Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

As the term draws to a close we congratulate all our students on their learning achievements this term. A big thank you to all the wonderful staff at WAS for the myriad ways that they support and care of our students.

The ART show is this evening at Niddrie campus. We look forward to welcoming families, friends and community to a showcasing and celebration of our student’s artistic talents with our ART Show themed: *The World Through Our Eyes*. 5.30-7.00pm in the Multi-purpose room.

Many thanks to Alyssa Spargo and the parents at Niddrie for their work organising this event.

Many thanks, and have a safe and enjoyable holiday break.
Mary Thomson

**Message from the DET**

**Flood risk in Victoria - Important advice for parents**

As the school holidays are approaching, you may have plans to travel on Victoria’s roads. Significant rain is expected to fall over much of Victoria over the next few days, which may result in flooding.

Because of this rainfall, there is an increased risk to those travelling on our roads, and it is possible that houses across the State may be impacted as well.

I urge you to heed the following advice from emergency services:

- **You should never drive through floodwater** – it only takes about 15 centimetres of water to lose control of your vehicle.
- **Drive to the conditions around you and be aware of road hazards such as mud, debris, damaged roads and bridges.**
- **Roads in your area could be damaged by the bad weather so plan your journey and monitor Vic Traffic for road condition updates and any road closures see:** [Vic Traffic](http://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au/)
- **Never swim, walk or play in floodwater, it is dangerous and may contain hazardous debris or toxins.**
- **If your property is at risk of flooding, please raise belongings onto tables, benches or beds and if you are on a farm, consider moving your livestock to higher ground.**

- **Remain informed with emergency broadcasters to ensure you are up-to-date with the latest conditions and if possible, make sure your neighbours are aware of the situation. For more information, see:** [Vic Emergency](http://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/)

**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 Monday on the 3rd of October 2016.

**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.

**Junior School Council**

For the last day of term 3, The Junior School Council would like to invite all students to dress up in the colours of their favourite footy team! This will be a fun way to finish off the term and celebrate all our hard work.

**Spotlight on Teaching Teams**

**Room 3.5**

Tamara, Cathryn, Sophie and Rita

Hello from 3.5.

The children in Room 3.5 participate in many fun activities focused around developing skills in social interaction, communication and independence. A favourite activity which has promoted the use of the children’s social interactions is ‘Board-games’. The children play in groups of 3-4 and actively enjoy developing skills of team work, turn-taking and winning and losing. Our classroom has also been
on weekly walks to different local playgrounds which have encouraged the children to choose and experience different types of play equipment. One of the highlights of Term 3 has been an excursion to Buckingham Reserve in Sunshine West. It was great to see the children so engaged with playing on different types of equipment. The children have also really enjoyed participating in the Show and Tell Program. It has been wonderful to see how expressive the children are becoming in their language skills when they talk about their special toy or book.

### Room 3.6

**Aliki, Tess and Mandy**

Welcome to room 3.6.

In our classroom we work on a range of skills such as communication, reading and fine motor through focus topics. We incorporate our topics into our daily lessons such as art, writing and group reading. This term in 3.6, we have been focusing on Dinosaurs! Our class has made our own dinosaurs out of boxes and paper mache and we have read lots of books about dinosaurs. As a part of our topic, we went on an excursion to Melbourne Museum. At the museum, we got to look at and hold fossils as well as explore the dinosaur exhibition and participate in a special learning program. Our excursion helped us to make connections with everything we have learned this term.

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.

**Introduction to Autism information session**

Moonee Valley council is hosting a free introduction to Autism information session. This session aims to inform local community members, service providers and industry professionals about

- Creating an inclusive and supportive community
- Learning about prevalence and diagnosis of Autism
- Gain an insight into the lived experience of Autism

The session will be presented by Amaze and the I CAN network. Amaze is the peak body for people on the Autism Spectrum and their supporters in Victoria. The I CAN network is an organisation which aims to change perceptions on Autism from ‘I Can’t’ to ‘I CAN’ through education, advocacy and mentoring.

**Where:** Clocktower Centre, 750 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds

**When:** Monday, 19 September 10am -1.00pm

**RSVP:** Wednesday, 21 September by calling 9243 1647 or email hpeart@mvcc.vic.gov.au

**See The Person Welcoming employees and customers with a disability**

Local employers are invited to a free workshop presented by the Scope Education team. This session will give business owners the skills to include people with disability as employees and customers. This workshop will help you:

- Positively change the way your staff interact with people with a disability
- Understand the benefits and address the barriers of employing people with disabilities
- Understand individual and organisational laws and obligations in relation to reasonable adjustment and employment
- Create a more accessible workspace or business to attract more customers

**When:** Thursday, 29 September, 9am-1pm

**Where:** Clocktower Centre, 750 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds

**RSVP:** Contact 9243 1647 or hpeart@mvcc.vic.gov.au by Wednesday, 21 September

**Para Olympic Games - Mikey Brannigan becomes first American runner with Autism too win a gold medal**

Mikey Brannigan, one of the world's elite runners, on Tuesday he made history becoming the first American runner with autism to win a Paralympic 1500meter gold medal.


**Connect with DET on Twitter for the Latest News**

**Tweet of the week:**

Heading away these holidays? Allow yourself extra time to get to the airport due to @VicRoads works on City Link, Westgate and Tulla freeways

Follow DET on twitter