**Community News**

**Christmas Lights Tour**

**Horse & Carriage Ride**

Wonthaggi

Children each get a **FREE 7 colour battery operated candle**

**Give to them a memory that will last forever**

$160 for seating up to 7 people

($260 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

bookings @ hornemancarriages.com.au

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**South Gippsland Tennis Coaching**

Term commencing from Monday 18th January, 2016.

Contact: Matthew Pocklington

56620597 / 0402736693

info@southgippslandtenniscoaching.com.au or send an enquiry or enrolment through at www.southgippslandtenniscoaching.com.au

15th Annual Junior & Open Classic Tournament: 3-5th January 2016. 23 Events.

South Gippsland Tennis Coaching is now taking

term 1, 2016 enrolments.

Spaces are very limited so get in quick!

Hot Shots: Red 4-7; Orange 5-8; Green 9+;
Squads; Private; Tournaments and more.

Venues & Days: Phillip Island: Monday; Korumburra:

Wednesday; Leongatha: Tuesday, Wednesday; Friday & Sunday;
Fish Creek: Wednesday; Wonthaggi: Thursday;

*(No terms from Monday 18th February to Friday 12th February - all coaches away at tennis tournament)*

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**Wonthaggi Primary School News**

**Page 4**

**December**

**From the Principal**

**Art in Residence Week**

Our Annual Art in Residence program is in full swing and the children have had an amazing experience being fully immersed in the Asian theme. They have been learning dance, puppetry, drumming and will be putting on a concert tomorrow night in the Gym. We will have a family picnic on the oval from 4:30, with the concert starting promptly at 6:00. I’m looking forward to joining you all there. I would like to give a huge thank you to Ruth Chambers and Piti Chapman for organizing this event also to every member of staff for being fully involved in the rehearsals and preparing their classes for performance on Friday night.

We also had Sugu (and Kevin), Naomi’s parents demonstrate clothing, mats and bags from Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Kishore’s mum demonstrated how to wear a sari and other clothing from India. The children really enjoyed this experience and had the chance to ask questions about the country, customs and traditions. Thank you again! We look forward to all these families for sharing their knowledge and skills with all of our children.

**Parent Helper’s Morning Tea**

Yesterday we said thank you to all our community volunteers in a special morning tea, provided by our school staff. We are indeed very fortunate to have over 100 volunteers working in a variety of roles across our school. I truly believe that “it takes a village to raise a child” and I am humbled by the extra efforts that our community (parents, grandparents and the wider community) give to our children. Our children are also learning through action that volunteering to help others is indeed a valuable life skill and one that we should all be very proud of.

**Statewide Transition Day**

We welcomed our 2016 Prep children on Tuesday, they had an exciting morning and their skills to be a “school kid” we amazed and reflect the great “Leap into Learning” program that we offer commencing in August. Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and extended family that attended the parent information session in the library. I enjoyed sharing some of the information with our families and thank our current families for supporting the session, by sharing their experience with our school.

**Student Reports**

Next Monday, each of our children will receive their end-of-semester snapshot of their learning. I have read every student report for the school and am very impressed in the progress that EVERY child has made towards their learning goals. The image opposite was a reminder to me about how we learn. We often think, that we reach our goals (success) in a straight line. However the reality of learning is more like the second image. As an example, when learning to read the first skills are decoding (sound out words). Once children start to understand this skill, they will progress through the reading levels (1-8) quite often. Most often in the first year or two of school. However as the skills needed for reading increase (understanding, vocabulary, experience), the rate of reading progression appears to slow. However this is not the case as each learner is trying out ideas, applying, connecting which are skills that take much longer to learn. The research shows that the average time to move between levels in the 20s take on average 3-6 months. What is also true is that we learn like the second diagram, and it is a delight as we observe in ourselves and others when we have the AHA moment. Unfortunately we have to report progression on a straight line on the end of semester report, so I urge you to think about the progress that your child is currently making by reading the detials comments made by your child’s teacher. Our teachers will also be available on Tuesday afternoon; 3:40pm – 4:30pm (in their classrooms); If there are any matters in the reports that you wish to clarify, I will also be available for parent inquiries during this time.

**Such exciting news to hand…**

We have been successful in our application to have two staff trained as Mathematics/Science Specialists. Congratulations to Chris Terlich and Karyn Thomas who were the successful applicants following the selection process held in the previous weeks. As a result of this amazing opportunity, Chris Terlich will be grade sharing with Sally Terlich. Alisa Goding will be grade sharing with Kyle Horton. Kyle is from Inverloch and has extensive experience teaching in the Grade 3/4 area both at Inverloch and in

Our teacher allocation is now confirmed as:

Prep: Narelle Bruhn and Wendy Wilson

1A: Megan Levensha, Emily Azzopardi, Wendy Bradley and Marc Ibrhim.

3A: Louise Meade, Bek Vagg, Andrew Inglis and Alisa Goding/Kyle Horton

5&6: Jenna Elliott, Ros Whiteman and Chris Terlich/Sally Terlich

**PE:** Will Rankin

**Art:** Piti Chapman

**Music:** Ruth Chambers

**Maths/Science Specialists:** Chris Terlich and Karyn Thomas

**Literacy Specialist:** Karyn Thomas

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**Prep Students**

**Literacy Specialist:**

NO BREAKFAST CLUB.

OF SCHOOL FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER. ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED AT SCHOOL – no excuses.

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**Such exciting news to hand...**

We have been successful in our application to have two staff trained as Mathematics/Science Specialists. See the back of the newsletter for more details.

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**Principal**

**“It took 10 years to become an overnight SUCCESS!”**

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**For your diary**

**December**

**FRIDAY 11th**

Annual Family Picnic Friday

Friday 11th from 4:30 – 5:45pm.

Art in Residence Concert

Friday 11th at 6:00pm

**MONDAY 14th - FRIDAY 18th**

Senior Learning Centre Activities Week - Cost $10.

**TUESDAY 15th**

Whole School Disco hosted by the SRC. $5 on they day.

Grade 3/4 Excursion to Flipp’n Out - Cost $5.00

**WEDNESDAY 16th**

NO ASSEMBLY

**THURSDAY 17th**

Grade 6 Graduation.

**FRIDAY 18th**

NO BREAKFAST CLUB

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY - 9:00am in the School Gym.

**Last day of School for 2015 - Finalist of 12:00pm.**

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**NO BUSES RUNNING ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL**

**FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER**

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED AT SCHOOL. - Dismissal at 12:00pm

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**Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**JANUARY 2016**

**THURSDAY 28th**

School starts for Grade 1 - 6 Students.

**FRIDAY 29th**

School starts for Prep Students.

(Not: Teachers commence on Wednesday 27th January)

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**WONTHAGGI PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Phone: (03) 5672 1600
Principal: Mrs Leonie Arney

Email: wonthaggi.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.wonthaggi.ps.vic.edu.au
Billiton Street (PMB 101) Wonthaggi, 3995

Find us on facebook
**PARENTS AND FRIENDS**

Christmas raffle donations

Our last fundraiser for 2015 is our Christmas Raffle. **If anyone would like to help donate prize/s towards the Christmas raffle, please leave your donation/s at the office.** We want to make this year’s Christmas raffle fantastic so get those raffle tickets and money into the office as soon as you can. The raffle will be drawn at the last Assembly on Friday 18th December. More raffle tickets are available at the office if you need them.

Thankyou all for your support and help with fundraising during the year to help make our school even better.

Parents and Friends

**BREAKFAST CLUB**

Term 4 saw the resumption of the Breakfast Club! Kylie Tzoni had run this for the last two years, so when she was unable to continue this year, a group of people from the Combined Churches of Wonthaggi decided to take it on. We have a team of 9 people who offer a simple breakfast each Friday morning, providing cereal, toast, milo and fruit juice. We estimate between 60 and 80 children attend.

We would like to sincerely thank Connell's Bakery who generously provide all the bread, and Coles who supply the milk and juice. We are also very grateful for financial support provided by the Wonthaggi Rotary and Lions Clubs, and the Uniting Church.

We have received great support and encouragement from the school and expect to resume the Program next year.

*(Please note: There will be no breakfast provided on the last day of term, 18th Dec)*

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

Today was the last day for school Banking.

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**MUSIC NEWS**

**Artist in Residence Week**

What a fantastic week we’re having with our guest Artists, Aaron and Nita, celebrating all things Asian. The week started with a fabulous eclectic concert, showcasing dance, percussion and shadow puppetry. It was wonderful to see so many parents and family members there!

Classes have all enjoyed regular sessions with our Artists. Extra sessions have also been held with Toko Gross Sensei, our Japanese teacher, along with Wai Wai Mar Suguna and Kevin Meredith sharing stories from Myanmar (Burma) and Sividy Narayanan from India. Big thanks to those families for joining in with the festivities, along with Tom Murray-White who has been assisting both musical and visual art components of our special annual event.

**Annual Picnic**

Remember to come on Friday afternoon to our Annual Family Picnic, starting at 4:30 on the oval.

This will be followed by our Concert, commencing at 6:00pm. A big thankyou to all staff for their unending support and flexibility at this time of the year. See you all on Friday!

Ruth Chambers
Music Teacher

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**CANTEN**

Thank you to everyone for the support over the past year and especially on ‘Footy Colours Day’ where pies were available and from which I was able to donate $126.30 to the SRC who I am sure will put it to good use.

Thursday 17th December will be the last day for lunch orders this year.

Monday 1st February will be our first day back for 2016.

A new Menu will be sent out in the first week of Term 1 2016.

Please enjoy the holiday’s and I look forward to seeing you all next year.

Louise
Canteen Manager

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**END OF YEAR DISCO – Hosted by the SRC**

The SRC will be holding an End of Year Disco Fundraiser for the whole school in the Gym on Tuesday 15th December. Children bring $5 on the day and details are as follows:-

**Date:** Tuesday 15th December

**Time:**
- Junior disco (prep, 1, 2) from 12.00pm – 1.00pm
- Early lunch 1.00pm – 2.00pm
- Senior disco (3, 4, 5, 6) from 2:00pm – 3.15pm followed by packing up until 3.30pm

**Cost:** Students bring $5 which will get them a raffle ticket (chance to win prizes), a candy cane and a juice box.

**Theme:** Students come dressed in Christmas themed clothes on this day.

The whole school will be involved in this great day, so get ready for some fun and dancing.