White Hills Primary School 1916

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Respect Responsibility Resilience Aspire

Term 4 Week 4, 23rd October 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope everyone enjoyed the Bendigo Cup Holiday yesterday. We're looking forward to our school Disco tomorrow and remind our students that it's disco dress.

Tomorrow, we celebrate World Teacher's Day with our staff and students. At our school, we are incredibly lucky to have a team of dedicated teachers who work tirelessly to make learning exciting, meaningful, and fun. They go above and beyond to help every child reach their full potential, whether it's through creative lessons, kind encouragement, or a reassuring smile when things get tough. From all of us at White Hills Primary School, we want to say a huge *thank you* to our teachers for their passion, patience, and dedication. You are the heart of our school, and we appreciate everything you do to make our classrooms such happy, caring, and inspiring places to learn.

Calendar of Events Term 4 2025

Term 4 – 6th October – 19th December

Fri 31st – Halloween School Disco

November:

Tues 4th– Prep Familiarisation Transition Session
***Weds 5th* - Curriculum Day (No students to attend school)**
Thurs 7th– Prep Familiarisation Transition Session
Fri 7th– Blast Cricket
Mon 10th – Pevan and Sarah Excursion (Preps)
Mon 10th to Fri 14th - Scholastic Book Fair (8:30-9am & 3:30-4pm)
Thurs 14th – Donut Day
Tues 11th to Mon 17th – Prep Swimming
Mon 17th to Fri 20th – Grade 1 & 2 Swimming
Tues 18th– Prep Familiarisation Transition Session
Thurs 20th – Prep Familiarisation Transition Session
Thurs 27th – Prep end of year celebration (4:45-6:30pm)
Thurs 27th – Fri 28th - Grade 6 Excursion Bendigo Tech School

December:

Weds 3rd – Fri 5th – Grade 5 Camp Phillip Island
Thurs 4th – Grade 1 end of year celebration
Thurs 4th – Fri 5th - Grade 2 Sleepover
Tues 9th – Statewide Orientation Day
Tues 9th- Christmas Concert (6pm Garden for the Future)
Wed 10th – Grade 6 Enterprise showcase
Wed 17th – Grade 6 Graduation
Thurs 18th – Grade 5 & 6 Pool Party
Fri 19th- Last day of Term!!! Finish at 1:30pm

Prep Transition

Next week we start our Prep Transition Program for our 2026 preps. It's an exciting time for our new preps as they explore the 2026 classroom spaces and meet other students starting next year. It's filled with developmental play opportunities, time to socialise while we snack, spending time with our specialist teachers and having lots of fun.

The Importance of Uniform

A reminder about our school uniform policy as the weather is warming up. Wearing a school uniform helps to create a sense of belonging, promotes equality, and encourages children to focus on their learning rather than on what they or others are wearing. Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities. Students must be dressed appropriately for school, wearing a navy/sky blue school polo shirt, navy shorts/basketball shorts (bike shorts can be worn under shorts only), a checked school dress, navy windcheater or bomber jacket and a school (or navy) wide brimmed or bucket hat – and plain coloured socks. Please note that bike shorts are not part of our uniform policy and may only be worn under dresses or shorts. Students who are not in school uniform will be offered appropriate uniforms to change into by their teacher before they start their learning.

We have also seen an increase in students wearing jewellery and make up. Please remind students that they are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted. If students arrive at school wearing make-up, they will be given a wipe to remove the make-up before starting their learning.

World Teachers' Day

Many of our students have already dropped in the sheets sent home last week so that we can present them to our teachers tomorrow. If you haven't dropped off yours yet - it's not too late! You can drop it into the office tomorrow morning.

Curriculum Day

We have an upcoming curriculum day for assessment and reporting on Wednesday, 5th of November. On this day, teachers will be working together to complete assessment and reporting requirements for the Term 4 reporting process. This will be a pupil free day.

2026 Booklist

The booklist for 2026 will be sent home Monday. Teachers will be auditing the resources students still currently have and will send home the retained items checklist in the Booklist pack next week.

Bendigo Chinese Competition

We are thrilled to announce that our talented students represented White Hills Primary School at the 2025 Bendigo Chinese Competition, showcasing not only their impressive Chinese language skills, but also their confidence and dedication. Standing proudly on stage, they captivated the audience with their performances and demonstrated their hard work in preparing for the event. We couldn't be prouder of our students for their commitment and success! Congratulations to all participants – you've made our school incredibly proud!

Congratulations to the following students for participating in the Chinese Competition: Alexandra B (3C), Scarlett T (3C), Leo B (3C), Lachlan A (3C), Hailey B (4O), Abbey-Leigh W (5BP), Isla W(5D).

Grade 3/4	Alexandra B Scarlett T-R
Grade 5/ 6	Abbey-Leigh W Isla W

Getting ready for 2025

Planning for the 2026 school year is underway. If you have a child at White Hills Primary School this year and are NOT planning on returning for 2026 (excluding Year 6), can you please let the office know as soon as possible, to assist with classroom planning for next year.

If there are concerns about friendship placements for students in 2026, parents, carers and/or guardians are encouraged to email our Principal, Bec Harper - (Rebecca.Harper@education.vic.gov.au) by Friday, 7th November. Please include the educational reasons for this request. All requests must be received in writing before they will be considered.

Whilst we will take all requests into consideration, we do not guarantee that all requests will be implemented, as we must ensure that there is an equal balance of social, emotional and academic needs within each classroom. Please do not assume that requests made last year or prior to this time will be automatically adhered to.

Parents are also reminded that this process is not a request for a specific teacher. Classroom groups will be developed for social and educational needs, and then teachers will be matched with these classes once all appointment processes have been completed.

Regional Volleyball Championships

Best of luck to our 8 students who participated in the Regional Volleyball Championship in Swan Hill today. We will share more details from this next week.

Kind Regards,

Bec, Kim & Eddy

Wellbeing @ White Hills PS

Staff Wellbeing – Celebrating Mental Health Month

At White Hills Primary School, we believe that supporting the wellbeing of our staff is essential to creating a positive and thriving environment for everyone in our community. Throughout Mental Health Month, our team has come together in a number of ways to reflect, connect, and celebrate the importance of looking after ourselves and each other. Earlier this month, staff took part in a Be You professional learning session focused on staff wellbeing. This was a valuable opportunity to reflect on our current practices and identify new ways we can continue to strengthen wellbeing supports at White Hills PS.

We also came together for a light-hearted quiz afternoon on Tuesday, working in mixed teams to tackle questions about our school, current "Gen Alpha" slang (think 6–7!), music, and general knowledge. The laughter, friendly competition, and teamwork reminded us of the importance of balance, connection, and having fun together. It was the perfect way to head into the public holiday with spirits high and a strong sense of collegiality.

A huge thank you to our local community and staff for their generous support and donations that made our wellbeing initiatives possible: ***White Hills Takeaway, Get Naked Espresso, Red Lantern, Top Paddock Butchery, Richardson's Bakery, Top Dog Liquor White Hills, Terry White Chemmart White Hills, and our own talented staff contributors — Ash Farrow (tattoo artist and ES), Al Hawkey (Arbonne Fizz Sticks), Stew Scoble (wood donation), and Matt (Our Sweet Indulgence Eaglehawk).***

The generosity and care help us nurture a culture of wellbeing, gratitude, and connection within our school, which has a positive flow-on effect to our students and families.

Wellbeing @ White Hills PS

Digital Futures Community Connection Webinar: Young People & The Algorithm

Date & Time: Nov 18, 2025 07:00 PM in Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Description: The Digital Futures Community Connection Session aims to build community literacy and spread awareness of the importance of supporting children and young people into their digital future.
Come along and hear research presented by PROJECT ROCKIT CEO, Lucy Thomas about the way young people engage and think about the online algorithm. This technology underlies many aspects of our children's screen use and game time. This session will provide you with insight and some practical ideas about how you can discuss and support your child with the way the algorithm can impact on their lives.

Please register using your name and email address via the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_q5NlbvYTTqWCbWMpdV0vUA?_hsenc=p2ANqtz-_gjKwZSQWOYHDI9DsFaQTKNlgpX_uu2tZUFWcMwOidSl_H3Sj58j5CnmZcIva7kHboMG7g#/registration

Wellbeing @ White Hills PS

Would you like financial support to register your child for a sport? If yes, the 'Get Active Victoria' $200 vouchers are now open!

To be eligible for a $200 voucher, your child/dependant must be aged 0 to 18 years old, live in Victoria, and **one** of the below:

- -Named on a Health Care Card and Medicare Card.
- -Named on a Pensioner Concession Card and Medicare Card.
- -Hold either a temporary, provisional or student visa, or be an undocumented migrant.
- -Reside in Victorian Care Services.

For each eligible child, you can only apply for **either a voucher OR a reimbursement** in each round.

We encourage you to contact your activity provider before applying for a voucher to confirm that they:

1. Have space for your child.
2. Provide suitable activities for your child.
3. Have activities at a time and location that suit your schedule.
4.

How do I use my voucher?

Your voucher will be emailed to you after you successfully complete your application. Each child you apply for will receive their own voucher code.

When registering for your child's activity, you need to present the code to the activity provider or enter it into their online registration platform. Your child's registration/membership fees will be discounted by up to $200.

If your child is eligible, the link to register for a $200 is linked below:
https://www.getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers/apply-for-vouchers/
Please see the Wellbeing Team at school if you would like support in registering your child online.

Donut Day 2025

'Donut Day' Will be held on Thursday, 13th November at afternoon recess.

Donuts are available to order on the Compass app under the 'Canteen' tab. Select your child's name, select date '13th November'.

CASH / EFTPOS are also available at the office. They are supplied by Elmore Bakery.

Available flavors: Cinnamon Donut $2.50 (GF available for $4.00)

Strawberry Iced Donut $3.00

Chocolate Iced Donut $3.00

*Unfortunately, there is **not** a Dairy free option. Please consider providing your child with a special alternative food item on Donut Day.

Please ensure you place your order no later than 4pm Friday, 7th November.

Thank you from White Hills Primary School and all PFG members