th February 2013. Some of the issues to come out of these discussions include the fact that both parents and teachers are facing similar issues when it comes to keeping our children safe online. We all need to keep up with the changes in technology and build awareness of how to stay safe, and should consider how we can become more cyber safe both at home and at school. Parents and teachers will all benefit from resources found at the cybersmart website: www.cybersmart.gov.au, and Zippep’s Astro Circus is a new online game aimed specifically at primary school aged children: http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/en/young%20kds/have-some-fun/astro-circus.aspx
HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Volunteering is a great way to help your child, meet new people, assist teachers and get jobs done.

If you would like to become more involved, you are of course very welcome – your child’s teacher is probably the best way to get you the information about who to speak with, to get involved.

Here are just a few ways to get involved with school.

**Classroom Representatives and Helpers**
These are parents who volunteer to organize classroom support and occasional social events for the class. Each class teacher will ask for a classroom representative/s at the start of each year. Once set up, typically communication is via email to broadcast requests for assistance and to promote events & networking amongst parents.

Classroom helpers (including support with Numeracy and Literacy, photocopying, laminating) are always welcome, particularly by your child’s teacher.

**Frequent event helpers**
- Canteen Duty
- Fresh Fruit Friday
- Student Banking
- Uniform Shop
- First Aid Room Washing

**Larger event helpers**
Events are held throughout the year, mostly on site including:
- Preps and New Families Morning Tea, BBQ and Picnic
- Working Bee’s
- Easter Raffle
- Mother’s Day Stall
- Father’s Day Stall
- Christmas Raffle
- Excursions and Incursions (activity held at school)
- Fete (every second year)
- Annual School Staff and Parent Social Event
- School Concert

**School Council representatives**
Elections held every year. Committees include: Education, Community Liaison, Facilities and Finance.

This list is not exhaustive and changes every year – so please keep those ideas coming; all volunteers welcome!
Engraved Pavers

Willy North Primary School
Fund raising project – proceeds to our new playground equipment.

YOUR NAME WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY

INDIVIDUAL PAVER
Your donation of $50 entitles you to have your child’s name (and/or yours) engraved into a paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The paver will be permanently installed in the area in front of the school canteen.

![Image of paver]

$50

Engraving details: Please print clearly in block letters. Each square represents one letter, number, space or punctuation mark. (34 max)

A unique and lasting record of your support.
A great reminder of your child’s attendance at Willy North and something you and they can re-visit and view for many years to come.

DOUBLE PAVER
Your donation of $75 entitles you to have your name engraved into a double paver as a lasting record of your valued support. The double paver will be permanently installed in the area in front of the canteen for all to see for generations to come.

![Image of paver]

$75

Engraving details: Please print clearly in block letters. Each square represents one letter, number, space or punctuation mark. (64 max)

Simply fill out this form and return with full payment:
Williamstown North Primary School
133 Melbourne Road, Williamstown, Victoria, 3016.

Contact Name: ..........................................................................................................................

Address: ....................................................................................................................................

Phone: ........................................................................................................................................

Individual paver  □  Double paver  □

Offer extended – place your order by the end of November

Please photocopy and pass on to business associates and friends.

Willy North Primary School appreciates your support. Thank you.
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Jump on the Bandwagon is a celebration of people of all ages playing music together. Led by Gillian Howell (gillianhowell.com.au) and working alongside some of Melbourne’s most inspiring and fun musicians, the Bandwagon is a music jam for the whole family. Everyone is invited, no matter what age or what level of playing ability - first-timers will have the unforgettable experience of being part of a large and powerful ensemble and more experienced players will learn some new music, invent riffs and rhythms or maybe improvise a solo. **Age:** Family. **Date:** Sunday 11th November. **Session times:** 11.00am to 12noon and 2.00pm to 3.00pm. **Cost:** $10 per family (up to 6 people) **BYO:** instruments (trumpets, violins, cellos, guitars etc) or sound-makers (kitchen implements, soft drink bottles filled with rice etc) and a big sense of musical adventure! **Bookings Essential:** [www.artplay.com.au](http://www.artplay.com.au) or 9664-7900.
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Wednesdays 3.50pm - 4.50pm
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$15 Per Person
$10 Concession

Tickets Available: Contact Lesley Robinson
0403 851 076