Congratulations to

Thank you to

Special Thanks to

Bus Travel

Walking School Bus
—
Friday 20th May

On Tuesday, the first School Council meeting for the year took place.

Firstly, I would like to thank the 2014 school councillors for their commitment and dedication to the school. A few members of school council have moved on and I would like to acknowledge the hard work and wonderful commitment of Mr Steven Powell who has been a long serving school councillor (a decade). Steven has also been School Council President for the last 2 years. Thank you to Mrs Jenny Turra who was School Council Secretary for 3 years and a school councillor for 4 years. Thank you to Lee Donoghue who has been on school council for the last 2 years. We have appreciated his contributions too.

In 2015, the following people are on School Council.

I look forward to working with 2015 School Council.

---

Dates for 2014

- 9th Mar—Labour Day Holiday
- 11th Mar—Parent Association Meeting 9.15am
- 12th Mar—Mobile Library visit
- 13th Mar—Tanjil Valley Athletic Sports
- 15th Mar—Hill End Market Day
- 17th Mar—School Council Meeting 7.00pm
- 18th Mar—Life Education
- 24th Mar—Grade 4/5/6 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 26th Mar—Grade Prep/1 & Gr 2/3 Parent Teacher Interviews

Term Dates 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>28th January (teachers) to 27th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>13th April—26th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>13th July—18th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5th October—18th December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMINDERS

- Tanjil Valley Sports day—28th March
- Life Education Van—18th March

Like us on

Find us at—

www.willowgroveps.vic.edu.au

News from Ann

On Tuesday, the first School Council meeting for the year took place. Firstly, I would like to thank the 2014 school councillors for their commitment and dedication to the school. A few members of school council have moved on and I would like to acknowledge the hard work and wonderful commitment of Mr Steven Powell who has been a long serving school councillor (a decade). Steven has also been School Council President for the last 2 years. Thank you to Mrs Jenny Turra who was School Council Secretary for 3 years and a school councillor for 4 years. Thank you to Lee Donoghue who has been on school council for the last 2 years. We have appreciated his contributions too.

In 2015, the following people are on School Council.

School Councillor (Term expires March 2016)

- Andrew Balfour – School Council President
- Chris Bills— Vice President
- Heather Ferguson – Treasurer/Finance Convenor
- Lyn Raven – Secretary
- Kate Schultz
- Tristan Mether –DEECD Member
- Sharon McCartney – DEECD Member

School Councillor (Term expires March 2017)

- Simon Robinson
- Kim Mangion— Building and Grounds Convenor
- Mark Wilms
- Trudy Evans – DEECD Member – Curriculum Convenor

I look forward to working with 2015 School Council.
Parents need to beware that the DEECD (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development) does not provide personal insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs. These costs may be recoverable where the injury is caused by the negligence of the Department (DEECD), a school council or their employees or volunteers. Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.

**In the event of a serious accident, injury or illness we have a duty of care to your child to call for an ambulance. We are mandated to call for an ambulance when a child who has an identified anaphylactic condition has a reaction.**

If you are not interested in student Insurance, Rural Ambulance Insurance is a very worthwhile insurance to have. Student Insurance is also worth investigating. Insurance can cover sporting and outdoor activities after school and on holidays. Some insurance policies may cover the costs of ambulance.

Likewise, DEECD does not insure any personal items that are brought to school by children or staff. If children or staff bring personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged the responsibility falls on the owner. If your children bring along expensive toys and ICT devices (bus travellers), please discuss with them the care required. Teachers will always care for precious and expensive toys and gadgets if it is requested.

We are very fortunate that most things that come to school are well looked after…but sometimes the unexpected can happen!!!
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?
This term we are working on ** Courtesy**

This week we are working on **Playing Together**

(eSmart focus)

In small schools children learn very quickly to play with older and younger children. There is a huge amount of interaction between the children outside. Playing together does not just mean playing happily with our friends, although that is important. Playing together means sharing our space and our games sensibly so everyone can enjoy their playtime. It means thinking about other people and their games and making sure we are playing sensibly so everyone can enjoy themselves! It also means thinking about others, being tolerant of others and including others.

**Some dos and don’ts**

Do play in sensible places. For example, footy should be on the oval.

Do look to see if other children are involved in a game or an area before you set up your game.

Do include others in a game so that they feel included and can learn the rules.

Do play safe games, particularly in small spaces.

Don’t run through other children’s games.

Don’t interfere with other children’s games.

Don’t take over other children’s areas.

**Willow Grove Kids are eSmart Kids**

- Look after our computers, tablets and i-pads
- Provide support for each other, when needed
- Follow our digital technologies agreement for respectful safe usage
- Respect and care for our computer trolleys

**Congratulations to**

Harrison, Thomas and Jacob who tried out for the Victorian State School Cricket team. Children from around Gippsland turned up at Yarragon, Sale and Wonthaggi for opportunity of selection.

Charli-Ann, Jacob and Thomas who competed in the Latrobe Valley Swimming Sports today.

Ryley who received a gold medal for discus and a bronze in shot put in the Gippsland Country Regionals at Casey Fields.

Liam who received gold in 400m, silver in high jump and discus in the Gippsland Country Regionals at Casey Fields.
HILL END AUTUMN MARKET
MARCH 15TH 2015

Please complete the form below and return to school by Thursday 6th March. Any questions please contact Kate Mether on 5635 2394 or 0400 156 486.

Food regulation compliant labels and trays for slices/cakes etc will be sent home with your child(ren) on Wednesday 11th March. Templates for labels can be emailed to you if you prefer—please contact Heather as per above.
Drop off of goods to the Art Room at Hill End School will be on Saturday 14th March 2014 (time to be advised).

Hill End Community Market Sunday 15th March 2015

NAME__________________________________________________________

CONTACT PHONE or EMAIL________________________________________

I am able to contribute the following (please tick)

☐ Cakes, slices, biscuits—details______________________________________
(can be prepared in advance & frozen, but must be labelled that product has been frozen then thawed)

☐ Preserves (jam, sauce etc)—details____________________________________

☐ Craft items—details_______________________________________________

☐ Produce (fruit, veg. etc)—details_____________________________________

☐ Time to assist on the stall—Preferred time _________ to ___________

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR AMAZING SCHOOL!
**Sausage Rolls** $1.80  
**Party Pies** $0.80  
**Dim Sims** $0.50  
**Icy Poles** $1.00  
**Cakes** $0.50  
**Yoghurt Tubs** $1.80  
**Primas** $1.20  
**Milk**—choc, strawberry $1.50  
**Popcorn** $0.70  
**Tomato Sauce** $0.10  
**Soy Sauce** $0.10

Please write your child’s name on a brown paper bag and safely secure the correct money inside the bag.

---

**WHAT’S IN SEASON? - ZUCCHINI MUFFINS**

- 2 cups of self-raising flour
- ½ cup diced ham or bacon
- 1 cup grated zucchini (or pumpkin/ carrot or mixture)
- ½ cup oil
- ¼ cup low fat milk
- ½ cup grated low fat cheese
- 1 egg
- Salt and pepper

Mix all together and bake in muffin tins for approx. 20mins until golden. This is suitable for mini muffin tins too - Great eaten warm or cold. These can be frozen individually in freezer bags and popped in the lunchbox straight from the freezer.

---

**After School Care**

Welcome to Ms Gabby Eaton. Gabby is our new coordinator. She is fully qualified and we are delighted to have her on staff.  

It is great to see a few more children using the service. Please remember this service if you have commitments coming up and need a few extra hours of time. Children receive a healthy and filling afternoon tea. They are well cared for in a safe environment. They have a range of inside and outside activities to engage in.

---

**We Need Your Help!**

LUNCH ORDERS ARE BACK every Monday, Wednesday and Friday but Parents Association are looking for new volunteers to help prepare lunch orders each week. If you have not previously volunteered but would like to learn the ropes, you are invited to come along to an information session at 12.00pm on Friday 27th February. The more we have volunteer, the less often you need to be rostered on, for eg. just once per term. For more information please contact Kate Mether on 0400 156 486.

---

**Newsletters**

If you would like to get a hardcopy of the newsletter as well as the emailed copy—there are always spares at the office or at the General Store.

Ask your child to come and get one on a Thursday afternoon.
Today’s Swimmers
Out of the Darkness and into the Light! (hopefully)

The grade 2s and 3s have been learning about light. A couple of weeks ago we planted potatoes in a margarine container and have been watering them to see what would happen. Two weeks on, and the potatoes have put down roots and have new shoots growing from them. Yesterday we continued working on our Technology project. The kids have been working in small groups to design a maze inside a cardboard box. We planted our potatoes inside the boxes and are now going to leave them alone in the dark. Will they grow around the maze to get to the light?

The children were encouraged to modify their boxes yesterday to test out their ideas and a Perspex lid was added to one group while other groups increased the maze difficulty.

The boxes have been placed up against our class window. Hopefully we will see some signs of "green" in weeks to come.