

## NEWSLETTER 9 May 2023

### Dates for your Diary

MAY	Thu	11	Music/Italian	Fri	12	Art
	Tue	16	Cooking (Gr 5/6)	Tue	16	School Council 6:30pm
	Wed	17	Author Visit	Thu	18	Music/Italian
	Fri	19	Sports Prac Day Whitfield	Mon	22	Art
	Wed	24	SPORTS	Thu	25	Music/Italian
	Wed	31	Library			
JUNE	Thu	1	Music/Italian	Fri	2	SPORTS BACKUP
	Mon	5	<i>The Twits</i> performance	Wed	7	Cross Country

Dear Parents,

Can you please note the following:

### **Student of the Week**

Our congratulations go to the following students who have recently received a Student of the Week Award:

Archie – effort with writing

Abi – incredible work with her reading

Lily R – idea building for writing

Lewis – displaying determination in maths

Shannon – brilliant delivery of his biography to an audience

Murphy – kind consideration of others



### **Athletics Sports**

As mentioned in our last newsletter, our Athletic Sports Day for the cluster is coming up shortly – Wednesday 24 May at the Athletics Complex in Appin Street, Wangaratta. We are having to consider a change to our back up day to Wednesday 31 May, however I will confirm this closer to the time.

We will be having a practise day at Whitfield Primary School on Friday 19 May. Students will travel to and from Whitfield by bus. Whitfield will be putting on a sausage sizzle for lunch – see attached flyer. BYO drinks and snacks. Your Local

Excursions Permission Form will cover this.

The sports will once again be held at the Athletics Complex in Appin St, Wangaratta. All students need to be there by 9:45am to meet their teacher to collect their score card. Events will commence at 10am. A timetable for the day will be issued closer to the time. No buses will be running on the day, so you need to ensure that your children are there by the designated time. It is a great opportunity for parents to join us for the day and to support and encourage their children.



### **2022 Annual Report**

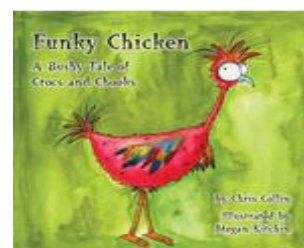
Our Annual Report for last year has been completed, approved by our School Council and has now been ratified by the Education Department. Now that each of these steps have been completed, we can make this document public. If you would like a copy of it, please contact me.

### **Author Chris Collins Visit**

We are lucky enough to be having a visit from Australian author Chris Collins on Wednesday 17 May. Chris has written a number of children's books including the award-winning *Funky Chicken* series and *A Bug Called Doug*. Both Edi Upper and Whitfield schools will be joining us for the day. As well as having a session with Chris, students will also participate in a

Howard Gibson  
Principal

variety of literacy based activities on the day.

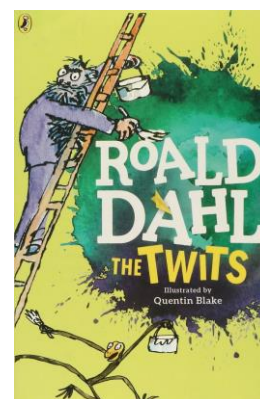


### **School Council**

Our next School Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 16 May commencing at 6:30pm. Everybody is welcome to join us if you wish.

### **The Twits**

All students will be attending a performance of Roald Dahl's classic book *The Twits* on Monday 5 June. This will be at the Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre. Your local Excursions Permission form will cover this.



### **Mother's Day**

To all our wonderful mothers, we wish you a very Happy Mother's Day this Sunday. May you get extra spoilt this day!

# AUTHOR STUDY: CHRIS COLLIN



Chris Collin grew up in New Zealand. In 1982 at 19 years of age, he moved to Brisbane. Soon after, he met his wife Su and in 1989 they made the permanent move to Hervey Bay after enjoying several fishing holidays there. Chris worked in construction for 20 years before throwing in the towel to become a full-time author and taking his show 'on the road'.

Chris dreamed up 'Funky Chicken' as a character in a 'skit' for son Sam's year 7 camp, where Chris was attending as a parent volunteer. As he was writing the script, Chris knew that he had hatched something very special. The play was a hit and with the encouragement of the other volunteers and teachers, Chris knew he had to turn his idea into a book.

Tragically, his wife Su became ill and his dream was shelved so that he could care for her. In 2011, Su passed away. Spurred on by his late wife's encouragement, Chris set about making his dream a reality.

"The desire to write children's stories never went away," he said.

With the help of author and manuscript assessor Sally Odgers and after a few edits, Chris' manuscript was ready for publication. He was faced with a dilemma though - to get on board with a publisher or to self publish? Whilst it was a lot of work, he decided to make the leap, and created his company, Funkybooks.

After six weeks of searching, Chris found an illustrator, Megan Kitchin, a dynamo of a young mum with five children under seven years!

An early learning teacher and graphic artist, Megan fell in love with the script straight away and sent through three sketches of chickens.

"From those three I said, 'love that, love that, love that,' (about aspects of each one) and she combined them into a fourth and that was Funky Chicken."

After putting in around \$40 000 and many hours of work, the book was finally printed in February 2013. Seeing the finished product roll off the press with son Sam by his side, was a proud and momentous occasion for Chris.

# MARC LIBRARY TERM 2 2023@ GRETA VALLEY PS

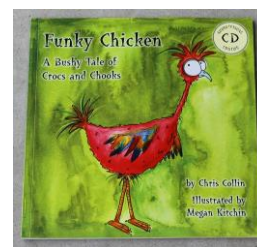
Hello and welcome to Term 2!

I hope that you all had a wonderful and restful break.

We are very lucky to be receiving a visit from a real life author this term.

**Chris Collin** will be making the trek to Greta Valley PS on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

Students from Edi Upper and Whitfield will be travelling by bus to join the students at Greta Valley for a fun filled session with Chris and a day of activities.



We will be reading Chris' books for the first part of Term 2 including titles such as 'Funky Chicken', 'Funky Chicken: Mission Incrocible', 'The Things You Can Do with Blue Whale Poo', 'Funky Chicken: Chooks in Space', 'Doug the Bug' and more.

Have a look at the Author Study Profile on Chris Collin to find out more information about him and keep your eyes peeled for a new display coming soon.

For the rest of Term 2, we will be looking at some short listed books by CBCA (Children's Book Council of Australia). Junior students will be looking at 'Frank's Red Hat' written and illustrated by Sean Avery, whilst senior students will be focussing on 'Neverlanders,' written by Tom Taylor and illustrated by Jon Sommariva.

\*We will also be squeezing in a performance of 'The Twits' @ WPACC on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

The literacy focus for the texts we read this term will be about PIE'ED. Not the one that you eat though!!

PIE'ED is related to author's purpose. What is the author's intention for the reader? Is it to....

- P – Persuade
- I – Inform
- E – Entertain
- E – Explain
- D – Describe

Just a reminder that students will be borrowing library books on the following dates: -

Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> May (Chris Collin visit)

Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> June

\*Mon 5<sup>th</sup> June 'The Twits' performance @ WPACC

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions/comments.

I'd love to hear from you!

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Thanks so much and HAPPY READING!!

Vanichya / Mrs. C

