



White Hills Primary School 1916

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**Aspire - Respect - Resilience - Responsibility**

Term 1 Week 2 February, 8<sup>th</sup> 2024 Newsletter

## ***News from the School Leaders***

### **Welcome Families**

On behalf of the School, I welcome our 574 students, new and continuing, to White Hills Primary School for 2024. I am pleased to report that our twenty-eight classrooms appear to be calm and well organised on our visits since we arrived back. Our teachers are well organised following the many hours involved in relocating to new rooms and preparing for the return of students. Well done to all involved!

This year we have some new staff. A warm welcome to Mitchell Hore (Prep), Tom Kirk (Year 2), Anna Lindhe (Year 3), Calum Gurd (Year 4) and Jordyn Hivon (Art). We also welcome our new Education Support staff, Zoe, Milan, Jess, Heather and Jackson.

For 2024, our class grouping has been organised with an average class size of 20.5 students across our school. This is significantly smaller than what other schools are offering and a significant improvement on the class sizes at White Hill in 2023.

This year students will experience specialist teachers in the areas of STEM, Music, Visual Arts and Physical Education. We are also eagerly awaiting news of the appointment of our new language teacher.

Over the coming weeks, I will be asking classroom teachers, if they have not done so already, to ensure that parents are connected to Compass. When used appropriately, this will ensure that there is ample opportunity for communication to occur between home and school. I am expecting that teachers will use and check this daily. I trust that parents will do the same and will be encouraged to communicate with teachers in this manner, when they are unable to pop-in.

Families are asked to ensure that all medical records of students and emergency contact details of families including mobile phone and residential records are kept up to date.

Finally, it was exciting to see our students arriving to school last week. In the first few weeks the focus is focused on developing routines, expectations and building a positive classroom environment. I would like to share that we have no further information or news relating to, if and when, our principals are likely to be returned to school. In the meantime, I would like to remind families that the staff are here to assist, where possible, and that we look forward to having a great school year together.

**Regards Craig, Bec & Kim**

## Calendar of Events Term 1 2024

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Term 1

14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Netbook Information Session 9:00am

14<sup>th</sup> Feb – AFL Carlton Players Years 3 – 6

16<sup>th</sup> Feb - School Photo Day

04<sup>th</sup> Mar - Foundation students attending fulltime.

08<sup>th</sup> Mar - Division Volleyball

11<sup>th</sup> Mar - Labor Day Public Holiday (No School)

12<sup>th</sup> Mar - Student Leadership Conference Melbourne

18<sup>th</sup> Mar - Years 3 - 6 Swimming Program (all week)

26<sup>th</sup> Mar - Years 1 – 2 AFL Clinic 9.00am / 2.00pm

27<sup>th</sup> Mar - Years 1 – 2 AFL Clinic 9.00am / 2.00pm

28<sup>th</sup> Mar - Last Day Term Early Finish 2.30pm

**School Holidays 29<sup>th</sup> March – 14<sup>th</sup> April**

### Term 2

15<sup>th</sup> April Term 2 Starts

## Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Team is seeking volunteers to support our Breakfast Club program, currently running on Tuesdays and Thursdays 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



## 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 2024, school council elections must be completed by March 31st. Election forms are now available from our school office.

### This year we have the following members due to retire:

Parent Members	DET Members	Community Members
Kim Newman	Sabina Riordan	
Leah Wilson	Scott Ross	
Caroline Robinson		
Kate Howells		
Natalie Reynolds		

## ELECTION TIMETABLE FOR 2024

### School council election process and timetable

Name of the school: **White Hills Primary School**

Letter	Event	DATE
a)	Notice of election and call for nominations	Wednesday 7 February 2024
b)	Closing date for nominations	Wednesday 14 February 2024
c)	Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Friday 16 February 2024
d)	Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Monday 19 February 2024
e)	Close of ballot	Monday 26 February 2024
f)	Vote count	<u>Tuesday 27 February 2024</u>
g)	Declaration of poll	<u>Wednesday 28 February 2024</u>
h)	Special council meeting to co-opt community members (the principal will preside)	<u>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024</u>
i)	First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	<u>Monday 25 March 2024</u>

# Introducing our 2024 Student Leaders

Back Row: Mason, Azzi, Laynie, Olivia, Kenzie  
Front Row: Jochebed, Grace, Gemma, Jed, Sidrat, Siara  
Absent: Harrison



**The following students will be announced at tomorrow's assembly at 3pm,  
all Parents are encouraged to attend.**

Class	Student	Awarded for being their BEST
Prep D	Nicola	For her amazing effort at settling into Prep and following all classroom routines and procedures each day.
Prep F	Oscar	For settling in so well to Prep and being a terrific listener who treats all his classmates kindly and respectfully.
Prep E	Jameson	For displaying so much confidence and bring his own bag into the classroom and unpacking it!
Prep B	Scarlett L	For demonstrating a positive attitude and confidence in her first week at school.
Prep H	Tahlia	For displaying such a positive attitude to her first days of school!
1AK	Levi T	For coming into the room and getting himself organised and ready to learn. A great start to grade 1 Levi!
1G	Zayvier	For showing wonderful manners to his teachers and being super helpful. Great job Zayvia!
1F	Liam W	For starting his day ready to learn and showing respect for our new routines in Grade 1! Well done, Liam!
1B	Liam	For demonstrating respect by raising his hand during class discussions and following the expected noise level when working.
2W	Fenella P	For showing respect through always demonstrating kindness towards others by offering to help them after she is finished her work.
2P	Delilah A	For always showing respect and kindness to every student and adult in 2P. What a great start to Grade 2.
2TD	Mila F	For demonstrating respect through always being organised and ready to learn (She also wrote an excellent retell of Hunwick's egg).
2K	Pippa	For showing great organisational skills and being ready to learn every lesson.
3M	Nyssa L	For being a respectful listener on the floor and being a good friend to others in the classroom.
3V	Parka R	For a fantastic start to WHPS and trying his best when settling into the classroom routines
3C	Sonny s	For being a kind, caring and helpful classmate.
3L	Bridget F	For being a kind and compassionate friend to her classmates.
4O	Wyatt	For being so respectful and having a positive start to the year!
4HW	Lilly T	For a fantastic start to the year and having a go at all tasks set.
4BL	Laylah	For giving her best at everything and being extremely helpful around the room
4G	Ava H	For bringing a positive mindset towards her schoolwork and treating her classmates respectfully
5D	Lila M	For sharing her ideas and asking questions during whole class discussions.
5R	Alex B	For the respectful way he treats all members of our class and the whole school community.
5W	Kayden C	Respecting the opinions and ideas of his classmates
6K	Gemma R	For the way she consistently uses her manners and shows an awareness of others around her.
6B	Abbey B	For the respect she shows her classmates.
6MW	Jagger	For always showing respect to teachers, staff and peers.
6F	Zayne	For always cheerfully greeting staff in morning circle
Sports Award Mr Scoble	Hazel G	For a great start to her new school being respectful of all. Showing resilience in her first beep test!
STEM Mrs Treloar	Sam S 4HW	For demonstrating respect to his peers by willingly sharing his knowledge about the states of matter.
STEM Mrs Millard	Oliver Bu 4O	For respectfully sharing his ideas about what solids and liquids are and using great scientific words to explain his thinking.
Art Mrs. Watchman	Zoey V 3L	For a creative start to 2024
Music Award Mr Marsh	Jackson Smith	For giving the bass guitar a red-hot crack! I look forward to seeing what he plays on it next week?

# 2024 Housekeeping

## ***Lunch Orders:***

Just a reminder to change your child's year level and classroom when placing a lunch order. This will make sure that your child's lunch is being sent to the correct classroom in time for lunch.

## ***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:***

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 to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours, from 8.50am - 3.30pm. This means Mobile Phones are switched off once students enter the school grounds in the morning. Phones are to be stored in classroom secure storage or at the office. When emergencies occur, parents or carers should reach their child by calling the school's office – not on the mobile phone.

## ***Handing in Money***

From time-to-time students may be required to bring money to school for an excursion or event. It is important that any money handed over by a student needs to be in an envelope with all the relevant information written on the front prior to being handed to the office.

## **COMPASS**

*Compass will be the primary source of information from 2024 onwards. Compass will be used for email communications, scheduling interviews, accessing semester reports, managing absences, sending out notes to parents and also making payments. If you have not already got your LOGIN details (or needing your password reset), please call in to the office ASAP. We are wanting to only work with COMPASS from Term 2.*

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

Regards Sebina, Danni, Fleur & Simone

If anyone has some 26in or bigger bike tubes for the tops of the bins, I don't need new tubes, any tubes even with punctures are what I need and as many as I can get.

Regards Matt



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$150 for primary school students
- \$250 for secondary school students

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools this year.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:  
<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>



Auskick in Eaglehawk begins **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April** at Canterbury Oval between 9:00am – 10:00am and runs for 10 weeks, including 3 x Halftime games at Eaglehawk Football Club home games.

The NAB Auskick program makes learning to play AFL fun, safe and easy for boys and girls. Through weekly coaching sessions children will learn the skills of the game in an exciting and social environment.

To register, go to [www.play.afl/auskick](http://www.play.afl/auskick) or for more information, go to our Facebook page "Eaglehawk Auskick"