Congratulations to

Thank you to

Walking School Bus—Friday 20th May

Tonight our School Presentation Evening begins at 7.00pm. Children need to be dressed in school uniform and be at the Town Hall by 6.45pm. The doors of the hall will open at the same time to allow parents and visitors to be settled. We look forward to seeing you all. This is a busy time of the year for everyone and we are conscious of many children and adults being quite weary at this time of the year. The evening should finish around 8.00pm.

School in 2014

School will resume for staff on 28th January. Parents will be able to contact the office should they have any queries or concerns. The students begin their school year on 29th January. The new Preps will have the following rest days over February—5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

Bus Travel

In the middle of January I will mail out to families the details regarding student pickup and drop off for bus travelling students in 2014.

Tennis Day

Alison Abbott is organising various recess games, lunchtime games and competitions on Wednesday, 18th December. Children can wear their hot-shot t-shirts if they have one.

News from Ann

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Parents play a major role in assisting and supporting their child to acquire strong literacy skills. Literacy learning started when your child was born. Parents play a vital role as their children’s first literacy teachers. Consider all the things that children learn before school as they mix with others, observe what others do and try to do the same things. Much of this learning happens naturally and within a social context. Oral language is the foundation of learning to read to write. Encourage your children to talk about and express their feelings and ideas. Provide experiences that expand their concepts and vocabulary. Children do not always need loads of money spent on them. Varied family outings, games inside and out, just pottering around with you as do jobs will expand their notion of the world. They will bring their knowledge and understanding of the world to their reading and writing.

Literacy learning is a social experience because it depends on demonstrations from, collaboration with, and continuous feedback and response from, other people, it happens, at home and at school, when children are surrounded by people who listen, talk, think, read and write. Children need to see the purposes for reading and writing.

Here are some ideas for you to support your child develop literacy skills over the year levels.

- Share experiences (a picnic, camping, gardening, cooking, farming) which are then talked about at home.
- Share books (especially stories) and talk about them with more experienced readers.
- Have plenty of books to handle and read.
- See print all around them.
- Have models of how people read and write.
- Have opportunities to read and write.
- Know that people expect them to read and write.
- Are given choices about what they read and write.
- Feel free to ‘have a go’ at reading and writing (including spelling).
- Are able to talk about their reading and writing.
- Experience feelings of success.
- Feel responsible for their own reading and writing.
- Have confidence in their own ability.
- Understand what reading, writing and learning can do for them.

We need to work together, parents and teachers, to develop a partnership which will support our literacy learners and to ensure a lifelong learning. As adults we know that literacy provides the keys to life.

Can you help?

Financial Accounts

Thank you to those parents who continue to finalise their accounts.

Next year the Essential Education Item is $160.00 per student for the whole year. This means that your children’s consumerable educational supplies such as books, pencils, pens, textas, usb sticks, papers, scissors, etc are provided by the school for the whole year. However, we ask that parents provide their children with 4 glue sticks (one per term). Bring all four in at the start of the year or provide one per term. Grades 2/3/4/5/6 children also need to have a pencil case which can fit inside their locker tubs.

Parents are able to pay in one instalment due 27th February or in two instalments (27th February and 20th March). If parents are eligible for Education Maintenance Allowance and sign it over to the school, this will almost cover the Essential Education cost.

Don’t forget our BPay facility—each family statement has our BPay biller code and your unique family reference number.

Middle and Senior School Swimming Program

Once again the Newborough Pool Swimming Instructors have provided a challenging swimming program for our students. The groups are small and the instruction has been quite specific and targeted.

It has also been fantastic to hear from the Newborough pool staff how well behaved, cooperative and polite our students have been. Well done, kids!
At Willow Grove Primary School we value

Respect    Learning    Honesty    Persistence    Teamwork

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Playground Award
Lincoln

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P.E. Award
Ivan

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Happy Birthday
Josh G

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Student of the Week
Gemma

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Artist of the Week
Ewan

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LUNCH ORDER ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Heather Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Kristy Mitchell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>No lunches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Childcare Reference Number
407144619S

Willow Grove Primary School
Lost Property

We have lots of lost property. Items that have names on them will be returned. Parents will need to come in and claim unnamed items. All property left at school at the end of term will be washed and sold at the seconds shop.

Lunchtime activities

Currently we have lots of Xmas activities happening over lunchtime for those children interested in crafty type activities. Activities are offered and children can participate for free. The sandpit with water is always a hot item when the weather is warm!

Paperless Newsletter

Don’t forget to send your email address into the office so you can receive the 2014 Newsletter electronically. Don’t forget that the newsletter is always uploaded onto the new school website.

The Aussie Outback DVD

We have copies of “The Aussie Outback” concert DVD. We only have 4 left. If you are interested in purchasing a copy please get in and place your order. We will not be purchasing any more copies.

Parent Association Calendar

The new 2014 calendar has hit the office. The calendar is an historical snap shot of early life in and around the Willow Grove area. It has been very popular and created a lot of discussion and interest. Thank you to the people who contributed photographs of old to Lynda Earl for sourcing and collating the photographs.
Congratulations

Congratulations to Robyn, Jason, Jordon, Charli-Anne, Josh and Jai on the arrival of Jobe.

Community News

Willow Grove Junior Tennis

Practise starts again on Tuesday, 28th January at the usual times. The first match is on Saturday, 1st February 2014.

COACHING

Sally Kirstine is going to come out to Willow Grove to do 3 mornings of coaching.

Dates: January 20th, 21st and 22nd.

Times: Beginners/section 9 players. 9.30-10.30am. Advanced players 10.30-12 noon.

Cost: Beginners—$30 for the 3 sessions. Advanced—$50 for 3 sessions.

If you can only do 1 or 2 sessions that is fine, still come along.

Let Joan or Jo know by Jan 17th. Jo—56352334 or 0437120984. Joan—56352361.

Best wishes. Jo Baker and Joan Brown.
MOE POOL OPENING
Saturday 14th December
Official Opening at 10am

Pool Open from 9am to 5pm
FREE Entry
FREE BBQ
Learn to swim activities
Jumping castle
PLUS TRFM on site

Children's School Holiday program

Crafty Bears!
For some free holiday story time fun, bring your little ones to the library with their favourite teddy bear or cuddle toy. They will hear bear stories and take part in simple craft activities.

Moe Library: Tuesday 7 January, 11 am
Traralgon Library: Tuesday 9 January, 10.30 am or 11.30 am
 Churchill Library: Wednesday 8 January, 11.30 am
Traralgon Library: Thursday 9 January, 10.30 am or 11.30 am
Churchill Library: Wednesday 8 January, 11.30 am

Puppet Making
Amanda from Polliwog Puppets will be running fun workshops in puppet making for kids, where fabric, foam, wooden rods, plastic bottles, scissors, tape, glue, knots, string, wool, stuffing, sequins, feathers, recycled materials and imagination are used to produce unique, individual characters.

Wednesday 15 January
Traralgon Library 10-11 am
Morwell Library 1-2 pm
Moe Town Hall 3:30-4:30
Fun for kids aged 4 – 10 years
Cost: $5.00 per child

Pete the Plumber
Pete is a plumber who loves making music as much as he loves water! With his pet drop of water – Droppo, Pete tells the story of the water cycle with songs, silliness and an array of instruments made from all types of pipes, hoses, pumps and gloves.

Tuesday 21 January
Traralgon Library 10-30 am 11.15 am
Morwell Library 1 pm 1:45 pm

Wednesday 22 January
Churchill Library 11-11.45 pm
Moe Town Hall 2 pm 2.45 pm
Cost: $5.00 per child

Bookings for paid sessions are essential. Please phone 1300 367 700 or visit your nearest Latrobe City Library or Latrobe City Service Centre to book or for further information.

Sections may be photographed for promotional purposes, please advise a staff member on the day if you do not wish to be photographed.