PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

As you are aware, we are making progressive changes to our newsletter throughout this term.

We will be introducing advertising and are pleased to offer this service to local businesses.

Obviously, I will need to give approval prior to any publishing, based on suitability of promotion in a school context.

_The school will not endorse any businesses advertised in the newsletter._

Distribution of pamphlets/leaflets/flyers will incur a flat rate of $5 per distribution, with approval by Principal prior to distribution.

A letter will be sent home this week outlining prices for advertising.

MORNING ASSEMBLIES

As we are now approaching midway through Term 1, I seek your support at morning assemblies.

I kindly request that all parents retreat from the assembly area before the commencement of the assembly. This will avoid distraction and also allow for a smooth transition from the area to classrooms, as the students are dismissed.

Thank you in anticipation of your understanding and support.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY FOR SCHOOLS

This Friday 27th February is schools Clean Up Australia Day and our school will again take part in this campaign.

All students are asked to bring a plastic bag and appropriate gloves to school on Friday to enable them to participate.

Years K-4 will be collecting any rubbish in the immediate vicinity of the school, whilst Years 5 & 6 will be collecting rubbish along the outside perimeter of our school fence line – Dight, Macquarie, Christie and George Streets.
WORKING BEE
This Saturday 28th February at 11.00am, we will be having a ‘working bee’ to lay turf in our bottom playground.
I have had several parents indicate their availability to assist, which is great and I thank you for your offer.

To show my appreciation, I will be cooking a sausage sizzle on the day and for this reason, I need an indication of attendees – if you have not done so already and wish to help out; please inform the ladies in the office.

Let’s hope for fine weather!

Mike Watson
Principal

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

KZ
Elizabeth Baldwin     Rose Baldwin     Sahkai Gabriel     Hudson Kennedy
Cruz Mackintosh     Poppy Spies     Meg Stubbs     Ruby Oaklands
Cheyenne Harris

K-1F
Brody Taylor     Shelby Stanyer     Ryland Harris     Peyton Shipley
Charlotte Jones     Lucan Cowell     Elise Radunz     Swayzee Kennedy
Hannah Shamoun     Laila Arab     Anna Pugliese     Hayden Shamoun
Lily Paraha     Madeleine Macdonald     Luke Piontek

K-1F
Brody Taylor     Shelby Stanyer     Ryland Harris     Peyton Shipley
Charlotte Jones     Lucan Cowell     Elise Radunz     Swayzee Kennedy
Hannah Shamoun     Laila Arab     Anna Pugliese     Hayden Shamoun
Lily Paraha     Madeleine Macdonald     Luke Piontek

1-2M
Mikayla Layt     Jesse Blume     Grace Vredagoor     Daisy Spies
William Keech     Jake Huttunen     Ruby Bugeja     Talia Frost     Chloe Pike

2C
Ruby Blume     Owen Brown     Eden Bugeja     Cassidy Grima
Peri Kane     Kirri McDonald     Max Pinson     Stephen Radunz
Braxton Shearer     Alice Sheridan     Lily Spies     Jack Stubbs

2-3V
Bailey Jones     Jackson King     Melek Massingham     Alex Zouait
Jacob Simmons     Lucas McIlrick     Noah Krix     Aleeya Werrington
Tyler Crnogorac     Harmony Martin

3-4T
Shania Gray     Preston Kennedy     Lachan Kersten     Jett Mackintosh
Iris Miller     Makaelah Simmons     Joshua Wade     Mia Bruton
Bailey Chapman     Gemma King     Ryder Mavin     Riley Taylor

4-5C
Paige Hottwagner     Paris Mackintosh     Emily Shamoun
McKeelley Whitmore     Jett Merryweather     Taylah Reeves
Ella Paraha     Jordan Tolmie     Natasha Groenewegen
Oliver Macdonald     Teresa Chan

6B
Felicity Tait     Alexi Suela     Connor Simmons     Natasha Paterson
Taine Nolan     Seth Nolan     Katie McClure     Reili Massingham
Darcy Martin     Katrina Maher     Sarah Dorahy
We are pleased to announce our new synthetic grass has been installed with line marking completed last week, providing a permanent soccer field within the stage one playground.

This new lawn has provided a fantastic solution to combat muddy sections of the playground when there are periods of heavy rain and dusty areas during the summer months. Mr Watson has been determined to upgrade this area for our stage one students and through his hard work, has been able to achieve a fantastic result working within the school’s budget. The students love their new soccer ground and are putting the field to good use.

The synthetic grass has greatly enhanced the appearance of the school grounds, and with new buffalo turf scheduled to be laid adjacent to our new playing field in the coming weeks, the school will be looking spectacular. Thank you to Mr Shane Kennedy for his generosity in supplying the new turf, and providing both the labour and materials required to prepare and lay the new lawn. Your contribution to the school is greatly appreciated.
SRC MEMBERS 2015

We are pleased to announce the following students are our school captains for 2015 and SRC representatives for term 1.

School Captains –
Darcy Martin    Connor Simmons    Jada Cooper    Katrina Maher

SRC Representatives –
Taine Nolan    Alexi Suela    Paris Mackintosh    Oliver Macdonald
Gemma King    Ethan Lewry    Alice Sheridan    Dominic Shamoun
Talaana Gabriel    Ryan Callaghan    Lily Paraha    Tommey Clark

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.

Invoices have been sent home 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.
WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

WHY NOT JOIN THE P & C COMMITTEE?

Have a voice, implement change, improve our image and have fun while doing it. There’s no expectation for how much or how little you can offer.

WHEN: Monday, 2\(^{nd}\) March 2015
Annual General Meeting

TIME: 7.00PM

WHERE: Staffroom (located in Admin building)

NOTE: There is a $1 membership fee.

Monthly meetings are held but it is not compulsory to attend all meetings

ALL WELCOME
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.

Our AGM will be held on Monday 2nd March at 7pm in the teacher’s 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
FOR SALE

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

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.

UNIFORM NEWS

New stocks of school hats have arrived. All sizes now available.
FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} February - District Swimming Carnival – Participants only
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
Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} February - District Swimming Carnival participants
Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} February - Dance Group participants
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.
Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:
- Compulsory Schooling Conferences
  You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.
- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order
  If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.
- Prosecution in the Local Court
  School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement
Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships
T 9244 5129
www.dec.nsw.gov.au

© February 2015
NSW Department of Education and Communities
"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
School Banking 2015 is ready for launch.

For over 90 years, the School Banking program has been teaching Australian children lifelong money skills. This year, your child is invited to join the Dollarmites on an intergalactic mission to Planet Savings.

Information on how students can get on board with School Banking, including a Savings Tracker and a rewards redemption card, is available from your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Your school has received parent packs that include all the information you need to get on board. If you haven’t received a parent pack yet, please ask your School Banking Co-ordinator.

Rewarding good savings habits with eight new items in 2015

The School Banking program encourages good savings habits by rewarding students with awesome reward items. For every 10 deposits made through the program, they can redeem a reward from our Outer Space Savers range, including ET DVDs, Planet Handballs, Invisible Ink Martian Pens, Intergalactic Rockets, Glow-in-the-Dark Solar Systems, Cosmic Light Beam Torches, Outer-Space Savers Money Boxes and Lunar Light Bands.

You could win a family trip to Disneyland

In a School Banking first, students who make 25 or more School Banking deposits in 2015 will automatically receive one entry into the competition draw to win a family trip to California’s Disneyland. The prize includes return airfares, five nights accommodation, transfers and three days park entry for up to two adults and two kids, plus AUD$2,000 spending money.

For more information, visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Things to know before you Care: Conditions apply. Promotion starts 9.00am AEDT 27/1/15 and ends 11.59pm AEDT 16/12/15. Entry is open to all Youqiever account holders aged 5-15 years who participate in Commonwealth Bank’s School Banking program. Entrants under 13 must have parent/guardian consent. The draw will take place at 12.35pm AEDT on 12/1/16 at the Promoter’s office. The winner of the competition draw will win a family trip to California’s Disneyland valued at AUD$2,245. The winner’s name will be published in the public notices section of The Australian on 26/1/16. Promoter is Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 123 of Level 11, Harbour Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Full terms and conditions available at commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. NSW Permit No LP14/000005, ACT Permit No T14/044345, VIC Permit No 14/59658, SA Permit No T14/22227.
Healthy ways for kids to manage their emotions

emotionally intelligent children, like their parents, know a range of healthy ways to manage their feelings.

1. **Breathe deeply**
   The trick here is to take deep breaths, rather than shallow breaths. The easiest way to breathe deeply is to sit up straight (or stand up straight). Count to 3 quietly while breathing in through your nose, and count to 5 while breathing out. Breathe slowly and deeply. You may even feel a little ‘flurry’, which indicates deep (and low) breathing.

2. **Find a favourite relaxation exercise**
   There are many instant relaxation exercises you can use to change your emotional state. My favourite way to manage nerves and tension is to tense my body for 3 seconds and then relax. Repeat this a number of times and you can help but feel calmer. You can isolate part of your body such as your shoulders and arms to release the tension around your neck. There are plenty of quiet techniques you can use to relax.

3. **Use a positive reappraisal**
   Emotions are caused not by an event, but by the way we look at an event. To one person, giving a wedding speech is a chance to stretch their stuff (so they feel excited), while to someone else it is nothing but a nightmare (so they feel anxious). Change the way you view something and you’ll be better able to manage your emotional response. “This is a challenge, not a problem” is a cardinal reappraisal. The more specific the reappraisal the more effective it will be.

4. **Use positive, REALISTIC self-talk**
   Ever talked yourself out of doing something existing, new or challenging before you’ve even started? Maybe you’ve said something like, “I’ll never be able to do that” or “This will drive me out of my mind” or “I’m no good at it” or “I know I have.”

   Next time you catch yourself telling yourself (or something else) down, replace the negative with something realistic but more positive. Something like, “I’ve done it in the past and I survived. So I should be able to do it again.” Repeat this a few times and your emotional state will shift to a better one.

More on page 2
Deal with negative feelings

5 Exercise
Exercise releases endorphins, nature’s feel-good chemicals, which will move your mood to a better state. The paradox is that we often don’t feel like exercising when that’s exactly what we really need. Don’t let those feelings stop you. Going for a run, walking the dog or even playing a game outside with the kids is the very thing you need to feel better.

6 Distract yourself
A healthy distraction, such as phoning a friend, reading a novel or watching a comedy, is a way many people use to manage difficult emotions. It’s a highly recommended strategy for natural workout. It’s amazing how much better a situation will seem after giving your mind a short break from it.

7 Have constructive habits and hobbies
One of the tenets of good emotional health is that a person needs habits and interests that lift them up and make life enjoyable. Single-tracked lives - all work and no play - are recipes for emotional disaster. If you can relate to this, then I suggest you take the time to find a hobby or interest that lifts you up. The same, of course, holds for kids. All work and no play makes … well, it’s hard to hold it together if you are feeling stressed all the time.

It’s important that as parents and teachers we practice good emotional management techniques ourselves so we are better placed to pass them on to kids. The upside is that we’ll feel better, make better decisions and be more effective as parents and teachers as well.

This is an extract from “15 Ways to Manage Emotions”, a special report available at ParentingIdeasClub.com.au

Michael Grose