

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Thanks to everyone who came along to the welcome BBQ on Wednesday night. It was lovely to see you here and to see people enjoying themselves as a community. It is a year since we were able to gather like that so it was very 'welcome' indeed!

Thanks also to the parents who took part in our recent school review. These only come around once every 4 years, so they are an important part of our work and your contributions are very valuable indeed. The report from the review will be tabled at a school council meeting once it has been signed off by the department.

Our excursion to Lady Northcote camp was a good day out and we are very grateful that we got to go on camp, as Lake Dewar couldn't take us due to the lockdown. I hope you saw the photos and videos we put on Facebook!

As you know, we now have visits from the MARC van every other week. Our MARC van teacher is Kari O'Gorman, and she has sent us this introduction:

Hi everyone,

My name is Kari O'Gorman, or Ms O. I live only a short drive from your school. I am very excited to be coming to Warrenheip Primary school fortnightly this year for the MARC van library, literacy and language arts program. I travel to 7 small regional schools with my big truck. It's a pretty bumpy ride along some of the roads. Feel free to poke your head in and have a look at the library if you see me here.

I have a new puppy this year, called Sherlie, short for Sherlock. She's a lot of work. The cat isn't very happy. Nor are the pet rabbits. My grown up children are helping care for Sherlie too.

Students in Grade 3 to 6 are in for a treat this year as I am paying them MARC money for their novel reading challenges. Younger students will have some spending money too for their home reading. At the end of the year we will have a shop for them to buy treats, knick knacks, games, and books. If you have anything you'd like to donate to our shop, please let me know. Thanks everyone.

We are sending home a permission form this week for the Cross country event in a couple of weeks. This is a great day out and we encourage all of our students to attend, even if they don't want to participate. It's good to support your classmates!

Also coming home is the hot lunch form for next week. Yes! They're back!! Please make sure that you return both forms as soon as possible.

Kids who had a laptop loaned to them

last year are entitled to take over ownership of those laptops as part of the "Bridging the Digital Divide" initiative. If you are on my list then you will receive a form today – please get in touch if you have any questions or are unclear about the program. Please note that the program relates to the actual machines that we loaned out last year, not to the new laptops (!)

ART SMOCKS

Some children, particularly the new students to the school, don't have an art smock yet. Your child's clothes are going to get very dirty and covered in paint if they have to do art in their uniform. Please send a smock or an old shirt to school so that we can keep them clean!

This newsletter will come out electronically from now on, as I said last week. I'm also going to trial a move to a fortnightly newsletter from next week, and I'll make up the slack by putting a short video on Facebook each week. This is following feedback from the school review panel and from school council.

Finally, please note that next weekend is an extra-long weekend, with Labour day and a pupil free day.

Have a great weekend, Arthur Lane