

Wimmera Lutheran College Nhill

2 Mackay Street, Nhill 3418 P: 53 912 144 E: admin.nhill@wlc.vic.edu.au



Term 3 Week 2 Issue 16 August 1st 2025

Upcoming Events

August

Wed 13th: P&F meeting 7.30pm

Thurs 14th: Ghana Beat My Drum

Fri 15th Kinder Visit 9.15 to 11am

Fri 15th: P&F Movie Night 7pm

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd: BookWeek

"Book An Adventure"

Tues 19th: Book Week dress up parade

Wed 20th: Athletics Day (next level)

@Warracknabeal

Sept

Mon 1st- 5th: Integration Aide
Appreciation Week

Fri 5th: Father's Day Chapel & Footy

Sun 7th: Father's Day

Tues 9th & Wed 10th: 3 Way

Conversations

Thurs 11th: F-2 Naracoorte Caves

Excursion

Wed 17th: Concert Dress Rehearsal

Thurs 18th: Concert @ Community

Centre

Fri 19th: End of Term 3 2.15pm

Birthdays

Happy birthday wishes are sent to the following students this week:

Matilda 3rd Aug Silas 6th Aug



Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Student of the Week awards at assembly last week:

Oakley: Showing great persistence and initiative with your learning, growing in confidence, demonstrating responsibility and compassion for others.

Atreyu: Tackles his learning and school activities with enthusiasm and curiosity. Showing logic trying to explain, find reason and meaning of what he has noticed.

Micah: Dedication to working hard, staying focused and your enthusiasm for learning is amazing. Confidently reading and sounding out words.



Gertrude The Bear



Congratulations to Joseph for following the 5 rules of the school. We hope Gertrude and you both enjoy your time together.

From The Principal

Welcome to Term Three!

We hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday break. It has been wonderful to see students returning with energy and enthusiasm, ready for what promises to be a rewarding and eventful term. A special welcome to Millie in Year 4 and her family to our school community.

Hockey 7s Tournament

Congratulations to our Hockey 7s squad who represented our school last week with great sportsmanship and team spirit. Although we didn't retain the shield this year, each student should be proud of their efforts and how they conducted themselves. Special thanks to Mrs. Alexander and our parent helpers for their support on the day.

Author/Illustrator Visit & Book Week

Today, our students were treated to an engaging visit from author and illustrator Scott Hewitt, alongside students from WLC Dimboola. Scott's creative presentation was a fantastic way to kick off the lead-up to Book Week, which is just around the corner! This year's theme is 'Book an Adventure', and we'll celebrate with our annual dress-up parade on Tuesday, August 19. Students are invited to dress as a favourite book character or something related to the theme.

100 Days of Foundation

Our Foundation students celebrated a major milestone yesterday – 100 days of school! Congratulations to our young learners on reaching this exciting point in their school journey. It's been a joy to watch their growth, even if 100 days seems to have aged them just a little!

WLC Staff Day

We were privileged to host staff from all three WLC campuses here in Nhill for a professional learning day to start Term Three. This marked the first time the full teaching team gathered at our campus. The day focused on deepening our shared learning philosophy. A heartfelt thank you to our P&F and volunteers, led by Bec Pereira, for the delicious catering.

WLC Board Update

Last week, the WLC Board held their monthly meeting in Nhill - another first for our campus. The Board rotates meeting locations across the three campuses, and we were pleased to welcome them here.

Strategic Planning

At the end of last term, the WLC Board and Executive Team came together for a Strategic Planning Day. From that, a Strategic Plan Steering Committee has been formed. This group, supported by Phil from Ecclesia, will guide the development of our strategic direction and report back to the Board. The committee held its first meeting last Wednesday.

Welcome Adam Borgas and Kelsie Webb

This week we welcomed Mr. Adam Borgas, who joins us on Mondays as part of the Mental Health in Primary Schools (MHIPS) initiative. His role complements the wellbeing work already being done by Karen.

We're also delighted to welcome back Mrs. Kelsie Webb from parenting leave. Kelsie is taking on a tutoring role as part of the Tutor Learner Initiative and will be working on site each Friday.

Looking Ahead – Key Dates for Term Three

- August 14 Incursion: Ghana Beat My Drum
- **August 15** Kinder Visit Morning (see below)
- **August 15** P&F Movie Night
- August 19 Book Week Dress-Up Parade
- August 20 Interschool Athletics Warracknabeal
- **September 5** Father's Day Chapel & Footy
- **September 9–10** Three-Way Conversations
- **September 11** F-2 Excursion Naracoorte Caves
- September 18 School Concert

Kinder Visit – Friday, August 15

Families considering enrolment in Foundation at WLC Nhill in 2026 are warmly invited to attend our Kinder Visit Morning on Friday, August 15 from 9:15am to 11:00am. It's a great opportunity to experience our learning environment and meet our dedicated staff. Everyone is welcome!

Every blessing,





Super Readers Award



Congratulations to the following students who were presented with Super Readers awards at assembly:

Ruth and Joseph

Welcome Millie!



Everyone at WLC Nhill would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest student; Milienke (Millie) and her family, Mum Linda, Dad Harry and little sister Isobella (Bella).

They have done the big move from South Africa, and we wish you all the best in our lovely town of Nhill., arriving late June and enjoying the great freedom and opportunities that Australia can offer to a young family.

Thank you Shane

Last Friday at assembly the school farewelled Shane Grover, who is making his way to sunny and warm Qld, the Grover girls will stay for a bit longer with us. The WLC Nhill would like to express our gratitude and thanks to Shane for the many years that he has voluntarily mowed the school oval. The oval always looked great for the athletics day, Father's Day footy challenge, and the everyday use by the students. May this new chapter in your family's life be exciting and wonderful.



Prayer of the Week



Each week we pray for someone in our School Community. This week we pray for......

- Ruby & Ivy and their family
- Cooper & Abby and their family
- Clayton & Harper and their family
- Jerome and his family
- Millie and her family
- Mr Prenzler and his family

Worship News

Please see below for this week's church service times:

3rd August Nhill 9am Jeparit 11am 10th August Jeparit 9am Nhill 11am NhillLutheranParishOnline.com



Chapel Offerings

From the two week's of Chapels \$13.00 was collected for the ALWS Gifts of Grace. Please consider sending an offering each Friday morning as the communities there rely on our help.

Messages of hope

Listen to Messages of Hope and invite others to do the same. Download or listen online at messagesofhope.org.au.or on iTunes and Spotify.

3rd August Caring for Creation: Home and Community (Interview)

Whether your home is in a rural or urban community, you can live in harmony with God's beautiful creation. Cathryn shares what she has learned from developing communities that are sustainable and complimentary to the environment we live in.

10th August Caring for Creation: Land and Farming (Interview)

What a blessing to live in Australia today! When we recognise that we're God's creation and he wants to work with us in our role as custodians of the land we have, we see the true blessing of caring for creation. David shares his experience of regenerative farming and ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

Devotional Thought

Don't worry, be happy

She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made (Luke 10:39,40a).

Read Luke 10:38–42

Many years ago, American singer-songwriter Bobby McFerrin enchanted us all with his song 'Don't worry, be happy'. Despite its relaxed and catchy tune, as a natural worrier, I was never comforted by this song. Whenever it came on the radio, I found myself talking back to no-one in particular with phrases like, 'How can I just not worry?' and 'It's all right for you, but you don't have my worries.'

When I get overburdened, I tend to fill my days with activity and keep myself so busy that I haven't got time to dwell on my worries. I know that I am not alone with this trait. So, Martha is like a kindred spirit to me. I understand it's easier to ignore important relational, financial or spiritual issues than stop and deal with them head-on.

Jesus is well aware of our inclinations to cling to our worries while we occupy ourselves with tasks. He also knows how important it is for us to sit at his feet and allow him to deal with our anxieties. Only by hearing Jesus' words and resting in his promises can we be relieved of those things that rob us of peace.

Jesus' words are not ordinary words, and he calls us to hear them as extraordinary words that perform what they say. When we pray for God's Spirit to prepare us and take time to treasure Jesus' words, we find that our worries melt away. We allow our minds to be focused on God and his solutions rather than on the problems that worry us.

Dear Jesus, help us to be more Mary and less Martha. Be gentle with us as we learn to be still and trust that your words will give us peace. Lift our hearts as we sit at your feet. Amen.



Millie received her school Bible at Chapel last week.

Hockey 7's Competition



WLC Nhill got to catch up and compete against WLC Dimboola









On Wednesday 23^{rd} July, we travelled to Dimboola for Hockey 7's. We started with a narrow loss (4-3) against St Pat's Nhill, then a 3-0 win against WLC Dimboola, then a 2 all draw against Kowree. After these 3 games we had finished 2nd in our pool and progressed to a cross pool final where the winner would progress to regional finals. We played St Arnaud in a very close game; at the end of full time, we were tied 2 all. We then played 5 minutes of overtime to try and get a result, but again we're still tied after this. So, we played 5 minutes of golden goal where the first team to score would win, unfortunately St Arnaud were the first to score.

Despite this result, the students did a fantastic job and represented the school extremely well. A big thank you to Shaun for helping with coaching, and Bron for providing oranges and Iollies and doing official duties.

Stephanie Alexander Education Program at WLCN













From The WLC Executive Principal—Jason Przibilla

Combined Professional Learning Day

The beginning of Term 3 commenced with a combined Professional Learning (PD) day which was hosted by the Nhill Campus. Teaching staff from the Horsham, Dimboola and Nhill Campuses gathered together to engage in a variety of activities. The day commenced with an official welcome from Nhill Principal - Mr Damon Prenzler. Damon gave a brief history of the Nhill School, spoke about the heritage and early days of the school through to the development of the new building and amalgamation. A welcome prayer followed by some interactive activities had the staff settled and ready to launch into the first session of the day, a continuation of the work we have been doing on the Teaching and Learning Philosophy. This session enabled staff to connect with key documents from LEVNT including Growing Deep and Free to Flourish, and ended with the staff reviewing how current teaching practices align with our Teaching and Learning Philosophy.

After a morning tea break which was catered for by the Nhill Parents and Friends Association, the staff engaged in an introduction to Project Based Learning (PBL) workshop, led by Derek Bartels. A brief bio on Derek includes:

Derek is currently an Independent consultant and the co-founder of EduShift Collective, supporting schools across Australia in contemporary schooling transformation. Derek is the Former regional Director for Innovation and Learning with Lutheran Education where he held positions over the last 30 years. Has 40 years experience in Gov, Catholic and Lutheran Education and leadership, with a strong focus on project-based learning, student agency, and future-focused schooling and has led numerous professional learning tours for educators both within Australia and internationally to showcase best practice in contemporary schooling over the last 15 years.

After what can only be described as an amazing lunch (again catered by the Nhill P&F), I provided the staff with a WLC Update before concluding the day with a combined worship service.

This was another fantastic opportunity to come together as Wimmera Lutheran College. I would like to thank Damon and the Nhill Campus for hosting, the Executive Leadership team for planning the day, Mr Derek Bartels for visiting us and leading the PBL session, the Nhill P&F for a wonderful effort in catering for the day and the worship band consisting of Mrs Hahn, Mr Prouse and Ms Drisch.

Strategic Planning Workshop #2

On Wednesday 30 July, the second Strategic Planning Workshop day took place. This day was led by Phil McCredden from Ecclesia Leadership and involved the newly appointed Steering Committee (Executive Leadership Team). This was another highly engaging day, full of deep and rich discussion and planning for the future. A lot of groundwork was laid for future plans to be implemented. A snapshot of what was discussed and planned over the course of the day includes:

- The identification of 3 key signposts which will be used to drive strategic planning
- Further elaboration of these key signposts to articulate their meaning
- The identification of key pillars which will help strategic planning
- The establishment of the steering committee and how it will report to the Board and key stakeholders
- The identification of key stakeholder groups and ways in which these groups can be interacted with, including; parent advisory groups, surveys, interviews and focus groups
- A plan to develop Vision, Mission and Values statements
- A plan to continue to develop the Profile of a WLC Learner
- A plan to engage with a marketing consultant to produce logo, branding and style guides
- A priority to establish uniform and uniform policy
- A timeline to complete these important tasks and milestones

As decisions are made, and further action is taken, I will continue to update you on this important progress. I also encourage you to get in touch with myself or one of the Campus Heads if you would like further information or details.

Recruitment

In the last few weeks there have been some important developments regarding the recruitment of two key WLC Executive Leadership positions, the Director of Business Operations and Head of Primary School - Horsham Campus. A strong shortlist of candidates for both positions sat through an intensive interview process, sometimes involving multiple interviews. A diverse panel for both positions deliberated and have made decisions on both of these positions. I anticipate that announcements for both positions will be made to the broader WLC community next week. I am excited to officially welcome the successful candidates to Wimmera Lutheran College, and am equally excited by what they will bring to our college with their vast and extensive experience and skillset.

What's Been Going On At WLCN

Year 2 class last Term , were busy painting Blue Wrens. They were focusing so well at their task.











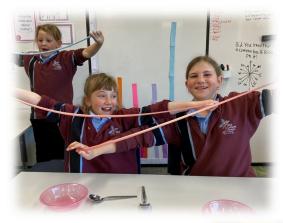








Wellbeing with Karen, classes made together. Slim would have to be the best sensory item, the fun of being able to stretch it, squeeze it and shape it before it became a blob again.























Get 'Em Going Playgroup

Get 'Em Going Playgroup meet each Tuesday at 9.30am to 11am.

Each week children will be given the opportunity to participate in physical, social and mental stimulating activities to assist in preparing them for their learning journey ahead. Please bring along the following:

• A water bottle / Fruit snack / Gold coin donation

If you have any questions or would like more information on the program please contact Mrs Fisher at the front office. 53 912 144 or admin@nls.vic.edu.au











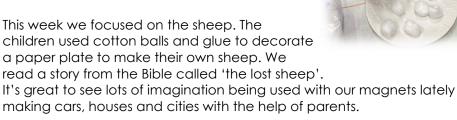




We've had a fun few weeks in Get 'em Going playgroup.

Welcoming everyone back for term 3 where we are learning all about farm animals! Last week we focused on the pig. The children enjoyed dressing and decorating 3 pigs for the craft activity. We also

learnt a new song 'this little piggy' which was enjoyed by all.



Next week we will be learning all about the cow! Hope to see you there on Tuesday at 9:30am



Parenting Through the Pushback



Sometimes, parenting can feel like pushing a boulder uphill—especially when it comes to getting kids to do the things we *know* are good for them: going outside, joining family time, getting off screens, trying something new.

You invite them to the beach, they resist. You suggest a walk, they complain. You plan a family dinner, they moan about being tired or busy. You tell them it's time to visit relatives. They collapse in a heap and sob.

But here's the truth: **kids don't always know what's good for them**—and it's our job, as parents, to gently guide them anyway.

Why Resistance Is Normal (But Worth Pushing Through)

Whether it's a teenager refusing to leave their room or a child groaning about a camping trip, the resistance is often strong. But time and again, after they've pushed through their initial reluctance, kids come out the other side glowing.

Like me, you've likely seen it with:

- A daughter who didn't want to swim, but later said, "I'm so glad I came."
- Teenage girls on camp who dreaded going "off grid," then bonded, laughed, and grew in confidence.
- Children who complain about outdoor time, then don't want to leave once they're there.

In every case, the discomfort up front is the price of something meaningful on the other side—connection, resilience, and joy.

But Sometimes, Resistance Is Telling Us Something

Still, it's important to pause and recognise that sometimes, when kids say "no," there may be a deeper reason. They might not have the words—or feel safe enough—to explain. A daughter might be on her period and feeling vulnerable. There could be a person, even a relative, who makes them feel uncomfortable—or worse. As parents, we won't always get it right. But at the very least, we need to listen. Ask gentle questions. Be open to what might be going on beneath the surface. Our job is to guide, yes—but also to protect, to hear, and to respond with compassion when something's not right.

So What Can Parents Do?

Here are five practical, real-world strategies to help parents lead their children into those growth opportunities—without yelling, forcing, or giving up.

1. Lead by Example

Kids learn more from what we do than what we say. If we want them off screens and into the sunshine, we need to show them we value that too. Go outside. Prioritise time together. Be present. They're watching—and following—more than we realise.

2. Create Opportunities

Make it easy for your kids to say "yes" by creating inviting, low-pressure chances to connect. A movie night on the couch. A beach trip. A milkshake at the café. Keep it simple, and consistent.

3. Extend the Invitation... Repeatedly

Don't be discouraged by a "no." Keep inviting them. Again and again. These bids for connection tell your child: "You matter. I want you with me." Sooner or later, they'll accept.

4. Be Firm, Not Forceful

Sometimes kids need a little nudge. Not a shout. Not a bribe. Just firm, kind clarity:

"I know you don't feel like it. But this is important. Let's do it together."

Parenting isn't about giving in to resistance. It's about helping kids through it—with empathy and strength.

5. Celebrate the Good Moments

When they do come along, savour it. Say, "Wasn't that fun?" or "I'm so glad you came." These affirmations reinforce the value of shared time—and help them remember it next time they feel reluctant. But DO NOT rub into them the fact that they complained. This often builds resistance and reminds them to dig their heels in harder next time.

BONUS TIP - have them invite friends along (where appropriate) to make it easier for them to get to "yes".

Model the Life You Want Them to Live

If we want our kids to be active, resilient, connected and emotionally aware, we have to model it. That means stepping away from our own screens. Saying yes when they invite us. Making the time.

Because the way we live—how we spend our time, how we talk, how we show up—teaches them more than anything else.

It's not always easy. But the payoff is worth it: stronger relationships, healthier habits, and kids who trust that we're in their corner—even when we push them outside their comfort zone.

So this week, make the invite. Get outside. Be the example. And don't be afraid to lead—even when they grumble.

You just might see them glow when they come back inside.



Dr Justin Coulson is a dad to 6 daughters and grandfather to 1 granddaughter. He is the parenting expert and co-host of Channel Nine's Parental Guidance, and he and his wife host Australia's #1 podcast for parents and family: The Happy Families Podcast. He has written 9 books about families and parenting. For further details visit

Premier Reading Challenge



A friendly reminder to all students and families that the **Premier's Reading Challenge** is still going strong! We're so proud of the amazing reading efforts happening across the school – keep it up and if you haven't yet, it's not too late to join in!

Whether you're reading at school or at home, every book counts. Remember to **record your books** regularly on the online portal before the deadline. Keeping your log up to date helps us keep track of your progress and celebrate our reading success.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

There will be special certificates and recognition for all students who complete the challenge. So keep turning those pages, discovering new authors, and enjoying the wonderful world of books! Let's keep turning those pages and discovering new stories. Happy reading!

Don't forget: The challenge closes on **Friday 5th September.**If you have any questions or need help logging books, please see Georgie Zikos.

Foundation/1 Class Celebrate - Foundies 100 Days of School





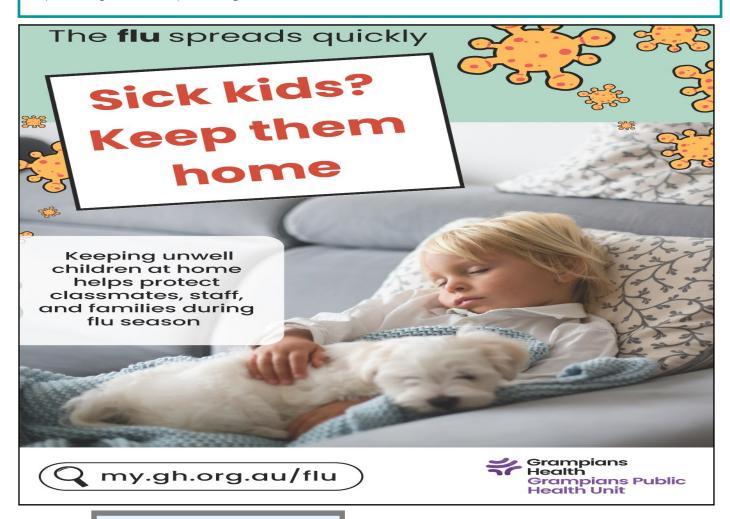
Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource implemented at our school to help support you in the challenges of modern-day parenting relating to youth mental health and wellbeing. Parenting is a learning journey and SchoolTV supports families by providing credible information from trusted sources with practical strategies to help alleviate some of

the challenges being faced by young people today.

Watch video interviews with leading wellbeing specialists and browse a library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and other videos.

This award-winning resource helps families build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It will assist you in starting those conversations on topics that can sometimes be awkward or difficult to tackle.

Parents and caregivers are the greatest influence on a young person's life and SchoolTV focuses on empowering confident parenting.



Chapel Dates

Fri 8th Aug: Year 5/6

Fri 22nd Aug: Year 3/4

Fri 296th Aug: Year 2

Fri 5th Sept: Fathers Day Chapel

Fri 12th Sept: F/1

Fri 19th Sept: tbc

Assembly Dates

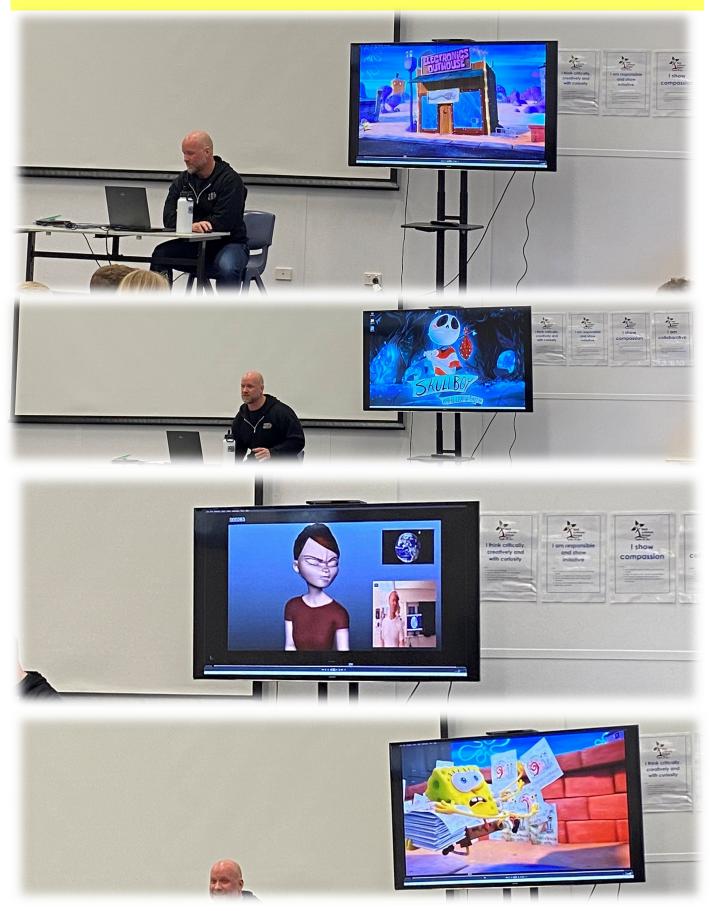
Fri 8th Aug: Year 2

Fri 22nd Aug: Year 3/4

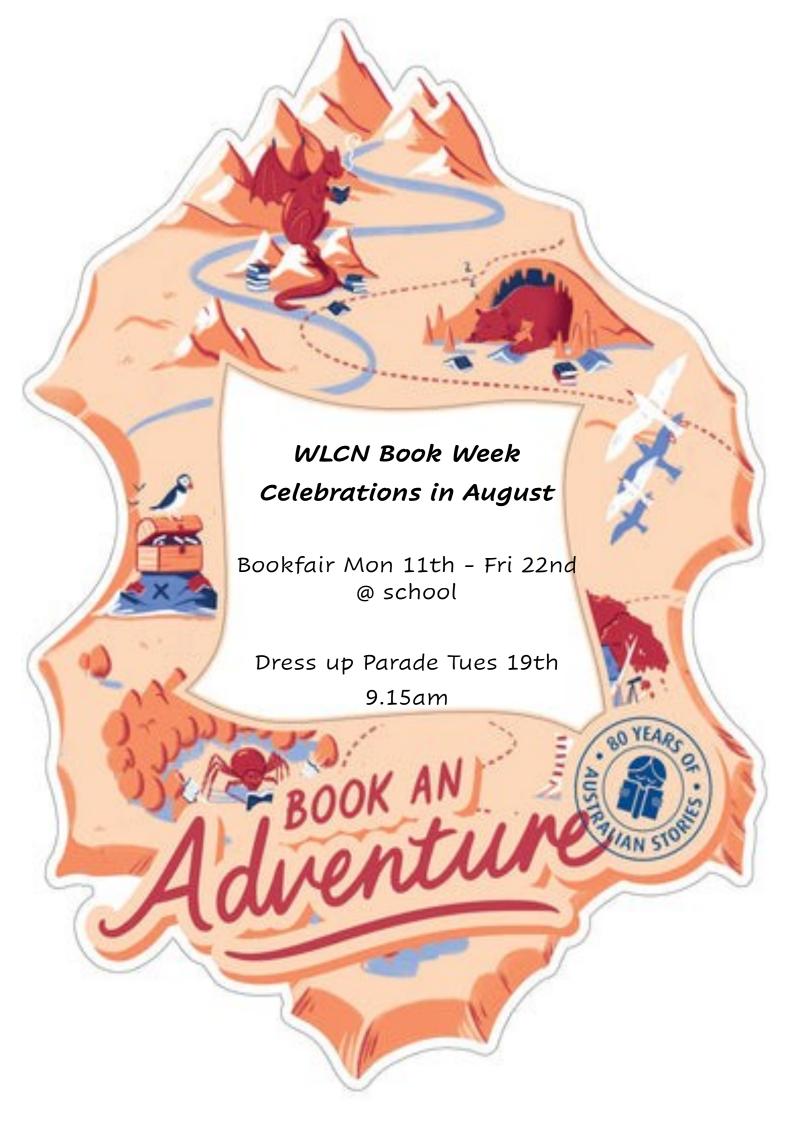
Fri 5th Sept: Fathers Day

Fri 19th Sept: F/1

Scott Hewitt Author and Illustrator Visit



We welcomed Scott Hewitt to the school to explain the process and what the requirements are to make animations. Scott has worked on animations such as Sponge Bob, Tenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Bob the Builder, and is the author of Skull Boy. WLC Dimboola students joined us for the morning and ended the session with enjoying recess with the Nhill students.







Do you wonder about what you can do to support your child's wellbeing?

Growing Minds Check-In

The Check-In is a new, free wellbeing Check-In for Australian parents and caregivers of children aged from birth to 17 years. The Check-in allows you to track your child's wellbeing and get access to personalised feedback and research-backed programs and

Who can participate?

We are currently recruiting parents and caregivers of children and young people aged from birth to 17 years 6 months for this research study.

What does this study involve?

- You will be asked to complete the Check-In and questionnaires where we will ask about your child's social, emotional and behavioural wellbeing and development across a few time points.
- You will also be offered a free consultation with a clinician (psychologist) to discuss your child's wellbeing.
- Parents will be randomly allocated to one of two groups, and either given access to the Check-In immediately or asked to wait before accessing the Check-In.





For more information about the study or to participate, contact us on (02) 9114 4326 or visit: https://growingmindscheckin.au/



This study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of The University of Sydney: 2023/350

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Join Us!



August

WLC-Nhill **Multipurpose Room** 7pm

Movie to be rated PG

BYO Comfy Seating Popcorn Provided **Water Only PLease**

