### 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 1: Wednesday 27th January - Thursday 24th March

**Week 9**
- **Monday 21st March**: Easter Raffle drawn at assembly
- **Monday 21st March**: School Council Meeting 7.00pm
- **Wednesday 23rd March**: Gr 3-6 School Athletics
- **Thursday 24th March**: Out of Uniform Day – Gold Coin
- **Thursday 24th March**: Last Day Term 1, 2.30pm dismissal
- **Thursday 24th March**: CSEF Forms due 2.30pm

#### Term 2: Monday 11th April - Friday 24th June

**Week 10**
- **Monday 11th April**: Parent Club Meeting after assembly
- **Monday 18th April**: Gr 2 Major Excursion Payment 4.00pm
- **Monday 18th April**: Gr 4 Camp Deposit Due 4.00pm

**Week 11**
- **Monday 18th April**: Head Lice Check 9.30am after assembly
- **Monday 18th April**: Prep PMP 2.30pm Sports shed
- **Monday 25th April**: ANZAC Day Service 2.30pm

**Week 12**
- **Monday 25th April**: ANZAC Day Public Holiday
- **Monday 25th April**: Head Lice follow up check 9.30am
- **Monday 25th April**: Gr 1 Life Cycles payment due 4.00pm
- **Monday 25th April**: Gr 6 Camp Deposit due 4.00pm
- **Monday 25th April**: Team China Dinner 6.00pm
- **Monday 25th April**: Aerobics Prelims

**Week 13**
- **Monday 2nd May**: Grade 1 Life Cycles Incursion
- **Monday 2nd May**: Mother’s / Special Person Day Stall

**Week 15**
- **Monday 16th May**: Education Week
- **Monday 16th May**: Open Day
- **Monday 16th May**: Information Sessions 10.00am & 1.00pm
- **Monday 16th May**: Footsteps Dance Program due 4.00pm
- **Monday 16th May**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 16th May**: Gr 3 Camp Deposit due 4.00pm

**Week 16**
- **Monday 18th May**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 18th May**: Gr 5 Sovereign Hill Payment due 4.00pm
- **Monday 18th May**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 18th May**: Aerobics State Finals

**Week 17**
- **Monday 30th May**: Gr 5 Sovereign Hill Excursion
- **Monday 30th May**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 30th May**: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- **Monday 30th May**: Footsteps Dance Program

**Week 20**
- **Thursday 9th June**: Head Lice Check 9.30am after assembly
- **Thursday 9th June**: Head Lice follow up check 9.30am

**Week 21**
- **Monday 18th July**: Book Week

#### Term 3: Monday 11th July - Friday 16th September

- **Monday 18th July**: Head Lice Check 9.30am after assembly
- **Monday 18th July**: Head Lice follow up check 9.30am
- **Monday 25th July**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 25th July**: Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- **Monday 25th July**: Footsteps Dance Program
- **Monday 25th July**: Student Led Conferences/Pupil Free Day

### Principal’s News

#### Family Photos at Office

Family photo packs are ready to be picked up from the office, individual photos were handed to class teachers to distribute to students yesterday.

#### Canteen Price Lists

Please note that new updated pricelists have been placed on the website for your convenience.

#### School Council

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 21st March 7.00pm. Would all school councillors please attend.

#### School Athletics Grade 3-6

The school athletic carnival for Grades 3-6 is fast approaching. **Wednesday 23rd March** will be an action packed day. Please feel free to come and support your child during this event. If you can help out on the day please let Mr Scoble know.

#### End of Term Dismissal

Students will be dismissed at 2.30pm on **Thursday, 24th March**. We will have lunch from 1.30pm until 2.30pm, but due to Department of Education regulations, we are unable to dismiss students until 2.30pm. However, parents may collect children at 1.30pm if they wish. **Please make sure you sign out your child/children before taking them home if you leave early.**

#### Out of Uniform Day: Last Day of Term 1

We are holding an ‘Out of Uniform’ day on the last day of **Term 1 - Thursday, 24th March**. You are reminded to please dress in sun smart clothes, that being a shirt with shoulders covered and enclosed shoes; no singlet tops. A reminder that stud or sleeper earrings and wrist watches are the only acceptable jewellery – this is a health and safety issue. **All students participating are asked to bring along a gold coin donation. Money raised will be forwarded to the Royal Children’s Hospital Appeal.**

#### Tortoise Area

The Preps would like to set up a look and find area in our tortoise enclosure. If anyone has garden gnomes, china animals, etc that you no longer need and can be hidden in the area, can you please give them to Mrs Ellis.

#### Deposits For Camps

Please note that all non-refundable deposits for camps **must be paid by you**, CSEF do not cover this cost, however will cover future instalments.
Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF): Apply Now

Information and an application form for the CSEF were sent home last month.

How do I apply?
A parent/guardian must complete the CSEF form and return it to the school office with a copy of their valid Health Care or Pension Card. The school will photocopy your card for you if you bring it to the office.

Applications must be submitted to the school by the end of Term 1 – Thursday, 24th March, 2016.

Contact the office on 54430799 for further information.

Student Health Care Cards not accepted.
If you have misplaced your CSEF form please pick up another one from the school Office.

Process for Late Arrival or Early Departure: It’s a Safety Issue
If a student arrives late to school, or departs early (for a valid reason), they must be signed in or out by an approved adult at the school office in the Sign In/Out book. Parents must NOT collect a child directly from the school yard or classroom. This is a parental duty of care and child safety issue. A tear off slip from the Sign In/Out book must be provided to the class teacher for a late arrival or early departure. Latecomers are NOT to go directly to their classroom. Your support with this process is appreciated.

Host Families Needed For New Exchange Students in 2016
Many French girls and boys aged between 15 and 18 are hoping to come here to study for 3, 5 or 10 months this year and stay with a volunteer host family who is willing to welcome them, include them in their daily lives, and who can afford an extra member at the family table, as there is no payment involved. If you feel you could do this for them for the length of their stay or even some of it, please contact Klaus Schumann on (03) 97584279 or by email and let me know of your interest. Those coming for 3 months will be here in May, those staying longer are here in July. Hope to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,
Klaus Schumann,
SCCE Community Coordinator
klaus.schumann@hotmail.com

QKR Smartphone Payment App

Our QKR smartphone payment app (pronounced ‘quicker’) enables you to make online payments from your smartphone for items such as Special Events (swimming, gym, performances), excursions, camps, canteen and uniform shop orders.

A guide to setting up the app on your Apple or Android phone is available on the school website via this pathway - ‘School Info’ tab > ‘Information for Parents’ > New QKR Payment System Help Guides.

Take a shortcut by clicking on this link:

Please note the following:
• QKR canteen orders close at 9.30am on canteen days (Wed/Fri)
• There are no over-the-counter canteen sales available via QKR
• QKR payments close at 4.00pm every school day
• Final payments for excursions, camps and Special Events close on QKR at 4.00pm on the due date. This is consistent with the school’s camp and excursions policies and late payments will not be accepted.

Teach Your Child To Bounce Back From Life’s Uncertainties Part 1:
A selection from an article by Alison Campbell Rate

A sense of disappointment and rejection can be very distressing for children and as parents we hate to see them suffer. This generation of parents is trying to protect children more and more from life’s disappointments and difficulties. Ironically by doing this we make it harder for them to cope successfully and increase the vulnerable child’s chances of being hit by depression. According to Seligman, author of The Optimistic Child, a key contributor to the high level of depression found in children is the avoidance of feelings such as anger, sadness and anxiety- wrongly described as “bad” feelings.

Without opportunities to confront uncomfortable feelings children do not learn how to deal with them. For example, the parent who buys the younger child a toy to compensate for his sister having a birthday party denies him the opportunity to develop essential coping skills such as tolerating frustration and disappointment. Rather than teach your child to avoid uncomfortable feelings, teach him to recognise them as valuable signals that here is an opportunity for personal mastery. This brings a sense of optimism even when experiences are difficult.
Crossing the Road: Children & Parents Use the Crossings

For your child's safety we ask that all children use the crossing at the back of the school (Bosquet St) and wait for the duty teacher to assist them across the road. Parents should come and collect their child and take them across the road but no child should cross the road without an adult. Similarly, we ask that at the front of the school (Plumridge St) ALL CHILDREN and accompanying parents use the designated school crossing to cross the road. DO NOT CROSS AT THE BRIDGE – this is not a controlled pedestrian crossing.

School Nurse Visit

Leona Evans, the Primary School Nurse, will be visiting our school at the start of Term 2. All parents or guardians of prep children are requested to complete a Health questionnaire and return the form to the classroom teacher tomorrow. We encourage all parents to sign the forms and consent to a nurse check as it often picks up problems with hearing or eye sight or other issues which can affect learning. (The forms need to be returned even if you do not want your child to see the nurse; just fill in the non consent part.) This is a free service. Parents with children in other Grades who would like to have their child checked by the nurse, can see Mrs Ellis to get form requesting this.

Scott Ross
Acting Principal

Parent Club News

Easter Raffle

This raffle will be drawn on Monday 21st March at assembly. Money and raffle tickets were due yesterday, Wednesday 16th March.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Monday 11th April in the staffroom after assembly. All newcomers are welcome to attend, you are most welcome to bring along younger siblings to our meetings, so come and enjoy a cuppa with us!

Keep an eye out in this spot for future events and fundraisers.

Mother’s / Special Person Day Stall

Our Mother’s / Special Person Day stall will be held on Friday 6th May. Every child is asked to please donate a gift to the value of $2.00. (Please ensure all gifts are new). During the holidays is a great time to have a look around for gifts.

Parent Club / Fundraising Committee

Junior School News

Prep News

School Nurse Visit

Leona Evans, the Primary School Nurse, will be visiting our school at the start of Term 2. All parents or guardians of prep children are requested to complete a Health questionnaire and return the form to the classroom teacher tomorrow. We encourage all parents to sign the forms and consent to a nurse check as it often picks up problems with hearing or eye sight or other issues which can affect learning. (The forms need to be returned even if you do not want your child to see the nurse; just fill in the non consent part.) This is a free service. Parents with children in other Grades who would like to have their child checked by the nurse, can see Mrs Ellis to get form requesting this.

Prep Lunch In The Botanical Gardens

Tomorrow the Preps will be having lunch and activities with their buddies at the White Hills Botanical Gardens. On this day we ask that children do not have a lunch order and bring their lunch and a prima/water drink in a named plastic bag.

Canteen

As the Preps are attending school fulltime and are having lunchtime at the same time as the rest of the school, they are now able to have lunch orders on Wednesday and Friday and over the counter sales on any day. If you send money with your child, we ask that until they are confident using the canteen, you give their money in a named envelope or purse to the class teacher. We suggest 50 cents for treats or $1.00 for a milk icy pole, once or twice a week, as large amounts of money/change can be easily lost.
Congratulations to our Students of the Week

If anyone is able to look after the Yellow Room bird, Chirpy, over the holidays can they please see Mrs Ellis. Mrs Ellis cannot look after the bird because she has a big, hungry cat at home.

Tortoise Area
The Preps would like to set up a look and find area in our tortoise enclosure. If anyone has garden gnomes, china animals, etc that you no longer need and can be hidden in the area can you please give them to Mrs Ellis.

Language Hint For The Week
There is good data to show that the more often you sit around a dining room table and have a conversation around a meal, the better the language development of children. Children are sitting in front of televisions more and computers playing computer games. It's dinner in front of the television and video games before bed. These societal changes have resulted in some children having less exposure to talk and less practise talking to others. Some speech problems result from biological factors with children having difficulties with correctly hearing or producing sounds but there has been an increased number of children with speech delays that could be helped through interaction and talk with others. (Comments from child psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg.)

Little Learners Letter of the Week
This week we are learning about Cooper the caterpillar and the sound c. We are getting great at sounding out am, at and ap words.

P.M.P. (Perceptual Motor Program)
Our Perceptual Motor Program (P.M.P.) will start on Monday, 18th April 2016. This program will operate in the Physical Education shed on Monday afternoon every week between 2.30pm and 3.30pm. These specialised sessions greatly benefit the Preps’ gross and fine motor coordination and concentration skills. However, parent help is essential on a regular basis to ensure these small group tasks function effectively. Activities are organised by teachers, are explained to parents and are simple to operate. (If you need to bring a preschooler along that is fine as long as they do not distract the Preps from their activities). If we have sufficient parents offering to help, a roster will be made with parents helping every 2 weeks. If you can help (and we would love you to) could you please return the form sent home last week, to a Prep teacher tomorrow Friday, 11th March 2016.

Junior School Teachers

Grade 3 News

Grade 3 Camp
A note went home last week about the 2016 Grade 3 Camp to Camp Curumbene in Corop. The dates of the camp are from the 5th to 7th October. The total cost will be $206.00. A deposit of $40.00 is due by Friday, 20th May. (Please note that CSEF will not cover the cost of camp deposits). A blue note also went home last week, reminding families who are eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, that applications close on Thursday 24th March.

Grades 3-6 Athletics Carnival
The Grades 3-6 athletics carnival will be held on Wednesday, 23rd March. Feel free to come and support your child on the day. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours on the day. (No tank tops please, unless over a T-shirt)
Bosquet- Blue
Raglan- Red
Plumridge – Green
Napier- Yellow

Middle School News

Grade 4 News

Healthy Lunch at the Gardens
We will be walking across to the Botanical Gardens on Monday 21st March, to take part in some activities and to eat lunch. We will leave school at 11.30am and will return by 1.30pm. A note was sent home yesterday with more details.

Learning Portfolios
On Monday students will take home their Learning Portfolios home. Please take the time to discuss your child’s learning and write a comment about his/her progress before returning the portfolio to school early next term.
Kids Help Line
Next Tuesday, as part of our Ready, Steady Go unit of work, students in Grade 4 will be participating in a video conference session with Kids Help Line. There will be a focus on friendship and resilience. The session will help provide information about these topics, as well as offering students an opportunity to ask relevant questions.

School athletics
Next Wednesday students from Grade 3 – 6 will be participating in our senior school athletics at school. Students are encouraged to wear their sun smart-house colours.

Homework
Please encourage your child to maintain their positive reading habits and homework routines.

Camp note
Just a reminder to return camp notes and deposits by Friday 15th April. (Please note that CSEF will not cover the cost of camp deposits).

Middle School Teachers

Upper School News

Grade 5 News
We all hope you had a safe and relaxing long weekend! Please remind your child of his/her math homework and Lit Circles reading, that is still due this Friday.

Camp
The Grade 5 Camp information note will be going home tomorrow. Please read through it very carefully and be sure to return the signed form WITH the $40.00 non-refundable deposit. (Please note that CSEF will not cover the cost of camp deposits).
This form and the deposit are due together by 4.00pm on Friday, 22nd April. This deposit and signed form will be confirmation that your child will be attending the camp at the end of the year. Please see the Grade 5 teachers or office staff if you have any questions.

Fractions, Decimals and Time
Students are currently working on persuasive style writing in class, along with consolidating their knowledge of fractions, decimals and time. If you have a spare analogue wrist watch at home, please encourage your child to wear it so that they can start to improve their knowledge of 12 and 24 hour time. Watches (non-digital types) are a great idea for a birthday present or special gift as students practice telling the time at school.

Next week is our last week of term. School will finish on Thursday, 24th March at 2:30pm.

HPV News:
Tryouts begin Monday 21st March at Lunch time
The HPV Team tryouts will begin this Monday at lunch time in the shed. If you are interested in trying out for the team, you will need to meet Mr Byron and Mrs Price at the shed at lunch time. A note will go home to the students who come along to the tryouts.

Grade 6 News
Students of the week
Lachie G – for his improved concentration and effort with his work.
Mitch W – for his well thought out and insightful comments during our shared reading discussions.
Jasmine W-T - for her wonderful illustrations during our Lit Circles lessons.

Grade 6 Camp: Deposit and note due Friday 29th April
Last week the grade 6 students received their information note about the grade 6 camp to Anglesea, which will take place on 23rd of November. Attached to this note is a slip which needs to be returned to school advising the teachers that your child will be attending. This note is to be returned with a $40.00 deposit by Wednesday, 29th April. (Please note that CSEF will not cover the cost of camp deposits).

Reading
Each week our grade 6 students will be required to complete Lit Circles reading each week. The amount of reading required each week is agreed upon by each group on a weekly basis to ensure everyone can contribute to group discussions. Please ensure your child is completing this reading and take the time to discuss the book with your child.
Homework
Students will be given homework on Thursdays each week. This homework is due back on the following Thursday. If you have any questions about homework, please contact one of the grade 6 teachers.

Bupa
The students who have been selected to take part in our Bupa program this term will need to remember to bring road worthy bikes and helmets every Friday, rain, hail or shine.

Phys Ed News
These are fast approaching and students are currently refining their techniques in preparation for this coming Wednesday 23rd March event. If you are able to help on the day please contact Mr Scoble.

Stewart Scoble
Phys Ed Coordinator

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Helpers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Kelly Adcock, Kate Duncan, Catherine Hartwell</td>
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<td>Wednesday 23 March</td>
<td>Karen Hawthorne, Catherine Hester</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13 April</td>
<td>Heather Veitch, Kate Duncan</td>
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<td>Friday 15 April</td>
<td>Kelly Adcock, Deb Button, Tabatha Boyd</td>
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Helpers to arrive at 12.30pm
Orders are to be written on a large paper lunch bag unless ordered through Qkr. *(NO ENVELOPES), one per child.*
Lunch bags are available for 10 for 60c or 10c each, with lunch orders and will be sent home.

Urgent Reminder: If you are unable to assist with canteen duty, please arrange a swap or inform the office so that a replacement helper can be arranged.

Mrs Helen Williams, Canteen Manager

**SICKBAY ROSTER**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Kate Jongebloed</td>
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<td>Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>Rebecca Kempster</td>
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Please collect from the office at the end of the day

**UNIFORM SHOP**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 18 March</td>
<td>Kelly Adcock, Heather Veitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12 April</td>
<td>Christy Osborne</td>
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<td>Friday 15 April</td>
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Opening Times 2016
Tuesday 3.30pm – 4.00pm and Friday 3.30pm-4.00pm
Kim Engi, Terri Massese & Deb Button

**NEWSLETTER ROSTER**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24 March</td>
<td>Nat Schroeter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 14 April</td>
<td>Sherryn Taylor</td>
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Please collect from the office at the end of the day

**Community News**

Chaplaincy Trivia Night
Bendigo ACCESS Ministries Chaplaincy and Wellbeing Support Group are holding their Chaplaincy Trivia Night which is part of the Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Festival on Monday 21 March at the Eaglehawk Town Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Make up a table of six or less (NB more than 6 not accepted). Admission $15 pp, Bookings 54421732 or 54483912 or rayandro@bigpond.com or bjrains@bigpond.com by Friday 18 March. BYO nibbles, non-alcoholic drinks & glasses, Tea and coffee available during the evening.
Many thanks, Jenny Rainsford, Committee member

Falcons All Wares Market: Fire Recovery
Friday 18 March 6.00pm-9.00pm at the Bendigo Trades Hall, 34-40 View Street Bendigo (next to Bendigo Art Gallery)
Gold coin entry, BBQ available

Happy 3rd Birthday FunLoong
Saturday 16 April from 10.30am to 1.30pm in the Hargreaves Mall with Bong Bong Hat Band, traditional Chinese Dancing performed by the Central Victorian Lion Team and lots more for free!