The Wantirna Whisper

Principal - Mrs Heather Norbury
2013 School Captains - Chloe, Luke, Regan and Georgia
Welcome to our first edition of “The Wantirna Whisper” – our paperless newsletter. Remember – you can access our newsletter via Tiqbiz or the school website! Thank you to Jenine for all her work in getting this new format to its first publication. We welcome any feedback on this new format!

We have a very busy term ahead with lots of dates to remember and we will also be asking for lots of support from all our families over the next few weeks.

**Working Bee** – We are having a working bee on Sunday 25th August to complete the resurfacing of the fitness track. This is a big job, but if we get lots of help it will be much easier to achieve. A notice has been sent home, so please try and put aside an hour or two to help.

**Father’s Day** – This special day is fast approaching and we will be having a Father’s Day stall on Thursday 29th August and a Father’s breakfast on Friday 30th August. Notices for both these events will be sent home this week.

**Bunnings BBQ** – On Saturday 7th September we will be running our annual Bunnings BBQ at the Vermont South location, between 8am-4pm. We require at least 3 people at the BBQ at all times, so please put your hand up for an hour or two. This is always a lot of fun and customers really appreciate a yummy sausage!

**Election BBQ** - On Saturday 7th September we also have a BBQ at school for the Federal Election. We are lucky enough to have the support of the Grace Church in running this BBQ but I would like members of our school community to help as well. So if you would prefer to help at school please fill in the form that will be sent home shortly!

**Boy’s Toilet** – The broken door of the senior boy’s toilet will finally been fixed on Friday! Although all the other damage done by vandals was fixed very quickly, we had a lot of issues getting a new barrel lock for the door. The company responsible for the lock caused us a lot of angst and it has taken over a term to get the barrel replaced. Thank you to all our boys for being so patient!
**Zumba Program and Concert** – Our Zumba classes are a huge success and the children are working very hard to perfect their item for the concert on Tuesday 10th September at the Grace Church. Tickets will be on sale soon - $10 per adult.

**Trivia Night** – We are very excited about our upcoming Trivia Night on October 18th. We have lots of donations already for our auction and prizes but if you know anyone who would like to donate to this night please let us know. More information will follow but please put this date in your diary now!

**Uniforms** – Staff have noticed that many children are coming to school in incorrect uniform. If your children are unable to wear correct uniform we ask that you send a note to their teacher! Our uniform policy is available on the school website. Some reminders about uniform are:

- No nail polish or jewellery other than a watch and stud or small loop earrings; no bracelets of any kind.
- Only black or navy tights to be worn under school dresses.
- Only blue headbands and hair clips – no large hair decorations.

**Conference** – Last week I was very fortunate to attend a three day conference at Torquay with principals across Knox and the Dandenong Ranges. We focussed on improving student outcomes and developing theories of action to achieve improvement goals. As a staff we will be exploring various aspects that research has shown impact on student learning.

**Curriculum Day – Friday August 23rd** – Our final Curriculum Day for 2013 is on Friday 23rd August and all staff will be visiting Wonga Park PS, which has an iPad program from Prep – Year 6. Staff will spend time observing the students at Wonga Park using their iPads and also engaging in conversations with their staff.

**Healthy Food** – As part of our curriculum we are constantly talking to students about the benefits of eating healthy food. Please remember to pack some brain food as well as snack and lunch for your children every day. Brain food is eaten at 10am and needs to be either fruit or raw veggies as it is meant to give the children a boost of energy for the next part of their day. Please try to avoid processed food. We also do not allow sharing of food, due to the many food allergies affecting children these days. Some staff have also observed some of our older children throwing their lunches in the bin – we will be having a speaker next term to talk to children about the importance of a healthy balanced diet.

**Literacy and Numeracy Week activities** – Thank you to Melitta and Luke for organising these great activities!

**Spelling Bee** – After a number of tense moments the winners of the prestigious WPS Golden Cup were announced. Congratulations to Jessica T and Jade J. for being the most outstanding spelling students for 2013.

**Numeracy Day Toy Stall** – Thanks for all the wonderful donations for our toy stall. We raised $119 and have already spent this on some hands-on Maths games for both the JLU and SLU!

Heather Norbury – Principal
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**Chaplain’s Chat**

**Children and Kindness**

As the child’s personality develops, he/she finds ways and means to be less vulnerable and defenceless to the environment. It is not uncommon during this period for the child to become partly separated from its essence (with a corresponding loss of identity). It is therefore important that the child be encouraged to
maintain the ‘gift’ of kindness. This is a simple matter in a kind and nurturing home environment. But in homes where both parents work long hours and have less time to devote to their child’s needs, in cases where there is pressure and disharmony present, in instances where the TV is used as a ‘baby sitter’, and later, where the child becomes addicted to the box (TV programs rarely have a kindness theme), the child may not have a role model for kindness. If we couple to this the put downs by peers and authority figures, the child can easily lose the concept of kindness. How can this be avoided? The child can of course be encouraged to be kind by the parents, which will normally be very effective if the parents are seen by the child as being kindly in their day to day interactions with each other. But if the household has a touch of the War of the Roses movie, no amount of encouragement is likely to be effective. It is therefore important (but sometimes not so easy!) for parents to agree to act as positive role models for their children. This decision to promote a kinder home environment can and should be discussed by all members of the family to ensure everything runs smoothly. It can be very rewarding to hold ‘cabinet’ meetings from time to time when someone feels they are being disadvantaged by an act of kindness (for example, a child or a partner can claim lack of attention), and each one of the family has their say in the matter. As time goes on, such meetings become less frequent as everyone realises the overall advantages of kindness. The outcome will mean a more harmonious and loving family, and with the current tendency of a move away from the nuclear family, such ‘kindness pacts’ could serve well.

Have a Great week

Chaplain Julie

**Student Awards**

![Congratulations!]

**Congratulations to the following students:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNP:</th>
<th>Ilya Y – Great all round effort.</th>
<th>SNP:</th>
<th>Jett R – Student of the Week.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SNE:</td>
<td>Georgia K – Being a consistent in her effort in the girl’s football matches. Great tackling</td>
<td>JNC:</td>
<td>William M – A great attitude all week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNB:</td>
<td>Lisia T – A wonderful week of learning.</td>
<td>SNP:</td>
<td>Riley N – Student of the Week.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNP:</td>
<td>Mason D – For being consistent in all areas of learning.</td>
<td>SNV:</td>
<td>Summer R – For excellent improvement in her writing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>JNB:</td>
<td>Alex A – For his enthusiastic participation in all activities this week.</td>
<td>SNE:</td>
<td>Mckenzie O - Showing an excellent technique in high jump.</td>
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<td>JNC:</td>
<td>Tash J - For always trying her best.</td>
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**Sport News from Mr Donald**

Hopefully our House Athletics will go ahead tomorrow, Friday August 16th. The weather is not looking that great, we can only cross our fingers. We will let you know if it is cancelled by sending out a notification through TIQBIZ. The children are reminded to wear their house colours.
Our Parents and Friends Fundraising Committee do a fantastic job raising funds for the school. With these funds we are able to purchase many things for the children. We just want to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** to you all.

There are lots of Fundraising events coming up in the last half of the school year. The PFN will need your support to run these events. There will be notices coming home in the next week for helpers to help out at

- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle – Saturday September 7th
- Election Day Sausage Sizzle – Saturday September 7th

**Father’s Day Stall**

We will be having the Father’s Day Stall on Thursday 29th August. There will be presents to buy for dad, grandpa or that special person. Presents start from $1.00 up to $5.00.

**Student Banking**

**STAY COOL AT SCHOOL THIS SUMMER!**

**Win an iPad mini** for yourself and a CommBank Marquee for your school, just by depositing into your school banking account.

Simply bank at school between 12th August & 13th September 2103 and you’ll automatically be entered. The more times you bank - the more chances you’ll have to win - **HOW COOL’S THAT!**

This competition is for local schools! Someone has to win and it could be YOU!

For more information, simply contact your School Banking Specialist, Kath Penny on 0422 116 035
Premier’s Reading Challenge

The Premier’s Reading Challenge concludes at midnight on Thursday 12th September. After that time, you will no longer be able to enter any new books.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE ENTERED ALL THE BOOKS THAT YOU HAVE READ BY TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER.

OSHC News

CUT CHILD CARE COSTS! CLAIM YOUR CHILDCARE REBATE STRAIGHT OFF YOUR WEEKLY OSHC FEES.

Everybody that attends OSHC is entitled to Childcare Rebate and it is not income tested. Childcare Rebate is available on all out of pocket expenses, for childcare provided by an approved Children’s Service, up to the amount of $7500 per child per year. (Wantirna OSHC is an approved Childcare Service.)

Remember: That your Childcare Benefit (means tested) also comes off your weekly fees.

If you would like to book your child/ren in for care they must be fully enrolled into the program. We cannot take a booking without the enrolment form being filled in – this is a legal requirement. If you think you might need the OSHC program as a one off or even just casually you can pick up an enrolment form from the school office or from OSHC.

After School Care .......... $17.00 per session

Before School Care.........$22.00 per session

To make a booking or for any further enquiries regarding OSHC please call Premila on 0405 736 870 or you can book through the school office on 9801 – 1938.

Classroom Cuisine

Our Lunch Order Service Classroom Cuisine has been a great success, but orders have been down lately. For us to keep having this service we need to support this as a school community. It is a healthy and nutritious lunch for the children and staff. To order just go online at www.classroomcuisine.com.au and follow the prompts, it’s really easy. Orders can only be accepted online.
What’s been happening at Wantirna?

GRANPARENTS AND SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY
GIRL GUIDES AUSTRALIA VICTORIA

Girl Guides meet in BAYSWATER!
Our hall is in The Haven and we meet on weeknight during school terms.

Come along and visit us for three nights for FREE!
Currently we have vacancies for girls aged 7-14 years.

For more information please call Rebecca 0404 493 023
Brochures are available at the school's office.