White Hills Weekly

White Hills Primary School No 1916

Week 5 Term 4 *Wednesday, 1st November 2023*

white.hills.ps@education.vic.gov.au
P 5443 0799

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 2023

Monday 2nd October – Wednesday 20th December

Week 6
7th Nov Foundation Familiarisation Session 12.15pm – 1.45pm
9th Nov Foundation Familiarisation Session 12.15pm – 1.45pm
Week 7
13th Nov Foundation Swimming Program 13/11 to 17/11
Week 8
20th Nov Years 1 & 2 Swimming Program 20/11 to 24/11
21st Nov Foundation Familiarisation Session 12.15pm – 1.45pm
23rd Nov Foundation Familiarisation Session 12.15pm – 1.45pm
Week 9
30th Nov Year 2 Sleepover at School 5.15pm
Week 10
6th Dec Year 4 End of Year Celebrations
7th Dec Step Up Day
Grade 1 Tea
8th Dec **Curriculum Day: Pupil Free**
Week 11
12th Dec Statewide Orientation Day
WHPS Carols Night
13th Dec Year 6 Enterprise Showcase
Week 12
18th Dec Year 6 Graduation
19th Dec Years 5 & 6 Pool Day Bendigo East
20th Dec Dismissed @ 1.30pm Happy Holidays!

Principal's News

Dear Parents, carers and/or guardians,
It's been a busy week this week at White Hills Primary School. Congratulations to all our Grades 3 to 6 students for their amazing performance at our school production, Unprecedented, on Tuesday night. It was a fantastic night showcasing the amazing music program run by Kaine Marsh. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and passionate specialist! Thank you to all our community who supported the students throughout the practices and on the night. A special thank you to the following people:

- Lou, *for her efforts with the singers, help on the 3 rehearsal days, the brilliantly written songs of the show – and obviously for putting up with her husband's late nights of typing/text messages/phone calls!*
- Rene Sutton *who went above and beyond what a parent helper does normally. She worked with a group of Grade 5-6 students to create the amazing programs, helped fit the students out with costumes and a range of small odd jobs for Mr Marsh. She was also the stand-in stage manager for both the school rehearsals – which was a mighty task indeed.*
- Emily Untwan *who took many of my production classes in Term 3 and did an amazing job as the Stage Manager tonight – a tough gig indeed.*
- The Reynolds family *for the awesome DJ Granny stands, a number of the props and plenty of other bits and pieces.*
- Samantha Franklin *for her extraordinary set design – so wonderful to have someone be able to create what Mr Marsh dreamt of!*
- Fiona Mclennan *for helping fit out costumes.*
- The PFA *for the super effort providing Halloween spoils in the holding rooms for the students.*

SCHOOL DRESS CODE REMINDERS
Parents, carers and students are reminded that our school dress code requires shoulder length or longer hair to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Hair ties and head bands are to be navy, sky blue or school check.
Also, school uniform hats must be worn outside until 30 April, 2024. Please remind your child that hats must be worn at school when outside at all times during school.

PLANNING FOR 2024
Next week, teachers begin the process of allocating students to their 2024 classes.
This year, we will be trailing a new process to support our staff in this process. For a limited time, we are inviting input from parents about the next year's classes. We understand friendship groups are important, however, it is equally important to recognise the need to establish safe, caring and productive environments that support learning, as well as maintaining or building new friendship groups. If there are concerns about friendship placements for students in 2024, parents, carers and/or guardians are encouraged to let me know in writing by Monday 13th November. Parents will need to include the reasons for their request.
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.

Warm regards, Craig, Bec, Kim and Kristie

Compass

Compass is our new school communication, student management and payment system. It is important that parents, carers and guardians are connected to Compass, so that you will be able to receive notes, attendance notifications, excursion forms, and access your child's reports. Compass is accessible on any modern web browser (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) or by using the Compass iOS or Android apps. **Letters containing each family's unique username and password to log into COMPASS were sent home last term.** Please let the office know if you need any further information, support to log in or new access to new log in details.

Please let us know if there's anything further that we can do to support you here at WHPS.

Enrolments for 2024

If you have a child at White Hills Primary School this year and not planning on returning for 2024 (not including Year 6), can you please let the office know as soon as possible, to assist with classroom planning for next year.

Students of the week

Class	Student Name	Awarded for being their BEST
2TW	Skylar W	Showing responsibility in our classroom and getting more of her work finished in the set time.
2P	Say Myint Paw	Always giving everything her very best go and settling into 2P so quickly.
2M	Ayeasha Zephyr	Showing responsibility when working with toastie fractions, showing a whole, a half and a quarter. Showing responsibility in our yard and picking up rubbish without being asked.
1AK	Delta C	For showing responsibility for her learning by challenging herself while writing her narrative.
1TD	Zelda	For being responsible and challenging herself with her learning.
1G	Jordana	For always taking responsibility for her learning and responding to feedback.
1B	Luey	For showing responsibility by quickly transitioning during lesson changes in the classroom.
Prep P	Indigo	For showing great responsibility in the classroom and settling in fantastically into Prep P
Prep E	Zoe	For showing responsibility and striving to complete her tasks in the set time.
Prep F	Kobe E	For always being so responsible and determined to give his best when undertaking all his tasks. Well done Kobe!
Prep D	Annabelle	For always being a responsible learner throughout the year and setting an example for her classmates.
Art Mrs.Watchman	Isla W 3C	For always trying her best and being respectful during all art lessons
STEM Mrs Treloar	Oscar Y Prep D	For making great predictions and sharing his scientific thinking with others.
Art Mrs Freeman	Liam H Prep P	For always working responsibly in the art room and being a fabulous role model for others.

Let's give our award winners a round of applause

Class	Student Name	Awarded for being their BEST
3M	Logan M	For always demonstrating responsibility by being organised and ready to learn.
3V	Sadie P	For always being a respectful, responsible and caring member of class
3C	Abbie H AND Billie L	For being responsible class members and leading by example
4HB	Vivienne Cabot	We wish her all the best returning to her old school in the NT
4O	Mia	For being responsible by always settling to work quickly and using class time wisely.
4C	Ananya	For being a responsible class member and settling into new school routines
5R	Eva	For being a caring and kind classmate, who looks out for others.
5W	Georgia C	Showing responsibility for her learning by being organised.
5HB	Jack E	For taking responsibility towards his learning and engaging in classroom discussion.
5D	Lila F	Even after having a massive fall on the courts and needing first aid, Lila still made it to buddies and assisted her buddy.
6R	Lily B	For her outstanding progress in reading.
6B	Memphis S	For his amazing riding Casey last Saturday.
6MW	Ayden B	For continuing to build resilience and taking more responsibility for his learning. Great start to term 4.
6F	Ler Kaw	For giving all his work a go and for the improvement in confidence in the classroom.

A clap for our senior school award winners

In term 3, selected students from years 5&6 participated in the International Competition and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) writing competition. This competition is an independent, skills-based assessment program, with students from over 20 countries participating in the competition.
The results are in and I'm very proud of the success of all students who participated. The scoring and corresponding certificates include the following ranges: *Participation, Merit, Credit, Distinction and High Distinction*.
We had a range of certificates across all year levels, which were handed out this week in individual classrooms. .
Congratulations to the following students for their achievements!

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements!

Participation Awards – Emma J, Mia D, Isabel H, Jess S and Anna I

Credit- Dustin S, Millie R, K'Pru D and Willow J

What an achievement!!! Congratulations to all who participated!

Kim Davies and Rebecca Harper
Leading Teacher Mathematics and Leading Teacher Literacy

On the 19th of October, Sidrat I in 5W and Gemma R in 5D were invited to attend the MTQ and FLIP Challenge Award ceremony to be personally presented with her High Distinction they received for her mathematical inquiry into the Batmobile, and whether it would be feasible to build. Congratulations Sidrat and Gemma for your incredible achievement and for showcasing White Hills Primary School's incredible student talents and for displaying exemplary examples of our school values.

Following is the recount of the day they gave at last week's assembly.

Hi, my name is Sidrat and my name is Gemma. On Thursday, 19th of October, Gemma and I went to RMIT University in Melbourne to attend the 2023 MTQ and FLIP challenge award ceremony. In 2023, only High Distinction award winners were invited to attend the ceremony. We got a High Distinction for our inquiry into 'What are the costs associated with the Batmobile. The Maths Talent Quest (MTQ) is a national competition that encourages students to carry out real world mathematically based investigations. Only some entries went onto nationals. We participated at the state level. Some examples of the investigations from White Hills Primary school included mapping an Australian holiday, comparing the differences in resting and exercise heart rates, costs of buying and owning a dog from the shelter, designing a supershoe, investigating the decline in birth rates and investigating different aspects of Bendigo Creek, such as who uses the creek and the type and amount of rubbish that can be found in the creek and how this affects the animal life.

There were only about 20 high distinctions given from each year level across the state, one of which was ours. I'd like to thank Ms Davies for entering us into this wonderful competition.

Kim Davies
Leading Teacher Mathematics

Bendigo Senior Secondary College hosted the 2023 Chinese Language Competition last Saturday, the 28th of October. Over 90 primary school students from various Bendigo schools demonstrated their linguistic prowess in three categories, speaking, singing and reciting poems. Among all the Gr 3 to Gr 6 contestants in the Greater Bendigo region, our student Sidrat Islam came first both in the Chinese Speaking Competition and the Chinese Singing Competition. She will represent Bendigo Chinese learners to join the state-level competition in Melbourne next year. Congratulations on your wonderful achievement. Thank you to all the participants who represented White Hills Primary School in the competition. Well done!

Car Safety around White Hills Primary

We would like to remind all parents, carers and guardians about the safety of our students when dropping off and picking up from school. Surrounding streets enforce the reduced speed zones of 40km, to improve the safety of students.

At each pedestrian crossing, you must stop for anyone who is waiting to cross or who have started crossing. You must remain stopped until the crossing is clear. These rules apply even if there is no crossing supervisor.

Many different people frequently park in the **No Standing Zone**, right up against the school crossing on Plumridge St, so that visibility of the flags, the crossing supervisor and children getting ready to cross is obscured to drivers.

Some people give way to children crossing near the roundabout, **while others expect the children to give way to them (the correct road rules).** The people who are giving way to children near the roundabout are trying to do the right thing. However, they are confusing children about what the rules are –

Vehicles do not need to give way to pedestrians at roundabouts, unless there is a pedestrian crossing.

Our staff carpark is a designated space for staff only. We have noticed that this is becoming more 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.

What you can do

Supervise children in or near traffic.
The best way for children to learn to be safe on the roads is under your guidance, in real traffic, in everyday situations. Until children are about 10 or 11 years of age they do not have the necessary skills and physical abilities to be safe on their own so providing supervised practice is important.

Walk or cycle to school with your child.
Take the healthy option. If you can't walk the whole way, consider parking a few streets away and walking the rest of the way. Children under the age of 12 are allowed to ride on footpaths and so can adults riding with them.

Respect the road rules and parking signs.
It is important that parents park legally to provide a safer environment for children.
- Double parking restricts the view of drivers, forces children onto the road and obstructs the flow of traffic.
- Parking within 20 metres before a designated school crossing or 10 metres after is illegal.

Wait on the same side of the road as your child.
- Meet your child at the school gate to avoid your child dashing across the road.
- If picking up your child from the bus stop, wait on the same side as the bus.

If you need to drive to school, get your child into the habit of using the car's kerbside doors and ensure your child is using a booster seat or correctly adjusted seatbelt.
The safest doors are kerbside doors, away from traffic. For information about Victoria's child restraint road rules, visit **vicroads.vic.gov.au/ChildRestraints**

Participate in the development of a safe drop off and pick up strategy for your school.
Raise this issue with your school council and participate in the development of a 'safe to school' strategy. Visit **vicroads.vic.gov.au/safetoschool** for more information.

Obey these signs

40km/h sign
All school speed limits across the State are clearly signposted. Look out for the speed signs near schools and slow down to improve safety for children.

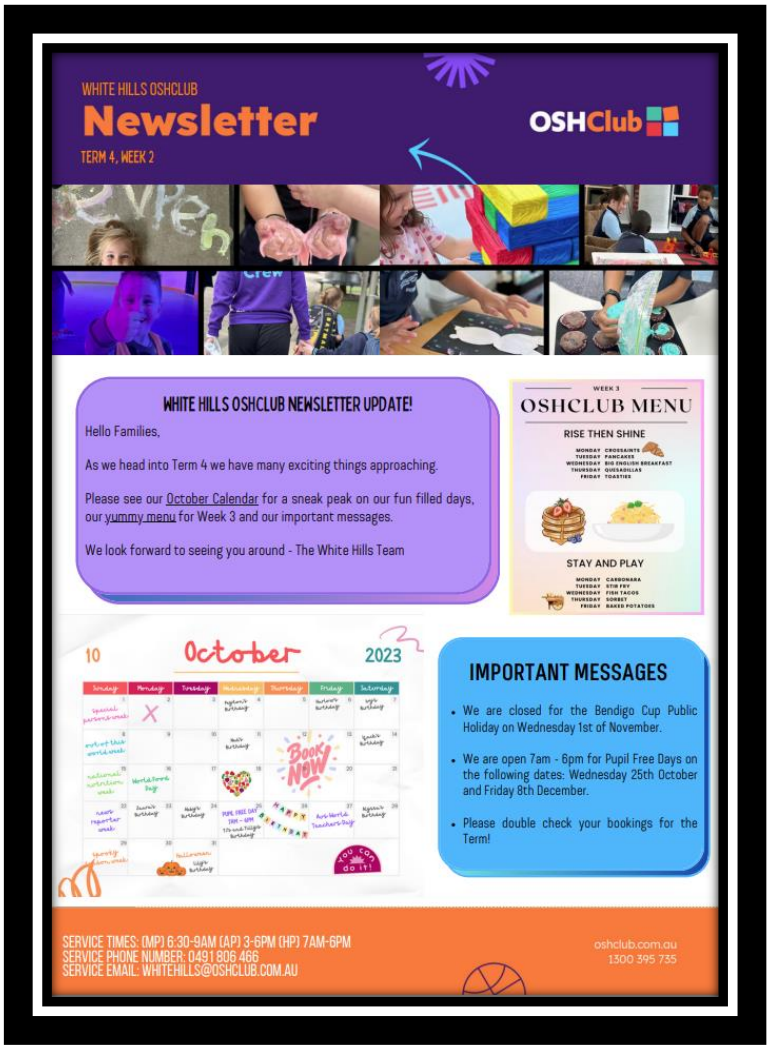
Children crossing
When the flags are displayed at a children's crossing, you must stop for pedestrians who are waiting to cross or who have started crossing. You must remain stopped until the crossing is clear. These rules apply even if there is no crossing supervisor.

No parking
It is important that you don't park in any area where this sign is displayed.

No stopping
No stopping means you must not stop at the kerb for any reason.

Bus zone
Take extra care and be on the lookout near school bus stops as children may be trying to cross the road nearby.

Some fun activities around Bendigo



Friendly Reminder

Any item or clothing brought to school must be named. We have so many jumpers, hats, drink bottles and lunchboxes in lost property.