The Wantirna Whisper

Principal - Mrs Heather Norbury
2013 School Captains - Chloe, Luke, Regan and Georgia
Diary Dates 2014

Tuesday 11th Feb
Information Evening – in JLU Building
Juniors – 7:00pm
Seniors – 7:45pm

Wednesday 12th
House Swimming Sports – Senior School only – 1:30 – 3:00pm at Kings Wantirna

Thursday 13th Feb
Melbourne Storm Bulling Incursion–SLU
Grades 3 – 6

Friday 14th Feb
School Leaders Badge Presentation at assembly – 9:00am in JLU Building

Friday 14th Feb
PFN Morning Tea – To welcome our new families to the school. All new families to our school are welcome to attend.

Monday 24th Feb
Responsible Pet Ownership Program

Wednesday 5th March
Preps start fulltime

FRIDAY 7TH MARCH
CURRICULUM DAY – NO CHILDREN AT SCHOOL TODAY

Classroom Cuisine
Please note that Classroom Cuisine is now available on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. In the flyer sent home last week it said only available on Mondays and Fridays. Please note this change.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop is open:-
Monday to Friday during school office hours (8am–4pm). Please call in and Jenine will help you. Uniforms orders may be sent to school with an order form and correct money in an envelope. The order will be sent home with your child. At the moment there are no size 6 10 or 12 short sleeve polo shirts.

Message from the Principal’s Desk

Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a restful time with your families over the summer break.

Welcome to all our new students and their families. We have 28 Preps this year as well as 7 new students in the SLU. We hope you enjoy being a part of the WPS community.

Our newsletter comes out every fortnight and you can read it on our school website or on Tiqbiz.

Just a reminder of our staffing arrangements for 2014 -

JNRB—Preps —Brogan Badrock – also JLU leader
JNRA—Prep/1 —Adriana Allard
JNRF—Year 2 —Kath Faichney
SNRP—3/4/5/6—Warwick Peluso
SNRE—3/4/5/6—Melitta Elliott – also SLU leader

Literacy and Numeracy Support – Marcia Cartwright
Literacy and Numeracy Intervention – Cathy Jacobs
Art—Olga Megele
JNR PE and whole school Performing Arts – Lynneve Collard
Senior PE & Sport – John Donald
Chaplain—Julie Reiher

ES support staff – Sue Martin, Debi Johnson, Debbie Blackhurst and Tash Hill
Office Staff – Jenine Farley and Julie Thompson (also Library Technician)
OSHC—Premila Stone

Classroom Procedures –JLU classes enter and leave their classrooms from their own classroom doors – not the double door on the verandah. SLU classes enter and leave from the doors at the end of the SLU corridor – opposite the gym. Could all parents arrange an outside meeting place with their children and we ask that parents do not come into class rooms at the end of the day until after 3:30pm. If you wish to speak to a teacher please make an appointment as all classes commence at 9am and teachers need to focus on their students from that time. Important information is given to children at the end of the day and they can be distracted if parents come into the rooms during this time.

Specialist Programs – Our Art, PE and Performing Art lessons have started this week. Art is on Tuesdays and PE and Performing Arts on are Thursdays and Fridays. Classes visit the Library on Thursdays. All students must have an art smock and a library bag.
Book Packs – Several children have not brought all their book pack items to school. All items are required at school, where they will be stored for easy access when a child needs new supplies. Please send along any items that may still be at home.

iPad program – Our iPad program officially started for Years 1-6 from the start of the school year and it was great to see many students using them last week. JLU iPads are stored in the children’s tubs and the building is locked at recess and lunch. The SLU store the children’s iPads in a lockable cupboard.

Uniform – All our children are looking very smart in their uniforms and we would like to see this continue. Please make sure that all items are named clearly and lost items will be placed in tubs in the first aid room. Sunsmart hats must be worn in terms 1 and 3. Students can leave their hats at school each day. A note must be sent if your child is out of uniform.

Information Evening – On Tuesday 11th February we will be holding an information evening for all year levels. The JLU session will commence at 7pm and the SLU session will start at 7:45pm. Both sessions will be held in the JLU building. Children do not need to attend but can come with their parents if necessary.

GTKY session and Family Fun Night – On Thursday 20th February we will be holding our Getting To Know You interviews and our Family Fun Night. Parents can organize a time to meet with their child’s teacher from 3:30 pm and then have a picnic tea and family fun time on the school oval from about 6pm. A notice will come home shortly with more detailed information. Children do not need to attend but can come with their parents if necessary.

Email Addresses – To ensure effective communication with all our parents, please make sure you provide your email address to your child’s teacher. This information will also be collected at our Getting to Know You interviews on 20th February.

Staff Carpark— The staff carpark is for the use of staff only, as well as one parent with a disabled sticker. The carpark is out of bounds to all children and we ask that you do not walk through the carpark at any time of the day. Please pass on this information to any members of your family who may collect your child from school.

Prep Testing – Our Preps have started the year really well – we had a few tears last week – but they are all smiles this week. Our preps do not attend school on Wednesdays for the next few weeks as the two teachers will be assessing each child individually on these days. Your child’s teacher will allocate you a time. This is an excellent opportunity for the teachers to learn as much as possible about the literacy and numeracy skills of each child.

Preps will be coming fulltime from Wednesday 5th March.

Have you downloaded Tiqbiz yet??? – Many parents have signed up to the Tiqbiz App and many of you will have received alerts from us about various events happening at school, including our newsletter. This is a very quick way for us to also send out reminders or information, rather than using reams of paper. We are also adding dates to the calendar and you can report your child’s absence as well on the Tiqbiz app. The App is free and can be downloaded onto your iPhone, iPad or desktop computer. Log on to www.tiqbiz.com and follow the prompts. There are also fliers available at the office.

Classroom Cuisine – This is our school “canteen” and is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Register online at www.classroomcuisine.com.au with your child’s name and class. Then all you have to do is place an order online, with your child’s name and class with payment, before 8:30am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Your child’s lunch will be delivered to school. A flier went home last Friday with the menu.

School Banking – Started this week and is on every Tuesday. Not only does the school benefit but your child learns the value of saving. Information is available at the office.

Curriculum Day – Each year schools are allocated four days for professional learning. One of these was last week before students started and our next one will be on Friday March 7th. We will be working on our whole school reading and writing documents. Children do not attend on this day. The other two dates have not been finalized but will be in Terms 2 and 3.

Sad News – Over the summer break our little chickens were taken by a fox. This was a very sad event and we thank the Twomey family for coping with this situation so well. We have not yet decided whether we will get some more chickens at this time.

Parenting Information – I am constantly reading articles about parenting and how we can best help our children to grow into responsible and respectful adults. I will be putting some of these articles into our newsletter for you to read. Let me know what you think!

Here is the first snippet – from an article by Dr Tim Elmore – a leadership expert.

“**We don’t let our children experience risk**” - We live in a world that warns us of danger at every turn. The “safety first” preoccupation enforces our fear of losing our kids, so we do everything we can to protect them. It’s our job after all, but we have insulated them from healthy risk-taking behavior and it’s had an adverse effect. Psychologists in Europe have discovered that if a child doesn’t play outside and is never allowed to experience a skinned knee, they
frequently have phobias as adults. Kids need to fall a few times to learn it’s normal; teens likely need to break up with a boyfriend or girlfriend to appreciate the emotional maturity that lasting relationships require. If parents remove risk from children’s lives, we will likely experience high arrogance and low self-esteem in our growing leaders.

“We rescue too quickly”

Today’s generation of young people has not developed some of the life skills kids did 30 years ago because adults swoop in and take care of problems for them. When we rescue too quickly and over-indulge our children with “assistance,” we remove the need for them to navigate hardships and solve problems on their own. It’s parenting for the short-term and it sorely misses the point of leadership—to equip our young people to do it without help. Sooner or later, kids get used to someone rescuing them: “If I fail or fall short, an adult will smooth things over and remove any consequences for my misconduct.” When in reality, this isn’t even remotely close to how the world works, and therefore it disables our kids from becoming competent adults.

Heather Norbury – Principal
norbury.heather.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Out of School Hours Care

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.

School Banking in 2014

First day of school banking for 2014 will be Tuesday 4th February, then every Tuesday during school term.

This year the Dollarmites treasure is hidden in the Deep Sea so be on the lookout for your School Banking pack which was sent home during the week to every child at Wantirna Primary. The new rewards are fantastic, so don’t forget to keep your rewards card in a safe place, ready to order when you have saved 10 tokens.

Happy Saving Everyone!
Welcome to 2014 from your School Council

I would like to welcome everyone to Wantirna Primary for 2014 – especially our new families.

Your school council is commencing a number of projects this year to further enhance our great school. If you would like to become involved in further developing our school facilities and grounds do not hesitate to contact Heather Norbury our principal or myself.

Keep up to date with the WPS newsletter for dates regarding School Council Elections. Elections will be held in March, please consider playing a more active role in your school community. Becoming a member of the School Council can be rewarding and very satisfying. It is a great way to have an input in the future development on our school.

There are also various subcommittees:

**FINANCE** – overseas the school finances and budget setting,
**BUILDING AND GROUNDS (BAG)** – oversees maintenance and building works around the school and organizes working bees,
**EDUCATION** – assists with the development of school policy,
**PROMOTIONS** – aims to promote the school to the community and beyond.

Upcoming meetings will be advertised in the newsletter. Please come along.

Kinds Regards

Andrew Cusworth –
School Council President.

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**Chaplain’s Chat**

**R.E.S.P.E.C.T.**

We have as ONE of our school goals to practice respect of other people and their property.

This is a very important goal to aspire to, and it helps the whole community to function in peace and harmony. When we know that others are being respectful we are able to have opinions and be free in our actions than if we are to fear negative consequences from a lack of respect. When there is no respect there is contempt and humiliation, the sense of being not heard or misunderstood. Conflicts can then occur at an individual, family or society level. When these conflicts occur there is a breakdown in relationships, and if there is no respect then it is hard to maintain any type of relationship.

Respect is created when people treat others as they want to be treated. This brings us to the famous quotation from the Bible. “Do unto others as you would others do unto you” be the first to give respect and it will come back to you. Avoid insulting people or their culture; instead try to understand them. Being courteous and listening to what others have to say, and by treating people fairly. If you are already involved in a conflict, try separating the people from the problem this also allows you to treat the other side with honour.

Let’s all help our Kids to learn what it is to respect others and themselves.

Have a good week
Chaplain Julie Reiher
@ WANTIRNA PS with Marianne Wright

The ABC program is a 16 week instrumental program designed to provide students with experience in many musical instruments with a qualified teacher, during school hours, without buying an instrument.

JUNIOR ABC (Prep to Gr2) enables the student to learn Piano, Keyboard, Clarinet, Junior Flute, Junior Guitar, Recorder, Percussion and basic theory.

Each instrument is studied for 2 weeks then revised in the second 8 week term.

Musical games are included in the weekly lesson where the children dance, learn rhythms and name songs after hearing them played.

At the end of the 16 weeks parents receive a report which provides an assessment on all of the instruments and a recommendation on which instrument your child could specialise in for the next new term.

Some instruments can be hired, bought 2nd hand or new at reasonable prices.

To enrol your child in the ABC program, the investment is $300 for 16 weeks.

To book your child in for the 16 week program, deposit $300 in the following account, with your name and Wantirna PS as your reference.

BSB 633-000 Account 142789767

All enquiries to Marianne Wright - mwrightmusic67@yahoo.com.au

Phone - 0409125464
Violin Lessons 2014

Violin lessons offered in a positive, encouraging environment which will foster your child's learning needs, style and talent.

Tuition offered for beginners through to advance. Lauren Hancock holds music performance and teaching qualifications from The University of Melbourne, Victorian College of the Arts and AMEB (Bachelor of Music Performance, Postgraduate Diploma of Education and Associate Diploma in Music, Australia - Violin Performance).

Individual half hour lessons $25, group lessons (up to three students per group) $18.

Please contact Lauren on 0423 819 753 or 8802 0161.
Enrol your child for tuition today
& make a lifetime of difference!

- Increase English and Maths skills
- Boost confidence
- Improve concentration
- Raise motivation for learning
- Individually personalised learning programs
- Increase comprehension, essay writing and creative ability
- Develop and enhance problem-solving techniques
- Strengthen areas that require improvement
- Working with your child’s natural ability and strengths

ICAS and NAPLAN preparation | No enrolment fee
Developed in Australia by teachers | Scholarship preparation*

$21 per week per subject
*Scholarship programs charged at $32 per subject per week.

Call us to book your complimentary assessment and
learn how we can help your child

03 8794 8809
www.lynnslearning.com.au

Rowville
Wednesdays 3:45 - 6:45pm
Rowville Community Centre
30 Fulham Rd

Rowville
Saturdays 1:15-3:45pm
Rowville Uniting Church,
Corner Fulham Rd & Bridgewater Way

Wantima South
Tuesdays 3:45-5:45pm, Saturdays 9:00-12:00pm
Knox Gardens Community Centre
70-72 Argyle Way

You can find our other centres online:
www.lynnslearning.com.au