FOCUS: Rights and Responsibilities

THEME: Caring in the playground. Play safely and take turns.

Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

Welcome back to school for an exciting term ahead. There is much to look forward to for everyone – staff, students and families.

WEPS IS A FINALIST IN THE VICTORIAN EDUCATION EXCELLENCE AWARDS-CURRICULUM INNOVATION - The science specialisation – Inspiring Young Scientists Program highlights the unique Deakin University and WEPS partnership and was a key factor in WEPS being named a finalist in the prestigious annual education awards. A WEPS team including Kerry McCarthy, Nadine Frankel and Dr Juli Lynch from Deakin University will attend the ceremony at The Crown Palladium on May 17th.

STAFFING CHANGES: Jane Dunn and Ann Dwyer will share the Assistant Principal role during term 2 while Robyn Ledin is Acting Principal of Grasmere. These changes provide tremendous opportunities for staff to experience different roles in schools and further develop their leadership skills. A familiar teacher to the year 5/6 team, Abby Fary will be teaching 5/6D on Thursday and Friday while Ann is undertaking the AP role. Michaela Allender, who currently teaches year 1/2D will undertake the role for the beginning of term two, while a teacher to replace Jane is finalised. Thank you to all involved in these arrangements with our goal being a smooth transition for the students and families.

COMMUNITY CREATIVE ARTS PROJECT – Year 5/6 students from WEPS, Merrivale and Port Fairy will be teaming together during terms 2 and 3 to write and produce a dramatic production for all to see late in term 3. A group of students began writing the script this week with author Matt Porter. The students will have the opportunity to work with skilled creative arts people during the project.

SUPPORT STAFF – There have been minor changes to the days staff are working at WEPS this term. Social Worker Lesley Keilar will work at WEPS on Tuesday, Thursday and alternate Wednesdays; Chaplain, Janet Ferguson will work at WEPS on Wednesday and Fridays and Koorie Educational Support Office (KESO)– Steve Young will work at WEPS Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Today we are delighted to have the Director School Leadership, Performance and Policy Division, Arthur Townsend, Deputy Regional Director, Grant Rau, Senior Advisor Regional Performance and Planning, Mary Pendergast will be accompanying Deputy Secretary Dr Sharp visit WEPS.

On a very sad note, late last week, Kerissa Mulready, mum to Courtney in year 1 and Rhiannon in year 2 passed away suddenly. The Mulready family moved to WEPS early this year from West and are a wonderful family. Our thoughts and love are with Leonard, Courtney, Rhiannon and Emilee at this very sad time.

Lindy
5/6 Caring For Our Waterways
By Bella Rantall

Last term the year 5/6’s went to a 2 hour session about caring for our waterways. The session started with an introduction on how to care for our waterways; this included the size of fish we can take, the amount of fish we are allowed to catch and basic rules when fishing. The session then concluded with fishing in the Hopkins River. All the students had heaps of fun contributing in the activities and fishing. Boss from 5/6P caught a fish, Deny from 5/6B caught five, other students caught some too! The sessions were run by Marine Biology students from Deakin University and some members of the Angling Club. A past student from WEPS named Lachlan Hetherington organised the sessions. Each grade went week by week and the last class to go is 5/6N this Friday. We all had an extremely good time and teachers have heard some really good feedback from some students!!!!

Woolworths Earn And Learn

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program is back! This community program enables schools and early learning centres throughout Australia to earn educational resources simply through the school community shopping at Woolworths.

Last year we collected a massive 58,000 stickers which helped the school receive an enormous amount of resources for our school.

Stick your Woolworths Earn & Learn stickers in the squares on your Woolworths Earn & Learn Points Sheet, then drop your completed sheets into the Collection Box outside the office at WEPS.

If you need more sheets simply download them from the Woolworths website or collect them from the school office.
Active After School Communities (AASC)

AASC program has commenced for Term 2

Children attending will move to the stadium as soon as they are dismissed from class at the end of the day. The AASC program finishes at 4:35 for Futsal and Tennis and 4:30 for Aerobics. Activities for term 2 are Introduction to Futsal on Tuesday nights for Years 4-6, Tennis Hot Shots on Wednesday nights for Years 1-3 and aerobics on Thursday nights for Years 3-6. Aerobics is a yearly program where we hope children will attend for all terms. As you realise Emma Bellman (EKB Aerobics) is providing quality teaching and she plans her program around a student attending for 4 terms. A performance in term 4 is guaranteed. The program runs for 7 weeks. Remember the program is free and everyone is welcome. Forms are available at the office.

Chaplain’s News

Welcome back children and staff.

Chess is now on Wednesday as my day has changed. I am at school during Term 2 on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Choir and Senior Music on Friday - bring your favourite songs for Open Mic.

If you’d like guitar lessons after school on Wednesday let Janet know soon.

Want to get your kids into Tennis?

Term 2 starting now!
Active Kidzz - Preschool Multi-Sport Program 3 years + Mondays 2-3pm.

Introduction to Tennis $3 HIT - Fridays 4 - 4.45pm for 4 years +

Junior Coaching - Hot Shots Tennis. Smaller courts, shorter racquets and modified balls make learning tennis fun and easy. Everyone can play. From 4 years +

Please phone Warrnambool Indoor Tennis on 5562 6539.

Science News

This week the whole school has been focusing on ways to keep our waterways healthy for future generations. We have been working on displays to go in the corridor opposite the touch tank.

Wander past late next week and see how they’ve developed.
This week there was a total of $94.40 deposited. There were 16 deposits and room 22 had the most with 3. Please bring your bank books on Tuesday if you would like to bank at school.

**Competition**

1st PRIZE - $5,000 FAMILY ADVENTURE HOLIDAY TO ANYWHERE IN AUSTRALIA WITH $500 SPENDING MONEY

25 Runners - up prizes.

Awesome adventure packs that will have you ready for exploring! Worth over $700 each, they’re jam packed with:

* A Wii U
* Walkie talkies
* Night vision goggles
* Waterproof camera
* Razor eSpark electric scooter

**HOW TO ENTER**

Simply make three or more deposits at school during Term 2 and you’ll be automatically entered into the competition.

To find out more, visit commbank.com.au/adventureisland.

Start banking guys! Good luck!

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**Wanted for Science**

If you can help with the following items please drop them at the lab door (old canteen):

* Shoe boxes with lids.
* Tin cans washed. No sharp edges please.