Werribee Primary School is...

A supportive and diverse learning community pursuing excellence in the development of skills, behaviours and attitudes in education, so that students are empowered to interact positively throughout their lifetime, with confidence, creativity and enjoyment.

Our shared values are • Courtesy • Cooperation • Respect • Responsibility

Our education priorities are • Literacy • Numeracy • Social Competency

DATES TO REMEMBER:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 4</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Wear Something for Christmas (Hamper or gold coin donation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Twilight Working Bee – 3:10 – 4:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parent Helper’s Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Payment due for Year 5/6 Adventure Park excursion - $32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Year 7, 2014 Orientation Day for all State Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014 EMA applications processed – 9am – 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Day 3, 2014 Prep Transition – 9:30am – 1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Walk 2 School Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All library books need to be returned by today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Adventure Park end of year excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prep excursion – Royal Botanical Gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>End of Year Family Picnic/BBQ/Raffle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 17th December</td>
<td>Class Parties: Preps – Beach party at school, Year 1/2 – Cinemas, Year 3/4’s – Big Day Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6 Graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; December</td>
<td>Term 4 Ends – 1:10pm finish today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; January 2014</td>
<td>First Day of Term 1, 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEXT WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER WILL BE THE LAST DAY FOR CANTEEN THIS YEAR. THE CANTEEN WILL NOT BE OPEN ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER.

Next Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December will be the last day of school banking for the year.

FOUND: BAG OF TOYS. HAS BEEN IN LOST PROPERTY FOR SOME TIME NOW. IF YOU THINK THESE ITEMS BELONG TO YOU, PLEASE CALL IN TO THE OFFICE TO COLLECT THEM.

Contact the school

Need to contact your child’s teacher or pass on feedback or suggestions to the school?

Address: 2 Deutgam Street, Werribee 3030
Phone: 9742 6659
Web: [www.werribeeps.vic.edu.au](http://www.werribeeps.vic.edu.au)
Email: werribee.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Principal’s Report

2014 Class Structure Update
The following information is the latest update to our class structure for 2014. We will now be operating with 21 classes.

- Foundation (Prep) = 3 classes
- Year 1/2 = 6 classes
- Year 3/4 = 6 classes
- Year 5 = 3 classes
- Year 6 = 3 classes

The average number of students in our Foundation (Prep) to Year 2 classes will be approximately 21 and across our Year 3 to Year 6 classes, approximately 24. At this stage our largest class will be 26 and our smallest 19. Please note that these numbers may change due to increases or decreases in student enrolments.

Mobile Phones and Other Electronic Devices
Werribee Primary School recognises that electronic devices are an accepted and invaluable part of our modern lifestyle. We have developed a policy which reflects the changing views and realities around the use of electronic devices.

The increased ownership of devices such as mobile phones, digital cameras, MP3 players/iPods, iPhones and hand-held electronic games requires that school administrators, teachers, students and parents take steps to ensure that these devices are used responsibly. Werribee Primary School acknowledges that some students may need to be in possession of a mobile phone at school for reasons relating to their safety travelling to and from school.

The school recognises that, when used responsibly, mobile phones and electronic devices can be useful tools to assist with communications and safety, as well as the development of academic and social skills.

However, when these devices are misused by students, they can be very disruptive to teaching and learning and in some cases cause harm.

The aims of our policy are:

- To ensure the use of mobile phones and other electronic devices does not interfere with the effective conduct of the school and classroom activities.
- To protect the privacy of individuals and minimise opportunities for harassment.
- To prevent access by students to inappropriate information and images.
- To ensure that procedures are in place to minimise theft and damage of mobile phones and other electronic devices.

To read the entire policy please download it from our website under the About Us > School Policies menu or click here.

Facts about Head Lice
Head lice will be a problem from time to time in Werribee Primary School and it is important to work together as a school community to minimise the frustration caused by the problem.

If your child has head lice – tell anyone who has had head to head contact with them. Half the people who have head lice never scratch their head. If you don’t know about the head lice then they don’t know to look and treat for head lice.
Head lice are not fussy about the heads they live on – they make no consideration for income, ethnicity or hair colour. They live their entire lives on human heads and their entire food and water source is supplied from the scalp.
Head lice have been around for many thousands of years and they will not be eradicated.
Head lice don’t fly or jump – they crawl from head to head. This often happens when people play or work closely together.
Head lice (Pediculosis humanus capitis) are small (3-4mm) wingless insects, which are common particularly in school aged children. Head lice are a common problem in Australian schools and exact figures on the size of the problem vary.
Eggs can be difficult to see; use a strong light (such as sunlight) and look on the hair shafts. If you are not sure whether an object you find is a head louse egg, try sliding it up the hair shaft using your fingers. Eggs are usually quite difficult to move, whereas dandruff and other items slide easily.
Information pamphlets about treatment and controlling head lice are available from the school office or visit http://www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice/

Student Reports
Our teachers are currently putting the finishing touches on to the end of year Student Reports. Your child’s report will be sent home next Friday 13th December. Please contact the office if you require multiple copies of your child’s report.

Enjoy your week.

David Quinn
Principal

Nude Food News
The Best Nude Food Grade Awards were presented by Day Day Bleh Dah Moo and Kye Arbaci at assembly this week. The winning grades were:

Prep P – 58% 1/2 G – 41% 3/4 H - 65% 5/6 S - 50%

Well done to 3/4 H this week with 65% of their grade with nude food. They are the winners of the nude food trophy!

There are only 2 more weeks of nude food left for the year, so let’s make an effort to pack a nude food lunchbox. As a community we can reduce the amount of rubbish found around the school and the amount of rubbish going to landfill.

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep P</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>1/2 C</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>5/6 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>1/2 M</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>5/6 F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 G</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>3/4 H</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>5/6 L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 I</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>3/4 J</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>5/6 P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 K</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>3/4 T</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>5/6 R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4 C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fact: A newspaper takes 3 weeks to decompose. Remember to reduce, reuse, rethink and recycle!
2014 PARENT PAYMENT & CONTRIBUTION FORM
These forms will be distributed to families on Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} December and cover the costs of the following items for each child:

- Essential Educational Items (such as pencils, exercise books, glue sticks etc).
- Optional Extras (pre-payment of items such as: Athletics carnival, and camp deposits – where applicable).
- Voluntary Financial Contributions (optional payments for improvements in: Library resourcing, buildings and grounds, ICT and curriculum).

As outlined on the Parent Payment and Contribution Form, payment would be appreciated by Thursday 19\textsuperscript{th} December, 2013; however it is not required until 28\textsuperscript{th} January 2014 (the first day of term 1, 2014 for staff only). Please be aware that the office will also be open on Tuesday 28\textsuperscript{th} January between 9am and 4:30pm to receive payments. Please contact our office staff if you have any queries about these payments and processes.

Some changes have been made to the way the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is administered. We therefore encourage parents who are holders of a Health Care Card to please see our office staff for assistance in processing their EMA. **You must have a Health Care Card which is valid first day of term 1 2014 (28\textsuperscript{th} January).** We are offering opportunities for EMA forms to be processed on Tuesday 3\textsuperscript{rd}, Thursday 5\textsuperscript{th} and Tuesday 10\textsuperscript{th} December between the hours 8am – 4pm, please be aware that these forms can also be processed at any time.

**However, PLEASE NOTE:** The office will not be accepting payments and EMA processing on the final day of term 4, Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} December.

CANTEEN ROSTER – TERM 4, 2013
Wed 11\textsuperscript{th} December	Tammy Brennan, Nicola Saxon-Jones, Judy Puli, Pauline Oakes

CANTEEN HELPERS NEEDED FOR 2014
We are in desperate need for help in the canteen next year. If you can spare 1 ½ hours, even just a couple of times a Term to assist with preparing the lunch orders and serving on a Wednesday, please contact the office.

We also need “Team Leaders,” especially for 1\textsuperscript{st} Term 2014. The role of Team Leader includes collation of orders and preparation of food whilst working with a team of 3 or 4 other volunteers. Team Leaders are required from 9am until 2:10pm on a Wednesday. We currently have two Team Leaders who are unable to continue next year at this stage. Ideally, we would like to have three team leaders on a rotating roster, so you would only have to be available for 3 Wednesday's per Term. If we cannot get enough volunteers, the canteen may have to close until we have sufficient assistance. Please speak to Rhonda or Janeane in the office for more information.

We need your help!

On behalf of the Ride2School program, we would like to invite you, as a parent within Wyndham City Council, to participate in their travel to school survey.

Your responses will help us better understand the concerns of parents of school aged children across Victoria. We are keen to hear from all parents, whether your children are driven, walk, or cycle to school.

For your chance to win an iPad, simply complete the following 5 minute survey by 24 December 2013: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R2Sparent)

The winner will be notified by email and announced on the Ride2School website in January 2014.

Soft Plastics Recycling

Thank you for recycling your soft plastics at school. Please note that we will not be taking any more after Friday 6\textsuperscript{th} December.

Thank you

Helen Johnson
## WPS Community Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>December 9</th>
<th>December 10</th>
<th>December 11</th>
<th>December 12</th>
<th>December 13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>2013 Year 6 Orientation Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>Walk to School Wednesday</strong></td>
<td><strong>Year Prep / Playgroup Excursion – Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne</strong></td>
<td><strong>REPORTS GO HOME by today</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/9</td>
<td>WPS-‘A Day in the Life’- TRANSITION DAY</td>
<td>Last day for Christmas Raffle Donations of goods</td>
<td>Year 5/6 Adventure Park Excursion</td>
<td>End of Year BBQ, Picnic &amp; Raffle Draw 5:00 – 7:00pm on Oval / Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp; F/Canteen Helpers Lunch</td>
<td><strong>Day 4 -Prep Transition 9:30-1:30</strong></td>
<td><strong>LIBRARY –ALL books/equipment returned</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Council</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30pm start &amp; 7pm Dinner</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>December 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>Class Parties</strong></td>
<td><strong>Last Day Term Four</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prep Beach Party</td>
<td>-Assembly in Gym</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Year 1/2 Cinemas</td>
<td>12:45- 10 Finish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Year 3/4 Big Day Out</td>
<td>2014 School &amp; House Captains announced at Assembly</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>YEAR 6 GRADUATION EVENING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### December 16
- **Week 11**
- **Special TOY DRIVE**
- Assembly – 9:05am in Gym
- Followed by the 2013 Beep Test Finale in Gym

### December 17
- **Class Parties**
  - Prep Beach Party
  - Year 1/2 Cinemas
  - Year 3/4 Big Day Out

### December 18

### December 19

### December 20
- **Last Day Term Four**
- -Assembly in Gym
- 12:45- 10 Finish
- 2014 School & House Captains announced at Assembly
Walk to School November Competition

During the last 2 weeks of November, Grade 1/2I ran a Walk to School competition. This involved recording how many children in every grade came to school in an active way (walking, riding a bike, etc) each day. In first place was 1/2C, with an average of 54% of children coming to school in an active way. In second place was 3/4H, with an average of 53.8%. In equal third place were 1/2G and 1/2R with an average of 40.6%.

Children in 1/2C received a certificate for the grade and an icy pole each. Those in second and third place received a certificate for their grade. Congratulations!

Next Wednesday, 11 December, is the last Walk to School Day for the year. See if you can walk to school or leave the car a couple of blocks away and walk the last section. Ride your bike. Meet Miss Ilmer at Chirnside Park at 8:30am and walk to school from there.

Are you interested in being a part of the schools ICT committee?

We are calling on the wider school community to become involved on our eSmart committee.

What is eSmart?
An eSmart school is a school where the smart, safe and responsible use of information and communications technology is a cultural norm. Students, teachers and the wider school community are equipped to embrace the best these technologies can offer, while being savvy about the pitfalls.

Students are regularly involved in developing and delivering information on the smart, safe and responsible use of technologies to a variety of audiences and are taught a suite of social and emotional skills.

In eSmart schools, relationships are strong and supportive and learning outcomes are enhanced. Bullying and cyberbullying are therefore less likely to thrive.

A committee drawn from all areas of the school community provides strong and effective organisation to guide implementation of systems, structures and planning to ensure a school reaches and maintains eSmart status. (Source: https://www.esmartschools.org.au/Pages/WhatsAeSmartSchool.aspx)

Meetings will be held monthly (times and dates yet to be set). If you believe that this is of interest to you and you would like to know more please fill in the form below and return it to Miss Scarrott in room 19.

Thank you for your interest
ICT committee

--------------------------------------------
| /scissors |
| /scissors |
| /scissors |
--------------------------------------------

eSmart Committee Expression of interest
Yes I am interested in joining the eSmart committee, please contact me with further information

Name: _______________________________ Contact number: ____________

Child/rens names: __________________________ Class: ____________
Merry Christmas

Our final fundraiser for this year is our Christmas Raffle but we need your help! On the 6th of December we will be having a special day, where children get to dress in their normal school uniform along with some Christmas items, e.g. reindeer ears, Santa hat, Christmas T-shirt etc.

Students, who dress up, need to bring a gold coin donation or an appropriate item, which can be used to make into Christmas hampers for the raffle prizes. These items can include Christmas decorations, chocolates, biscuits, novelties, books, toys or anything you wouldn’t mind winning yourself and others would love to receive!

The raffle tickets will be sent out soon, and will cost $1.00 each. They must be returned to school by Thursday the 12th of December so we can draw the prizes at our end of year picnic on Friday the 13th of December.

Good luck everyone and thank you for your assistance.

Parents & Friends Committee

FOR SALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Boys Mountain Bike</th>
<th>24” Giant</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Excellent Condition</th>
<th>$100</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Girls/Small Ladies Mountain Bike</td>
<td>26” Giant</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>Excellent Condition</td>
<td>$120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Jo – 0402 100 801
COMMUNITY NOTICES

SERIES 3 – MELBOURNE ACES BASEBALL
Each home series is themed and our themes this week are:
Friday 6th December @7:35PM: Trades Night (tradesmen receive $5 entry if they are wearing their fluro's)
Saturday 7th December @2:05PM & 5:05PM: Multicultural Day
Sunday 8th December @2:05PM: Family Sunday (Hobsons Bay Day)

www.melbourneaces.com.au

United Sole Parents of Wyndham Invite you to their first ever Christmas Event.
Wyndham Community & Education Centre
December 15th 1:30 – 3:30pm
Come and meet other single parents and their children and meet Santa too with gifts for all.
For further details contact:
Kerry Arch: 0400 657 962
Sam Gourley: 0449 799 624

WERRIBEE SPORTS & FITNESS CENTRE’S ‘SLAM & JAM BASKETBALL CLINIC’, 35 BALLAN RD, WERRIBEE
The ‘Slam & Jam’ Basketball Clinic is being held from Tuesday, January 21 – Thursday, January 23, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. Cost is $90 per child. For more information please phone ‘ 9742 5630.

BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS

The following section is paid advertising and is not necessarily endorsed by Werribee Primary School.

Barb Cakebread
CATERING
Ph/Fax: 9742 6905
CORPORATE & PRIVATE FUNCTIONS
We use only the freshest produce available

KUMON
MATHEMATICS – ENGLISH

- Assist your child to:
- Advance beyond the level of their school curriculum
- Improve fundamental learning skills
- Form solid study habits and self-confidence

WERRIBEE EDUCATION CENTRE
Contact: Janette Blasi on 9742 4936

David Rice INTERIORS
FACTORY DIRECT

Curtains and Blinds

URAPES
PLANTATION SHUTTERS
VENETIANS
ROLLER BLINDS
ROMAN BLINDS

SHEER BLINDS
AWNINGS
SWAGS AND TAILS
PADDED PELMETS

CALL US NOW FOR YOUR PERSONAL CONSULTANT
PHONE: 1300 134 586
10 ways children draw parents into sibling conflict

Sibling fighting is common but not inevitable. Parents can become embroiled in sibling fighting by responding to some of the games children play.

Sometimes parents get drawn into sibling disputes when they don’t involve them. Parents become embroiled in the conflict and help create the problem rather than solve it. Children usually become quite adept at drawing their parents into disputes between siblings. Parents need to be aware of the following ten common ways children involve parents in their sibling disputes:

1. Beware the teller of tales because they can draw you into disputes you don’t need to be.
   “Tell Tale children” tend to involve parents in fights and disputes when they don’t need to be. Tales also invite parents to take sides, which may mean a fight stops momentarily. However, it will begin again at another time as there may be lingering resentment about you taking sides.

2. Beware the blame gamers for it is never, ever their fault!
   Some children will blame other siblings for wrongdoing but will rarely see their side in a dispute. It usually takes two or three to tango so make sure you point out their place in the dispute.

3. Beware the tantrum-throwers as they divert attention away from themselves.
   Kids who throw a ‘wobbly’ when a sibling even looks at them in the wrong way have discovered a great way to keep mum or dad busy with them.

4. Beware of children’s tears as they can make us feel pity rather than look at the whole story.
   A child who comes to you with tears in her eyes and a tale of woe sure knows how to get their parents onside. Tears usually gain sympathy but sometimes the person who cries the loudest is the child who caused the dispute in the first place.

5. Beware of children who say that they couldn’t help hitting, hurting or misbehaving.
   Children always have a choice. They just choose the easy way or a way that suits them a lot of the time.

6. Beware the child who is always, always the victim.
   Sometimes they revel in this role.
   Some children, particularly younger kids, love to play the victim in fights and arguments with their siblings. “He always picks on me” is their catchcry. Don’t give these children too much attention and give them some options about how they can keep away from their siblings if things look likely to “cut up rough”.

7. Beware the child who acts like the deputy sheriff, always giving orders and bossing others around. They can make life unpleasant at home.
   First born boys can sometimes act like a parent’s deputy and believe it is their job to keep peace on the ‘family range’. They often use methods more akin to the ‘wild west’ than those they would learn in a negotiation skills workshop. Aggression and power is their preferred methodology. Keep a firm eye on these kids and don’t put them in charge of the ‘family range’ too often.

8. Beware the donkey who whines and whinges about his siblings - “Hee Hawways picks on me!”
   Give them some ideas about how to deal with their siblings and refuse to be drawn by incessant whining. Like water torture, whining wears a person down after a while.

9. Beware children who bring home poor attitudes and behaviours that they learned at school or pre school.
   You can tell sometimes what is happening in the schoolyard as children can bring home poor conflict resolution skills that they see in the schoolyard. ‘We treat each other well in this family’ is the message!

10. Beware of the home environment that uses power to resolve disputes and conflict.
    Children will often reflect the ways that the significant adults in their family resolve conflict so make sure you use the same methods to sort out issues and disagreements with your partner that you want your children to adopt. Children tend to live what they see so make sure they see conciliation and compromise rather than bullying and power. It helps if they see assertiveness rather than aggression. And make sure they see you looking at both sides of the picture rather than your side all the time in disputes.

Published by Michael Grose Presentations.
All rights reserved.

For more ideas, support and advice for all your parenting challenges visit: www.parentingideas.com.au
While you are there subscribe to Happy Kids, Michael’s hugely popular email newsletter.

© 2008 Michael Grose