Dear Parents,

Late this afternoon, I received information that the memorial service for Holly Nicholson will be held next TUESDAY, 3rd February, 5pm at the Wonthaggi Town Hall. Our thoughts are with the Nicholson Family at this sad time. As we will have a number of staff attending the funeral, a decision has been made to postpone Parent-Teacher discussions until later in the term. A decision of the date/time has not been made yet, however it is most likely to be in the final week of term.

School Leaders

At Friday’s assembly we presented Badges to our selected school leaders for 2016. We had a focus on how everyone is a leader and that it is important to make good decisions. We ask our children to think about 1. Is it good for me? 2. Is it good for others? 3. Is it good for the community? Only after they can answer yes to all three questions should we consider whether or not we take action.

We were fortunate to have Mayor Jordan Crugnale speak to the children about the importance of stepping up for what is right for our community. She also joined in with the song of the week and showed that as a Leader of our community, she is willing to have a go in new situations. We were indeed very fortunate to have a great model for our school.

Parent Involvement

Our school prides itself on its family approach to education and welcomes the involvement of parents. We actively encourage participation through volunteer programs where parents can directly participate in school activities. Opportunities are available to assist in a variety of ways: e.g. community services, camps, excursions, sporting events, classroom programs, and participation in School Council Sub-Committees. Currently we have many parents who are involved in various ways at our school. Without parent assistance in various areas, it would be very difficult or even impossible to run programs. Some involvement requires a long-term commitment, whereas others may be one-off or occasional. (We appreciate all the help we receive). Participating at school can be a most rewarding and enlightening experience and I hope some of these ideas are useful for you. Any contribution you can offer will be warmly welcomed. Please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member or myself if you have any queries about volunteering.

Research shows that students whose parents take an active role in the school do better at school. Things you should be aware of before volunteering:

- All visitors must obtain a visitor’s pass from the office. This process is part of our emergency management and student safety procedures.
- Confidentiality is critical.
- If in doubt about handling personal information, please seek advice from a staff member.
- If you have any difficulty with a student, you must refer the problem to the Class Teacher.
- All Volunteers require a Working with Children’s Check.

Working with Children Check

For the peace of mind for all concerned, we ask that you apply for and are successful in gaining a Working with Children (WWC) check prior to being a volunteer in the classroom (not required for community services helpers). The WWC check seeks to prevent those who pose a risk to the safety of children from working with them, either paid or volunteer work. The WWC check involves submitting a form to the Department of Justice. The form asks for personal information such as gender, date of birth, driver’s license number or passport details to verify your identity and enables a check of the National Criminal History Record. Detailed information will not be returned to the school. You can apply for a WWC Check online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/.

The check is free for volunteers and as long as your circumstances do not change, the WWC Check remains valid for five years.


Please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member or myself if you have any queries about volunteering.

---

Wonthaggi Primary School News

From the Principal

Page 4

For your Diary

February

Thursday 18th
- School Council Meeting
- 6.30pm in the Senior Learning Centre.

Friday 19th
- Grade 5/6 Beach Water Safety Day. POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Tuesday 23rd
- Parent Teacher Discussion/Interviews. POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
- Labour Day - Public Holiday
- House Swimming Sports.
- Last Day of Term 1 - Dismissal at 2:30pm.

Good Friday
- Easter Break.

Term 2 Starts
- Monday 29th - Thursday 3rd March
- Monday 14th - Friday 18th
- Monday 21st - Friday 25th
- Monday 28th - Friday 1st April

Saturday 26th - Monday 28th
- Labour Day - Public Holiday
- House Swimming Sports
- Friday 26th - Grade 3/4 Beach Water Safety Day
- Friday 29th - Grade Prep/12 Beach Water Safety Day

March

Monday 14th
- Prep - Labour Day - Public Holiday.

Friday 18th
- House Swimming Sports.

Thursday 24th
- Last Day of Term 1 - Dismissal at 2:30pm.

Friday 25th
- Good Friday.

Saturday 26th - Monday 28th
- Easter Break.

Monday 11th
- Term 2 Starts.

Friday - Breakfast Club
- Prep Children do not attend school on Wednesday for the whole of Term 1.

---

Wonthaggi Primary School News

Page 4

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Late this afternoon, I received information that the memorial service for Holly Nicholson will be held next TUESDAY, 3rd February, 5pm at the Wonthaggi Town Hall. Our thoughts are with the Nicholson Family at this sad time. As we will have a number of staff attending the funeral, a decision has been made to postpone Parent-Teacher discussions until later in the term. A decision of the date/time has not been made yet, however it is most likely to be in the final week of term.

School Leaders

At Friday’s assembly we presented Badges to our selected school leaders for 2016. We had a focus on how everyone is a leader and that it is important to make good decisions. We ask our children to think about 1. Is it good for me? 2. Is it good for others? 3. Is it good for the community? Only after they can answer yes to all three questions should we consider whether or not we take action.

We were fortunate to have Mayor Jordan Crugnale speak to the children about the importance of stepping up for what is right for our community. She also joined in with the song of the week and showed that as a Leader of our community, she is willing to have a go in new situations. We were indeed very fortunate to have a great model for our school.

Parent Involvement

Our school prides itself on its family approach to education and welcomes the involvement of parents. We actively encourage participation through volunteer programs where parents can directly participate in school activities. Opportunities are available to assist in a variety of ways: e.g. community services, camps, excursions, sporting events, classroom programs, and participation in School Council Sub-Committees. Currently we have many parents who are involved in various ways at our school. Without parent assistance in various areas, it would be very difficult or even impossible to run programs. Some involvement requires a long-term commitment, whereas others may be one-off or occasional. (We appreciate all the help we receive). Participating at school can be a most rewarding and enlightening experience and I hope some of these ideas are useful for you. Any contribution you can offer will be warmly welcomed. Please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member or myself if you have any queries about volunteering.

Research shows that students whose parents take an active role in the school do better at school. Things you should be aware of before volunteering:

- All visitors must obtain a visitor’s pass from the office. This process is part of our emergency management and student safety procedures.
- Confidentiality is critical.
- If in doubt about handling personal information, please seek advice from a staff member.
- If you have any difficulty with a student, you must refer the problem to the Class Teacher.
- All Volunteers require a Working with Children’s Check.

Working with Children Check

For the peace of mind for all concerned, we ask that you apply for and are successful in gaining a Working with Children (WWC) check prior to being a volunteer in the classroom (not required for community services helpers). The WWC check seeks to prevent those who pose a risk to the safety of children from working with them, either paid or volunteer work. The WWC check involves submitting a form to the Department of Justice. The form asks for personal information such as gender, date of birth, driver’s license number or passport details to verify your identity and enables a check of the National Criminal History Record. Detailed information will not be returned to the school. You can apply for a WWC Check online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/.

The check is free for volunteers and as long as your circumstances do not change, the WWC Check remains valid for five years.


Please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member or myself if you have any queries about volunteering.

---

Wonthaggi Primary School News

Page 4

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

Late this afternoon, I received information that the memorial service for Holly Nicholson will be held next TUESDAY, 3rd February, 5pm at the Wonthaggi Town Hall. Our thoughts are with the Nicholson Family at this sad time. As we will have a number of staff attending the funeral, a decision has been made to postpone Parent-Teacher discussions until later in the term. A decision of the date/time has not been made yet, however it is most likely to be in the final week of term.

School Leaders

At Friday’s assembly we presented Badges to our selected school leaders for 2016. We had a focus on how everyone is a leader and that it is important to make good decisions. We ask our children to think about 1. Is it good for me? 2. Is it good for others? 3. Is it good for the community? Only after they can answer yes to all three questions should we consider whether or not we take action.

We were fortunate to have Mayor Jordan Crugnale speak to the children about the importance of stepping up for what is right for our community. She also joined in with the song of the week and showed that as a Leader of our community, she is willing to have a go in new situations. We were indeed very fortunate to have a great model for our school.

Parent Involvement

Our school prides itself on its family approach to education and welcomes the involvement of parents. We actively encourage participation through volunteer programs where parents can directly participate in school activities. Opportunities are available to assist in a variety of ways: e.g. community services, camps, excursions, sporting events, classroom programs, and participation in School Council Sub-Committees. Currently we have many parents who are involved in various ways at our school. Without parent assistance in various areas, it would be very difficult or even impossible to run programs. Some involvement requires a long-term commitment, whereas others may be one-off or occasional. (We appreciate all the help we receive). Participating at school can be a most rewarding and enlightening experience and I hope some of these ideas are useful for you. Any contribution you can offer will be warmly welcomed. Please don’t hesitate to contact a staff member or myself if you have any queries about volunteering.

Research shows that students whose parents take an active role in the school do better at school. Things you should be aware of before volunteering:

- All visitors must obtain a visitor’s pass from the office. This process is part of our emergency management and student safety procedures.
- Confidentiality is critical.
- If in doubt about handling personal information, please seek advice from a staff member.
- If you have any difficulty with a student, you must refer the problem to the Class Teacher.
- All Volunteers require a Working with Children’s Check.

Working with Children Check

For the peace of mind for all concerned, we ask that you apply for and are successful in gaining a Working with Children (WWC) check prior to being a volunteer in the classroom (not required for community services helpers). The WWC check seeks to prevent those who pose a risk to the safety of children from working with them, either paid or volunteer work. The WWC check involves submitting a form to the Department of Justice. The form asks for personal information such as gender, date of birth, driver’s license number or passport details to verify your identity and enables a check of the National Criminal History Record. Detailed information will not be returned to the school. You can apply for a WWC Check online at http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/home/applications/.

The check is free for volunteers and as long as your circumstances do not change, the WWC Check remains valid for five years. For information on the regulations concerning working with children in schools refer to www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren.

Continued ….
**Conveyancing Allowance Program (CAP)**

The conveyance allowance is a form of financial assistance to help families in rural and regional Victoria with the cost of transporting their children to their nearest appropriate school/campus. The conveyance allowance is available to eligible students travelling by public transport, private car and private bus. The conveyance allowance is also available to eligible students whose nearest school is not serviced by a free school bus. Please contact the office for more information.

---

**Student Health/Accident Cover** is available from JUA Underwriting Agency Pty Ltd www.studenthealth.com.au

---

**Road Safety Around Schools**

Please be aware that there will be an increase in police presence around schools monitoring driver safety particularly when dropping off and picking up students. They will be booking people for double parking and speeding so please be reminded to be drive and park safely at all times.

---

**Art News**

Art packs are ready for borrowing again in the Art room. Please see Ms Chapman in the Art Room Thursday at 3:30pm. The Packs need to be returned before Monday 9:00am.

---

**Student of the Week**

12A Archie M. - Always playing in a respectful manner outside.
12B Natasha A. - For her outstanding handwriting.
12C Lara D. - For her fantastic efforts in all areas.
12D Dyclan S. - Having a go at writing tasks.
34A Eli S. - Getting along with others.
34B Will C. - Working cooperatively with others, well done.
34C Jacob L. - An awesome start to the school Term.
34D Leroy I. - For settling into 3/4D well.
56A Kyle Y. - Bringing great energy and enthusiasm to the grade.
56B Crystal W. - Making an exceptional effort to begin your RnR.
56C Chad C. - Working hard to be more independent.

---

**Grade 5/6 Beach Water Safety Day Postponed**

Due to the forecasted cool weather this Friday 19th February (south westerly winds and cool temperature), we are postponing the Grade 5/6 Water Safety Beach Day. The proposed new date will be after Grade 5 Camp. I am sorry for any inconveniences caused but we aim to make our Water Safety Days as enjoyable as possible.

Will Rankin
Physical Education Coordinator