Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Namaste, Hola, Kia Ora, Chao Chi, Yasou

We had a wonderful day recently for our Book Week activity day at Laverton, it was a fun occasion enjoyed by all including many families who attended on the day. It was great to see staff and students all dressed up and there was a lot of chat about who their book character may be and what their favorite book was. We enjoyed our dress up day so much our Junior School Council have decided the last Friday of term will also be a dress up day, but this time we are asking parents to send their children dressed in their favorite football colours or jumpers.

Many of our families, who applied recently for a place for their child to attend Jennings St School, will have heard if they were successful in their application or not by now. If you would like to discuss this further I am happy to talk to families on the phone or we can make a time to meet with the class teachers also if required.

We have also scheduled a time in term 4 on the 6th October for Jan Hibberd the WAS school psychologist, to attend a Parent Information Session with myself to discuss the outcomes of the Assessment Australia Cognitive Assessments completed recently for our students who are due to leave WAS at the end of 2016. If you are interested in knowing more about the outcomes presented to you by Assessment Australia and what this means for future schooling please come along.

Warm regards,
Michelle Sanders

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**End of Term**

Please note the following time and date for the end of Term 3: School will finish at 2.00pm on Friday, 16th September, 2016. Please ensure you are waiting at your child’s bus stop 1 hour earlier than normal. We return to Term 4 on the 3rd of October.

**Transition to Special School**

Assessment Australia Outcomes

Janette Hibberd the school psychologist will be available on Thursday 6th of October from 1:30pm-2:30pm to discuss your child’s cognitive assessment and what this means for future school choices. Laverton campus, all welcome. Please let us know if you need a babysitter or interpreter.

**Father’s day stall**

We would like to thank the Gath family for this kind service, the gifts on display looked amazing and the children really enjoyed picking lovely gifts for their dad Thursday morning.

**Junior School Council**

The Junior School Council would like to thank all parents, students, and staff for their efforts in dressing up for Book week. It was a really fun day! We would also like to let you know we are planning a footy day on Friday the 16th of September (the last day of term 3), and students are welcome to come dressed in their favourite team colours.

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**Curriculum Day this term**

On Friday the 9th of September staff have a full day of professional development. There will be no school for the children on that day. The staff will focus on the Victorian Curriculum that we will implement at WAS from the start of 2017.
Practicing OH&S procedures
Over the duration of the year as part of WAS OH&S procedure/policy we run practice internal and external evacuation drills, this week the school had an internal evacuation drill to the Multi-Purpose Room. All our children were well prepared and the activity was a success. We would like to thank the OH&S committee for their work behind the scenes.

Spotlight on Teaching Teams
Room 3.3
Mary, Teresa, Tomoe and Donna
Welcome to 3.3. Our focus this year has been on developing a child’s communication skills, either verbally or with the support of sentence strips such as: 'I want' or 'Can I have' to encourage a child to make a request using a complete sentence when communicating across the day. The focus has also been on using an augmentative communication system, e.g. an app on the iPad 'Proloquo2Go' where children use this means of communication to communicate their needs and wants. The children are now travelling to an adult with the iPad, gaining an adult's attention by tapping them on the hand to make a request during afternoon tea and during structured play activities such as: 'Mr. Potato-Head' and 'Pop Up Pirate'. In our classroom the focus has also been to prepare certain students to transition to a mainstream setting in 2017 and to ensure the transition process is successful. The dog training program has also been a highlight and a big success in our classroom where the children have gained great confidence when interacting with 2 Labradors, Tassie and Jessie with their trainer teacher Yuriv.

Room 3.4
Cliff, Andrea, May, Daniel and Mary Ann
This Term room 3.4 has been enjoying taking their social learning to new and exciting contexts. The students are enjoying new drama and music opportunities, acting out their favourite stories and songs such as Fuzzy the Clown, Time to Go, The Duck Song and I’m Green and I’m Grumpy. In ‘Social Thinking’ classes the students are recognising when students are following ‘The Group Plan’ or following ‘their own plan’ and matching and talking about the expected behaviours when transitioning around the school and also walking to the shops or park. The whole class is now enjoying walks to the sensory park and to the shops where they find the ingredients on their shopping list ready for the next cooking session. This week we have been making Fruit sticks.

Parent Activities and Events
My Time parent peer support groups
There are My Time groups in Avondale Heights, Sunshine, Point Cook and Williamstown. Please find information about locations and days of the groups run by Tweddle in the west on the school website.

Are you the grandparent of a child or young person with Autism?
We acknowledge the contribution of grandparents, when one or more children with Autism are part of the family. If you would like to know more about Autism, and the research undertaken at the Olga Tennison Autism Research Centre, we invite you to attend a FREE event. You will hear from our researchers and be able to ask questions. Friday 9th September from 9.30am – 12:00pm The Chamber, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Bundoora
RSVP: Friday 26th August 2016: 03 9479 3271

More photos from Book Week – Blue Pod
2.1 2.2 2.3
2.5 2.7 2.8
2.6 3.1 3.8