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

Have you visited our school's blog?
The site is a celebration of our students work in and out of the school. The most recent posts are about the School Fete, School Captains running recess and lunch time activities, examples of some students fantastic writing, Asanti Dance Theatre lessons, Scienceworks excursions for year 6 and year 5, the BEST team visiting Werribee Zoo, a slideshow of the year 3/4 Explorer's Expo and National Tree Day.

http://werribeeps.global2.vic.edu.au

The students love receiving comments about their work,
Happy Blogging 😊

WYNDHAM SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to Werribee Primary on the success of our student representatives, Angela Nacor (34G) and Bethany Carter (5M) at the Wyndam Spelling Bee which was held on Tuesday 26th August at Wyndam Cultural Centre in Werribee. Angela finished 3rd in the 3/4 competition, and Bethany finished 5th in the 5/6 competition. Such was the calibre of the spelling combatants that the 5/6 competition had to be abandoned at 9.30 due to the fact that the organisers ran out of words! The three final contestants will battle it out at a later date. This only reinforces the incredible performance of our students on the night. Thanks to all students, parents and teachers who attended (and cheered) throughout the evening.
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal’s Awards
Congratulations to the following students who have received a Principal’s Award:

**Week 7**
- All students in Foundation P for their wonderful stories about dragons.
- Isaiah Kinash (1/2S) trying his best and doing a great job on his maths test. Well done.
- Alannah Inglis (3/4T) demonstrating determination and perseverance to improve her maths skills.
- Joshua Owen (3/4T) challenging himself in Mathematics and achieving his goal. Great work.
- Jack Rodriguiz (5S) a fantastic attitude towards his work and enthusiasm toward the unit on Space.

**Week 8**
- Sione Manoa (FM) attentive listening and following instructions whilst at the Melbourne Zoo.
- Martin Rodriguez (3/4S) perfect attendance for the last two weeks and a great positive attitude.

**Working Bee**
Thank you to all the families and staff who turned up to the Working Bee last weekend on Saturday 30th August. We had a great turn out and it was such a beautiful morning to be out and about in the sun. Our garden beds look great and everyone worked hard; weeding, sweeping, cleaning, mulching and general tidying. Thank you to Mrs Jo-anne Wembridge and Mrs Rosemary Doherty for their organisation of the morning. Remember to have your say regarding future Working Bees by completing our online survey. You can access the survey by clicking [here](#).

**NAPLAN**
Our NAPLAN student reports for Year 3 and Year 5 students have arrived. We need to complete some administrative tasks and then the parents of the Year 3 and Year 5 students will be notified regarding how to access their child’s report. We anticipate the reports will be available next week.

**Yard Supervision Times and Play Equipment**
Teachers are rostered on yard duty before school from 8:30am and after school until 3:30pm. Children who are not collected before 3:30pm will be sent to the office area. We also request that parents and guardians please vacate the playground areas after 3:30pm to assist staff in their supervision duties, as they need to attend meetings from 3:30pm.

Please be aware that the play equipment on the oval and in particular near, the corner of Deutgam and Wedge Streets is designed for older children. For the safety and wellbeing of your younger children (non-school aged) we ask that they do not play on these without the close and direct supervision of an adult.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation in these matters.

**SunSmart Hats**
School SunSmart hats now need to be worn according to our school’s Sunsmart policy. Please ensure your child has a proper maroon school hat to wear to school every day that protects their face, ears and neck. Baseball caps are not part of our school uniform and therefore may not be worn at school. All school uniform items (including school hats) can be purchased from Rushford’s School Uniform Supplies – 28 Watton St, Werribee.
**Last Day of Term 3**
Term 3 finishes on Friday 19th September and the students will be dismissed early at **2.10pm**. Please make sure your child is collected, or alternative care arrangements have been made. The first day of Term 4 is Monday 6th October.

**Year 3/4 Camp**
Our Year 3/4 students are off to camp next week at Lady Northcote Recreation Camp in Rowsley Valley near Bacchus Marsh. We hope they all have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing of their experiences when they return. The camp is for three days and two nights from Wednesday 10th til Friday 12th September. If you would like to see where our students are going, go to the Lady Northcote website at [http://www.camps.ymca.org.au/discover/lady-northcote.html](http://www.camps.ymca.org.au/discover/lady-northcote.html)

Have a fantastic fortnight.
David Quinn
Principal

**WORKING BEE – SATURDAY 30TH AUGUST**

It was a magic morning at the working bee on Saturday. We had about 60 people turn up and we all did a fantastic job of weeding, sweeping, mulching and planting. Thank you to the families listed below for giving up their time to come and make the school look fantastic. Your time is much appreciated.

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Staying Safe around Swooping Magpies

Male magpies, they are the ones with the white backs, will defend an area around their nests during breeding season. The area is usually within 100 metres of the nest if you are walking but can be 150m if you are riding a bike. Protective behaviour can start as early as July (when they start nesting) and go through to November (when the chicks are fledging).

A magpies defensive behaviour can be a swoop or a dive bomb, sometimes that can involve contact. Some attacks can leave a person with head or eye injuries, so swooping magpies should be taken seriously.

What can we do to stay safe during this time?

- When walking, wear a broad brimmed hat and sunglasses, sometimes putting eyes on the back of your hat can deter the magpie.
- If you are riding a bike, attach a flag to a pole on your bike, this may deter them, or get off and walk.
- If you can avoid the area and find another route home until the magpies babies have left the nest, that would be better for both parties.
- Don’t fight back if a magpie swoops. Throwing sticks or stones at it can make it more aggressive.
- If you find a fledgeling on the ground don’t pick it up, dad is probably watching from afar. If it is still there at night and you are concerned for its safety, pick it up and put it in a tree.

Not all male magpies swoop people, according to a Brisbane study only nine per cent do. The Plover is another swooping bird; they are most often seen in open grassy areas close to water. In breeding season both male and female will defend the nest. Their swooping rarely results in contact but can be unsettling for children.

**Triple D – Dance, Drum, Diversity! AFROBEAT**

AFROBEAT sessions for those who have been in Australia less than 5 years and aged between 13-25. Come along and connect in the dynamic drumming cirly, feel the beat and master the latest moves direct from West Africa before a final performance at the end of term! All abilities welcome. Presented by Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre. Cost: Free, Bookings: required, Contact: Alice Reed – Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre 0421 419 832 Tuesdays from 4:00-5:30pm
Have you got any unwanted, clean, wearable footwear? Just bring along to school. Be sure to pair them up together by their laces or with rubber bands. Please donate by Friday 17 Oct. The collection box will be near the art room.

All types and sizes welcome.

Primary Music Institute

Introducing the New PMI Stars Program

- The PMI Stars Program consists of 100 Star Missions (goals) divided into various levels
- PMI students will receive a free, new book outlining musical theory & PMI Star Missions
- Prizes and parent letter sent home to each student upon reaching a new level
- Books will be distributed to current keyboard students in the last two weeks of Term 3
- Guitar students will receive a book in Term 4

NEW STUDENTS CAN ENROL NOW FOR TERM 4
- PMI offers affordable, small group keyboard & guitar* lessons, once a week on school grounds
- Private lessons also available
- Enrol online at www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au or pick up a form from the school office

* Note: guitar lessons are not currently offered in all schools, please contact PMI for expressions of interest
Being a great dad

Many dads tell me that they want a better relationship with their children, particularly their sons, than they had with their own fathers.

1. Spend time with your sons
A dad can do little wrong in the eyes of a young boy. From around the age of five years a boy thinks his dad is like Superman. Ironically, he may give his mum a hard time at this stage. Dads need to spend as much time with their sons as possible. They just need to be careful not to push their sons too hard or turn every game into a lesson. That’s when boys turn off their dads.

2. Don’t whimp out on discipline
Dads are traditionally the kings of play, but they can go missing when it comes to discipline. They get their kids excited in a game before going to bed, then expect their partner to settle them down. It helps if both parents can take their share of managing children’s behaviour.

3. Treat your daughters well
There are strong links between close fathering and the healthy development of girls. Dads teach their daughters strong lessons about how they should be treated by males. So dads need to treat their daughters respectfully so they learn to expect this treatment in their future relationships with men.

4. Say goodbye Superman, hello Clarke Kent
Adolescent boys are programmed to challenge their fathers. It’s part of the growing up process. Australian author John Marsden refers to this phenomenon as the ‘wild ram, young ram syndrome’. He’s right. It’s a type of rite of passage that plays out in many Australian homes. Verbal jousting matches are a popular father-son game where boys take great delight in proving their fathers are fallible. A dad at this stage needs a sense of humour as well as a willingness to stand back and allow other mentors into his son’s life.

5. Support your partner
Fathers may play an integral part in the lives of their children but they also have a profound effect on the quality of mothering that children receive. There is little doubt that a woman who can share the emotional and financial burdens of child-rearing with a supportive partner is more likely to be a loving, affirming mother. Supportive fathering is one of the keys to better mothering.

6. Change as your child changes
Kids grow up at the speed of light and change before you know it. They’re kids one day and teenagers the next. They can catch many fathers unaware. The most effective dads are those who change their parenting to suit the needs of their kids at each stage of development, rather than stubbornly hold to outdated ideas of how they think their kids should be.

Those fathers who are a little apprehensive or lack sufficient confidence should become involved in as many aspects of parenting as they can. The best way to learn about parenting is by doing it. Children are a terrific resource for fathers - men can learn about children from children themselves. By being alert, watchful and learning to listen to their children, fathers can learn all they need to know about parenting.