Pupil Free Day
The final pupil free day for this year will be tomorrow, Friday 16th December. Students do not come to school tomorrow. Staff will be preparing for 2017.

Essential Education Items for 2017 and CSEF Applications
Please return the forms as soon as possible and bring in your current Centrelink/Healthcare card for the office to photocopy.

Family BBQ & Christmas Concert at the Final Assembly
On Monday 19th December we will be holding an end of year celebration. Parents are invited to join us for a family BBQ at 12.45pm, followed by a performance by each class of a Christmas Song at the final assembly. The assembly will start at approximately 1.30pm and school will finish at 3.15pm.

Reports and Teacher Allocations
On Monday, all of the children will be bringing home their school report and a letter which lets you know who their teacher is for 2017.

Staff Update
The number of students coming to our school continues to grow as a lot of very positive news about the fantastic people, programs and opportunities spreads. Although we will grow to around 140 students next year, we are committed to maintaining small class groups of less than 20 students across all year levels. As such, we are very excited to let you know that we will be running eight class groups in 2017.

Next year, we are very excited to welcome three new staff to our fantastic teaching team. Ms Rachel Farrant will be joining us from Tate Street P.S and Ms Katrina Daws will be joining us from Bannockburn P.S. Both of these ladies are high quality, experienced classroom teachers. The third position is yet to be finalised.

Mrs Levy
Next year Mrs Levy will be taking 12 months leave. She intends to take a well deserved break, do some travelling and some relief work at our school. Mrs Levy has been part of the furniture for many years and a lot of you will appreciate the fabulous work she does with our students. We all wish Mrs Levy all the best on her adventures next year.
**Market Day**

On Tuesday this week we had another very successful market day. It was fantastic to see so many of our parents and families involved in this community event. The staff and students put in a lot of effort into their stalls and they appreciated you coming along to join in the fun with them. The day raised $607 which will be used to purchase new sports tops.

**End of Year Celebration - Barwon Valley Fun Park**

Yesterday the whole school travelled to the Barwon Valley Fun Park for our end of year celebration. Everyone enjoyed a fantastic day of activities and worked cooperatively in their multi-age groups. Once again, we enjoyed the generous support of the Leopold Lions who paid for the buses to transport all of the staff and students and also supplied the bbq lunch. We thank them very much for their ongoing support.

**Peace Poster Award**

Sam from the Leopold Lions was at last weeks assembly to present certificates to Isabella and Stevie to recognise their success in the Peace Poster competition.

**Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays**

On behalf of all of the staff at Whittington P.S I would like to wish all of our families a very merry Christmas and a happy and safe holiday. We should all be very proud of what we have been able to achieve together at our school over the past few years. Strong partnerships between the school and families are very important and we appreciate your continued support and involvement. We will continue to offer a wide range of learning opportunities next year that both you and your children can be involved in. Merry Christmas to you all!

**Attendance Award**

Grades HD, KC and JM were all winners of the cup for the past 2 weeks. Carter, Arama, Jireh and Axel collected the awards.

**House Points**

Shae and Kaleesha collected the shield as it was a draw.