



WARRINGA PARK SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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16th February 2009

If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please email
raser.abigail.s@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Dear Parents and Carers

First of all I would like to thank staff, students, parents and carers who organised a number of activities across the school to raise funds for the Bushfire Relief Fund. The casual dress day, the raffle held at Meet the Teacher night and the BBQ that was organised by the staff and students reminded our community at times like this that we join together to assist those who have experienced hardship and grief as a result of the terrible bush fires in Victoria.



Meet the Teacher Evening – this was a first for Warringa Park School and I am delighted to report to the community that 99 families attended and were able to enjoy a BBQ and a chat, but importantly were able to meet with their child's teacher. It also gave parents an opportunity to meet with other parents in their child's classroom which was appreciated by many in attendance. Our thanks to specialist s and ESO staff who organised the BBQ, sold raffle tickets and assisted in looking after the students whilst their parents were meeting with their teacher.

Volunteer's Induction – As I walk past the conference room I was thrilled to see this room absolutely full of volunteers who want to be involved in our school. 22 volunteers keen to make a difference is just fantastic and I thank each and every one of them for contributing their time. I look forward to seeing you around the school, getting to know you, and most important, to working with you so that our students and staff can achieve.

School Council Elections – it is my pleasure to announce to the school community that the school received 9 parent nominations for 6 vacancies in the parent member category. As a result in nominations exceeding the number of positions there will now be a ballot conducted to finalise the 6 parent positions on School Council. There were three nominations received for 3 DEECD vacancies. As nominations received for DEECD category equal the number of positions available, the following DEECD employees are duly elected to School Council. I would like to congratulate and welcome to School Council Marie **Hayes, Rick Bolton, and Bob Pilcher**. The ballot process for the parent member category on school council will commence this Friday and the parent community will have 7 days to vote. Please take the opportunity to vote as school councillors will represent all parents and carers. The last meeting of the existing school council will be held on Wednesday 18th February at 7:00pm.

DATES TO REMEMBER

School Council Meeting	Wed	18 th Feb
Fundraising Committee	Wed	18 th Feb
School Council Ballot opens		20 th Feb
School Council Ballot closes		27 th Feb
EMA applications close	Fri	27 th Feb

Term Dates

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

Currently the school website is under construction and will be up and running by the end of term 1. As the website gets closer to fruition we will be seeking feedback from staff and the school community regarding the website as it is a key communication platform for parents and carers who seek information about our school regarding programs, policies, newsletters etc.

I would just like to highlight a new whole school initiative. The Books R Us initiative is focused on our students and staff being engaged in literacy with the goal being each student at Warringa Park School will produce their own individual reading book. The commencement of this project can be seen in our foyer where there are a number of exhibits of student work under the Books R Us project. It is important that each of our students is engaged in literacy and is given every opportunity to develop their skills to read books and communicate with each other.

And I look forward to seeing whether Collingwood slaughter Richmond in the NAB cup series.

Have a great week

Colin Schot
Principal
schot.colin.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

Assistant Principal's Report

Thank you to all those parents who came along to the 'Meet the Teacher' Evening. It was a great opportunity for Jo Sadler and me to chat to many of you over a sausage and we look forward to working with you over the course of the year. During 2009 I will be working with the teaching staff to ensure that we have the best possible teaching and learning practice to ensure your child achieves excellent learning outcomes. In this first semester the school is having a 'Books are Us' focus and we will be making the most of every reading opportunity.



Home is a rich source of reading materials- books, magazines, newspapers, advertisements, labels so please make the most of every reading moment. It is important that children of all ages and levels of reading read regularly. A Warringa Park goal is to be safe school with a friendly and orderly learning environment because we believe that this is when the best learning occurs. Jo and the wellbeing team are here to support students who may be experiencing social or emotional difficulties. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, section leader or Jo Sadler (Assistant Principal) with any concern you may have. We look forward to building strong partnerships with parents during 2009 and celebrating very student achievement.

Marie Hayes and Joanne Sadler
Assistant Principals

AWARDS

Awards for group 8 for gaining 20 stars - Leigh, Summara and Trey Well Done!

School Uniform

Parents are reminded that all students are expected to wear school uniform. The uniform shop will be open Wednesdays 9am to 10am in the hall. Orders may be put into the office at any time.

Fundraising Committee – Wednesday 18th February 1:30pm

There will be a fundraising committee meeting this Wednesday 18th February in the parent common room. If you would like to help with this term's fundraising event, please come along.

Prep Parent Group

There will be a change to the Prep Parent Group meeting times. The group will not meet this Thursday as planned, please note the letter sent home to parents this week.

Volunteers

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Volunteer's induction. Your help is appreciated. Please send in your forms as soon as possible so you can be registered as a volunteer.

If you would like to volunteer, but were unable to attend last Friday, watch this space for more information regarding the next induction.

SCHOLASTIC
Book Fairs

**2009 BACK-TO-SCHOOL
CHILDREN'S BOOK SALE!**
THOUSANDS OF GREAT TITLES ON SALE!
ALL STOCK DISCOUNTED UP TO 90%!

When:
Thursday 26th and Friday 27th February
9.00am – 6.00pm
Saturday 28th February
9.00am – 1.00pm

Where:
Scholastic Book Fairs Warehouse
9-11 Northern Road, West Heidelberg

Don't miss out!
For more information Ph: 1800 024 840 or
email bookfairs@scholastic.com.au



To improve student outcomes in literacy and communication at our school, we are launching a whole school project titled 'Books are Us'.

Every student will be involved in this project by making a book that they can read.

Stay tuned for fortnightly updates and reports on achievements and celebrations about the project. An area in our foyer has been set up for the project. Feel free to have a browse or read some of the books on display.

REMINDER re SCHOOL BUS PICK UP AND DROP OFFS.

Mornings

Just a reminder to all parents/carers that students are to be ready at least 5 minutes before the scheduled pick up time.

If the bus has arrived on time, waited three minutes and has had no communication with the parent or guardian, the bus driver will move onto the next pick-up point. **IT MUST ALSO BE POINTED OUT THAT THE DRIVER IS NOT TO TOOT THE HORN.**

Afternoons

In the afternoons, if there is no adult to meet the student, the drivers have been instructed to wait 3 minutes after the designated time at the usual set down point. The bus will then continue on with the normal run. Parents can contact the bus and arrange to meet it en route to collect children. If no contact occurs between parents and the bus by the end of the run, bus staff will then contact the school and/student's emergency contact phone numbers regarding supervision of the student.

The onus is on parents to contact the school before 2.45 pm if they are unable to be present at the designated set down time.

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra presents Sidney Myer Free Concerts 2009: Wednesday 18th & Saturday 21st February 7pm. These free concerts are held outdoor at the Myer Music Bowl; they are a great opportunity to take children along to experience classical music in a relaxed setting. You can take a picnic and gates open at 4pm. See www.theartscentre.com.au for more information.