White Hills Primary School 1916

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

03 5443 0799

Aspire - Respect - Resilience - Responsibility

Term 1 Week 6 March 6th 2025 Newsletter

News from the School Leaders

Dear parents and carers,

It is hard to believe that we are over halfway through the term. As we continue to move through the school year, I am constantly inspired by the dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm of our students, staff, and community. It's truly a privilege to be part of such a vibrant school community.

School Values

At White Hills PS we are a proud School Wide Positive Behaviour School (SWPBS). Our role as a school is to model and promote our school values, preparing students for positive interactions with those around them. Our core values are explicitly taught within our curriculum and embedded into all aspects of our learning.

We prioritise recognising students through positive reinforcement throughout the school day. Our school values are celebrated through initiatives like Student of the Week and Principal Awards. Additionally, we distribute value tokens and stickers to students who exemplify our school values. When students receive a value token, it will be in their respective school colour. These points will be collected over the term and added to the 'Tag On' results. Remember to use your 'Tag On' each day to earn more points for your house!

We are in the process of updating our house system at WHPS, and our 2025 House Captains have come up with some fantastic ideas to promote our houses. They are organising a competition to design and name a new house mascot. We look forward to seeing the new mascots in the coming weeks!

Twilight Picnic

Following the success of last year's Twilight Picnic, we are hosting a community picnic again this year. This is an informal event in which families and staff come together to enjoy a social evening. Bring along chairs/rug and a picnic dinner and enjoy some music from some local young talent. We look forward to seeing you there.

Policies

Child Safety is our top priority. As a school we continually review our processes to ensure that we are maintaining the safest space for our students to learn and grow. We operate under the guidance of a range of 'Child Safe' policies. Last year White Hills PS completed their 4 yearly Child Safe Minimum Standard audit, which all schools must comply with. We passed this audit with a high level of compliance. Child Safe Standards are continually monitored, so that we can build on their existing child safety strategies, policies and practices to strengthen our culture of child safety and protect our children.

You can find the WHPS guiding policies on our website:
https://whitehillsps.vic.edu.au/index.php/policies/

Music Leaders

We are very proud of the WHPS music program and the work it does to develop our music makers. On Friday, we were excited to present leadership badges to our new Band and Choir Leaders. Congratulations to our 2025 Music Leaders. We look forward to your leadership in Band and Choir this year.

Band Leaders	***Choir Leaders***
Sophie hawkswood Lucy Treloar Olivia McKenzie Amity Poynton	Billie Lothian Poppy Reynolds Peyton Richardson Violet Dennis

Year 3 to Year 6 Swimming Program

This year's swimming program will start on Monday 17th March to Friday 21st March. All years 3 to 6 students are encouraged to participate in the swimming program. The year 3 students are covered by a Government Grant so there will be no charge for them. The cost of $58 will be placed on all years 4, 5 & 6's Students. Payments for this can include the School Savings Bonus or CSEF, for eligible families.

Attendance

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Regards Bec & Kim

Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!!

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Does your child have a chance of being successful?

1 or 2 days a week doesn't seem much but…….

If your child misses….	That equals….	Which is…..	and over 13 years of schooling that's…	Which means the best your child might perform is …
1 day per fortnight	20 Days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years	Equal to finishing in grade 11
1 day per week	40 Days	8 weeks	Over 2.5 years	Equal to finishing in grade 10
2 days per week	80 Days	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Equal to finishing in grade 7
3 days per week	120 Days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years	Equal to finishing at grade 4

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

Calendar of Events Term 1 2025

Wednesday 29th Jan – Friday 4th April

Term 1

10h Mar - Labor Day Public Holiday (No School)
17thMar - Years 3 - 6 Swimming Program (all week)
1st April – Whole School Cross Country
3rd April - Grade 5 Excursion - Sovereign Hill
3rd April – Grade 6 Excursion – Soldiers Memorial
4th Apr - Last Day Term Early Finish 2.30pm
School Holidays 5th April – 21st April

Term 2

22nd April Term 2 Starts

23rd April Whole School Athletics at Flora Hill Athletics Track
7th-9th May- Grade 6 Camp- Burnside Anglesea
16th May – Division Cross Country
30th May – Division Hockey – Ironbark Hockey Centre

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.

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 several 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.

Want to be a part of White Hills Primary School history?!?

Mr Marsh is wanting to create a large banner to have as the backdrop for all the WHPS band performances (approx 2x3m), and he needs YOUR HELP! If you think you've got good hand drawing skills, or you are clever with computer graphics, or perhaps you're a future designer - then this is the perfect opportunity to showcase your skills.

The banner design must contain the following:

1. The school logo
2. The band name "White Hills Primary School Rock Band"
3. The school colours (blue, light blue and white)
4. This quote from Beethoven "Music can change the world"

All entries are to be handed in to the office before the **END of TERM ONE** - Friday, April 4th.

The leadership team, along with Mr Marsh, will decide the winner who will receive a special prize and their name on the banner. Parents are MOST welcome to help their children. 😄

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.

Parking Around the School

Parking services from the City of Greater Bendigo have contacted our school and requested that the following information be conveyed to our school community. The illegal parking of vehicles adjacent to our school poses a safety concern to children, pedestrians and other road users. Parents are reminded that it is essential to comply with parking restrictions when dropping off and collecting children from school.

Motorists must not stop in no stopping areas, even briefly, with or without the motor running. They must not stop next to a continuous yellow edge line, on nature strips, too close to school crossings, park over driveways or double park. A number of schools have short term time restricted areas, such as 2 minute pick up/ drop off. These parking areas are in place to allow for ease of access close to schools and these restrictions must be adhered to. Drivers should also be aware that they cannot perform a U-turn over an unbroken or continuous dividing line.
Regarding children's crossings, the law requires that a driver approaching a children's crossing must drive at a speed at which the driver can, if necessary, stop safely before the crossing. Please slow down and take extra care when driving in school zones.

City of Greater Bendigo Parking Officers and Bendigo Police do conduct random patrols throughout the school year at various locations to ensure that motorists are adhering to the road rules.

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 can 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		

Raising Digital Kids –
Simple Online Safety Tips and Advice For Parents

We know how busy family life can be, so we're making online safety simple and actionable for you! This year we are partnering with the Cyber Safety Project to access their popular **Tech Safe Parents - 2025 Webinar Series**. Across the year, you'll have exclusive access to 5 webinars offering practical tips and guidance about **online safety**, **cyberbullying**, **social media**, **AI** and **gaming**.
The first Webinar, Online Safety Essentials: Keeping Your Kids Safe in the Digital World is **on Tuesday the 18th of March.**

What are our kids getting up to online when we aren't around?
Our webinar will teach you how to manage simple parental controls to secure devices and apps, establish safe browsing habits for your family and implement essential safeguards against online threats. We'll guide you step-by-step, offering practical, easy tips you can use right away. Don't miss this chance to learn, ask questions, and feel confident about your child's online safety.

Can't make it live? No problem! Recordings will be available to watch at a time that fits your schedule. Join the sessions that matter most to your family—simply register for each webinar at: https://cybersafetyproject.com/parents2025/

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 1 Week 6 – ASSEMBLY

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

Junior School Awards

Prep M	Eli S	For putting in his best effort to improve his colouring and letter writing!
Prep C	Kalara	For always showing respect and trying her best
Prep D	Cody J	Being a kind and caring person and always happily doing his work
Prep H	Charlie	For always trying his best and being respectful to his classmates.
1AK	Karter	For always being a responsible class member who is ready to learn and always tries his best.
1G	Beau V	For focusing on making excellent choices, showing respect and going above and beyond in his learning.
1F	Parker W	For being a responsible and respectful learner, focusing on all his learning tasks and listening to teachers.
1M	Chase	For being a responsible learner who always follows the class expectations. You are a role model in our classroom.
1A	Alirah S	For being an amazing and focused learner and aspiring to be a responsible friend. Great work!
2F	Lily G	For always being respectful of her classmates and the no fuss way she gets on with her work.
2E	Leo	For thinking about his learning and always attempting all tasks!
2TD	Cooper S	For being a polite well mannered and respectful member of our grade.
2K	Levi	For always listening to others and working hard each lesson.

Senior School Awards

3R	Ayah M	For her awesome work ethic and always completing her work to a high standard! Ayah is a great role model to her classmates!
3V	Brayden L	For his wonderful work ethic and beautiful manners. Well done on being a fantastic role model to others Brayden!
3C	Declan S	For following routines and coming in with a smile! Great to see you trying so hard to be your best Declan
3L	Charlotte	For always having a wonderful work ethic and consistently displaying all of our school values! Well done, Charlotte!
4O	Patrick	For being an excellent role model and consistently displaying all of the school values!
4HW	Stella	For always showing respect and having the courage to make mistakes while learning new concepts.
4CL	Nyssa	For trying her best in all learning areas and displaying our school value of respect in the classroom.
4G	Freya M	For supporting others in the classroom and treating all her peers with kindness and respect.
5D	Lincoln	For demonstrating respect by being kind and caring towards all classmates

5PB	Mason	For being engaged in his reading and having a positive approach to all his grade 5 learning.
5W	Jaxson	For having a positive attitude all week and approaching his learning with enthusiasm.
5B	Arlia	For having a positive attitude towards all learning tasks.
6B	Jed B	For his leadership and support of others at the Energy Breakthrough Time Trials.
6K	Bithiah M	For the way she shows outstanding respect by always listening attentively and treating classmates and teachers with kindness.
6F	Paddy M	For being more consistent with his work in class and focusing on his learning.

Specialists

Art Mrs Watchman	Gabe W 2K	For creating a fabulous Pete Cromer picture. Well done!
Art Mrs White	Jasper D 4O	For inspiring his classmates in Art by skillfully creating a vibrant geometric art piece.
Sports Mrs Tanner	Ivy S 4HW	For showing outstanding efforts towards hurdles, showing excellent technique.
Music Mr Marsh	Milly Hagan	Congratulations to Milly Hagan who is our newest band member. Milly is an all-round musician, but she has shown exceptional skills on the drum kit and will be one to watch at future school concerts!
STEM Mrs Treloar	Lailee A (Prep H)	For always following instructions and thinking creatively when working on STEM challenges.
STEM Mrs Hauxwell	Ellie (3V)	For a huge improvement in participating in STEM activities!
Chinese Qiang Fu	2TD	For engaging a lot and trying their best to learning Chinese and using what they learned in the classroom activities.

Student of the Week Photo

Well Done to all our amazing Students!

Principal Awards

Well Done to Ruby and Amity!

White Hills
Primary School
Parents and Friends
are inviting all familes to a -
Twilight Picnic
WEDNESDAY 12TH MARCH - 5.30PM
Where: On the astro turf near the Prep sandpit
Bring your picnic basket
tea and a picnic rug/chairs
to White Hills Primary
School and enjoy a
community event with
WHPS staff.
Begins at 5.30pm

From our community

Adam Bourke Drum Lessons

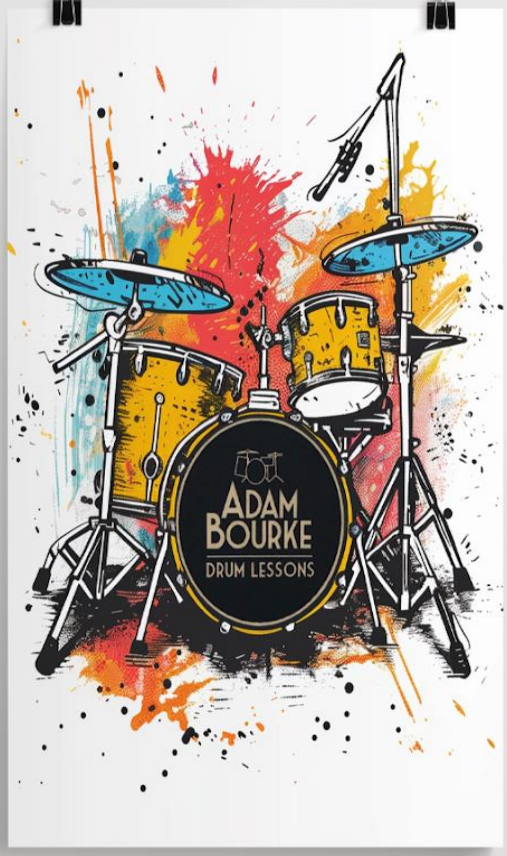
Learn drums at your own pace
in a fun and relaxing environment

30 Years Experience
Qualified Music Educator
WWCC
Fully Insured
VMTA Accredited

To Book An Appointment Contact;

Phone: 0409 530 880
Email: adambourkedrumlessons@hotmail.com

facebook.com/adambourkedrumlessons



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

@MGK Music Education
madelyn.mgkmusic@gmail.com
0467 • 869 • 726

Hamber Music Classes presents ...

GUITAR CLASSES
for Beginners

Term 1 special offer !!!

Get your first guitar lesson **free** when you sign up this Term .

$19 /class

• Duo classes

Email - hamber.music.concepts@gmail.co
Phone - 0415243432