



WARRINGA PARK SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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

Dear Parents and Carers

What a fantastic week it has been for Warringa Park School. IT is my pleasure to announce to the school community that the National School's Pride Funding Program has given Warringa Park School \$125,000. These funds will be spent on redeveloping the junior outdoor learning areas and providing shade sails and synthetic grass to each of these areas. This will make a significant difference to the learning that occurs to these students and will enable these areas to be utilised much more than they are now because of the grass and the shade sails being installed. Over the holiday break, we had new synthetic grass installed in the old junior playground. This has made a significant difference to this playground and in the first week you can see the joy on our students faces as they are playing on this new surface. I also had the opportunity to take our School Council out this site on Monday before the School Council meeting. The School Councillors were extremely impressed with what has been achieved for this area and just how it has been enhanced by the laying of this new surface. The staff have been overjoyed by the fact that our students are now enjoying playing and interacting in this area that was once filled with mulch and concrete. I look forward to the junior areas being redeveloped so that these students as well can have an opportunity to learn outside their classrooms and for those classrooms to be connected to these outdoor learning areas.

The Anzac Day Ceremony – it is with great pleasure that I inform the school community that this was an extremely moving service that was put together by Bob Pilcher, who is one of our Education Support Officers at Warringa Park School. Anzac Day is increasingly becoming important to our community as we remember the people who served and died in wars for our country. I had the pleasure of reading a poem, which I have included in this newsletter for you.

School Motto – I would like to remind all parents that the competition re finding a school motto closes at the end of April, so if you haven't thought about submitting a motto, if you have one, please forward that to Abi Fraser.

The Compass Program Information Evening – I would like to thank Ashwini for organising this evening to inform parents about the bridge program that some of our students will be involved in. It is always great to see parents come in to the school to view the programs and to listen to what their children are being involved in to further their learning. My thanks to those parents who attended this evening and to the staff who helped to make this night successful.

School Uniform – It is important that all students who attend Warringa Park School are in school uniform. School Uniform is expected to be worn by students from Prep to Year 12. At last week's meeting of school council, the School Council spent considerable time discussing the implementation of a compulsory school uniform at Warringa Park School. The council voted unanimously to move towards a compulsory school uniform and in the coming weeks, further information will be forwarded to the school community for your input in this matter.

Warringa Park School, a smoke free workplace – I would like to remind all parents and carers and visitors to Warringa Park School that Warringa Park is a smoke free workplace and that smoking is prohibited on the grounds of Warringa Park School. I am asking all parents and carers and visitors to the school to observe this policy.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mother's Day Stall	Thur 7 th May
School Council Meeting	Wed 13 th May
Queen's Birthday Holiday	Mon 8 th Jun
Curriculum Day	Fri 12 th Jun

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

Designated Transport Zone – All parents and carers who live within Warringa Park School’s designated transport zone are entitled to free transport to and from school. If any parent is considering moving address it is advisable to contact the office to see if the new address resides within Warringa Park’s Designated Transport Zone. If you are 500 metres outside of the designated transport zone or even 10 metres outside of this zone, you will not be entitled to the free transport to and from school. So as a matter of caution, if you are moving address within the local area, it is advisable to check with the office to see whether you are still within the Designated Transport Zone. If you have any queries in relation to this, please contact myself or our office staff.

Absences – For the month of March, the absence rate has stayed the same as February. 78 students were absent in the month of March, but did not bring a note to explain their absence. It is most important that if a student is absent, the parent / carer sends in or emails a written explanation or calls the school.

ANZAC Day – D.Hunter (A veteran of Shaggy Ridge with the 2/12 Battalion in WW2.

I saw a kid marchin’ with medals on his chest.
He marched alongside the diggers marching six abreast.
He knew that it was ANZAC Day – he walked along with pride.
He did his best to keep in step with the diggers by his side.

And when the march was over the kid, rather tired.
A Digger said “Whose medals, son?” to which the kid replied:
“They belonged to daddy, but he did not come back.
He died up in New Guinea on the lonely jungle track”.

The kid looked rather sad then and a tear came to his eye.
The Digger said “Don’t cry my son and I will tell you why.
Your Daddy marched with us today – all the blooming way.
We diggers know that he was there – it’s like that on ANZAC Day”.

The kid looked rather puzzled and didn’t understand,
But the digger went on talking and started to wave his hand.
“For this great land we live in, there is a price we have to pay
For we all love fun and merriment in this country where we live.
The price was that some soldier his precious life must give.

For you to go to school my lad and worship God at will.
Someone had to pay the price so the diggers paid the bill.
Your Daddy died for us my son – for all the good things good and true.
I wonder if you understand the things I have said to you”.

The kid looked up at the digger as just for a little while
And with a changed expression, said, with a lovely smile
“I know my Dad marched here today - this is Anzac Day.
I know he did, I know he did, all the bloomin’ way”.



Have a great week,

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



Awards

Daniel Basile, Room 22, Section 3 was awarded a classroom certificate "for greatly improved handwriting" this week 21/4/09.

Room 14 Star of the Week. - Darren Spackman - awarded for working hard and always helping others.

EMA

Unfortunately, there has been a problem with the EMA payments. This error is currently being fixed and you should receive your EMA cheque / direct deposit in Early May. Sorry for the inconvenience.



Junior School Council News

An afternoon tea was held in Term 1 with the 2008 Junior School Councillors to acknowledge their contributions to Warringa Park School over the last 12 months. Colin presented the following students with certificates: Haydon Cooper, Sarah McGiffin, Crystal Hinchey, Chloe Caterino, Kyra Toohey, Rachel Martin and Emily Cherukara.

Student representatives talked about what being on Junior School Council involved.

'We learnt to be leaders and help younger students. We had papers to go in our folders. We learnt about different work such as watching what we do and being responsible. Being leaders of the school we worked with other students. We worked in partnership. We liked being on Junior School Council because we talked about setting up the Junior School Playground. We raised money for charities by organizing different fund raising activities.'

Students also made a special presentation to say thank you to Heather Pilcher for helping with Junior School Council at Warringa Park School.

We are currently working with 38 students who have nominated themselves for Junior School Council in 2009 and elections will be held on Thursday 30 April. It is very exciting reading the overviews of students who have nominated. We wish all nominees the best of luck for voting day.

Therese Bourke and Denise Litton

Werribee Swimming Club

Werribee Swimming Club in conjunction with the Wyndham Access for All Abilities Program would like to begin a new swimming squad. The squad will welcome anyone with a reasonable level of swimming experience.

The aim of the squad is to provide an opportunity for anyone who would like to develop their swimming skills, but might not feel confident enough to try out a more advanced squad, to join in and gain the many benefits of swimming. We will also train together for specific events such as aquathons, triathlons or open water swims.

Swimming works your whole body, improving cardiovascular conditioning, muscle strength, endurance, posture and flexibility, all at the same time!

We are hoping to run this program on Tuesday nights from 7pm-8pm.

If you like further information or interested in joining in, please contact Paul Taylor, the Head Coach at Werribee Swimming Club on: 0411 161 147

Crossing Warringa Crescent

Parents and carers, please take the time to cross Warringa Crescent with the crossing guard that is provided by Wyndham Council. Crossing the correct way will model good behaviour for your child and teach them independence.

Group 15 are requesting bits of wool for craft projects. Any type or colour, the thicker the better. Please label Group 15. Thank you



PLANTS FOR SALE

The Nursery at Warringa Park School is having a special sale for Mother's Day and all are welcome.

The sale of plants will be from 29th April 2009 to 8th May 2009.

We appreciate and thank all parents, carers, friends, relatives and staff that have supported the nursery.

Canteen

This week's Canteen special is a Pie and a drink for \$5.

Name: _____ Room No. _____

Pie plus Water Strawberry milk Chocolate milk.

Please circle your choice.

All other menu items available.

Please note that orders **cannot** be accepted after 9:45am.

Tanya Brogden.
Canteen manager.