



# WELCOME BACK to School



## DATES TO REMEMBER FEBRUARY

### Wednesday 21st

- School Photos

### Tuesday 21st

- School Council Meeting,  
5:30pm

## MARCH

### Monday 11th

- Labour Day Public  
Holiday

### Wednesday 20th

- Senior Info Night & WDSS  
Post School Options



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

## Warragul & District Specialist School Newsletter

Term 1 Issue 1, Tuesday 20th February 2024

Welcome WDSS community to 2024!

We would especially like to welcome our new students and new staff to our school.

Last week was a busy time with students settling into new classes and getting to know new staff.

The foundation students started their school year last Thursday. A morning tea was set up for new families and they were able to catch up with Matt, Alesha, Meredith and Jade our new junior school coordinator. We would love to see new families be involved in our school via Parents and Friends Association (PFA) too.

Please remember that transitioning into a new classroom with new staff and classmates is not always easy for every child. If your child is showing signs of stress due to the transition, please contact their classroom teacher or your child's unit coordinator.

The 2024 unit coordinators are:

- Junior - Jade Nedic
- Middle - Chris Giles
- Senior - Sue DeSilva (Tues/Wed/Thurs) & Zoe Armstrong (Mon/Fri)

As we are all aware, our school build has started for the year. The 'Great Wall of China' is up and staff are currently working on different spaces where students can play at recess and lunchtime. This mainly affects the senior & middle school.

As advised to families last week: *'There has been a reduction in car spaces available. This will impact both parking and student drop off. Please expect an increase in demand on the available parking and drop off zones. We are looking to providing offsite temporary parking soon.'*

*Parents are welcome to pick prior to school bus arrival (which is approx 2:50pm) - just let the school office or class teacher know.'*

Please ensure that students and families walk on the paths when dropping off and picking up students.

Charity Golf day on again this year: Friday 23rd February. There will be raffle tickets to sell and great prizes to win. Check out Bendigo Bank Charity Golf Day link on the WDSS website.

Have a great week!



**Sue**

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)

# 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.

**\*\* School Photo Information Flyers with Access Keys will be sent home with students on Thursday \*\***

- ➔ **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 for 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'.

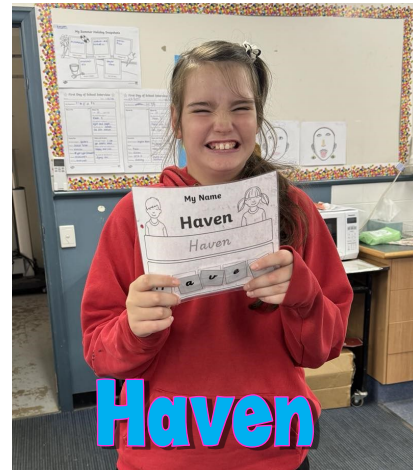
Darren Spargo



It has been a great start to the year ! Despite the challenges of our space being limited, the students have had an amazing week! They have all settled into their classrooms beautifully - working hard and enjoying getting to know their new class staff and classmates. We can already see some wonderful friendships forming!



Room 7 students came in ready to work on from day 1 - they had lots of great activities to choose from!



Haven put the letters of her name in order by herself!



# SENIORS



I am excited to join the Landcare program this year; along with Ally and Lachy. We had a great start on Monday. We began the day by taking two buses of students out to the Rokeby Trail for a bush walk. It was a 'get to know you' session for the new group. All the students did a fantastic job of navigating the terrain and exploring the environment. Following that, we had a BBQ lunch under the rotunda. The rain set in after that and we went for a drive to a couple of other destinations that we might visit again when the weather is better. I'm looking forward to getting to know this group of students better and seeing where our adventures take us.

- Jess



# School Garden Program

Welcome back to the school garden everyone and as you can imagine, after the holidays it's like a jungle out there! There is lots of work to do including the inevitable weeding and pruning and it's a shame that we didn't get to pick everything that the garden had to offer because we were not around. The local wildlife did a good job on the fruit trees and no doubt had some very full bellies after gorging themselves on plums and figs!

But we still have lots to look forward to – the tomatoes are ripening nicely and some of them are HUGE! Helen's expired packet of popping corn has defied expectations and is growing very well and of course we have loads of berries. In the greenhouse the lemon grass and ginger have begun to sprout and we have planted some eggplants and capsicum in there to see if we can get a supply through Autumn.

Will's class planted some sunflower seedlings in our flower patch and the old wheelbarrow looks brilliant thanks to the flowers that were planted there for the Open Garden day. Jess got crafty with some students and made newspaper pots which are great because when the seed grows you can just put the whole thing in the ground and the paper decomposes as the plant grows!

We have some hard work coming up as this week we are hoping to make a start on clearing out the compost bays and replacing a couple of the pallets that have broken. So get those muscles into gear and get ready with the shovels!

- *Gail*



# 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

**IMPORTANT !!**

**MEDICATION AUTHORITY 2023**  
Valid until 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024 - Parents / Carers must advise & authorize any changes throughout the year.

To: C/O  
Class: Room

Using this checklist, please complete and return ALL enclosed documentation to the school in this envelope by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

- General Permission Form 2020
- Medication Authority Form 2020
- Student Information Report - check ALL details & return with any changes

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 Supervisor or brought to the school by Parents / Carers. DO NOT place any medications in student bags!**

REGULAR MEDICATION TO BE GIVEN AT SCHOOL				Office Use
Time Given	Medication Name	Dosage mg/ml	Route (ie Oral/Topical/Intr.)	Changes Made (initials)

OCCASIONAL MEDICATION TO BE GIVEN AT SCHOOL (AS NEEDED)				Office Use
Reason	Medication Name	Dosage mg/ml	Route (ie Oral/Topical/Intr.)	Changes Made (initials)

**PAIN MEDICATION** - it is preferable that pain medication is given before or after school, however WBSS will administer paracetamol (not ibuprofen) if no other option. Parents will be contacted prior to administering.

Give instructions for staff to administer paracetamol (as per directions) if necessary. Parents/Carers will be contacted prior to administering medication. Yes  No

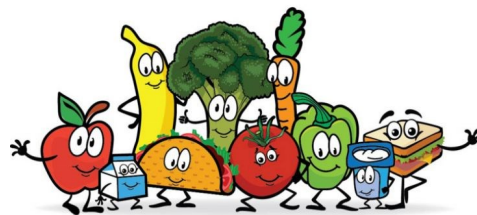
**In an emergency situation, we also need to be aware of any other regular medication your child takes BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL HOURS:**

HOME MEDICATION				Office Use
Time Given	Medication Name	Dosage mg/ml	Route (ie Oral/Topical/Intr.)	Changes Made (initials)

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

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 please contact the office on

5623 1385



# 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.





# STUDENT Awards

## We are Safe, Respectful Learners!



### MICHAEL

Being a **LEARNER** and adjusting to his new classroom



### NATHAN

For demonstrating our school values by Staying focused on tasks, avoiding distractions and giving everything a go in the first week back. Especially during cooking and programs.

## \$5 KIDZ FLIX

BRINGING BACK YOUR FAMILY FAVOURITES  
SATURDAY IS SENSORY FRIENDLY

10.45AM - FRIDAY 9TH, SATURDAY 10TH & SUNDAY 11TH FEB



TICKETS ONLY  
**\$5**



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