From the Principal...

At Wonthaggi Primary School, we strongly believe in the whole education of your child and deliver a comprehensive program as determined by the Australian Curriculum, which not only includes a strong focus on Literacy and Numeracy, but also the Arts (Visual and Performing), Sports, Science and Social Skills.

NAPLAN

This week the parents of Grade 3 & 5 children will receive the results for this year’s National Assessment for Literacy and Numeracy Test, (NAPLAN) which was held in May of this year (via mail). These results are just one measure of the learning that is taking place for your child at the school.

The staff will be very carefully examining the results across all the learning areas to work out patterns and areas for improvement for the future programs for these groups of children and the school as a whole. Our School Council will also be looking carefully at the school reports that are made available; however I would like to share my thoughts around the big ideas of the results as we have much to celebrate.

At the Grade 3 level, results are closely matched to State Averages in Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Numeracy. Writing is an area for improvement for this group of students. At the grade 5 level, our children made good progress across all areas and were also closely matched to the State results. I would like to congratulate the teachers and support staff for the extraordinary effort that they make to enhance the learning of all children in our school every day. This measure is just one example of continuous improvement to make our school a wonderful place to learn and grow.

Grade 3/4 Forest Lodge Camp

Yesterday our Grade 3&4 children were excited; their parents/carers were both excited and nervous. Why? They were headed to camp at Forest Lodge, Yarram! This is a very important experience for children as they develop their organisational, self-esteem, confidence and resilience. I would like to thank our dedicated staff (Andrew Inglis, Bek Vagg, Louise Meade, Wendy Wilson, Will Rankin, Faye Zappa) who are committed to your child’s development by having 3 days away from their own families. Also to our parent volunteers Michelle Mabila, Lyndal Peterson, Michelle Smith and Justin Smith. It is a huge responsibility and something that they willingly contribute.

Resilience Project

Yesterday we launched the start of the Youth resilience project with our Grade 5&6 children. This initiative is aimed to build school student and teacher capacity to undertake whole school approaches to enhance students’ resilience, optimism, confidence, and social and emotional skills. It will be launched with our Grade 3&4 children after they return from camp. We hope that all children will participate in the survey and will need to return a parent/carer permission form. The survey collects strengths of students, as well as exploring wellbeing and the levels of hopefulness. The survey is completely anonymous and no student is identified. The data is collected and analyzed by Resilient Youth Australia and reported back to the Principal. The data will help identify the strengths of students, and enable the school to plan for future initiatives in building resiliency. I have included an article from Andrew Fuller with today’s newsletter.

Staff News

As a school community we offer our condolences to Di Johnson on the passing of her mother this week. Our thoughts are with her at this sad time.

Tomorrow we will farewell Mrs Bianca Quinn as she starts her maternity leave. We wish her and her family all the best. We are pleased to confirm that we have been able to appoint Ms Margaret Callanan to the class for the remainder of 2015. Ms Callanan retired from fulltime teaching at our school in 2014 and is delighted to return to our school.

Principal

Leonie Anstey
**PRINCIPALS’ DAY**
This Friday 28th August we celebrate Principals’ Day and on behalf of the school community I would like to thank Mrs. Anstey and Mr. Hally for their commitment and hard work in making our school a vibrant and stimulating place of learning. The dedication and direction shown by Mrs. Anstey, Mr. Hally and the Leadership Team is what makes Wonthaggi State Great!! I encourage everyone to make an effort on Friday to say thank you to our hard working Principals.

Michelle Mabilia
School Council President

**WETLANDS EXCURSION**
Two weeks ago the Grade 3/4s visited our local wetlands. It started with finding different creatures in the lake. We learnt different names of lake creatures. There where tiny and big creatures in the lake. We caught big and tiny creatures in a tub then we put them in ice cube containers. One team caught 7 little Shrimp! The teams names were Team Shrimp, Team Might, Team Boatman, Team Small, and Team Muck. We had a lot of fun and hopefully we can go again sometime with school or with our families.

By Kalahni and Dannielle

**100 NIGHTS OF READING**

00A Chelsea D. For continually doing her best in all classes.
00B Lily L. Persevering with all tasks to learn and improve.
12A Roberta W. A Great effort with her reading.
12B Jeremy W. Excellent effort in weekend recount writing.
12C Olivia R. For being a fantastic team player and helping others in group work.
12D Isaiah S. For being a great learner.
34A 
34B 
34C 
34D GRADE 3/4 CAMP
56B Rikki Y. For being self motivated with RnR and Integrated Study Work.
56D Lola M. Always being a fantastic role model.

**SUNSMART STARTS NEXT TUESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER.**

**WEAR YOUR SCHOOL HAT**
If you have lost your hat, a new hat can be purchased through the office, broad brimmed hats are $8.30 and bucket hats are $9.00.
Remember NO HAT, NO PLAY.

**UNIFORM ORDERS**
It is that time again to consider what uniforms you may need to order for your child as the seasons are changing again. Please note that it is best to order now to avoid missing out as we hold very limited stock at the school.

Orders with payments are due back no later than Monday 14th September.
**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

**Skip-a-thon**
On the 4th September this Term, Parents and Friends will be holding a Skip-a-thon. We are raising funds to help pay for solar power for our pool. The aim is to make the pool warmer so our children can enjoy the pool for longer periods in Term 1 and Term 4 each year. 10% of funds raised will be donated to the Heart Foundation.

There will be great prizes to win:
- Each student who raises money gets one entry in their class draw to receive a prize (one per class). (sponsorship forms have been sent home with this newsletter)
- A prize will also be awarded to the child who raises the most money for the school
- The class that raises the most money will be treated to a very special prize.

Please return sponsorship forms and money by Friday 4th September so your child/ren can be included in the prize draws. Sponsorship forms are available at the office. So get practicing and get ready for some fun and let’s get active!

**Fathers Day Stall**
We will be holding a Fathers Day Stall on Wednesday 2nd September. Items will range from $1 - $5.

Parents and Friends

**MUSIC NEWS**
Classes are finishing off writing their class parodies, based on their ‘philosophy for children’ topics. We’ve already learnt 1/2B’s parody (and performed it at assembly), and next week our song of the week will come from 3/4C. Their topic is about why some people get homesick.

Speaking of assembly, it’s been terrific to include so many children and adults in our weekly song. Well done to those who have joined in the fun!

This week all classes have played instruments, learnt new songs and actions, as well as co-operated with each other as a regular, expected part of each lesson.

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

**Program for Students with Disability**
Education Minister, Mr Merlino is calling for all Victorians to have their say on the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD). Parents, carers, students, principals, teachers, support and specialist staff and advocates are encouraged to submit their solution-focused ideas in writing to the PSD Review team by Friday 11 September. Email your ideas to: psd.review@edumail.vic.gov.au before Friday 11 September and you can also register your interest in taking part in the online survey in September.

To register, please see: PSD Review - Education Victoria.

**ARTROOM NEWS**

*WANTED: A FABULOUS NAME FOR OUR MURAL*

Entries in the special box in the office before Wednesday, 2nd September.
Winner and prize will be announced at the Skip-a-thon.
DON’T FORGET YOUR NAME ON YOUR ENTRY!

Pirili Chapman
Art Teacher

**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.

DON’T MISS OUT!
AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE

DOUBLE STICKER WEEKEND 21st, 22nd & 23rd August

Double Sticker Weekend!
To help you collect even more, we are holding a big Double Sticker Weekend this Friday, Saturday and Sunday only. Customers will get two stickers for every $10 they spend. The more you collect the more educational equipment your school can redeem.