Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Namaste, Hola, Kia Ora, Chao Chi, Yasou

It has been a wonderful learning and literacy filled week at the Niddrie Campus. Children and staff have been immersed in a range of books and language activities that have included a focus on the stories that will be shared as part of the Flying Book Worm Theatre Visit on Friday. Some familiar favorites include: We’re going on a Bear Hunt, Mulga Bill’s Bicycle, the Gingerbread Man, the 3 Billy Goats Gruff, There was an Old Lady that Swallowed a Fly and Caps for Sale.

On Tuesday 23rd August, a range of characters and superheroes arrived to celebrate Book Week at the Niddrie campus. The children had a costume parade cheered on by fellow students, teachers and some of our families, before busting out their best dance moves. It was lovely to see the students’ excitement on recognising familiar characters and their amazement at seeing their teachers dressed as pirates, wizards and dinosaurs!

This week we have also hosted a range of class activities and events for families to come into the school and participate in their child’s school day. We thank all the families who were able to visit during the week.

Warmest Regards,

Liz Richardson- Campus Principal- Niddrie

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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.

Father’s day stall

The Father’s Day stall will be held in the conference room on the afternoon of Thursday, 1st September at the Niddrie campus. If your child would like to purchase something from the gift stall please send money in a marked envelope, either before or on the day. Items will be available for fathers and grandfathers ranging in price from $5.00 to $10.00. The gifts at the stall have been created and prepared by the Gath family and we are sure there will be many lovely gifts for the children to choose from.

Father’s Day Movie Night

If you have not yet RSVP’d for our special “Father’s Day Movie Night” please do so this week to assist the Niddrie Parent Group to confirm numbers for games & refreshments. Dads, grandparents, mums, siblings & special someone’s are all welcome to participate in the evening. A reply slip has been included in your child’s communication book.

Spotlight on Teaching Teams

Room 3B

Diana, Eva, Cheryl and Gillian

The class of 3B, Niddrie Campus, is entry level students. We have had a busy and enjoyable term. Last week we celebrated the Olympics by making our very own class flag. During our morning routine, we have been going outside to do exercises. It has helped the students improve on their running, climbing, balancing and ball skills.

This week we are celebrating Book Week and invited our families to watch our Dress Up Parade and later enjoyed a morning tea together. All our classroom activities were based around “The Gingerbread Man” theme through this week. We are also looking forward to the Flying
**Parent Activities and Events**

**Free two day workshop for parents and careers**
Positive Partnerships are hosting two day workshops.

The workshops intend to: increase understanding of the impact of autism on learning, introduce a planning tool that can be used to share an understanding of your young person, explore ways to work in partnership with your school, etc.

Where: Werribee Racing Club, 2-10 Bulban Road
When: Tues 30 & Wed 31 Aug, 9:15 - 3:00pm
Contact: 1300 881 971

**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
Telephone: 03 9479 3271

**Parliamentary Inquiry into Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder**

The Family and Community Development Committee’s Inquiry into services for people with autism spectrum disorder will commence public hearings next Monday the 29th of August in Melbourne, at 9.15 am. These hearings are open to the public.

The Committee will be holding hearings in Melbourne and regional Victoria from August to December. Please see the link below to the Committee website for details of current and future hearings.

Please note that witnesses at public hearings appear by invitation only. You are welcome to attend and watch proceedings. Please contact the Secretariat prior to the hearing if you have any special needs, on the website below.

Date: Monday 29 August 2016
Time: 9:15am - 4:15pm
Where: 55 St Andrews Place East Melbourne, Room G7


**Wattle Update**

Wattle has successfully completed our transition to Ascot Vale – we are settled and focused on moving positively towards the end of 2016.

The students have demonstrated great responsibility and pride in meeting the challenges of travelling to and from this location. A number of exciting events are in the pipeline. The camp is approaching and we are planning for some instructional and investigative excursions within the local community. The local Youth Resources Officers from the Moonee Ponds Police Station have offered to present some workshops around cyber safety and community responsibilities as a way of establishing trusting relationships with the students.

Staff would like to remind parents that if there are any questions about the program to contact one of the Wattle staff or the school.

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

DET Tweet of the week: