



PARENT BULLETIN

WESTERN AUTISTIC SCHOOL

8TH AUGUST 2018 LAVERTON CAMPUS
www.westernautisticschool.vic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Carers, Namaste, Selamat siang, Xin Chao, 你好 Bonjour, Guten Tag, Mahlaba, Ciao, Kia Ora

Welcome to week 4, where we are back in full swing across the Laverton Campus. This is a busy week for the school, as teachers make their final additions to student Individual Learning Plans before they are sent home. Goals set for students in these ILPs will stay with them until the end of the year, and will be the basis for their teaching and learning within their classrooms.

Families will also be receiving the minutes from the Student Support Group meetings that have taken place over the last few weeks. Could parents please sign the copy they receive and send these back to the school.

This week we will also be saying goodbye to Sarah Testa who is responsible for enrollments in the school office. Sarah is leaving us to have her second baby and we wish her all the best. Sarah's responsibilities will be well looked after by Ebony Lacey in her absence.

Campus Principal
Sam Hindes

CLASS IN FOCUS

This term 2.6 have started their swimming classes and are greatly enjoying their time in the water. Sessions have been a great hit with the room, and student confidence in the water is already growing



Students have also been learning what order they put their clothes on for swimming.



NDIS INFORMATION SESSION

Tonight we are hosting an information session for families on the NDIS. This will be a great opportunity to share some information about the roll out of the NDIS in Western Melbourne in October of this year. If you don't have the opportunity to come along, information sheets will be available on the front desk of reception.

PARENT LINKAGES WORKER

Many parents have now had the opportunity to meet with Kaye, our parent linkages worker, who is working to create links between families and services in the community. Parents who would like to know more, or to meet with Kaye, please talk to Sam or Paige.

'WATTLE BUILDING' REDEVELOPMENT

This year the school council has applied to use school funds to refurbish the old Wattle Building, now known as Green Pod. Existing classrooms will be redeveloped along with the addition of two new classrooms and will include some collaborative spaces for parents and students to work together. All classrooms will have



PARENT BULLETIN

WESTERN AUTISTIC SCHOOL

access to the outdoor play spaces, which are also being redeveloped.

Architectural drawings for the redevelopment have now been drawn up, and will be on display soon for parents to come and have a look at. The building work has gone to tender, and we are hoping for the redevelopment to commence before the end of term 3 to completed in early January 2019 in time for the start of school.

Families of students in Green Pod will be contacted over the next few weeks to be a part of the planning around this redevelopment, and to have the opportunity to find out more information about the work.

If you have any questions or would like the opportunity to talk more about these exciting developments, please contact Paige Davey at the Laverton Campus.

2018 PARENT OPINION SURVEY

WE WANT OUR PARENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting a survey to find out what parents think of our school. The Parent Opinion Survey is an annual survey offered by the Department of Education and Training that is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents. It is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of parents' perceptions of school climate, student behaviour and student engagement. Our school will use the survey results to help inform and direct future school planning and improvement strategies.

Approximately 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate in this year's survey. All responses to the survey are anonymous. This year the Parent Opinion Survey will be conducted from **Monday 23rd July** to **Sunday 26th August**.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 10-15 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time within the fieldwork period on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones. The online survey will be available in a range of languages other than English. These include: Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (hakha), Hindi, Japanese, Somali, Turkish, Punjabi and Greek.

The 2018 survey results will be reported back to the school at the end of September. The survey results will

be communicated to parents through the parent bulletin and annual reporting.

Last year we used the survey results as part of a review of the school's curriculum. This process reaffirmed that our major task as teachers is to equip our students with the skills that will allow them to achieve success at their next school. To this end our aim is to help our students build their functional communication, social emotional and language skills as well as their literacy and numeracy. Hence, the individual child is at the centre of our work.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

We are all very pleased with how the school photos have turned out this year, we have now received the Coffee Table Books and Photos Boards. A number of parents have asked about class group shots and our photographer Grant is happy to reprint these at a cost of \$15. If families are interested please feel free to view the Coffee Table Book to see how the prints will look. All orders can be paid in cash at the front office.



Wunderkind Photography
GRANT HARGREAVES

www.wunderkindphotography.com.au
www.facebook.com/wunderkindphotography
1300 651 1300
child and family photography

