



Newsletter #1

WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME!

To our current and new parents and students a very warm welcome to another exciting year at Wedge Park Primary School.

I have been making my way around the yard before and after school, it has been lovely to meet lots of new families as well as catching up with some familiar faces. I am fortunate to be working alongside my dynamic Leadership Team, which includes, 2 Assistant Principals and 4 Leading Teachers that will work closely with the teachers, students and families in their teams to foster a safe, fun and rigorous learning environment for all of our students, whilst ensuring that we all stay connected as one big learning community.

We are welcoming 136 new preps into the school this year. I encourage you to greet and support our new parents and their children in joining our wonderful school community. Although the reputation of the school tends to focus on the children and staff, it is you, our community members that often make the difference. I am looking forward to an exciting year, I hope 2018 brings great things for you and your family.

FAMILY BBQ

We are excited to announce that the Annual Community Picnic will be on **Wednesday 21st February from 5.00pm-7.00pm**

This gives us a great opportunity to get to know our new families as well as welcome back our returning ones.

It will be a fun and interactive evening and we would love to see our school community get involved.

There will lots of different activities and things to do, such as:

- Jumping Castles
- Games and activities with staff
- Petting Zoo

Our teachers are looking forward to using this opportunity to get to know the families of children in their homerooms but also families across the school. They will not be discussing individual student progress or needs at the picnic. Children **must not** attend without adult supervision as teachers are not on duty at this time. Please also note that alcohol must not be brought to the event and legislation prohibits smoking on school grounds at any time.

We look forward to seeing you there for a fun filled evening!

Important Dates / Reminders

FRI 9TH FEB
YEAR 6 COMMEMORATIVE
TOPS FINAL ORDERS

TUES 13TH FEB
SCHOOL BANKING
COMMENCES

FRI 16TH FEB
BOOKCLUB ISSUE 1 CLOSES

REMINDERS

SCHOOL ABSENCE LINE
9743 7595
8.50AM – 3.05PM

NO LATE PAYMENTS FOR
EXCURSIONS/INCURSIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED UNLESS
ARRANGMENTS HAVE BEEN
MADE WITH THE OFFICE
PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE

SCHOOL BANKING EVERY
TUESDAY

UPDATE CHANGE OF
ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER
ETC AT THE OFFICE



OUR SCHOOL DAY

This year there is a minor change to our school timetable. It has not altered the start or the end of the day just the break times. Please see below the new times for 2018

8:50am	Teachers open doors for students to enter
9:00am -10:00am	Session 1
10:00am - 11:00am	Session 2
11:00am - 11:30am	Break 1
11:30 am - 12:30pm	Session 3
12:30pm - 1:30pm	Session 4
1:30pm - 1:35pm	Students eating lunch
1:35pm - 2:05pm	Break 2
2:05pm - 3:05pm	Session 5
3:05pm	End of school day
3:20pm	School gates locked

CLASSROOM ROUTINES

A reminder that the 8.50am music is the time when children come into our classrooms so they can organise the things we need for the day. To promote independence and resilience please encourage your child to carry their own bag in to the classroom and unpack it by themselves. Our learning time begins at 9.00am every weekday, please ensure that you have said goodbye to your child and left the classroom by this time.

Classroom teachers are available to discuss any concerns you may have before and after school by making a time with them directly.

UNIFORM AND JOJO BOWS

Your support and cooperation is critical in ensuring that our children represent the school in a positive way by wearing the full and correct school uniform every day. Whilst Jojo Bows are a wonderful colourful accessory, they are not part of the official school uniform or representative of the school colours and should not be worn to school. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.

Our uniform policy is on our website.

NO SOCCER/FOOTBALL IN THE PERGOLA

We have had a few incidents in the past, of parents and young children being hit by balls flying around in the pergola area before and after school. Please be mindful and ask your child to refrain from kicking and throwing balls in this area at drop off and pick

up time. If your child would like to play with a ball before or after school they are more than welcome to play on the astro or basketball courts where there is much more space.

SCHOOL FEES AND BOOK PACKS 2018

Book packs are available now from the office, all year levels cost \$150.00, this includes all books needed for the year and school fees.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sport teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the cost of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession cards or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. If you applied for the CSEF last year, and your card is still valid you do not have to reapply. Application forms are available from the office.

WHAT HAPPENED OVER THE HOLIDAYS?

During the holidays, our new portables were handed over. They look amazing and are a much bigger floor plan than the portables already at our school. These portables are fitted out with everything we need for the students to be comfortable (air conditioner, heater and fans) We also removed some garden beds from high traffic areas and replaced them with some concrete allowing for easy movement around the school. Over the coming weeks we will be planting some new trees and planting new garden beds.



FLEXIBUZZ

FlexiBuzz is our school app and is available for you and your family to download. Here is where you can stay up to date with what is happening at our school, you can also complete a student absence slip on here as well as order lunch. A one stop APP for our school. Please download the following instructions and select the year levels your child/ren are enrolled in.

Stay in touch with FlexiBuzz

STEP
01

Sign up for FlexiBuzz and then login

Search "FlexiBuzz" in your app store.

Go to web.flexibuzz.com and click "Sign Up".

STEP
02

Connect to us

Select the "Search" icon and type in our name. Select us from the results.

STEP
03

Select your communication groups

Click the "Add" icon beside the communication groups that apply to you.

STEP
04

Get started

Click the "Home" icon to view our recent posts.

For further information or assistance please visit our website www.flexibuzz.com or email us via support@flexibuzz.com.

FlexiBuzz

COLLECTION OF CHILDREN DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

We completely understand that children may have to be collected from school to attend medical or dental appointments etc. To ensure the least disruption to classes and to enable the smoothest transition of the child to the parent,; ALL children who are leaving prior to the official end of the school day (3:05pm) must be collected from the office and will not be released from the classroom. If the person picking up the child is not known to office staff they will be required to provide photo identification and, if prior arrangements have not been made, office staff will contact the parents to ensure they have permission to remove the child from school.

When collecting children during the school day please ensure they are not collected during recess or lunch times. As you can image, the children become so engrossed in their play that they are not focused on listening for their name to be called, which often results in lengthy delays. Recess and lunch time occurs across the school from: 11:00 - 11.30am (Break 1) 1:35- 2:05pm (Lunchtime). Also a reminder that the gates at the front of the school are closed at 2.45pm and opened at 3.30pm every day

START THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH A READING ROUTINE

Making time to read regularly with your children is an important part of literacy development, according to the State Library of Victoria's Rebecca Henson. 'Reading, as well as listening, speaking and writing, are fundamental to the development of literacy skills, including vocabulary and language development,' Rebecca says.

'The key is to have a regular routine for reading together at a time that suits you both.

Claiming even 10 minutes a day for reading together has been shown to make a difference.'



'If you can manage more time, that's great - as long as it's a positive experience.'

Rebecca says it helps to have books that match your children's interest, whether they are purchased, borrowed from friends or from the library.

'Children often take their cues from their parents,' Rebecca says.

'For this reason, it's important for adults to display a positive attitude towards reading - most easily expressed through being seen to spend time enjoying reading.'

Rebecca reminds parents that reading can be a part of social and community activities. Some schools and public libraries run book clubs for children, and book shops hold book launches and author events. Attending these events is a great way to create a more positive association with reading.

OSH CLUB

Hello Families,
Welcome to Term 1, 2018!!

We are excited to begin a new year at OSH Club. The children will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of diverse activities during themed weeks throughout the term. We pride ourselves in providing a fun, safe and friendly environment for all children to enjoy.

Enrolling your child is easy and free. All you need to do is complete an enrolment form online at www.oshclub.com.au. I believe this to be beneficial for all families, as once your child is enrolled you have the comfort of knowing the service is available to you anytime.

If your child is starting in grade Prep this year or is new to the program, please feel free to bring them into the program to introduce themselves and get a feel for the program prior to their booking. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the service number on **0419 178 976**.

We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Have a great week!

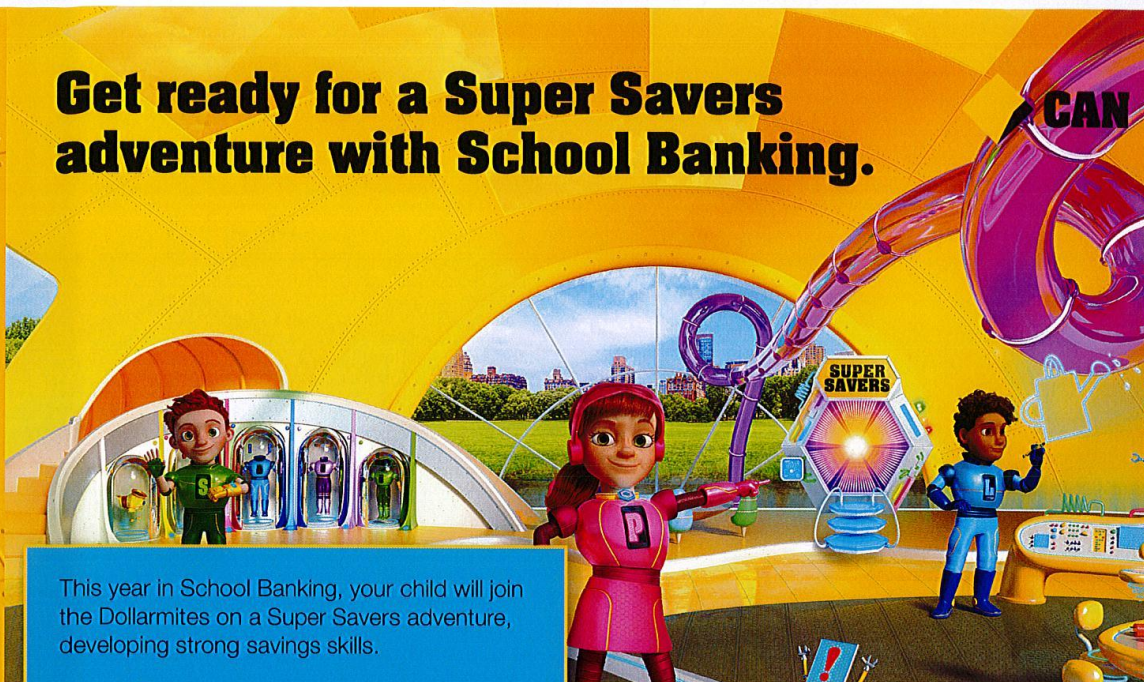
Allison and Zoe.

SWIMMING

On Tuesday the 6th February, our students attended swimming trials. The students were required to select an event that they would like to participate in and we can happily say that all students gave it their best go on the day. Students who were successful in the trials will help to fill the Wedge Park Swimming team that will compete in district swimming on Tuesday the 27th February. Well done to everyone who participated on the day!



Get ready for a Super Savers adventure with School Banking.



This year in School Banking, your child will join the Dollarmites on a Super Savers adventure, developing strong savings skills.

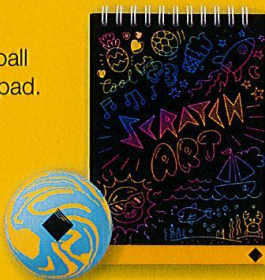
School Banking encourages children to learn the value of saving and rewards those who demonstrate a regular savings behaviour.

New Super Savers reward items.

Introducing an exciting new range of reward items with two released every term. Available in Term 1:

- Twister Power Handball
- Secret Scratch Notepad.

Your child can redeem one of these rewards, while stocks last, after making 10 School Banking deposits.



Remember, with the CommBank Youth app, it's easy for your child to monitor the Dollarmites tokens they earn when making School Banking deposits and track their savings. Available to download from the App Store on any iOS9+ device.



A chance to win a family trip to Hawaii.



Students who truly are Super Savers will have the chance to win a family trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, staying 7 nights at the Sheraton Waikiki Resort, plus AU\$2,000 spending money.

To enter, students simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3 2018, and they will automatically enter the Super Savers Grand Prize Competition.

To find out more about School Banking, or explore fun activity sheets for your child, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things you should know: The 'Super Savers Grand Prize Competition' (Promotion) is conducted by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (ABN 48 123 123 124) of Level 30, 11 Harbour Street, Sydney NSW 2000. The Promotion starts at 9am AEST on 22/01/18 and closes at 11:59pm AEST on 28/09/18. Entry is open to Australian residents aged 4-13 years only who have made 15 separate School Banking deposits into their CommBank 'youthsaver' account during the Promotion period. Eligible entrants will be automatically entered into the draw. Maximum 1 entry/person. The first eligible entry randomly drawn will win a trip to Honolulu, Hawaii, USA for two adults and up to three children (aged 17 years and under), including 7 nights accommodation and \$2,000 AUD spending money, valued at \$17,666 AUD. Terms and conditions apply. The draw will take place at 12pm AEST on 10/10/18 at the address above. The winner will be notified by telephone and email, and will be published online at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking and in The Australian on 17/10/18. Winner must claim the prize by 5pm AEST on 15/01/19 or the prize will be redrawn. The prize will be awarded to the winner's nominated parent or guardian. Conditions apply to accepting the prize. Full terms and conditions available from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking Authorised under NSW Permit No: LT/PS/17/18318, ACT Permit No: ACT TP 17/01989 and SA Permit No: T17/1878.