School Calendar
No Foundation students on Wednesdays this term
Gardening Club is on Tuesday nights
CONCERT – Friday 12 August

FRIDAY 18 MARCH
Baked goods for FOWPS Cake Stall at Festival to be delivered to school today
Crazy Hair Day – Donation please

SATURDAY 19 MARCH/SUNDAY 20 MARCH
Warrandyte Festival Weekend
Saturday Parade 10.15 for an 11am start
Saturday Performance on stage – assemble at 11.45 for a 12.15 performance

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH
Finance 7pm & School Council 7.30pm Meetings

THURSDAY 24 MARCH
Last day of Term 1 – finish 2.30pm

MONDAY 11 APRIL- First day of Term 2
Gr 5 & 6 to Hamer Hall ‘Best of Broadway’- be at school 8.45am

WEDNESDAY 13 APRIL
4th Session of Girlosophy for Gr 3/4 girls

THURSDAY 14 APRIL
House Cross Country

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL
Photo Day

THURSDAY 21 APRIL
ANZAC Day service at Templestowe 20 students

FRIDAY 22 APRIL
1st Chess day for the year

MONDAY 25 APRIL
ANZAC DAY – NO PUPILS AT SCHOOL

MONDAY 2 MAY
Curriculum Day – NO PUPILS AT SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY
Information Night for 2017 Foundation parents

WEDNESDAY 18 MAY
OPEN DAY 9 – 3.30pm (Tours 9 – 11)
Storytime 2.30 – 3.15pm
OPEN NIGHT 6.30 – 8.30 (Choir & Bushband 8pm)
HEAD LICE: 1S, 3/4J & FCB

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

OUR SCHOOL VALUES
Creativity
Achievement
Respect
Encouragement

At the end of each term, teachers work in area teams to reflect on the learning outcomes of students and plan for the coming term.

As stated in this year’s Annual Improvement Plan, the school’s next stage of improvement is ‘a whole school commitment to an improvement agenda that continues to focus on high expectations, building the capacity of teachers and developing curious, motivated learners.’

In order to do this, we aim to develop a ‘pedagogy of inquiry’ to purposefully integrate curriculum learning areas. We aim to deepen students’ understanding by guiding their thinking, through the development of the Big Ideas, encouraging them to question, to make sense of their world and to develop themselves as life-long learners.

As teachers focus on conceptual and investigative thinking, you may hear your children talk about the BIG IDEAS.

“There are a number of strategies we can use to reframe a journey of inquiry so that the focus is conceptual and investigative. Identifying a powerful, overarching ‘big idea’ is now more commonly used to identify the broader territory in which the inquiry exists. A
big idea runs ‘through’ the learning journey and helps students (and teachers) see the connection between the specific tasks they are undertaking and a more substantial, enduring concept. Like the shades on a paint sample strip, student understanding gradually deepens over the journey. Clarifying the ‘big idea’ (or ideas) that drive an inquiry is a critical element in the planning process. In its development, teachers themselves become inquirers – thoughtfully identifying what lies beyond the “topic” – what significant, unifying and transferable ideas makes this learning journey worthwhile.” Kath Murdoch

During planning week, the staff will set the Big Ideas for development in Term 2. Look for more information in next week’s Alert.

@Warrandyte Blogs
Blogs are now up and running in all year levels. The purpose of these blogs is just to add another level of communication and information about curriculum and programs at WPS. I hope you find them useful. If you have not yet received an email informing you of a posting on a blog, we may not have your email address or it might have changed. Please let the office know and we will ensure you are included as a subscriber.

Yarra Warra Pre-school
Recognition of Service.
This year, Yarra Warra Pre-school has two staff members celebrating a significant number of years of professional service. Meegan Hall is celebrating 21 years of service, and Kaye Versteegen is celebrating 20 years. Yarra Warra is currently making plans to celebrate their long service.

Given that there are many families at Warrandyte PS who have had children enrolled at the kinder, the Yarra Warra committee is calling for any past Yarra Warra families who would be happy to provide a short message for their past pre-school teachers.

This could take the form of a video message (which will be collated into a video montage), or it could be a written dedication or memory that could be included in a card or presentation. Typically messages of congratulations from past students, with a few sharing fond memories of their time with the teachers, would be appreciated. A group or individual message to each teacher is welcomed.

Please email any written or video contributions to danae.barnes@hotmail.com.

School Council Meeting 25 March 2016
A reminder, that parents are welcome to attend the School Council meeting next week at 7.30 in the staffroom. At this meeting the newly formed council will hold an election for the various roles. The Annual Report for 2015 will be presented. Visitors to meetings are always welcome to any School Council meeting, but please contact the school office if you will be attending.

Chickenpox
Over the last few weeks we have had a few cases of chickenpox. A viral strain of chickenpox has infected immunised children. It doesn’t have the same symptoms that an unimmunised child would have, but it is suggested you look for unusual patterns of spots that may occur on the back, chest and face. These children don’t often present with a fever or feel unwell. Please refer to the Children’s Hospital website for more information and contact the school if your child is diagnosed. http://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Chickenpox_Varicella/

Help Wanted
Do you have a good eye for hanging paintings? In the new office area, a wall has been set aside for the old photos and school bell. If you have any skills and talents in this area, please see me.
Reminders:
Chess starts Term 2. Enrolment forms are at the school office.
Crazy Hair Day Friday 18 March. Gold coin donation for “Blood Cancers”. Students need to wear their school uniform but add a touch of CRAZY hair.

Oscar Bennet will shave off his golden locks for this good cause. Oscar has a special tin for donations at the main office.

Friends of WPS

Only 2 days until the Warrandyte Festival! Thanks so much to the people who have put their names down on the roster to help with our cake and fairy floss stall. There are still spots available – we particularly need help on Saturday and Sunday morning. If you can assist please put your name on the roster located in the office foyer or alternatively contact Wendy Gooley on 0403 419 433 or wendygooley@gmail.com. Packaging for baked goods should have come home from school yesterday (or today). Additional packages are available at the office, or by request from Wendy.

Also in the festive spirit, our Easter raffle is ongoing. No doubt momentum is building to see who the lucky prize winners will be for each class. See Easter Raffle section of newsletter for further details.

School Council Newsletter

The final School Council meeting for the members of the 2015 Committee was a very productive meeting. New 2016 members very graciously gave up their time to come and introduce themselves and joined in the discussions. Gill presented the Council with the school’s Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) to be approved by the Education Department. The AIP is developed each year and is an important document that uses the goals and priorities from the Strategic Plan to increase the school’s performance. The document included focus on strategies to enhance student’s voice, academic outcomes, emotional wellbeing as well as dedicating itself to continuing to develop the whole school curriculum and staff professional development.

There was also a great deal of discussion around the recent decision to close the school on Extreme Fire Danger forecasted days. While the ultimate decision lies with the School Principal, in line with Gill’s consultative approach, she sought the opinions of the Council members. After much discussion, the Council has given Gill their
full support in ensuring the safety of our children is paramount by taking the decision to close the school on these Extreme Fire danger days.

Finally, the first sections of the new gates for the main entrance to the school were shown to the council. They looked fantastic and there is no doubt they are going to become a great feature of the school. Thanks to Carrie Campbell for putting in so much time and effort into helping improve our school.

The next School Council meeting will be the first for the 2016 members and a new President and Vice President will be elected. I will be stepping down as President due to work commitments but staying on the Council as a general member. I have enjoyed my time as President and have found the parent and staff members to be professional, committed and passionate about ensuring the best outcomes for our school.

NIETA MANSER

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### Henhouse Helpers

This week’s Henhouse Helpers are the Welsh Family. The Tobin family are on next week.

DOREEN

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### Sick Bay Laundry

The lucky mum this week is Liz Heaton. She is entitled to collect the washing on Friday and make up the bed again for us.

DOREEN & CHERISE

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### Sports News

#### INTERSCHOOL SPORT

This week we have a HOME game against Milgate. Cricket and softball will be at Warrandyte Reserve; bat tennis and rounders at school. Please remember correct sport uniform, hat and drink bottle.

#### HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY/FUN RUN

On **Thursday 14 April** all students will be competing in the House Cross Country/Fun Run. Foundation – 2 will have a Fun Run held at school on the court area, whilst Grades 3 – 6 will compete in the Cross Country down at Stiggants Reserve. These events will be held before recess and full details will be sent home this week.

These events are a fundraiser and this year all money will go towards the resurfacing of the oval. It would be great if all families could please support this. A sponsor sheet has gone

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### Before & After Care

Please keep accounts up to date. We need to finalise all payments before the end of term. Please note that the fee increases begin at the start of Term 2.

Also, I will be on Long Service Leave from Tuesday 22 March until Tuesday 26 April (five weeks). Hayley Preston has agreed to become the “Nominated Responsible Person” in my absence. Please address any queries to Hayley (or to Gill Binger).

Our numbers have grown substantially this term therefore it is imperative if your child is **NOT** going to attend on their ‘permanent night’ you must cancel that booking by 3pm. **NON CANCELLATION FEES WILL APPLY.**

CORALIE
home with information for the day. To help this event be successful and safe for your child, we need parent helpers at both events. If you can help on the day please fill in the following slip and return to school as soon as possible.

**HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY/FUN RUN**

I am able to help at the following event:
(Please circle)

F – 2 Fun Run

OR

Grade 3 – 6 Cross Country

NAME: ………………………………………

Contact no.: ………………………………

Child’s name: ……………………………

SALLY FREEMANTLE

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the Leukemia Foundation, so look out for the posters and bring a gold coin donation and have **crazy hair on 18 March**. May the craziest hair win!

MAX AND SEBASTIAN

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**Easter Egg Raffle**

The Easter Egg Raffle is on again this year. 3 great prizes per class will be drawn on the last day of term. **Tickets cost $2 for 3 tickets.** All proceeds go to the Friends of Warrandyte Primary School.

SHELLEY RIDLEY

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**Crazy Hair Day**

On Friday 18 March, JSC (Junior School Council) will be holding Crazy Hair day. At 10.30 the parade will start and not long after that Oscar Bennett will be shaving his golden locks. All the money we collect will be donated to

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**Girls - Interested in playing basketball ??**

Warrandyte Redbacks are looking for girls for our U11 & U13 age groups (born 2004 / 2005/ 2006) for our upcoming Winter season

Please contact WBA Admin – admin@warrandytebasketball.net.au
For all your pool and landscaping needs.

http://www.tlclandscapes.com.au

Sean Ramak: 0417006769

http://www.norwoodproducts.com.au

1300 551 248

Specialise in timber post and rail fencing, gates and bollards and have access to a large variety of timber species.

The best bit is they DELIVER AUSTRALIA WIDE.
PLAZA PARK PROJECT

5 Sunday 3 April 11.00 am to 3.00 pm
@ THE PLAZA PARK
MC SQUARE, 687 DONCASTER ROAD, DONCASTER

FREE FAMILY EVENT

JUNGLE JAM

Come and play joyous drum rhythms and sing uplifting chants from South Africa with Valanga and Andrea Khoza presenting their interactive show ‘Out of Africa’.

Groove along with traditional instruments such as the kalimba, marimba and shijoro as well as guitar, percussion and Valanga’s velvety voice.

Proudly presented by Manningham City Council in partnership with VicHealth, Art Centre Melbourne and Circus Oz.

Free Activities:
- giant climbing tower
- Australian animal zoo
- bush costume making
- face painting
- teepee cubby building
- jumping castle
- family games
- circus play with Circus Oz
- roaming entertainment
- food, drinks and ice cream available for purchase

For more information, visit www.manningham.vic.gov.au/junglejam
Follow Manningham Council on Facebook, or call 9840 9248.
STUDENT PORTFOLIO REQUEST

If you would like your child’s Portfolio to come home at the end of this term, please complete the cut off slip below and return it to school by this Friday.

Your child’s Portfolio is a cooperative effort between your child and their teacher/s and is an ongoing document of achievements, assessments and reflections. The Portfolio gives you a picture of your child’s level of achievement, strengths and areas of need and tracks how your child’s learning and skills are developing over time.

As part of the reporting package, Portfolios will go home at the end of Terms 2 and 4 with a written report. At the end of Terms 1 and 3 you are able to request if you would like your child’s Portfolio to come home.

Term 1 Student Portfolio Request

Child’s name:………………………….
Child’s class:………………………….
I would like my child’s Portfolio to come home at the end this term and will return it to school in the first week of Term 2.
Parent/Guardian signature:

Term 1 Student Portfolio Request

Child’s name:
Child’s class:
I would like my child’s Portfolio to come home at the end this term and will return it to school in the first week of Term 2.
Parent/Guardian signature: