From the Principal

DONATION FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NHW)

We have been overwhelmed with the level of financial support received in order to purchase a defibrillator at the school. Our fundraising efforts and donations to date, left a shortfall of $400. It was most surprising when Jill received a call from David Englefield from Neighbourhood Watch Grimshaw, to say that they had seen the article in the Diamond Valley Leader and were keen to support our school with the purchase of the defibrillator. This offer of support was endorsed with a donation of $400! This is simply wonderful and on behalf of our school community I would like to sincerely thank the team at NHW Grimshaw area – especially David Englefield and Ray Kopke (Area Manager). We are most touched by this random act of kindness.

SCHOOL REVIEW

The school is in receipt of the Peer Self-Evaluation report prepared by our school reviewer, Mr Peter Gannon. The report provides a summary of the schools achievements over the last four years and provides recommendations for the development of the new strategic intent of the school. The report will be tabled for discussion at the next School Council meeting and once endorsed, will be made available to the whole school community via the school website. In the meantime, I have published an extract from the opening summary of the report:

“Watsonia North Primary School is quite an outstanding school. Its students perform above expected level in the NAPLAN tests and data related to parent and student satisfaction with their school, places the school in the upper percentile rankings when compared to the rest of the state ...

The Peer Review Panel members were most impressed by the way the school has embraced this review as a way of reflecting deeply on its progress to date and to determine its next steps. Many of the practices already in place can be found in highly effective schools and therefore the reviewers can only encourage their continuation and development. The school has developed a strong ethos of involvement, tolerance, encouragement and excellence within a caring and committed environment and the uptake by students, parents and staff is most apparent. The Review has confirmed that on all measures, this is an excellent school and that its relentless pursuit of improvement and its capacity for rigorous self-reflection will see it reach new heights.”

Mr Peter Gannon, Independent School Reviewer
National Curriculum Services – October 2014

GRADE FORMATIONS FOR 2015

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. On Monday 11 December, children will be visiting their new rooms to meet their teacher for next year and fellow students.

PREPARING TODAY’S STUDENTS FOR TOMORROW

Today we are teaching differently to the way you were taught in order to prepare students for tomorrow’s world. Education needs to be different and dynamic to meet the new and exciting challenges of a fast-changing world. Many of the jobs our children will be doing in the future haven’t even been invented yet.

As parents, I suspect you are interested in knowing even more about how we are preparing children for tomorrow. That is why I would like to draw your attention to a new campaign – ‘Preparing today’s students for tomorrow’. The campaign features advertising and includes a link to updated content on the Department’s website.

While jobs featured in the campaign, such as underwater infrastructure planner, hover train designer and bio dome gardener may sound futuristic, there is a serious message behind them. Jobs are changing and many of our children will work in professions that don’t exist today. Our school is doing a lot of work to help prepare our students for this future. I encourage you to take a look at the new information designed with parents and students in mind. Visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/futureready

Tina King (Principal)
NEXT TUESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER

Special Group photos will be taken next TUESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER. PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR SPORTS UNIFORM AND YOUR MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IF RELEVANT. ORDERING DETAILS WILL FOLLOW.

CLEARANCE SALE!!
OLD STYLE SCHOOL BAGS - $20
GREY MAX DAKS PANTS – SIZES 8, 10, 12 going out at a special price of $5.00!

YEAR 6 CLASS OF 2015
JUMPERS & JACKETS
PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ORDERS MUST BE IN BY NO LATER THAN 28 NOVEMBER 2014
THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE ORDER PLACED AND NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED – IF YOU DO NOT ORDER BY THE ABOVE DATE YOU WILL MISS OUT – NO EXCEPTIONS!

Jodie Park (Uniform Coordinator)

MEASLES

Please note that we have had ONE reported case of Measles in the Year 3/4 area. Measles is a contagious viral illness that causes a skin rash and fever. Children and adults (but not pregnant women) can be immunised against measles to protect against the infection and the possible serious complications. Serious side effects or allergic reactions to the vaccine are rare.

Symptoms of Measles
The signs and symptoms of measles may include fever, general discomfort, illness or lack of wellbeing (malaise), runny nose, dry cough, sore and red eyes (conjunctivitis), red and bluish spots inside the mouth (Koplik’s spots), red and blotchy skin rash that appears first on the face and hairline, and then spreads to the body.


Hi everyone
It appears we are in for a busy time between now and the end of this year. Several children are in the process of organising child initiated experiences for their Cool Care mates. Planning is also underway for a couple more drawing challenges between now and the end of term, along with a Disco and Movie afternoon. These little ‘working parties’ are busy little bees setting up their running sheets and making sure they have addressed all details ensuring their afternoons will run smoothly. Disco organisation requires much research. Our student coordinators are currently interviewing their peers for song requests. They are using their judgement assessing the appropriateness of songs suggested, estimating timeframes and filling in their planning log. It is great to see after many years of educator guidance, the boys are now independent to make the choices they feel correct for our setting. Well done fellas, we look forward to your last Cool Care disco.
I think that will do for this week, I’m exhausted just reading about it all!! Have a great week, stay cool – Jenny
ELECTION DAY BBQ
SATURDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2014
We still require some helpers with the BBQ on Election Day. If you are able to spare some time, please contact Wendy Thornbury at: wendyjt72@bigpond.com
It is a great occasion to raise money for the school and also talk to the local community. You will need to attend the school to vote anyway, so why not stay for an hour or two and help out?

TWILIGHT CAROLS:
THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2014
5pm to 8pm: Save the date!
The annual Twilight Carols are on again. There will be lots of entertainment, stalls, fun and our special guest.
If you would like to have a stall, please contact Melissa Cromie at gavmel2@hotmail.com for information. There are still spots available in some categories.
We will be needing helpers to assist at the PFA stall. We will be selling sausages in bread, chicken schnitzel sandwiches, cold drinks, slurpees, lollies and lucky dips. If you can help on the night or with the organising, please contact me at Watsonianorthpspsfa@gmail.com
We know that the queue for food was too long last year and to make it run quicker this year, we need more volunteers.

PFA 2015
All positions become vacant at the end of each year. We are looking for a President, Secretary, Treasurer and general members. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends, give back to the school community, and learn new skills. Volunteer work is highly rewarding and also looks great on your resume if you are seeking employment. All meetings are informal, the times and days are flexible and toddlers are welcome. Contact me via email if you are interested in finding out more information.

Regards, Cara Wilkins (PFA Secretary)
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.
General Knowledge …. some useful tips to remember!

**Left and Right:** This might seem super-simple, but some people really struggle to tell their left from their right. Here’s a subtle way to remind yourself (when no one is looking). Just hold your hands out in front of you, palms down, with the thumbs sticking out sideways. Your left hand will make the shape of a capital ‘L’ – handy!

**Port and Starboard:** On board a ship, ‘port’ is the left side of the ship and ‘starboard’ is the right side. An easy way to remember this is that both ‘port’ and ‘left’ have four letters, and that ‘starboard’ and ‘right’ both have more than four letters.