



WARRINGA PARK SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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2nd February 2009

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please email
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Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year to each of you and I hope 2009 is a good year for your family and children. I look forward to working with you and supporting you in delivering the best education possible for your child. I also look forward to seeing all the students back at school, being challenged in their learning, and achieving the learning outcomes that have been established in your child's Individual Learning Plan for 2009.

For the first time at Warringa Park School, we have organised a Meet the Teacher evening, on Thursday 12th February. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your child's teacher and to find out about the programmes and activities that your child will be undertaking. Importantly, you will be made aware of expectations in respect to your child's learning programme, attendance, and any extra-curricular activities that have been arranged. I look forward to seeing each classroom full of parents. It is a great opportunity for you to meet other parents in your child's class and to form friendships / networks with other parents.

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all our new families and particularly our prep parents who have commenced their schooling at Warringa Park School. This is a special time, not only for your prep child who is starting at Warringa, but to the parents, particularly mums, who have mixed feelings of handing over the care of your child after 5 years. I encourage each parent to become involved in our school, and to take up every opportunity to support your child in their education. There are many opportunities to be involved, such as School Council, working bees, volunteers, classroom support programs and supporting your child's education at home through the organisation of activities that stimulate learning and provide an enriched opportunity to learn. Have a great year and never hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions on how we can improve our school or if you have concerns relating to your child's education. I am committed to establishing an effective partnership with our parents and community organisations so that Warringa Park can grow and achieve great outcomes for your child.

I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome back our staff and the students. For many, getting off that bus today was a joyous occasion as they love coming to school.

Voluntary Contribution

Parents are asked to pay a voluntary contribution of \$100 for 2009. This payment goes towards funding student programmes. There will be a raffle drawn from all of the parents who have paid their contribution by April 1st, 2009. For parents who have more than one child attending Warringa Park School, subsequent child contributions are \$75.

The New Junior Playground is looking fantastic with new soft fall surfacing. Due to the extreme heat, the sails have not yet been installed, however, I do anticipate this playground being available to the junior students by the end of this week.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Meet the Teacher Thurs 12th Feb
EMA applications close Fri 27th Feb

2009 TERM DATES

TERM 1 MON 2 FEB – FRI 3 APR
TERM 2 MON 20 APR – FRI 26 JUN
TERM 3 MON 13 JUL – FRI 18 SEP
TERM 4 MON 5 OCT – FRI 18 DEC

School Council Elections - This Friday you will be receiving the School Council Notice of Election, Call for Nomination forms and information relating to the School Council. The School Council, at the end of last year took a significant step to reconfigure the size and membership of the School Council. This reconfiguration has been approved by the Minister of Education, and means that the School Council has increased substantially in all categories of membership. The School Council will now consist of 8 parent representatives, 2 community representatives and 4 staff plus Principal. The following Councillors, Te-anu Braidie, Carol Tymoszek and Liz Brcic, are not up for re-election. This means that there are 6 parent representative vacancies, and 3 DEECD vacancies. Nominations close for these vacancies on **13th February 2009**. I encourage parents to consider nominating for School Council, as the School Council is an instrumental organisation that sets the policy, the strategic direction and is responsible for the financial management of our school.

School Uniform - All parents are reminded that the school has a school uniform and it is expected that each student will wear that school uniform every day while they attend school. The cost of the school uniform is reasonable and we are seeking your cooperation to ensure that every child at Warringa Park is in uniform.

We follow the **Sunsmart** policy, and in terms 1 and 4, all students must wear a hat. Parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child before leaving home and to make sure your child has sufficient drinks for the day. Your cooperation in this is greatly appreciated.

Next week, a special newsletter will be sent home. Please attach this newsletter to your fridge or keep it in a safe place. This newsletter will provide you with all of the information about our school that you will need throughout the year.

School Diaries will be sent home today. Diaries are used as a communication book for parents and staff. If you have any queries or information you need to tell your child's teacher, this can be written in the diary. These diaries also contain 8 pages of information for parents, including how to work with your child at home, lunchbox tips and important numbers.

Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) forms need to be filled in at the school office **by 27th February 2009**. **No applications will be accepted after this date**. If you have a Pension or Health Care Card, you may qualify for this allowance. Please bring your Health Care Card with you as it is required to lodge the application.

Conveyance Allowance is available to parents whose children do not access the bus service at all. If you drive your child to school every day, then collect a form at the office and lodge it by the end of February. The Conveyance allowance is paid in two halves - at the end of term two and again in December. If you are not sure if you are eligible, please see the ladies in the school office.

Have a great week and I am sure that at Warringa Park we will continue to grow, prosper and improve in what we do,

Colin Schot
Principal

schot.colin.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

A big welcome to our new students:-

Donna Amazona	Roger Barrosso	Rowan Bawan	Philip Biggs	Thorne Borg
Steven Bush	Jack Cassar	Kyle Abela	Alana Cross	Johan Drozdek
Jai Edwards	Ahmad El Badaoui	Harry Gnezda	Nada Haddara	Wafaa Haddara
Liam Keane	Amy Majdik	George Martin	Salil Mehta	Jaxon Miller
Rhys Moorfoot	Anthony Nguyen	Thevinu Perera	Crystal Preston	James Ramsay
Benjamin Ranalli	Jarrodd Triffett	Lachlan Turk	Deng Wal	Jerry Wang
Jason Wolff	Ruby Wood	Thomas Young	Gabrielle Nash	