PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

RICHMOND TAFE LANDSCAPING
Today, staff and students from Richmond TAFE returned to plant and mulch 2 areas they have been working on in a joint project with our school. The bush tucker garden (between J Block and Christie Street) and the area adjacent to the outdoor checkers board – these gardens when completed will not only enhance the playground but also make use of areas that are currently under-utilised.

PLAYGROUND
No doubt, you have noticed the removal of the demountable toilet (which was quite a spectacle for students to watch, being lifted by the crane) and the removal of 2 trees on the bottom playground. I am currently involved in ongoing discussions with DEC Asset Management in regards to cost effective solutions to resolve erosion and drainage issues in this area of the school. I am hoping to have a resolution that can be acted upon this term.

SPIRIT POLES
Tomorrow we will be visited by John Boney an Aboriginal artist who works at Muru Mittigar Aboriginal Cultural & Education Centre, Cranebrook. John will be guiding students in the painting of class ‘spirit poles’, which, when completed will be positioned in the garden near the double gates on our Dight Street entrance. I thank both Mrs Ford and Mrs Knowles in their efforts in securing resources and personnel for this exciting cultural project.

HAWKESBURY MUSIC FESTIVAL
This week students will be participating in the Hawkesbury Music Festival, which runs over 3 nights, commencing tonight. Some of our Percussionists will be performing in a drum line on Tuesday evening, while the full percussion ensemble along with our choir, will be performing on Wednesday evening. This will be a great reward for the hours of preparation given by our students. I thank Mrs Buckle for her efforts in preparing our choir. I also thank Mrs Buckle and Mrs Rogers in advance, for their supervision of our students over the course of the festival. Good Luck and enjoy being on stage!

The Percussionists will also be performing this coming Saturday at 11.45am at Freeman Reach Public School’s Fete.

Mike Watson
Principal
KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2015
We are currently accepting enrolments and enquiries for Kindergarten 2015. Please contact the office for further information.

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

KC
Violet Crofton  Matilda Bush  Brooke Farrugia  Talaana Gabriel
Anna-Lee Hitchens  Mikayla Layt  Chloe Martin  Chloe Pike
Grace Vredegoor  Jesse Blume  Ryan Callaghan  Swayzee Kennedy
Jared Wesley-Smith  Jake Huttunen

K-1F
Madeleine Macdonald  Lily Paraha  Shelby Stanyer  Tommey Clark
Ruby Blume  Lily Crofton  Cassidy Grima  Peri Kane
Kirrileigh McDonald  Alice Sheridan  Ruby Bugeja  Eden Bugeja
Richard Baldwin  Stephen Radunz

1-2R
William Baldwin  Lily Callaghan  Jaylee Morgan  Jackson King
Gracie Morrison  Jacob Simmons  Elizabeth Zouait  Marcus Mavin

2Z
Melek Massingham  Kendra Shuttleworth  Cooper Harriss
Bailey Jones  Noah Krix  Cody Sneesby  Alex Zouait

2-3B
Alice Morrison  Makaelah Simmons  Charlotte Collier-Mitchell
Gemma King  Ella Paraha  Taylah Reeves  Ethan Lewry
Oliver Macdonald  Ryder Mavin  Riley Taylor  Mia Bruton

4M
Paige Hottwagner  McKeeley Whitmore  Xavier Shuttleworth
Teresa Chen  John Hurley  Holly McInerney  Hannah Taylor
Gemma Whitmore

5T
Fatima Almusilhi  Jada Cooper  Sarah Dorahy  Cody Maher
Sophie Hunter  Reili Massingham  Katrina Maher  Connor McIlrick
Alexi Suela  Lachlan Morgan  Tueny Xia  Seth Nolan
Taine Nolan  Leroy O’Connor  Connor Simmons  Daniel Maher

6C
Abby Galea  Tara Hottwagner  Rose Ryan  William Baltaks
Bradley Cole  Caleb Dries  Brodie Whitmore  Meg Leaman
**BUSS PASS APPLICATIONS**

Bus Pass applications for Year 3 2015 need to be returned by 3\textsuperscript{rd} November 2014.

**NEW STOCK**
The new style of schoolbag is available at the office with school logo
Price $33

**STEWART HOUSE**

Stewart House bags sent home last day of Term 3 are due to be returned by Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} October.

Bags can be dropped off at Mrs. Roger’s room.

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB**

Book Club Issue 7 was sent home today.
The last day for payment and orders from this issue will be Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} October.
When placing an order please ensure that the Student’s Name and Class are on each order form and if you have paid by credit card on-line that you have included your receipt number on the order forms.
Please be aware that the school office cannot accept eftpos or credit card payments for Bookclub.

**CANTEEN NEWS**
The Evergreen Café is our lunch provider. These lunch orders can be placed Monday-Friday but all lunch orders have to be in the tub in the office foyer by 9am.
If you need a lunch order price list please ask at the front office or the price list can be found on the school website [www.windsor-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.windsor-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**STUDENT BANKING**

School banking is every **Tuesday**!
Please fill out your child’s deposit book and make sure the money is placed in the velcro section of the deposit book as coins are being misplaced.

**CLOTHING POOL**

The Clothing Pool will be opened for sales on the following days:
Friday between 8.30-9.00am
If you need access at any other time please ring Kylie 0416274804 or Lisa 0403015423
If you have any uniforms that no longer fit, please consider sending them to the Clothing Pool.
UNIFORM PRICE LIST FROM TERM 4

Polo Shirt - $17
Girls Summer Shorts - $20
Girls Winter Trousers - $27
Sports Shorts - $19
Winter Jumper - $26
Girls Summer Dress Size 4,6,8 - $40
Girls Summer Dress Size 10,12,14 - $43
Hat - $12
Infants Homework Bag - $10
School Bag - $33
Library Bag - $5.50

FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 17th November - Zoo Snooze Yrs 3 & 4
Tuesday 18th November - Zoo Snooze Yrs 3 & 4

The school office is open from 8.30am until 3.00pm.
Uniform purchases 8.30am to 2.45pm

LAST DAYS FOR PAYMENT

Now due - Voluntary Contributions
Monday 20th October - Book Club orders/payment
Friday 3rd November - Zoo Snooze final payment

Payments can be made by cheque, cash & eftpos
COMMUNITY NEWS

Beyond Their Years – Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose

As TVs, tablets, smart phones and other digital devices become more commonplace, so do the myriad types of content available on them. Lakshmi Singh looks at the important role parents need to play in monitoring and controlling the exposure of early-primary school children to content beyond their years.

The TV left on the latest hit crime drama while you’re cooking.
The family iPad unlocked with access to Game of Thrones.
The gaming device on which Dad has been spotted playing Grand Theft Auto.
The drive to school with the radio playing songs full of sexual promise and expletives.

These are just some ways in which young children might interact with content that is beyond their comprehension.

As the saying goes, ‘children are not mini-adults’ and seven to eight-year-olds in particular do not have the worldly knowledge or mental capacity to set apart events happening a world away from them, nor the maturity to rationally process content beyond their years.

More than just putting parental locks and passwords on devices, experts say it is imperative that parents take a more firsthand approach in guiding their seven to eight-year-olds through the M-rated content maze.

**Fiction vs. reality**

Although most kids between seven and eight years of age know the difference between fiction and reality, the ‘type’ of reality portrayed in reality TV shows may not be something that they easily grasp, says Lynne Jenkins, author and clinical psychologist.

“If what they are watching is scripted to be more dramatic, then that is how it is for them, unless an adult lets them know otherwise,” she says.

The strung-out tensions between contestant teams, fabricated cat-fights and prolonged focus on habits that annoy each other could all come across as normal, unless kids are told otherwise, she says.

“Of course in real life kids will come across bitchiness and things like that, but I don’t think shows like these are necessary to teach those lessons,” says Nathalie Brown, child behaviourist at Melbourne based consultancy Easy Peasy Kids.

She cites The Bachelor as such a show that has settings which are very far from reality.
“It’s a reality show but not a real concept. One man and twenty women ... it’s not going to happen in real life.”
The dramatic statements made on the show can also create false impressions and wrongly influence young minds, she says.
“Do we want little girls thinking that this is the be-all and end-all if you don’t have a man in your life?”

**Concepts beyond their understanding**

While children of this age may be exposed at school to some adult concepts like the dangers of smoking, they don’t necessarily understand in great detail the information presented in health programs, for example says Jenkins.

“They will need a sensible adult to explain what they are seeing in a way that won’t cause them to take on too much information that they aren’t really ready for, or don’t really need to know about yet. For example, at seven or eight children don’t really need to know about drugs leading to death and disease. That can be something to be discussed at least in senior primary.”

In a similar vein, rite-of-passage concepts are better passed down from parent to child, says Brown.

“I believe it is okay for children to have knowledge on puberty but that initial talk should be from their parents, not from a movie. It depends on emotional maturity; if it comes up in a movie it may just go right over their heads or scare the living daylights out of them.”

The same concept also applies to games and apps, she says. “Children believe what they see. Parents have to communicate that a movie or game is not real life,” she says. Even if exposure is inadvertent, the impact can be very obvious, she says. “If a child is constantly playing or watching violence their understanding in handling their own emotions can become aggressive. What a child sees repeatedly is what they learn. It becomes acceptable to be aggressive and they can become desensitised to violence.”
**Conflicting values of shows/themes**

Certain themes like revenge may not be ideal to teach your seven to eight-year-old, but they do get portrayed in movies. The important point is that labels need to be given to shows and games that deal with such plots and an explanation given as to what the characters are doing.

“Revenge does occur, this is how the movie plot is dealing with it, it is something the parents have to discuss with their child,” says Brown.

Sometimes culture and religious beliefs mean parents limit or screen what their children can watch. Here, an honest explanation as to why parents believe their children shouldn’t be viewing or interacting with such programs may be in order, especially if there is a risk that they may go behind your back and source it, says Jenkins.

“If [the reason given] is something like: ‘Just because’ or ‘Because I said so’ a child with a certain personality might go looking for it themselves to find out why they can’t watch it. If, however, a parent acknowledges that their child would like to watch the show and explains that the reasons have to do with their family values or culture for instance, it might be better received,” she says.

**More harm than good?**

The brain of a child who’s seven or eight does not have the necessary processes in place to exercise the judgement necessary to make sense of M-rated games, says Brown.

“Again it depends on the emotional maturity of the child and how much the parents have explained to them. I find that a lot of the parents aren’t even aware that the ratings are there for a reason.”

At this age, looking for big banks to loot and zombie monsters to kill will not be something a child can do with the strategic mindset or understanding demanded by these games, she says.

However, they might have a more poignant influence psychologically and result in the child having nightmares.
“These graphics at the moment are so realistic, bloody and gory,” she laments. Regular exposure to M-rated content where the language might be peppered with profanities and disrespect may also impact an impressionable seven or eight-year-old’s speech, says Jenkins.

“If they are exposed to expletives regularly, whether on a show or in their house, they will absorb them as ‘normal’. This ‘spongelike’ phenomenon applies more to younger children, but if a seven or eight-year-old has been exposed to such things for most of their life, they will become normal for them. And if they start watching this material at age seven or eight and the adults in their life don’t say that they can’t watch it, or don’t turn it off, or at least don’t comment that it is wrong, then the kids won’t have the understanding that using expletives is not okay.”

**Words of wisdom from the experts**

1. Set boundaries from early on in children’s lives. Instil the message that we only watch G or PG material in our family.

2. Watch news programs when kids have gone to bed. This is especially important if a child (of any age) is anxious or has a predisposition to anxiety or worry. If they do come across tragic events, reassure them that even though these events have happened in real life, the child, their family and friends are safe.

3. Be prepared to keep pace with children as they grow older. Assess whether an M-rated show might be appropriate for a particular child’s personality, intelligence and maturity by watching it first. Be available for explanations and fast forward any questionable parts.

4. Always encourage open discussion about content your children interact with, allowing them the confidence to ask questions when confused.

5. Don’t allow TVs and other devices in kids’ bedrooms.

6. Use parental locks and passwords but try to invest more in gaining their trust.
Saturday 25th to Sunday 26th
October 2014
9:30am - 4pm
Adults $5 · Concession $4 · Children $2

26th Annual
Doll, Bear & Craft Show

FEATURING:
- Unique Handmade Products
- Dolls and Accessories
- Wooden Toys and Furniture
- Doll's Houses and Supplies
- Teddy Bear and Making Supplies
- Aromatherapy
- Jewellery, Craft

For more information call 4731 3000 or visit www.museumoffire.com.au
IF YOU BUY TICKETS FROM WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FRONT OFFICE, OUR OWN P&C WILL EARN $5 FROM THE SALE OF THE TICKET. PLEASE SUPPORT THIS EVENT AND SUPPORT OUR OWN P&C AT THE SAME TIME.

WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL P&C

PRESENTS

WINDSOR COUNTRY DELIGHTS:
PRODUCERS MARKET
AN EVENING OF WINE & CHEESE TASTING.

Wines by TALAI ESTATE
South Maroota, NSW &
STONE HILL
Merriwa, NSW

CAKE STALLS, JAM, PICKLES, HONEY,
BBQ, TEA, COFFEE, COLD DRINKS
LIVE MUSIC & MUCH MORE!

ADMISSION:
ADULTS $10
CHILDREN FREE
(CHILDREN MAY ATTEND WITH ADULT SUPERVISION)

TICKETS FROM:
• WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE
  Mulgrave & Windsor Road, McGraths Hill
• SPEECHLEY PROPERTY
  517 George Street, South Windsor
• AT THE DOOR

WHERE:
WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL HALL
Mulgrave & Windsor Road, Mulgrave

WHEN:
6:00PM SATURDAY
18th OCTOBER 2014

FUNDRAISER FOR WINDSOR HIGH SCHOOL P&C
Clear out your garage, clear out your closet, clear out the kid’s room, clear out the kitchen, make space at home, make money at our sale!

Register and pay for your spot at Reception at Windsor High School.

Cost: $10 per spot

For any enquiries call Trish on 0412216353.

Car Boot Sale
School Car Park Mulgrave Road
McGraths Hill

Bargain Hunter’s BBQ Breakfast available!