Celebrate Australia Day

Our special ‘Celebrate Australia Day’ was a wonderful way to develop children's learning of Australian history, geography and culture. Hopefully, all the children will continue to retain the knowledge they have acquired. A very colourful Australia Day Parade was also conducted with everyone dressed in clothing depicting the Australian theme.

Rooms 14 and 25 also presented a fantastic Assembly on Australia last week which was very entertaining and informative. Additionally, in light of the devastating bushfires of Yarloop, the school conducted a fundraiser for the Lord Mayor’s Bush Fire Appeal. As usual, Wattle Grove students, staff and families responded with an amazing total of $2,134.00 raised. This is a magnificent effort and will certainly help the families of Yarloop. Thank you to everyone for your wonderful contributions and your great demonstration of Aussie spirit.

Parent Information Evening

Our Parent Information Evening held last week, was very well attended by so many parents wishing to learn all about their children’s learning program for this year. Teachers presented their expectations and the various classroom procedures and strategies they intend to implement over the coming months with a focus on literacy, numeracy and science. It was most pleasing to see the wonderful rapport and open communication between the parents and staff in supporting the children of our school. Many thanks to all parents across the school who attended the meetings, as it is your understanding of each teacher’s program that will undoubtedly benefit your children in their learning progress and achievement. If you have any further questions of your child’s teacher, please don’t hesitate to make an appointment with them.

School Parking

With a school population of 647 children, it is extremely important for parents to be mindful of the safety of driving/parking around our school. I would encourage all parents to walk their children to school rather than drive. It is far healthier for children to walk and a great opportunity to talk about things as you pass them by. The difficulties in parking are extreme and are certainly not going to improve. It is critical that all parking signs are strictly adhered to by parents in order to ensure the safety of children and motorists. The Rangers from Kalamunda Shire have already issued a number of infringement notices to motorists around our school and will continue to monitor unsafe practices.

P&C Annual General Meeting

The P&C AGM was held last week and, once again, thank you to the parents who gave up their time to attend and to those who volunteered to take up a position for this year. Congratulations to our new P&C Office Bearers for 2016:

- President - Adam Kew
- Vice President - Mary Cannon
- Secretary - Camille Damer
- Treasurer – Geoff Tucknott

The P&C is now looking forward to another
successful fundraising year. Whilst it’s encouraging to have a wonderful group of parents who continue to volunteer and assist year after year, they would like to encourage new families in our community to also participate and become involved in our school.

The next P&C Meeting will be conducted on Wednesday 2 March at 7pm.

School Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
A reminder to all parents that Friday, 4 March is gazetted as a School Development Day (Pupil Free) for the students of Wattle Grove Primary School. The school will be closed on this day and children do not attend.

Julie Roberts
Principal

Prime Maths & Mental Maths Books
Maths programs have now started and it is essential that all students have their workbooks.

If you have not paid for your child’s Prime Maths book (Year 1-5 $33.95) or Mental Maths (Year 6—$11.95), please do so at the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Assembly News:

Thank you to Miss Mills, Ms Peake and Miss Gerace and the students from Rooms 14 and 25 for last week’s wonderful Aussie Day Assembly.

Congratulations to the following Merit Certificate winners:

Week 3 Junior Assembly

Kindy Rm 2: Jett, Harry, Aelah, Stephanie, Niya, Connor, Charlotte, Carter
Kindy Rm 4: Joshua, Kyan, Merhhy
PP Rm 3: Isha, Rylee, Amelie
PP Rm 5: Shianne, Charlotte, Gzal
PP Rm 6: Shayan, Jessica, Merlyn
Rm 1 Rm 7: Shania, Lucy, Cohen
Rm 2 Rm 8: Shreya, Alysha, Anjelina
Yr 1 Rm 9: Shyan, Jessica, Merlyn
Yr 2 Rm 10: Natalia, Noah, Shirlina, Mia, Blayd
Yr 2 Rm 14: Trent & Emilio - Room 25
Yr 2 Rm 16: Maria Joseph, Zaydn Thomas
Yr 2 Rm 25: Room 25, Year 2

Snakes:
Just a reminder to parents that at this time of year, we need to be watchful of snakes and to notify a staff member of any sightings in the school grounds.

Emergency Contact Details
It is important that the school has parents up to date contact details at all times. Please notify the office if you have changed address, phone numbers, email and emergency contact details.
Aussie Dress Up Day

Parent Information Night

See these photos larger in a slideshow on the school blogsite at — www.wattlegroveps1.blogspot.com.au
School Contributions

Contribution funding is used as part of the enormous range of learning activities offered and resources provided throughout the year, e.g. art/craft, technology, library books, science and maths equipment, etc.

Thank you to all families who have paid their Voluntary Contributions for 2016. If you haven’t paid your Contributions yet, please forward your payment to the front office.

We accept cash, cheques and EFTPOS. Please make all cheques payable to “Wattle Grove Primary School”. Many thanks.

Contributions are as follows:

- One child: $60.00
- Two children: $100.00
- Three or more children: $135.00

Students arriving at school

Children and parents arriving at school between 8.15 - 8.30am will need to wait in the Undercover Area until the siren is sounded. Students are NOT permitted to play on equipment before or after school with or without parent supervision.

Early Closure on Tuesday

The school closes at 2.30pm each Tuesday, to accommodate staff Professional Development in the implementation of new curriculum and assessment initiatives and for collaborative planning and policy meetings.

Children do not remain at school after this time and parents are expected to collect their children promptly at 2.30pm.

Limited after school care is provided only for students who need to travel home by bus.

Road Safety

St John Road is extremely busy with traffic, especially at school start and finish times. Can all students please take care when crossing the road — and can all parents drive at a slow pace and look out for kids. Thank you.

Deputy Principal Corner:

Numero® www.numero.org has been designed for use by students of all ages and is ideal for developing numeracy concepts and problem-solving skills. Playing Numero® is also a great way to improve mathematical skills, while having fun at the same time.

Numero® has a number of key features:

- Significantly boosts mental maths ability when played regularly.
- Adaptable for any ability and suitable for ages 5 to adult.
- A fun educational activity for the whole family.
- Increases children’s confidence in the classroom.
- Encourages tactical thinking and thinking ‘outside the box’.

On Tuesday, 22 March 2016 at 5.30pm Wattle Grove Primary School will be hosting a Numero® Parent Information Session. Parents with children in Years 3-6 will be invited to come along and learn about the advantages of including Numero® as part of a balanced numeracy program. Invitations will be sent home with students next week. This is a parent only event and places will be limited.

Numero® sets will also be available at the discounted price of $15 with profits assisting the Wattle Grove P & C.

Kelly Peake
Deputy Principal

Parent Email Addresses

All correspondence is now communicated to parents via email. The school newsletter contains important information for parents. Therefore it is important that the school has your up-to-date details.

Shortly, there will be a form sent out for parent completion, asking for your confirmation/advice of applicable email addresses for future communications. Please return these forms promptly to the school office. Thank you.
Student Rep Profiles: Term One 2016

Joshua
I have been at this school for seven years now and this is my eighth year at the best school in the world. I am ecstatic to be a student rep for Term 1, 2016. It's a privilege to become a student rep since Kindy. I have a family background of Seychelles, Queensland and Melbourne, following a brother and a sister attending Wattle Grove. Maths is my favourite subject and I love to play sport. I am going to a great high school Mazenod.

I have absolutely loved being a part of Wattle Grove Primary School and love the things about Wattle Grove:

- The teachers are wonderful and caring to us.
- Everybody gets along at Wattle Grove
- The teachers and staff help us when needed

As a student Representative for Term 1, 2016 I would like to help the school become a better place as well as the community. I will always follow our Number 1 rule: ‘Give to Receive’.

Madison
I have been at Wattle Grove for seven years and this is my eighth which means I’ve been here since Kindergarten. For all my years here I’ve enjoyed every bit of it. My favourite subjects are Art, English and Sport! My dad is from New Zealand and my Mum is from Australia, my Nan is from England and my sister is from Australia, So am I. My hobbies are: Hip Hop, watching videos or playing games on the computer, reading and hanging with friends!

At the assembly, I was last picked for the job and I was so relieved to at least be given a shot. I honestly thought I wasn't going to be chosen as a student representative, but when I heard my name I was in absolute shock.

Alyssa
I have been at Wattle Grove Primary School since Kindergarten and this is now my last year. I have enjoyed every single second of it and I’ve been looking forward to being a Student Rep since Kindy. I have finally got the chance to take on the role of being a student representative for 2016. I love being a leader and a role model for peers and if anyone one has and minor problems in the playground, I am proud to help.

My hobbies are dancing, hanging out with my friends, swimming and travelling. My favourite subject at school is English (Spelling), Sport and Science. I like Science because it’s fun to do lots of investigations. As a student rep for term one, I am going to be a great role model for everyone and do my best for this opportunity! I have lots of fundraising ideas I want to tribute them to the school!

Blake
I have been at Wattle Grove for seven years and this is my eighth year at this wonderful school. I have participated in my favourite hobby, Athletics. I have a sister participating at Wattle Grove. My Dad is New Zealand and my Mum is Australian. I also participate in guitar, soccer and used to play basketball. It is a privilege to be a student representative at this school.

I love to be a part of Wattle Grove. I am looking forward to going to the council meetings and the rep ones too.
School Canteen

The school has a wonderful canteen facility which will be operating each Wednesday and Thursday in 2016. The Canteen operates with a Canteen Manager and the assistance of a dedicated group of volunteer parents. Parents interested in assisting in the canteen on either day for a few hours are asked to contact the school or the Canteen Manager, Suzette Forrest on 0422 247 284. It isn’t very difficult to make a sandwich or a wrap and the children love having their parents or grandparents help out at school.

P&C News:

The Uniform Shop is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8.30am – 9.00am.

The Canteen operates on Wednesday and Thursdays and orders can be placed online by going to www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au. Volunteer assistants are always welcome.

Roe Highway Upgrade (Tonkin Highway to Orrong Road) Project

McConnell Dowell Constructors (Pty) Ltd (MCD) will be commencing construction of the Roe Highway Upgrade Project between Tonkin Highway and Orrong Road for Main Roads. Construction work is due to commence in March and continue to December 2016.

The project involves upgrading Roe Highway with additional lanes in each direction and includes constructing a new bridge over the freight railway line near Sheffield Road. In addition, a new off-road shared path for cyclists and pedestrians will be provided.

MCD will require limited access through Wattle Grove to the site. We will coordinate access times and routes to minimise any interface with the school, especially during drop off and pick up times. However, we would ask that all parents be aware of the ongoing works and potential construction traffic.

Should you have any concerns regarding the work, please contact: Warren Cartledge on 0448 340 349 or by email at roehighway@mcdgroup.com. For more information, please refer to the project webpage on the Main Roads website: www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/BuildingRoads/Projects.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for working with us and helping to make this project a success.

David Gee, Project Manager.
For and on behalf of McConnell Dowell Constructors (Aust) Pty Ltd