



# PARENT BULLETIN

WESTERN AUTISTIC SCHOOL

3 DECEMBER 2018 LAVERTON CAMPUS

[www.westernautisticschool.vic.edu.au](http://www.westernautisticschool.vic.edu.au)

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

Term 4 has flown by rapidly, many students are involved in transition programs to support their move to their next school. Teachers have worked with a variety of schools to ensure the moves are as smooth as possible. The students are enjoying experiencing their new school whilst having the support of familiar faces.

Prep students have thoroughly enjoyed swimming this term, it has quickly become one of the favourite activities on their calendar.

All of the students are busy preparing presentations to share with family and friends at our end of year celebration events. We look forward to welcoming you to your child's celebration, sharing in the successes of the students as well as congratulating and saying goodbye to students who are moving on. Your child has brought home their school report that outlines their outstanding achievements for 2018. These achievements would not be possible without the support of family and carers dedication. Student Support Group meetings with your child's teaching team are available for you to come and discuss your child's progress and future goals.

We look forward to celebrating with you throughout December.

Warmest regards,

**Paige Davey**

**Campus Principal**

## GREEN POD REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The building works continue in Green Pod, the rooms are taking shape and it is on track to be completed by the end of the school year.

The redevelopment of the playgrounds is now in the planning stage and we look forward to the creative designs by Ochre Landscaping coming to life in 2019.

*See picture of the works over the page.*

## SCHOOL ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2019

The new Annual Implementation Plan for 2019 builds on our work from previous years based on the School Strategic Plan 2016-2020. The final draft of the 2019 AIP is in development for endorsement by School Council and the Region by the 31 December. Key goals this year were to build professional learning communities among the teaching staff to improve Literacy and Numeracy education for our students, as well as finding ways to improve policy and practice for the health and wellbeing of our students. It is proposed that these goals continue as priorities in 2019. There are a number of other important goals and priorities in the School Strategic Plan that will continue into 2019 and these will be shared with families in the revised 2019 AIP.

## News from the Autism Teaching Institute (ATI) State Wide Professional Learning Program: School Wide Inclusive Practice Autism

The ATI and DET collaborated to deliver this fantastic program with 65 mainstream primary and secondary schools enrolled for 3 days of training, and further support next year with a Regional Autism and Inclusion Consultant. In just over three months we delivered 16 training days with a total of 300 participants, in many locations across Victoria.

## ATI Diploma:

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November a further 23 teachers graduated from the ATI's Graduate Diploma of Teaching Students with Autism. Congratulations to all graduates on their outstanding efforts to complete the autism diploma course as part of their busy teaching duties. A further 40 teachers have just completed their first Semester, with a fabulous final day with Jeanette Purkis and Shadia Ibrahim presenting on their personal perspective as autistic adults to end the lecture program for 2018.

Congratulations to ATI staff, lecturers, supervising teachers and travelling assessors for their outstanding work again this year.

Mary Thomson  
College Principal

## GREEN POD PIC

### STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS SSGs begin this week the 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Please check your child's communication book for information on booking an SSG meeting with your child's teachers if you have not already done so or contact your class teachers to make a meeting time.

The purpose of the end of year SSG is to review and evaluate your child's program and celebrate successes. The meeting will also document recommendations for your child's learning needs next year. Next year's teachers will work from this year's educational program and work with you to further develop your child's personalized learning and support plan.

### DIARY DATES

#### END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Yellow Pod – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1-2pm

Blue Pod - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am-12pm

Red Pod – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am-12pm

Green Pod – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1-2pm

#### REMINDER TO PARENTS RE THE END OF TERM/YEAR

**School finishes at 1.00pm on Friday (21/12/18).**

Could families please ensure you are waiting at your child's bus stop 2 hours earlier than normal.

**Students returning to WAS start school full time on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2018** for term1. For prep entry students' schools starts in February. Please check the website for the dates for prep orientation visits and dates.

### SENSORY SANTA – BRIMBANK SHOPPING CENTRE

Sensory Santa is for families with special needs children who find it hard to see Santa in the regular shopping hours. Shopping centres set up a time usually 2hrs before or after shops open or close. Families can book in a 10 min time slot to see Santa. Their only expense is if they buy a photo. It's free to book in.

The link to our web site and booking page is below. Once you are there scroll down to follow instructions.

<http://www.sensorysouls.com.au/sensory-santa/bookings/>

### PARENTLINE VICTORIA - SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

If you are a parent, carer or grandparent, our professional counsellors can help you:

- discuss parenting ideas
- get extra support to cope with the challenge of parenting
- explore issues that affect parenting and relationships
- provide contact details for community services develop parenting strategies.

Parentline is available 8am to midnight, 7 days a week. Parentline is a confidential phone counselling service for parents and carers of children. [www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/parentline.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/contact/Pages/parentline.aspx)



**Headspace at [headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)**  
**Kids Helpline 1800 551 800**  
**LifeLine 13 11 14**