Principal’s Report

**FINAL REMINDER – P/T/S CONFERENCES**

To date, 698 bookings have been made on Compass for next week’s P/T/S Conferences being held on Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th July. Thank you to all of those parents who have lodged their bookings. These conferences are an important opportunity to reflect upon and celebrate the achievements in the mid-year report, as well as an opportunity to set some important Learning Goals and directions in place for the remainder of 2016.

If you haven’t had a chance to book your Conference time yet, bookings will be open on Compass until 10.00am next Monday.

**2017 PREP ENROLMENTS**

As our School Tours begin to draw to a close, we are about to begin our important planning for next year’s incoming prep cohort. We currently have just over eighty preps enrolled for 2017, which will confirm four classes at this stage. We predict another class will still be formed in the next few weeks as we process the remaining enrolments.

Our experience from past years has been that existing school families can sometimes leave sibling enrolments to later in the year as these families are already part of the school community. Unfortunately this can make our planning processes difficult when it comes to staffing and resourcing this level. If you have a child who is eligible for next year’s prep cohort, could you please grab an enrolment form from the office or off the school website and lodge this at the office over the next week. We thank you in anticipation of your support in this important area.

**KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE**

Over the next month we will be placing snippets in the newsletter to give families tips for how to ensure children stay safe whilst being online at home. There are many good practices that can be established at home from an early stage to ensure children are well supported when online. It is very important to understand that the strong filters provided by the Department of Education & Training (DET) help to ensure that children can only access appropriate sites at school to support their learning. However, when school devices are used at home the school filters are not accessible and therefore families should consider the precautions that they need to establish. Please take a moment to read these upcoming snippets and if
you require any further advice please feel free to contact Melissa Ziebowski (our school's eLearning Leader) at Ziebowski.melissa.r@edumail.vic.gov.au.

2016 PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Next Monday, we will be distributing in excess of 100 surveys to randomly selected families as part of the 2016 Parent Opinion Survey. The survey will take parents about 15 – 20 minutes to complete and the feedback and opinions provided through this survey play an important role in further informing our decision making processes and helping to make our school the best it can possibly be. The survey is completely confidential and all completed surveys are returned to the Department of Education for collation and analysis.

If your family receives one of these surveys, we ask that you complete it during the week and then return the completed survey in the sealed envelope provided, back to the office by Wednesday 3rd August. It would be great if we could get a 100% return to ensure the feedback we receive is truly reflective of our community.

APPROVALS FOR EXCURSIONS

We've been delighted to hear from parents that the Compass platform is streamlining many of the school's communication processes. We have recently extended the platform to include all permission notes for Excursions. The initial trials last Term were very successful and from now on most approvals for Excursions will be undertaken through Compass.

We currently have two Excursions open on Compass awaiting parent approvals:

- Year One Excursion to CERES
- Year Six Excursion to Chinatown

If you are unsure about how to approve your child's participation in one of these Excursions, please don’t hesitate to make contact with the main office and we will be only too happy to explain how these approvals can be made on Compass.

PARENTS APPROACHING PARENTS

Whilst we are so fortunate to be part of such a vibrant and supportive school community, from time to time matters do crop up between students and parents that can raise tensions. This could be something as simple as a misunderstanding during a game of soccer, a toy that was damaged at school, an upcoming birthday party etc.

When these matters arise, we ask that you always make contact with your child's teacher or the main office, so that this matter can be professionally addressed. Under no circumstances do we advocate that parents approach each other over these matters. Our general experience has been that when parents approach each other over these matters, in most situations, the matter has become more inflamed.

Further to this, it is also totally unacceptable for a parent to approach another child in order to resolve a school based matter. This can be quite frightening and intimidating for the student concerned.

We work very hard to ensure that the climate and culture of the school is overwhelmingly supportive and positive. To ensure that this is not jeopardised in anyway, please let us know if any matters do arise at school so that we may support you to resolve these by effectively utilising our school based processes.

READING & WRITING TOGETHER IS MAGIC (RWTIM)

I hope all families have Thursday 18th August (from 6:30pm – 7:30pm) marked in the calendar for the upcoming RWTIM program. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase their writing talents to the school community. In organising the evening, all students will be clustered into multi-age groupings from Prep to Year 6.

As a result of these Prep - Year 6 groupings, we cannot utilise our Compass platform for the bookings. A flyer within this week's Newsletter has all the details for how to book your child/ren's participation in this event.

We were fortunate to have one of our students, Kira Webster, share one of her fantastic poems to close this week's assembly. We certainly love hearing our students proudly share their writing, so please be sure to make your booking as soon as you get a chance.

Enjoy the Week! Jim Cahill—Principal, Williamstown North Primary School

Enjoy the Week! Jim Cahill—Principal, Williamstown North Primary School
Dear Parents/Guardians,

Parent/Teacher/Student (P/T/S) conferences will be held for all Prep to Year 6 classes on Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th July.

The focus of the Mid-Year Conference is for your child/ren to share their work and discuss how they are going with achieving their ‘Learning Goals’. Teachers will discuss the learning and progress of your child and strategies, to either extend their learning, or provide additional support. You may also wish to seek clarification on any aspects of the Mid-Year written Report at this conference.

Using Compass you can book your Parent/Teacher/Student conference online from 9.00am on Monday 11th July through to Friday 22nd July.

1. Click the ‘Action for’ button beside the student you wish to make bookings for and click ‘Book Parent Teacher Interviews’.

2. A list of Parent-Teacher interview times will be displayed along with their booking status. Click on the relevant time.

3. Your booking sheet will be displayed and will show all available booking times. Click on a time in the grid to display teachers available for booking the selected time.

Please remember, that once a time has been booked, the options for parents are reduced, so, be prompt to select your time. If all Conference times are booked, please contact your child’s teacher to make an alternative time.

If your appointment is between 3.00pm and 3.30pm please collect your child from the gym.

The P/T/S Conference times are as follows:

Monday 25th July
- 3.00pm to 7.00pm – All classes (5.00pm to 5.30pm staff break)
- 4.00pm to 7.00pm – Specialist Teachers (5.00pm to 5.30 staff break)
  (Except Emily Millman—Prep to Year 1 Visual Arts Teacher)

Wednesday 27th July
- 3.00pm to 7.00pm – All classes (5.00pm to 5.30pm staff break)
- 4.00pm to 7.00pm – Specialist Teachers (5.00pm to 5.30 staff break)

If you would like to make an appointment with a Specialist teacher, (Sarah Nobbs - PE, Helen Atkins – Japanese, Dean Pearce – Performing Arts or Vicki Symons - Visual Arts for Year 2 to 6, Emily Millman – Visual Arts for Prep and Year 1) please select a time using Compass to book your P/T/S conference online.

P/T/S conferences are highly effective in enhancing children’s motivation and understanding of their learning. The length of each P/T/S conference is “up to 15 minutes”.

Please be punctual to your child’s PTS conference and please keep to the allocated time so not to impact on other families.

Prior to the Conferences, teachers and children will spend time discussing how to take part in a P/T/S Conference. We believe all parents and children will find the Conferences very informative and rewarding.

The Prep, Year 1 & Year 2 children will talk about their ‘Goals’ and achievements, as well as articulating their learning.

The Year 3 to 6 children will talk about their ‘Learning Goals’ and what they were aiming to achieve in the first half of the year, and how they progressed towards achieving their goals.

If a parent or teacher requires time for a ‘one-on-one’ discussion, this can be factored in towards the end of the Conference, or an alternative time/date can be arranged.

Jim Cahill
Principal

Wendy Emin
Assistant Principal
**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.

Parents on the roster for Friday 22nd July are; Kim Pannone, Larissa Deeth, Ray Price, Leah Foley, Sandra Ensabella, Nova Ward, Zohreh Basiri.

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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.

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<tr>
<th>Thursday 21st</th>
<th>Friday 22nd July</th>
<th>Friday 28th July</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shardi Momeni</td>
<td>Melanie Dmytrenko</td>
<td>Kate Bennett</td>
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<td>Michelle Crompton &amp; Sheena Hickman</td>
<td>Helen Gibbs</td>
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**Uniform Shop News** Primary School Wear (PSW) is our official Uniform supplier. Uniforms can be purchased at the store located at Unit 1, 128 Bertie Street Port Melbourne. Items can also be purchased online. Email portmelbourne@psw.com.au. 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 WWC website, or contact the Customer Support Line on 1300 652 879 8.30am – 5.00pm weekdays except public holidays.
PROVISIONAL PREP ENROLMENTS FOR 2017
Williamstown North Primary 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.

We will conduct a School Tours on
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, EARLY SEPTEMBER

The ‘2017 Prep Parent Information Night’ is only for parents of confirmed Prep enrolments.
On Thursday 3rd 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 / slider tab – Enrolments / WNPS Zone Map

2016 Williamstown Swimming and Lifesaving Club Kitsch Xmas in July

We know many of you are missing your summertime mates and the annual WSLSC Kitsch Xmas in July is nearly upon us! So dust off your Kitsch Xmas jumpers, get your marshmallows ready for toasting and get ready for another evening of FUNdraising!

When & Where—Saturday 30th July, 7.00pm, The clubrooms

Tickets are $40.00 per person including a two course dinner.

Full Bar—Good Company—Prizes—Music

Tickets can be purchased here
Reading & Writing Together Is Magic

Prep to Year 6 Students

Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} August 6.30pm to 7.30pm

RWTIM is our annual Community Literacy event, where all students in Prep to Year 6 have written and published pieces of poetry and/or snapshots to share with their family.

To indicate your attendance; please use our online booking system. This will open on Monday 1\textsuperscript{st} August and close at 4.00pm on Monday 15\textsuperscript{th} August.

“Reading & Writing Together Is Magic’ will be held on Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} August starting at 6.30pm, and concluding at 7.30pm. All families are invited to attend, however children attending, must be accompanied by an adult.

Children from Prep to Year 6 are allocated in groups to a classroom, with siblings kept together. Our senior students host the evening as part of their Leadership development. Prep to Year 6 students proudly read their poems and/or snapshots to the audience with great confidence.

The evening commences with each child taking turns to read their piece of published work and at the conclusion, each child will receive a ‘RWTIM Ribbon’ for attending the night.

To assist with the organisation, it is vital that you register your attendance, and names of your child/ren who will be participating on the night.

Please go online www.schoolinterviews.com.au and use the Online Booking System Event Code – 9ta2x on or before, Monday 15\textsuperscript{th} August to book your child/ren’s attendance. The online booking system will close at 4.00pm on Monday 15\textsuperscript{th} August.

All families will be provided with details of the room your child/ren will be reading in, by Wednesday 17\textsuperscript{th} August.

PLEASE NOTE:     ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT ON THE NIGHT

Book Fair – Australia! Story Country

The Book Fair will be located in the Library/Resource Centre. Families will be able to purchase a wide range of books on the following dates and times.

Thursday 18\textsuperscript{th} August – After School from 3.30pm to 4.15pm

Prior to RWTIM – 5.30pm to 6.15pm (sharp)

After RWTIM until 8.00pm

Friday 19\textsuperscript{th} August – Before School from 8.30am to 9.00am
Keeping your children safe online

Your children's online world is as much a part of their life as offline, so it is crucial that you are as involved in supporting their online wellbeing as you are their physical health. Your skills in rule setting, support, guidance and respect are just as important to helping ensure your kids enjoy positive digital experiences and to help them gain confidence in asking for advice and support. Knowing they are equipped to make sound decisions and manage risks online is so important, especially with the number of internet-enabled devices that can be used without adult supervision.

Explore the internet together

Digital education and communication is essential to the safety of your kids online. This will help instil confidence in your kids – and peace of mind for you! Exploring the internet together and talking about the websites, games and activities they enjoy is a good way to start those conversations. Get to know your children's friends both online and offline and use technology-based solutions to help protect their devices – filters, parental controls and e-security software are all great tools. Remember - there is no substitute for your involvement because no-one loves your kids as much as you do.

Three steps to protecting your kids online

You can help keep your kids safe online using these three basic strategies.

1. Communicate openly with your kids
   - It's not possible to supervise your kids 24/7 so finding ways to establish and maintain trust is really valuable.
   - Talk to them about their online activities, from chatting about their favourite websites to asking who they are talking to and if they are having any online issues.
   - Give them strategies to deal with upsetting online content, from turning off the screen, telling a trusted adult, and showing them how to block and report people.
   - Research the age ratings for the games and apps your child uses so you can determine age appropriateness and suitability.
   - Explore the sites and apps your kids love, play online games together and consider setting up your own accounts with the sites they frequent. This will help you familiarise yourself with the operation of those sites and potential risks. Ask your kids to show you how they work – they'll love teaching you something!
   - Set age appropriate rules for using the internet and devices and, where practicable. Seek your child's input – this will help your child understand risks. As they get older you can review your rules to align with their maturity level.

2. Use technology tools to keep them safe
   - There are so many technological advances that can enhance the experience for your child online and help keep them safe – both within the site or app and for their devices.
   - Use parental controls and install filtering software to help block unwanted content and pop-ups and to restrict access to specific content and pages.
   - Some of the filtering products available on the Australian market include:
     - Qustodio
     - Norton Family
     - NetNanny
     - PureSight Surfie
     - CYBERsitter
     - McAfee
   - Help your child to set up the privacy settings on all sites and devices they use.
   - Locate the computer in an area of your home that can be supervised. Parents of older children may have an ‘open door’ policy when devices are used in bedrooms and to ensure that screens are facing outward. And make sure you check in regularly to see what they're viewing.
   - Consider rules for internet-enabled handheld devices – where and when.
   - Install and update anti-virus and other e-security software to restrict unauthorised access to data on the home computer. Ensure all security features are turned on and set to automatic scan and regular updates to protect against the latest risks.
   - Activate safety features on web browsers to protect your devices and personal information.
   - Show your child how to block and report users or pages on the sites they use.
Dear Parents,

“Play On Footy” sessions will be held on Mondays starting 1st August.

Sessions will be run over a 6 week period. Each session will run for 1 hour and the program is limited to 16 children. (Please see the flyer in today’s Newsletter).

Students at Aftercare will be collecting old/used printer/fax/ink toners for Planet Ark to be recycled. Once the recycle boxes arrive they will be situated next to the in/out sign area at After Care. All parents/students will be welcome to drop off their old cartridges into the box.

Parents, please remember to check the blue Lost Property basket for your child’s belongings.

Thank you to Petra Ramsay for her donation of boxes etc for children to use for craft. If any other parents have any old boxes (not to large) etc, please leave them at the program. Children enjoy using these boxes for crafts.

Thank you—OSHCLUB Staff (0411 236 845)

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3. Encourage safe and responsible behaviour

- Setting rules for your child’s internet use and establishing clear boundaries and expectations is imperative. Your rules will depend on the age of your kids and the level of responsibility you are willing to give but is underpinned by conversation, education and trust.

- Consider a family online safety contract as a tool to negotiate agreement about rules and renegotiate as required. It could cover the type of websites that can be visited, time spent online and acceptable online behaviour. This example from ThinkUKnow Australia can be a good starting point for your own family contract.

- Educate your kids about safe and positive online behaviour and encourage them to think before they post, text or share; be respectful online; avoid posting things that may upset others; and understand that content can remain online forever and can be shared by others without permission.

- Help them keep their personal information private. This means avoiding using full names, phone numbers, home address, school name and date of birth.

- Set their online profiles to the maximum privacy settings. Online conversations, images and videos might be viewed by others and can’t always be removed.

- Ensure your child uses strong passwords on devices and explain the importance of not sharing passwords, even with friends.

- Talk to them about cyberbullying behaviour and how to report and manage it. You can get some great advice and resources about cyberbullying on the www.esafety.gov.au website.

- Explain the dangers of meeting face to face with someone they have only chatted with online.

- Encourage your child to talk to a trusted adult if any content they view or if contact with someone online makes them feel uncomfortable.
