Congratulations to

Thank you to

Walking School Bus—Friday 20th May

November has vanished before our eyes … can you believe that December is next week!!!

Many children and parents are beginning to do extra Xmas activities and children are becoming a little over tired and maybe fractious. Our school programs will be remaining very stable for the next two weeks.

Please put the following dates into your diaries:

- **12th Dec**
  - School Presentation Evening at the Willow Grove Town Hall—7.00-8.00pm. For new families this event is about celebrating the achievements of our students. Awards are presented to children across the school. It is also a time where we farewell our Grade 6 students as a school community. Many of these children have been with us for their entire primary school life. It is also an opportunity to catch up with families that we may not have the opportunity of doing so prior to Xmas.

- **16th-17th Dec**
  - Grade 6 Graduation Camp. The notices for this camp have gone out this week. If you have not received it as yet, please speak to your Grade 6 child.

- **18th Dec**
  - School Council Xmas Meeting and Dinner (7.00pm)

- **19th Dec**
  - The Prep/1/2 Inverloch Excursion—permission notices will be out soon.

- **19th Dec**
  - The Xmas Disco at Willow Grove Town Hall—6.30-8.30pm.

**PLEASE NOTE**

The Breakfast Club program will finish on Friday, 6th December.

There will be no breakfast offered in the last two weeks of school.

**News from Ann**

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Please put the following dates into your diaries:

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<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 AASP—Taekwondo</td>
<td>3 Music Lessons</td>
<td>4 Breakfast Club</td>
<td>5 Breakfast Club Finance Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>6 Somers Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 AASP—Taekwondo</td>
<td>10 Music Lessons Grade 6 Transition Prep 2014 Transition Somers Camp</td>
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<td>Sr Swimming</td>
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<td>Bldg &amp; Grounds</td>
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**DATES FOR 2013**

- **MONTH OF NOVEMBER—WALK TO SCHOOL**
- **2ND DEC—ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR PREP1/2—TAEKWONDO 3.15-4.15**
- **3RD-11TH DEC—SOMERS CAMP**
- **5TH DEC—FINANCE MEETING**
- **6TH, 10TH DEC—PREP 2014 TRANSITION PROGRAM**
- **9TH DEC—BUILDING & GROUNDS COMM MTG 7.00PM**
- **9TH-13TH DEC—SENIOR SWIMMING PROGRAM**
- **10TH DEC—GRADE 6 TRANSITION PROGRAM AT TRAFALGAR HIGH**
- **12TH DEC—SCHOOL PRESENTATION NIGHT—TOWN HALL**
- **16TH-17TH DEC—GRADE 6 GRADUATION CAMP**
- **18TH DEC—SCHOOL COUNCIL 7.30PM (DINNER)**
- **19TH DEC—GRADE PREP -2 EXCURSION TO INVERLOCH**
- **19TH DEC—SCHOOL XMAS DISCO**
- **20TH DEC—END OF TERM 4**

**IT’S NOT OKAY TO BE AWAY … IT’S NOT GREAT TO BE LATE …**
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?

**Human and Personal Development**

The children in Grade 5/6 will be doing a unit of study on human reproduction and personal development. This course will be done by a community health nurse on 18th and 19th December.

The girls in Grade 4/5/6 will have an additional session on menstruation, Wednesday, 18th December at 9.30am.

Parents are welcome to attend the sessions. Please let me know if you would like to participate in the sessions or speak to the Community Health Nurse on any issue or concerns that you may have regarding the above topics.

**2014 Calendar**

The 2014 “Then and Now” calendar is about to be printed. Please get your orders in for the annual calendar. At $12 each it makes a good Christmas stocking filler!

**Willow Grove Primary School 2014 Calendar**  
Order Form $12.00ea

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<td>Amount Paid:</td>
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Please return order form and payment to the office.

**Trafalgar High Transition**

Tuesday, 10th December from 9.00-3.30pm (state wide orientation day)

Students have been asked to wear appropriate clothing for activities and to bring their pencil cases. The canteen will be available for students for both recess and lunch times. The assembly point is in Library Central (refer to map provided). Due to departmental legal requirements students are not permitted to travel on school buses to and from school on Orientation days. Therefore, parents are responsible for taking their children to Trafalgar High School and collecting them.

**Walk to School**

November 2015
At Willow Grove Primary School we value

Respect  Learning  Honesty  Persistence  Teamwork

Playground Award
Tristan & Ivan

Happy Birthday
Ashley
Lorna
Angel-Rose
Piper
Ewan

Proposed Pre-school Orientation Program

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<tr>
<td>22nd November</td>
<td>12.30-2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th December</td>
<td>12.30-2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th December</td>
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LUNCH ORDER ROSTER

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Pauline Blackshaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Tracey Rees</td>
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Childcare Reference Number
407144619S
Willow Grove Primary School
We will begin to collect email addresses this year. Early next year the newsletter will be distributed electronically. This method of distribution will be more cost efficient. There will be no question that families have not received it. It is always in colour and can be electronically stored. The school will continue to distribute 20 paper copies of the newsletter for the local community. These will continue to be available from the store as a community service. The school website will also have newsletters available for perusal.

Family name ................................................................................

Email address ................................................................................

It is great to see many busy children out in the yard playing lots of different games and activities.
Community News

Moe New Life Christian Centre

Presents:

Date: Saturday 14th December 2013
Time: 7pm
Address: 71 Fowler st, Moe
Free Admission

Come along and watch a joyful performance
A light supper will be provided afterwards.
SANTA MAIL

STAMP YOUR ENVELOPE AND ADDRESS TO:

SANTA
NORTH POLE
9999

DON’T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE.

POST YOUR LETTER AT THE GENERAL STORE IN SANTA’S MAILBOX, UNDER THE WILLOW TREE.