



## **From The Principals Desk**

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Dear Families,

### **Prep Welcome BBQ**

We extended a warm welcome to all our prep families last night at a welcome picnic, hosted by our wonderful Friends of Willy team. Thanks to all the families who came along, despite the heat. We hope you enjoyed the time to catch up with new faces of students and their parents, as well as some of our staff.

We are ever so grateful to Jo Munro and her family for their very generous donation of all the commodities we consumed – sausages, bread, sauce and Zooper Doopers! What a wonderful contribution to make! We also thank the great team of supporters who came along to set-up, cook and serve on the evening: Julie-Anne Douglas, Sarah Arlin, Kate Fedele, Steven Puhar, Liz Beasley, Mat Montebello and Jenni Speakman, who is Jo's Mum, (Elsie and Lola's Nanna).

This event marks the beginning of many new relationships within our school community and a new and hopefully strong connection with the Friends of Willy group. We do hope everyone felt the friendly, relaxed, fun environment that is Friends of Willy and indeed Williamstown Primary school.

### **Inclement Weather - HEAT**

Our families are probably very aware of what happens at school when the weather is wet, however with the warm weather this week we wanted to reiterate our care for your children when it's hot. Today was definitely one of those days!

First and foremost, every child requires a school hat (broad brimmed) at school for all outdoor activities during terms one and four. We also strongly encourage every student to have a drink bottle (with their name on it) on their table so they can hydrate at all times. SPF 30 sunscreen should be applied at home in the morning and provided to their child for reapplication during the school day.

When the temperature goes above 35 degrees, the lunchbreak outside is reduced to half an hour, with the second half hour being inside. When outside, students are encouraged to play less vigorous games and play in the shade as much as possible.

Classes without cooling are encouraged to move to cooler buildings and activities are modified.

Additionally, Interschool Sport in Terms one and two occurs in the morning and when appropriate the timing for these events are reduced and if required, activities can be modified.

We also encourage the following heat smart messages to children, such as:

- Drink water - even if you don't feel thirsty, drink water. Take a bottle with you always.
- Keep cool - seek out air-conditioned buildings, draw your blinds, use a fan, take cool showers and dress in light and loose clothing made from natural fabrics.
- Plan ahead - schedule activities in the coolest part of the day and avoid exercising in the heat. If you must go out, wear a hat and sunscreen and take a bottle of water with you.
- Hot cars kill - children, adults or pets should never be left in hot cars. The temperature inside a parked car can double within minutes.
- Help others - look after those most at risk in the heat – your neighbour living alone, the elderly, the young, people with a medical condition and don't forget your friends and pets

### **School Council**

Nominations for this year's School Council closed on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 4:00pm. We are delighted to welcome new faces to our council in 2019 and we will meet together for the first time on **Tuesday March 19th, 2019 at 6:30pm.**

Newly elected members, Samantha Hunneyball, Matt Taylor and Alex Brawn will join Cara McMahon (returning), Erica Smith (returning), Peter Flaherty (returning), Liz Beasley and Bianca Muraca (DET reps also returning), Mat and myself for the new term of office. We look forward to working together and undertaking this important work for our school,

I'd like to extend our thanks to all our retiring school council members for their commitment and hard work in this role and wish them all well in the future: Lisa Cannon, Rachel Canaway, Kate Powick, Jenni Cooke, and Geeta Srivatsa.

Additionally, we have two currently vacant "community member positions" (two years) which can be filled with council's approval.

We wish our new school council well, especially in 2019, which is the year of our whole School Review.

### **Essential Student Learning Items**

Just a gentle reminder that payment for your child's **Essential Student Learning Items** is now due. This payment of \$280 per child, covers all of the materials your child uses at school on a daily basis and works out to be about \$1.20 a day. The money pays for pens, paper, printing, art materials, text books, textas, etc. Thank you for your support. These payments can be made on COMPASS.

### **Other notes and reminders:**

- Our brand new **Outdoor learning Space will be open** for the children on Monday! If you haven't seen it yet, come on down, it looks terrific. We thank everyone for their contributions to this redevelopment which we know the students will enjoy using.
- **All the best to our District Swimmers who are heading to the Swimming Carnival on Tuesday. Good Luck! We know you'll be fantastic representatives of our school!**
- Parents are most welcome to join us for the first gathering of the **Friends of Willy (FoW)** will take place in the staffroom on Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. We hope you come along to hear about the plans for this year, including a little about our major community event, the **WPS Seaside fair on November 17<sup>th</sup>! Save the Date!** Please also note that **information about the FoW is displayed in the news cabinet outside the music room.**
- Mat and I will be away at the **Hobsons Bay Principals' Network Conference** Wednesday March 6 – Friday March 8 next week. The focus for the conference is on Learner Agency. Liz Beasley will be Acting Principal on these days, supported by Steven Puhar as Acting Assistant Principal.
- A note from the canteen: **SUSHI** orders can now be made for **WEDNESDAYS**.
- **Willy Kids are Sun Smart Kids! No hat, No Play! Remember to SLIP! SLOP! SLAP! SLIDE! And SEEK!** Please don't be disappointed if children miss key events because they do not have a school hat to wear. We need to help children build their responsibility around this.
- **Year 5 and 6 Sports training takes place for all our Willy Kids on Thursday afternoon.** It commences at 3:15pm and goes through until 4:00pm. We ask that families entering the school yard to collect their children are mindful of the court space and try to avoid walking through the courts. We certainly don't want anyone bopped on the head!
- All families should ensure they have logged onto COMPASS and made arrangements to pay their child's **Essential Student Learning Items (ESLI)** ASAP. Thank you.
- All parents or **visitors to the school** must sign in at the office **before entering** their child's classroom.
- We encourage every child to **walk, ride, skate or scoot** to school every Friday, in fact every day you can in term one when the weather is fine.
- Are your details up to date? It is **ESSENTIAL** that the school has accurate information; particularly contact details, in case of an emergency or illness.
- This year we will be running one **assembly on Friday afternoons**, in the hall or under the shade cloth, from 2:45pm, weather permitting. All families are invited to come along and join in.
- School commences at nine o'clock every day but the kids should arrive by the 8:50am bell so they are set for the learning program to commence at 9:00.

Please note the yard is NOT SUPERVISED prior to 8:45am.

Have a great week ahead!

**We hope our Year 1 and 2 students enjoy their weekend after two hectic big weeks at swimming. What a great job they all did as did the teachers too! We extend our thanks to each of them for their flexibility and patience during this busy time!**

Warm regards,  
Andrea and Mat

## Dates to Remember

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### TERM 1

#### WEEK 6

Monday 04.03- Preps here fulltime this week  
Tuesday 05.03- *Friends of Willy* Meeting 7:00pm  
Tuesday 05.03- District Swimming Carnival  
Friday 01.03- Schools' Clean-Up Day

#### WEEK 7

Monday 11.03- Labour Day Public holiday  
Friday 15.03 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence  
Thursday 14.03- Divisional Swimming Carnival

#### WEEK 8

Monday 18.03- 21.03 Life Education Van (Prep-2)  
Tuesday 19.03- School Council meeting 6:30pm  
Friday 23.03- Interim reports (Term 1) shared with families

#### WEEK 9

Wednesday 27.03- Kids Share Open Afternoon in classrooms (3:30pm-4:00pm)  
Friday 29.03- Interim Student reports posted on Compass

#### WEEK 10

Friday 05.04- Easter hat Parade 9:30am  
Friday 05.04- End Term one 2:30pm dismissal