CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM
On Tuesday 3 March we will be holding a special assembly to present the badges to our School Leadership Team for 2015. The certificates will be presented by our School Council President, Liesl Coulthard. We congratulate those who received a role and look forward to them being outstanding leaders.

School Captains: Anthony and Mobina
Vice School Captains: Michael and Heloise
Wood (Red) House Captains: Charlotte and Jemma
Dunlop (Yellow) House Captains: Megan and Luke
Cowan (Green) House Captains: Kyla and Emily
Hollows (Blue) House Captains: Alvin and Madeline
Environment Captains: Tahlia and Riley
Environment Team members: Ellie, Ajani, Jake, Nikita, Jamie

WELCOME PICNIC
On Thursday 5 March we are holding our annual Welcome Picnic. There will be sporting activities run by the ‘Go for your Life’ team, a treasure hunt as well as music and dancing. Don’t forget to bring your picnic dinner and drinks. Alternatively, there will be a sausage sizzle operating and icy poles for sale. See you there!
PERMISSION FORMS PACK – Thank you
Thank you to all the families who have returned the permissions pack. There are still a number of families from whom we haven’t received the packs as yet. Please ensure that the forms are sent to the school by the end of the week.

2015 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT - Grades 1 to 6
Tomorrow night we are holding the Parent Information Night. This was an opportunity for parents to meet the teachers of each grade level and hear about the plans for the year.

The first part of the session will be held at the Discussion Steps near the Foundation (Prep) area. The staff will be presenting the information in a single session. Parents will then have an opportunity to visit their child’s classroom and even chat to the teacher. This revised approach has come about after feedback from parents in our community and we are hopefully it will be of assistance.

COMMUNICATION
Good communication is always a challenge for any organisation and as we all know communication is a two way process. An organisation or person can send information but the success of that process is entirely reliant on the receiver reading and following through on that information. We thought it would be helpful if parents knew of the many forms of communication that are used at Whitehorse Primary.

NEWSLETTER – Available on the school website each fortnight. Alerts can be sent to your email by going to the school website and subscribing to the newsletter. Go to www.whitehorseps.edu.au

WHAT’S ON @ WHITEHORSE – This is a summary of the upcoming events that is sent out in paper format on the alternative week to the newsletter. It is also available on the school website.

HOME BOOKS – Each child has been provided with an exercise book which is individually contacted by the parents. This is for direct communication with your child’s teacher and is checked each day. The children are required to bring the book to school each day and take it home each night. You will also find notices placed in the home book in the junior grades.

PERMISSION/OTHER FORMS – There are many types and reasons for these paper documents to go home. They may be for incursions or excursions or other events that require written permission. These are sent home as required and contain all the details regarding the events. It is a good idea to return the permission section and keep the section with the details for your information.

WEBSITE – Our website is currently being refreshed but is still an active space. You will be able to locate newsletters, What’s On @ Whitehorse and information about many aspects of the school. Go to www.whitehorseps.edu.au

SMS – From time to time we will send SMS messages with information, requests or reminders. The message will have a precursor of WPS.

FACEBOOK – We have a Facebook page which is updated regularly with events at the school and interesting information and news for parents. It may be helpful for you to LIKE our page so that you become part of our news stream. Just go to www.facebook.com/WhitehorsePrimarySchool to see what’s happening!

SANDWICH BOARD – Occasionally, we place a sandwich board outside the office area with reminders for current events and requests for assistance. This is just done in support of other communication methods.

DROPPING CHILDREN OFF IN WAKEFIELD ST
There have been a number of quite serious concerns expressed by our community about the way parents are using the 2 minute drop off zone in Wakefield St.

The issues being raised are reflected in the following quote from a letter that was received; “…..there were 3 cars without drivers parked and 2 others with parents out of their cars chatting to other people and watching to make sure their children actually get through the gate. In the meantime cars were banking up around the corner and clearly anger was brewing. Frustrated parents then in desperation parked illegally and let their children out but they are risking a fine and worse the safety of their children. If there was an accident they would be seen to be in the wrong...”
Alarming[y, this has now culminated in a near miss this morning as a result of a child exiting the car onto the road instead of the footpath. I can only implore all of our community to consider the safety of everyone. To lose one of our precious children would be beyond devastating!

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

It is School Council election time again. This year there are four parent vacancies and two staff vacancies. Nominations open tomorrow Thursday 19 February and close Thursday 26 February at 4pm. Nomination forms are available at the office for those parents who would like take up a two year term and be part of the Council. If you have any questions regarding School Council please ask a current School Councillor or contact us in the office.

We have been very fortunate to have a number of very vibrant and active members on the council over the years which have enabled the group to be dynamic and effective. I would like to thank those people who have come to the end of their terms some of which are eligible to stand again. They have made amazing contributions over the years and we are very thankful.

**COMMUNITY MATTERS**

As part of our Community Matters a morning tea opportunity has been organised after every Monday morning assembly. This is an opportunity for parents to meet and chat. I will be joining you for at least part of the morning tea also.

Our first morning tea was this week and was very successful. Thank you to Liesl who bought along the scones!

Another successful event was our Freezer Angel cooking morning held Monday 9 February. We had a fantastic group of parents who cooked up a storm and have filled our freezer with meals. We have already been able to provide a couple of families with meals which have been gratefully received. Thank you to all those who helped on the morning.

*Kerry Wood*

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**SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT**

School Council met last night for the last time in its current cycle (March 2014 to February 2015).

At the meeting we discussed and passed regular financial business and passed a number of resolutions regarding legal requirements for making payments and fundraising. The Council heard report-backs from our Kindergarten and Marketing & Promotions subcommittees. We discussed the Community Matters initiative (which includes our Freezer Angels program) and are delighted to hear that the school has had a very positive start to the year in volunteering. We also examined some possibilities for the school canteen operations, which we hope to see open again this year. Council was updated, too, on a number of grounds works in progress - these include tidying the site around the new Grade 5/6 rooms, installing shade sails in the playground and upgrading to the surface in the kindergarten playground.

We are delighted to say that Council has also approved the scheduling of our bi-annual Twilight Fair, earmarking Friday 20 November as the suggested date.

As our 2014/2015 year has now drawn to a close, on behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Ross, Rowan, Greg and Tanya for their service and hard work (often on multiple subcommittees) during their terms as councillors. Four parent positions, including mine, will be open during the upcoming elections. The terms are for two years, with a monthly evening meeting commitment, plus any additional meetings on subcommittees. School Council makes a very important contribution to the school and its future. If this is something you have an interest in, I would encourage you to chat about the role and nominate in the election. Alternately you may like to consider a subcommittee. It is anticipated that in 2015 these will include Kindergarten, Marketing & Promotions, Strategic Partnerships, Community Matters, Buildings and Grounds, OSHC and the Twilight Fair.

Liesl Coulthard
Shoes are more important than you think

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Over the last 2 weeks there have been many student attend PE wearing inappropriate footwear. Wearing the wrong shoes can really impact a student’s safety and/or success during Physical Education activities. Shoes like boots, sandals, slip-ons, even dress shoes can get in the way with simple activities like running, jumping, and stopping. It is important for students to wear proper footwear on the day that they have Physical Education class in order to participate safely in class activities, and to be successful with those activities.

Proper footwear should have cushioning on the heel area, a noticeable curve in the arch of the foot, and traction on the bottom of the shoe. Shoes do not need to be expensive or any certain brand name.

It is also very dangerous when shoes are not tied properly. Students trip and fall, shoes fly off when they try to kick a ball, and the foot has no support because it is sliding around. Shoes must be tied tightly so they will not come off.

On another note, if your child needs to be excused from Physical Education activities, please write a note and have your child bring it to PE class.

SO PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHILD IS WEARING APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tr>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>5/6 &amp; 3-6 Sport</td>
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Why have a drink bottle at school?

It is important that students drink plenty of water during the day, especially when participating in physical activities. Here are some benefits of drinking water:

- Increases Energy & Relieves Fatigue – Since your brain is mostly water, drinking it helps you think, focus and concentrate better and be more alert. As an added bonus, your energy levels are also boosted!
- Flushes Out Toxins – Gets rid of waste through sweat and urination
- Improves Skin Complexion – Moisturizes your skin, keeps it fresh, soft, glowing and smooth.
- Maintains Regularity – Aids in digestion as water is essential to digest your food
- Boosts Immune System – A water guzzler is less likely to get sick. And who wouldn’t rather feel healthy the majority of the time?
- Natural Headache Remedy – Helps relieve and prevent headaches which are commonly caused by dehydration.
- Prevents Cramps & Sprains - Proper hydration helps keep joints lubricated and muscles more elastic.

So please make sure your child comes to school with a drink bottle.

IMPORTANT DATE—19th March 2015—Cross Country

The Whole School Cross Country will be held on the Thursday 19th March at school. Students will do some training during PE times, however it is really important that students do some training outside of school times.

So strap on those shoes and get running.
FREE Community Workshops  
Run by the community for the community

iPad basics

Are you baffled by terms like iOS and Apple ID? Don’t know your pinches and swipes from your drags? This short session is for the iPad novice. The hands-on workshop will help you:

> Identify the parts of the iPad
> Change the volume, brightness, wallpaper and keyboard layout
> Navigate the iPad and find apps
> Understand how to purchase apps

Please bring an iPad to this session.

Session dates
Please contact the School Office if you are interested - one-to-one or small group sessions can be arranged to suit your availability

Making your iPad “kid-friendly”

Come along and see how you can customise the many settings on your iPad to ensure your child's safety and your own peace of mind. This hands-on workshop will help you:

> Restrict who can access the iPad
> Enable parental restrictions
> Restrict which apps and games your child can access
> Set up content (age) ratings
> Manage the way purchases occur
> Manage location privacy

Please bring an iPad to this session. If you are attending a session in school time, we can arrange to return the iPad to the classroom immediately after the session.

Session dates
Tuesday 3 March 2015 2.00pm—3.30pm
Saturday 14 March 2015 1.00pm—2.30pm
Thursday 5 March 2015
6.00pm until 8.00pm

2015 WELCOME PICNIC

All families from Kindergarten & School welcome!

Games, music, dancing & more
BYO picnic food, blanket & chairs

Sausage Sizzle available from 6pm (while stocks last!)
Sausage in bread $2.00 & Icy poles $1.00
Whitehorse Primary School is a registered eSmart school. An eSmart school is a school where the smart, safe and responsible use of ICT is a cultural norm. Students, teachers and the wider school community are equipped to embrace the best technologies can offer, while being savvy about the pitfalls.
The 6th Annual Million Steps for SMA

Sunday 15 March 2015
at Casey Fields

160 Berwick-Cranbourne Road, Cranbourne East

START/FINISH AT THE ATHLETICS TRACK

RUN: 9.30am Start, WALK: 9.45am Start

Single Person $25, Couple $40, Children Under 16 FREE

Book online at www.millionsteps.org.au/events

5km SINGLE LOOP
10km DOUBLE LOOP
Family Market Stalls
Singlets $15 each Only 200 available!
WALK OR RUN

SMA phone: 03 9545 3633

Proudly supporting the Spinal Muscular Atrophy Association of Australia Inc.
NUNAWADING VIKINGS BASKETBALL CLUB
2015 WINTER SEASON REGISTRATION
OPEN NOW!

EDJBA Competition (Domestic Saturday)
MEBA Competition (Weeknights)
BOYS & GIRLS Ages 7 to 20
3 on 3 Competition (Primary School Age)

For further information and to REGISTER, log on to:
www.nunawadingvikings.com.au

NVBC Training Venues:
Blackburn Lakes Primary School
Blackburn Primary School
Laburnum Primary School
Milgate Primary School
Old Orchards Primary School
Slater Reserve, Blackburn North
Whitehorse Primary School

Contact: Jody Walker, NVBC Registrar: 0497 095 457
registrar@nunawadingvikings.com.au

Chris Lloyd-Owens, NVBC Secretary: 0414 785 682
secretary@nunawadingvikings.com.au
PLAYERS & VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR
2015 RUGBY LEAGUE SEASON

The Eastern Raptors Rugby League Club provides the opportunity for Boys & Girls to play Rugby League from 5 – 18 years and League Tag for Girls 12 – 18 years.

The Club invites all interested players to come and have a TRY at one of our upcoming events!

**Sunday 15th February 12-3pm – Early Bird Registration Day**
with Melbourne Storm Players in attendance. Join in a game of League Tag, meet the coaches, players, volunteers & have some FUN!

**Sunday 15th March 12 – 3pm - Registration Day & League Tag Games**

**Wednesday 8th April 10-12pm – FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC** (bookings required)

FREE training is also available for Volunteers in Coaching or First Aid Trainer so get on board now!

The Club is located at Colchester Reserve, Colchester Road
Boronia

For further information or to make a booking: please call Rebecca Marnock on 0421 154 776

www.easternraptors.com.au or visit us at www.facebook.com/easternraptorsRLC

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**MID WEEK LADIES TENNIS**

Wednesday competition tennis at Nunawading Tennis Club. Some ladies needed to join others for a fun day, fits into school hours. Any age, average standard. Happy, friendly team to play with. Next season starts after Easter but teams have to be in by 27th February.

Phone Beverley on 0407519765 or 98778381 for more information.

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**BLACKBURN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**

Start Playing Footy at Blackburn in 2015

The Blackburn Junior Football Club invites you to come and play football with us in 2015. We are a family based club where the emphasis is on player participation, development and fun.

**Registration Day is on Sunday the 15th February, 2015 between 11:00am and 1:00pm at Morton Park, Central Road, Blackburn.**

On Registration Day you will also be able to meet the coaches, buy club merchandise, undertake mouthguard fittings and participate in the boot swap.

The Club’s current policies and 2015 registration pack can be viewed on the Club’s website: www.blackburnfc.com.au

Pat Mannix, President, Blackburn Junior Football Club

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**EAGLES Junior Football Club**

Are you interested in playing footy in 2015?

**VERMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB** is looking for players in the following age groups:

- Under 8 (2007)

Limited places are available so please get in quickly if you would like to join the Eagles family.

For More Details Go To

www.vermontjfc.com.au
Email admin@vermontjfc.com.au
or call Kylie on 0413 334 596

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**Blackburn Junior Basketball Club**

**UNDER 9 - UNDER 19 GIRLS AND BOYS**

For players of all skill levels
'Domestic Basketball Competition

Starts Term 2

Blackburn Junior Basketball Club prides itself on the following values:
- Emphasis on player development,
- Accredited coaching,
- Defined pathways for players and coaches,
- Access to skills program,
- Catering for players of all skill levels.

**Registration Dates**

Saturday, 21st February - 9.00am - 1.00pm
Monday, 23rd February - 5.00pm - 7.00pm
Wednesday, 25th February - 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Registration days will take place at Slater Reserve
Grosvenor Street, Blackburn North

Enquiries to:
bom@vikingsbasketball.net.au
or
0431 559 893

www.vikingsbasketball.net.au