Principal’s Message

WELCOME

I trust that our school community had an enjoyable holiday with family and friends. I wish to extend a warm welcome to our new families and their children and hope that your time with us at Windsor Public will be both rewarding and memorable.

We have commenced the year with approximately 175 students being enrolled in 7 classes.

KZ—Miss Zammit
1M—Ms McCauliffe
3/4S—Miss Slawski
5/6B—Mrs Berghofer
Reading Recovery/LaST—Mrs Rogers
Library/RFF (Health) - Ms Parkinson

I welcome Mrs Ford on her return to Windsor and no doubt students and staff will enjoy working with her again throughout the year. Mrs Ford will hold a non-teaching role this year and will be responsible for curriculum development, teacher mentoring/professional development and leading Learning Support.

MEET THE TEACHER

On Tuesday 9th February, we will be hosting our Meet the Teacher Session. This is an ideal opportunity for you to meet staff and gain insights to individual teacher/classroom expectations & requirements for the school year.

The session will commence at 5.30pm with an informal gathering over a tea/coffee and refreshments prior to the formal meeting at 6.00pm.

I have also invited the newly appointed Principal of Windsor High School (Mrs Jennifer Hawken) as a guest speaker.

ADMINISTRATION

As you can appreciate, this is a busy time of the year as we update our records, establish accounts for student journals/workbooks, voluntary student contributions and other financial commitments.

Families will be receiving notes with requirements over the next weeks and I would appreciate, where possible, your prompt action in settling these accounts.

ETHICS EDUCATION

As you may be aware, Ethics classes may be offered as an option for students who do not attend specific religious education (scripture).

Classes are inquiry-based and students use dialogue and discussion to learn how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument.

I am currently working with a committee of interested parents who have undergone training to enable them to fulfil coordinator and teacher roles. We expect to be able to offer one class initially, to nominated students before the end of this term.

Please note that ethics classes will only be offered to ‘non-scripture’ students. Ethics education will not replace current scripture lessons but will be available as an option for those students who do not attend scripture.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

I am pleased to note that the majority of students have returned to school wearing our correct summer uniform, complete with school ‘cricket style’ hat.

We are extremely proud of our uniform and public image and I am keen to uphold this standard.

Our Summer uniform is expected to be worn for Term 1.

Sport for K-6 will be held on Tuesdays.

Upcoming Events

- P&C Meeting
  7.00pm 1st Feb.
- Swimming Carnival
  Richmond Swimming Pool
  6.00pm 4th Feb.
- Life Edn Program
  9th Feb.
- Meet the Teacher
  5.30pm-7.00pm
  9th Feb.
- Life Edn Program
  10th Feb.
- District Leadership Camp
  11th-12th Feb.
- Life Edn Program
  15th Feb.
AROUND THE SCHOOL

Outdoor learning centre

Gorgeous Goanna

Aboriginal art group

Growing a GIANT PUMPKIN

We love our new bench seats
Dance Groups 2016

This year there will be two dance groups- Infants Dance and Primary Dance. Infants Dance will be open to any girls and boys from years K-2. Any student in K-2 is welcome to put their name down and participate in this group. The first meeting for this group will be in Week 3. More information will follow about this during coming morning assemblies.

The Primary Dance Group will be available to boys and girls in years 2-6. This group will be selected by audition on the Thursday of Week 2. Students will need to listen to announcements about this during morning assemblies.

Miss Zammit and Mrs Ford - Dance Coordinators

Student Representative Council 2016

During Week 3, all classes from years 1-6 will be selecting a student to be their SRC member for this semester. If your child wishes to run for the SRC they will need to present a short speech to their class about why they think they would make a worthy representative. Speeches will be held in classrooms on Monday of Week 3 and class members will then vote for their chosen representative.

Miss Zammit – SRC Coordinator

SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2016

A reminder that our school swimming carnival will be held this Thursday night, 4th February 2016. All entrants should be at the pool by 6pm in order to allow a prompt start to the evening. The only cost for this evening is your individual pool entry fee, paid independently upon your arrival.

J Tuck

LIFE EDUCATION

Healthy Harold will be arriving at Windsor Public School next week!! Lessons on healthy living will be conducted in the Life Education van and follow up lessons/activities will be conducted with each class during Term 1. I am sure that all students are looking forward to meeting Healthy Harold! Notes were sent home last week and it would be greatly appreciated if these permission notes, along with the $10 payment could be returned to the office promptly.

J Tuck
Become an Ethics Teacher at Windsor Public School

Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don’t attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical ethics classes. We have vacancies for volunteers to teach ethics classes. The classes teach children how to approach ethical issues and develop their capacity for considered moral judgement, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives. Volunteer Ethics Teachers are trained to deliver our age-appropriate curriculum every week and to use the accompanying learning and teaching materials.

For more information, please contact:
Sophie Devine
Ethics Coordinator for Windsor Public School
Email: WindsorPS_Ethics_Coordinator@hotmail.com
Mob: 0414 403 780
ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

2016 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 8th February it would be appreciated if payment could be sent to the office as soon as possible.

Credit card and Eftpos facilities are available.

Please note this fee is in addition to our School Contribution.

Voluntary School Contribution - 2016

Each year we request financial support through ‘Voluntary School Contributions’, which assist with the purchasing of consumables used by students. Our contributions for 2016 will remain the same as 2015, $30 per student.

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

A further Early Bird Discount will apply to all students when payment is made in full before 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 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.

FINAL DATES FOR PAYMENT

Monday - 8th February - Life Education $10 per child
ASAP— Sports Permission Note for 2016 $2 per child

Payment envelopes are included with excursion notes for your convenience

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

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
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

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## Term 1 Calendar 2016

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<th>Term One</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
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<td>Holidays</td>
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<td>SDD Eastern Division</td>
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Make this year your child’s best ever at school

By Michael Grose (Parenting Ideas)

A new school year means a clean slate for students. Here are 7 ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child’s performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours.

Here are seven ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school:

1. **Commit to your child going to school every day on time.** One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day — and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.

2. **Help kids start each day well.** A good night’s sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time to get up, eat and get ready for the day.

3. **Establish work & study habits.** The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school’s expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child’s or young person’s school and help them establish a work routine that matches.

4. **Make sure your child gets enough sleep.** Many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their wellbeing and their learning. A good night’s sleep consolidates learning, as well as assisting future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bedtime and get-up time each day. Have a 45-minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5. **Insist kids exercise.** The old saying about ‘a healthy body and a healthy mind’ is so true. Exercise releases the chemicals needed for learning and wellbeing. Yet kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage your child to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives.

6. **Focus on being friendly.** Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations each day. Yet we often only focus on academic learning. There are strong links between social success, and academic success and wellbeing. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be sensitive to others; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers. These are all characteristics of socially successful kids. At the same time discourage anti-social behaviours such as over-competitiveness, self-centredness and lack of sharing.

7. **Develop self-help skills.** Successful students are often well organised, self-directed and self-motivated. Personal organisation seems to come more naturally to girls than boys, however both genders benefit from coaching in this important area. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their everyday lives. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school.

At the start of the school year kids are likely to adopt changes than at any other time. Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas to really focus on and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place.