Purpose

At White Hills Primary School we provide students with skills to be lifelong learners. We are a community which caters for academic, physical, social and emotional needs, preparing our students to contribute productively to an increasingly globalised world.

Calendar of Events

Term 4 Monday 6 October - Friday 19 December

Week 40

Wed 10th – Fri 12th Dec
Thursday 11th December
Friday 12th December

Gr 5 Camp to Phillip Island
SC Finance Meeting 6.00pm
No Canteen Today

Monday 15th December
Monday 15th December
Tuesday 16th December
Wednesday 17th December

Gr 5/6 Pool Party 10.00am-3.00pm
Gr 6 Graduation Tea payment due 4.00pm
Eaglehawk SC Awards Night
No Canteen Today

Term 4 Saturday 11 December

Wednesday, 17 December

School Carols Night 6.00pm
Bendigo Senior SC Awards Night

Thurs 18th December

Friday 19th December

Grade 6 Graduation Night
No Canteen/Uniform Shop Today
Last Day Term 4 – 1.30pm Dismissal

2015

Thursday 22nd January
Friday 23rd January

Bookpack Collection Day
Bookpack Collection Day

Term 1 Thursday 29th January - Friday 27th March (Friday 3rd)

Wednesday 28th January
Teachers Commence

April Good Friday

Thursday 29th January

Students Grades P-6 Commence

Monday 10th March

Staff Professional Development Day (Pupil Free)

Term 2 Monday 13th April – Friday 26th June

Tuesday 23rd June

Student Led Conferences (students attend with parents at designated time)

Term 3 Monday 13th July - Friday 18th September

Monday 31th August

Staff Professional Development Day (Pupil Free)

Term 4 Monday 5th October - Friday 18th December

Principal’s News

Ground Works Begin Monday

Earthworks will begin on Monday, 15th December between the main school building and Peter Davey building. We will be beautifying this section with trees, seating and artificial turf to create a passive area. This is part of stage one of the school’s grounds master plan. In the term 3 holidays a covered walkway and additional roofing structures were installed in this area. The school is funding these improvements through our local fundraising and School Council budget allocation.

For student safety, temporary fencing will be installed while works are being undertaken. Students will be eating their morning tea and lunch inside before going out to play. They will be kept away from this general area.

End of Term Dismissal: Early Finish at 1:30pm on Friday, 19th December

All students will be dismissed at 1.30pm on Friday, 19th December. Children will have their normal morning recess break at 11.00am and then have lunch at home after dismissal at 1.30pm.

Whole School Carols Night: Next Wednesday, 17th December

Our school Carols Night will be held next Wednesday, 17th December in our school grounds. The night will commence with families bringing their own basket tea at 6.00pm, the school band will commence playing at 6:15pm, followed at 6.30pm by class performances. It is expected that the night will conclude before 8.00pm.

Parent Club will be providing a Sausage Sizzle from 5:30pm until the performance commences. A limited supply of sausages in bread will be available at $2 each until they are all sold.

As all children at the school will be involved in this night we ask that parents keep this date free and we look forward to your attendance.

The format of the Carols Night is as follows:

- The event is alcohol-free. As the evening involves children, we ask that parents, friends and relatives do not bring alcohol.
- The playground area is out of bounds during the performances. We ask that parents supervise their children (of all ages) to ensure they are not on the playground during performance times.
- School buildings and grounds are smoke-free. This is a state law.
- School children are to be seated in their class groups in front of the stage area so they are ready to go on for their performance. They should not be sitting with their family.
- Adults should display good audience behaviours by facing towards the performers and limit their talk whilst performances are taking place.
Canteen Closed for Renovations: No Lunch Orders for the rest of the year
The school canteen is now closed for the rest of the year. **No lunch orders will be available during this period.** Renovations to the school canteen have commenced and works will be completed over the school holidays.

Congratulations to Former Students
Congratulations to the following former students of WHPS who featured in awards at Victory Christian College:
Emma Selesky - Year 12 Award
Jordan Stewart - Year 10 Award, Outdoor Education and Duke of Edinburgh Awards

School Banking: Finished for 2014
School banking has finished for this year. Thank you to Michelle who has done this role for 8 years! We wish her well as she moves on and welcome Sam into the position.

Student Reports: Distributed Wednesday, 17th December
End of year student reports and Learning Portfolios will be distributed on Wednesday, 17th December.

2015 Book Pack Orders & School Charges: ORDERS WERE DUE LAST FRIDAY
All Book Pack order forms were due to the office last Friday. As in previous years, we have endeavoured to keep costs down for parents. The school accepts pre-payment of Book Packs and school charges (Part A) prior to the end of the 2014 school year at the school office. Parents choosing to pre-pay Part A in 2014 will be able to collect Book Packs from a ‘Pre-Paid’ area on our Book Pack Collection Days in January 2015.

*Your family’s allocated day & time for Book Pack collection was included in the package of materials.*

Total due for Part A - Book Pack, school charges & Netbook computer charge (Grade 5&6 only) - are outlined in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Book Pack</th>
<th>Student Photocopying Charge</th>
<th>Student Printing Charge</th>
<th>Netbook Computer Charge</th>
<th>Total (Part A)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>$91</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 2</td>
<td>$80</td>
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<td>$10</td>
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<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 3</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$10</td>
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<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 4</td>
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<td>$10</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$92</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>$81</td>
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<td>$10</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>$79</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$199</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Parents can also pre-pay Special Events and Voluntary Contributions prior to the end of the 2014 school year.

Special Events (Part B) Credit: Funded by WHPS School Council
As previously advised, the state government’s Educational Maintenance Allowance will cease this year. For 2015 White Hills Primary School Council has decided to continue supporting families who are the holders of a current and valid Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card with the introduction of our own Special Events (Part B) Credit. This support will involve covering the cost of Special Events for 2015 – swimming program, Life Education Van, school visiting performers and the Jets Gymnastics program. School Council WILL NOT cover the cost of major excursions or school camps. This is consistent with what we have done in previous years.
To claim credit towards 2015 Special Events (Part B) you must present your valid Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card for photocopying at the office now or your allocated Book Pack pick up date/time. The card must be valid as of 29th January 2015 and validity must extend beyond 1st March 2015. The card must also list the primary school aged children for which you are claiming the credit. You will not receive this credit if you do not present your valid card.

Please note that this credit cannot be claimed if you have enrolled your children at White Hills PS on or after 1st March 2015. Other terms and conditions apply, according to School Council policy.
School Council is working hard to minimise the financial burden of educational costs for our families.
What about the ‘School Kids Bonus’?
At this stage the federal government’s ‘School Kids Bonus’ will come to an end in July 2016. Those families receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A can receive up to $410 per primary-age child (paid in 2 instalments January/July). School Council recommends families put this payment aside to cover expenses at the beginning of the school year such as book packs, uniforms and other requisites.
Should you require further information, please contact the school or a school councillor.

Grades 2015: Notification Sent Home Today
2015 grade allocation letters for students have been sent home today - Thursday, 11th December. Included with the letter is a map of classrooms, outlining the location of teachers and classes for the beginning of the 2015 school year. Due to the complexity in establishing grades, students cannot be moved.
Opportunity for written parental input closed many weeks ago. Naming of a preferred class teacher was not part of this process. The process of allocating children to grades is very complex, with teachers and coordinators spending many days developing class groups based on sound educational factors. Class teachers have worked with children to nominate five (5) of their friends and we have placed them with at least one (1) of their nominated friends.
We consider the following factors when determining grades: even distribution of academic ability within grades, separation of children who do not work well together, gender balance, interpersonal development, friendship groups, attitude, maturity, individual needs and behaviour.

Classes for 2015 are as follows:

P/E    Jan Ellis
P/J    Jeanine Fitzgerald
P/F    Dinah Freeman
P/WA  Sarah Wood / Emma Allan
1/P    Kylie Pitt
1/M    Samantha Mumford
1/T    Jaclyn Tanner
1/CK   Sally Coburn & Lauren Kilcullen
2/W    Kristy Williams
2/R    Lauren Ray
2/B    Sue Baker
2/S    Alison Sartori
3/N    Karen Netherway
3/W    Jann Watson
3    Appointment to be confirmed (currently advertised)
4/G    Alan Gillies
4/K    Kaitlyn Gedye
4/CT   Christine Connaughton & Jolene Travaglia
5/P    Elaine Price
5/W    Rebecca Woods
5/K    Hayley Kirk
6/B    Roger Byron
6/M    Gayle Millard
6/G    Jaime Gray

We welcome back Mrs Sarah Wood and Mrs Emma Allan from family leave; both are excited to be teaching Preps. Mrs Rebecca Woods currently teaches at Wedderburn College and is looking forward to joining our team at White Hills PS. I thank Ms Anne Serjeant for her work in the Prep team during 2014. Thanks to Mr Ben Dyett for his teaching of grade 6R in second semester and Mrs Brooke Bickerdike who has taken grade 3TH part time during term 4.
Specialist teachers for 2015 are – Mr Stewart Scoble (Phys Ed), Mr Gerry Tyndall (Phys Ed), Mrs Monique White & Mrs Cadi Watchman (Art), Mr Trevor Trewartha (Music/Drama/Art), Ms Sue Briggs (Reading Recovery/Prep support/Library), Mrs Christine Alexander (Reading Recovery & English as an Additional Language), Mrs Jane Leahy & Mrs Maureen Egan (French). Mr Vern Wall will be retiring at the end of the 2014 school year. I thank Vern for his great work in the performing arts at WHPS over the past nine years. His unique skills set, passion for the performing arts, dedication to his work and commitment to the students of our school has been outstanding. I invite you to join us next Thursday morning at 11am in the staff room for a morning tea for Vern.

Grade 6 Graduation Evening: Next Thursday
The Grade 6 Graduation Evening will be held at the Bendigo Baptist Church, 757 McIvor Hwy, Junortoun on Thursday, 18th 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. Grade 6 families were sent a letter with all details several weeks ago.

Lost Property
There are many items in the lost property box. Any unclaimed items will be donated to goodwill at the end of term.
Congratulations to our Birthday Children

Use the Designated School Crossing on Plumridge Street

We ask for parental support in ensuring that ALL CHILDREN (even if accompanied by a parent) use the designated school crossing to cross the road. DO NOT CROSS AT THE BRIDGE. The road crossing at the bridge is not a controlled pedestrian crossing and we have had near misses, as motorists and pedestrians are unsure of who has right of way. Your support in this matter is appreciated.

Process for Late Arrival after 9.00am
There are a number of students arriving late to school who are not accompanied by an adult. This is a parental duty of care issue. A parent or adult (over 18 years of age) MUST sign their child/children in at the office in the sign in/out book if they arrive after the 9.00am bell. The child is then to hand the tear off slip to the class teacher when they arrive at the classroom. Latecomers are NOT to go directly to their classroom. Your support with this process is appreciated.

2015 Curriculum Days: Add to Your Calendar or Diary
The dates below are the school’s curriculum or pupil-free days for 2015, as approved by School Council.
- Tuesday, 10th March – Professional Development Day (pupil-free)
- Tuesday, 23rd June – Student Led Conferences (students attend at designated time with parents)
- Monday, 31st August – Professional Development Day (pupil-free)

Mr Damien Jenkyn
Principal

Merry Christmas

Music Drama News

Bands/Choir
The Junior and Senior bands and the choir will be performing at the school Carol’s Night on Wednesday 17th of December. The bands will be playing from 6.00pm with some music prior the evening starting at 6.30pm. The choir will also be performing during the carols night.
We look forward to their performances and hope that parents are able to appreciate the work that the students have put in during the year.

White Hills Idol
The finalists for the White Hills Idol have been selected after the semi-finals were conducted and all the contestants performed confidently. However after much deliberation the finalists were chosen on their vocal ability. The final will be held at 11.30am in the Sports Shed on Wednesday 17th December. All family and friends are most welcome.

Our Finalists for 2014 are:
Duets: Tahlia B / Alirah R
Emily I / Brittney S

Solos: Wendi M Tiannah H Maddison M
Bridget R Elaina W Breanna M
Angeline A Maddison Mc Phina L
Anlysse B

Mr Wall
Music/Drama teacher

Parent Club/Fundraising News

School Carols Night BBQ
There will be a limited supply of sausages in bread available for $2.00 at our School Carols night from 5.30pm on Wednesday 17th December.

Parent Club/Fundraising Committee

Congratulations to our Birthday Children
Prep News

Carols Night
This week children in the Prep grades were given a note with their costume requirements for Wednesday night. We ask that parents do not go to great expense or trouble with these costumes. The Preps will be one of the first items so if they can come dressed in their costume, if it is not too hot, it will help with organisation.

Learning Portfolios
Learning Portfolios, containing work samples and your child’s second semester report, will be sent home on Wednesday. Some children have still not returned their portfolio. Would these please be sent to school tomorrow to allow teachers to complete them?

Prep Reading and Writing
The Prep children will bring home their word and spelling lists next 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!**

Reader and Library Bags:
Reader and Library bags and smocks will be sent home next week. We ask that parents wash these and store them ready to bring to Grade 1 next year.

Pupils of The Week
Congratulations to our Prep pupils of the week who are participating well in class activities and are working hard to develop their resilience skills. **Well done to Tayden S, Ella L, Zac P-H and James T.**

Prep Break-Up Party
The Prep grades will have a special break-up party outside the Prep rooms on Thursday, December 18th beginning at 1.00pm. We ask that each Prep family brings a **small** disposable plate or container of party food for us to share. **Please no food containing nuts.** The children will still need to bring their playlunch and a drink on this day. Parents are welcome to join us for lunch.

Booklists For Grade 1
Parents are asked to note that the whiteboard, duster, reader and library bags purchased in the Prep Booklist at the start of 2014 will be passed on to your child's Grade 1 teacher at the end of this year for use in 2015.

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.

Junior School Teachers
Grade 6 News

Students of the Week

Congratulations to these students of the week.
6B- Hser N-K & Johnson for working well together on their project pieces.
6G- Jackson V for being a thoughtful and considerate class member.
6M- Bailey C for being able to keep up with his school work, despite all the interruptions.
6R- Bree M for always working to the best of her abilities in all subjects.

Graduation Dinner/Ceremony Note DUE Monday 15th December

A note has been sent home outlining the cost and organisation for the graduation ceremony. Please ensure this is paid by the due date as we would hate for any child to miss out on their grade 6 graduation event.

Graduation Night Thursday 18th December 5.30pm for students 7.00pm for Parents/Family

We are looking forward to celebrating the end of primary school with the grade 6 students on Thursday night. Please remember the dress code is smart casual for this primary school event.

Pack your tissues. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the Baptist Church in Junortoun.

End of Year Pool Party Monday 15th December

The Grade 5/6’s will be heading to the pool on Monday 15th December between 10am-3pm.

Your child requires bathers, a rashie or t-shirt, food and drink for the day. In accordance with our sun smart policy, your child will be unable to swim if they do not have something to cover their shoulders in the water.

Learning Portfolios Go Home Wednesday 17th December

The Grade 6 classes have been working on putting together their final pieces for their 2014 learning portfolio. However many students have yet to return their portfolio from when they took it home in term 3. Please send them in as soon as possible as your child’s report will also be included this term. Their learning portfolio is a great reflection of the work they have produced over the year and a fantastic keepsake, especially for their last year at primary school.

White Hills Idol Wednesday 17th December 11.30am

Our yearly talent show is upon us and we wish all the Grade 6 finalists the best of luck with their performance.

Carols Night Wednesday 17th December 6.00pm

We are looking forward to revealing the Grade 6 award winners for 2014 at the carols night. We hope to see you there.

Upper School Teachers

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SICK BAY ROSTER

Friday 12 December  Terri Massese
Friday 19 December  Tarra Monro

Please collect linen from the office

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UNIFORM SHOP

Friday 12 December  Belinda Martin
Tuesday 16 December  Cherie Anderson
Friday 19 December  Closed

2014 Opening Times

Tuesday 9.05am – 9.35am and Friday 9.05am-9.35am

Second hand items are available to buy at the uniform shop. Please note that any unsold 2nd hand uniforms will be given to families in need or used in sickbay if not sold after 3 months.

Team Leaders

Julie Sens, Leigh Taylor and Kim Engi

Orders can be left at the office anytime

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Grade 6 News

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Newsletter Roster

Thursday 18 December  Helper needed

Please arrive 2.30pm

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Canteen Roster

Canteen closed for the rest of the year for renovations

We will be revamped ready to open on the 2nd week of Term 1, 2015.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable holiday
Thank you
Mrs Helen Williams, Canteen Manager

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Season’s Greetings
White Hills Swimming Pool 2014/15 Season
Tickets are now available for the 2014/2015 swim season (*valid from 15 Nov 2014 – 15 Mar 2015*), can be used at any pool in Bendigo, and make great Christmas presents for the whole family. Please support your local pool and buy them from White Hills. Money can be left in an envelope addressed to Rosie Taylor at the school office with family details i.e. Family name and Christian names of all family members, ages of children, address and phone number. A family consists of all members on the same medicare card. It does not include independent children. I will process them and leave tickets at the office for collection or you can contact me direct on 0417164973.

Prices are as follows:

- **Adult Season Ticket** valid Dec-March  $95.00
- **Child** $70.50
- **Family Ticket** $181.00
- **Concession Adult** $72.00
- **Concession Family** $144.00

These prices are set by council and represent great value for money when you consider that they cover every visit to the pool for the entire season. Compare these prices with many other leisure activities for which you would pay similar for one visit. (eg Taking the family to the movies).

Rotary Club of Eaglehawk Twilight Market Tonight
2nd Thursday of each Month
Tonight’s market is 4.00pm-8.00pm at California Gully Mechanics Hall, 8 School Street, indoor and outdoor stalls, come and find a bargain. For stall holder and other enquiries contact Gordon on 0409266836 or tvendale@impulse.net.auPa@123##

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South Bendigo Junior Football Club - Expression of Interest
South Bendigo Junior Football Club is calling for past, current and any new players to pre-register for season 2015 in all age groups U9 – U16. Come and join the exciting transition to our new home ground at Harry Trott Oval in Kennington, with major redevelopment of the ground and facilities planned over the next 3 years, it will be one of Central Victoria’s premier football grounds. **Junior registration day will be February 15th 2015**

To pre-register please contact Damian Miles via email **milesdt@iinet.net.au** Mobile: 0423 828837