

The Heights Happenings

Thursday 29 November 2018



MOUNT WAVERLEY
HEIGHTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dates to remember

Parents Report

TERM FOUR 2018

Friday 30th November

Prep Transition Session (4)
9:30am -12:30pm

Monday 3rd December

Assembly 2:45pm

Wednesday 5th December

Second Internal Transition

Tuesday 11th December

Year 6 Secondary Orientation Day
Year 5 Excursion

Thursday 13th December

Christmas concert and raffle

Friday 14th December

Year 6 Community Sports Day

Monday 17th December

Final Assembly 9am

Wednesday 19th December

Year 6 Graduation Night

Thursday 20th December

Year 6 Excursion

Friday 21st December

LAST OF OF SCHOOL 1:30pm

TERM ONE 2019

Tuesday 29th January

CURRICULUM DAY

Wednesday 30th January

CURRICULUM DAY

Thursday 31st January

Year 1-6 Students begin

Friday 1st February

Prep Students begin

Monday 4th February

Assembly 2:45pm



Refer to the website for Notices

<http://mountwaverleyheightsps.vic.edu.au/parent-information/>

PARENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thank you to the parents who attended the Parent Committee Meeting last Friday. So many terrific ideas shared. If you were unable to attend but would love to know about what was discussed, the minutes from this meeting are available at the office.

PREP ORIENTATION MORNING TOMORROW!

Session 4

Friday 30 November, 9:30am – 12:30pm

PREP ORIENTATION MORNING

Children will need to bring a hat and their morning tea including water in a named drink bottle.

For the parents – Uniform Shop, Tea, Coffee and Chat (PAC)

YEAR ½ LATE STAY/SLEEPOVER

Thank you to the Year ½ team and the ES staff who organised our late stay/sleepover event. By all accounts, it was a great success with students coping with their first official school camp. Our camping program builds student's independence as well as establishing lifelong memories.



GOOGLE TRAINING

Staff participated in a training course run by Google last week. They have learnt how to set up a google classroom, link students to different tasks and looked at ways teachers can provide immediate and relevant feedback.



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INTERNAL TRANSITION

We held our first internal transition session yesterday. After hearing a little bit about their new year level, students then created a 'I work best with' list. These lists will be used to help form our 2019 classes. We will ensure that at least one friend from their list is in their class.



ELECTION DAY BBQ

Thank you to Airlie and Alison for organising the Election Day BBQ. Thank you also to everyone who baked for the cake stall. We raised around \$1300! With a live band, cakes, sausages and coffee we sure did create a celebratory atmosphere!



CLASS STRUCTURES 2019

Next year we will have 10 classes. We have grown by one class! We expect to have a student population of around 215 next year.

We will have....

- 2 X Prep
- 4 X Year 1/2 classes
- 2 X Year 3/4 classes
- 2 X Year 5/6 classes

We will be able to offer weekly Music sessions next year (currently fortnightly). I see this as a pivotal step in providing a great Arts program.

We recently made the decision to go to 4 Year ½ classes and as such we are still currently in the hiring phase for the additional classroom position. We are hoping to announce the staffing structure in next week's newsletter.

After teaching in a particular area for many years, it is really important for staff to have the opportunity to experience a different level so that they can grow professionally and continue learning. There will be some changes next year and we are really happy with the level of experience coupled with new ideas from teachers joining the MWHPS team.



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TRIP TO SYDNEY

My trip to Sydney last week (sponsored by our industry partners) was fantastic! I visited three schools, met with Google computer engineers and had a tour of the Sydney officers - which truly blew my mind!

School Visits: During these visits, I was able to discuss their school's journey, how they use ICT to engage and innovate and how they utilise 21st century learning skills as a lense to all that they do. Some key take away messages....

- Google platform was utilised to develop consistent practices as teachers shared and collaborated together across all areas of learning. It also helps to cut down on workload by easily sharing resources, planning and assessment responsibilities.
- Easy use of Google Ad ons (Fubaroo, Quizizz) and other technologies like QR codes and augmented reality to enhance teaching practices.
- Utilising inquiry based projects that integrate learning for real life. E.g. students learned about a city area (currently not developed), used google earth to view it from different angles, used google forms to establish a student and parent survey on how families currently used the space and how they travelled to and from the area. They then used this data to design a use for this community space. Ideas incorporated skate parks, adventure areas, community hubs, etc. They then designed and created a 3D representation of their proposals incorporating initial survey data, articulating the maths behind each space (some had recreational activity spaces combined with community buildings) and writing a proposal outlining who the space was designed for and their design features. Presenting their investigations to their peers completed the inquiry.
- Learning for Life - 21st century learning skills are rewarded and highlighted. The skills assessed were based on a students ability to collaborate, apply their learning, persevere, integrate technology and question.
- Incorporation of Techie Brekkies for staff to ensure ongoing learning opportunities.
- Importance of meeting regularly to analyse student data and progress. They shared the responsibility for student learning amongst all teachers at each level.
- Importance of ongoing professional learning for all staff.

When meeting with Google reps I found out about a range of grants, online training courses, lending libraries and most importantly available resources which link to curriculum standards. I also have a list of key contacts in both the education and IT area to draw upon in supporting us, as we move towards becoming an IT Beacon School.

MATHS SPECIALIST GRANT

Carolyn and I applied for The Primary Maths initiative grant in Term 3. The Primary Mathematics and Science Specialists (PMSS) initiative is a successful Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) program that upskills primary teachers in government schools to become mathematics or science education specialists. The Victorian Government has provided \$33m to train 200 Specialists, building on the success of the National Partnerships Mathematics Specialists initiative (2010-12) and earlier cohorts of the Primary Mathematics and Science Specialists initiative (2012-19).

The initiative aims to:

- increase student engagement and achievement in mathematics and science
- increase teacher confidence and capability in teaching mathematics and science
- increase understanding of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)
- have a sustainable impact in schools beyond the life of the initiative's funding.

MATHS SPECIALIST GRANT cont.

Participating schools nominate mathematics or science as a key priority area. Each participating school will select either two mathematics or two science specialists from the school's existing staff. The specialists will continue to work in their classroom and will work with other teachers to gain greater confidence and capacity in teaching mathematics or science. As a result, students will be more engaged in mathematics or science, leading to improved outcomes.

We successfully attained this grant and only recently (3 weeks ago) received this news. The money invested must be spent releasing the two teachers from their classrooms (approx two days) and to pay for the intensive Professional Learning required (up to 10 days each). Staff selected will lead Maths and English across the school. Their title will be Curriculum Specialists. Carolyn will take on one of these roles. We are currently determining the second specialist.

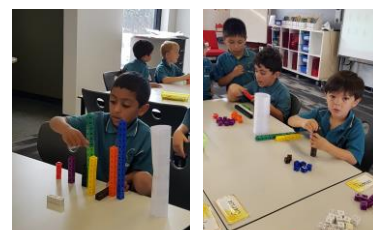
SAVE THE DATE



Remember to keep Thursday 13 December free for our annual Christmas Concert. We also look forward to our Choirs and our Taiko Drummers performing on the night. Here is a sneak peek of some classes practising....

Let's celebrate...

- Our hands on maths problem solving curriculum. Preps had to create a lolly jar out of paper, fill it with all different coloured blocks (representing lollies), count the amount of lollies, sort into colours, compare which colours had the most and which they had least of, arrange them into a bar graph and use the count on strategies to determine how many more than and how many less than. It was great to be part of the maths lesson.
- Inspiring creativity. The Year 1/2s made invisibility potion using Vampire blood, unicorn sparkle, wolf saliva, toenail juice, frog skin and lizard legs. The students then developed their own special potions. I loved the way this activity incorporated both maths and literacy into a fun lesson. Students measured out their potions using ml and then wrote a procedure to make their very own concoction.
- A fantastic fundraiser held today by our SRC (Student Representative Council) – supporting the Aussie Farmers Foundation to help our Australian rural and regional communities.



Until next week,

Sharon

Sharon Reiss-Stone

We just want to say...



On Monday 17 December after the final assembly for the year, we will be holding a Helpers Morning Tea to say thank you to all the parents, carers, guardians and grandparents who have volunteered their time to help at our school.

We would like to acknowledge and thank you for assisting at sport, swimming, excursions, reading and the list goes on and on. We appreciate all that you do to help our school and many of our events don't run without your support. The morning tea will begin straight after the final assembly in the PAC until about 11.30am.

Also the Junior School Council along with Mrs Morris and Mrs Apostolopoulos have been busy selling icy poles at lunchtimes. As you can see from the queue they are very popular now that the days are getting hotter.



Thanks

Carolyn

Carolyn Datson
Assistant Principal

FRGS BASKETBALL

Ashy BASKETBALL CLUB

PIRANHAS

BASKETBALL HOLIDAY CAMPS

Register and select your school and receive **\$5 off** per participant per day

GET READY FOR THE SUMMER SEASON!

Just started or thinking of playing next season? Join us at our **BEGINNER** holiday camps for an introduction to the basics and fundamental skills of the game in an enjoyable learning environment.
Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd January

Are you looking to prepare for a breakout season? More experienced players are invited to attend our **ADVANCED** holiday camp for further skills coaching and guidance.
Wednesday 23rd January

Camps are ideal for players 6 - 12 years. Building confidence whilst having fun!

3 BIG days of basketball in JANUARY
10am - 3pm **BYO Basketball & Lunch**
\$55 per day per participant
Waverley Basketball Stadium, Batesford Road, Chadstone
All ages and skills are invited to attend the beginner camp

Register ONLINE to book your spot
www.tinyurl.com/bballcamps
Enquiries please call 9095 6567

Basketball Victoria

FOR SALE.
Fresh Christmas trees.

SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREES!

Every weekend in December before Christmas

Location: 81 Huntingdale Rd.
Mount Waverley Heights Primary School.
1-2; 8-9; 15-16 & 22 December.
9:30am - 4:00pm.

All Proceeds will enable much needed renovations, activities and equipment. Thank you!

website: www.waverleyheightsps.vic.edu.au

ADVENTURE
Learning for Life

Just a reminder to get your xmas raffle tickets back to school & donate to the hampers by **DECEMBER 7th**. If you are free **Monday 10th December** to help wrap the hampers, please meet in the PAC at 9am.

Parents Association

Big thanks to everyone below who helped at the election BBQ & cake stall on Saturday and to everyone who made cakes & slices. A profit of \$1300 was made – a great effort. Apologies if I have left anyone out.

Airlie, Alison, Andrew, Janelle, Jane, Jo, Job, Deb, Dean, Pam, Heni, Adam, Ariella, Dada, Geof, Kelly, Ming, Georgette & Qingfang. & special thanks to the students... Tanner, Erin, Chris, Ryan, Jake & past student Charlotte.

A very special mention & thanks to the band JUMBALUMBA!! They were great and really added to the successful day!

Thank-you, Alison.

The Year 1/2 Stay late and Sleepover

On Friday the 23rd of November our Year 1s and 2s participated in a stay late/sleepover as part of our camp program.

The night began at 5pm with students participating in activities including balloon games, learning to dance the Nut Bush and musical statues.

After we had burnt off some energy, the students moved to the PAC to sit down and eat dinner. For many of the students, this was their favourite part of the night. A feast of pasta and sauce, garlic bread, mini hotdogs and cut up fruit and vegetables was prepared and served by our lovely teacher aides, and many students came back for seconds.

We then slowed things down for the night and all sat and enjoyed a movie together along with munching on some popcorn (because what's a movie if you can't enjoy it with popcorn?).

The Year 1s finished off their night with a hot chocolate and biscuit before being picked up by their parents and taken home for a well-deserved rest. As for the Year 2s...they got into their PJs, brushed their teeth and went to bed. It was a late night, but eventually everyone drifted off into the land of nod.

The streams of light pouring through the windows meant it was an early wake up for many of our students, and they began the task of packing their bags and dressing for the day. Finally we all sat down to enjoy breakfast and play a few quick games before students were collected at 8am.

All students participated enthusiastically and we were so pleased to see all of our Year 1/2s demonstrating our school values. Hopefully the Year 2s will be prepared for their first camp next year when they move up into Year 3, and the Year 1s are excited to experience the sleepover part of the night next year!



School Lunch Orders

The last day to order school lunch orders is:

THURSDAY 6th DECEMBER



MWHPS School Library

This is the last week students will be able to borrow from our school library.

Can students please ensure that all library books are returned ASAP from Monday 3rd December.

Thank-you

Jane Gough
Library Cordinator



Christmas Raffle

The school Christmas raffle draw will be held at the family carols night on **Thursday December 13th**.

We are asking families to donate items to make up Christmas hampers. Possible donations are biscuits/shortbreads, jams, pudding/cakes, chocolates, decorations, bonbons, and so on.

If you donate food items, please make sure they have a long "best before" date.

This year, we also need baskets donated.

The more donations we have, the more prizes there will be. Donations can be left in the big box in the office.

Raffle tickets will be sent home shortly.

Thank-you



School Banking Dates:

The last day for school banking is:
FRIDAY 14TH DECEMBER

Thank-you
Brett Arthur
School Banking Co-ordinator

Extend OSHC at Mount Waverley Heights Primary School

Community Outreach

To help those in need during this festive time of the year, we are collecting donations for FoodBank's Christmas Food Drive. We are collecting non-perishable food items to donate to those less fortunate than us, so we can all enjoy a wonderful Christmas this year. If you would like to donate any items, you can drop them off at BSC or ASC, in our FOODBANK hamper.

All donations would be greatly appreciated.

*****FREE Upcoming Incursion*****

WEDNESDAY 5th DECEMBER 4:00pm-5:00pm

No additional cost, just book in for the ASC session! We can't wait to see you there to share in all the fun!

Coming up next week:

Monday: Imagination Creation, Group Games

Tuesday: **Cooking: Reindeer Snack Bags**, Ball Sports

Wednesday: *****FREE INCURSION*****

Thursday: **Art: Christmas Tree Decorations**, Domes and Dishes

Friday: **Well-being Program**, Playground

AND OUR EXTEND SUPER-STAR OF THE WEEK IS.....

Zoe B 1/2

For your bright and bubbly personality at Extend. We love seeing a big smile on your face each day. Keep up the awesome work Zoe!!



**DISCOVER. LEARN. PLAY. SUMMER
EXTEND SQUAD
FANTABULOUS school holiday experiences!**

Extend's school holiday programs are a fantastic opportunity for your child to do fun and engaging activities with friends. Book 14 days in advance to receive the early bird rate.

Bookings now open!
Find your local Extend Squad: extend.com.au

From Caitlin and the kids at Extend. :)



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www.digimaker.com.au

Computer Programming Club

In a world where technology touches every aspect of our lives, it is crucial that our children understand how it works. To accomplish this objective, there is an exciting Computer Programming club running at the school.

The aim of the club is to provide students with exposure to the fundamentals of computer science concepts. Run by external consultants from Digimaker, this program will:

- Build games, animations, stories utilizing pupil's creative thinking
- Develop logical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Express ideas & boost confidence working in a collaborative environment
- Enable the grasp of computational thinking which combines math and logic

For details on the course, visit <http://www.digimaker.com.au/courses/>

The club will run for 8 to 10 weeks each term (depending on the length of the term) and is charged on a per-term basis. Students work on school computer during the session.

Program for Term 1 2019 is as follows:

Room : Class Room
Grades : 3 to 6
Fee : \$152

Batch – Tuesday After School	
Day	Tuesday's 05 th Feb to 26 th Mar (08 weeks)
Time	03:30pm – 04:30pm

Mount Waverley Heights Primary School

If you are interested in your child being considered for the programming club, please **fill the form online @ www.digimaker.com.au/contactus/ latest by Thursday 13th Dec 2018. Digimaker will confirm your child's spot via **email.*

*Existing students need not fill the form

**All important emails from Digimaker will be sent from info@digimaker.com.au Please ensure this address is whitelisted in your Junk Email filters or added as a Trusted contact.
