Media Release



December 2016

Waurn Ponds newest retailer celebrates official opening

Officeworks is helping residents in Waurn Ponds make bigger things happen by opening the doors to its brand new store, creating 39 jobs for the local area.

The retailer's 163rd store will open to the public on Saturday 17th December, followed by an official launch ceremony on Monday 19th December at 11am.

To demonstrate Officeworks' commitment to the local community, the official opening will involve a donation of \$2000 each to <u>Mandama Primary School</u> and local sports group, <u>Grovedale Tigers Football Netball Club</u>.

The special event will also mark the launch of Officeworks' Back to School Appeal, in support of children's education charity The Smith Family, which helps disadvantaged Australian children succeed at school so they can create better futures for themselves.

This back to school period, Officeworks aims to raise more than \$100,000 for The Smith Family and will kick it off at the ceremony with a \$2000 donation made to the charity's Victoria General Manager, Anton Leschen, and student Quinhyi, who is supported through the *Learning for Life* sponsorship program.

"The generous support of Officeworks' Back to School Appeal will help raise funds so that more disadvantaged Australians students can access our *Learning for Life* program. *Learning for Life* provides children with the long-term educational assistance they need to attend school, engage in their learning and complete Year 12," said Anton.

Members of Officeworks' Leadership Team including Managing Director, Mark Ward, will be present alongside newly appointed Store Business Manager, David Hamilton. The team will hand over the charitable cheques to all three groups together with Mr Peter Dorling from the City of Greater Geelong Council.

The Waurn Ponds store will offer local residents and businesses a comprehensive range of school essentials, office supplies, technology and furniture products, along with an extensive range of Print & Copy services and Mailman parcel delivery service.

The store will be open from 7am-9pm Monday to Friday, from 8am-7pm on Saturday and 9am-7pm on Sunday, providing locals the convenience of longer trading hours. Residents will also have regular opportunities to be inspired and learn new skills with a schedule of helpful 'How To' classes in-store on selected weekends; while kids can get creative at Ollie Kids' Club workshops held during school holidays.

David is looking forward to introducing local customers to the wide range of products, great service and everyday low prices that have been helping Australians make bigger things happen for more than 20 years.

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He said: "It has been great to see the positive reaction from locals since announcing we were opening in Waurn Ponds. Our team is currently working hard to get the store ready for Back to School and can't wait to help families with their projects, big and small." Visit the team at Officeworks 213-217 Colac Road, Waurn Ponds or to find out more about Officeworks visit www.officeworks.com.au.

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For further information, imagery or interview opportunities, please contact

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About Officeworks:

Established in Richmond in 1994, Officeworks is Australia's leading retailer and supplier of office supplies, tech and furniture solutions for home, business and education needs. With three easy ways to shop - in store, online or by phone, you'll be sure to find exactly what you need with our widest range, when you need, and all at the lowest prices. Plus, you'll enjoy friendly expert advice and helpful services. Officeworks offers customers more than 20,000 products on its website, operates a national customer service centre and has a growing team of expert business specialists to cater for micro, small and medium business customers. As part of the Wesfarmers' group, Officeworks has an extensive national footprint operating 159 + retail stores and employing more than 6,500 team members. Join Officeworks' online communities on Facebook, Linked In, Instagram and YouTube as well as at its hubs Work Wise and Work Style for inspiration to help you make bigger things happen