Welcome to our community

Welcome Back to 2016!
To all Weeden Heights PS families, new and established, I warmly welcome to the 2017 school year. It has been terrific to hear that everyone has enjoyed their time with their families and friends over the festive and summer season.

A special welcome to our new students and families. We have many new families joining the Weeden Heights community.

After visiting all classes last week, I would like to thank the teachers for all of their planning and organisation. This has created happy classrooms where students are feeling settled. A very smooth start to the new school year!

New Staff
Welcome to our new staff members: Ms Talia Leggett who is teaching year 2/3 on a Wednesday and Thursday. Talia has worked at Weeden Heights for many years and we feel lucky to have her on a more permanent basis.

Our new Wellbeing Officer Mrs Shannon Harrison (also known as ‘Miss Sunshine’) has also started at Weeden Heights PS. She has spent time in each classroom meeting students and getting to know our prep parents at the morning tea on Thursday.

We are also very lucky to have been able to employ, Mrs Jane Nield as our Kitchen and Garden Specialist. Jane has been a committed volunteer in our school and is extremely excited at the opportunity to teach our students and teach the program.

First Week
We have had an amazing start to the school year with the first day being a professional learning day for all staff. We focussed on having clear expectations for 2017 and refocussed on the Strategic Plan. Teachers met in whole school and curriculum teams to develop action plans in line with the Strategic Plan. There was a very smooth start for our Year 1 to Year 6 students on Tuesday and the new Preps started on Thursday. They look like they have been attending Weeden Heights Primary for a long time!

Principal’s Message

What’s Happening

FEBRUARY
9 Prep/New Family Social Night 7-8pm
10 Prep-Yr 1 Tabloid Sports 9.30-11am
10 Essential Agreements go home
13 WESA Swimming Yrs 5&6 and selected Yrs 3 & 4
14 Essential Agreements due for return
15 No Preps at school
16 Family Picnic Night Kaboom Sports 5.30-7.30pm
17 Yrs 5&6 Interschool Sport
20 Assembly—Mission Statement presentation
21 Getting to Know You interviews
22 No Preps at school
24 Yrs 5&6 Interschool Sport
26 Working Bee 9-12pm
27 Division Swimming—qualified students only

MARCH
1 No Preps at school
8 No Preps at school
10 Yrs 5&6 Interschool Sport
13 LABOUR DAY Public Holiday
17 Yrs 5&6 Interschool Sport
18 PFA Student Disco
22 Parent Helpers Course 2.15-3.15pm
24 Yrs 5&6 Interschool Sport Grand Final Day
25 Japanese Home Stay Program
Commissions
27 Yr 5&6 Maldon Camp
28 Yr 5&6 Maldon Camp
29 Yr 5&6 Maldon Camp
31 Last Day Term 1, 2:30pm dismissal

APRIL
18 First Day Term 2
19 School Photos
21 WHPS Athletics Carnival 9-12pm
25 Anzac Day Public Holiday
27 Literacy Fun Night 6-7pm
28 Junior School Pay-it-Forward event

MAY
1 Yrs 5&6 Pollywoodside Excursion
9 NAPLAN Language Conventions & Writing
10 NAPLAN Reading
11 NAPLAN Numeracy
12 PFA Mother’s Day Stall
15 WESA Cross Country
19 Curriculum Day
22 Education Week
23 Open Day & Night
23 ICAS Digital Technology
30 Division Cross Country
Happy Birthday

JANUARY
1 Sharon H
5 Jade M
7 Ashley S
9 Luca M, Bindi P
17 Nick R
19 Braedon L
20 Jackson R, Jack J
22 Isabella C
26 Sophie E, Kaleb S
30 Zipporah W

FEBRUARY
1 William M
3 Rong C, Patrick M
6 Christeen M
7 Liam D
8 Sakineh B
9 Jackson S
12 Jamieson B
22 Eros L
26 Gabriel T
28 Mack N, Jordan D

Term Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>31 January to 31 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>18 April to 30 June</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>17 July to 22 September</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>9 October to 22 December</td>
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Scholastic Book Club

Issue 1 ~ Orders due 14 February 2017

OSHC Outside School Hours Care

CRICKET CLINIC
Thursday afternoons, 4-5pm
Session 1 16 February
Session 2 23 February
Session 3 2 March
Session 4 9 March
Session 5 16 March

Enrol your child in After School Care to take advantage of these free sports clinics!

Parking Reminder

Just a reminder that the Council regularly enforces parking signs and restrictions in the streets surrounding our school. To avoid being fined, please observe all parking signs.

For the safety of all, it is also important that parents do not use the staff car parks at both the front and rear of the school for drop off or collection of students.

Assembly

Our first main assembly was on Monday morning to welcome all of the new students and to re-introduce all of our new families to the school. The school captains did a terrific job assisting to conduct their very first assembly. Well done Grace, Bonnie and Braedon! It was fabulous to see many parents attending as well.

‘Getting to Know You’ Interviews – 2 Way Meetings

At Weeden Heights PS, we meet with parents at the start of each year so that we can establish a shared understanding of the learning needs of your child. The interviews will go for 10 minutes this year and this is an excellent opportunity for parents to share information with the teacher and develop learning goals and understandings. The meetings are being held on 20.2.17 and 21.2.17 (a few appointments will also be available on 22.2.17 for 2/3DT and year 5) so that all families can participate and we can continue the learning partnership.

We use the interviews on line booking process and you can book straight off the Tiqbiz app. This allows you to have greater control when selecting your interview times.

School Council

A very important part of our school’s continued development is on our sub-committees and the work that they do for the school community. These committees give all parents the chance to assist in the education of their children without committing to the more formal task of School Council. We need parent representation as it assists with new thoughts and ideas.

Please look out for more information in our up-coming newsletters when the new sub-committees are formed. We would welcome your input.

We also have school council elections every Term 1 and there will be more information in coming newsletters regarding nominations.
2017 Class Representatives

Our Class Representatives are an important part of our communication process at Weeden Heights PS and they form an important role in liaising between the class teacher and the parents in the room. Classroom teachers are now looking for volunteers. Ms Pearce will be the coordinator for all of our parent reps. Please look out for a note that was sent home last week via Tiqbiz.

The role of the Class Representative includes the following:

- Organising class/level social activities for parents (e.g. dinner, coffee mornings)
- Encouraging parents to support social/fundraising and community events
- Providing a communication link between the PFA and class parents
- Liaising with the classroom teacher to organise volunteers, rosters etc. if required
- Welcoming new and current parents to the school to develop and foster a friendly, supportive group
- Preparing a Class Contact List (to assist with play dates)
- Participation in occasional Class Reps Meetings (when possible)

Bright Futures Program

Students across the school are currently involved in a “Bright Futures Program” which will run over the next two weeks. It has several important goals that classes will be working towards:

- Establishing common understandings of the thinking curriculum through Inquiry Based Learning
- Developing the learning environment with the establishment of classroom routines and procedures and the acknowledgement that students learn in different ways and at different rates. Focuses will also include the need to respect each other as learners and treat each other in ways that we would like to be treated; the development of co-operative learning strategies that enable students to learn from one another and listen to others viewpoints and ideas
- Our School Values of Respect, Personal Excellence, Curiosity and Creativity, Collaboration will be emphasised and the links that these values have with our educational aims and the ways in which we behave.

Next Fortnight

Foundation and new parents social night: 9 February 2017. The function is held at school between 7pm – 8pm. Please come along and meet all of the parents, staff and School Councillors.

Don’t forget our Family Picnic from 5.30 - 8pm on Thursday 16 February 2017 on our school oval. It is always a great success and an opportunity for our community to mingle and especially meet our new families and welcome them into our community. Kaboom Tabloid Sports will run a fun activity that will be held between 6.30 – 7.45pm. There is no cost to families. You are there to have fun with your community! We will also be selling soft drink, icy poles and raffle tickets on the night. We hope to see everyone there.

Until next fortnight…..

Kylie Campbell
A huge thank you to our wonderful "Holiday Helper" families.

**Chook Helpes:**
Adam, Chen, Edis, Elford, Hunt, Jasper, Mundy, Symons, Stanley, Vennell, Vitanopoulos, Wilson, Nield and Mikus.

**Weeden Waterers:**
Jasper, Lowrey, Mikus, Nield, Wilson and Cindy

**Kitchen Garden “thank you”**

Many thanks to all the Weeden families who helped water our garden and look after our chickens during the school holidays. The garden is bursting with an abundance of fruits and vegetables which will the students will enjoy harvesting and sharing in our kitchen garden program. The “girls” in Chookingham Palace have been very well cared for, especially with the bursts of extreme hot weather we have experienced.

If you would like to be involved in either helping out with occasional watering or visiting our chooks over the weekends, please forward an email or message to Kerryn at the office who will pass on your details.

With thanks Jenny Watts (SAKG)
Kids Karate
Is about developing young bodies and minds... and having fun!
Classes taught by Goju Ryu
Master Instructor Paul Tomassini, 7th Dan.
Over 30 years of teaching experience
From Beginners to Black Belts and Beyond!
Tuesday lunchtimes.
Now open to students 6 years and over at Weeden Heights Primary School.
$105 per term. "No obligation" first trial class.

Enquiries 0417547311

2017 MUSIC PROGRAMS
ABC & GROUP MUSIC

ABC MUSIC PROVIDES ALL INSTRUMENTS
- Clarinet, Junior Flute/Flute, Recorder, Saxophone
- Ukulele, Basic Theory & percussion skills
- 30 min lesson per week
- Program Runs: For 16 weeks starting Feb 23rd 2017
- Music is taught in a fun environment with musical games.
- An assessment report is given at the end of the program to indicate what instrument the student should specialize in.

GROUP LESSONS are available in all of the above instruments.
- Please note you do need your own instrument.
- Book now & Email student name, class, mobile number & chosen program, ABC or group program & instrument!
- Pay by internet banking with name & school as reference.
- SPECIAL $374 normally $394 per either 16 week program
- Bs $53 000 Acc 142939767 Marianne Wright
- mwrightsmusic@gmail.com ph 0409125464

TRY ONE FREE INTRO ABC LESSON THURS FEB 16th
Book via email with name, class, mobile & mention FREEINTRO
By Wed FEB 13th & you will receive confirmation back.

All Prep & Grade 1’s
Enrolments are NOW being taken for Prep & Grade 1 students to commence in Term 2, 2017!!
1. Go to our website at www.madonmusic.com.au
2. Fill out the online enrolment form and click the submit button
3. Mad On Music will contact you once you have received your place
To save disappointment, please enrol by the Friday, 31st March 2017.
(Mad On Music does not take enrolments for Term 1 & 4 lessons)

All Gr 2-6’s – Do you want to learn KEYBOARD, GUITAR or SINGING?
This is your CHANCE to enrol for Term 1, 2017!!
1. Go to our website at www.madonmusic.com.au
2. Fill out the online enrolment form and click the submit button
3. Mad On Music will contact you once you have received your place
To save disappointment, please enrol by Friday, 17th February 2017.
(Mad On Music does not take enrolments for Term 3 & 4 lessons)

Chinese Learner, Future Winner!

Try one free intro ABC music lesson Thurs Feb 16th
Book via email with name, class, mobile & mention FREEINTRO
By Wed Feb 13th & you will receive confirmation back.

ABC MUSIC PROVIDES ALL INSTRUMENTS
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**Drawing and Cartooning**

Weeden Heights Primary School

Develop your **cartooning** skills. Learn to draw facial features and comic strips with speech bubbles. Write humorous captions, learn how to tell a concise message in 5 points. You don’t need to be good at drawing to explore your sense of humour, discover the sense of the ridiculous but be sensitive to other people’s feelings. You will learn to consider the rights of free speech versus rights to privacy and much more.

**WiseOnes Application for 1st Term 2017**

This program is available for all Grade 1 - Grade 6 children who have qualified for WiseOnes.

The unit for first term commences week beginning Monday, 13th February, 2017.

The unit will run for 8 weeks commencing: Monday 13th Feb, 20th Feb, 27th Feb, 6th Mar, 13th Mar, 20th Mar (Week 7) 17th Apr, (Week 8) 24th Apr.

Due to the shortness of Term 1, Week 7 and 8 will be at the beginning of Term 2.

**WiseOnes Teacher: Sarah Flanigan 0409 436 811.**

I wish to enrol my child in the unit "Cartooning" starting week beginning Monday 13th February, 2017.

I give permission for a copy of this slip to be handed to the WiseOnes teacher.

Child’s Name ______________________________________ School: Weeden Heights Primary School

Date of Birth ________________________ Class (2017) ________

Parents' Names ________________________________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________________________

Phone: BH ___________ AH ____________ Mobile __________________ Email: ______________________________

My child has already qualified for WiseOnes YES/NO

I would like a free test for my child YES/NO.

I would like my child to be tested with a fuller assessment to qualify for WiseOnes (assessment cost $250 inc GST).

**Please send this slip and payment of $243.00 on Thursday, 9th February, 2017.** As we are a non-credit business, children will not be accepted into the program for the term unless the fees and enrolment form are returned by the above date. If paying by cheque please make it payable to Weeden Heights Primary School.

For further information please contact Pat Truscott: Mobile: 0407 313 657.

NB: Due to the Government increase of teachers' wages, please note the new cost of the program.
Family, friends and members of the Weeden Heights PS community are invited to join us celebrating the start of another great year at our annual...

Family Picnic Night
featuring Kaboom Tabloid Sports!

When: Thursday 16 February 2017
5:30pm – 8pm

Where: Weeden Heights Primary School
Weeden Drive, Vermont South

BYO- Picnic blankets and/or chairs and a yummy picnic dinner from home!

Soft drink cans and icy poles will be sold at the school on the night. We will also be selling raffle tickets to win some great prizes!

Between 6:15 - 7:30pm Kaboom Kids Sports and our Weeden Heights captains will be running a FULLY INCLUSIVE sporting experience that is ENGAGING, UNIQUE and FUN! Students will compete in a range of different sporting games and activities in their house teams to win lots of PRIZES!

Please come along: catch up with friends, meet our new families, mingle with staff and watch your children have a wonderful time on the oval with the fun sporting session.

We hope to see you all there to welcome you to 2017!
CHESS COACHING TERM 1 – 2017

Enrolments for Chess Club will be taken on a first come first served basis and is unfortunately not available for Preps.

DATES: Fridays for 8 weeks starting on Friday 10 February with the final class for the term being on Friday 31 March.

TIMES: 8.00 – 9.00am

VENUE: Weeden Heights PS Library

COST: $120 per student and is to be paid in full by Friday 17 February.

Once you have committed to Chess Club we are unable to refund any money.

Please return with correct money/details and the form below to classroom teachers—sorry, no late payments can be accepted.

Sally Lockyer Enrichment and Extension Co-ordinator

Chess Coaching, 2017 Term 1 – Payment

I give permission for my child/children to participate in the Chess Club in Term 1 2017 at Weeden Heights Primary School on Friday mornings.

Child's Name: _________________________________ Grade: _________________________________

_______________________________ Grade: _________________________________

_______________________________ Grade: _________________________________

Enclosed is a payment of $120 per child which covers Chess Club membership for this term as follows:

☐ Cash

Or please charge my Credit Card: ☐ Visa/Mastercard (circle which)

Card Number: __________ / __________ / __________ / __________

Expiry: __________ / __________ Cardholder's Name: _________________________________

I give permission for Chess Ideas to access any relevant medical information about my child/ren.

SIGNED: _________________________________ (Parent/Guardian)