From the Principal...

Today is a very important event in our school calendar. It is our afternoon/evening for Parent/Teacher discussions, to be held in the Senior Learning Centre from 2:30 to 6:00pm. It is a chance to discuss your child’s learning and the next steps in their learning journey. We know that when parents work in partnership with the school we achieve great outcomes for children. If you were unable to make the appointments tonight, please contact the office to make an alternative time with your child’s teacher.

As a school we also welcome parent/community volunteers, we are currently enjoying support from a number of community volunteers who are donating their time to work with individual children, small groups, gardening and other projects. If you are interested in becoming more involved in the school please contact the school. We really believe that our children learn and are supported by our whole community and we welcome our community members in our school.

We are very fortunate that many of our children are able to walk or ride their bikes to our school or their bus stop. It would be appreciated if you could talk with your child to remind them of the following:

- Walk together; younger children should always walk with an adult. Walking is great exercise and a nice way to spend time together.
- Watch out for cars and trucks at every driveway and intersection on your walk to school.
- Talk together to pick a safe route to school; one that avoids dangers.
- When you are near the street, don’t push, shove, or chase each other.
- Never take rides from people not arranged by your parents.
- Talk to your parents and/or teacher about anything that may happen during your walk.
- Be seen! Remember, drivers may not be able to see you well.

If you decide that your child can walk to school on your own, remember these tips;

- Walk with a friend when possible.
- Remind them to stick to the route you picked together. Remind them not to let others talk them into “shortcuts”

To cross the street safely, try this routine;

- Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
- Look left, right, left and behind you and in front of you for traffic.
- Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.
- Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.
- Walk, don’t run across the street.
- Obey traffic signs, signals and school crossing people.

If you are collecting your child by car, PLEASE greet your child at the school gate, their classroom or the playground. For their safety, please DO NOT encourage them to cross any road unaccompanied. Please do not call to them, or encourage them to run near roads (even in the rain). Children do not develop their peripheral (side) vision until the age of 10-12 years. This means that they will not be able to see vehicles unless they are looking “pretty much” straight at them. Please help us to keep your children safe.

I would like to say a special thank you to the parents that have taken the time to “fill my bucket” by letting me know about the learning experiences that is making a difference to their child.

Principal
Leone Anstey
SAFETY FOR CHILDREN

ABSENCE NOTIFICATION
Notifying the school that your child is or will be absent from school is extremely important. It ensures the safety of your child and enables the school to know that a parent is aware that their child is not at school for that period of time. It also allows teachers to be aware, for example, that a child has been sick and may regress or has been on holidays and may want to share this with the class and other such scenarios.

Notification must be given for each day a child is away. For example; you may notify us that your child/ren will be sick until Wednesday and possibly back on Thursday but if they are still sick on Thursday you must contact the school again to notify us that they are still sick. We cannot just assume that they are still sick as legally we have only been informed up until the Wednesday. You can notify us by simply calling the office or notifying their classroom teacher.

SAFE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL
A few tips for you and your children’s safety:-

Helmets on bikes and scooters
Children riding bikes or scooters to school should do so in a safe manner, wearing protective gear especially an approved Helmet. The law required that all cyclists wear an approved bicycle helmet. Approved helmets have the Australian Standards Mark TM (AS/NZS 2063) and will be marked as suitable for cycling.

Walking to school
Taking the safest route and using school crossings where ever possible.

Car travel and parking around School Zones
Obey speed limit signs and park safely when dropping off and picking up children. Please be aware that the Local Police regularly patrol the area and will not hesitate to book anyone who is parked illegally, which includes double parking.

Please also refer the brochure ‘Safe to School’ included with this newsletter.

BUS TRAVEL
Bus travel is one of the safest ways to travel to school, but helping your children to learn how to stay safe on and around buses is still important. These simple steps can help reduce safety risks around buses and bus stops:

- Stop - Stay well back from the edge of the road and wait for the bus to leave.
- Look - In all directions for approaching traffic, after the bus has gone. Make sure you have a clear view of the road.
- Listen - In all directions for approaching traffic.
- Think - About when it is safe to cross, only cross when the road is clear.

BUS ROLL - If your child travels on the school bus, it is imperative that you notify us if they will not be travelling on the bus for a particular day. If we are not aware of this, much time can be taken and anxiety caused trying to find a child we believe may be missing from the bus. If your child is away from school on a particular day we will know they are not travelling on the bus, otherwise we will consider that your child should be on the bus.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

00A Archie L. For his hard work and efforts in writing.
00B Patience L. Persevering to learn how to blend sounds in words.
12A Hayden M. For trying hard in memory games.
12C Logan S. Great perseverance when learning about arrays in multiplication.
12D Campbell B. For being an enthusiastic scientist.
34A Emily S. Beautiful work always.
34B Heidi P. Wonderful acting in readers theatre.
34C Noah A. Persevering in all aspects of school and sport.
56A Jett L. Great effort in writing keep it up.
56B Jessica M. For being a fantastic Wonthaggi Primary School representative and role model on camp.
56D Alicia S. Being enthusiastic during our ‘Crazy Animal’ investigations.
**Parents and Friends**

**House colour wristbands**
I am happy to inform you all that our wristband fund raiser is still going. The children love wearing them to show support of their sports house, even when there are non sporting events on. The wrist bands are available for purchase from the office for $2 in your house colours. Yellow = Somerset, blue = McCracken and red = Abercrombie. Get in quick before they sell out. Thank you for your support.

**Next meeting**
Our next meeting has been changed and will now be held on Tuesday 11th August at 9.15am in the Staff Room. All are welcome.

**In Sport**

**District Basketball**
This Friday, our grade 5/6 students will play against St Josephs, Powlett River PS and Wonthaggi North PS in a District Basketball Carnival. The competition will run a bit differently to previous years in that the emphasis on the day will be on maximum participation and enjoyment. We want our students who don’t play basketball outside of school to get involved with the local basketball association. As such, our school will be fielding 3 boys and 3 girls teams. Students will be on a regular rotation on and off the court. Thanks to those parents who are supervising teams. Without your help these types of days just couldn’t work.

Will Rankin
Sports Teacher

**Music News**
At each level of the school, students are learning to play tunes, songs and combinations of notes to form riffs. Playing music together is an engaging way to enhance skills of co-operation while having fun. I’ve been impressed with classes demonstrating these skills, especially as students identify what they’ve learnt and the next step for them in their learning journey. These class documents are on display in the Music Room and families are welcome to come and have a look.

We’ve continued working on the song ‘Big Bad Bushranger’ as well as a number of shorter songs which we sing as rounds.

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

**SchoolMate!**

The Department of Education and Training has released an App which is designed to help you better understand the curriculum we use to teach your children every day.

The App, called [SchoolMate](#), is available for free download now in the App Store for iPhones and iPads and in Google Play for Android phones and tablets.

SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year level.

**100 Nights of Reading**

**CSEF Funding**
**Financial Assistance for Parents has been extended**
*Don’t miss out*

Apply before 18th September 2015.

For Parents/Carers who have missed applying for this funding in Term 2, there is a second round available.

If you have a Concession Card that is valid on the first day of Term 2 (13th April 2015) or Term 3 (13 July 2015) you could be eligible for funding of $125.00 for Primary and $225.00 for Secondary Students, which will be sent to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses.

Application Forms are available at the Office.
Help your school secure some amazing resources just by collecting.

**Start Collecting Today**

1. Shop at Woolworths and you'll get 1 Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 you spend.
2. Stick them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. You can pick one up from your local school. Woolworths stores.
3. Once you've filled your Sticker Sheet, pop it into a Collection Box at your local school or Woolworths store.