A message from our principal team

Hola, and welcome back to WPPS for 2016.

I trust everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable break with family and friends.

Much has been happening at WPPS over the summer break. Our new school Main Entrance has been installed and in coming months the landscaping will be completed. We have also extended the black fence along the side of the school from Kookaburra avenue to the community garden and removed the old cricket nets in the process. We have also created a student Wellbeing Programs room (which will be renamed by the students in coming weeks) in the red building. Our school Library is well on the way to being set up with students expected to be accessing it and borrowing books in early March.

Staffing Update

In 2016 we welcome a number of new teachers and education support staff. Ms Janine Grubb has taken the role of First Aid and Admin support, Ms Louise Di Dato has taken the role of foundation teacher and Team leader. Ms Sheri Rooney and Ms Shahnee Doyle have taken on Graduate teacher positions for 2016. We are still in the process of hiring 3 additional teachers and two additional ES, as a result of resignations by staff in the last week of 2015. These positions should be filled by the end of February.

Drop off and pick up, traffic, parking and school crossing

With the changes to the school entrance and new fencing you will have noticed that this has effected parking at the school during drop off and pickup times. This change had to occur as it was becoming increasingly unsafe for students and pedestrians in the community centre car park last year. School council discussed the risks to students and families and believe this was the safest solution. We encourage parents to park in the surrounding streets and then walk into the school to collect children. There are clearly marked parking zones along Kookaburra Ave and the council does enforce parking restrictions. Finally, I must encourage all parents and students to use the school crossing on Kookaburra Ave. I have approached the Wyndham Council traffic management department and requested that our school crossing be relocated closer to our new school entrance. They were agreeable to this late in 2015 and I will be following this up in term 1. Hopefully we can arrange for the work to be done in the term 1 break, ready for use from the start of term 2. Please keep an eye on this newsletter for updates on these discussions.
**Foundation (Prep) start to the year**

Our Foundation (Prep) classes of 2016 have made a wonderful start to the year. In coming weeks we will complete benchmarking interviews with them to better understand where they are in their learning. To clarify, the following days are Foundation interview days and students are only required at school for their interview.

Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th, Friday 5th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th.

Once these interview days have been completed students will be then full time at WPPS for the remainder of the year.

**Student Attendance**

I cannot emphasise just how important it is that our students regularly attend school. Fundamentally if your child is not at school we cannot help them grow and learn. If your child cannot attend school due to illness please let us know so we can update our records. In 2016 we have a number of ways that you can inform us about your child’s absences. We now have a school phone app, website and parent portal. Each of these online tools will allow you to communicate with the school about student absences. As always you can also call the school or send in a note for the teacher. It is most important that you use one of these methods to communicate with us about student attendance.

**Communication in 2016**

In 2016 WPPS is making a number of changes in the ways that we communicate with parents and the community in an effort to ensure everyone feels well informed about what is happening throughout the year. Our school website has been upgraded and new content/information will be regularly posted. As always our school newsletter is published fortnightly and then made available to parents via printout, the website, email and in 2016 our new school phone App.

Please see more details about our new school app in this newsletter and instructions how to download it to your smart phone. Our new phone app and website will also allow you to record student absence and communicate with the school electronically.

Finally we will be launching our Parent Portal later in the year. This portal will allow you to update your contact details, view your child’s attendance, reports and Individual Learning Plans. It is an exciting new feature of the school designed to strengthen the partnership between school and parents to support your child’s learning.

**Parent Information Evening**

Finally, a note about our upcoming Parent Information Evening. This event will occur on the 1st of March from 4pm – 6pm. Parents are encouraged to come along and view presentations about all of the above information as well as details of what is happening in your child’s learning community in 2016. Further details about this information evening will be included in the next school newsletter.

Kind regards

Laban Toose

Principal
We’re very pleased to inform you that our school has implemented a phone app called Updat-ed that will make connecting with you so much more convenient.

To download the app just visit our school website www.wyndhamparkps.vic.edu.au and follow the links or visit the App Store for iPhones or Google Play for Android’s. Search for Updat-ed and from the menu select our school.

We’ll receive your registration request and will need to approve you before your app is up and running.

So what will the app do?

The app’s great for sending out alerts and reminders with one of its best features being the ability to save events directly into your phone’s calendar. You can also view our school canteen menu, newsletter and uniform price list. Finally, you can also record student absences.

We hope you enjoy being Updat-ed.

Kind regards

WPPS
### Wyndham Park Primary School Community Hub
#### Term One 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning Together Program (parent formal English classes to complement Karen playgroup sessions) 9.00-12.00 Hub 1 and 2</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Morning Tea WPPS Community Hub 9.00-9.30 Hub 1</td>
<td>English Language Class for Adults 9.00-3.30 Hub 2</td>
<td>Parent Helpers and Volunteers 9.00-10.00 Hub 1</td>
<td>English Language Class for Adults Wyndham Community Education Centre 9.00-12.00 Hub 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternal and Child Health drop-in to nurse (weekly alternate Monday/Tuesday) 10.00-12.00 Hub 1 and 2</td>
<td>KINDA KINDER Playgroup 9.30-11.30 (starts 9th February) Hub 2</td>
<td>Learning Together WPPS 2.15 - 3.15 Hub 1</td>
<td>Connecting Cultures @Wyndham Park Leather Craft Workshops February 18th, 25th, March 10th 3:30-5:30 Art Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Language Class for Adults 12.30-3.30 Hub 2</td>
<td>Chin/Burmese playgroup 10.00-12.00 Hub 1</td>
<td>Karen Language Learning Club (support for reading, writing and speaking Karen) 3.15-4.15 Hub 1 and 2</td>
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<td>English Conversation playgroup (Adults learn English in supported play sessions with their pre-school children) 9.30-11.30 Hub 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance Fit 6.15-7.30 Hub 1 and 2</td>
<td>Maternal and Child Health drop-in to nurse (weekly alternate Monday/Tuesday) 10.00-12.00 Hub 1 and 2</td>
<td>Weightloss Challenge 7.00-8.15 Hub 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saffron Kitchen Canteen</td>
<td>Fit Club 6.15-7.30 Hub 1 and 2</td>
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Saffron Kitchen Canteen (help prepare food for school canteen and if eligible gain pre-accredited training in food handling)

Monday - Friday 9.00-2.00 Canteen

For more information please contact Louise Halley WPPS Community Hub Coordinator 0422906133

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**Hoax phone calls to Victorian schools**

Dear parent,

I am writing to reassure you in light of the recent hoax threatening phone calls to Victorian schools in the last few days. Our school has not received such a call but I wanted to inform you that, like all schools we have an emergency management plan in place for situations like this and we practise it throughout the year.

Those schools which did receive a threatening call enacted their emergency management plans and they worked well.

The safety and wellbeing of our students is always our top priority.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Kind Regards,

Laban Toose
WPPS COMMUNITY HUB

Welcome to 2016!

We have a lot of great activities this term at our school Community Hub (upstairs above the school office). Please see the program and enrolment form attached to this newsletter. If you are interested in joining any of the programs please complete the enrolment form and return it to the school office (places are limited for some programs.) I will contact you as soon as possible to confirm your attendance.

Every Tuesday morning at 9:00am we have a welcome morning tea and chat for all families upstairs in the Hub. You are welcome to call in after you drop your children off to share what is happening at Wyndham Park Primary School.

We are starting a new Kinda Kinder (free) playgroup for families every Tuesday 9:30-11:30. It will begin on 9th February upstairs, come along and join us, all welcome!

We have a Learning Together session for parents every Wednesday 2:15-3:15. This session is to help parents support their children’s learning at home. Last year we shared some mathematics games, reading strategies and we have explored suitable apps for learning. If there is something you would like to learn in these sessions please let me know. Next week we will look at our new school app ‘Updat-ed’ Wyndham Park Primary School. If you have some spare time call in, no need to book a place.

A Parent Helpers and Volunteers session is held every Thursday afternoon 2:10 -3:10pm upstairs in the Hub. If you would like to volunteer some time at the school please come along. Last year volunteers developed skills in the use of the photocopier and laminator as they made games for families to borrow for home learning. Once again if you have some free time you are welcome to join in, no need to book a place.

If you have any skills you could share with us or any ideas for programs you would like to see please let me know. I am at school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday or you can contact me by phone or email.

Louise Holley
Community Hub Coordinator
0422 906 133
MATERNAL HEALTH NURSE VISITS

We have Dominique, a Maternal Health Nurse, visiting our Hub upstairs. Come and meet Dominique who can help you with information, support and guidance regarding child health, nutrition, breast feeding, maternal and family health and parenting.

All Welcome!

TERM ONE DATES
Monday 15th February 10-12
Tuesday 23rd February 10-12
Monday 7th March 10-12
Tuesday 29th March 10-12

FAMILY SPORTS KIT

Wyndham City Council have kindly donated a Family Sports Kit to our school for families to borrow, to promote physical activity and family engagement.

It is available to be borrowed for a week. If you would like to borrow the Sports Kit it will be available every Tuesday at the Hub.

Please contact me for further information.

Louise Holley
Community Hub Coordinator

0422 906 133
FAMILY FUN QUIZ

Every fortnight in the newsletter we will have a Family Fun Quiz with a small prize given. Families need to solve the puzzle together, write their answer and names on the entry form and place it in the FFQ box at the office. You may be the lucky winner! (A lucky winner will be drawn from the CORRECT answers)

RULES

- Quiz must be solved by a child/ren and adult/s together.
- One entry per child. (that means a family with three children can make three entries)
- Entries must be in FFQ box at the office signed by both child and adult/s.
- You have one week to solve the quiz. Entries close after one week.
- Prizes may be different for each quiz.
- Have fun!

Louise Holley

FAMILY FUN QUIZ No 1

Party! Party! Party!

Charlie, who is 12, brought POTATO CRISPS. Wayne brought FIZZY LEMONADE (he is 13). Helen (11) brought PAPER PLATES, and her brother Peter (9) brought PAPER CUPS. Sheila is the same age as Charlie: she brought PARTY POPPERS. Little Horace brought PEANUTS.

How old is Horace?

*Hint: Think about the words in capital letters ...*

Our Answer is...........................................................................................................

ADULT Name...........................................................................................................

CHILD/CHILDREN’S Name....................................................................................
Connecting Cultures@Wyndham Park

Leather Craft Workshops

Join Mr Toose to create some one of a kind leather goods.

This series of 3 x 2 hour sessions is a wonderful way to introduce adults and children to the fun and rewards of leather craft. Participants will learn the proper use of leather stamps and leather finish on rounders, practice pieces, a wristband and a cute character shape. The beginnings of a hobby that could last a lifetime!

Please complete the details below and hand into office. We have only 25 places.

Sessions are 18th February, 25th February, 10th March, 3:30pm to 5:30pm

Name ..............................................................................................................

Glenorden football club in Werribee are looking for players for the upcoming season 2016.
Children from the ages of 7-16 years old.

We are also starting our first ever women's team and are in need of ladies and girls from the age of 16—50 years

For more information please contact Kerry Tuxworth 0413 926 708 or Eddie Bryson 0420 904 313

School banking has commenced for this year please remember to send your child's bank book to school on Tuesday and it will be returned on Wednesday. For all students who wish to begin banking there are information packs at the office.

Our Canteen is now open 5 days a week for a delicious morning snack and lunch all for $5.00.

you can print our menu from the school website or collect from the office.
Program Update

Hello Everyone. My name is Samantha and I am the Coordinator for the Wyndham Park Primary OSH club. I am currently studying my Bachelor of Early Childhood and have worked with children for 10 years. Please feel free to come and see me in Community Hub 1 or give me a call if you have any questions.

This week we have been busy exploring the dramatic play area playing café and dressing up we have also been very busy cooking vegetarian pizzas muffins.

Operation Hours:
Before School Care: 6:55- 8:55am
After School Care: 3:10- 6:00pm

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<tr>
<td>Before Care Activities</td>
<td>Board Games</td>
<td>Art and craft</td>
<td>Train and Cars</td>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>Play Dough</td>
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<tr>
<td>After Care Activities</td>
<td>Making Smoothies</td>
<td>Dress ups</td>
<td>Exploring our sense-Moon Sand</td>
<td>Ball Games</td>
<td>Vegetarian Pizzas</td>
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Parent Information

OSH program phone: 0447 543 920
Coordinator: Samantha
Assistants: N/A
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program. Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator directly at the program.
Date: Thursday 11th February
Time: 3:10pm - 4:10pm

Come and join us for an Open Day at OSHClub!

What happens: Loads of fun for all ages including art/craft, games, sports, drama, board games and fun with friends, plus enjoy some afternoon tea!

Tea, coffee and refreshments for parents and families.

Please remember: Your child does not need to be enrolled with OSHClub or book into the afternoon, however please ensure that you remain at the program with your child while they attend the Open Day.

Please note: To use OSHClub in future, please visit www.oshclub.com.au to enrol your child, and make any future bookings. Feel free to come and see Samantha the Coordinator of the program if you have any questions.

www.oshclub.com.au  Ph: 03 8564 9000
Our BBQ was a great success, beautiful sunshine, sizzling sausages and happy smiley faces.

It was a fabulous opportunity for parents to make new friendships and discuss this exciting journey. We are looking forward to many more events as the year progresses. Thank you for your Support

Foundation Team
HEALTHY HEARING
IMPROVES LEARNING
A child with a hearing loss means that he or she has lost some hearing in one or both ears. This could range from a mild hearing loss to a profound hearing loss. Any degree of hearing loss can impact on speech and learning development.

There are many causes of hearing loss in children but one of the most common is middle ear infections.

Observations that may indicate the possibility of a hearing loss are:

- Inattention, day dreaming or behaviour concerns
- Talk loudly or have television up loud
- Concerns regarding progress with school work
- Difficulty with speech articulation
- Frequent need for repetition
- Mistakes carrying out simple instructions
- Turning of head to one side when listening
- Lip reading

If you have any concerns regarding your child’s speech or hearing please seek assistance from your local doctor or an audiologist. This does not require a referral letter and most of the cost is covered by Medicare. These health professionals can refer you to an Ear, Nose and Throat specialist if required.


HEALTHY VISION IMPROVES LEARNING
The Optometry Association recommends that children have their eyes checked by a vision health professional (optometrist or ophthalmologist) prior to starting school and every two years after that or as advised by the vision health professional.

Vision assessments by an optometrist do not require a referral letter and in most cases are covered by Medicare. Optometrists are located in all areas. A list of optometrists, including those that speak other languages can be found on [www.vicoptom.asn.au](http://www.vicoptom.asn.au).

If you wish to see an ophthalmologist a referral can be organised through an optometrist or local doctor. Reasons why children should be seen by a vision health professional are children may:

- not be aware that there is a problem with their vision and rarely complain of vision problems
- not always show or have symptoms of vision problems
- have a weakness in one eye which may not be obvious.

If parents have a history of a vision problem as a child or are now wearing glasses, there is an increased likelihood that their children will have a vision problem.

Some facts about vision issues being present and not treated:

- It may lead to severe vision loss or blindness
- The earlier the diagnosis and treatment of a vision problem the better the outcome.

KEEPING TEETH HEALTHY
Dental problems, such as dental decay and caries are largely preventable. However, many young children suffer pain from and complications associated with dental decay.

Healthy Primary or baby teeth are important as they:

- Are part of a child’s general health and well being
- Assist in the development of a child’s eating ability and speech patterns
- Are a guide to positioning of permanent teeth
- Impact on a child’s physical appearance and self esteem.

Dental Health Services Victoria advises that dental checks start with toddlers and then dental reviews should be on a regular basis as advised by the dental professional. If there is a problem, there should be no delay in seeking treatment to prevent the onset of pain and complications.

Dental professionals are either private dentists or dental therapists at the School Dental Service.

The location of the School Dental Service in your area is:

School Dental Service  
2 Geelong Road  
Footscray 3011  
Phone: 8398 4100

Source: [www.dhsv.org.au](http://www.dhsv.org.au)
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government’s commitment to breaking the link between a student’s background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef
2016 TERM DATES

Term 1
29 JANUARY TO 24 MARCH

TERM 2
11 APRIL TO 24 JUNE

TERM 3
11 JULY TO 18 SEPTEMBER

TERM 4
3 OCTOBER TO 20 DECEMBER

CONTACT US
Wyndham Park Primary School
Kookaburra Avenue
Werribee, VIC, 3030
Phone: 03 9741 4549
Hours: 8.00am-4.30pm
Email: wyndham.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.wyndhamparkps.vic.edu.au