



From The Principals' Desk

Dear Families,

What a busy week at Willy!

This week we are celebrating all things science with the view to providing opportunities for students and their families to investigate the world of science a little further. Students will be involved in a daily science quiz at lunchtime with questions focusing on some of the key understandings from the topics and investigations undertaken already throughout the year.

On Thursday evening Willy families will enjoy a highly engaging and fun family night of Science here at school. A number of Science Investigations have been organized for families to participate in. We were overwhelmed with the response from the Willy PS community and are pleased that we've managed to accommodate over 150 participants. We extend our thanks to all the teachers who will be assisting on the night, in particular Liz Beasley and Steven Puhar who will lead the evening, and we thank you for supporting this initiative.

Perhaps the biggest event of Science Week will take place tomorrow. Every Willy Kid will be put into mixed, multi-age teams who will support and encourage one another to take on four science challenges throughout the day. We hope this will not only build greater scientific skills and knowledge, but perhaps friendships as well.

We will look forward to celebrating Science Week through pictures with you on Facebook and Instagram.

Willy Kids program review

Our Pupil-free day on Monday was dedicated to the beginnings of a whole school review of our acclaimed *Willy Kids Program*. This program was first developed at WPS in 1994... last century! The purpose of this review is to ensure the longstanding success of the program continues within the context of today's world...a lot has changed!

Promoting strong social and emotional learning for every Willy Kid continues to be the aim of this work. To this end, we will be keeping all the things we love about the original program. In addition, the school is aiming to also integrate more of the key skills, traits, dispositions and attributes work we have been focusing on in recent years, those required of a learner and leader in today's world.

Drawing upon current evidence from the likes of Carol Dweck, Ted Dintersmith and Guy Claxton as well as exploring work from the *Institute of Positive Education* and the *International Baccalaureate Foundation*, we are aiming to build in the skills and traits of problem-solvers, collaborators and self-regulating, reflective learners, whilst keeping our most valued capabilities of having- a go, seeing it through and choosing your attitude, to name a few.

As well as staff input to this review, we will be capturing the thoughts of our students as well. As parents, you may also like to share your ideas around this. Please feel free to email us with any comments, questions or ideas for the future.

The Willy Kids program has helped to set up our students for a happy, safe, fulfilling and successful life. Our aim is to continue this work to ensure every Willy kid is well-prepared for life in this century. Remembering our School's vision and purpose, we strive *"to provide all students with an education to succeed in a complex, changing world. (We aim to) promote responsible, happy, resilient and socially adept students who exhibit the qualities of successful learners – confident and creative and who will become active and informed citizens."*

Book Fair

As if celebrating Science isn't enough, this week we are also promoting reading through our Scholastic Book Fair in the library. We hope you find time to pop in with your child and check out the range of books available for purchasing. The library is bound to be a buzz with excitement each morning and afternoon as parents and students search for a new reading adventure. Even in the wonderful world of technology, there is still nothing

better than sitting down to read a book. We thank Pam for all her hard work in organising this event, the proceeds from which go towards more books for the library collection.

Reminders:

- This week is also **E.S. Week** – a week in which we recognise and **celebrate our Education Support Workers**. What amazing work these staff members do for our children and teachers! Whether it is in the classroom, in the garden, in the office, in the library, the E.S. team are the glue of our school. Without them we would ‘fall apart’. Please share in the celebration of our E.S. team this week and say thanks!
- We look forward to hearing all about our school choir’s performance on Sunday as they present at **Hobsons Voice**, an annual schools event at the Williamstown Town Hall. The choir has dedicated many hours to learning and refining their performances, and with the strong encouragement and expertise of Faye Ferry, they are ready to go. We’re sure many of you will want to be there. We wish them well!
- Congratulations to our sports teams who were all celebrating their achievements last week at the Divisional finals. Whilst the Tee ball and football teams fought hard and we were only just overcome, the Girls Netball team is through to the next round! Well done to all involved!
- We will **celebrate Book Week** next week. Book week is a great time to share and enjoy readers and authors alike. A number of book related activities will take place throughout the school, while Thursday will be our nominated Character dress-up day. We encourage all students to come to school dressed as their favourite book character, and of course, try to bring along the book as well!
- Parents must contact the school to inform us of their child’s absence ASAP. An automated text message will now be sent to families on the same day their child is absent without explanation, via the Compass app.
- Have your say... Our **2018 Parent Opinion Survey** is now open for those families randomly selected to participate. The survey closes on Sunday August 26th. We hope yours will be among those submitted. Many thanks to those who have already completed theirs.

Enjoy the week!

Mat and Andrea

Dates to Remember

Term 3-

Week 5- 13.08.18

SCIENCE WEEK

Mon: **Curriculum day #4**
Tues-Fri: **BOOK FAIR**
Tues: **UNSW Mathematics Competition**
Tues: **School council meeting 6:30pm**
Thurs.: **Family Science Night**

Week 6- 20.08.18

BOOK WEEK

Mon: **The Flying Book Worm incursion-G34**
Tues: **Friends of Willy meeting 7pm**
Wed: **The Flying Book Worm incursion-P-2**
Thurs **Disco & Dress Up Day**

Week 7- 27.08.18

Mon-Fri: **Prep Swimming Program**
Thurs: **Father’s Day stall**

Fri: **District Athletics**

Week 8- 03.09.18

Mon-Fri: **Prep Swimming Program**

Week 9- 10.09.18

Mon-Fri: **Year 3/4 Zoo Snoozes**
Wed: **Kids Share Open Afternoon**

Week 10- 17.09.18

Mon-Wed **Year 3 / 4 Zoo Snoozes**
Tues: **School council meeting 6:30pm**
Wed: **Year 2 Sleepover**
Thurs: **Senior Music Concert**
Fri: **Footy Day!**
End of Term 3, early dismissal @ 2:30pm