PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

I’m presently writing this newsletter editorial from the Technology in K-12 Education Conference in Sydney. It’s quite exciting that the educational leaders around the world are confirming the direction Wooranna Park Primary School has adopted for many years.

Some of these ideas include:
- Children taking responsibility for their learning
- A collaborative approach to learning
- Recognising ICT as an important tool in children’s learning

Developing students creativity and imagination is as important as learning to be literate and numerate. I will come back to school with lots of PD for staff. As a starter, a Harvard University Professor, Eric Mazur, has recognised that if you want students to learn, you provide them with the opportunity to ask questions of their lecturer, not as is custom, to ask questions of them! Getting this right will be a priority in the near future.

Ray Trotter

DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 4th June</td>
<td>Chess Competition at The Peninsula School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 6th June - Friday 8th June</td>
<td>Grade 5/6 Camp to “Camp Jungai”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday June 7th</td>
<td>Spark Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday June 11th</td>
<td>Queens Birthday Holiday. No School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th June</td>
<td>Wooranna Park Hosts Chess Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday June 14th</td>
<td>Spark Program</td>
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COMING SOON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday June 21st</td>
<td>Creative Music Concert 1:00p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday June 21st</td>
<td>Maths/Literacy Open Night 5:00-7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th June</td>
<td>Reporting Day Student Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th June</td>
<td>Prep Information night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th June</td>
<td>Spark Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28th June</td>
<td>Sports Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29th June</td>
<td>Term 2 Ends!</td>
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WONDERFUL READER

Alison 1A
Keys to a Bright Future for our EAL children.

After school this week I met up with former colleagues from our Wooranna Park Community. We met at the local Pancake Parlour, and were served by a former Wooranna Park student who said that we were important “links” in her educational journey to this present day. She had been taught by Mrs. Fletcher in a Multi-aged grade, whilst I had taught her brother in the grade 3 Unit. We were all pleased to hear that they were in the midst of successfully completing their Tertiary studies.

This chance meeting led me reflect on my own Educational Journey. In my final year at Secondary School I was awarded a coveted History Award by my inspirational History teacher. Many years later at a High School Reunion I mentioned to him, that his belief in my ability to succeed had had a powerful impact on my educational future. Had I not had that pastoral care and support from my wonderful mentor and many other teachers, I would have left school at 15, as no one in my family would’ve expected me to go further. May I mention here, if you have a chance to see the movie “Freedom Writers” with Hilary Swank, you will see what I mean by the power of the words “belief in ” and “success”.

It is part of my role to support the EAL( English as Another Language) students by being a good listener and advocate. It is not easy to be in an environment where the language and routines are so strange to begin with. Imagine yourselves being “whisked” away to a new country due to War or Famine and having to start all over again. To see children who migrate to Australia as Refugees, or New Arrivals, and see them blossom under the nurturing care of class and EAL teachers, is a wonder to behold. We are all “links” that enable them to explore their unique possibilities in a safe and secure way.

Our school is a bright beacon for children coming into a new educational system from countries all over the world. We accept the EAL children as they are, and endeavor to provide experiences which are both meaningful and real to life. The EAL children are co-learners who take an active role in their learning. We provide quality Learning Programs which, include access to Blogs that enable them to reflect on their learning, Stimulating Learning Platforms (Dragon Boat, Space Unit) to gain inspiration from, the Kitchen Garden, Cooking Clubs, Project based Learning and Excursions to so many wonderful places.

I find working with EAL children to be both rewarding and fruitful as it is to work with all children .The impact one has on students in whichever role one has in a school community is hugely important. There is an African saying that goes something like “It takes a village to grow and nurture a child” The important thing is for all of us in the Wooranna Park Community is to believe that the children will succeed so that we are the “keys” that open the door to their having a bright and prosperous future.

Marlene Kalatzis

Earn and Learn

Wooranna Park will be participating in the Woolworths earn and Learn program again this year. When you spend $10.00 or more at Woolworths between 9th May and 1st July 2012 you will receive a sticker to place on a sticker card (Available from Woolworths and the School Office.)

Once your sticker card is full you can place it in the Woolworths earn and Learn box just outside the Parents’ Lounge.
We are grateful to the Australian Business Community Network (ABCN) who organise the SPARK program. This is the third year that the RACV has sent employees to be mentors for a group of Grade 4 students in reading. The students benefit from having two mentors who encourage and support reading for each student. The benefits have been seen in the ongoing interest in reading in following years.

This is from the ABCN website: www.abcn.com.au

Benefits for students:
- Improve literacy skills
- Increase confidence and self esteem
- Raise achievements and aspirations
- Enhance personal and social skills

'The mentors are making such a significant impact on the students, both academically and socially.' Teacher

Benefits for reading mentors:
- Increase awareness of issues in the broader community
- Opportunity to contribute to the community
- Improve skills and job satisfaction
- Enjoyment in spending time reading with children.

'On a personal note, it's very rewarding watching your student improve every time you see them. They are very excited and truly grateful of the time...which is a slightly humbling experience.' Mentor

Annette Hansen

A very big thank you to our school community for supporting the State Schools' Relief fundraiser held this week. Over the two days, sales of hot chocolate and yummy treats raised $607.24!!

State Schools' Relief is a charity established in 1930 to help Victorian students with new school clothing and shoes. Last financial year they assisted 84% of Secondary schools and 40% of Primary schools with 10,463 requests for assistance.

Thanks also go to Ms. Boutros and her team of helpers: Mrs. Hetherington, Mrs. Grkinjic, Mrs. Vine, Ms Mansfield, Ms. Pang and Mr. Collings. Together with student committee members they worked tirelessly to make this activity a tremendous success.

Annette Hansen
**Education Maintenance Allowance**

**2nd Instalment 2012**
**Application from 16th July – 3rd August**
**For Parents / Guardians with a Health Care or Pension Card**

If your child/children commenced at Wooranna Park after the end of February you will need to make an application. If your child transferred to Wooranna Park from another school after the end of February you will need to make a new application.

If you became entitled to a Health Care/ Pension Card after the end of February you will need to make an application.

**N.B.** Parents / Guardians who lodged an EMA Application with Wooranna Park at the beginning of the year do not need to lodge another application to receive the 2nd Instalment.

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**Happy Birthday**

**May/June**

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<th>May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Angel</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Sara</td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>5th</td>
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<td><strong>June</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Konah</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>6th</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Edward</td>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>9th</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Steven</td>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>11th</td>
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<td>4th</td>
<td>Elijah</td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>12th</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Ruby</td>
<td>2A</td>
<td>12th</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>Jayden</td>
<td>Prep B</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Tarik</td>
<td>1A</td>
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**A Message From The Office.**

As winter approaches, sometimes it is a little wet outside during playtimes. Some of our students love to enjoy the puddles that appear after the rain. As a result of that we have exhausted our supply of spare track suit pants! If your child has a love of the wintry outdoors would it be possible for them to have a spare pair of track suit pants in their bag just in case! Jumping in puddles is something even grown ups can’t resist!
Open Maths/Literacy Night

When: Thursday June 21, 2012
Time: 5pm - 7pm

Wooranna Park Primary School
89 - 105 Carlton Road, Dandenong

Come and join our school community to celebrate the results of our paper plane competition. Participate in a variety of literacy and numeracy activities. Explore our purpose built environment where children develop a sense of belonging, a thirst for knowledge, and life long learning.

For more Information phone our school office on: 9795 2007
LITTLE ROOSTERS
A Fun Introduction to the World Game

FC 11 in conjunction with COERVER® Coaching is proud to offer a fully integrated Soccer Skills Program, based on the largest global soccer educational program in the world.

The Little Roosters program aims to develop and enhance individual skill sets, providing a foundation by which all other aspects of soccer can be built on.

- Exciting & Fun Program
- Synthetic Surface Venue
- Professional Coaching

Time: Every Saturday
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Price: $250 per semester
(18 weeks total)

Venue: Rowville Football Centre

P: 1300 412 990
info@rowvillefootballcentre.com.au
www.rowvillefootballcentre.com.au

What’s on next week...
Monday 4 June: Origami
Tuesday 5 June: Amazing race
Wednesday 6 June: Chocolate chip cookies
Thursday 7 June: Leaping frogs
Friday 8 June: Kickball

STARS of the past fortnight are...
Frank V. for being way too funny!
Chloe W. for being a great helper.

enrolment hotline
Phone our friendly customer service staff on: 1300 366 437
www.extend.com.au

Wooranna Park now has an EFTPOS facility for all payments of Educational Provisions, Stationery Packs, School Excursions/Incursions and camps.

Please come to the office if you wish to use this facility.