Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the 2016 school year at Warringa Park School. I hope the holidays were relaxing and enjoyable. Our staff are planning a year full of exciting educational experiences that will provide the best possible learning outcomes for your child.

I was delighted to visit every classroom yesterday and see the students actively engaged in their learning. I thank the staff for their dedicated efforts in ensuring classrooms were well organised and ready for students to commence the year. We were pleased to welcome 22 preps and their parents as well as many other new students to learning centres across the school. It was great to see so many parents attend the new parent’s morning tea yesterday. The partnership with parents is important and highly valued as together we can achieve great learning. We were fortunate to commence the year with not too much change to the bus runs. Wendy Richter has done an excellent job of notifying parents of any changes to routes and pick up and drop off times. We do try and accommodate parent’s needs if this is at all possible.

The school welcomes the new faces to the Warringa Park School team. You will have an opportunity to meet all the staff at the ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening on Thursday February 11th so please keep that date free in your diary. I’m sure these young people will be great asset to our school.

The new staff include:
**Teachers:** Tania Behan, Alexandra Cochran, Tegan Mensinga, Erin Holloway, Benita Compton, Sonia Forsberg, Katie Lovegrove, Kasey Dixon, Douglas McLeod – Dryden, Derek Wilson.

**Education Support:** Vanita Natteri, Leisl Russell, Lucija Beaton, Leanne Tormey, Maree Meadows

Many works have been undertaken at each of the campuses over the holiday period and we’re very proud of the environment we are providing for our students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alison Rooney and Andrew Warner who worked tirelessly over the break to ensure these works were completed.

**Compulsory School Uniform**

Parents and carers are reminded that all students need to be in school uniform every day that they attend school. If students turn up to school out of uniform they will be provided the uniform required to enable them to comply with the schools uniform policy. I was delighted to see all the Later Years students arrive yesterday in their uniforms. They looked fabulous and were extremely pleased with themselves.

**Student Absence**

It is vital that our students attend school every day if they are not sick. The more students attend the more they learn. The more they attend the more they will feel comfortable and connected at school and the more likely they are to have a positive attitude to school and learning. We had several students attend school every day in 2015 and we would like to do better in 2016. Please let the school know if your child is going to be or has been absent for any reason.

**Student Valuables**

Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Training does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it has no capacity to pay for any loss or damage to such property. I am asking parents to discourage students from bringing any unnecessary or particularly valuable items to school. Your cooperation in ensuring that this occurs is appreciated.

**Sunsmart**

In Terms 1 and 4 all students are expected to wear a hat whilst playing outside or on school excursions. No hat, no play. Students who do not have a hat will be required to stay in a shaded area. On days of extreme heat students will be asked to stay in their classrooms.

Principal’s Newsletter
29th January 2016

Fri 12th February & Fri 27th May no students at school
Healthy Eating Policy
Warringa Park School has a Healthy Eating Policy. Parents are asked not to bring takeaway food to the school for their child. Please give your children sandwiches or a healthy alternative. Water bottles are allowed in class and water is freely available at the school. No soft drinks or energy drinks are permitted.

School Council Elections
In this newsletter you will be receiving information on the School Council election process that will commence on 8th February. There are two parent vacancies on the School Council and I ask you to give every consideration in nominating for one of these vacancies on School Council.

Regards,
Marie Hayes
Acting Principal

From the Assistant Principal….

Welcome back to a new year. I hope you have had a lovely and relaxed holiday. It was wonderful meeting all of the students at the buses on Thursday morning as they arrived at school. We are fortunate to have the bus service providers supporting our students and parents every morning and afternoon. Staff at the school are working collaboratively with these companies to ensure the safe passage of students to and from the school. We encourage all parents to be familiar with the school's transport policy and the student code of conduct. If you don't have a copy notify the office and we will make sure it is sent to you.

Each bus has a chaperone who supervises students during transit. Students are picked up and dropped off from their permanent home address or designated bus stops. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that designated times of pick up and drop off are adhered to and that students will be met by the parent/caregiver as they disembark from the bus. If, upon arrival in the morning, there is no one at the student's bus stop, the driver will wait 3 minutes before continuing on the run. 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 enroute 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. Please provide your child's bus chaperone with phone numbers regarding supervision of the student.

If you want your child to independently walk to and from the bus you must provide the school with written confirmation of this. Parents/caregivers are asked to talk to their child about appropriate behaviour during transit and help manage inappropriate behaviour. Please note that parents/caregivers maybe required to seek alternative travel arrangements if their child endangers the safety of other travellers.

Parents are asked to contact the bus chaperone directly if a morning pickup needs to be cancelled because of illness/absence. Parents must contact the school before 2:45pm if they are unable to be present at the designed pick up time. Contact phone numbers have been provided to parents/caregivers but if you haven't got this information please contact the school office. The school has provided your child's bus chaperone with your contact numbers unless you have indicated that you did not want this to happen. If you have any issues around bus travel please contact the school transport coordinator Wendy Richter in the office or Dehila Dawson (Assistant Principal) on 97455774.

I am looking forward to another year of working closely with our Warringa Park School community. Thank you for your continuous involvement in your child's learning.

Dehila Dawson
Acting AP

Student & Family Support Team

Welcome everyone to Term 1 and we hope you all have had an enjoyable holiday. The team is looking forward to working with the staff, students and families over the year.

The team has a focus on providing both individual and group support to assist the development of student resiliency and wellbeing. We also work with community and government agencies to provide support and referrals to students and families.

In Term 1 we have a focus on student leadership and commence elections for the Student Representative Council. If your child is keen to develop their leadership skills please encourage them to try out for the SRC. We will also commence personal development groups including the Shared Leadership Program in the Middle Years and this year the SEA (Social Skills) Program will be delivered to selected Year 10 girls. Both of these programs are supported by the City of Wyndham Youth Services.

We encourage families to make contact with the Wellbeing Team over the term to discuss any needs or supports they may require. We are able to assist with referrals and also provide information related to parent programs. The My Time Parenting Program is run in partnership with Tweddle Child & Family Health Service and is a valuable resource for parents. If you would like further information please email bourke.therese.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

We look forward to working with you all over the year and please make contact with the team members at anytime to discuss the wellbeing needs of your child.

Jo Sadler  Assistant Principal Wellbeing
Therese Bourke  Wellbeing Team
Joan Kurtis  Wellbeing Team
Nicole Geehman  School Nurse
Transition (Beyond School) Information Evening

Dear parents and caregivers,

You are invited to attend this information evening to hear about the transition process. This would be a great opportunity to learn about this process and perhaps have some of your questions answered.

This is a compulsory evening for all year 12 students and their parents. It will also be extremely useful for all years 9, 10, 11 students and parents, please take the time to be informed.

When: Tuesday 16\textsuperscript{th} of February

Time: 7pm

Where: Warringa Park School - 81 Warringa Cres. Hoppers Crossing

Agenda

- Overview of process
- Responsibilities of all stakeholders
- Funding
- Options for:
  - Further education e.g. TAFE
  - Employment and training
  - Community based programs/ Day programs e.g. Mambourin

Question time/ Documentation handed out and signed for DHHS for Funding.

Please contact Nancy Ishak on 0457 507 246 or Monica Cooper on 0400 190 397 if you have any further questions.
What is a school council and what does it do?
All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

- A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- An optional Community member category. Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.
Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council? No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. Forms are available from the office.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact Marie for further information. Nomination forms are available from the general office.
Hot Weather... a message from DET

- Melbourne and greater Victoria will experience extremely high temperatures for the back to school period.
- Parents and/or guardians are reminded that on hot days it is important never to leave children alone in a car.
- Temperatures inside a parked car during summer can be around 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the outside temperature.
- Leaving children in hot cars, even for a moment, can result in serious injury or death.
- Young children’s smaller body size and underdeveloped nervous system places them at a much greater risk of life-threatening heatstroke, dehydration and other serious health risks.
- If a parent or guardian is travelling with a child to school, never leave them alone in a parked car, not even for one moment.

Warringa Park School Council
Election Process and Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notice of election and call for nominations</td>
<td>Monday 8th February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing date for nominations</td>
<td>Monday 15th February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be displayed</td>
<td>Tuesday 16th February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed</td>
<td>Thursday 25th February 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close of ballot</td>
<td>Friday 4th March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote count</td>
<td>Monday 7th March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declaration of ballot</td>
<td>Monday 7th March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First council meeting to co-opt Community members</td>
<td>Monday 21st March 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(the principal will preside)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second council meeting to elect office bearers</td>
<td>Monday 21st March 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Five things you need to know about the NDIS in VIC

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the new way of providing individualised support for people with disability, their families and carers. The NDIS is the insurance that gives us all peace of mind. Disability could affect anyone and having the right support makes a big difference.

The NDIS provides eligible people a flexible, whole-of-life approach to the support needed to pursue their goals and aspirations and participate in daily life.

1. What

The Commonwealth and Victorian governments have agreed on how the NDIS will be rolled out across Victoria. In Victoria, the NDIS will be operating state-wide by July 2019. The NDIS already has a trial site in the Barwon region.

2. When

The NDIS is a big change and will be progressively rolled out across Victoria over three years. People currently receiving support through the Commonwealth and Victorian Government will be moving to the NDIS at different times depending on the type of support they are receiving and where they live.

3. Where

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 July 2016</th>
<th>30 June 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North East Melbourne</td>
<td>Central Highlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loddon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outer East Melbourne</td>
<td>Inner East Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovens Murray</td>
<td>Inner Gippsland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western District</td>
<td>Bayside Peninsula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hume Moreland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Melbourne</td>
<td>Goulburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brimbank Melton</td>
<td>Mallee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Melbourne</td>
<td>Outer Gippsland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. How

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is working closely with relevant Commonwealth and Victorian government departments to ensure there is a smooth transition to the NDIS for new and existing clients, their families, carers and providers.

5. What can I do to prepare?

Before your area transitions, if you currently access services you will be contacted to discuss the process of entering the NDIS. If you are not currently receiving support, check the information and resources available at www.ndis.gov.au/vic

Visit our website at www.ndis.gov.au/vic

Call us on 1800 800 110
MyTime @

MyTime Locations

Avondale Heights
Time 9.30 to 11.30am
Monday
Where Rhonda Davis Centre
54 Lakes Street
Avondale Heights

Sunshine
Time 9.30am to 11.30am
Tuesday
Where Sunshine Special Development School
Ivy Crt Sunshine
** Please enter carpark from Mounsey street.

Wyndham Vale
Time 9am to 11am
Tuesday
Where Manor Lakes College
2 - 50 Minindee Road
Wyndham Vale, Vic 3024

Point Cook
Time 10am to 12pm
Wednesday
Where Featherbrook Community Centre
33-35 Windsor Dr
Point Cook, Vic 3030

Werribee Gold
Time 9.30am to 11.30am
Thursday
Where Wyndham Park Community Centre
53-57 Kookaburra Ave
Werribee, Vic 3030

Williamstown
Time 10am to 12pm
Friday
Where 83 Cecil Street
Williamstown

What is MyTime?
MyTime is a peer support group for parents and carers, supporting children under 16 years of age with a disability, developmental delay or chronic medical condition.

Who is MyTime for?
Parents mums, dads, grandparents, foster parents, or a primary carer receiving or applying for Carers Allowance.

What will I get out of MyTime?
- Meet other parents and carers in similar circumstances
- Share experiences in an informal setting
- A choice of topics and activities relevant to your needs
- Information resources and services available to you, how and where to access information.
- A facilitator to support, co-ordinate activities and guide group discussion
- A play helper to provide activities for the children whilst in your care and supervision
- Parent discussion
- Coffee mornings
- Group outings
- 8 sessions every school term

What do members say?
"This has been a fantastic experience for me and my children. The group has been helpful and I don't feel lost on my journey"

"I recommend MyTime to every family who has a newly diagnosed child and who is looking for community support"

The MyTime program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. MyTime is coordinated nationally by the Parenting Research Centre.
Be sun smart!

A healthy balance of the sun’s ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health. Too much UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Over exposure to UV during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in future skin cancer risk. Too little UV from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is necessary for the development and maintenance of healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Warringa Park School aims to achieve a healthy UV exposure balance for students and staff and as a SunSmart school takes measures from September to April (when UV levels reach 3 and above) to provide sun protection. Please encourage your child to remember to:

Slip! Slop! Slap! Seek! Slide!
1. **Slip** on clothing that covers as much skin as possible (no singlet tops)
2. **Slop** on SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen (remember to reapply it before going outside)
3. **Slap** on a wide brimmed hat that shades the head, face, neck and ears
4. **Seek** shade
5. **Slide** on some wrap around sunglasses (labelled AS 1067) – if practical

All students are required to wide brimmed hat when outside in term 1. Teachers will be reminding students to wear their hats and to apply sunscreen before recess times. Parents are asked to make sure their child has a hat at school each day. Warringa Park School hats can be purchased for a cost of $11.50. The SunSmart UV Alert is available to assist with sun protection.

**NOTE:** The school provides some sunscreen which is the Coles brand SPF 50. Please let your student’s teacher know if you child CANNOT use this product. Marie

---

Student Attendance —It’s Vital!!

Research shows that students who attend school regularly learn better, feel more connected to school and peers and are generally more likely to succeed at School. In line with this research the Education Department has for many years emphasised the **“IT’S NOT OK TO BE AWAY”** campaign.

At Warringa Park we encourage parents and carer givers to support their children by ensuring school attendance and by having a positive attitude towards coming to school. We realize however that there are occasions such as illness when students are unable to come to school. On these days please ensure that you NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR THE CLASSROOM TEACHER. Some parents tell bus drivers and chaperones but it is important that you NOTIFY THE SCHOOL AS WELL.

**Teacher parent regular Communication:**

Warringa School values highly parent input and encourages regular communication between school and home. In 2013 daily communication will no longer be via the communication diaries. The School is building a Communication Application for use on the IPad that will be available from the App Store. It is hoped that this App will be ready for use by the end of term 1. It is anticipated that this App will make communications far more efficient and affective.

In the interim classroom teachers will still be in regular contact with home via email, the I Diary App or another method nominated by the class teacher. Parents and carer givers are encouraged to maintain regular communication with their child’s class either by email or other method during Term 1.
Warringa Park School is extremely proud of the ongoing commitment of our School Community to educational excellence and the creation of outstanding possibilities for our students.

In line with this commitment our stated values are

**RESPECT, LEARNING** and **WORKING TOGETHER**

Students, staff and our School Council believe these values best represent the ethos of our school committed to displaying behaviours that demonstrate this commitment.

Our goals, behaviours and language will reflect these values and we ask our parent community to embrace and support them.

And in line with the **VALUES of RESPECT, LEARNING and WORKING TOGETHER.**

Our student and staff over arching expectations for behaviour are

**RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS**

**BE A GOOD LEARNER**

**WORK WELL TOGETHER**

**BECOME A FOSTER CARER**

You can make a difference

All sorts of people make great Foster Carers.
They are tradesmen, nurses, sales reps, shop assistants, teachers etc.
They are couples, singles from different cultural backgrounds, with or without their own children.
They are people who have the desire to give a child a safe and welcoming place to live.

Ph 9396 7400
anglicarevic.org.au/foster-care
Warringa updates!

**Dates for the diary:**

**Term 1:** 28th January-24th March 2016
- No Preps at school: February 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th
- 11 Feb: Meet the Teacher Evening
- 12 Feb: Curriculum Day—not students at school
- 15 Feb: School Council meets
- 14th March: Labour Day holiday
- 8th March: School Photos
- 15th March: Post School Expo: 3:30-6pm
- 23rd March: Harmony Day

**Term 2:** 11th April—24th June 2016

**School Tour Dates:**

**Prep/Early Years**
- 10th March, 21st April, 26th May, 21st July, 25th August,
- 15th September, 20th October, 17th November

**Middle Years**
- 19th May, 2nd June, 28th July, 1st September,
- 27th October, 24th November

**Newsletter and Basic Information on iPads**

The “Warringa Park School” app can be downloaded onto students iPads by going to the “App Store” on the iPad. Once the app is downloaded you can access the newsletters under the “newsletters” tab. A list of newsletters will appear; just select the one you want to view. A Basic Information Package is also available under “Documents and Forms”

**Uniform Shop Opening times**

The uniform shop is open at the main campus every Thursday 9-11am. At Warringa Park uniform is **compulsory** for our students. Please ensure your student is in the correct uniform including a blue polo top with a logo. Students must wear either a navy bucket or wide brimmed school hat in Terms 1 and 4.

**To keep our students safe, please:**

- Do not drive into the school between 8:45-9:10am or 2:45-3:10pm. Our buses arrive and depart during this time and it is imperative that the driveway is kept clear
- When walking, please enter and leave the school ONLY through the centre pedestrian pathway. It is very dangerous to walk on the driveway as it is difficult for cars to see pedestrians.

We appreciate your compliance with these safety measures as it ensures the safety of our students.