

# OUR SCHOOL VALUES ARE TO:



## DATES TO REMEMBER FEBRUARY

Tuesday 20th

- School Council Meeting, 5:30pm

Wednesday 21st

- School Photos

## MARCH

Monday 11th

- Labour Day Public Holiday

Wednesday 20th

- Senior Info Night & WDSS Post School Options Expo

## Warragul & District Specialist School Newsletter Term 1 Issue 2, Tuesday 13th February 2024

Welcome to a hot and sunny start to week 3! It is great to see so many of our students with hats on in our yards. We know this can be challenging for some and appreciate the support you give us by sending hats in so we can try and help our students be sun safe. Students have started to settle into the routines of their new classes, and many are learning new things and beginning some new and exciting friendships.

Our prep classes are enjoying a start to the day in the Therapy/Engine Room, which is helping them to prepare for a big school day. Congratulations to all our Preps and their families for working hard to get used to a new school environment! Our senior students started their programs this week with Work skills at Vintage Vibes, Waverley Industries and Landcare, shed building at CCG, and Safe Food Handling Assessments in preparation for the canteen program.

**SSG (Student Support Group) meeting times have been published to the Sentral App** - thank you to those parents who have made a meeting time. Please note that bookings close this Friday 16th, so please book in a time. If you need assistance please contact the school. The majority of SSG's these will happen next week and we look forward to sharing thoughts about your child and their progress at school.

Don't forget school photos are next Wednesday the 21st of February. It would be great to see as many students in uniform, ready for photos, as we can!

Have a great week,



**PLEASE NOTE:** Parents / Carers need to advise the school office if your student is getting picked up and not travelling home by bus.

55 Burke Street (PO BOX 959) WARRAGUL VIC 3820  
• PH: 5623 1385 EMAIL: [warragul.district.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:warragul.district.ss@edumail.vic.gov.au)



An **ENORMOUS** thank you to Teacher Ally's dad Mick, who installed a new half court on the oval and resurfaced our basketball court during the school holidays. Mick was able to source material due to general donations from companies he has worked for in the past. The students were so excited when they returned to school!

Thank you so much Mick !





Anne (Occupational Therapist) and Carlea (Speech Therapist) have been having some fantastic sessions with our juniors. Room 7 students have been very willing participants as they work on their fine motor skills and communication!

# Speech Therapy



Jacob concentrating very hard!



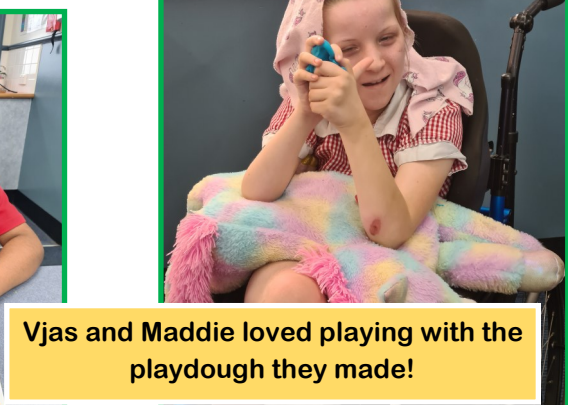
Brock put together this very tall tower.

# OT Therapy

Occupational



Vjas made this elephant - isn't it amazing!



Vjas and Maddie loved playing with the playdough they made!



**SCHOLASTIC**

# Book Clubs

Last week every student should have brought home Issue 1 of Scholastic Book club. Unfortunately some had an incorrect return date for money and orders. Please note that all orders need to be returned to class teachers or the office by this

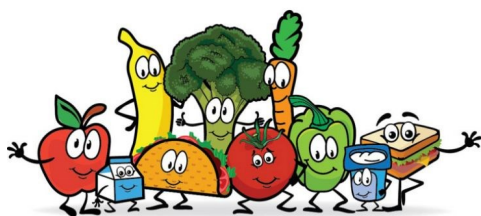
**Friday Feb 16<sup>th</sup>.**

For our new students Bookclub Issues will be sent home 8 times this year. There is absolutely no pressure to order anything but do try and take the time to look at the booklets with your student as there are often fantastic but cheap resources available. The school receives a generous percentage of all sales which I then feed back into our library. Purchases can be made no matter how small by sending the form and money back to school, you can also order online by following the instructions on the back of the form or you can even order by cheque which needs to be made payable to Scholastic Australia.

If you have any questions regarding Bookclub or the Bookfair we will hold in November, let the school know and I will get in touch.

Books are the Best.

Glenda Gray



## School Canteen

**Canteen will again be held on Thursdays in 2024 - start date will be advised in the coming weeks.**

**Order forms will be sent home each week.**

# School Garden Program

The hard work has continued in the garden this week! It's also a lovely place to have morning tea or lunch and enjoy the serenity!



**IMPORTANT !!**

All Students should have received 2024 forms for completion. Please return 2024 Forms ASAP - these are due by 1st March. If you need assistance completing them or additional copies contact the office on

5623 1385

**URGENT! PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN ASAP!**

To: C/O  
Class: Room

Using this checklist, please complete and return ALL enclosed documentation to the school in this envelope by 1st March 2020

**MEDICATION AUTHORITY 2023**  
Valid until 31st March 2024 - Parents / Carers must review & update any changes throughout the year

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ROOM: \_\_\_\_\_

School Medication to be in original packaging which must show:  
• Student's Name • Name of medication • Dosage & Time to be administered  
**All Medications must be handed to the Bus Inspector or brought to the school by Parents / Carers. DO NOT place any medications in student bags!**

**REGULAR MEDICATION TO BE GIVEN AT SCHOOL**

Time Given	Medication Name	Dosage (mg/ml)	Route (in or out)	Parent / Carer Initials

**OCCASIONAL MEDICATION TO BE GIVEN AT SCHOOL (AS NEEDED)**

Reason	Medication Name	Dosage (mg/ml)	Route (in or out)	Parent / Carer Initials

**PAIN MEDICATION** - It is preferable that pain medication is given before or after school. However, YBSS will administer paracetamol (if appropriate) if no other option. Parents will be contacted prior to administering.

**LOVE PERMISSION** for staff to administer paracetamol (as per directions) if necessary. Parent/Carer will be contacted prior to administering medication. Yes  No

**In an emergency situation, we also need to be aware of any other regular medication your child takes BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL HOURS!**

**HOME MEDICATION**

Time Given	Medication Name	Dosage (mg/ml)	Route (in or out)	Parent / Carer Initials

Parent/Carer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date / / 23 Classroom Teacher Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date / / 23

(All details & return with any changes as changed)  
Completing the documentation. Call on 5623 1385

# Student Bus Travel / Absences

To Parents / Carers:

→ If your student will not be travelling on the school bus in the morning please phone or text the bus to advise them.



→ If your student **will also be absent from school please enter the Absence via the Sentral App or phone the school - 5623 1385**, it is not the role of the bus supervisor to pass on messages relating to student absences.

**\*\* The electronic bus manifest (RollCall) is updated by the school so any regular changes to bus travel also need to be advised TO THE SCHOOL, NOT THE BUS SUPERVISOR \*\***

## BUS PHONE NUMBERS



Bona Vista	0428 235 372
Labertouche	0457 801 462
Nar Nar Goon	0428 235 371
Neerim South	0428 235 370
Trafalgar	0409 525 420
Poowong North	0429 499 557
Warragul	0400 922 051



# 2024 School Photos

**Spargo Photography** are our School Photographers for 2024.

Photos are scheduled for

**Wednesday, 21st February 2024.**

Students are to be in full school uniform if possible.

**\*\* Information Flyers with Access Keys were sent home with students last week - if you have lost your Access Key, you can contact the school or Spargos (instructions below) \*\***

- ➔ Place your order online now to ensure receive special pricing,
- ➔ **PRE-ORDER ONLINE** (orders close at 5:00 pm on Tuesday 20th February)

➔ To place your order Go to our website [www.spargophoto.com.au](http://www.spargophoto.com.au) or scan the QR code:

- Select> *School Photo Pack Orders*
- Enter your **Access Key as Provided** on the flyer sent home.
- Select the pack you want and complete the form.



➔ **Sibling photos** are available for families with multiple children attending the school.

**Sibling photos** must be ordered online before 5pm the day prior.

\*\* A complimentary family/sibling photograph is available for families who order an individual pack for 3 or more children at the same school. **To be eligible**, you must order all the individual packs first and then add the family photograph to the same shopping cart. The discount will be automatically applied.

**Place your order online before 5pm on Tuesday 20th February, you do not need to return any paperwork.**

Lost or replacement keys can be requested via this link [Student Access Code Request](#)

If you have any inquiries, please contact us on (03) 5942 5234

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Darren Spargo'.

Darren Spargo



# SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2024

All Government schools in Victoria have a School council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

## There are three categories of membership:

- **A mandated Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be a parent member at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school. However, these parents must be counted as DET members in the Council quorum.
  - **A mandated elected DET employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.
  - **An optional Community member category.** Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences.
- The term of office is 2 years.
- Parent membership on school council can be a very fulfilling personal experience and satisfying and parents may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.



**There are 3 Parent School Council Members whose two year terms expire this year and any parent of a student attending WDSS is welcome to nominate for council.**

Parent nominations can be made in two ways either by Self Nomination or Nomination by another Parent at Warragul & District Specialist School. Both forms are available at the office or contact the school and a form can be sent home.

~ If you have any further queries, please ring Matt on 5623 1385 ~

### The time line for 2024 is as follows:-

Notice of election and call for nominations - Monday 12th February 2024

Closing date for nominations - Monday 19th February 2024

List of candidates and nominators will be posted - Wednesday 21st February 2024

### If a ballot is necessary:

Ballot papers prepared and distributed - on or before Monday 26th February 2024

Close of Ballot - Monday 4th March 2024

Vote count - Wednesday 6th March 2024

Declaration of poll - Thursday 7th March 2024

Click here for further info: [School Council Parent Fact Sheet](#)



**Warragul and District Specialist School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you that our voluntary contributions (school fees) for 2024 are \$125**



We encourage you to read our Parent Payment Policy on our website or via this link:

[Click here for the  
WDSS Payment Policy](#)

**Payment methods:**

- ➔ By cash at the school office.
- ➔ Direct Deposit:  
Warragul & District Specialist School Official Account  
BSB: 033 262  
Account Number: 504226
- ➔ Centrepay payments:  
Can be arranged for all school payments (highly encouraged)  
Please contact the office.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary.

Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all of your support. Payment of fees makes a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer. You can read the policy on the school website or by clicking on this link:

If you have any question please contact the school on 5623 1385.

# SENIOR SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING

Parents and Carers are invited to attend the Senior School Information Evening being held before the **POST SCHOOL OPTIONS EXPO:**

**Wednesday 20th March**

**5:00pm to 5:30pm - WDSS staff room**

It is a great opportunity for to get a better understanding of the Senior School Programs / Pathways and we encourage parents to attend.

**Please return the RSVP slip (sent home with Senior students) by 8th March**



On Wednesday March 20th we are having our annual *Post School Options Expo* at the school commencing at 5.30pm to 6:30pm

**IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT AGED 16 AND OVER IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED YOU ATTEND THIS SESSION !**

**Service Providers that will be attending include:**

- ◆ Day Service Providers ◆ Disability Employment Agencies
- ◆ Further Education Organisations

**Each provider will have a table set up with brochures / details of what their service offers and will be there to answer all of your questions!**

**~ Tea, coffee and supper will be provided ~**

To assist with catering please **RSVP by 8th March to 5623 1385**

For any other queries please contact the school



# STUDENT Awards

## We are Safe, Respectful Learners!



**MASON**

Being a **LEARNER** and completing lots of puzzle and learning tasks.



**MACY**

Showing the school values by being a respectful **LEARNER** and completing her table work.

## \$5 KIDZ FLIX

BRINGING BACK YOUR FAMILY FAVOURITES  
SATURDAY IS SENSORY FRIENDLY

10.30AM - SATURDAY 17TH & SUNDAY 18TH FEB



TICKETS ONLY  
**\$5**



TICKETS ON SALE NOW  
[PENINSULACINEMAS.COM.AU](http://PENINSULACINEMAS.COM.AU)