Principal’s Report

STAFF TRAINING DAY REMINDER
On Friday 20th May, our teachers and Education Support staff will be very busy participating in their third staff training day for this year. The morning program will focus on our Measurement and Geometry program, whilst the second half of the day will engage staff in the first stages of our School Review.

Please note that no children are to attend school on Friday.

EDUCATION WEEK
As a state government school, we proudly celebrate Education Week this week. We hope that you have enjoyed the opportunity to visit our open classrooms today and to also have a picnic lunch in the grounds with your child/ren.

We have much to celebrate as a dynamic and inclusive learning community and we look forward to continuing to build strong partnerships with our families and the broader community into the future.

STAFFING NEWS
Jamie Peters will be absent for all of this week as he has been called upon to undertake Jury Duty. We welcome Joanne Belvedere, one of our very experienced relief teachers, who will be teaching Year 3P this week.

We send our good wishes to Cathy Graham as she recovers slowly from major foot surgery. Cathy has confirmed that she will be away for the rest of the term and we’re delighted to report that Jennifer Crane, who is currently covering this class, will be able to remain with us until the end of the term. Jennifer will remain in close contact with Cathy to ensure the program continues to tick along beautifully and to collect all of the necessary achievement data over the coming weeks in order to compile the mid-year reports.

One of our dearly loved teachers, Bethany Johnstone will be leaving us on Friday 10th June to explore the world over the next few years. A state-wide selection process is currently underway to replace Bethany. We hope that the successful applicant will be in a position to shadow Bethany during her last week at WNPS to ensure a seamless transition for Year 5J. I will keep everyone posted through the newsletter as this process unfolds.

On a brighter note, we congratulate Allie Gripper (Year 3 teacher) and her husband Dave on the impending birth of their first child. We will confirm dates closer to the time; however we anticipate that Allie will be at WNPS for most of term 3 if all things go to plan.

We also congratulate Tim Boylan (Year 5 teacher) and his wife Laura on the impending birth of their first child later in the year.
Thai Delegation

Last week we were fortunate to host a Thai delegation from Chulalongkorn University which consisted of about 20 Professors and Teaching staff from the university. The focus of their visit was to learn more about how students with disabilities and impairments can be successfully supported in mainstream primary schools. They were very excited to visit our classrooms and view a social skills lesson in the Butterfly Room. They were particularly impressed with our school grounds and the many options that students have for inclusive play during recesses and lunchtimes.

The visit was organised through Melbourne University and the Department of Education & Training (DET), as our school is widely recognised for our Inclusion practices and acceptance & celebration of diversity. We are currently one of a handful of schools that has been working with DET over the last twelve months to develop a resource base for all schools in this important area.

COMPASS News

Have you tried clicking on the COMPASS calendar to check dates for upcoming events? This is as simple as selecting the Calendar on the slider bar at the top of your page.

ICAS Reminder

Notes were recently sent home to all students in Years 3-6 for this year’s ICAS program. ICAS is an international competition that provides an additional opportunity for our students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation in the important areas of English and Maths.

Over recent years we have had large cohorts of students participating in these tests with many students enjoying the challenge and keeping their certificates & feedback in their portfolios.

If you would like your child to compete in this year’s ICAS program, please ensure that the permission slip and payment if forwarded to the school no later than Monday 30th May.

Michael Carr Gregg Presentation

Thank you again to the many parents who have passed on their gratitude for the recent Michael Carr-Gregg presentation. We have compiled the main points from Michael's presentation on our website for your reference. This can be accessed by following the link:


Traffic Safety

With an ever growing student population, it is paramount that everyone works together during busy drop-off and pick-up times to ensure the safety of all 740 students who attend Willy North. To facilitate the smooth flow of traffic around the school, it is really important that parents observe the signage in each street, particularly in limited time zones where parents are expected to not leave their cars. We also ask that parents help model appropriate behaviours when using the school crossings, including waiting for the whistle and walking safely.

Over recent weeks, there have been some parents using the staff car-park before and after school. We cannot emphasise strongly enough how dangerous this could be for students, staff and parents. We implore parents to not use the staff car park at all during the school day.
Swimming Feedback
Thank you to several families who have recently forwarded some feedback in regards to the recent swimming program for students in Prep – Year 4 which was held at the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre. I thought I would share this email in the newsletter as it illustrates the sorts of benefits we hope the program can have for all students:

“I just wanted to pass on some positive feedback regarding last week’s swimming program. My son was initially reluctant to attend as he is not very confident in the water and wouldn’t put his head under water. I spoke to the school and after finding out more decided to sign him up. I was so glad I did. The program was so well organised, I was lucky to be able to help out and it all ran like clockwork.

My son is now able to jump into the pool, comfortable with putting his head under water and also swam his first strokes, all because of the intensive nature of the program and the swim teachers.

Please pass on my feedback to all who organised, we now have one very happy boy who had a great time and keeps asking when the next swim program is!

Wintringham Visit
A selected group of Year 4 students had their first visit to Wintringham Aged Care facility last week as part of our Community Partnerships Program. The eleven students gave a short talk about their hobbies & interests and then individually introduced themselves to the residents. I was so impressed with our students as they confidently engaged each of the residents. It was a lovely exchange of sharing between our students and the residents. The photo captures some of the interesting conversations that took place:

These students were so well behaved and showed genuine interest and sincerity during the visit. We can’t wait until our next visit later in the term!

Fete Committee Meeting
We had a terrific show of support at our first Fete Meeting last month with around twenty parents in attendance. It was exciting to hear some of the early plans unfolding for next year’s Fete which will be held on Sunday 19th March, 2017 (mark this date in your calendar!).

Our next Fete meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 18th May at 7.00pm (yes that’s tonight!). Please feel very welcome to come along to this meeting which will be held in the staffroom.

Enjoy the rest of your Week!
Jim Cahill
Principal
PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2017
Williamstown North Primary School
“Finding Out About Williamstown North Primary School”
The Information Session for prospective 2017 Prep Parents was held on **Wednesday 20th April** at the school.

Provisional Prep enrolments for 2017 have now commenced. A copy of the ‘Enrolment form’ and ‘Preliminary Information sheet’ can be collected from the General Office or downloaded from the school website.

If you have any questions regarding enrolments, please contact the school office on 9397 5722.

**Additional School Tours will be conducted on**
- **Tuesday 24th May** – 9.30am
- **Friday 10th June** – 10.00am
- **Tuesday 19th July** – 11.30am
- **Wednesday 3rd August** – 10.00am

Please provide the following information when lodging your enrolment:

1. Enrolment Form and Preliminary Information Sheet
2. Proof of Age - (Child’s Birth Certificate)
3. Certificate of Immunization (School Entry Form)
4. Three documents for “Proof of Residential Address”.
   (Drivers Licence, a Rates notice and a third document with your **full name & residential address**).

**Enrolment Policy**

Please note that in line with the “School Ceiling” endorsed by the South Western Regional Director, only families who reside within the defined school neighbourhood are eligible to seek enrolment. A map defining the school neighbourhood is available on the school website.

CONFIRMATION OF ENROLMENT WILL BE MADE IN WRITING BEFORE THE END OF TERM 3, 2016

The ‘2017 Prep Parent Information Night’ is only for parents of confirmed Prep enrolments.
On Monday 21st November 2016, 6.45pm to 8.00pm, Kay Margetts from Melbourne University will speak on “School Readiness” and “School Expectations”.

**Transition Program**

Our ‘Kinder to School’ Transition program for our 2017 Prep children will commence week beginning Monday 10th October, Week 2 of Term 4.

All transition details will be included with the ‘Letter of Enrolment’ sent to families.

For our School Zone go to [www.willynth.vic.edu.au](http://www.willynth.vic.edu.au) / slider tab – Enrolments / WNPS Zone Map

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**PSW Retail Port Melbourne Store** will be closed on Monday 20th June for stocktake. We do apologise for any inconvenience.

You can find our regular trading hours online, please visit [www.psw.com.au](http://www.psw.com.au).
**Rosters… Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF)**
This is a very social and interactive group who volunteer an hour of their time each Friday morning from 9.00am to 10.00am. **Fresh Fruit Friday continues to need parent volunteers.** If you are available on a Friday, please email Linda Taylor directly, so she can add you to the roster—taylor.linda.l1@edumail.vic.gov.au. Please note no Fresh Fruit Friday due to Staff Training Day this Friday 20th May.

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**Canteen**
Julieanne Weir manages our Canteen and is always very appreciative of the time parents or family members can volunteer to help in the Canteen. Julieanne can be contacted via the General Office. New parents or family members are always needed and are most welcome. If you can spare any of your valuable time, it would be greatly appreciated and we would love to hear from you.

*Thursday 19th May—URGENT HELP NEEDED  Friday 20th May—STUDENT FREE DAY*
*Wednesday 25th May—Renae Cadman & Sandra Ensabella  Thursday 26th May—Shadi Moneni  Friday 27th May—Help Needed*

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**Uniform Shop News** Primary School Wear (PSW) is our official Uniform supplier. Uniforms can be purchased at the new store located at Unit 1, 128 Bertie Street Port Melbourne. Items can also be purchased online. Email portmelbourne@psw.com.au. Summer Trading hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm, Saturday 9.00am to 1.00pm and closed on Sunday.

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

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**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 Principal 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.

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**Early Release** All children 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.

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**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, ribstic 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.**

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**Working With Children Cards**
Cardholders who are required to renew their WWCC will no longer need to go to Australia Post to lodge a paper form and present their current card. Cardholders will go to the WWCC website to complete their renewal application online and, if applying for an Employee Check, pay the fee using a credit card when using the online renewal process, cardholders will be notified by SMS, letter or email 28 days before their WWCC is due to expire. **It is important for cardholders to keep their contact details up to date so that they receive this important reminder.**

After receiving a notification, individuals continuing to do child-related work should go to MyCheck on the WWCC website and apply to renew their check. Cardholders will be asked to register with MyCheck if they have not already done so. Once logged in to MyCheck, cardholders will be prompted to confirm or update their personal contact and work details, complete the online form and, if applying for an Employee Check, pay the non-refundable $102.70 fee. **More information:** an FAQ guide to online renewals will be available in ‘Publications’ under ‘Resources’ on the WWCC website, or contact the Customer Support Line on 1300 652 879 8.30am – 5.00pm weekdays except public holidays. [http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/)
Last Thursday, 12th May, we were delighted to welcome Hobson’s Bay Councillor, Angela Altair, to speak at our Junior School Council Information Night. Councillor Altair, now in her sixth term as Councillor, also served as Mayor in 2002-03 and 2012-13, and Deputy Mayor in 2007-08 and 2008-09. As you can imagine, she had a wealth of knowledge to share with our Junior Councillors. We were also able to get some valuable insights into Councillor Altair’s passion for the environment, especially eradicating plastics and protecting the flyways used by the migratory birds that visit Hobsons Bay. The children were captivated by Councillor Altair’s stories, and eager to ask questions about the workings of the Council and what being a Councillor is really all about. It was wonderful to see them brimming with ideas of their own on how they can make a difference in their community. We’d like to thank Councillor Altair and all the children who came along for making it such a wonderful evening.

Helen Atkins & Lauren McGill, JSC Coordinators

I enjoyed hearing about how the migratory birds travel to Melbourne
– Naomi, 3M

I enjoyed learning about the migratory bird flyways in Hobsons Bay – Jonah, 3P

I enjoyed listening to Cr Altair’s ideas about keeping our local environment safe – Pearl, 3P
After School Care
Dear Parents,
Oshclub will be running a program on the Student Free Day—Friday 20th May.
We will start the day in the Before Care room (Japanese room), and then move to the Gym around 9.00am.
Please provide your child with a morning snack, lunch and any extra snacks they may require for the remainder of the day. Oshclub will provide an afternoon snack. Children will participate in mini pizza making, play dough making, making honey joys and balloon fizz blow-up.
Please check the blue lost property basket at After Care as this is becoming really full of child/rens belongings.
Remember to cancel your child’s booking if they are not attending After Care. If your child is away on the day. Please call or text the program on 0422236845. The computer site will not allow you to cancel your child out of the system on the day (e.g. you cannot cancel online for Tuesday, if it is a Tuesday).

Thank you—OSHCLUB Staff (0411 236 845)
We’re fundraising with

Willy High Parents & Friends are thrilled to be able to offer the new Entertainment™ Memberships to WNPS families. Books are available now and are packed with thousands of up to 50% OFF and 2-for-1 offers that you can use through to 1 June 2017. Flick through to preview the value at www.entertainmentbook.com.au/flickbook.

Choose between the popular Entertainment™ Book with Gold Card and Vouchers, or the Entertainment™ Digital Membership that puts the value of the Book on your smartphone. Contact us directly: Phone Karen Needs on 0408 547 539 or Email: karenneeds@hotmail.com for any queries or to organise to get a book to you.

To order your Book or your Digital Membership securely online visit: www.entbook.com.au/1884e76 OR Alternatively complete an order form from the WNPS office.

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**Williamstown North Primary School's 2016 Social Event of the Year**

**REWINDBOS**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Friday, August 5th

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWN HALL

**TICKETS WILL SELL FAST DON'T MISS OUT!!!**

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**FRENCH CLUB!**

Fun French for Kids

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