16th February, 2015
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

MEET THE TEACHER

Thank you to those parents who attended the Meet the Teacher session last Wednesday.

I trust that you found the time valuable in gaining insights to whole school and classroom expectations.

PLAYGROUND UPGRADE

Weather permitting, the synthetic grass will have lines marked for a mini soccer field tomorrow and will be ready for the students to enjoy on Wednesday, once the paint has had sufficient time to dry.

Shane Kennedy will be preparing the area adjacent to the synthetic grass this coming weekend in readiness for our working bee on 28th February – I am certain that staff and students can persevere with bare soil for another week, considering the outcome!

To finalise work to this part of the playground as well as wishing to preserve the trees, I will be pursuing the building of timber boxes/seating around the base of the trees to conceal exposed roots.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK (WWCC)

As with other years, we strongly encourage and appreciate the assistance given by parent helpers in the many roles across our school; from classroom assistance, P&C, transportation, assistance on excursions, independent committees etc.

I need to stress the importance of completing the application for ‘Working with Children Check Clearance’ under the Child Protection (working with Children) Regulation 2013, which is a condition of employment or engagement in child-related work – even for volunteers.

This application should be completed for all volunteers and once a clearance number has been issued, please present this to the front office for clarification.


Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation and understanding.

Mike Watson
Principal
STAGE 1 (K – 2 ) COMMENDATIONS

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

KZ
Poppy Spies - for displaying great enthusiasm in all class activities
Hudson Kennedy - for a great effort in writing tasks

K-1F
Hayden Shamoun - great problem solving in class
Violet Crofton - great contributions to class discussions

1-2M
Brooke Farrugia - always polite and hardworking
Grace Vredegoor - trying her best in all activities

2C
Cassidy Grima - wonderful student, always listens
Stephen Radunz - writing with descriptive words about an imaginative animal

STAGE 2 & 3 (YEARS 3-6) COMMENDATIONS

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

2-3V
Noah Krix - an excellent start in year 3

3-4T
Iris Miller - for her outstanding efforts in all areas and being a co-operative class member
Ethan Lewry - being a well organised and hardworking student

4-5C
Isaac West - an excellent start to the year and great effort in class
Taylah Reeves - excellent attitude and effort

6B
Felicity Tait - outstanding effort in class
AROUND THE SCHOOL: SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Last Thursday evening, Windsor Public School held their annual swimming carnival at Richmond pool. The staff and students were ready for a great event and were blessed with perfect weather. The students swam beautifully, with a few competitors entering every race open to them!

Each year our swimming carnivals continue to grow and we hope this increased participation continues. It has been fantastic to see a number of our ‘Learn to Swim’ students competing, and witnessing their improvement and increased confidence in the water.

Thank you to the parents and family members who took time out of their busy schedules to bring and cheer on their children, and to ex-student Katie-Lee King for timekeeping on the night.

This event would not happen without the superb effort of Mrs Tuck who manages and administers all aspects and organisation of our sporting events. Thank you to Mrs Tuck and all the staff of WPS who assisted on the night!

Finally, the staff at WPS would like to congratulate the students who will be representing WPS at the upcoming district swimming carnival.
HOUSE CAPTAINS 2015

On Tuesday 3rd February, students from years 1-6 attended House Meetings to elect their new House Captains. We are pleased to announce the following students are our House Captains for 2015. Congratulations to all new house captains.

Seth Nolan     Tiarna Hitchen     Oliver McDonald     Ella Paraha     Cody Maher
April Laird     Alex Zouait     Gemma King     Reili Massingham     Lana Stark
Jacob Simmons     Makaelah Simmons     Mc Keeley Whitmore     Jett Mackintosh

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The Annual Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 5th February.

Although small in number of entries, the carnival was a great success.

The house points awarded for the night were;

Arndell       58
Greenway       66
Cox           78
Ruse          80

Congratulations to Hannah Taylor, Lana Stark, Taylah Reeves and Alexander Zouait who have all qualified to attend the District Swimming Carnival.

2015 WORKBOOKS

To support your child's learning this year, teachers have prescribed a Stepping Stones workbook for all classes K-6. The Workbook fee is $30 for Years 1-6 and includes a paper levy that covers photocopied booklets, worksheets and other class copied requirements supplied throughout the year.

The Workbook fee for Kindergarten Students will be $40 as they will receive a Homework Folder valued at $10 when they pay their Book/Copy Fees.

As teachers will be using these books in class from Monday 9th February it would be appreciated if payment could be sent to the office as soon as possible. Credit card and Eftpos facilities are now available.

Please note this fee is in addition to our School Contribution.
VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION – 2015

Each year we request financial support through ‘Voluntary School Contributions’, which assist with the purchasing of consumables used by students. Our contributions for 2015 are set at $30 per student.

A DISCOUNT of $5 per student will be applied for families with more than one child if paid in full before the end of Term 2.

A further discount will apply of $5 per student if the school contribution fee is paid in full by the end of Term 1.

An invoice will be sent home soon and we would appreciate your financial support at your earliest convenience.

All payments are to be made at the front office and a receipt will be sent home with your child. Credit card and Eftpos facilities are now available at the school.

Payment plans may be set up to assist families with these payments. Please call at the office to organise this.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

P&C NEWS

Hello and welcome back to a new year at Windsor Public School.

On behalf of the P&C Committee I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students and their families. We know you will love being a part of this great school and we look forward to getting to know you and watching your children flourish over their next few years at WPS.

We held our first P&C meeting for 2015 to plan our fundraising activities for the year and prepare for our AGM, which will be held on Monday 2nd March at 7pm in the teachers staffroom.

The AGM is a short but important meeting where the committee executive is elected for the year.

The executive committee consists of:

President: Chairs meetings, responsible for overseeing operations of the P&C, cheque signatory

Vice President: Stands-in for President when unavailable, cheque signatory

Secretary: Minute taker, correspondence, publicity, optional cheque signatory

Treasurer: manages financial operations of the committee, provides financial reports at each meeting, cheques signatory

The remaining responsibilities of the P&C committee members include managing of the School Uniform Clothing Pool, and fundraising.

Immediately following our AGM at 7.30 we will hold a regular meeting and we would like to invite both new and old members of our school community to come along and observe the P&C in action and hopefully become a contributor to our lively and often fun discussions. There is no pressure to join, there is no expectation for the level of involvement you may wish to have and most of all there is a supper of coffee/cake/biscuits on offer to keep us comfortable and refreshed!
Many of the activities of the P&C have included in the past, Mothers and Fathers Day Stalls, School Discos, Hand Made and Home grown in the Hawkesbury Market Day, Raffles, Special Food Days and provision of catering for events such as Easter Hat Parade, Presentation Days, Carnivals etc. The P&C utilise the funds raised to support our school in providing a great learning environment for our students.

In the past funds have been used to purchase and maintain air conditioning in our classrooms, up-grading playground facilities, purchase of Smart boards for classroom technology learning, purchase of classroom equipment, purchase of new books for the library, provision of book vouchers for Presentation Day awards, and much more.

Participation in the P&C is as simple as attending our monthly meetings (First Monday of the month during term). Should you wish to join, you can pay a $1 membership fee and this entitles you to have a vote in any motions brought up in meetings and to receive our meeting minutes.

Membership also brings the benefits of great friendships, a feeling of inclusion and involvement in decision making processes and an opportunity to bring issues or concerns to the attention of the committee for discussion and hopefully resolution.

Most importantly you also have the reward of allowing your children to observe your interest and passion for their education and their school community. We hope to see you there!

Ruth Maittlen
(President)
0404134593

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**FOR SALE**

2014 Year books $15 each (reduced from $25)
Limited supply available from the school office

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**STUDENT BANKING**

School banking is every **Tuesday**!
If your child does not already have a student banking account, there are three simple ways to open an account.

1. If you are a CommBank customer apply online through Netbank.
2. Visit any CommBank branch
   (Please bring along your child’s birth certificate and identification for yourself)
3. Call 13 2221
CLOTHING POOL

The Clothing Pool will be opened for sales on the following days:
Monday 2.30-3pm
Friday between 8.45-9.10am
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.

CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE

The Parish of St Matthew's, Windsor is looking for generous volunteers to teach Catholic Scripture at your child's school. If you have a child who attends Catholic Scripture classes and would like to assist in this important ministry to your children, who may otherwise, miss out on Scripture, please contact Dolores Vella, Catechist Co-ordinator on 45796160

FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} March - P&C AGM/Meeting 7pm staffroom
Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} March - School Photos

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
Now due - Workbook fees
Friday 20\textsuperscript{th} February - Year 6 Leadership camp deposit
Friday 6\textsuperscript{th} March - Year 6 Leadership camp final payment

Payments can be made by cheque, cash & eftpos
Please be aware that the school office cannot accept eftpos or credit card payments for Book Club.
"Say cheese"

Windsor Public School
School Photographs
March 20, 2015

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

School photographs will be taken at school on the March 20, 2015. Envelopes for individual student photographs accompany this note. Prior to filling out your order check that your child’s name is spelt correctly on the envelope, please make any necessary changes on the envelope. Please complete the order form on the envelope, students may then return the envelopes to the school office prior to the day of photography. Spare order envelopes are available on request from the school office.

Should you wish to have a family photograph taken, please collect a family photo envelope from the school’s office. These photos are for school aged students attending the school and no family photo will be taken unless an order form has been received by photo day. All family photographs should be paid for in these envelopes to avoid confusion and returned to the school office prior to photo day.

Please read carefully the instructions regarding payment, noting that all late orders placed with the photographer will incur a minimum $20.00 late fee (per order).

NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE.

Payments can be made by:
Cash - place the correct money in your envelopes as the photographers do not carry change.
Money Order - money orders must be made payable to MSP Photography
Credit Card Payments - Credit card payments will only be accepted for online orders. All credit card payments incur a 1% surcharge.

How to Order Online -
- Log on to www.msp.com.au and click ORDER ONLINE.
- Place your order using the online system.
- Record your Order Reference Number on your child’s envelope.
- Your child must present their own Photo Envelope to the photographer on photo day.

For split families, parents can place multiple orders for children by either placing all the orders on one envelope or handling in multiple order envelopes labelled ‘Mum’s Order’ or ‘Dad’s Order’.

Should you have any further questions please contact MSP Photography - Sydney West directly;

e sydneywest@msp.com.au
p 02 9831 5505
f 02 9831 5503
www.msp.com.au

Yours faithfully,
John Clark
Photo Day Co-ordinator
Teach your kids to SHRUG!

The secret to having resilient, confident and optimistic children is to teach your kids to shrug!

It was so irritating, yet so effective.

I'm talking about my boyhood mate Terry's habit of shrugging his shoulders whenever anyone teased him or tried to persuade him to their way of thinking.

"Hey Terry, you're a "**SAD SAD BOY"!
Shrug.

"Hey Terry, everyone says your......" "SAD SAD BOY"
Shrug.

"Hey Terry, I'm going to tell you why" Shrug.

His nonchalant use of the shrug got everyone nuts!

So much so that he was rarely targeted for teasing despite the fact that he wasn't sporty, he wasn't cool and he was late maturing—all of which back then, as how would put a boy in the 'to be picked on' category.

I thought of Terry recently when I was coaching a young person about how to respond to some schoolmates.

This young person was hesitant on his sleeve, taking taunts and even withdrawal from his own good. Unfortunately, some of his so-called mates used to enjoy seeing him get angry.

The best way to break this toxic cycle of 

T u m t — r e a c t — s h u n t — v e — c h e s.

So we did some coaching in the art of shrugging and before long my young charge was shrugging his shoulders, as to say 'Whatever', and walking away at the first sign of a taunt.

Eventually he was channeling Terry so well that his nonchalance even began to emulate me.

**Some things can't be ignored**

Don't get me wrong. Kids can't and should not ignore all negative comments directed at them.

There are times when they need to stand up and be counted. They don't need to be aggressive about it, but they do need to be assertive from time to time. Sticking up for a friend, rebutting someone who is being taunted or even looking out for a sibling's best interests at school are times when children need to assert themselves rather than shrugging off a problem.

**Kids practice on their siblings**

Sadly many kids learn that some of the negative peer comments directed at them need to be ignored. However, this is quite a skill.

Ignoring comments and choosing your arguments is something many kids learn in their battles with siblings.

Those noisy sibling slamming that annoy the hell out of parents actually toughen kids up for the less pleasant social interactions that take place in the schoolyard.

Interestingly, my boyhood mate Terry was the youngest of four brothers. I guess he would have perfected the art of shrugging out of sheer necessity.

So, if you have a sensitive child who wears his or her heart on their sleeve, or a child who resists impulsively to both taunts and withering slights, you may wish to introduce the art of shrugging into their repertoire of responses.

**How to create a good shrug**

Kids can practice shrugging in front of the mirror so that they can see what a good shrug looks like. There are 4 ingredients:

1. A 'whatever' look.
2. A shrug of the shoulders.
3. A simple, non-confrontive, non-sarcastic line such as 'You may be right, 'Whatever' or 'I hadn't thought of that'.
4. A final breaking of eye contact that indicates that they are in control.

**A word of warning**

If you teach your kids to shrug, you need to be prepared for them to use this shrugging technique against you when you direct some criticism or constructive feedback their way. If they do, you'll find out how damn infuriating nonchalance (even when it's fake) can be.

Oh, and you'll be seeing a child or young person who is exercising a degree of personal power that, when used smartly, will increase their overall social effectiveness.


parentingideas.com.au
Questions regarding the rollout of **NBN** in your area?

You're invited to

**MACQUARIE**
Community Information Session

For the areas of
Windsor, South Windsor, Richmond or Bligh Park
As shaded in the map below

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**Wednesday 18th February, 2015**

1 – 2 pm

The Richmond Club

6 East Market Street, Richmond

**RSVP:** The Office of Louise Markus
MP Ph: (02) 4577 2631 or
Email: louise.markus.mp@aph.gov.au

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**LOUISE MARKUS MP**
Federal Member for **MACQUARIE**

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