Dear Parents,

**GREAT WORKING BEE**

Last Saturday, we conducted a very successful working bee with many jobs being achieved, including; the installation of seats and tables at the front of the school, clearing out of sheds, pruning and weeding, relocating mulch, the sweeping of paths, cleaning out storm water drains, moving some equipment from sheds to various parts of the school- to name but a few tasks. Thank you to the parents, students and staff who were able to attend the working bee. It was very much appreciated. The Preps are already enjoying the use of the new seats and tables.

Thank you to the following attending the Working Bee: Pearson family, Frank Tao, Lorenc family, Van Oosterwijck family, Chin Family, Thomson/Indovino family, Fernando family, McCallum/Stamatakos family, Saeed family, Al-Saady family, Foley family, Ginsberg family, Fong family, Thakur family, O'Neill family, Adhinugraha family, Woang family, Moui Ung, Dayment family, Robbie Mallett, Al-Shammari family, Speakman family, Joss family, Scott family, Strong/Sonnenberg family, Coco family, Jen Robinson, Ardeleanu family, Pervan family, Helen Dent, Jenny Walker, Jenny Thomas, Troy Hartigan, Sandra James, Alyssia McGill and Karen Jenkin.

**YARD DUTY IMPROVEMENTS**

Our yard duty teachers will now be carrying a two way radio with them whilst on duty. Using radios in the yard will provide staff with immediate access to the administration office and /or first aid assistance when/if required. We have purchased a radio licence that allows the school to have access to a ‘private channel’ of communication, thus protecting the privacy of our students from public radio users.

**NEW STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF AT PINewood**

Angela Delle Vergini, psychologist, will now be working at the school each Monday as a private, Medicare supported psychologist. Parents may obtain access to Angela’s services by obtaining a referral form from either Robbie Mallet or me.
This is a wonderful service to be able to provide at the school, for our school community. Ms. Eve Mills, from onPsych, has been employed to replace Angela Delle Vergini in the Chaplaincy funded, student support role, at Pinewood. Eve Mills will be commencing at Pinewood PS on the 12th August and has requested that her introductory information be included in the newsletter.

My name is Eve Mills and I am looking forward to joining the Pinewood Primary School community this term.

I am a youth worker and since 2008, have enjoyed working in another schools student wellbeing team. I have experience supporting the school community, teachers, students and families with a diverse range of issues such as - friendship and social issues, anxiety and depression, family dynamics and grief.

Throughout my time working with children and young people I have also enjoyed running small groups to support students to develop a range of life skills, focusing on topics like resilience, building self-esteem and managing anger.

I am looking forwards to getting to know the school community and being available to support your needs.

STUDENT ILLNESS
Over the past 2 weeks there have been several children who have needed to go home prior to the completion of the school day due to illness. Sending your child to school when unwell may prolong their recovery and increase the chances of a cross infection between students and staff. If you notice that your child is unwell, please reconsider sending them to school. Thank you for your co-operation.

CURRICULUM DAY REMINDER
Our student free Curriculum Day will be held on Friday August 7th. Staff will be working with an educational consultant during the morning session, focusing on the development of ‘High Performing Professional Learning Teams’. In the afternoon, the focus will be on the teaching and learning of numeracy across all year levels. A very full day is planned.

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER
Last week, I attended a ‘thought provoking’ educational conference. One of the presenters, Dr Andrew Fuller, concluded his presentation with a brief overview of his latest book- ‘Unlocking Your Child’s Genius’. I have included the following article, written by Andrew Fuller, in the newsletter, as it includes some different ways to encourage the development of the ‘natural genius’ in your child/children at home. I hope you enjoy the read!

Andrew Fuller - Clinical Psychologist and Family Therapist Resilient Youth Australia Fellow, Departments of Psychiatry and Learning and Educational Development University of Melbourne Scientific Consultant for the ABC series "Whatever: the science of teens" Ambassador for Mind Matters Member, National Centre against Bullying www.andrewfuller.com.au

Ten ways to promote the natural genius in your child.

The contribution made by parents and grandparents to a child or teen’s success in school and in life is enormous. When teachers and families work together the results that kids achieve are amazing. Here are some of the main things we can all do to give children and teenagers a boost in school success.

1. Be positive about learning ourselves
By taking on hobbies, new courses and discussing new inventions and ideas we show our children and grandchildren that learning is interesting and it is for everyone. This can be as easy as discussing new idea and shows, interesting facts and discoveries, reading new books- the key idea is for young people to know that learning is something adults do too.

2. Have a creativity corner
Find somewhere in your home for projects, art works and collections. Setting this up doesn't need to be expensive. Creative geniuses need somewhere they have to invent, work on and keep ongoing projects. One of the great ways to learn about
persistence is by starting a project and then building upon it and improving it over time. Warning- cover the carpet under this corner and at times you may need to cover it all with a drop sheet. Expect this area to get messy and wild. Becoming a genius is not always neat.

3. Experience + reflection = learning
The experiences we have in our lives build our brains. When parents and grandparents involve children in experiences they grow their brains. By giving our children new and interesting positive experiences, we stimulate their brain development and make them smarter.

By asking them to think about the things they have seen or felt they consolidate this new experience into their brains. To really have the natural genius of kids surge don’t keep doing the same things over and over again. Find ways to do new things, visit new places and try out different ways of seeing the world.

4. Look for strange and weird ways to connect things
Imagination and creativity is often about thinking ideas that no one else really thinks. You can help stimulate this by playing a game of thinking up ways that different things are alike. For example how are the plant Mars and an apple alike? Do not worry if you don’t have an answer. Genius is more about asking questions than having answers.

5. Know that mistakes are opportunities
If you can't make a mistake you'll never do anything new. If children can't bear to make a mistake they can't access their inner creative genius. Help them to realise that we all make mistakes. No one gets everything right the first time they try. In fact making mistakes is the way we learn.

6. Stretch ideas
The world seems to encourage people to seek answers (usually from google) and then stop thinking. Be the antidote to this by helping your child or teen to take ideas and stretch them out. This requires parents and grandparents to have a good sense of humour and an enjoyment of the absurd. Ask kids to take ideas and apply them in as many strange ways as they can. Geniuses take information from multiple sources, recombine them in new and interesting ways and apply them in settings not many people thought of before them.

7. Develop concentration
It is hard to imagine attaining success in an area of life if you cannot learn to concentrate. Anyone who has ever learned to ride a bike, play a musical instrument, surf a wave or drive a car knows that concentration is a skill we can get better at. Often kids are drawn to different things to concentrate on. Notice what draws their attention and build upon that.

8. Help them learn to plan and make decisions
Being able to anticipate what is likely to happen as a result of your actions is an essential life skill. The ability to look beyond your current circumstances and consider the outcomes of possible courses of action is something we can help children and teens to learn.

This can be as simple as mapping out different pathways or asking kids, what do you think will happen if we did this or what do you think would happen if we did that? Our actions have consequences. Decision making is a rare skill. Some people just allow life to happen to them and then express dissatisfaction about where they end. Help kids to become active decision makers if you want them to have a happy life. Much of our life’s happiness – where we live, where we work, who our friends are and who we are in a relationship with – is determined by the decisions we make.

Decisions are like crossroads that we meet in life. Helping kids to stop, pause and weigh up the likely results of taking different actions or pathways is one of the most powerful things a parent can do to help create a happy life for their child.

9. Don’t just read to kids, read with them
Reading with kids helps them to gain an interest in new information. By pairing time with parents and grandparents as learning time helps them to see the value in new learning.

Even when children are older capable readers, occasionally sharing a story, reading out something interesting from the newspaper or reciting a poem, saying or song will show them learning is something older people do as well. Genius is about being more interested in the things we don’t know.
than the things we do know. It is very difficult to become intrigued in the things we don’t know if we don’t occasionally see the world from someone else’s perspective. Films and computer game will do this to some extent but nothing beats a good book. Even for really reluctant readers, it only takes one great book being read to them and with them to make a world of difference.

10. Let them know how incredible they are
These days, we talk of some people being a genius but have forgotten that everyone has a genius. Within each person is an inner genius, an inner passion, ability and desire that we can unlock and draw out. As parents and grandparents it is much more important to focus on drawing out potential and focusing less on current performance. One of the things very successful people say is that they had someone who believed inn them as a child. When asked how they managed to achieve a remarkable accomplishment they often pause and reflect that no one ever told them they couldn’t do it.

Andrew’s latest book *Unlocking Your Child’s Genius* (Finch Publishing) will be published in July 2015.

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www.andrewfuller.com.au

Karen Jenkin
Principal

A reminder that Semester 2 Curriculum Levies and Excursion Levies were due Friday, 26th June, 2015.

NOTICE FOR PARENTS
Mount Waverley Preschool has a new timetable for 2016. There is now an option of 2 long sessions for one of the 4 year old groups. Please look at our website to see the timetable and additional information:

Parents should note that advertisements that appear in the newsletter are not necessarily the views of the school council or staff. These services are in no way connected to the Department of Education and are included according to relevance and interest to the school community.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Sophia L.  PM
For settling so well into Pinewood Primary School and for always trying her best.

Julia W.  1T
For the wonderful effort she is putting into her reading. Keep it up Julia!

Saya S.  PR
For displaying initiative and independence when completing her work and always trying her best. Keep up the great effort Saya!

Megan B.  5T
For her great work during reading groups. Megan has worked independently and stayed focused throughout. Well done Megan.

Matthew K.  5C
For excellent class discussion participation and for always using his manners.

C.J. K.  PL
For showing excellent persistence in following classroom routines and listening carefully to others. Well done and keep it up!

Ryan Y.  1JK
For the wonderful effort he has made to improve his listening skills. Well done Ryan!

Ruben M.  1A
For his excellent organisation skills and for always being willing to help others. Keep up the good work!

Harry G.  PH
For his great effort in Literacy Groups. Harry has been working very hard and has produced some fantastic work. Well done!

Luke F.  6U
For doing a brilliant job of filling in for the Netball B team. Well done Luke!

Elisha S.  3M
For showing persistence in everything she does to complete work to a high standard.

Yuen –Tzi D.  4R
For always working hard during Maths Groups. Yuen–Tzi is a productive learner who always seeks to extend herself. Keep up the great work!

Israt S.  4M
For always taking pride in the presentation of her work and consistently trying her best! Well done Israt.

Milla C.  3K
For setting a personal goal and asking for help to achieve it. Well done Milla.

Connie B.  5T
For being a supportive friend. Your willingness to assist your peers with their learning is an admirable quality. You are a great role model!

Sophie F.  2D
For the consistent effort she puts into all classroom activities and her enthusiastic attitude towards reading!

Marcus T.  6H
For a great effort with his book review, highlighting Marcus’ persistence and desire to improve in all areas of his learning.

PE Award  3B
For demonstrating a wide range of skills during your T Ball game. Well done!

PE Award  5K
For taking on feedback to improve your basketball shooting techniques.

30 JULY 2015

Weekly public speaking & drama program for children aged 6 - 15

9572 5249
info@SuperSpeak.com.au

Uniform Opening Times
Monday, 3.15pm—3.45pm
Thursday, 3.15pm—3.45pm

RESPECT  SELF CONFIDENCE  INTEGRITY  RESPONSIBILITY  OPTIMISM
PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Victorian Schools Netball Championships
On Tuesday our girls netball team competed at the Victorian Schools Netball Championships at Knox Netball Centre. The format of the day, comprising 7 short matches, meant the girls had to be switched on all day. They combined well as a team, with many positional changes between halves and matches. Overall the girls won 5 games and lost 2, resulting in a 3rd place finish in their group. Congratulations to Amelia B, Ashley, Rachel, Jordan, Mackenzie, Occa, Laetitia, Jasmine and Sarah on their efforts and commitment throughout the day. Thanks to Ms McGregor for coaching the team.

SSA National Hockey Championships
This coming Monday sees Oliver W and his team begin competition in the Under 12 Hockey National Championships, being held in Perth. It is an incredible achievement to be recognized as one of the best players for his age in the state, and everyone at Pinewood is very proud of him. We all wish you the best of luck next week Oliver.

Oliver received some more fantastic news this week, as he has also been selected in the Under 13 state hockey team! These championships will be held in Darwin a little later in the year. Congratulations! Don’t forget that tomorrow our School, Sport and House Captains are holding a fundraiser for Oliver. Please come to school dressed as a sportsperson or as a member of your favourite sports team. There are still raffle tickets available at the office, with proceeds going towards financing the team. First prize is a brand new car!

State Baseball Championships
Last weekend Willis P competed in the Victorian State Baseball Championships in Bendigo. Representing Ringwood Green, his team played 6 matches across 2 days against teams from all over the state. Rotating between catcher and 1st base, Willis played a very important role for his team. The highlight of the weekend was undoubtedly when the team executed a very rare triple play, getting 3 batters out at once.

Congratulations on your outstanding efforts Willis!

OSHC

The Out of Hours Program will be open on Curriculum Day, Friday, 7th August.

It is essential for parents to book a place for their child so that staffing can be arranged.

LITERACY NEWS

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
READING IN THE EARLY YEARS OF SCHOOL
On Wednesday August 5th, I will be holding a parent information session in the staffroom. The session will be about reading in the early years of school. I will talk about how children learn to read and how you can help your child at home. The presentation will run from 9.00 – 10.00 and there will be the opportunity to ask questions at the end. Please see me beforehand if you need any further information.

If you wish to attend, please return the form below to your class teacher. This will help us to cater for the correct number of people.

Kind regards,
Helen Dent
English Coordinator / Early Years Coordinator

REPLY SLIP

I would like to attend the parent information session (READING IN THE EARLY YEARS OF SCHOOL) on Wednesday August 5th from 9.00-10.00.

Name: ________________________________
Child’s name: __________________________
Child’s class: __________________________

Keep up to date with everything sport related happening within our district: 
http://www.foxsportspulse.com/assoc_page.cgi?c=1-4186-0-0-0&assoc=4186