Welcome back to Whitehorse Primary for the 2015 School Year. It has been a great pleasure to meet so many new families and catch up with so many people from our community.

It is wonderful to see everyone all back rested and ready for an exciting new year. I would particularly like to welcome the new staff to our growing school; Ellie Bird (Foundation), Rhonwen Oldland (3/4), Bonnie Stubbs (Foundation), Renee Waters (5/6) and Riona James (Integration Aide).

**Parent Information Evening** - Thursday February 19

We will be holding a Parent Information Evening for Grades 1 to 6 on Thursday February 19. (Please note: These information sessions have already been held for Preps.)

These sessions are for the teachers to share information about the expectations we have of the children, our various programs and what will be happening at each level this year. We hope that these sessions will inform parents and, subsequently, enable us to work together to best support the learning and well-being of all our students.

The session will begin with all Grade 1 to 6 Parents together to talk about programs that run across the school. Parents then have the option to visit their child’s class. The teacher’s will be in the classroom. Please note this session is not for individual reporting to parents. There will be an opportunity for Parent/Teacher interviews later in the term. However, if you would like to speak to your child’s teacher individually prior to the upcoming Parent/Teacher interviews please contact the teacher to arrange a meeting.

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**February**
- 5 Tennis Clinic
- 6 Tennis Clinic
- 12 Tennis Clinic
- 13 Tennis Clinic
- 19 Parent Information Night—7:00pm-8:00pm
- 23 District Swimming

**March**
- 5 Welcome Picnic—6:00pm—8:00pm
- 9 Labour Day Public Holiday

**NOTICES HOME TODAY:**
- Student Banking
- Helen O’Grady
- Pee Wee Tennis (Foundation, Grade 1 & 2)

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whitehorseps.vic.edu.au
WELCOME PICNIC – Thursday March 5

We are holding our annual Welcome Picnic on Thursday March 5 between 6 and 8pm. This year it is a more sporting focus with games to play. There will be a sausage sizzle or you can bring a picnic dinner. Come and meet others members of your community.

PERMISSION FORMS PACK

As in previous years we will be sending home a pack with a set of permission notices that need to be read, completed, signed and returned to the school by Friday February 16. These forms include internet and behaviour codes of conduct, photo and religious education permissions among others. Please ensure that you read them thoroughly, taking special note of the covering letter as there are some changes from last year.

FREEZER ANGELS

As part of our Community Matters and the Community Support pillar we are starting our ‘Freezer Angels’ team for 2015 on Monday February 9. We have no meals to offer families so we need to cook up a storm and freeze the produce. We currently have a small number of families that would have their load lightened by even one meal. So we are asking for some volunteers to come in on Monday to the kitchens to prepare some meals. All the ingredients and recipes will be provided so just bring along your enthusiasm and your favourite apron!

NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

As always our newsletter is only be available on the website and parents are encouraged to subscribe via our school website so that an email is sent to you when the newsletter is uploaded. This will be our prime source of communication and will be uploaded fortnightly. The ‘What’s On @ Whitehorse” will still come home in a hard copy to all families on the alternative fortnight.

To receive the email telling you that the newsletter is available please go to the website click on the Newsletter tab, choose Subscribe and enter you email address. We encourage all parents to use this method of receiving the newsletter notification.

ALLERGIES/ ANAPHYLAXIS/ ASTHMA

Allergies and asthma are becoming a feature of the daily lives of children more and more these days. We have quite a significant number of children who have various allergies and/or asthma. We ask the cooperation of all parents by doing a numbers of simple things.

Not sending nuts or other products such as peanut butter in lunch boxes. Please save this type of food for home.

If your child has an allergy or asthma ensure that you have completed the appropriate forms and provided the school with up to date medication. If you need any assistance with this please contact Mrs Lim.

PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

No matter where your child goes to school dropping off and picking up times can be chaotic and dangerous. As our school grows this will, of course, continue to be an issue. We only ask that parents consider the safety of everyone when around the school. A map detailing the parking options around the school is attached to this newsletter.

Kerry Wood

OSHC—ENROLMENT FORMS

It is a government requirement and school policy that all children must have a new enrolment form completed each year. Without this form, we are not legally able to have your child at OSHC.

Enrolment forms are available from the website, Karen or the office.

Karen Goddard
No Parking
Whitehorse Primary School – Staff Only
St. Philips Primary

Restrictions Apply
Barnsley Street
Junction Road
Robyn Drive
Susanne Street
Wakefield Street – Drop Off Zone

No Restrictions
Blue Hills Avenue
Brendale Avenue
Gunyah Road
Jessie Street
Lane Street
Lynette Street
Marilyn Court
Nicoll Street
Nunawading Tennis Club (Off Lane Street)
Zander Avenue

Park and walk
Why not try parking a few streets away from school and walking the rest of the way? Our streets are safer when there are less cars and more children walking to school.

Did you know, kids can easily walk:
250m in 5 minutes
500m in 10 minutes
750m in 15 minutes

Children who walk some or all of the way to school:
Have fun and explore their local world
Get to know the neighbourhood
Practice road safety and personal safety skills
Gain independence and confidence
Help meet the recommended minimum of 60 minutes physical activity a day
Welcome back to the new school year and another year of Scholastic Book Club. For all those new to the school just letting you know that we distribute Scholastic Book Club brochures for the sale of books.

If you would like to order any books there are three options for payment; Book Club LOOP (credit card) which doesn’t require anything to be returned to school, cash or cheque, both of which are required to be returned to school with the completed order form, including your child’s name and grade. If you wish to order an item and have it picked up from the office (if a surprise for a child) please note this on your order.

The school receives bonus points for all books ordered which enables us to purchase books and resources for our school.

The current Book Club orders are due back on Friday 13 February.

Thanks you for your support.

Wendy Tabart

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**CHOOK ROSTER - HELP NEEDED**

It is the start of the term and we are again looking for volunteers to look after the chickens on the weekends. No experience is necessary and our chooks are very friendly.

If you are able to help please speak to Julie or Michelle.

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**STUDENT BANKING**

Student Banking will commence next week on **February 11** and banking day will be Wednesday again. There are new rewards this year with an intergalactic theme. All students will be receiving an information pack this week.

If you don’t receive a pack and would like one, please see the office.
School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.

For over 80 years, the School Banking program has been teaching Australian children lifelong money skills. This year, your child is invited to join the Dollarmites on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Information on how students can get on board with School Banking, including a Savings Tracker and a rewards redemption card, is available from your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the information you need to get on board. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Rewarding good savings habits with eight new items in 2015

The School Banking program encourages good savings habits by rewarding students with awesome reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, they can redeem a reward from our Outer Space Savers range, including ET DVDs, Planet Handballs, Invisible Ink Martian Pens, Intergalactic Rockets, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar Systems, Cosmic Light Beam Torches, Outer Space Savers Money Boxes and Lunar Light Bands.

You could win a family trip to Disneyland

In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition draw to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AUD$2,000 spending money.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things to know before you Can: Conditions apply. Promotion starts 9.00am AEDT 27/1/15 and ends 11.59pm AEDT 18/12/15. Entry is open to all Youth saver account holders aged 5–13 years who participate in CommBank’s School Banking program. Entrants under 18 must have parent/guardian consent. The draw will take place at 12.30pm AEDT on 12/1/16 at the Promoter’s office. The first valid entry drawn will win a family trip to California’s Disneyland valued at $22,245. The winner’s name will be published in the public notices section of The Australian on 29/1/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 of Level 2, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions available at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking NSW Permit No LTPS/14/08637, ACT Permit No TP14/04345; VIC Permit No 14/5968; SA Permit No T14/2327.