As you are aware, in the week leading up to 30th October, we sold bandannas to raise funds for this national campaign. A cheque to the value of $475 has been forwarded to Canteen for the sales of all bandannas as well as donations—THANK YOU.

**SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME—SCHOOL OPAL CARD**

Most students won’t need to apply for the Opal Card. The Opal card will be sent to a student’s school automatically at the beginning of 2016. However, you will need to complete an application form if:

- applying for SSTS for the first time
- enrolling in kindergarten
- progressing from year 2 to year 3
- progressing from year 6 to year 7
- changing name, school and/or address
- requesting a new additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation.

Application for 2016 School Opal Cards and SSTS passes started from Monday 2 November. For more information please visit transportnsw.info/school-students.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY**

This Wednesday, the whole school will be participating in the Remembrance Day Ceremony at The War Memorial. Our leaders will be taking an active role in the ceremony, while the remainder of the school will line up along the footpath on George Street.

**PUSHCART CHALLENGE**

This Friday we will be holding our annual pushcart challenge, with the event commencing at 11.40am. As in previous years, there will be boxcart sprints; pushcart downhill time trials and an obstacle course. Parents are most welcome to attend (some are already competing) as spectators.

**LIGHT UP WINDSOR**

On Thursday 19th November, Mrs Chard and I will be taking a choir and The Percussionists to Thompson Square to take part in community celebrations. The choir will be performing at 6.15pm, with the percussion group performing at 7.00pm. The lights will be turned on at 8.00pm after community carols and a visit from Mr & Mrs Claus.

**2016 STUDENT LEADER SPEECHES**

On Thursday 19th November, nominated students in Year 5 who wish to be selected as Student Leaders in 2016, will present their speeches to the school. I wish all the nominees good luck with their preparation and delivery of their speeches.
Congratulations to the following students who received STAGE awards.

KZ
- Ruby Oaklands - wonderful application during reading tasks
- Isabella Layt - always applying great effort during independent writing

K-1F
- Laila Arab - excellent effort in all learning areas
- Brody Taylor - great improvement in reading fluency

1-2M
- Jaylee Morgan - fantastic effort in class
- Ryan Callaghan - excellent effort in reading

2G
- Ruby Blume - great research on celebrations
- Peri Kane - wonderful self portrait

2-3V
- Aleeya Warrington - improved effort in Maths
- Jackson King - being a caring and helpful class member
Congratulations to the following students who received STARR awards.

**KZ**
Elizabeth Baldwin    Rose Baldwin    Chris Chen    Cheyenne Harris
Hudson Kennedy       Brianna West       Myah Massingham
Jack McInerney       Ruby Oaklands      Lachlan Reeves    Poppy Spies

**K-1F**
Laila Arab   Luke Piontek     Hannah Shamoun    Hayden Shamoun
Peyton Shipley    Nathaniel Clark     Tommey Clark
Charlie Devine     Rylan Harris       Swayzee Kennedy
Brody Taylor      Anna Pugliese

**1-2M**
Ryan Callaghan     Grace Vredegoor    Mikayla Layt    Daisy Spies
Jake Huttunen      Ruby Bugeja       Jaylee Morgan    Talaana Gabriel
Talia Frost

**2G**
Ruby Blume         Lily Callaghan     Cassidy Grima    Lily Spies
Stephen Radunz     Dominic Shamoun    Braxton Shearer

**2-3V**
Melek Gabriel      Kobi Manion        Marcus Mavin    Zak Oaklands
Jackson King       Jacob Simmons

**3-4T**
Bailey Chapman     Cooper Harriss     Riley Small    Jesse Davis
Kendra Shuttleworth  Stephanie Pemberton Iris Miller
Mia Bruton     Makaelah Simmons     Joshua Wade      Ethan Lewry
Preston Kennedy    Jake O’Connor     Gemma King       Jacob Kent
Riley Taylor

**4-5C**
Oliver Macdonald    Ella Paraha    Mason Walker    Lana Stark
Natasha Groenewegen  Jett Merryweather McKeeley Whitmore
Taylah Reeves     Emily Shamoun      Jordan Tolmie    Seth Stanyer
Xavier Shuttleworth

**6B**
Connor Simmons     Seth Nolan        Ethan Hearne  Fatima Almusilhi
Alexi Suela       Lachlan Morgan     Sarah Dorahy    Taine Nolan
AROUND THE SCHOOL

Hawkesbury Harvest
Around the Classroom…..

KZ have been busy creating lots of wonderful art!
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.

POP CORN & POPPER PACKAGE

Notes will be sent home today to pre-order a popcorn and popper pack. Children will be able to enjoy their popcorn and popper while watching the Pushcart Challenge this Friday. The cost will be $2.50 per pack. On the day popcorn refills will be available for $1.

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.
FUNDRAISING UPDATE
We are extremely pleased to share the results of the fundraising efforts of late:
The Obstacle-a-thon raised $4773.95
The Bunnings BBQ raised $1344.28
We can all be very proud of these results, as it truly was a group effort. Our fundraising this year has resulted in the fabulous Outdoor Learning Area that our children and teachers will be able to use for years to come. We are so very grateful for your help in achieving our goal for 2015!

WINNERS
All our winners were announced at this morning’s assembly and presented with their prizes. Well done everyone—we thank you for your participation!
The winner of the most sponsorship raised for the Obstacle-a-thon was:
Owen Brown from 2C. Well done, Owen!
Our thanks to all the students that entered the War Cry competition, the winners are:

- **Amdell:** Hannah Shamoun K/1F
- **Greenway:** Cassidy Grima 2C
- **Cox:** Gemma King 3/4T
- **Ruse:** Brock Williams 4/5C

OUR NEW WAR CRYS:

**RUSE:**
Extra Extra read all about it
We’re the team and we’re proud to show it
Going to the east, going to the west
Come on Ruse, we are the best!
GOOOOOOO RUSE!!!!

**ARNDELL:**
We are the red team
RA RA RA
Amdell Amdell we’ll go far.

**GREENWAY:**
Greenway, Greenway here we are
Greenway, Greenway best by far
We try our best to beat the rest
Greenway house, by far the best
G-R-E-E-N-W-A-Y GO GREENWAY!

**COX:**
We are Cox our colour is blue
Winning is what we like to do
We can run, we can swim, come on Cox is what we sing
Let’s go Cox the house of blue
Winning is what we want to do!
Let’s go COX!
SPECIAL LUNCH DAY

WE WILL BE HOLDING A SPECIAL LUNCH DAY ON WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER.

On offer will be fresh, homemade style hamburgers or cheeseburgers with a popper juice or water for $5.
Order forms will be going out today to pre-order for this lunch special—get in early so you don’t miss out!

COMMUNITY EVENING:

We are greatly looking forward to the end of year celebrations. The P & C will be running a stall at the Community Evening next month. We will be selling Tea/Coffee, cold drinks, lollies and Glow Products. The End of Year raffle is also coming up, and will be drawn on the night. Tickets will go on sale shortly.

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

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

Yr 6 Farewell

Raffle

Meat Vouchers

3 Draws @ $30 each

Drawn at WPS Pushcart Challenge
13th November 2015

$1 per ticket

As well as books being sent home with students raffle tickets will be sold every morning before school

Thanks to South Windsor Butchery for the donation of the prizes
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.
Our Sponsors

“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
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THE RESULT YOU WANT

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## Term 4 Calendar

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<th>MONDAY</th>
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<td>Week 1</td>
<td>5 October</td>
<td>6 October</td>
<td>7 October</td>
<td>8 October * Review Meetings *Hawkesbury Harvest * Stage 2 basketball gala</td>
<td>9 October P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>12 October</td>
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<td>14 October Dance Festival</td>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>16 October Sports Photos Bunnings BBQ 18th Oct</td>
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<td>* Parent Meeting - front gate</td>
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<td>19 October</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>Stage 2 Enrichment Day at Longneck Lagoon EEC</td>
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<td>26 October</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>9 November</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</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>24 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>1 December Percussionists performing at Windsor Library.</td>
<td>2 December Final Scripture Lesson</td>
<td>3 December High School Orientation Day</td>
<td>4 December *P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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**Windsor Public School**

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Parenting Ideas

Raising a critical generation
By Lakshmi Singh

American keynote speaker, author and educator Tim Elmore recently penned an article observing a trend amongst kids dishing out careless criticism of processes, ideas and institutions. From criticising classes to sports programs, the food offered on campus, administration or accommodation in some colleges and universities, students were increasingly displaying what Elmore calls, a ‘critical spirit’. Time magazine also ran a feature discussing the narcissistic tendencies amongst Millenials, contributing to a feeling of entitlement amongst youngsters.

So, is there a generational change brewing, where more kids go about criticising anything and everything, becoming self-absorbed in the process? Experts say that a critical spirit has and always will exist in all us, it is just that the nature of today’s society and the easy accessibility of forums through which criticism can be provided that has given it more opportunity to be heard.

While experts say that cultivating a spirit of thinking critically about problems and situations is important, it is also necessary to foster a healthy decision-making process.

The age of entitlement

Parents have always wanted the best for kids, but taking the “you deserve the best, this/he/she is not good enough” mentality a bit too far can also be detrimental, says parenting and education expert Ronit Baras. “The rules of education are very simple, judgmental parents will raise judgmental kids. Why? Because judgment is a coping mechanism to fight inadequacy. Judgmental people have weaknesses [and] judgment is their way of hiding. ‘If I find faults in others, I will be able to hide mine.’ If parents model this mentality, kids will adopt it.” Similarly projecting a “my child is special and they need to know that” vision by over-supplying them with activities, commodities and even praise can lead to an unhealthy sense of entitlement, says Dr. Ash Nayate, clinical neuropsychologist. “Narcissism (i.e. a feeling of entitlement) is a sign of unhealthy self-esteem. Narcissistic people don’t see themselves as equal to others, they see themselves as better than others -and the reason they hold this belief is to cover up their fear of ‘not being good enough’,” she says. Judging people helps alleviate that fear, she says. To help stop the cycle, she believes parents need to lead by example. “Developing a healthy self-esteem is critical. If as a parent you have low confidence and low self-esteem, your kids are going to pick up on that as well. If you want your kids to be resilient and confident, then you need to work on the confidence and self-esteem within yourself.”

Readily accessible forums to dish out criticism

It is no secret that Millenials are more digitally literate than the rest of us. With most having access to their own mobile phone, laptop and social media accounts, the stage through which they can communicate with others is wide and always available.

“Social media encourages us to be more vocal about criticism. So instead of just judging people quietly, in our mind, we can do it aloud, behind the safety and anonymity of a computer screen,” says Dr. Nayate. The privacy that social media affords also brings to the fore a trait that Baras calls a “brain fart”. “In my program we consider it a “brain fart” when you do not consider others or the outcome of what you say and only want to say it, at all cost,” she says. She believes the problem is intensified in a society that values external standards and imposes them on the education system through set metrics. “Teachers use marks, tests [and] they flash with standards and rules and this is far away from teaching critical thinking. So, no wonder kids are learning that everything in their life needs to be judged.”
From teacher review sites to specialist groups and threads on social media forums, kids today can critique anything about their school, programs or individual people, making up their mind whether something makes the cut or not.

**A culture that accepts criticism**

With the prominence and popularity of reality TV shows comes the hard truth that our culture is now one of judgement and criticism.

“People are evaluated on the basis of what they're missing, how they're not good enough or worthy enough, and what's ‘wrong’ with them,” says Dr. Nayate.

To compound the situation, today’s society is more geared towards materialism and capitalism, she says. With the aim of being ‘better’, ‘richer’ and ‘more successful’ comes the habit to indulge in self-criticism, another trigger for engaging in a dialog centred around “I am better than this guy because ...” or “I am so hopeless at this compared to ...”

“Self-criticism is the first step towards judgement of others. We can only judge others if we're somehow judgemental of ourselves,” says Dr. Nayate.

**Striking a balance**

So, how do we turn all this ‘judgement’ into something that is more considered, evaluated and more respectful of the people and practices involved in the process?

By understanding the difference between informed decision-making or critical thinking and straight judgement, says Baras.

“Critical thinking is when we present kids with options and teach them to evaluate and consider the advantages and disadvantages between options. Criticism/ judgement is considering yourself above others and rating them based on your own individual standard.”

The good news is that critical thinking skills can be developed without being critical of others says Dr. Nayate.

“It's about adopting an attitude of open-mindedness and healthy curiosity. Just like a three year old who always asks "why" - the child isn't doing it out of judgement or maliciousness, it’s simply a raw desire to learn more about the world.”

While critical thinking skills depend on the maturity of the child, Dr. Nayate believes parents can nudge kids in the right direction by role modelling it:

1. **Verbalise the thought-process involved in everyday decisions** – for example choosing healthier food options (“When I eat fries, I feel a bit sick in the stomach, and the next day I get a headache from all the salt and grease. And then I feel sluggish and lazy, and I just want to sit around at home all day instead of going to the playground with you.

2. **Assist with decisions and evaluations** – implement this as a two-step process, she advises: first, acknowledge kids when they have demonstrated critical thinking. For example: “that was a good decision to do your homework before you went to your friend’s house. That way, you can really have fun and you don't need to rush to get home”. Secondly, help them assess whether the decision they made was because they accept an idea or because it came from a person they accept. As an example, many teenagers tend to accept information as credible when it comes from their peers or celebrities more so than their parents.

3. **Help them put their higher values in perspective** – while some children may value hard work or aim for certain levels of achievement, they would also value acceptance, connection with others, happiness, fun and adventure, she says. For example, a child who values health and fitness highly might override them in favour of other values like fitting in with their peers who smoke and thus take up that habit.

4. **Encourage them to see that when decisions are made based on what we value, rather than on impulse or what feels good at that moment, she says.