



# Mount Warrigal Public School

Kindness - Safety - Respect - Fairness

A quality school developing the individual in a caring community

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SCHOOL SECURITY 1300 880 021



Jodi Niedermayer  
Principal

## NEWSLETTER

22 February 2017

Term 1 WEEK 5 2017

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Community,

### **WELCOME BBQ – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

Parents/Carers are invited to a Welcome BBQ and Information Session on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March from 3.00-4.00pm, to meet with your child's teacher and other staff members. Invitations have been sent home today. We are also providing a free BBQ and opportunity to mingle with other parents and staff. Please return the RSVP slip for catering purposes. The Welcome BBQ will provide an opportunity for you to chat informally with your child's teacher, however if you have any individual matters you wish to discuss in detail it may be best to arrange another appointment time with your child's teacher.

### **SAFE 4 KIDS**

There is one final parent work shop by Holly-Ann Martin, creator of Safe4Kids. Parents who have attended previous workshops have spoken extremely highly of these sessions, with some parents attending more than once. If you would like to take advantage of this free opportunity, you are more than welcome to attend on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 6.30 – 8.30pm at Figtree High School. In this newsletter Holly-Ann has provided some information on 5 apps that can potentially put your child at risk (My apologies as this was left out of last week's newsletter). Many children admitted to using these apps as well as Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and Kik. If you require any advice or support, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's teacher.

### **STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING**

Current research tells us it is the quality of the teacher that has one of the biggest impacts on student learning. Our staff continually work towards improving their practice to support our students as best we can and provide high quality learning experiences for all. Much of our professional learning occurs after school time but on occasions teachers are required to be released from their class duties to attend professional learning. Although this may mean your child has a replacement teacher, we believe the benefits of the professional learning far out way the impact of this. On these occasions, your child's teacher leaves a plan for the replacement teacher and communicates this clearly to ensure the learning program is as consistent as possible. We appreciate your support and understanding, but as always, if you have any concerns please speak with your child's teacher or a member of the executive staff.

### **SKOOLBAG APP**

Already 82 people have downloaded the Mt Warrigal SkoolBag app! I encourage all parents who have a 'smart' phone to download the app - instructions can be found in this newsletter. Please note, when searching for the app, please search using the abbreviation for Mount, i.e. Mt Warrigal. You will notice our school logo.

### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

Emergency planning is a requirement under the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011. The welfare of staff, students and visitors is the key focus of emergency planning in the Department of Education. The extent of the response required will depend on the nature of the emergency and its impact on the workplace as a whole and on individual members of staff and students. Whatever their scale, emergencies often occur suddenly and unexpectedly. Effective planning and preparation will ensure that the workplace is able to respond appropriately to events. We often practice drills, including lock down and evacuation, so that staff and students are familiar with routines and know what to do in a real emergency. All students are debriefed after the event to help them understand these processes. In the next few weeks, we will again practice some of these drills.

**If a real evacuation occurs during school hours, we understand it may cause anxiety for many but we ask for your patience. Your child's safety will always take first priority in any decision we make and in some instances we are not permitted to inform parents until advised by emergency services.** Our school will now be able to use SkoolBag app as a means of disseminating information to parents when appropriate.

### **STUDENT SAFETY**

To ensure student safety, students are not to arrive before 8.30am, unless attending breakfast club, and must enter the school via the footpaths, rather than the car park.

## HEALTH CARE NEEDS

We are committed to the health, welfare and safety of our students. To meet this commitment we are required to have an updated Health Care Plan for all students with the health conditions such as **anaphylaxis, diabetes, epilepsy and severe asthma**. We ask that parents/carers let us know if their child is diagnosed with any of these, or any other serious medical conditions, and that the school is updated whenever treatment details change. We are required to have all Health Care Plans signed by parents/carers to ensure that symptom and treatment details are correct, and also ask that parents/carers obtain a doctor's signature on plans, to confirm their accuracy, wherever possible. If you wish to discuss Health Care Plan procedures, or need to check and sign your child's current plan, please contact me as soon as possible.

## P&C MEETING – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 10am

Our first P&C meeting for the year will be held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 10am in the school Community Room. All parents and community members are invited to attend as a way of being further informed and contribute to our school. We hope to see lots of new faces!

## VOLUNTEERS – Working With Children Check (WWCC)

The DoE have policies and procedures in place to minimise risk of harm to our students, staff and community when at school. In accordance to the WWCC policy we require all parent and community volunteers to complete a Working With Children Check Declaration form and provide 100 point identification. This is only required to be completed once every 2 years. To complete the WWCC procedures, or for further information, please contact the office. As a school, we are committed to working in partnership with families and our community and strongly encourage your participation in our school in whatever way you can provide.

Kind regards  
Jodi Niedermayer

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800  
Crime stoppers 1800 333 000

## Dates for Your Calender

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 24 <sup>th</sup> February | P & C Meeting (All Welcome) from 10am in Community Room |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> March     | WELCOME BBQ – From 3-4pm (See note)                     |

**Learning for Life Scholarship**

**ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH THE COST OF YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION?**

The Learning for Life scholarship can provide parents with two payments a year which can be spent on uniforms, school shoes, stationary, BYOD, excursions and all other costs related to school.

(Payments are to be used for school expenses only)

**You may be eligible for the scholarship if your family:**

- ✓ holds a Pension or Health Care card
- ✓ attends one of our partner schools
- ✓ demonstrates a commitment to education (children attend school regularly)

Please call **Alisha** on 0466 745 454 or email [alisha.mcluckie@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:alisha.mcluckie@thesmithfamily.com.au) for more information.





**GIVE YOUR KIDS  
A HEALTHY START IN 2017!**  
*starting 7th of February*



**FUN, SAFE  
LEARN TO SURF  
EDUCATIONAL  
BEACH GAMES**

**FREE 1 OF LESSON TRIAL FOR NEW CUSTOMERS,**  
[WWW.AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU](http://WWW.AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU)  
CALL 0404 703 374 OR EMAIL [JOSE@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU](mailto:JOSE@AUSTRALIANSURFTOURS.COM.AU)

## 1. Musical.ly



Users upload live videos of themselves lip-syncing and or dancing to music with the objective of gaining likes & followers. With 252k daily active users in Australia, this app is incredibly popular with young people. But there are underlying risks including grooming and cyberbullying, as well as inappropriate sexualised or self harm content. Children often upload videos in their school uniforms, providing an easy means for predators to locate them.

## 2. Meetme



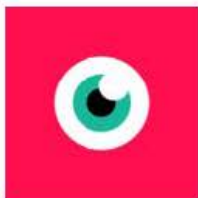
Users create an account to communicate with other random users anywhere in the world. The app currently has 129k daily active users. Young people are at risk of being contacted by predators, being bullied by other users and are also incentivised to make in app purchases in order to boost their popularity on the app.

## 3. Yellow



Often dubbed "Tinder for teens", users swipe left or right on profiles. Yellow has exacerbated the risks on Snapchat (where teens are sharing sexting images thinking they will disappear when they are actually being screenshotted and shared). Matches are automatically provided with a platform to chat and link to each other's Snapchat accounts, to increase their Snapchat followers. With 84k daily active users in Australia, this app is rapidly gaining popularity.

## 4. Live.ly



Users upload live videos of themselves doing anything and everything with the objective of gaining likes & followers. The freedom users have to upload anything they want results in a huge risk of young children viewing highly inappropriate content such as nudity and self harm. This app has 80k daily active users within Australia, so it's not as popular as Musical.ly, however there is a greater risk of inappropriate content given the theme of posts is 'anything goes'.

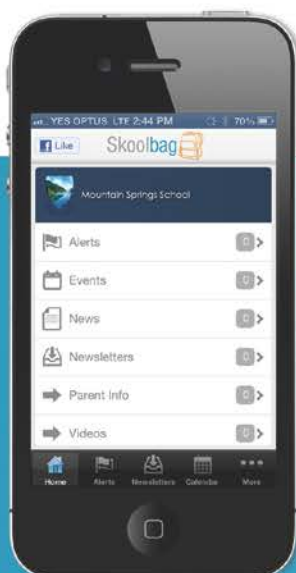
## 5. Twitch



Users broadcast themselves playing video games for other users to watch. Users can also chat with each other. Twitch's online community promotes a pack mentality among users who are predominantly young males. Users who don't align with this attitude are ridiculed heavily. Currently the app has 69k daily active users.

*The potential dangers posed by these apps are alarming. It can be easy as a parent to think that your child will exercise common sense when using apps, but the reality is that it is too easy for even sensible kids to stumble upon adult content or inadvertently place themselves at risk. The good news is that you don't have to be in it alone - Family Zone and our team of [Cyber Experts](#) can help you sort out what apps are appropriate for your child, and provide you with the tools and resources to help you navigate this journey.*





# Skoolbag



Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



## How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

### iPhone & iPad Users

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



iTunes

### Android Users

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.



Google play

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!  Like

Find out more at [www.skoolbag.com.au](http://www.skoolbag.com.au)

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