



Woady Yaloak Primary School

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

Principal: Corey Pohlner
 Phone: 53 42 8565

2018 Term Dates

- 30th Jan - 29th Mar
- 16th Apr - 29th Jun
- 16th Jul - 21st Sep
- 8th Oct - 21st Dec

Smythesdale Campus 5342 8565
Scarsdale Campus 5342 8514

Snake Valley Campus 5344 9274
Ross Creek Campus 5342 0478

FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Wednesday 16th

- Sporting Schools-Golf
- NAPLAN Testing

Thursday 17th

- NAPLAN Testing

Monday 21st

- Sporting Schools-Badminton
- School Council Meeting 6.30pm at Smythesdale

Friday 25th

- Wintersports #1

Monday 28th

- School Photos Smythesdale and Ross Creek
- Sporting Schools-Badminton

Tuesday 29th

- School Photos Snake Valley and Scarsdale

JUNE

Friday 1st

- Wintersports #2
- Casual Clothes Day

PERMISSION FORMS AND MONEY DUE

MAY

OVERDUE:

2019 Yr 7 Placement at Secondary Schools

Principal Message

SCHOOL REVIEW- VALIDATION DAY

This Friday is our first day of our school review, it is referred to as our 'validation day'. During the day, the panel will be involved in a number of activities, please see below;

- Classroom observations
- Student focus groups
- Reviewing the purpose of each of the panel members role within the review
- Sharing of classroom observations, with a focus on the main proficiencies and challenges noticed
- Analysis on the performance of the current Strategic Plan
- Development of the focus around the 'terms of reference' for the remainder of the school review. This involves developing some focus questions to unpack as a panel

READING CURRICULUM REFLECTION

Last Friday our staff completed our second curriculum day, which was a follow up from the reading focus we had earlier this term. Our aim is to build the capacity of all teachers to assess, plan and teach reading in the same, consistent way, at all levels of the school. To do this we have adopted the Fountas & Pinnell Assessments. Below I have outlined some questions and answers for parents;

What do teachers use to assess the reading levels of students?

We use an assessment called the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System. This one-on-one assessment involves the teacher listening to a student read followed by a discussion about the text.

What information does this assessment provide?

This test provides information on the reader's accuracy, fluency and comprehension. This allows teachers to determine both a student's independent and instructional reading level. Fountas & Pinnell levels (also known as guided reading levels) are rated on an A to Z gradient. Each grade level has a range of levels that you would expect a reader to proceed through during the year.

What's the difference between independent and instructional reading levels?

An independent reading level is when the reader knows most of the words and can comprehend the text **without too much difficulty. A book at the independent level is often referred to as a "just right" book.** These books help students become better readers through ample practice. An independent level book should sound smooth when read aloud and feel comfortable to read. A book at an instructional reading level is **more challenging for the reader, but is not too hard. A book at this level is right on the edge of the child's learning.** Teachers use sets of guided reading books to support small groups of students in reading at their instructional level.

Why was this assessment selected?

The Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System was selected because the best way to find out what **a reader's strengths and weaknesses are is to listen to the student read. The Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System** was adopted after our Campus Heads completed the Principals as Literacy Leaders in 2017, which was based on the Big 6 of reading (comprehension, fluency, phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, high frequency words).

Principal Message continued

Is it important for parents to check the reading level of each book a child reads?

No. The A to Z guided reading level is a useful tool that teachers use to assess, instruct, and evaluate students. It is not essential that parents verify the level of a book when supporting readers at home. As a parent you may find that the books your child bring home, are easier books than what they can read. This is on purpose, as the child needs to practise their fluency and reading behaviours at that level. This will enable them to focus on the comprehension on harder texts, so that their energy isn't spent on decoding the words. It's important for children to practise reading both fiction and non-fiction books.

Sometimes a student might be very interested in reading a book, but it is too difficult. That book might be a good one to read aloud to your child.

How Important is Practice at Home and School?

Students who read:

- <1 min/day read 8,000 words/year
- 4.6 mins/day read 282,000 words/year
- 20 mins/day read 1.8m words/year

We can teach anyone at any age to read. What we cannot do is compensate for lack of practice.

Corey Pehlner
Principal

CAMPUS UPDATES

SMS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM COMING SOON.....

The school will soon be trialing the use of a mobile phone short messaging service (SMS) to send text messages to parents notifying you of student absences. At Woody Yaloak Primary School, student attendance is a high priority and we are committed to ensuring that all students have the best chance of success. To improve our attendance procedures, we will be informing parents daily by SMS about unexplained absences for their child.

Advantages

- Improves your child's safety with early notification of absence
- Improves the school's ability to reach and contact parents
- Faster communication between the school and parents
- A personal, confidential and discrete service

What to do if your child is absent from school

If your child is absent from school on any day, it is advised that you contact the school immediately to inform us of their absence. This can be done by contacting the school by phone, email or through our Flexibuzz app. If your child is marked absent from school without explanation **an SMS will be sent to you in the morning informing you that your child's absence is unexplained. You need to contact the school** or reply directly to the SMS, providing a reason for the absence. More information will be provided in the newsletter in the coming weeks.

WOADSTOCK

As the Whole School Art Show gets nearer, we are still eager to have more visiting artists to involve our wider community. If you are interested in showing your artwork or doing art demonstrations please contact the school.
Ph 5342-8565.

Your children are working hard to complete their art pieces for the art show. They are enthusiastic and excited to show off their artistic prowess, please mark the date in your calendars so they can be a part of it on Wednesday 20th June from 4-8pm. Children are not required for the whole time and need to be supervised by an adult. We realize this time can be busy for families and have provided mobile sausage sizzles, gourmet burgers, hot and cold drinks for purchasing at your convenience.

Thanks again for your continued support

The Specialist team

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

VIVO REWARDS SYSTEM

Last week our staff starting using our new behaviour rewards system, called VIVO.

Vivo Miles is an online rewards system, which aims to motivate students to work hard at school and be recognised for their efforts and is the whole school system for recording and acknowledging positive behaviour.

Teachers award students Vivos (electronic points) for a range of categories linked to Positive Behaviour Statements and our school values (Excellence, Respect, Responsibility).

Categories:

Excellence	Respect	Responsibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● never give up ● complete tasks to the best of my ability ● set and achieve my goals ● ask for help ● learn from my mistakes ● celebrate success ● be a team player ● use my time effectively ● lead and support others ● use my initiative ● my space, your space ● right place, right speed ● stay with my partner ● listen to the staff ● walk quietly ● be kind and courteous ● wash for 3 seconds ● use the toilet during breaks ● leave the toilet area clean and tidy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● listen to others ● follow directions ● care for equipment ● use manners ● be honest ● be caring and kind ● right words, right place ● use helping hands ● take care of school property ● be inclusive and co-operative ● care for others ● be fair ● follow the rules and decisions ● knock, wait, then enter ● say thank you when someone opens the door ● walk and line up quietly ● keep my hands, feet and objects to myself ● listen to and follow instructions ● allow others to use the toilet in private. ● use the toilet quickly and leave as soon as I am finished 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● make smart choices about my behaviour ● stay on task ● look after my belongings ● right speed, right place ● Mind Your Own Business (MYOB) ● make smart choices ● use equipment for its purpose ● borrow it, use it, return it ● be honest ● follow the rules ● report major problems to staff ● stay in line ● be organised ● follow instructions ● respect personal space ● be on time ● give other people space and privacy in the toilets ● wait my turn at the sink or hand dryer
<p style="text-align: center;">Excellence</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Respect</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Responsibility</p> 

The above expected behaviours were developed last year, based on feedback from staff, parents and students. Our behaviour data was analysed to see what were the expected behaviours we needed to reinforce and reward.

Students can save and redeem their Vivos on the rewards they want from an online catalogue in the Vivo Shop.

Students can check their Vivo balance by logging on to their account through the vivomiles.com.au website or the Vivo App (for Android and iPhones). Over the coming weeks, the staff we be sharing and explaining with students how to access the shop to spend their points, but it will take time for them to accumulate the required points.



COMMUNITY NEWS



Hey Kids

"It's Time for another Blue Light"

This is an invitation to all local primary school pupils to attend **Ballarat Blue Light's next disco on Friday, 18th May.**

We have plenty more prizes to local attractions to give away this disco, including family passes to Sovereign Hill, Ten Pin Bowling & the Ballarat Wildlife Park. So don't forget to ask your parents if you can come along.

**Friday 18th May.
7PM to 9PM**

At Sebastopol RSL Hall, Beverin Street, Sebastopol.

Entry is only \$7 Per Person.

Blue Light Disco is drug, alcohol and weapon free.
It's fully supervised and there are No Pass Outs.
Children must be dropped off and picked up by a Responsible Adult.

For more information call Leading Senior Constable Des Hudson 0409 865 093
Don't forget to watch out for your photos in 2018 on
[facebook.com/ballaratbluelightdisco](https://www.facebook.com/ballaratbluelightdisco)
You can also follow us on Snapchat at [bbluelight](#).

We can't wait to see you there!

WHO WANTS TO WIN PRIZES?



It's time to let everyone know why your teacher is the best!

By voting for your teacher your school could be in the running to win an Apple iPad for your beloved teacher, an Apple MacBook Air for the school and a private movie screening for the entire class!

APRIL 16 - MAY 13

www.powerfmballarat.com.au



RESPONSIBLE SERVICE OF ALCOHOL (RSA) COURSE

Golden Plains Youth is offering a FREE Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) Course for young people aged 18 - 25 years who live in Golden Plains Shire.

This certificate course provides participants with the skills, knowledge and qualification to contribute to a safe and enjoyable environment in licensed premises and covers topics such as:

- Problems associated with excessive consumption
- Alcohol and the law
- Handling difficult customers

What you need to know:

Date: Wednesday 20th May 2018

Venue: The Well, 191reamch, Smythesdale VIC

Time: 8:00pm - 5:00pm

Light refreshments provided

Contact is offering this course for FREE

with a \$10 donation at \$10.00 per person

Members are invited to 3-5 people or their preferred number.

You must register by **Wednesday 23rd May**

To register contact Mark De Campo (Youth Development Officer) on (03) 5220 1106 or email mark.decampo@goldenplainsyouth.vic.gov.au



Woody Yaloak Primary School

"Achieving Together"

Smythesdale Campus - 5342 8565
Snake Valley Campus - 5344 9274
Scarsdale Campus - 5342 8514
Ross Creek Campus - 5342 0478

Now Accepting 2019 Enrolments



SMYTHESDALE

Please contact our campus office to organise a tour.



SNAKE VALLEY

Please contact our campus office to organise a tour.



SCARSDALE

Please contact our campus office to organise a tour.



ROSS CREEK

Please contact our campus office to organise a tour.



Woody Yaloak Primary School

Smythesdale - Snake Valley - Scarsdale - Ross Creek