Dear parents, students and friends of Willaura Primary School,

**Term 2 News**

A letter was sent out yesterday to all families to inform you that I am continuing my role as Acting Principal in Term 2. I am excited to be staying at Willaura PS and am very much looking forward to working with all of you during the term.

We also have another announcement. After a hard selection process, we are excited to announce that we have employed Mr Michael Busija as the Grade 4/5/6 teacher for the rest of the year. As an extra bonus, Mr Busija comes with fantastic experience in the sporting field, especially soccer!

**Balance Transcience Performance**

Our Grade 4/5/6 students were lucky enough to be invited to a sustainability performance at the Ararat Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday. The show they saw was called ‘Balance Transcience’. A blend of puppetry, electronics, animation and live theatre.

Here is a recount, written by Angus, Ruby and Josh:

On Tuesday the Grade 4/5/6 students went to Ararat to watch a performance teaching us about the importance of renewable energy called ‘Balance Transcience’.

Ferday was the main character in the story. She lived in a glow berry tree and the Mayor wanted to cut it down. She wanted to save her glow berry tree from being cut down.

The main highlight in the show was when the instructor asked us who wanted to power the wind towers. Angus got the job. Angus had to wear a scarf and a beanie, which was really funny! He had to pretend to be the wind and power the island making electricity through the bike.

Thank you to Miss Gibson, Janie and Amanda for driving us to Ararat. Without you we could not have had such a great time.

**Assembly Awards**

Our assembly awards winners last Friday were:

**Callum Hem** – For his consistent effort and attention in maths, reading and writing.

**Josh Phillips** – For his dedication and positive attitude towards learning new things. This has been particularly evident when researching during Genius Hour.

**Carl Phillips** – For being patient and persevering.

**Chelsey Turpin** – For working hard in all areas and being a good friend to everyone.

**Floyd Burmeister** – For working hard in all areas. Well done to all of those students!

**School Council AGM**

Our School Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 22nd March. Following the AGM the newly elected office bearers will meet for the first time.

The School Council Policy Committee will meet at 8.30am on Monday 21st March.

**Tammie Meehan**

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**Dates for the family diary.....**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>21st March</th>
<th>School Council Policy Committee meeting 8.30am</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>School Council AGM meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Responsible Pet Program visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>End of Term Assembly – 11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1 – Early Pickup 2.20pm</td>
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</tbody>
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**End of Term Assembly**

All families are invited to attend our end of term assembly at 11.30am. We will feature a special musical performance by Grade 4/5/6.

Parents are welcome to collect children following the assembly.

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**TERM DATES 2016**

Term 1 – 1st February—24th March

Term 2 – 11th April—24th June

Term 3 – 11th July—16th September

Term 4 – 3rd October—20th December
In **Art** over the past few weeks we have been working with colour circles, learning how to make secondary and tertiary colours from our primary colours of red, yellow and blue. Our project was to create artwork that showcases the contrast between warm and cool colours. Grade 4/5/6 have been creating magnificent ancient trees using grid pattern, shape and colour pattern.

Grade 2/3 have been creating camouflaged self-portraits, they have created a trick to the eye using grid work, shapes or objects that represent the individuals and again through contrast between warm and cool colours. They cannot wait to show you the end product!

Finally Prep/one have been working hard on their self-portraits drawn from photographs. If this is their first attempt at a self-portrait…. I look forward to seeing their second attempt later on in the year to see the contrast!

Release your inner creativity!!

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**Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program.** This is such an exciting program as students are able to experience the joy of digging in the garden, picking fresh veggies, smelling and tasting the food that they prepare.

Another exciting aspect of this program is that we can apply what we are learning in an authentic way, through real life and hands on activities. This term we have particularly focussed on science during our garden sessions, and developing our personal and social capabilities in the kitchen, but the possibilities of this program are endless.

Part of the Kitchen Garden Program involves engaging with the community. For Term 2 we would love parents/grandparents/neighbours or anyone who loves engaging with children or has a passion for cooking or gardening, to volunteer to help out. All you will need is your ‘Working With Children’ card. Over the term we alternate weeks between gardening and cooking with our produce harvested. Therefore if you mainly have a passion for gardening or cooking we could accommodate for this.

It really is a fantastic program! If you would like to be involved in any way please contact the school.

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**Music** classes since swimming finished once a week and we have been having a ball. All grades have been singing songs, learning dances or learning how to move creatively in lots of different ways, and playing the instruments. In fact, the Grade 4/5/6 group is going to perform the song ‘Catchbottle’ that they have been learning at the final assembly of the term on Thursday 24th March at 11.30 am if you want to see it! They are pretty excited and think they should go on ‘Australia’s Got Talent’!

The Prep/1 students have learnt how to play ‘Rockin’ Rhythm’ and the Grade 2/3s have learnt how to play ‘I Wanna CCC’ and ‘Click and Spin’. The old ‘Art’ room has become a PERFECT ‘music’ room. A great space for playing instruments and dancing.
School Drop Off and Pick Up Times
We have noticed some concerning parking at drop off and pick up times at the front of the school. We ask that you park at the front of the school, on the south side of Warranooke Street, facing the correct direction, so children do not have to cross the road to their parents’ cars. All parents must also pick their children up from the front gate, the rear gate is for bus travelers. Parents must drive with caution at school times, as children are arriving and leaving school.
**Library Autumn School Holiday Program**

**Jamie and Kim’s Mobile Zoo** - Friday 1st April: 11:00am-12:00pm
Meet and greet Australian animals. An opportunity to have a close up experience and plenty of time for questions.

**Dr Seuss Craft** - Tuesday 5th April: 2:00pm-3:00pm
Join us for some craft based on this beloved character in celebration of his birth 110 years ago. Suitable for any age. Bookings required.

**We Love the Farm** - Wednesday 6th April: 11:00am-12:00pm
Meet author and photographer Tracy Kruger who will read her new book “We Love the Farm”. Fun guaranteed! Suitable for early years primary.

**Critters in the Creek** - Friday 8th April: 1:00pm-2:00pm
Join zoologist Pru Simmons for a fun and interactive session in the library as we explore the lives of the wildlife in our waterways. What does a platypus eat? Where does a freshwater shrimp live? And what happens if the creek stops flowing? Fun and learning for ages 5 and up.

**Baby Rhyme Time** – Tuesday’s at 10.00am – Rhyme, Rhythm and song and story

**Preschool Story Time** – Thursday’s at 11.00am – Interactive songs, stories and preschool craft

For enquiries and bookings please contact the Ararat Library on (03) 5352 1722 or Email library@arat.vic.gov.au

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**Woodford Folk Festival**
In partnership with National Folk Festival presents:

**Festival of Small Halls**
**COMING TO A SMALL TOWN NEAR YOU**

**Willaura Memorial Hall**
Heart of Willaura
30-34 Market St
Ararat, Victoria 3377

Tickets available at www.woodfordfestival.com.au, Willaura Lake Rides Community Bank Branch, Lake Rides Information Centre & Ararat Visitor Information Centre

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**Kids ‘Rock Your Sox Off’ Party**

**Wednesday 16 March 2016**
5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Children aged 5 to 12 years are invited to a big night of fun, excitement and fantastic rock’n rollin’ activities!

- Rock ’n Roll Dancing
- Art & Craft Activities
- Classic ‘American Diner’ snacks
- Movie Screening of ‘Lilo and Stitch’ & Choc-top ice-creams

Cost is $6 per child
Bookings: T: 5352 2836 E: gallery@arat.vic.gov.au

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**The Willaura Branch of the Royal Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal**
Cordially invites you to

**A Family Fun Day**

On Good Friday March 25
From Midday until 3pm
At the Willaura Recreation Reserve.

* Join in with some old fashioned games and entertainment.
  - Jumping Castle
  - Easter Bunny will be hopping in during the afternoon for a visit
* A number of trailer loads of firewood will be auctioned
* The spinning wheel will be in operation most of the day with lots of great prizes to be won

**LUNCH MENU**

Fish & Chips, Salads & Dessert

Adult: $15
Secondary Students: $10
Primary Students: $6
4 & Under: Free

**No Official Town Bonfire will be conducted this year.**

Donations of a salad or dessert would be appreciated on the day. We really need help from people on the day as well, so please Ring 0417 313 247 or Call 0417 311 629 if you can be of assistance.

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**Give that they may grow**