PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

I trust that everyone had an enjoyable long weekend.

This week will bring an end to 27 years of service to our school community for Mrs Bryce. During her time here, Mrs Bryce has seen many changes in staff and the physical school site. She has also had significant impact on the many students who have enrolled at Windsor Public, through her role as School Administration Manager. Mrs Bryce has managed the administration office impeccably and her efficiency and knowledge will be missed.

On behalf of school staff, parents and students – I sincerely thank Mrs Bryce for all that she has done for our school community during her time with us.

I personally thank Mrs Bryce for her assistance with the overall management of the school and I know that she will now enjoy that deserved quality time with friends and family.

Mrs Knowles will commence her role as School Administration Manager on Monday 16th June and on behalf of the school community, I welcome her to Windsor Public.

COMBINED ASSEMBLY
Our next combined assembly will be held on Monday 16th June at 12.00. Parents are most welcome to attend to support your children while they receive their certificates.

UPCOMING EVENT
I wish to inform you of an event that will be held early in Term 3, during Education Week, so that you are able to mark the date on your calendar.

We will be holding an outdoor family movie night on Wednesday 30th July.

All families are invited and notes will be sent home confirming arrangements, once the finer details have been organised.

This will be a “first” for our school community and I look forward to another successful community event.

Mike Watson
Principal
Goodbye to the Students and Parents of Windsor Public School

On Friday 13th June after 27 years at Windsor Public School I am retiring. Over this time I have seen many changes.

We had a three term year. We started at 9.30am and finished at 3.30p.m. There were over 300 students, 12 classes and for some time an extra demountable classroom. The staffroom was the infant’s classroom. The Principal’s office was the staffroom, my office was the Principal’s office, the uniform storeroom was our printing room, the printing room now was the Assistant Principal's office. The office counter was closed in with glass sliding doors. Our Library was a demountable. We have had 2 classes in Mrs Ford’s room. All the classrooms had chalk boards, no computers. The school was surrounded by a small grey fence that you could jump over. There were no bushes around the fence line on George Street. We had a fully functioning canteen run by parents. Our P & C in the early 1990’s successfully campaigned the government to stop the closure of Windsor Public School. Dight Street was a two way street, the hospital was across the road in Christie Street. The Windsor Library was across the road in Dight Street.

My accounting was completed in a large red book manually, we used purple stencils for student’s work and our newsletter was printed on a gestetner. I used a typewriter and for extra copies used carbon paper. Mail and faxes were our main form of correspondence. Any messages to classroom were hand delivered.

The school uniform colours have changed, the boys shirts have been grey, lemon to the current colour. The sports shirts have changed from yellow with a green arm band to white with house colours to the current shirt. The girls school dresses have changed slightly for summer but the checks have remained. The girls winter uniform changed from grey tunic with gold skivvy to the tartan tunic.

What I have loved most about my job was watching the students mature from shy Kindergarten children to confident Year 6 children. They return many times as teenagers and sometimes I don’t visually recognise them, but when prompted I do remember their names. I have welcomed many students back to Windsor with their own children. Many older ex-students return to rekindle memories of their time here and it has been rewarding to be able to find their names on our Admission Register for them and to listen to stories about their time here.

My own children were in Kindergarten, Year 3 and Year 6 when I started here. They are now: Doctor, Teacher and Park Ranger. I have 2 grandchildren.

During my time I have worked with 4 Principals, 10 Assistant Principals, 3 District Guidance Officers, over 100 teachers, office staff, school support learning officers, cleaners and general assistants.

All my best wishes to our families at Windsor for the future. I have enjoyed the friendships I have made with parents and I know I will miss the daily contact.

Mrs Ellen Bryce
STAGE 1 (K – 2 ) COMMENDATIONS

Congratulations to these students who received awards last week. Well done!

KC  Jared Wesley-Smith - thoughtful classmate and friend
    William Keech    - trying really hard in library
K-1F  Charlotte Bush   - being a great helper in class
    Stephen Radunz   - thoughtful responses in group work
1-2R  Maxwell Pinson   - trying hard in Mathematics
    Dahlian Jennings - great improvement in reading
2W   Melek Massingham - great effort in all areas
    Cooper Harriss   - being a great listener
2-3B  Alice Morrison  - fantastic effort in literacy groups

STAGE 2 & 3 (YEARS 3-6) COMMENDATIONS

Congratulations to these students who received awards last week. Well done!

2-3B  Connor McGregor - excellent effort in all areas of his work
4M   Holly McInerney  - improved effort in maths
    Seth Stanyer      - improved behaviour and effort in class
5T   Reili Massingham - good sportsmanship and excellent classroom effort
    Codi Hardiman     - improved behaviour and attitude and wonderful effort in maths
6C   Rose Ryan        - outstanding attitude
    Caleb Dries      - excellent problem solving skills

STEWART HOUSE SCHOOL CLOTHING APPEAL

Stewart House bags have been sent home with all students. Please return by 11th June. Bags can be dropped off at Mrs. Roger’s room.
UNIFORM SALE
Girls green pleated sports skirt
Sizes 8, 10, 12 & 14
Green sports trackpants
Size 10 & XS
Limited stock
$10 per item

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK
The new 2014/2015 Entertainment Books have arrived at the office, in these books there are lots of coupons to save you lots of money at lots of different places. The Entertainment Book can be purchased from the office for $65.00 per book. Windsor Public School will receive $13 from each book. If you would like to look at the book before purchasing there is a display book on the office desk.

Please be aware that the school office cannot accept eftpos or credit card payments for Entertainment Books.

Thank you for your fundraising support
The P&C Committee

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
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:
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

Wednesday 11th June - Return of Stewart House bags
Monday 16th June - Combined Assembly 12.00
Wednesday 25th June - Snake Tails
Friday 25th July - Athletics Carnival

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
Wednesday 25th June - Snake Tails - $6 per student
Friday 25th July - Athletics Carnival - $7 per student
Friday 19th September - Final payment Year 5 & 6 Great Aussie Camp
Computer game addiction is on the rise among Australian children and teenagers, replete with a host of alarming consequences, writes Karen Fontaine.

As with most sedentary activities, at first blush it seems harmless enough. Playing computer games is, after all, much less dangerous – physically, at least – than rugby union, rock-climbing or rollerblading, right?

However, experts are seeing a rise in the incidence of what they term obsessive or addictive behaviour; that is, pervasive, long-term and heavy use of computer games.

A 2010 study by Sydney University’s Professor Vladan Starcevic and the department of Psychological Medicine at Sydney’s Nepean hospital revealed that up to ten per cent of gamers who took part showed signs of addicted behaviour. His findings were published in The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry.

The findings mirror a recent two-year Singapore study, which found that one in ten schoolchildren were computer game addicts.

Victoria University researcher Daniel Loton, who is writing his PhD on the topic of computer game addiction, says although video gaming as a hobby is most prevalent in 25 to 30 year-olds, “it is still extremely popular among teens and children”.

Potent, too, are the knock-on effects of addiction, including a propensity to aggression, lower family closeness and social competence before they become addicted, and they demonstrate declined mental health and school performance as a direct consequence of their addiction.

In the UK, the situation is so critical that computer game addiction has given rise to the establishment of a special ‘technology addiction unit’ at a private hospital. And although Sydney’s Rivendell Adolescent Unit at Concord has treated computer-game-addicted teens, the Australian Medical Association, as yet, has no policy in place to address the problem. One of Australia’s foremost experts on computer game addiction, child and adolescent psychiatrist Dr Philip Tam, wrote in a blog: “Since clients with more severe PIU (problematic internet use) are at risk of dropping out of school, affecting their physical health, or losing their job, it would be unethical not to address their problems in a professional manner. In my personal experience, the key to successful treatment is getting the client to fully recognise that they have a problem – what we term ‘gaining insight’.”
How to recognise it

Daniel Loton signposts the warning signals of computer game addiction:

Tolerance – the need to play increasing amounts to get the same level of enjoyment
Withdrawal – negative emotions if play is reduced or stopped
Salience – video gaming dominating the person’s thought;
Mood modification – using video games to modify mood, either to relax or to become excited
Conflict – conflict about gaming both within the person and with other people
Relapse – repeated failures to cut back or stop gaming, despite the desire to.

What to do

Talk to your children about the role video games have in their lives;
Try to develop a bit of an interest in the video games that your children play;
Share the activity with them, making it a family activity for at least some of the time;
Finally, if you believe there is a serious problem seek help from your GP and/or a mental health professional.