



Woady Yaloak Primary School

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 Email: woady.yaloak.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Principal: **Corey Pohlner**
 Phone: 53 42 8565

- 2017 Term Dates**
- 31st Jan - 31st Mar
 - 18th Apr - 30th Jun
 - 17th Jul - 22nd Sep
 - 9th Oct - 22nd Dec

Smythesdale Campus 5342 8565
Scarsdale Campus 5342 8514

Snake Valley Campus 5344 9274
Ross Creek Campus 5342 0478

For Your Diary

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 7th

- Smythesdale Campus
 Welcome BBQ
 6pm –8pm

Wednesday 8th

- No Foundation
 Students

Monday 13th

- Scarsdale Welcome
 BBQ 5.30pm-7pm

Tuesday 14th

- Ross Creek Meet The
 Teachers Morning Tea
 9am

- School Council-Closing
 Date For Nomination

Wednesday 15th

- No Foundation
 Students

- Snake Valley Welcome
 BBQ 6pm-7.30pm

Monday 20th

- School Council

Tuesday 21st

- Smythesdale P&F
 AGM 2.30pm-3.30pm

Wednesday 22nd

- No Foundation
 Students

Friday 24th

- CSEF Applications
 Close

Monday 27th

- Whole School P&F
 Meeting 10am At
 Smythesdale

Tuesday 28th

- Snake Valley Life Ed
 Van
- Parent/Teacher
 Information Sharing
 Interviews 2pm-6pm

Principal Message

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Parents of our 2016 grade 4 students will remember last term a planned parent forum that was cancelled due to our presenter, Sandra Phillips, having an operation on the planned day. We are now back in contact with her, sometime in term 1 or early term 2 she will visit our school to work with our students during the day, then our students will present to their parents that night on the content covered. Below are some questions about some content that will be covered to get you and your child thinking;

What are our kids doing online?

What do they enjoy?

What are the things that concern them?

How are they keeping themselves safe?

What do you want to know about the world of social media and the internet?

In the meantime this week our senior students will be involved in a global event called, 'Safer Internet Day'. Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries. The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. The theme for 2017 is *Be the change: Unite for a better internet.*





PARENT EXPERTISE

What is School Council?

A Victorian government school council is comprised of parents, the principal, staff and sometimes community members. The school council assists in setting the educational policy of a school. Councils can have between 6 and 15 members.

To be a part of the council you don't need any particular qualifications or experience – schools look for enthusiastic parents who want to help improve the learning outcomes for all students.

Elections to school council positions are completed by the end of March each year. All parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school are eligible to vote for candidates wanting to participate on the school council.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

School council elections 2017: Would you like to be a member of our school council?

Nominations are now open for 6 parent vacancies on our school council. If you are an enthusiastic parent interested in getting more involved and having a say in what our school is doing, or know someone who is, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for people who are committed to improving the educational outcomes for all our students.

Effective councils have a broad range of experience, skills and expertise. Face-to-face and online training is also available to help councillors develop the skills and knowledge for the job. Parents find their involvement satisfying and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

It's important for our school to have a representation from each campus on school council, so that we can gain insights to help cater for all campuses and communities.

Nominations close at 4.00pm on Tuesday, February 14th, March 9th 2017. Forms are available from campus office.

NEWSLETTER FORMAT

During 2016 we researched how effective newsletters are in schools. The purpose of a newsletter is to communicate to the school community what is happening in the school, in our context as a school and at a campus level. As a result we try to include information under certain areas for our Woody Newsletter. Please see below these areas and a brief description. We haven't made these sections up, they are based on years of research into what makes newsletters effective.

- **Principal Message**- no more than 300 words
- **Student Achievement** (outlining improvement in student results through data)
- **Improvements to teaching** (focus areas, why it's important and how the students benefit)
- **Staff Professional Development** (an overview of professional learning staff have undertaken and the benefit to the students)
- **Woody Feed Forward** (a reflection on student/parent surveys or feedback, where we can discuss the results and what the school intends to do)
- **Woody Strategic Plan Performance** (discuss an area of a school wide goal and its progress)
- **Parent expertise** (an area to reach out to parents and recruit parent volunteers for particular projects)

We understand at the moment the newsletter is presented in a hard copy form and also via email and on the school app. There are a number of different ways of doing this with today's technology, but it needs to be purposeful to our school community. If you have any feedback or suggestions, my door is always open.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

In week 5 Parent Teacher information sharing interviews have been organised to take place at your child's campus. The interviews will take place between 2 - 6pm on Tuesday, 28th February with the exception of Mrs Angel/Mrs Collins class and Miss Hannah's class which will start at 1.30pm. Parents will be required to make bookings through our online booking system with information on this process to go home with next weeks newsletter.

The purpose of these interviews is to give parents the opportunity to inform teachers about their child so as programs can be planned that aim to best serve their needs. Please remember that interviews are not progress reports but an opportunity to share valuable information about your child with the teacher. Each interview is scheduled for ten minutes, please keep to this time frame as taking longer impacts on other families.



CAMPS, SPORTS, EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

This week the annual CSEF information will be sent home to families. This fund ensures eligible students to participate in school trips and sporting activities. Families holding a valid means tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year will be paid for each child at primary school. Payments will go directly to the school. Parents who are eligible for this payment need to apply by completing the application form distributed by our school and provide a copy of their current health care card.

In order for families to maximise their CSEF we would appreciate if forms to be returned by **Friday, 24th February**. This will allow time for your application to be processed as the first payment will be made on 1st March and we hope to be included in this round of funding.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROCESS

Over the next two weeks, all campuses will be finalising their student leadership teams. Student leadership teams are a fantastic way for students to have a voice within the school and lead campus initiative projects. Students from years 3-5 are invited to apply. The application process is as follows:

- o An invitation is extended to students in yrs 3, 4 and 5 to apply for a campus leadership position.
- o Applicants are invited to present a speech to middle and senior classes with Campus Captains, Vice Captains and an allocated staff member running the voting. Recommendations are made to Campus Head and school leadership.
- o Successful Applicant's families notified and leaders awarded at a special assembly.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact your students' Campus Head or classroom teacher.

Corey Pehlner
Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS



Do you want to play SOCCER in Ballarat?

Aldi MiniRoos BDSA 6 Week Kick Off program starts Feb 9th at participating Ballarat & District Soccer Association Clubs. For children aged between 4-9 years old. For more details contact your local club or go to www.miniroos.com.au.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



BDSA WEBSITE: ballaratsoccer.com.au/

BOYS & GIRLS U7, U8, U9, U11, JUNIORS, WOMEN & OPEN. REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2017 SEASON TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

	bacchusmarshsoccer.org.au/		daylesfordsoccerclub.com/
	bnusc.net/		facebook.com/ballarateurekastrikers
	vicparkfc.com.au/		buninyongsoccer.org.au/
	sebasvikings.net/		horshamanddistrictsoccerclub.com.au/
	facebook.com/forestrangerssc		facebook.com/warrnamboolrangersfc
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COME PLAY THE BEAUTIFUL GAME.