Welcome back for term 2 and I trust that everyone enjoyed the holidays with friends and family.

This Term is relatively short, with 9 weeks but will be quite busy with NAPLAN, cross country carnivals, Handmade & Homegrown Markets and semester 1 reports and interviews.

**STAFFING**
Interviews were held today to determine the permanent teacher position for 2W. Once all administration has been finalised I will be able to determine and inform you of an actual commencement date for our new staff member.
I thank you for your understanding.

**UNIFORM**
As determined by the Uniform Committee, our Winter uniform is to be worn by all students during Terms 2 and 3.
As the weather can still be quite warm during May, students are permitted to wear Summer uniform during the warmer weather.

Parental discretion is to be used on such days – however, wearing ‘combinations’ of Summer/Winter uniform will not be accepted, which will impact on criteria for our merit system. Students are to wear FULL Summer or Winter uniform.

I have already had enquiries in regards to girls wearing tights under their tunics on warm days – it is quite acceptable for girls to wear socks under the tunics on warm days, which will still be considered as correct uniform.

Sport will be held on Tuesdays this Term for all students. Students may wear joggers and green track suit pants/shorts on these days.

*It is important that consistency is maintained in promoting the wearing of correct full school uniform throughout the year by all students.*

**TOILET UPGRADE**
I will be meeting with contractors tomorrow morning to determine a start date for the toilet upgrade.
Once commenced, there will be disruption to playground and toileting routines. School staff and contractors will negotiate temporary measures to reduce the impact on students, where physically possible, during the construction.
MUMS & GRAND MUMS AT SCHOOL

This Friday mums and grand mums have been invited to attend your children’s classrooms to participate in planned activities.

You are also welcome to remain at school to have a picnic lunch with your children.

I thank staff for your commitment to this social event.

Mike Watson
Principal

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STARR AWARDS

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

KC
- Matilda Bush
- Violet Crofton
- Talaana Gabriel
- Mikayla Layt
- Chloe Martin
- Chloe Pike
- Jesse Blume
- Ryan Callaghan
- Swayzee Kennedy
- Corbin Shearer
- Daniel Su
- Jared Wesley-Smith

K-1F
- Madeleine Macdonald
- Anna Pugliese
- Brody Taylor
- Ruby Blume
- Charlotte Bush
- Cassidy Grima
- Peri Kane
- Richard Baldwin
- Stephen Radunz
- Shelby Stanyer

1-2R
- Riley Cossins
- Preston Kennedy
- Jett Mackintosh
- Kobi Manion
- Marcus Mavin
- Zak Oaklands
- William Baldwin
- Jacob Simmons
- Devine Bloodsworth
- Lily Callaghan
- Jackson King
- Gracie Morrison
- Dominic Shamoun
- Elizabeth Zouait

2W
- Joshua Wade
- Iris Miller
- Tristan Towner-Cohen
- Cooper Harriss
- Kendra Shuttleworth
- Bailee Walker
- Cody Sneesby
- Tyler Crnogorac
- Lachlan Kersten
- Simon Su
- Thomas Heckenberg
- Bailey Jones

2-3B
- Harmony Martin
- Makaelah Simmons
- Gemma King
- Ella Paraha
- Oliver Macdonald
- Ryder Mavin
- Riley Taylor

4M
- McKeely Whitmore
- Paris Mackintosh
- Xavier Shuttleworth
- Paige Hottwagner
- Titan Bloodsworth
- April Laird

5T
- Fatima Almusilhi
- Sarah Dorahy
- Katie McClure
- Connor McIlrick
- Lachlan Morgan
- Leroy O’Connor
- Connor Simmons
- Seth Nolan
- Taine Nolan

6C
- Brodie Whitmore
- Bradley Cole
- Caleb Dries
- Emily Towner-Cohen
- Rose Ryan
- Trent Cockerill
- Emily Brodie
- Kody Massingham
STAGE 1 (K – 2 ) COMMENDATIONS
Congratulations to these students who received awards last term. Well done!

**KC**
- Violet Crofton - wonderful reading
- Corbin Shearer - great sound work

**K-1F**
- Madeleine Macdonald - working hard in all areas
- Lily Crofton - beautiful bookwork

**1-2R**
- Jackson King - fantastic effort in Maths
- Aleeya Warrington - wonderful and loud reading

**2W**
- Noah Krix - fantastic effort in Maths
- Kendra Shuttleworth - always taking care and pride in her work

**2-3B**
- Maxine Suela - trying hard in writing lessons

STAGE 2 & 3 (YEARS 3-6) COMMENDATIONS
Congratulations to these students who received awards last term. Well done!

**2-3B**
- Taylah Reeves - writing a brilliant exposition

**4M**
- Emily Shamoun - improved effort and behaviour in class
- Caleb Maittlen - great effort in spelling

**5T**
- Katrina Maher - for her mature and responsible attitude and behaviour
- Seth Nolan - wonderful interest and effort in all of his schoolwork

**6C**
- Hayley McGregor - excellent teamwork at camp
- William Baltaks - excellent teamwork at camp

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Book club order forms were sent home with students last week. The last day for payment and orders from this issue will be Monday 12th May. 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.
SCHOOL FETE AND MARKET DAY – 24th May, 2014

Our annual event “Handmade & Homegrown in the Hawkesbury” is our major fundraiser for the year. It is a great opportunity for the whole school to get involved and help.

Here are a few ways you can get involved:

STALLHOLDER – If you or someone you know makes or grows items, why not get a stall. Contact Brooke on 0417232477 for more information.

WRISTBANDS – To help with raising funds buy a wristband for your children. This gives them UNLIMITED rides on all the rides. Pre-purchased $20, on the day $25.

VOLUNTEERS – To make the day successful we need a lot of volunteers on the day. Call at the front office for a note if you can volunteer.

DONATIONS – Items can be donated to be used on the day. These include cans of drink, bottled water, bacon and eggs. Notes are available at the front office to fill in.

A big way you can help is to come on the day. There will be plenty of stalls, fun activities and entertainment.
Hope to see you all there.

STUDENT BANKING

School banking is every Tuesday!

STEWART HOUSE

Envelopes for the Stewart House Day 2014 Donation Drive have been sent home and are to be returned by Friday 9th May
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

CLOTHING POOL

The Clothing Pool will be opened for sales on the following days:
Wednesday  8.30-9.00am
Friday          8.30-9.00am
If you have any uniforms that no longer fit, please consider sending them to the Clothing Pool.
Please ring Kylie 0416274804 or Lisa 0403015423 for other times

FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 5th May  - P&C Meeting – 7pm Staffroom
Wednesday 7th May - Mother’s Day Stall
Thursday 8th May - School Cross Country
Saturday 24th May - Handmade and Homegrown

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
How emptying the dishwasher can build independence

You can learn a lot about a family by knowing who clears their dishwasher. Who empties yours?

The choice of who empties the dishwasher in your family tells a great deal about your parenting philosophy.

If you or your partner usually do it then I humbly suggest that you maybe working too hard. You're letting your kids off the hook.

On the other hand, if one or all of your kids (over the age of three) have this job then congratulations. You’re travelling down the road toward redundancy, and your children are heading toward independence.

Many parents would love their kids to do this task but pragmatism (“It’s easier to do it myself”), lack of faith (“They're sure to break something!”) and unwillingness to let go (“It’s my job after all”) get in the way.

Why the dishwasher?

Good question. Here are seven good reasons:

1. These days almost every house has one, and it's a job that just has to be done!

2. It's fiddly and tedious, and it needs to be done right, which is a great lesson for kids to learn.

3. Kids learn that everything has a place in the kitchen, which is a great lesson for those who are organisationally challenged. Knowing their way around the kitchen is also an important first step toward children making their own snacks and preparing meals – a worthy aim!

4. It's emptied every morning/day, second morning/day so kids learn about routine.

5. As it needs to be emptied whether they feel like it or not, kids learn about grit (the ability to stick at a task even though it's boring) and self-control (through delaying gratification) – two important character strengths that contribute to kids’ success.
6. If they don't do it then who will? It teaches kids that others rely on them, as well as the other way around. Believe me, I see many young people who’ve never learned this lesson at home!

7. Kids are hard-wired to help but they need the opportunity to do their bit at home. The dishwasher is the perfect opportunity that never goes away!

There are plenty of other reasons for putting the dishwasher on the kids' chores list, but that should be enough to get you thinking.

Okay, but does it have to be the dishwasher?

Smart parents put principles into practice to suit their circumstances.

So, if you buy into the notion that kids should routinely help at home without being paid, and that your aim is to make yourself redundant – but getting them to empty the dishwasher just doesn’t cut it in your world – find a similarly regular, laborious task that they can do that will also benefit others.

No dishwasher? You have an advantage

Of course, families without a dishwasher have a great communication mechanism at their disposal. That is, one person washing (a parent) and the other drying (a child/teenager) provides a fabulous shoulder-to-shoulder parenting opportunity. As many parents have discovered, when a child or young person’s hands are busy their tongue suddenly loosens up and the chat happens naturally.

Gradually, then suddenly

If getting kids to help is an uphill battle then I suggest you don’t let up. Keep expecting them to help. Keep working on a chores roster and keep at your kids to do the right thing. One day it will all click and helping out will become habitual, hardwired into their brains so that helping out becomes neurological as well as psychological.

That’s why ‘gradually, then suddenly’ is a really useful parenting mantra!