

# WILLAURA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue 1  
3rd February 2017

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Dear parents, students and friends of Willaura Primary School,

## Welcome to Term 1, 2017!

This is a short newsletter just to inform you about a few important happenings around school and welcome you back to school. It has been great for all of us to catch up with you all over our assessment days and hearing what you have all been doing over the holidays!

On behalf of all of our teachers we would like to thank you for your support in making sure that all of your children were able to attend their assessment. This means that our teachers can focus on teaching and building important relationships with your children from the very first day!

Our core focus at Willaura Primary School in 2017 is strengthening our relationships with our school community and wider community of Willaura, continuing to developing our School Wide Positive Behaviour program, and prioritising individual student learning in Maths and English.

### Important Information:

#### 1. Swimming Program:

Our program begins with a staggered start depending on the class of your child.

Monday 6th Feb: Grades 2-6 begins

Wednesday 8th Feb– Grade 1 begins

Thursday 9th Feb– Grade Prep begins

#### 2. Maths Pathway:

We are very excited to announce that our Grade 4-6 students will be working with the Maths Pathway program in 2017 and so that all families of these students can be fully informed on this, we will be holding an information night on Tuesday 7th Feb at 5pm. We request that all families of students in Grade 4-6 attend this session so that you can learn how the program works and how it allows you to support the learning of your child.

#### 3. Working with Dr George Otero– Relational Learning expert from the Centre of Relational Learning– Santa Fe, New Mexico.

We are very excited to announce that Willaura Primary School will be mentored by Dr George Otero throughout the year in 2017. George has worked extensively with students, teachers, administrators, community leaders, and policy makers in the public and private sectors in Australia, England, Canada and the United States. He is an expert in rural revitalisation, and family, school and community partnerships.

To begin the work with George, we would like to offer the opportunity to participate in our first “**Community Conversation**”. To assist with that, I have invited Community Engagement In Learning Leader, Cindy Bohan to visit us. With Cindy, we will hold two Community Conversations, one on the evening of **Thursday 16th February at 6pm** (Dinner provided!) and the following morning of **Friday 17th February**, (Morning tea provided) immediately following our assembly. We are hoping many of you will be able to attend one of these meetings so that we can begin the journey of empowering you in the learning of your children! I will send out an RSVP and more information next week.

Following this, Dr Otero happens to be in Australia in early March and he is going to jump in his hire car and drive all the way to Willaura on **March 2nd** so that he can meet our staff, students and school community. He is going to run a session that is also open to families at **3.30pm–4.30pm**. Wow, what an amazing opportunity for our school community! A highly regarded world-wide expert, in OUR school, working with OUR community. It would be amazing if we can support this.

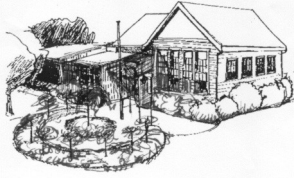
On another note, a huge thank you to John Keynes, who mowed our yard during the holidays and also to other families who watered and helped to tidy up on our assessment days. A big thank you to the Jenkinson family for looking after the chooks!

We will be sending raffle tickets home next week with your children for the Willaura and District Quilters, who are raising money to purchase a defibrillator for the community.

Here's to a wonderful year of learning and individual student learning growth in 2017!

*Tammie Mechan– Principal*





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## February 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Swimming begins— Gr 2-6	7 Maths Pathway Info Night— 5pm Grade 4-6 Families	8 Swimming begins— Grade 1	9 Swimming begins— Grade Prep	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Community Conversa- tion— 6pm All parents invited (Dinner Provided)	17 Community Conversa- tion— 9.30am All parents invited (Morning Tea Provided)	18	19
20	21	22	23 Swimming Carnival Day	24	25	26
27	28 Family Welcome BBQ & Balloon Launch at Pool					

## March 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1 Code Club	2	3	4	5 Choir/Band perform Willaura Hospital Market
6	7	8 Code Club	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Code Club	16	17	18	19
20	21 School Council	22 Code Club	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Grade 4-6 Mel- bourne Arts Centre— Mr Stink	30 Code Club	31 Last Day Term 1		