WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

4th March, 2013
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Last Friday students represented our school in the Hawkesbury Schools District Swimming Carnival.

What a day - rain, wind, upturned shelters, mud, shivering students......................

I sincerely thank the parents who braved the elements and supported our school. I particularly wish to thank Mrs King and Mrs Taylor who acted as team managers on behalf of the school. I have always been impressed with the support and assistance given by our parents but to have parents volunteer their time and persevere in such appalling weather conditions simply reinforces the fact that we have a dedicated community at Windsor Public - Thank You.

BASKETBALL SELECTION
Last week some of our students attended trials for selection in a Hawkesbury District basketball team.

I am pleased to announce the following students were successful in being selected for their respective teams.

Cassidy Strickland    Sarah Benson    Brett Bailey

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Families should have received ordering packs for our school photos, which will be held tomorrow, Tuesday 5th March. Please take note of the ordering/payment instructions to ensure a prompt and efficient service.

All students are expected to wear their full summer uniform.

YEAR 5 TRANSITION DAY
This Friday 8th March, all Year 5 students will be attending Windsor High School as part of a Transition Program with other primary feeder schools in the district. Bligh Park, Windsor Park, Windsor South, Oakville and Pitt Town Primary schools will also be attending. It is important that we support our local high school.

Students will be given the opportunity to tour the school and participate in some of the programs offered to students who attend Windsor High.

It is important that all students attend this day to gain valuable insights about their local high school.

Mike Watson
Principal
**SRC (Student Representative Council)**

Congratulations to the following students who are the 2013 Semester One SRC Representatives.

**KW**  
Ruby Blume  Jacob Simmons

**K-1C**  
Kobi Manion  Cassidy Grima

**1R**  
Makaelah Simmons  Jesse Davies

**2F**  
Gemma King  Oliver Macdonald

**3B**  
Gemma Whitmore  Seth Stanyer

**4M**  
Sophie Hunter  Connor Simmons

**5T**  
Meg Leaman  Ebony Towner-Cohen

**5/6C**  
Joshua Vella  Emily Mills

**STARR AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following students who received STARR awards last week.  
Well done!

**KW**  
Charlotte Bush  William Baldwin  Jackson King  Alice Sheridan  
Dominic Shamoun  Jacob Simmons  Lily Callaghan Peri Kane  
Lilly Farrugia  Ruby Blume

**K-1C**  
Lily Crofton  Cassidy Grima  Imogen Sullivan  
Stephen Radunz  Maxine Suela  Zak Oaklands  Cody Sneesby  
Max Pinson  Owen Brown

**1R**  
Jesse Davis  Cooper Harriss  Preston Kennedy  Jett Mackintosh  
Melek Massingham  Iris Miller  Kendra Shuttleworth  
Makaelah Simmons  Marcus Mavin

**2F**  
Mariah Williams  Riley Small  Ceara Wilson  Elliot Sullivan  
Ella Paraha  Riley Taylor  Ethan Lewry  Nathan Wyte  
Connor McGregor  Lucas Meere

**3B**  
Teresa Chan  Jett Merryweather  Montana Smith  Lana Stark  
Hannah Taylor  Gemma Whitmore  
Johnathon Dorahy  Christopher Fiola  Dale Meere  
Mathew Malss  Seth Stanyer

**4M**  
Awards will be published in next week’s newsletter 11/3/13

**5T**  
Sarah Benson  Logan Meere  Abby Galea  
Tara Hottwagner  Meg Leaman  Rose Ryan  Kody Massingham  
Nathaneal Burns  Bradley Cole  Dylan Heckenberg  Darcy Stark

**5-6C**  
Mohammed Almusilhi  Brett Bailey  Natalie Hrynevych  Joshua Mack  
Katie-Lee King  Isabella Meere  Emily Mills  Tamara Parisi  
Cassidy Strickland  Jack Whitmore  Paige Smith  Billy Chen
PSSA DISTRICT SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Friday, 1st March, 2013, Raine Pryor, Cooper Toomsalu, Katie-Lee King, Isabella Meere, Logan Meere and Hannah Taylor represented Windsor Public School at district swimming. It was raining, muddy and cold, but we didn’t give up and all had a great time. The first event was Katie-Lee’s 100m freestyle, she did a time of 1.39.77. Then Hannah, Cooper and Katie-Lee swam 50m freestyle, Hannah did a time of 57.81, Cooper did a time of 44.68 and Katie-Lee did a time of 44.97. Hannah, Raine, Isabella and Katie-Lee then swam 50m breaststroke. Hannah did a time of 1.12.10, Katie-Lee did a time of 1.04.34 Raine did a time of 57.01 and a PB of 0.42 of a second! Isabella did a PB too! She did a time of 1.03.43 and a PB of 2 seconds. Congratulations to Raine and Isabella. Hannah, Cooper, Logan and Katie-Lee swam 50m backstroke. Hannah did a time of 1.07.89, Katie-Lee did a time of 54.95 and Logan did an amazing swim in backstroke. He did a 55.43, a 7 second PB! Cooper did a time of 1.02.34 with a PB of 0.71 of a second. Last but not least was 50m butterfly. We only had one competitor representing our school Katie-Lee. She did a time of 1.03.97. We had a very fun but wet day! All the kids did very well. Thanks to all the parents that were there to support our school.

Katie-Lee King

SRC

This year the SRC are taking it to a new level. We will be having a fundraiser every term so we can keep the chickens going with food and our veggie patches with fresh produce. We can also save a little so we can buy some more iPads for the school. We are having a fundraiser on Wednesday 6th March. The colour that you have to dress up in is blue & white. The fundraiser is a gold coin donation.

Jack Whitmore SRC

GERANIUMS!

We need any cuttings for our empty flower beds on Christie Street. Any donations will be greatly appreciated and can be sent to Mrs. Chard

Thank you from Mrs. Chard and the SRC Garden Team

K-2 ASSEMBLY

Please note that the K-2 assembly will be on Wednesday this week not Thursday. It will be in the hall between 2pm-2.30pm
**SCHOOL BOMBER JACKETS**

A note has been sent home with information for ordering school bomber jackets. The last day for orders and payment will be Tuesday 9th April, 2013.

Jackets are ordered on a **pre-paid basis** therefore full payment at time of ordering will be required.

**UNIFORM NEWS**

Special!  Special!  Special!

School jumpers discontinued trim and printing colour.
Bottle green with lemon trim and large crest  - $5
Bottle green with lemon trim and small crest  - $10
Please note limited sizing available

**LIFE EDUCATION – HAROLD MERCHANDISE**

The educator from Life Education will provide the opportunity for children to purchase products during the school visit.
A Harold Merchandise order form has been sent home.

Life Education NSW thanks you for your support.

**ICAS TESTS**

Please note the following dates for ICAS.

Writing:  Monday 17th June  $17 per student
Spelling:  Tuesday 18th June  $11 per student
English:  Wednesday 31st July  $ 8 per student
Maths:  Tuesday 13th August  $ 8 per student
Permission notes will be sent home in a few weeks
STUDENT BANKING

School banking is every Tuesday!

WESTERN SYDNEY REGIONAL DANCE CAMP

A three day residential camp for talented dancers is being offered for Stage 3 students (Years 5&6) from 26th – 28th March, 2013 at Merroo Christian Centre, Kurrajong. For further information and details please see Mrs. Russell.

LAST DAYS FOR PAYMENT

Now due - Kindergarten – Class requirements $55 per student
Now due - Year 1 – Class requirements $55 per student ($60 with Homework Folder)
Now due - Year 2-6 – Class requirements $55 per student
Tuesday 5th March - Life Education $10 per student
Friday 8th March - A Journey to Antarctica classes 5T & 5/6C
Tuesday 12th March - Surf Educate Stage 2 classes 3B & 4M
Friday 15th March - Sport Permission Note $2 per student
Tuesday 9th April - School bomber jackets orders/payment
Tuesday 9th April - Sports in Schools $40 per student – capped at two children per family

FOR YOUR DIARY

Now due - Emergency Contact forms to school office
Monday 4th March - P&C and AGM - 7pm staffroom
Tuesday 5th March - School Photographs
Wednesday 6th March - 5/6C Cake Stall .50cents per item
Wednesday 6th March - Mufti Day  Gold coin donation
Saturday 25th May - Handmade and Homegrown in the Hawkesbury

The school office is open from 8.30am until 3.00pm. Uniform purchases 8.30am to 2.45
Help your children make sense of natural disasters

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

Bushfires and floods wreak incredible havoc on so many people's lives and will no doubt leave an indelible imprint on our collective psyches. These two natural disasters have been brought into our living rooms via the media over the last few years, and will continue to do so in the future.

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when the natural disasters fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. Reassure children that they are safe. The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. Be available. Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

3. Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television. Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

4. Support children's concerns for others. They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heartwarming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

5. Let them explore feelings beyond fear. Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions. They may feel sadder for the loss of wildlife, than for loss of human life, which is impersonal for them.
6. Help children and young people find a legitimate course of action if they wish. Action is a great antidote to stress and anxiety so finding simple ways to help, including donating some pocket money can assist kids to cope and teaches them to contribute.

7. Avoid keeping the television on all the time. The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. Be aware of your own actions. Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

9. Take action yourself. Children who know their parents, teachers, or other significant caregivers are working to make a difference feel hope. They feel safer and more positive about the future. So do something. It will make you feel more hopeful, too. And hope is one of the most valuable gifts we can give children and ourselves.

Children’s worlds can be affected in ways that we can’t even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children’s needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.