White Hills Primary School 1916

white.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au

03 5443 0799

Aspire - Respect - Resilience - Responsibility

Term 1 Week 3 February 13th 2025 Newsletter

News from the School Leaders

This week our Year 5 and 6 students have started to receive the laptops! Our netbook sessions for our Year 5 parents and student's outlined the laptop program, along with how to care for their devices. Netbook device agreements were given out in these sessions for students and parents to sign and return. The agreement outlines to students the importance of device care and safety. If you were unable to attend these sessions, we can organise an individualised session over the phone with yourself and your student. Please contact the office on 5443 0799 to arrange a time. We have had a few technical issues in connecting some netbooks to our school server, this has held up some devices from going home.

Parent sessions will continue next Tuesday for Year 4 and 5 students. These sessions will be held on:

- Tuesday, 18th February 9am and 5pm
- Tuesday, 25th of February 9am and 5pm

These sessions cover important information about device care and security.

Breakfast club has been very popular, and is now running Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday each week. Milk, toast and fruit cups are available from 8.30am - 8.50am. It's great to see so many students fueling up their brains for learning first thing in the morning.

Next Friday Jacinta Allan will be attending our assembly to present the Student Leaders with their badges. If your child is receiving a badge, you are welcome to attend the assembly.

Don't forget that tomorrow is school photo day! We encourage all students to come to school neat and tidy ready for their class and individual photos. Family photos will take place before school, starting at 8.20am.

A reminder to our community that you are unable to park in the Staff Car Park from 8.30 - 3.45pm, unless you have sought permission for special circumstances. This helps to reduce congestion in the car park for our teachers, but more importantly, helps to keep our students safe, as they make their way to and from school and throughout the day. We understand that parking can be difficult before and after school, however, you cannot park in the staff car park and we encourage you to find alternative parking or to arrive earlier to secure a park. Staff members will be on duty in the carpark and we appreciate your support and understanding.

Regards Bec & Kim

***Calendar of Events* Term 1 2025**
Wednesday 29th Jan – Thursday 28th March

Term 1
14th Feb - School Photo Day
5th Mar - Foundation students attending fulltime.
10h Mar - Labor Day Public Holiday (No School)
17thMar - Years 3 - 6 Swimming Program (all week)
1st April – Whole School Cross Country
3rd April – Year 6 Soldiers and Military Museum
4th Apr - Last Day Term Early Finish 2.30pm
School Holidays 5th April – 21st April

Term 2
22nd April Term 2 Starts

Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Team is seeking volunteers to support our Breakfast Club program, currently running on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:30am – 9:00am. With your help, we aim to expand this program to provide breakfast to students every weekday. If you're interested in joining our team, please reach out to Ricky at 03 5443 0799 for more information. Your contribution can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students. Regards Ricky & Brioney

2025 Housekeeping

Communication
We take great pride in providing accessible communication methods between parents and staff. We will continue to use staff work emails and Compass email contacts for communication between home and school.

We have policies to support our communication processes and they can be found on the school's website at www.whitehillsps.vic.edu.au. We strongly encourage all families to read these documents so that everyone understands how we expect these communication options to be used. The key message that we want all families to understand is that both Compass emails/ chat services and staff email addresses are not instant messaging options. Our teachers are busy teaching during class time and will not be checking their emails during this time. If you need to contact the school or your child's teacher about urgent matters, please phone the school on 5443 0799.

Process for Late Arrival or Early Departure:
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. 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 computer 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 and ensures that we can maintain the safest environment for our students.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) applications:
The CSEF helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you have a valid means-tested concession card, such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible. There is also a special consideration category for asylum seekers and refugee families. Payment amounts this year are $150 for eligible primary school students. Payments are made direct to the school to use

towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for CSEF through our school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year, unless there has been a change in your family circumstances. If you would like to apply for the first time, please contact the school office on 5443 0799 and ask for an application form. You can also download the form, and find out more about the program and eligibility, on the Department of Education and Training's Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund web page. Check with the school office if you are unsure, and please return completed forms to the school office by the end of the Term 1.

Supervision responsibilities before and after school

At White Hills Primary School, the school grounds are supervised by staff from 8.40am before school and until 3.40pm after school. There may be staff in attendance at the school before and after those times, but those staff may be involved in tasks such as meetings or lesson preparation. This means that these staff members will not be supervising students. I know that a number of parents accompany their children to school and wait to see that they are settled. This practice is encouraged, as parents are supervising their own children.

Formal before and after school care is available within the school grounds and is operated by OSHClub. Please see the office if you would like more information on OSHClub.

SunSmart

With the summer heat, we are more vigilant than ever about being SunSmart at WHPS. Students are required to wear their hats at school and students without hats will need to spend lunch and recess time under the shaded 'hat tree'. Sunscreen is available in classrooms. Hats can be purchased from our uniform supplier Bob Stewart.

School Uniforms:

Please make sure you label all items coming to school eg. school uniforms, hats, bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles. Our Lost property is overflowing already with NO NAMED ITEMS. Labelled items are returned to classrooms.

Mobile Phones (Smart Devices):

White Hills Primary School understands that students may bring a personal mobile phone to school, particularly if they are travelling independently to and from school. We prefer that students do not bring personal mobile phones to school.

Students who choose to bring mobile phones (smart devices) to school must have them switched off and handed into the school office at the start of the day. Phones will be secured in locked storage at the office.

Mobile Phones must be switched off once students enter the school grounds in the morning. When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office – not on the mobile phone.

Staff Car Park Safety

Our staff carpark is a designated space for staff only. We have noticed that this is frequently used throughout the day by parents and carers. Please refrain from using this car park as it is a high-risk area and students are not permitted in this area. To ensure that we maintain the safety of our students, please use the parking spaces provided, outside the school.

School Council Elections

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

For 2025, school council elections must be completed by March 21st. Election forms are now available from our school office.

This year we have the following members due to end their term:

Parent Members	***DET Members***	***Community Members***
David Treloar	*Eddy Dickins*	*Corey Ah-Dore*
Justin Thacker	*Lauren Ray*	
Simon Dean		
Caroline Robinson		

Please feel free to drop in or contact the admin team if you need any help.

Regards Sabina, Danni, Fleur and Alannah

Students of the week - Term 4 Week 3 – ASSEMBLY

Please come along to our assembly this Friday to celebrate the achievements of these amazing students!

Junior School Awards

Prep M	Hugo	For a brave and hard-working start to Prep! Well done Hugo!
Prep C	Leo	For such a positive start to his schooling at WHPS.
Prep D	Holly	For being an outstanding all-rounder and a great leader!
Prep H	Kira	For always trying her best with her learning tasks!
1AK	Isaac D	For a fabulous start to grade 1 and for being a kind and caring classmate.
1G	Elijah	For making great choices, trying his best and being a respectful member of our class.
1F	Sineeth W	For achieving his daily goals; showing respect and having an amazing start to Grade 1!
1M	Jak	For showing excellent listening skills and aspiring to do his best learning.
1A	Layla H	Layla has been an outstanding student. Her focus, initiative and manners are to be commended. Keep shining bright!
2F	Elizabeth	For her work ethic, beautiful manners and thoughtfulness of others. You set a great example for everyone Lizzy!
2E	Matilda	For being such a great classmate and having a tremendous start to the school year!
2TD	Archer L	For being a quiet and respectful member of our grade. Listening carefully and following instructions.
2K	Oscar	For always being a respectful student and great role model for his classmates.

Senior School Awards

3R	Jasper W	For being a consistent role model and leader within the classroom and demonstrating our class goal value of respect.
3V	Lachlan S	For consistently being a great role model and for aspiring to do his best in all areas
3C	John	For being his best and noticing when others need help. We are lucky to have you in our room!
3L	Jordana B	For being a kind and caring friend to all her classmates.
4O	Jasper	For having a great start to the year and being respectful to others!
4HW	Milly (Amelia H)	Well done, Milly! You've done a fantastic job with place value this week. Keep up the great work!
4CL	Charlotte	For being a considerate class mate and always looking out for others.
4G	Maiya	For extending herself in maths and respecting her classmates.

5D	Sophie H	For talking to others politely and treating everyone equally
5PB	Dahlia	For working hard on her fluency and understanding in reading.
5W	Daphne	For respectfully acknowledging the thoughts and opinions of others.
5B	Jessica	For being a kind and respectful classmate and taking pride in her work.
6B	Toby C	For a fantastic speech at the house captain elections and showing the other candidates respect by congratulating them. Toby is always looking out for his peers and looking for ways to support them.
6K	Mu Tha	For always treating her peers and teachers with respect and kindness.
6F	Violet E	For always getting on with her work and displaying a positive attitude.

Specialists

Art Mrs Watchman	Meelo 1M	For coming to Art with a positive mindset and trying his best.
Art Mrs White	Sam 5B	For creating a super portrait using only purple colours!
Music Mr Marsh	5D	For taking out the ukulele challenge this week in the Taste Sessions in music. Playing Californication by the Red Hot Chilli Peppers, they scored an incredible 188,000 on Yousician. A real team effort! Well done.
STEM Mrs Treloar	Molly T 4HW	For making predictions based on her existing knowledge and using scientific language to explain the results of experiments.
STEM Mrs Hauxwell	Clark 3V	For always positively contributing her scientific ideas in STEM

From our community

Adam Bourke Drum Lessons

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To Book An Appointment Contact;

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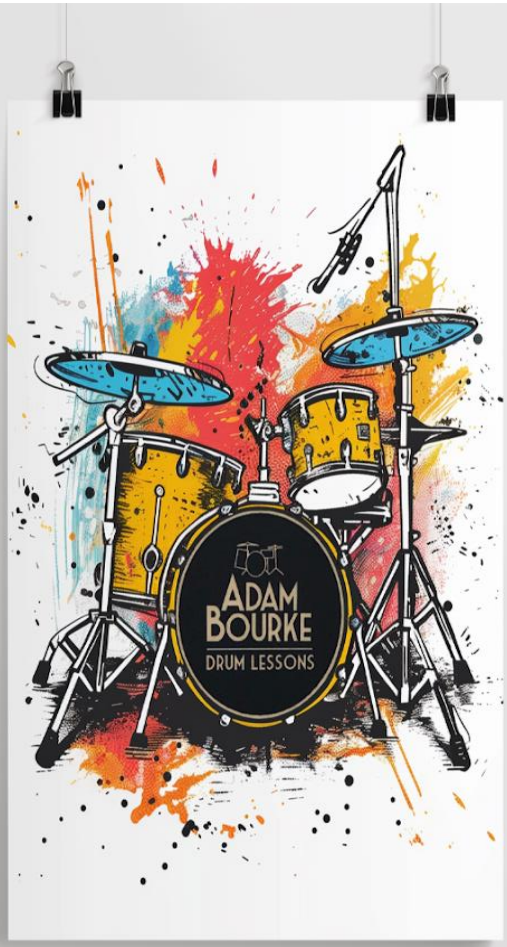

KEYBOARD Lessons

SOLO & GROUP
Lessons available

SOLO: 20 minutes
GROUP of 2: 30 minutes
GROUP of 3: 40 minutes

$25 Per lesson

CONTACT Madelyn FOR MORE DETAILS

MGK Music Education

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Come & have a kick - there'll be games & activities for all.
Chat to members of the club & find out about playing at Epsom FC in 2025.
Email secretary@epsomfc.com.au for further details.