From the Principal

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE & RSL SCHOLARSHIPS

A Watsonia North delegation from the Year 5/6 area was in attendance today at the Remembrance Day Commemorative Service held at the Watsonia RSL. Our school representatives placed a wreath in memory and appreciation of all who have served and died in war. Remembrance Day each year commemorates the cessation of World War 1. Riley did a wonderful job reciting the Silent Tribute. Students and staff at school observed a minute’s silence in commemoration of the sacrifices members of our armed forces have made.

Congratulations are extended to Katrina and Nicholas who are this year’s recipients of the Watsonia RSL Remembrance Day Scholarship. As a means of remembering the men and women of all defence forces who served, the RSL grants scholarships to appropriate Year 6 students approaching their secondary education. The criteria for nominees, includes attributes such as leadership qualities, mateship and community involvement. Katrina and Nicholas have always been excellent ambassadors for our school and we congratulate them on their nomination.

AYLA’S STORY....

What an overwhelming response we have had from our school community after reading of Ayla’s plight (see last week’s Wednesday Weekly). The generosity of our school community has been truly heart-warming with continuous messages of support for Ayla and generous financial donations.

Since it was announced in the Wednesday Weekly last week, we have received over $700 in donations to go towards Ayla’s medical costs and recovery. This is truly amazing and indicative of the community spirit which exists in our school community.

On Friday 13 November, students are able to come to school dressed in purple and/or orange or as a cat. These are Ayla’s favourite colours and animal. Students may bring a gold coin donation and we will pool the money raised on this day, with donations already made directly to the school office. Remember to call into the office and sign the Messages book which we will forward to Ayla and her family, along with the funds raised. A very heartfelt thank you to everyone for all your care, support and generosity. I know Ayla and her family are in great appreciation.

GRADE FORMATION FOR 2016

We are currently in the process of forming classes for next year and as always, this is a very complex and thorough process. In considering placement of students, staff take into account friendship groupings and requests, academic capabilities and needs, gender, as well as giving due consideration to requests from parents. In some instances, it can be extremely difficult to create the best match and class groupings. Staff expertise and professional judgment strongly prevails throughout this process.

We will continue to work through the process with a focus on the refinement of grade lists over the next few weeks. Please note that parental requests and considerations for their child’s class placement closed on 23 October and no late requests will be considered. On Monday 14 December, children will be visiting their new rooms to meet their teacher for next year and fellow students.

Tina King (Principal)
Hi everyone

Today we take time to remember our wonderful defence service personnel who have in the past or are currently serving our country to help keep us all safe. A special mention during Cool Care has been reminding our children of the important roles and the ongoing commitment we all have in our own ways. As mentioned several weeks ago, the children have planted and take great pride in our little Memorial Garden which is located at the bottom of the Centre. We have filled that with a commemorative ANZAC Grevillia to mark the 100 year anniversary of the ANZACs. It is surrounded by a circle of Rosemary which is also traditionally significant for Australians, as it is found growing wild on the Gallipoli Peninsula. This is often worn on both ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day as a mark of respect. The children showed great delight last week creating their own fascinators, top hats and attractive floral tributes to coincide with the Spring Racing Carnival. With a short week, we seemed to pack a great deal of diverse experiences in, finishing off our Pattern Project, which I must say looks a treat – thank you Maggie for your wonderful idea and to everyone who contributed to our large display board. A true sense of belonging and connectedness was displayed throughout this team effort. If you would like to view this project it is located in the Cool Care foyer of the Centre.

As we have had several queries in regards to our 2016 Enrolment forms, these will be available during the first week of December. A reminder will be placed in the Wednesday Weekly and we will also have signage in Cool Care indicating the availability of these forms. Time to go, have a great week … if you have any Cool Care queries please contact me. Stay Cool, Jenny

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**HAYFEVER SEASON**

Many students AND some teachers are already suffering from annoying symptoms of hayfever – itchy, red, swollen eyes, runny nose and sometimes skin rashes. If your child suffers from HAYFEVER, please consider administering their antihistamine medication before school. You may also complete a green medication form and leave medication at the office, to be administered as needed.

Cheryl Campher (First Aid Officer)

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**Performing Arts News**

**2016 CHOIR**

It’s time to start thinking about choir for 2016. For our current Year 2s, next year will be their first experience of singing in a choir: remember that for all of Term 1, all students in Years 3 and 4 are in the choir. This culminates in an impressive performance at the end-of-term assembly. We already have some exciting activities planned for 2016 – it’s good to be in the choir! Invitation letters and application forms for students in Years 4 and 5 will be issued very soon.

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**PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT**

On Thursday 19 November the Performing Arts Concert will be held at Montmorency SC auditorium. This is for any Year 6 performer who wishes to present a solo item (duets are also acceptable but please discuss with Mr Perry first). Applications from Year 6 students closed last week but there is still time if you contact Mr Perry straight away. Instrumental ensembles will also be performing – these include the violin ensemble, clarinet/saxophone ensemble, drum ensemble, Choirs and recorder/percussion ensemble. Notices for students involved in these groups were issued this week: save the date and order your tickets now!!

Tuesday 1 December will be the Prep Concert at WNPS Hall. Information will be forthcoming over the next few weeks, but please keep the date free: there will be a matinee (daytime) and evening performance. Choir Tour: Wednesday 2 December (local area) and Friday 4 December (city including attending a performance at VCA Secondary School!).

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David Perry
Performing Arts Coordinator

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Advertisements in the Wednesday Weekly are included in good faith; however, neither Watsonia North Primary School, nor the Department of Education can endorse or accept responsibility for the goods or services offered in these advertisements.
FREE LADIES DIY WORKSHOP DAY
Thursday, 12 November: 11am-2pm
Join us for our Ladies Day. With hands-on craft workshops including making bath bombs, a wind chime, groovy string chandeliers, render a pot, try your hand at mosaic art and make your own chopping board. Jumping Castle for the kids and light refreshments will be served.
BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL – 9462 8000 or speak to one of our team in-store (Bunnings Thomastown)
THIS FRIDAY (Friday 13 November) students are able to come to school dressed in PURPLE AND/OR ORANGE or as a cat to raise funds for AYLA TSOUMBAKOS. Please bring a gold coin donation – thank you for your support!