From the Principal

OUTSTANDING NAPLAN RESULTS – AGAIN!

We are in receipt of our school’s NAPLAN data and once again, I congratulate all involved on the outstanding results achieved. Analysis of the data shows that our school is performing above state means. The NAPLAN tests are one component of the Assessment Schedule at our school and provide a snapshot of students’ learning. A range of assessment practices are undertaken throughout the year, providing a detailed profile of children’s progress over a period of time. Whilst we do not treat the NAPLAN results in isolation, they do provide cause for celebration as they compare most favourably to teacher judgements and other assessments undertaken at the school.

Students in Years 3 and 5 have received their individual NAPLAN reports. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child’s report, please contact your child’s classroom teacher or our Assessment and Reporting Coordinator Mrs Sarah Pollnitz.

The current School Review process is providing the school with an opportunity to undergo self-evaluation and review of our performance. There is no doubt that the work we have commenced in the last few years, to raise academic rigor and improve outcomes, has been to the benefit of students. The graphs opposite demonstrate our school’s achievements in the key learning areas assessed by the NAPLAN. These results continue to provide a wonderful endorsement of the school’s programs and commitment to individual student growth.

PREP CONCERT

Congratulations to our Prep students and staff for their presentation of Once Upon a Time. The concert provided a showcase of stories, songs and dance from participation and involvement in Music and Prep assembly. Our young performers certainly did not let us down, lighting up the stage and performing their scenes with great enthusiasm and gusto. A very big thank you to our creative and talented Music teacher Mr David Perry and the wonderful Prep team (Ali Browne, Bonnie Lewis, Jenny Storer and Gabby Gasparroni) for all the work they undertook in preparing and supporting the students. Our concert narrator, Mrs Kay Bridgman did a wonderful job telling each class story and Luke, put his creative talents to the test by making props. The combined efforts of all ensured a wonderful performance.
MUSIC PROGRAM IN SCHOOLS
As we near the end of yet another busy term and on the back of the Prep and Year 3 to 6 Concerts, I wish to share with you an item that appeared recently on the Channel 7 News. The article shares the importance of schools employing music teachers.

New Australian research has revealed school kids who play music are better learners, triggering a call for state governments to employ music teachers in every classroom. The research shows learning an instrument by 12 years of age makes the left side of the brain bigger, which has been linked to improved vocal, vocabulary and memory skills by the time kids become adults.

“Worldwide, the research is unmistakable and unrelenting that participation in music education improves outcomes in all sorts of other areas of schooling,” former Dean of Education at Melbourne University Professor Brian Caldwell said. Professor Caldwell’s research involved some of the most disadvantaged schools in Australia in western Sydney, finding students studying in the arts, particularly music, gained a year in literacy scores, compared to students who were not studying music or the arts.

Experts say that when we play music, both sides of the brain light up simultaneously, creating neural pathways for learning.

David Eccleston7News
25 August 2014

The full news story can be found at this link: http://au.news.yahoo.com/nsw/a/24807190/why-learning-music-makes-kids-smarter/

Tina King (Principal)

GOING GREEN

POLLUTION – DID YOU KNOW ……..?
Facts about pollution and ideas to reduce it:
- Cars produce a lot of pollution from their exhaust. SO – try to car pool or walk to school.
- Plastic bottles will last 450 years if left on a local beach. SO – try to use a refillable water bottle.
- Australia has produced more plastic bags in the last 10 years than in the whole of the last century. SO – please use a green shopping bag or a biodegradable bag.
- It only takes one litre of motor oil to contaminate one million litres of water. SO – contact your local council to pick up your used motor oil for recycling.

Green Team

email: watts.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Tel: 9432 3213 24 hours

Hi everyone!
A reminder to everyone that school finishes at 2.30pm on the last day of school for this term, which is Friday 19 September. Cool Care will commence from this time and finish at the usual time of 6.00pm.

Care for the hour between 2.30 and 3.30pm will be $7.50 per hour, per child and is included in benefits calculated through Centrelink for eligible families.

Children regularly booked in on a Friday afternoon are automatically booked in for this session from 2.30pm. If this relates to your family and you do not need this session, please ensure you cancel before we close this coming Friday 12/9 to avoid a fee. All fees for the session from 2.30pm - 6.00pm on Friday 19/9 will be charged for if this cancellation procedure is not adhered to. Cancellation via email, phone call, in person, a note in the Cool Care office, the Cool Care office email, phone call, a note slid under my office door are all avenues available to families for notification.

AASC Basketball sessions will finish this Friday. The children’s skills and development have improved immensely with children not sure to begin with, now showing more enthusiasm and confidence each week. Congratulations to all the little basketballers on your dedication and concentration throughout the past 7 weeks. Hopefully the skills you have learned may encourage you to join a local club or alternatively, become more involved in school sports as the years go by. A casual game with your mates on the local courts is always a wonderful way to pass time over the weekends as you grow up. Keep busy and stay active for a happy and healthy life!

Yoga, (as our other sport), has also introduced many children to an experience. Balance skills and relaxation have definitely improved over the past weeks too. From a group of children unsure of the tradition of yoga, to the knowledgeable children we now have familiar with the terminology and moves to get through their session easily. Well done to everyone!

Next term we are looking forward to Tennis and Netball and these will be held on Monday and Tuesday afternoons.

Next week in Cool Care we will be having a footy week. The children helped us out on Monday afternoon putting names to faces from the current year’s AFL football magazine. We are gathering many resources over the next week in readiness for a big week. Commissarations to those whose teams were eliminated on the weekend, and good luck to those still in the finals. We have now removed the Tigers and the Bombers streamers from our wall display (sadly), and are keen to follow this weekend’s action. Trusting you will all have a good week!

Stay Cool, Jenny
Alice In Wonderland
DVD Front Cover Competition

The 3/4 & 5/6 productions of Alice In Wonderland are currently being cut, edited and razza-ma-tazzed. We are launching a DVD Front Cover Design Competition for all students at WNPS. Be creative, let your imagination hop wild and enter as many times as you like. The winner will be chosen as the front cover of the WNPS Years 3-6 Alice In Wonderland 2014 DVD.

Requirements:

- Entries must be A4 portrait
- Black and white only - outline (no colouring in – that’s so we can all colour in the winning design)
- Must include words; Alice In Wonderland, Years 3/4, Years 5/6, 2014, Watsonia North PS, school logo
- Entries to S3 by Thursday 18 September 2014. Slip in down the rabbit hole (box) outside S3.

Suggestions:

- Add a few characters from the show (King, Queen, Cards, Flowers, Cheshire Cat etc)
- Add key phrases or lines (“Off with your head!”)
- Choose a background or setting (in the forest with flowers)
- Think about what was the most important part of the concert to you and make that the focus of your design
- But in the end . . . . K.I.S.S . . . . Keep.It.Simple.Silly (don’t overdo it) and HAVE FUN!!!! Good Luck!!!

For Sale – big savings!
Montmorency Secondary College girls’ uniform
Only worn for 5 months: Jacket $60 | 1 x Summer dress size 6 – $50 | 1 x winter skirt only worn for 1 month, size 6 – $80 | 2 x Short sleeved shirts size 12 – $20 each | 1 x sports polo $30 | 1 x sports shorts – $15
Please contact Sarah Linssen at school

PROTECT YOURSELF IN 4 WAYS!

FROM SEPTEMBER
FOUR THINGS TO REMEMBER!
1. SLIP on clothing that covers your skin!
2. SLOP on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen before going outside. Please remember to pack your sunscreen each day and get a buddy to help you reapply.
3. SLAP on your school hat designed to shade your face, eyes, ears and neck - play outside the sun safe way.
4. SEEK shady spots in the playground.

NEWSPAPERS FOR THE ART ROOM
We are accepting donations of NEWSPAPERS to the Art Room until the end of Term 3 only (no magazine inserts PLEASE!) – Thank you!

3 YEAR OLD VACANCIES
Places are still available for 3 year old kinder in 2015. Please contact Megan, our Enrolment Officer, for further information on 9467 4446
WARRAWEE PARK PRE-SCHOOL
FATHERS’ DAY STALL
I hope that all the dads had a wonderful Fathers’ Day and enjoyed receiving their gifts. Thank you to everyone for supporting the stall by purchasing gifts at the stall. Special thanks to those who helped with the wrapping and organising the gifts and setting up and selling at the stall. Without the help of these wonderful volunteers, the stall would not have been such a success.

Regards,
Cara Wilkins (PFA Secretary)

PE & Sport News
WHAT A MONTH!

BANYULE CUP
Well done to the WNPS Banyule Cup AFL football team for making this year’s Grand Final. After winning their 3 pool matches, WNPS lost a close final to Holy Trinity PS. A BIG THANK YOU to Mr Moore for coaching, and to the parents for driving.

YEAR 3/4 HOOPTIME
This year, the 3/4 Hooptime teams travelled to Diamond Valley Stadium to play round robin games in basketball. All children had a great day. A BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Linssen and Miss Rogers for coaching, and the parents for transporting the students.

DISTRICT ATHLETICS
The District Athletics team travelled to Meadowglen on Friday, 29 August to compete in the Watsonia District Athletics Competition. WNPS did outstandingly – finishing 2nd overall. Students who finished in the top 3 places in an A Event, will compete in the Division Athletics Carnival at Meadowglen on Wednesday, 8 October. Good luck to all!!

YEAR 5/6 HOOPTIME DAY 2
63 students (7 teams), travelled to Mill Park Stadium to compete in WNPS Day 2 in the Basketball Victoria Hooptime competition.

All children had a fun and exciting day. We had a lot of success with two future stars teams making semi-finals, and our All Star Boys and All Star Girls both winning the day. These two teams will now go on to compete in the Regional Final in Term 4. A BIG THANK YOU to Mr Eastwood and Miss Clark for all their coaching and a special thank you to MATT STEWART for his assistance throughout the day. Also thank you to the parents that helped score and support WNPS.

Trent O’Sullivan (PE & Sport Coordinator)

OUT OF UNIFORM DAY!
WEAR YOUR FOOTY COLOURS ON FRIDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER (LAST DAY OF TERM)

Get ready with your Footy Colours for the last day of term.
On Friday 19 September wear the colours of your favourite footy team.
This could be an AFL team, a soccer team, a Rugby or Rugby league team.
Your gold coin donation on the day will go towards the Footy Colours Foundation and to the Year One building Inquiry to assist them to purchase a cubby house for the PREP-2 playground.

Thank you for your support,
Student Representative Council

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THANK YOU TO THE WONDERFUL FAMILIES THAT HAVE ALREADY GENEROUSLY DONATED MONEY TOWARDS A DEFIBRILLATOR FOR OUR SCHOOL! A receipt will be sent home for donations of $10 or more. Some families have donated $5, $10, $20 and $50 – this is just fantastic – to date, we have raised $360. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Keep those donations coming in!

In an emergency every second counts...

Don’t waste time changing the pads.

Sudden Cardiac arrest amongst children can be triggered by a number of factors including underlying conditions or unexplained cardiac failure of the heart. The FFR Defibrillator is easy to use with voice prompts for assistance through defibrillation and CPR.

The FFR is ideal for schools, childcare centres or places where there is frequent use such as a healthcare facility or home. The FFR has a defibrillator which can be mounted and locked in place at all times saving you time and minutes matter.

THIS TYPE OF DEFIBRILLATOR IS OUR TARGET!

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