Hi everyone and welcome to the latest edition of the linkletter.

I hope you all enjoy the upcoming long weekend. A reminder that we have a student free day on Tuesday 15\textsuperscript{th}, therefore all students are required back to school on Wednesday 16\textsuperscript{th} March.

Staff will all be updating their first aid qualifications including how to use our new defibrillator machine (which is a great asset to have in the school and also upgrading our anaphylaxis management process and training. I believe first aid training is of great importance in a school environment and this can give you all confidence that you will have trained first aid staff on hand for all school based activities.

**Student Led Conferences**  
Next week you will receive a notice regarding our Student Led conferences. These are to be held in the final week of school, which amazingly, is only two weeks away. We will again be using our online booking service via school interviews. These conferences provide an invaluable teaching moment. The shared experience allows students to reflect on their achievements and accomplishments over the first term and more importantly allow students to collaborate with parents and staff in setting their learning goals for the semester ahead. Research shows that this is a powerful and important step in building cognitive connection to the learning process. All parents are encouraged to book a time to share in your child’s learning journey. These conferences set a wonderful platform for students to embed their goals and future learning strategies. Staff will be available for late night meetings on Tuesday 22\textsuperscript{nd} March. Keep an eye out for the note coming home next week.

**Swimming**  
*Our Year 3-6 intensive swimming program is continuing over the next 2 weeks on the following days:*  
March 17\textsuperscript{th}, 22\textsuperscript{nd} and 24\textsuperscript{th}  
All classes will be held at Yarra Swim School (walking distance from school).

**Watsonia Heights School Council**  
Thank-you to the parents who have nominated to join our School Council.  
I can confirm the following 2016/17 school membership.  
Cathy Williams, Kate Fisher, Leigh Greenhalgh, Pierre Scotney, Belinda Denison, Charlotte Bethune, Richard Illingworth, Tony Ryan, Jessica Rancie, Ally Clarke, Chantelle Lanyon.  
If you have any questions or feedback for school council please contact me directly.

**Policy review**  
As part of the ongoing cycle of policy review and development, school council has recently completed the Diabetes policy. This is attached to the website for your review and feedback.

**Special food day**  
We have a special food day coming up on Wednesday 23rd March, which has already been distributed!!
Planning week
Next week all staff will be involved in planning week. This is an invaluable opportunity for staff to get together to plan the term 2 curriculum and ensures our high expectations are catered for and also allows preparation time to ensure our dynamic and engaging learning programs continue.

Cultural diversity
To acknowledge Cultural Diversity week and to further explore our Languages program, Miss Lee has organised a Chinese Dragon incursion. Serina has worked hard in securing a local community grant to support this activity and hence there will be no added costs to parents. The incursion will be enjoyed by all students on Monday 21st March. This program is a wonderful way to promote understanding, respect, empathy and enjoyment of other cultures. Whilst our languages program does this for our students in some degree, it is always timely to remind students of the strength of diversity we have in Australia. A unique country, blessed with a wide range of cultures and backgrounds. As parents, you have a huge role to play in celebrating this message at home and in the local community. Our students are the next generation of leaders. We have a responsibility to promote a positive and embracing mentality when it comes to cultural diversity. All too often we see of how this may manifest in a negative way around the world. It starts with educating ourselves and our families about respect and cultural understanding. There are so many great aspects to embrace and enjoy from the culturally diverse country within which we live in.

Relay for life
As you will have read in previous newsletters, WHPS is again committed to the ‘Relay for Life’ fundraising campaign. This is a wonderful cause to raise money for those effected by cancer. It’s quite uncommon these days to know of anyone whom hasn’t been touched by cancer in some way over their life. The Relay for Life initiative requires us to put together a team of people to participate in a 22 hour relay around Willinda Park athletics track in Greensborough. There are lots of fun activities throughout the afternoon and evening and it’s also a great way to meet new people and work together for a great social service.

To support this great cause we are conducting a ‘casual clothes’ day on Friday 18th March. Students are able to be out of uniform for that day and are asked to bring along a gold coin (or even more if you like) donation.

Further details around the WHPS Relay for Life team, including how to register are attached to this newsletter. Many thanks to Pierre Scotney who is our nominated team captain for 2016!

School Open Night and Family Fun Night
Thanks to everyone whom came along to our Open night last week. This was a great opportunity for you to explore your child’s classroom and learning spaces as well as spend some time socializing with friends, old and new! It was wonderful to present our Prep students to the community and for them to receive our gift of a book to enhance the reading excitement at home and also to be able to have as a memento of this first term at school!!

Working Bee
Thanks to the parents whom attended our recent working bee. It was great to have some much needed support which allowed us to complete a myriad of beautification and maintenance jobs around the school. Our great school is enhanced by the involvement of all community members. In amongst the business of life, it was great that so many parents could find the time to spare for our school. The students are all beneficiaries of your time and effort. Thank-you!!!

PATHS - Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies
One of the foci of our PATHS program is develop students’ understanding of their feelings.

FEELINGS
When we feel better, then we can think more clearly about what to do next. One of the major emphases of the PATHS program is to teach students how to recognise and talk about feelings. We want to give students alternative ways to express feelings other than to just ignore them or act them out. The ability to identify how we feel and how others feel and the capacity to express our feelings appropriately are very important for:

- understanding ourselves
- relating to others
- controlling our behaviours
- solving our problems.
Often students (and adults) either don’t know or are confused about how to express their feelings in an adaptive way. This often makes relationships very difficult and can make problems worse. Throughout the PATHS program students will learn and talk about different feelings. Some of the feelings are comfortable (happy, fine, excited etc.) and others are uncomfortable (angry, sad, confused, mad etc.) During the lessons, the students will be taught such things as:

- different kinds of clues that help us recognise our own feelings
- recognising the feelings of others,
- how and why to consider another’s point of view
- how one’s behaviour can affect other people
- how the behaviour of others can affect oneself.

During the lessons an emphasis will be placed on the fact that all feelings are natural and OK to have but that some behaviours can be displayed from these different feelings, are not always OK. Parents/ caregivers can use examples from home to reinforce this message to your children.

**FEELINGS and BEHAVIOURS**

The ability to identify how we feel and how others feel and the capacity to express our feelings appropriately are very important. Students involved in the PATHS program will build a bank of feelings throughout their school years. These feelings will be linked to feeling faces that students may access in their classroom. Each student will learn that throughout the day many different feelings maybe experienced. The identification of these feelings and the linking to appropriate behaviours assist students to better understand that feelings and behaviours are different. A student may feel upset or frustrated, but still behave appropriately. Students will also see that talking about feelings is sometimes a solution to the problem. Students develop a vocabulary to express their thoughts and feelings through this program. In the PATHS program the children will learn that feelings are important signals that give us information that may need to be acted upon. We all experience comfortable and uncomfortable feelings and being able to identify these feelings and deciding what to do is an important step in finding an appropriate solution to the problem. Behaviours can be OK” (sharing, asking) or “NOT OK” (pushing, teasing).

**FEELINGS :**
- Comfortable – happy, proud, excited
- Uncomfortable – angry, sad, disappointed

**BEHAVIOURS :**
- OK – sharing, asking
- NOT OK – pushing, teasing

Discussing feelings doesn’t solve the problem but it is an important step in finding an appropriate solution to the problem. Parents/caregivers can reinforce the difference between feelings and behaviours in situations that occur at home. To personalise the process, identify feelings for a particular home situation that may involve the parent and then discuss the appropriate behaviour assists students to make a meaningful link.

**Staff Carpark**

**PARENTS ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE NOT PARK IN THE STAFF CARPARK.**

This is still growing issue that needs to be avoided. We are also having some problems with congestion in and around the school. Unfortunately we don’t have great parking facilities however, this can be improved through everyone’s awareness, consideration and patience. I have been informed that the council will be active in issuing infringement notices in coming weeks. On a similar topic, thank-you to everyone for reverse parking in the visitors carpark.

**Family Payments**

Please note all termly and Monthly payment plans are now due, payment date was extended to 15th March. Fortnightly payment plans are due on the 1st and the 15th of every month. If you are unsure of your family payment plan please contact Leah in the office or email Watsonia.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
Easter Raffle
As you are ware we are currently conducting our Easter Raffle. This has two elements.

- purchasing/selling raffle tickets
- donating chocolate to develop our prize pool.

All donations will be used to develop our prizes. All students will receive something and many, many students will receive additional prizes. We are giving 3 major prizes and lots of peripheral prizes.

Thanks to all the families who have already donated, please keep them coming in!!

The fundraising of the school forms an important part of our ongoing improvement. Whilst the opportunities provided are aimed to be as unobtrusive as possible, all fundraising efforts are greatly appreciated. This year your contributions and support will be focused towards a few major projects:

- Enhancing or literature sets across the school. This includes bolstering our classroom guided reading sets, increasing our library resources and strengthening our home reading texts.
- Improving our buildings and grounds – including a potential outdoor learning space (long term goal)

Warm regards,

Michael
WHPS Term 1 2016 Calendar Dates

March 2016
Monday 14th – LABOUR DAY – Public Holiday – No School today!
Tuesday 15th – Curriculum Day – No school today!
Wednesday 16th – School Baking will be collected
Friday 18th – Gr 3 – 6 Inter-School Sports – Home v Bundoora PS
Monday 21st – Cultural Diversity incursion for all students
Wednesday 23rd – Gr 3 – 6 Inter-School Sports – FINALS – TBC
Special Food Day – Cheeseburger
Thursday 24th – Last Day of Term 1!! SCHOOL FINISHES @ 1:30PM

April 2016
Monday 11th – First day of Term 2 – 9am Assembly Start
Thursday 14th – School Photo Day

CANTEEN HELPERS DESPERATELY NEEDED !!!!

Please nominate yourself by placing your name on our roster at the front office if you are able to help – Wednesdays & Fridays.

NB: Please note additional help needed on special food day on Wednesday, 23rd.

STUDENT BANKING

Every Tuesday.
To open a student bank acct. please collect a pack from the office.

UNIFORM SHOP

Open Tuesday MORNING 8.30-9.00am
and Thursday AFTERNOON 3–3.45pm

Order forms available from the office stand and the schools website.
To place an order, please complete order form and submit to the office.

Orders are completed every Tuesday for collection on Tuesday afternoons at the office. You may also email your order request to Leah or Juanita at watsonia.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
## Summer Inter-School Sport Fixture 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 5(^{th}) February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 4(^{th}) March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensborough v Streeton</td>
<td>St. Mary’s v Watsonia Heights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundoora v Watsonia North</td>
<td>Bundoora v Watsonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia v St Marys</td>
<td>Norris Bank v Greensborough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norris Bank v Watsonia Heights</td>
<td>Watsonia North v Streeton</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 2</th>
<th>Round 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 12(^{th}) February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 11(^{th}) March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s v Bundoora</td>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Streeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia V Watsonia Heights</td>
<td>Greensborough v Bundoora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensborough V Watsonia North</td>
<td>St. Mary’s v Watsonia North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streeton V Norris Bank</td>
<td>Norris Bank v Watsonia</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 3</th>
<th>Round 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 19(^{th}) February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 18(^{th}) March</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streeton V St Marys</td>
<td>Streeton V Watsonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Greensborough</td>
<td>Watsonia Heights v Bundoora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia North v Watsonia</td>
<td>Greensborough V St Marys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundoora v Norris Bank</td>
<td>Watsonia North V Norris Bank</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round 4</th>
<th>Finals Wednesday 23(^{rd}) March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 26(^{th}) February</strong></td>
<td><strong>Note: No make-up rounds due to short term.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia V Greensborough</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watsonia North v Watsonia Heights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s V Norris Bank</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bundoora v Streeton</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**VENUES 2016**

- Bundoora Primary School: Cricket played at Telfer Reserve. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Greensborough Primary School: Cricket and rounders played at War Memorial Oval. Basketball and bat tennis played at school.
- Watsonia Primary School: All sports played at school grounds. **No Rounders team**
- Watsonia Heights Primary School: Cricket played at Central Oval, Glenice St. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Watsonia North Primary School: Cricket played at Warrawee Park. Jacqueline Rd (10 minute walk) All other sports played at school grounds. Away cricket team should get dropped off at Warrawee Park by bus.
- St. Mary’s Primary School: Cricket played at Whatmough Park, Greensborough. All other sports played at school grounds.
- Streeton Primary School: All sports played at school grounds.
- Norris Bank: Sports played at school grounds or across road (short walk) Greenhills Rd, Norris Bank Reserve. **No Cricket team**
## WHPS STUDENT OF THE WEEK

For Week beginning 29TH of February 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Sean</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>For working so hard to improve his listening skills. Well done! For such a fantastic job in gardening club. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layla</td>
<td>PW</td>
<td>For being a great listener, always trying her best and being kind to others. Great start to Prep Layla!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lily Archie</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For being a methodical student who takes pride in all her week. For being cooperative and reliable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matilda</td>
<td>1/2 T</td>
<td>For showing leadership skills when providing assistance to peers that need help.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristy</td>
<td>3 R</td>
<td>For her excellent effort in using openers in her persuasive openers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan Kirsten</td>
<td>3/4 A</td>
<td>For his outstanding work in Maths. Great Job tiger. For her fantastic attitude and her excellent work in writing. Well done Kristen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levi</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>For doing an amazing job with his ‘Big Write’ on why he should be allowed to keep a tiger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>For showing a consistent effort towards his schoolwork. Keep up the great work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conner</td>
<td>5/6 M</td>
<td>For showing maturity and taking responsibility for your actions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### For Week beginning 7th of March 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zach</td>
<td>PC</td>
<td>For thinking of so many words that start with the new letter we are learning. For improving his work habits by taking his time and doing his best.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xander</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>PW</td>
<td>For being a fantastic listener and always offering to help. Thank you for being such a great member of our classroom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kara</td>
<td>1/2 E</td>
<td>For her fabulous work in the Library and helping her classmates. For being a wonderful friend and always helping others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayla</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owen</td>
<td>1/2 S</td>
<td>For being a steady worker during Maths time. For being very thoughtful and helpful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zara</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>1/2 T</td>
<td>For his proactive attitude and improvement in his listening and work habits. Keep up the fabulous efforts!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ally</td>
<td>3 R</td>
<td>For using PATHS strategies to calm down and solve a problem. Great swimming Ally!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox</td>
<td>3/4 A</td>
<td>For excellent display of leadership and sportsmanship at interschool sport. Well done Fox!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel</td>
<td></td>
<td>For an outstanding persuasive text ‘There should not be a tip next to W.H.P.S.’ Keep up the great work!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam</td>
<td>3/4 G</td>
<td>For demonstrating excellent effort and behavior. For her fantastic attitude and her excellent work in writing. Well done Kristen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexie</td>
<td>5/6 M</td>
<td>For your perseverance during writing tasks and your creation of a food advertisement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU BUSY BUSY BEES

Cathy           |  Laurenn
Belinda         |  Russell
Justyn          |  Jo
Sarah           |  Kim
Angela & Wayne  |  Leigh
Mandy           |  Michelle
Malia & Lee     |  Ursula
Vanessa         |  Naomi
Kate            |  Dave
Annabelle       |  Sam
Leanne          |  Nicole
Tina            |  Rohan & Melanie
Family Fun Night!

Thank you to all those who came to Family Fun Night. We hope you had a great night with all of our wonderful WHPS families!
Discovery Learning
The students in years 3-6 have begun working on mini tasks to develop their understanding of the different technologies in the Discovery Learning Centre. These include media centre, sewing machines, tinker table, Makey Makey, Raspberry Pi, pen and tablet, virtual reality, 3D printer, 3D doodler and Lego Mindstorm.

Big Write
During the term students have created new advertising products and have written persuasive texts to convince people to buy their product.
SATURDAY MORNING AUSKICK AT BINNAK PARK
Welcome to Watsonia North Auskick for Season 2016. Registrations are now open for this season. Registrations and payments must be made online. Please register and pay on-line NOW.

We welcome all boys and girls from 5 to 12 years old. Come and join our quality program run by accredited coaches. Bring your friends and have some fun!

http://www.aflauskick.com.au

SEASON INFORMATION:
When: Saturday mornings
Where: Binnak Park, Sharpes Road, Watsonia North
Time: 9.00am – 10.30am
Enquiries: email: watsnthauskick@gmail.com
Phone: Tania or Mark 0413088207

Come and celebrate Palm Sunday
at Messy Church at Watsonia
Uniting Church, 71 Devonshire
Road, Watsonia

Sunday 20 March, 4 to 6pm
Story, craft, music, cooking plus a delicious meal

For children of all ages and their families, people of all faiths and none
Enquiries to Margie Dahl on 0403625122 or dahlmargie@gmail.com
Wriggle It
Indoor Play Centre & Cafe

"Bop Till You Drop" Disco

From 5-7PM, 2nd Friday of Every Month!

So come get your Wriggle On!

28/445 Grange Rd, Bundoora

Entry
$7.50 Under 3's
$9.50 3yo +

Upcoming Disco Dates
March 11th
April 8th
May 13th
June 10th

Mon-Fri
8.30am - 4.00pm
Sat-Sun
9.00am - 5.00pm

Disco Days
8.00am - 7.00pm
Public Holidays
Closed

9488 9102
WWW.WRIGGLEIT.COM.AU
Facebook
Social Support Group for Parents and Carers of a Child with a Disability

Welcoming all parents and or carers, of a primary school aged child with a disability. This social support group provides a space to share ideas, take a break and feel inspired about parenting. This six week program in a child friendly and community space is free and offers a friendly and confidential space for parents to talk about what matters to them.

Commencing: Monday 18th April 10 to 12pm
Northern Community Church of Christ at 81 High St Preston

Bookings essential please ring Sue Silk
Melbourne City Mission on 9385 3235
email ssilk@mcm.org.au
movies
ON THE MOVE
free

Shaun the Sheep

Sat 27th February, 4.00pm-8.00pm

LOCATION
Petrie Park
Mountainview Rd, Montmorency

• FREE children’s activities, including face painting, start from 4.00pm
• Movie starts from 6.00pm
• BYO seating and blanket
• BYO picnic
• Sausage sizzle

• Meet your local Councillor Steven Briffia and our ‘Out and About’ team
• Accessible event
• No bookings required

Face painting

MORE INFORMATION
www.banyule.vic.gov.au or call us on 9490 4222
Hello! Are you interested in joining the fight against cancer?

The Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay team will be walking for 22 hours at the Cancer Council’s Diamond Valley 2016 Relay For Life on Saturday 19th March from 12:00 pm at the Willinda Park (Athletics Track), Beatrix Street, Greensborough.

To participate in this memorable and rewarding family experience you only have to walk for a 1 hour stint but are welcome to do more. If you have never experienced the Relay before there is music, activities and fun that will keep you and your children entertained for hours.

The Relay For Life is a fun and moving overnight experience that raises vital funds for Cancer Council’s research, prevention and support services. Thousands of Australians participate in over 200 Relays across Australia each year. Some people Relay in memory of a loved one lost to cancer. Some do it to show how proud they are at having survived cancer. Some do it to show they are strong enough to beat cancer. And some simply want to be involved and make a difference. Whatever your reasons, you’ll never forget your first Relay experience!

Last year, under the captancy of Troy Hoffman, the Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay team raised an outstanding $3210! This year we are aiming for $4000.

If you want to join the team for this wonderful event:

- Register with the Watsonia Height Primary School Relay team at the Relay For Life website [http://www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au) see the next page for more details (registration costs $20 per person until 19th Feb, when it becomes $25, this includes a Relay For Life jumper which will be mailed to you).
- Print out a sponsorship form, available here Please Sponsor Me Form and start collecting sponsorship donations. Collected donation can be paid directly through the Relay For Life website.
- View the team roster here 2016 WHPS Relay Team Roster and let me know at what time you would like to participate in the Relay. We can have more than one team member walking at the same time to give support but we need to fill every hour with at least one team member to keep the WHPS Cape moving.

If you are unable to attend the Relay please consider sponsoring a friend, student, parent or teacher that is doing the Relay.

I will be camping at the Relay with my family and you are welcome to bring a tent and join the WHPS Relay team. The Relay canteen has hot drinks and snacks available all night and BBQ bacon and egg rolls at breakfast. Also expect Team Kill Cancer to have their famous BBQ spit-roast going again this year!

If you have any questions about the Relay please email, text or call me.

Pierre Scotney (Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay Team Captain 2016)
email: pscotney@gmail.com  mob: 0400058729
Cancer Council Relay For Life
Watsonia Heights Primary School Relay Team

Where: Willinda Park (Athletics Track), Beatrix Street, Greensborough

When: Saturday 19th March from 12:00pm to 10:00am on Sunday 20th March 2016

To register with the WHPS Relay team go to http://www.relayforlife.org.au website. Select the “Register” tab and enter “Watsonia Heights Primary School” into the “Team” search tab and select “Search”:

Then select “Join” in the returned results screen:

and complete the on-line registration: