Principal’s Message

ARBORIST INSPECTION
All NSW public schools are required to complete annual tree risk assessments. I have recently employed the services of an arborist to carry out a site inspection, resulting in the need to prune several trees and the removal of the swamp mahogany (in the small garden outside the boys toilet).

This tree has a substantial dead limb, with the overall structure of the tree causing concern due to its placement in a high traffic area.

Arborists are anticipating to have the above works completed before the end of this term.

COMMUNITY PERFORMANCE
Last Thursday evening our choir and percussionists performed at Thompson Square as part of the Light Up Windsor celebrations.

I thank the students and commend them for enduring the heat throughout their performances. I was also impressed to again witness the great support from our school community at a local event.

The commitment from our school community is creditable and a true testament to our positive school culture.

I also wish to thank Mrs Chard for her time in organising the choir, and my ‘roadies’ who assisted with transporting equipment.

WHOLE SCHOOL REWARD
To compliment our school welfare program, we acknowledge the efforts of all students throughout the year; by holding a whole school reward day.

This Thursday 26th November, we will be having 2 jumping castles at school. Each class will have a designated time to enjoy this treat, which has been supplied by the Mavin family.

On behalf of the school I thank the Mavins for their generosity.

Important Information

2016 STUDENT LEADER SPEECHES
I wish to congratulate all the candidates who delivered their leadership speeches last week. We witnessed individual styles which all reflected positive attributes for leadership.

The four 2016 student leaders will be announced at our Presentation Day Assembly on Monday 14th December.

PUSHCART CHALLENGE
As you are aware, we held our Annual Pushcart Challenge on 13th November.

After a slow response, we managed to hold a successful event, which was well supported by families.

I thank the parents/grandparents who constructed some exceptional carts this year—the quality and engineering keeps improving each year!

I also wish to thank the parents for their initiative in providing the snack packs and meat tray to add to the overall atmosphere!
Congratulations to the following students who received STAGE awards.

**KZ**
Rose Baldwin - a well prepared speech about her favourite celebration
Poppy Spies - always applying a wonderful effort in reading and writing tasks

**K-1F**
Charlotte Jones - fantastic writing
Shelby Stanyer - excellent effort in all learning areas

**1-2M**
Mikayla Layt - excellent effort in all areas
Jesse Blume - improved behaviour in class

**2C**
Preston Woodhouse - wonderful drawing of ‘Pidgeon’
Braxton Shearer - great voice expressions of ‘Pidgeon’

**2-3V**
Jacob Simmons - excellent effort in Maths
Alex Zouait - excellent teamwork and leadership in Maths activities

**3-4T**
Jake O’Connor - great improvement in Spelling
Lachlan Kersten - imaginative vocabulary in all writing

**4-5C**
Ethan Farnbach - improved effort in Maths
Paige Hottwagner - always doing her best

**6B**
Katie McClure - improved effort in numeracy groups
Matthew Gatt - excellent work in talking and listening skills
Congratulations to the following students who received STARR awards.

KZ
Elizabeth Baldwin  Chris Chen  Cheyenne Harris
Hudson Kennedy  Myah Massingham  Jack McInerney
Ruby Oaklands  Lachlan Reeves  Poppy Spies
Daniel Vredegoor  Penelope Woodhouse  Rose Baldwin

K-1F
Elise Radunz  Hannah Shamoun  Hayden Shamoun
Peyton Shipley  Ryland Harris  Swayzee Kennedy
Madeleine Macdonald  Shelby Stanyer

1-2M
Ryan Callaghan  Jesse Blume  Mikayla Layt  Talia Frost
Ruby Bugeja  Daisy Spies  Jared Wesley-Smith
Grace Vredegoor

2C
Ruby Blume  Owen Brown  Eden Bugeja  Lily Callaghan
Cassidy Grima  Peri Kane  Stephen Radunz  Lily Spies

2-3V
Jacob Simmons  Jackson King  Zak Oaklands  Marcus Mavin
Alex Zouait  Bailey Jones  Maxine Suela

3-4T
Jesse Davis  Makaelah Simmons  Jacob Kent  Joshua Wade
Lachlan Kersten  Mia Bruton  Jake O’Connor  Gemma King
Stephanie Pemberton  Ethan Lewry  Kendra Shuttleworth
Ryder Mavin  Riley Taylor

4-5C
Oliver Macdonald  Taylah Reeves  Jordan Tolmie  Seth Stanyer
Xavier Shuttleworth  Paige Hottwagner  Jett Merryweather
Emily Shamoun  McKeeley Whitmore  Ella Parahá

6B
Sarah Dorahy  Tiarna Hitchen  Alexi Suela  Felicity Tait
Connor Simmons  Fatima Almusilhi  Darcy Martin
Lachlan Morgan  Reili Massingham  Leroy O’Connor
Seth Nolan  Taine Nolan
AROUND THE SCHOOL

Pushcart Challenge
AROUND THE SCHOOL

2015
Years 5 and 6 had a great trip to Canberra
**EDUCATION IS**

“Education is learning what you didn’t even know you didn’t know”

**ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

**KINDERGARTEN 2016**

Enrolment forms for kindergarten students are available from the school office. If there is a sibling already at the school these can be printed off with all relevant information.

**YEAR 6 FUNDRAISING**

**ICE BLOCKS**

The year 6 farewell committee will be selling ice blocks every Friday until the end of the year. Ice blocks will cost $1 each.

**MINI FAIR**

The Yr6 Mini Fair will be on 4th December

**FINAL DATES FOR PAYMENT**

Ice Cream Soda Day - Wednesday 25th November

Hawkesbury Community Services Christmas Hamper Drive

All donations to the office before Monday 30th November

PLEASE REMEMBER TO REPORT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE PROCEEDING INTO SCHOOL GROUNDS

**Reminder to pay any outstanding workbook and sports field fees**

Payment envelopes are included with excursion notes for your convenience

Payments can be made by cheque, cash, and eftpos. Please be aware that the school office cannot accept eftpos or credit card payments for Book Club or any P&C raffle, disco etc
LUNCH DAY

We would like to thank everyone who purchased a homemade hamburger deal last week. We hope they were enjoyed by all. Your children were so well-behaved whilst waiting in line and we thank them for their patience and manners.

A special thanks goes out to Mr Clark & Mr Watson for their assistance setting up the BBQ, Kylie, Lisa, Tammy, Kim & Lilly from the P & C and Helen from the Office - it was a great effort to get all those burgers out. Thank you!

When we have the final figure we will update our Fundraising Thermometer.

CANTEEN NOTE

You should all have received a note regarding the potential opening of the Canteen for snacks next year. There have been some fantastic ideas thus far and we greatly appreciate those that have returned the form with their ideas.

In order to open the canteen, we will need the assistance of any volunteers that may be available. A note regarding this will follow shortly. We will update you early next year with a final decision on whether the Canteen will reopen.

END OF YEAR RAFFLE:

The tickets for this years end of year Raffle will be going out shortly. There are some fabulous prizes and we wish the best of luck to all who enter!

COMMUNITY EVENING:

Friday 11th December

The P & C will be running a stall at the Community Evening before the Concert and during the dinner break. We will be selling Tea/Coffee, cold drinks, lollies and Glow Products and Lucky dips.

We will also draw our End of Year Raffle on the night.

THE LAST P & C General Meeting for this year will be held on Friday 4th December in the Hall.

Hope to see you there.

The Clothing Pool is located in the P&C room off the Hall. We currently have plenty of stock at great prices, however we are always more than happy to accept your support & donations, particularly in larger sizes!

Open Monday afternoon 2.30-2.55pm and Friday morning 8:45am-9:10am.

For other times please do not hesitate to call Lisa on 0403 015 423 or Kylie on 0416 274 804, who would be happy to assist you. *Change room area now available*

The P&C is grateful for the continued support of our families, friends and sponsors – Thank you!
Windsor Public School has entered the Christmas Tree competition held by the Telstra shop in Richmond. Our beautiful tree is on display in our office foyer and voting will open on Wednesday 18th November in the Telstra shop, Richmond Marketplace. Voting closes Friday 2nd December, 5:30pm.

This year we have decorated our tree in an Aussie Bush theme using materials kindly donated by parents.
We would like to thank both these local businesses for their generous support and donations throughout the year with our fundraising and school events. Please show them your support if you choose by giving them your patronage.
“Aussie Choice Realty believes it’s important to offer our support and be more involved in our local community.”

We are proud to support Windsor Public School
List and sell your home with us, mention this advert and we will give to the school a donation of $250 on the sale of your home.

ALL AGENTS OFFER FREE MARKET APPRAISALS

BUT WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?
GIVE YOU NOT JUST AN AGENT BUT A TEAM – AN AGENCY
GIVE YOU OUR FULL ATTENTION TO DETAIL
OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU
LOW SELLING FEES
THE RESULT YOU WANT

WE HAVE THE BUYERS & TENANTS

YOU HAVE THE HOME

4571 4455

3/25 Bells Line Of Road, North Richmond
www.aussiechoicerealty.com.au
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<td>5 October Public Holiday</td>
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<td>9 October P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>12 October * Parent Meeting - front gate</td>
<td>13 October Dance Festival</td>
<td>14 October Dance Festival - Windsor PS Performance</td>
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<td>16 October Sports Photos Bunnings BBQ 18th Oct</td>
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<td>19 October Stage 2 Enrichment Day at Longneck Lagoon EEC Swim Scheme</td>
<td>20 October</td>
<td>21 October Kinder Orientation Meeting 9.15am</td>
<td>22 October Hawkesbury Harvest</td>
<td>23 October Percussionists performing at Blues Festival</td>
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<td>26 October Swim Scheme</td>
<td>27 October</td>
<td>28 October 9.15am-10.30am 2016 Kinder classroom visit.</td>
<td>29 October</td>
<td>30 October * Pushcart Entries Due * Bandanna Day</td>
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<td>3 November Stage 3 Canberra Excursion</td>
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<td>5 November Final day for Hawkesbury Harvest.</td>
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<td>9 November High School Transition Day at Windsor HS.</td>
<td>10 November High School Transition Day at Windsor HS.</td>
<td>11 November 9.15am-10.30am 2016 Kinder classroom visit.</td>
<td>12 November AFL promotional talks &amp; footy frenzy.</td>
<td>13 November Pushcart Challenge</td>
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<td>16 November High School Transition Day at Windsor HS.</td>
<td>17 November High School Transition Day at Windsor HS.</td>
<td>18 November P&amp;C lunch for students.</td>
<td>19 November Light Up Windsor - performances * 2016 Student Leader Speeches</td>
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<td>23 November Cool Kids Concert at 10.45am.</td>
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<td>26 November Whole School Rewards Day</td>
<td>27 November * P&amp;C/Staff Dinner * Reports to Stage Leaders. * Yr6 Ice cream Soda Day</td>
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<td>30 November Percussionists performing at Windsor Library.</td>
<td>1 December Percussionists performing at Windsor Library.</td>
<td>2 December Final Scripture Lesson</td>
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<td>7 December Combined Assembly</td>
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<td>9 December Parent/Helpers Morning Tea</td>
<td>10 December Merit BBQ/Principal’s Afternoon Tea</td>
<td>11 December * Community Evening * Semester 2 Reports sent home.</td>
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<td>15 December Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>16 December Student’s last day Movie Day</td>
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Parenting Ideas By Michael Grose

It’s time for dads to Speak Up

Michael Grose looks at the role of a father’s ‘presence’ and the need for fathers to ‘speak up’ to their kids to impart important life lessons.

The messages for fathers from parenting experts like myself have morphed over time. Two decades ago dads were encouraged to be a presence in the lives of their children. Authors such as Steve Biddulph and Daniel Petrie urged fathers to be very present in their children’s lives rather than a distant or aloof figure. They reminded us that kids need good men around them to model how to relate, how to behave and how to live a good life. Raimond Gaita author of the superb book Romulus, my father articulated this notion beautifully when he wrote, “I know what a good man is, because I’ve seen it in my father.”

A decade or so ago the ‘be a presence’ message for dads was turned up a few notches to become involved in all parts of children’s lives. A raft of research linked a father’s active involvement with positive educational and social outcomes for kids, as well as a dad’s satisfaction with the role. Men embraced this ‘hands on dad mantra’ in droves. Suddenly changing nappies, going to parent-teacher interviews, helping with homework, coaching (or umpiring, managing, cutting oranges for) their children’s sports teams became the new fathering norm. Family breakdown, long working hours and Fly In Fly Out jobs, rather than lack of will, were seen as impediments to men’s ongoing involvement in their children’s lives.

It’s time to speak up

It’s time to ramp up father’s presence once again, but in a different way. The recent actions of some high profile representatives of the Millennial Generation – from being arrested in a $9000-a-night hotel, through to cringe-worthy public antics - has many Australians scratching their heads in bewilderment. Quietly, many people are questioning the quality, or lack thereof, of the advice they receive from their fathers. Being present and involved in children’s lives isn’t enough per se for this current generation.

TIME magazine recently described this group as ‘a generation with narcissistic tendencies that contribute to a feeling of entitlement before they’ve achieved anything’. But an overblown sense of importance is only half the story. Growing up in a reality TV culture where everything is critiqued it is little wonder that today’s young people are perhaps the most critical generation that have ever lived – posting careless criticism of ideas, people and institutions at the tap of a finger at unfathomable speed, fast losing the art of thinking things through. So what’s a dad to do?

I firmly believe the current generation of young people are in dire need of some old-fashioned, very grounded fathering advice such as “Don’t get ahead of yourself”, “Treat others respectfully at all times” and “Think before you speak/tweet/post anything nasty about anything/one else.” Okay these messages can and do come from mothers but they have equal, if not more potency when they come from the traditionally more reserved parent– their father. Sometimes a few well-chosen words said with conviction from a highly regarded elder have more impact than a series of reminders, talks, and dare I say, lectures.
Reclaim your place

Part of the modern parenting malaise is that many fathers are unsure of their place when their children are unsocial, unfriendly or just plain painful in public. Which side of the fence should I stand on when my child or young person misbehaves—the side of my child or the side of the offended institution or organization? I suspect fathers of past generations would have had few qualms about letting their offspring know their position when they behaved like brats. A clip around the ears would have been the preferred communication method. While I disagree with the methodology I wholeheartedly agree with the sentiment expressed.

It’s not just when kids act like brats that dads need to step forward. They need to be present when children and young people are hurt, fearful, lonely, sad and depressed. The best thing that they can bring to the table is their vulnerability and a willingness to talk about feelings. I suspect most adolescents would think likewise if asked.

I agree with Guardian columnist Mariella Frostrup who recently wrote, “Despite 70 years of full-on feminist rhetoric we still bring up boys to be emotionally buttoned up and girls to remain painfully vulnerable to any emotional undercurrent.” I’ve long believed that it’s fathers, rather than mothers, who take their sons to an emotional space—or not, as the case maybe. The male inability to admit weakness or talk honestly about feelings may currently pervade the halls of power and business, but it should not and must not be the norm at home. Keeping fear, affection, sadness and other emotions under a veneer of ‘she’ll be right’ control is exhausting for men, just as it is for those around them.

Become the story-teller

Storytelling used to be the most potent strategy parents used to pass on knowledge and wisdom to their offspring. For too many reasons to mention here storytelling is now a lost art. It’s a shame because most children crave to hear their father’s warts ‘n’ all story from the horse’s mouth so to speak, rather than have it told to them by someone else, usually their mother. It’s how the vulnerability comes out and also how kids know that their dads are human. Realistic rather than exaggerated stories offer kids hope and can become their map to help them navigate new territory such as starting secondary school, dating, and going for a job. “My dad found things tough but he got through it. I reckon I can too” is a great message for a young person.

The language of fathering is a very physical one. That is, many dads build relationships with their children through games and active pursuits. It’s very often how dads pass on important lessons such as fairness, persistence and winning and losing. If physicality is a bloke’s only strategy then a father is left out in the cold when his sons and daughters move into adolescence—well passed the playful age.

A man’s just got to talk to get his messages through. He can start by letting kids know when their behaviour is likely to offend others; when they behave like chumps when they are not yet champs; and when they need to show respect to those who’ve tread whatever path they are on before them. This is what great fathering is about in these interesting times in which we live.