

Warringa Park School Newsletter

Monday 10th August 2009



Principal's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great week it has been. It was great pleasures to have a number of students visit me from Group 6 this morning to show me their work. They were delighted with their efforts and the joy on their faces in my responses to them just makes you know that your career and your work are appreciated, especially by the students. To hear them read, to see their writing makes your day, so to all the students in Group 6, well done! I look forward to seeing many more students work over the coming years. All our efforts are focused on what's best for your child and all the students at Warringa Park School.

Education Support Recognition Week - This week is a designated week where we acknowledge and recognise the work of the Education Support staff across the state. We are very fortunate indeed at Warringa Park School, to have many Education Support Staff working with our students and assisting our teaching staff to deliver improved learning outcomes for our wonderful students. On behalf of the teaching staff and the School Council, I would like to thank the Education Support Staff and acknowledge their wonderful contribution to Warringa Park School. On Wednesday, they will be given a morning tea to thank them for their work and contribution in making Warringa Park School a fantastic place to be. To all our support staff, have a great week.

I had the opportunity during the week to meet with a number of parents regarding recent staffing changes that have been made at the school. I would like to thank those parents for taking the opportunity to meet with me and James Malone in relation to the change that is taking place in section 3. This meeting also gave me an opportunity to hear from parents about some of the concerns that they have and as I listened I realised that there is a need for some focus groups to be established for parents at the end of this term, to enable them to have a say on how we can improve Warringa Park School for the students. In the next newsletter, I will put forward a couple of dates for parents and carers who wish to take the opportunity to be involved in a focus group, one of these times will be during the day and one will be in the evening and I urge every parent and carer to take the opportunity to come along and voice their opinions and suggestions on what we can do at Warringa Park to make this school a better place for our students, staff and for the visitors and volunteers who work in our school.

On Thursday, I also had the pleasure of attending the Aided Language Display workshop that was conducted for parents and carers. There were two workshops that were organised and I would like to thank Beth Twentyman, Nadine Davies and Abi Fraser for their work in coordinating the workshops for parents so they have a greater understanding of Aided Language and its importance to assist in the communication of their child. To all the parents and carers that attended thank you and we look forward to running many more in-service programs to assist you with strategies that can help your child.

This week I also had the pleasure of visiting Mambourin Enterprises. This visit was organised by Vern Fettke, one of our School Councillors and I had the opportunity to meet with Rohan Braddy, the CEO. It was important that I understood and knew what Mambourin Enterprises provides because many of the students from Warringa Park School attend Mambourin programs after they have finished school. Mambourin is a growing enterprise with campuses at Werribee, Werribee South and Sunshine. I was impressed with Mambourin's desire to continue to improve their programs and delivery for the young adults and adults who work at Mambourin. Rohan Braddy is keen to develop a strong association with Warringa Park and together we will continue to improve what we do for the students at Warringa and the clients who attend Mambourin Enterprises. I would like to acknowledge Vern Fettke for organising this visit and also to thank him and Homestead Financial Group for their wonderful support for the students who attended the tree planting day at Werribee Zoo as part of the compass program. Homestead Financial Group has supported this day for a number of years and it is greatly appreciated by the students and the staff who participate in this wonderful opportunity to improve our planet through the planting of trees. Also, students had a wonderful opportunity to have a tour of the Werribee Zoo as a safari that was organised by the group. Thanks to Vern and his staff for making this day a great day for our students and staff.

Have a great week and take care,

Colin

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ Festival of Healthy Living Performance 2nd Sept.
- ◆ Father's Day Stall 3rd and 4th September
- ◆ Jackie's Shopping Tour 7th November

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

In focus this week -Val Bacon, Queen of the Volunteers

It is my privilege and honour to highlight the work of Val Bacon. Val has been a volunteer at Warringa Park School for 12 years. She commenced her work at Warringa Park with Jeanette in the library covering books and then moved on to volunteer in the classroom with the students and supporting the staff. One day Val filled in for an absent staff member in the office and has been involved in the administration of this area ever since.

Recently, Val was given the opportunity to become the Volunteer Coordinator of the school. Typically, Val has taken on this role with great enthusiasm as she loves working with the students in classrooms and assisting the parents at our school. Val can be seen in the local star newspaper with Josh Gano this week as she is also

active in the Altona Lions Club. It was through Val that the Altona Lions Club became involved with Josh and it is work such as this where Val has made a difference to Warringa Park School.

On behalf of the staff, School Council and the school community, we recognise Val Bacon as one of the truly dedicated workers who has made a significant difference to Warringa Park School over the past 12 years through her volunteering. Thank you Val and we look forward to a continuing association with you for many more years.

On behalf of the Warringa Park School Council I would like to extend our congratulations to Mr. Colin Schot in his recent appointment of Principal at Warringa Park School.

Colin's dedication and commitment to the students and whole school community is outstanding and we look forward to building on the current excellent achievements of our school as we move forward.

Council would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our dedicated staff at Warringa Park who works tirelessly in order to achieve these outstanding outcomes for the students.

We thank you all.

Carol Tymoszek
President School Council

Interschool Sports

The Warringa Park Netballer of the week this week is Elyse from group 32. Elyse played as the team's goal shooter at Interschool sport.

The team played two games against Ascot Vale and Concord School. Warringa Park narrowly won both games by one and two goals.

Well done Elyse and the rest of the team!!



Warringa Park Student Leadership

'Leading the Way' Project 2009 - partnership between Warringa Park School, Werribee Secondary College and Wyndham City Council Youth Services.

Leading the Way is run by senior students from Warringa Park School and Year 10 students from Werribee Secondary College. Each Monday at morning recess students deliver an activity based program for junior students. Activities include as drawing, jewellery making, play dough, colouring-in and basketball.

The project has been running for 3 years at the school and receives funding from the School Focused Youth Service Hobson Bay and Wyndham.

The project gives senior students an opportunity to be involved in leadership and facilitation skills training. Some of the participating students' comments included:

'We have learnt how to communicate better with junior students. It is fun. It is good to work with the Werribee students.' (Nada and Priya, Group 23)

'I love the leadership program. I work with the junior students. I like working with the Werribee students because they are good friends and we enjoy chatting.' (Hayatte, Group 22)



Wyndham City Council's 2009 Youth Forum

On Thursday 6 August 2009, Jacinta, Matthew, Rebecca, Kristy and Erin (from Section 3) participated in the Wyndham City Council's 2009 Youth Forum. These students and other students from local secondary schools discussed issues affecting young people in the City of Wyndham. Topics included community safety, community events and youth participation.

Some of the students' comments were:

'We learnt how to learn about and help our community.'

'It was interesting, I learnt a lot.'

'It was fun; I learnt how to talk to people.'

'It was good because it was fun. We talked about the need for more public transport in Wyndham.'

'There were lots of people, I was a little bit nervous - but it was pretty good. We talked about the libraries in the City of Wyndham and how to involve young people in using them.'



Warringa Park students presenting at the Forum.

Dali!

On Friday 7th August, seventeen students from groups 22 and 23 travelled by train into the city to the National Gallery of Victoria to see the Salvador Dali exhibition. Our students attended a 45 minute talk about the artist and his work. The group listened very well, commented thoughtfully, and asked some very appropriate questions.

We saw paintings, drawings, sculptures and short films by the artist, but by far the most popular item was the Lobster Telephone sculpture! This piece generated much discussion and interest among our students.

Lunch was eaten in the Great Hall, and many students, after a hard day of art appreciation lay on their backs and gazed at the famous coloured glass ceiling.

It was a wonderful excursion, and the mature attitude of diverse opinions was very evident. Well Done to all, and now to complete our own Surrealist canvas paintings!

Thank you to all staff (Justin, Marie, Denise) that helped to make this excursion such a great success.

Kris Smith

(Art Teacher)

Poss-abilities EXPO

Life options for people living with a disability

Warringa Park School in conjunction with Wyndham Disability Network are of the view that we need to provide students and their families with as much information as is possible in order that you are able to make informed and relevant decisions about their future.

At the EXPO you will have the opportunity to investigate the opportunities that some seventy service providers can offer post school. These organisations will provide assistance and advice on a range of services that will assist you and your student in preparations for their working life or further training.

Whether you are a young person taking the step out of school into the big wide world, or a person wanting to broaden your horizons, this expo will help you explore some options for your pathway through life.

While we recognise that the coming period may be apprehensive for your family, the organisations we have invited to the EXPO will provide high quality advice. We hope that you find the afternoon/evening informative and worthwhile.


September 1st, 2009

12.00 noon-7.00 pm

Wyndham Leisure Centre

Derrimut Rd- Hoppers Crossing

Assistant Principal's Report



Starting Friday the 14th of August I will be taking leave of absence for 6 months. In my absence Heather Pilcher will be doing student enrolments and reviews and the team leaders - Sally Smith (Junior), Liz Brcic (Middle), James Malone (Senior) and Jurgen Haase (VCAL) - will be looking after student wellbeing and discipline. Therese Bourke our student welfare officer will maintain her role of working with students on strength based programs and also in coordination with Abi, our parent liaison officer, linking families to support agencies.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and parents of Warringa for the support and friendship they have given me. I have been a member of this school community for 3 years and have really enjoyed my role working with the students and their families.

It has been a pleasure working at Warringa. I look forward to my break and to coming back to the school refreshed in term 2 of 2010.

Once again thank you

Jo

There has been a large number of Head Lice cases reported in the past two weeks at Warringa Park. We are asking parents to please check your child's hair regularly and treat when necessary.



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Jackie's Shopping Tour Saturday 7th November

Come on ladies, and support your school!
The fundraising committee has organised a shopping tour for the 7th November to raise money for Warringa Park School. It will be a jam packed day of shopping and fun!

Tickets are \$35 each and we have 38 tickets available, so you need to be quick. Staff and parents and carers will be given first option, relatives and friends will only be allocated tickets closer to the day.

The itinerary is as follows:

7:50am: Pick up at Warringa Park School
We will visit Classica, Toyworx, Dianna Ferrari, Capelle Groupe, Beaches, 1999, Natio, Faulty Towels and Newmans. Lunch will be at 11:50am at McDonalds.
5pm Drop off at Warringa Park School.

If you would like more information or would like to book a ticket, please call Abi Fraser on 9749 5774.

Awards

Section 1

Group 8 – Arios and Alice

Section 2

Group 12 – Victor, Brock

Group 13 – Corey

Group 24 – Jason, Mitchell

Group 25 – Kyle, Joshua, Bronte

Group 28 - Lachlan

We're on the Web!
www.warringapark.vic.edu.au

The school uniform shop will be open every **Wednesday 9-10am**. Order forms can be sourced from the school office, through your child's communication book or on the school website.

Canteen

Canteen will be operating every Friday unless notified. There will be no Special meal deals available until further notice. All standard menu items are available.

Father's Day Stall

The stall will be held on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September. Items will be available from \$1, ranging up to \$12 for the students to buy. We will send home further reminders before these dates.