Vision and Values
At White Hills Primary School we are committed to providing students with tools for lifelong learning. We foster a climate which enables students to be adaptable learners and contribute productively in our constantly changing society.

Calendar of Events

Term 4 Monday 7th October - Friday 20th December
Week 41
Thursday 19th December
Friday 20th December
Friday 20th December
Grade 6 Graduation Evening
Out of Uniform – Gold Coin Donation
Last Day Term 4 1.30pm dismissal

2014
Thursday 23rd January
Bookpack Day 9.30am-11.30am A-H
Bookpack Day 11.30am-1:00pm L-Z
Friday 24th January
Bookpack Day 9.30am-11.30am A-H
Bookpack Day 11.30am-1:00pm L-Z
Term 1 Tuesday 28th January - Friday 4th April
Week 1
Tuesday 28th January
Teachers Commence
Wednesday 29th January
Grades 1-6 Commence
Thursday 30th January
Preps Commence
Wednesday 5th February
Parent Club Meeting 9.30am
Thursday 13th February
SC Finance Meeting 5.30pm
Monday 17th February
SC Environment/Curriculum Meeting 6.00pm
Monday 17th February
SC Meeting 7.00pm
Monday 10th March
Labour Day Holiday
Friday 18th April
Good Friday
Monday 21st April
Easter Monday Holiday
Term 2 Tuesday 22nd April – Friday 27th June
Friday 25th April
Anzac Day Holiday
Term 3 Monday 14th July – Friday 19th September

Grade 6 Graduation Evening: Tonight
The Grade 6 Graduation Evening will be held at the Bendigo Baptist Church, 757 McIvor Hwy, Junortoun tonight Thursday, 19th December, commencing at 5.30pm for the Grade 6 students. Parents are to arrive at the Baptist Church auditorium at 7.00pm for the formal part of the evening.

End of Term Dismissal Friday: Finish at 1:30pm
All students will be dismissed at 1:30pm on Friday, 20th December.
Children will have their normal morning recess break at 11.00am and then have lunch at home after dismissal at 1.30pm.

Out of Uniform Day Tomorrow-Gold Coin Donation
Our last Social Service ‘Out of Uniform” day for the year is TOMORROW. the theme is Christmas! Please be sun smart (no singlet tops) and DON’T FORGET YOUR HAT and GOLD COIN. All money raised will be forwarded to a local charity, The Bendigo Uniting Care which will assist families in need over the Christmas period. Your support of this worthy cause is greatly appreciated.

Whole School Carols Night Thank You
Our school carols night was held last night. Thank you to the parents and friends who attended this night, the children who performed so well and the teachers who helped prepare the items.
Special thanks to Mr Wall for his organisation of the night.

Principal’s News
Thanks to our Helpers in 2013
On behalf of the staff I would like to thank the following people for their assistance and dedication to the school throughout the year: Our hardworking Parents’ Club, Canteen - Helen and Jacinta, Uniform Shop Coordinators - Leigh, Julie and Kim, Student Banking - Michelle, Library helpers, parents who assisted with reading, sport and P.M.P, parents who assisted with sick bay washing, canteen, the newsletter, camps, excursions, the school production, head lice program, members of the Curriculum, Environment and Finance subcommittees, School Council members and all others who contributed in any way this year. Your support to our school is outstanding and greatly appreciated by us all.

2014 Schoolkids Bonus: January Payment to Go Ahead
As parliament is yet to pass legislation to end the Schoolkids Bonus, it will now be paid to eligible families (maximum of $205 per primary school child) between 3rd to 17th January 2014. Payment of future instalments, including July 2014, will be dependent upon whether the legislation is passed by parliament in 2014. This payment to assist families with payment of educational expenses, i.e. Bookpacks.
Check the following link for updates:

2013 Awards:
Congratulations to our award recipients for 2013:
B. J Winzar Citizenship Award – Jemma O
Academic Award – Boy: Fletcher P, Girl: Amber S
Sports Award – Girl: Ally F, Boy: Jacob O
Masonic Scholarship Fund – Jayden W
Chaplaincy Community Service Award – Boy: Kofi G, Girl: Olivia B
Noel O’Brien ‘Friendship Stop’ Award for Grade 4 – Hope M
French Award – Girl: Laura C, Boy: Benn T
It's Not Okay to be Away - Attendance: Semester 2

Congratulations to the following students for their excellent attendance during semester two (only 0-2 days of absence):


Fundraising Efforts for 2013

Thank you to everyone who helped to raise an approximate total of $21,000.00 throughout 2013. This money will go towards Stage One of the Grounds Master Plan Upgrade, which will commence in Term 1, 2014.

Canteen/Uniform Shop Closed Tomorrow

The Canteen and Uniform Shop will be closed tomorrow Friday 20th December, last day of term.

Lost Property

There are many items in the lost property box. Any unclaimed items will be donated to goodwill at the end of term.

Book Pack Collection Days 2014

Book Pack collection and payment days are Thursday, 23rd and Friday, 24th January 2014 from 9.30am – 1.00pm.

To avoid a rush at the beginning of each day we ask that families consider doing the following:

- Families with surname A-H collect Book Packs between 9:30-11:30am
- Families with surname I-Z collect Book Packs between 11:30am-1pm

Minimum costs to be paid when collecting book packs are outlined in Section A of the Book Pack information (ie. the Book Pack, student photocopying and computer requisites charges). The Uniform Shop will be open for the payment and collection of orders.

Costing for 2014 Book Packs (Part A) are: Preps - $107.00, Grade 1 - $103.00, Grade 2 - $104.00, Grade 3 - $100.00, Grade 4 – $79.00, Grade 5 – $193.00 and Grade 6 - $193.00  Payment is due on Book Pack collection days.

Please note that parents at White Hills PS will not be able to allocate their EMA payment towards the cost of the school Book Pack, student photocopying and computer requisites charges (Part A). However, you will be able to allocate your EMA payment towards prepayment of Special Events and any other expenses.

Traffic Safety at Front of School

Parents should note the following:

- It is illegal to perform a U-turn in front of the school, even down by the bridge.
- Parents are not to enter the staff car park during drop off and pick up times due to the heavy pedestrian traffic.
- Parents are urged to use the school crossing when crossing the road to collect their children. It is important that children have safe traffic behaviour modeled to them.
- The parking bays at the front of the school are for drop off and pick up only (2 minutes). They are not for long-term parking.
- Park on the school-side only in Sharyn St. Parking on both sides of the street blocks access and residents are unable to get out of their driveway.

Please note that the Highway Patrol conduct regular patrols in an unmarked vehicle. They warn that fines will be issued for illegal traffic behaviour. We appreciate your support in keeping our students and families safe.

2014 Term Dates

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May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you all throughout the coming year.

Wishing you all a very happy and safe holiday.

Mr Damien Jenkyn,
Principal
As we approach Christmas again, I have been considering some of the aspects of the Christmas story, surrounding Jesus birth and their connection with the way that we give each other gifts at this special time.

In reflection, I noted that the very first Christmas gifts were actually given to Jesus at that very first Christmas. These gifts were: Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. Each of these gifts held great significance at that specific time in history:

**Gold:** This gift is something that at Jesus's time was specifically tied to royalty and kingship and was given to Jesus in recognition of his status by the wise men. Many of you may have heard of Jesus being called “King of the Jews”.

**Frankincense:** This was a very rare and highly valued, type of incense, which produces a white sweet smelling smoke and which was commonly connected directly with the worship of God. This gift was given by the wise men to represent and signify the divinity of Jesus.

**Myrrh:** This gift was extremely valuable at Jesus time and was most commonly used in the homes of wealthy individuals in a similar fashion to the way we use air fresheners today! However its use was very rare and was commonly tied to its use on the fabric that people were wrapped in at burial. It is generally held that this gift was given to signify that Jesus was born to die.

Each of these gifts hold very significant meanings about who Jesus is and what role he was to play in history.

In addition to this, we must remember and not overlook that the most important gift to us at Christmas time is actually Jesus himself!

I hope and pray that as you go about the busyness of Christmas and enjoy giving each other gifts, you take the time to reflect on and consider that very first Christmas and what it can signify to you.

Have a safe, happy and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

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**First Aid**

**Collect Your Child’s Medications**

Could all parents please remember to collect all medications (Ventolin, Epipens, Hay fever medicine, etc.) from the sickbay on the last day of school. Over the holidays, parents are advised to obtain a new Anaphylaxis plan (signed by your child’s doctor) as it is a requirement that this be done every 12 months. Allergy and asthma plans should also be updated.

*Have a safe and happy Christmas 😊*

Sabina and Trudy

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**Head Lice Program**

We are looking for more volunteers to join our head lice program for 2014. Leona, our school nurse is holding a training session in the staff room on Monday, 3rd February 2014. Please let me know at the office if you would like to attend and be a part of our team!

*Congratulations to our Birthday children*

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**Parents Club/Fundraising News**

**2013 Christmas Hampers Raffle Congratulations**


**Parent’s Club Meeting**

Our next Parents Club meeting will be held in the staffroom on Wednesday, 5th February at 9.00am. We welcome all parents.

*Your continued support of our fundraising efforts is greatly appreciated. All money raised will go towards the Grounds Master Plan landscaping upgrade to commence in 2014.*

Parents Club / Fundraising Committee
MUSIC/DRAMA NEWS

Music Lessons with Drew Thorpe
If your child is interested in learning keyboard, please fill out the attached enrolment form for Term 1, 2014 and return to the school. Contact Drew via email for more information drewthorpemusic@gmail.com

White Hills Idol – Congratulations
Another WH Idol has been run and congratulations to all the finalists who all did a really great job. They performed a mixture of songs and showed lots of confidence and polish. The winner of the solo section was Alex Hutcheson and the duet section by Abbey Sanderson and Grace Fahy. We cannot run a fun event like this without lots of help so some thank you’s are in order. To all the staff who helped set up after school for the show on Tuesday night (and for the carols night as well), to Scott Ross for his great compere skills who kept the show moving and made it fun for the audience. Finally to our intrepid judges who travelled such long journeys to get here, Mrs Bucket from “Keeping Up Appearances”, John Lennon (looking decidedly healthy given his condition) and Red Foo. Thank you so much judges (Mr T, Ms M and Mrs W) for the efforts you took to make this another great show. Finally a big thank you to all the students who were such a great audience and encouraged and supported every act.

Mr Vern Wall, Music / Drama Teacher

Junior School News

Preps
Pupils of the Week
Congratulations to all our Prep pupils for a great year of learning, making friends and fun. Keep working hard in Grade 1.

Prep Reading And Writing
The Prep children have brought home their word and spelling lists this week. We ask that parents revise these lists every couple of days and use every opportunity for their child to read and write over the holidays, to help maintain the high standard they have reached this year.

Hint For The Week
Research shows children who read and write in their holidays retain and improve skills taught in school. Over the holidays spend some time visiting the local Library. Look at and borrow books to read together. Keep reading and writing each day to maintain the great standard our children have reached this year. Just because the school year is ending, doesn’t mean the learning has to stop!

Thank You
Thank you to all the Junior School parents who have assisted in any way this year. Without your support we would not be able to provide the quality programs available at our school.

Grade 1/2
Students of the Week
1A- for being the most super cool grade in the whole school! Thanks for all the fun, hard work and good times. You are all “totes rad”.
1CW- Thank you for being such a wonderful, enthusiastic, happy bunch!
1/P- An amazing year of fun, learning and laughs
1/S- Thank you all for an amazing year. You have all been wonderful.
2/R – Cameron E: for her hard work, great attitude and friendly nature all year.
2/W – Abbey D: for being a wonderful student this year who is always organised and enthusiastic towards her learning.
2BK - Bailleigh: for an outstanding home reading record this year.

1/2 Christmas Party
We will be having our class parties tomorrow at recess. Students have been asked to bring a small plate of food to share. Please remember NO NUTS.

Merry Christmas
We would like to wish all students and families a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. Don’t forget to continue to practise reading and writing over the holidays as well as playing lots of games where you can practise maths skills learnt this year.

Junior School Teachers
Middle School News

Thank you
We would like to take this opportunity to thank all students in Grade 3 and 4 for the wonderful enthusiasm they have brought towards their learning throughout the year. They have represented the school wonderfully on numerous occasions, including excursions and camps. We would also like to thank our many parent helpers, without whom we could not have undertaken many of our activities, including Bike Ed.
We wish everyone a safe and happy break, and we look forward to a positive beginning to the 2014 school year.

Students of the Week
3/4G – Maddison M – for her wonderful effort to ensure all her learning tasks are completed to a high standard.
3/4W – Analysse B – for ‘working tough’ with her spelling and making an extra effort to sound out her words. Well done!
3/4N – 3/4 N – thank you for being such a fantastic grade.
3/4H – Taylor M – for being resilient when faced with difficult situations.

Learning Portfolios
We hope you enjoyed sharing your child’s learning with them last night as they presented their portfolios and reports to you.

Middle School Teachers

Upper School News

Students of the Week
Congratulations to the Grade 6 students of the week:
6/M Lily Dawes for the excellent organisation she always displays.
6/R Brea Killen for her ability to concentrate and finish tasks to a high standard.
6/G Mikayla Power for always encouraging other students and being such a positive student.

Grade 5 Phillip Island Camp
A great time was had by all at the Grade 5 camp. All the students were very well behaved and represented our school in the best possible way. We had excellent comments from the camp staff and the bus drivers. Thanks again to all the parents for volunteering to attend camp.

Pool Party
We had a great day at the pool. All students were well behaved and enjoyed the day. There were pool games and races. It was a great way to end the year.

Carols Night
It was fantastic to see a lot of Grade 5/6 students at the carols night taking part in the choir, band and singing their group song. Grade 6 Award winners on the night were:
Congratulations again to the award winners.

Learning Portfolios
Your child should have brought home their Learning Portfolio yesterday with their school report and prepared work to share with you. This is a record of your child’s 2013 year so please take time to discuss your child’s work.

Graduation
We are looking forward to celebrating your child’s time at White Hills Primary School tonight. We hope you enjoy the evening. Best wishes Grade 6’s from all the teachers at WHPS.

Weeroona College Bendigo – Year 7, 2014
We hope Grade 6’s are getting excited about starting Secondary School in 2014!
START UP DAY will be held on Wednesday, 29th and Thursday, 30th January. Packs will be sent out to families in early January with details of how to make your appointment with your child’s Advisor.
LOCKERS – All students at WCB receive a locker (free of charge) in their Learning Community. Make sure you purchase a lock for this on the booklist or elsewhere if you are not submitting a booklist.
OFFICE – Our College Office will be closed from the (afternoon) of Friday, 20th December and will re-open on Thursday, 23rd January 2014.
FIRST DAY OF CLASSES will be Friday, 31st January 2014.
If you have any further questions, don’t hesitate to contact the General Office on 54432133.

Senior School Teachers
CANTEEN ROSTER
Friday, 20th December  Closed
Canteen commences in 2014
Friday, 31st January 2014

Thank you to all our helpers throughout the year.
Mrs Helen Williams
Canteen Manager

SICK BAY ROSTER
Friday, 20th December  Kerrie Newman
Thank you to all our helpers this year

UNIFORM SHOP
Friday, 20th December  Closed

Open on Bookpack Days
Thursday 23rd January 2014 9.30am-1.00pm
Friday 24th January 2014 9.30am-1.00pm

2014 Opening Times
Tuesday 9.05am – 9.35am and Friday 9.05am-9.35am

Thank you to all our helpers this year. We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.
Julie Sens, Leigh Taylor and Kim Engi

FOUND: One pair of reading glasses. Black frames. Enquire at office.

Our Preps enjoying Carols Night