FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

The Wilston State School Improvement Agenda

Earlier this year I wrote about our 2014 Improvement Agenda and highlighted that a copy of this document could be found on the school’s website. I view the following comment in regard to the work we are doing in the Expert Teaching Team section of this agenda.

“Every school has something to learn and something to teach. There is nothing fundamentally different about the students or teachers at a public school, private school, or charter school… Real reform occurs when teachers convene, trade ideas, implement and refine them in their classrooms and become sounding boards and resources for one another… When teachers can reach through the political haze of school competition, students and communities benefit.”

“Charter, Private, and Public Schools Work Together in Boston” by Diana Lam in Phi Delta Kappan, February 2014

This term I have observed the excellent practice that is taking place in our classrooms around the teaching of spelling and reading. Contributing to the mastery of these pedagogies is that teachers are sharing their knowledge and are willing to have their practice observed. This is allowing a deeper level of professional engagement to occur across the school.

EV3 Robots

For the last four weeks some students from Years 6 and 7 have been working with and programming the EV3 Mindstorm Robots. Over the year I would hope that we can increase the number of students being involved in this program, including those from Year 5. We have been very fortunate to have been given these robots through the support of the Wilston State School Outside School Care.

Our intention is that students will have the ability to enter the Robo Cup Junior competition that takes place mid-year. Information regarding this competition can be found at www.robocupjunior.org.au

I currently have a parent, Mr Chris Noonan, assisting our young programmers on a Tuesday. If you have an interest in robotics and would like to help out could you please contact Leigh Hofmeister in the office and register your interest.

Registrations now open for Brisbane’s first ANZAC Run

Brisbane’s first ANZAC Run will be held on Sunday 27 April 2014 to commemorate the Australian and New Zealand servicemen and women who served the nation and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Students taking part are encouraged to wear their school sports uniform. Register online before 23 April 2014.

Guy Hendriks
Principal
WILL DONE AWARDS

Prep
Klara R PA, Nicholas W PA, Henry C PB, Alexandra S PB, Aaron B PC, Eliza B PC, Harry K PD, Malinda L PD, Zavier M PE, Poppy Mc G PE, Darcy A PF, Ava F PF.

Year 1
William T 1A, Declan C 1A, Thomas W 1B, William R 1B, Hugh B 1C, Abigail A 1C, Eva D 1D, Cameron G 1D, Hannah B 1E, Ruphael G 1E, Aidan H 1F, Madison L 1F.

Year 2

Year 3

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

NAPLAN 2014
On 13, 14 and 15 May, all students in Years 3, 5 and 7 will sit the annual National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. NAPLAN provides a snapshot of how students are performing in the fundamentally important areas of literacy and numeracy.

Background to NAPLAN
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. These include reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy.

NAPLAN complements classroom-based assessment but adds a 'national' component. The results give schools and systems the ability to measure their students' achievements against National Minimum Standards and against other states and territories.

NAPLAN is unique because it provides nationally comparable data. We know this information is valued by teachers and parents.

NAPLAN is not a pass/fail type test. It looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy compared with their peers throughout Australia. It is a test that cannot be specifically studied for, and students are not expected to do so.

Teachers and schools want an honest picture of what students can do in the areas of literacy and numeracy so that they can plan for improvement.

Breakfast Options At The Tuckshop
Did you know that the Tuckshop is open at 7.30am and they offer our students breakfast options:

- Toasted sandwiches (ham/cheese) or berry smoothie (no sugar).

A good idea for students after swimming or cross country training. Students can pay cash or parents can pay and order online at 'munch monitors'.

Remember 9.00-11.00am are prime learning times and it helps if your child has had a good breakfast.

CHILL OUT ROOM
This term your children may have come home telling you about the “Chill Out Room”. It is true - we have re-instated the Chill Out Room, but what is it you may ask? As much as our gorgeous little ones tell us it is to “chill” because it is so hot outside….that is not entirely true!

The Chill Out room is manned by Ms Bayne, Mrs Krista and Mrs Wagorn at big lunch every day and is available to students in Years 1-7. It is an approachable place that provides support and social skill training to students who may be involved in bullying incidents, friendship issues or other social skill concerns.

At Wilston S.S. we believe and are committed to fostering a place where students have a right to learn in a safe and secure environment. Bullying is not acceptable behaviour. The Chill Out Room is one proactive way we provide students with an area they can feel relaxed to discuss solutions to their problems. This policy takes an integrated approach to the prevention of bullying and response to bullying incidents.

At this stage, we still have a lot of children visiting to do “art and craft” so we are asking for any donations of “craft items” you may not need at home anymore. Thank you for your help with this.

Don’t forget Friday is “Say No to Bullying” Day - wear something orange!

Ms Bayne, Mrs Krista, Mrs Wagorn

STUDENT COUNCIL

Date Claimers:
National Day of Anti-Bullying (wear orange). Friday 28 March 2014.
Go Blue for Autism. Tuesday 1 April 2014.

STUDENT BANKING

Sign on/Account Opening Day
We would like to invite all students who are not yet enjoying the benefits from the School Banking Program to bring Mum or Dad along to our Sign On/Account Opening day. We will have Angela Marshall, our School Banking Specialist who will be able to sight documents and facilitate the process of opening bank accounts next Wednesday 26 March from 8:00am in the Staff Room (right above the Tuckshop). Parents need some form of ID such as driver’s license. Angela will be here to answer any questions and help you get started.

Important Dates
Friday 28 March will be our last banking day for Term 1. Due to Anzac Day falling on a Friday we ask you to bring your deposits on Thursday 24 April. From then on banking will resume as normal.

Any questions you may have feel free to contact us on gfinselbach@optusnet.com.au

School Banking Team
NEWS FROM HPE

We have had a number of students attend Rugby League and Soccer Trials in the last couple of weeks. The following students have been successful in gaining selection in the City District Teams to compete at the Met North Championships later in the semester.

Rugby League:
11 Years: Sam J, Will B, Kyrel S-Y and Ben F
12 Years: Connor M, Finn D.

Soccer:
Tim H, Aiden B

Inter-House Cross Country
The school Cross Country will be held on Wednesday 2 April on the school oval.

A copy of the program will be coming home in the next few days.

Rodney Bell. PE Specialist

CHOIR NEWS

Choral Honours Camp
Congratulations to Maddie P (Year 6) and Jack W (Year 6) for being accepted to attend the Metropolitan Region Honours Choral Camp. They were chosen for their excellent musical and vocal ability and also their commitment to our choral program. These students will attend a three day camp next week culminating in a concert at The Old Museum in Bowen Hills.

Rehearsal Tracks – Wilston Wonders
This week an email was sent out to parents with two rehearsal tracks for the Wilston Wonders members to practice with. Please ensure that your child/children sing through their parts regularly over the next two weeks. This piece is for the Easter Service mentioned below.

Dates to remember:
Friday 4 April— Easter Services at St Columban’s
  - Junior Choir 9.30am
  - Wilston Wonders Senior Choir 10.15am

Anzac Day Assembly – Thursday April 24 Undercover area. 2.00pm. Both Choirs will perform.

FROM THE STRINGS DEPARTMENT

In the next couple of weeks, we will be recruiting six more Year 3 students into our String Program. Letters went home at the end of last week. If you did not receive a letter and your child is interested in joining the program, please email Mrs Kathryn Payne at kpayn49@eq.edu.au with your child’s name, class and which instrument they wish to play by Friday, March 21.

Some of our Year 7, 6 and 5 students will be performing at the Easter Service on Friday, April 4 at 10.15am. These students need to wear their music polo shirt for the performance.

The Pizzicato Strings Concert will be on Wednesday, April 2 in the staff room starting at 2.00pm. Our beginner students in Year 3 will be performing in the concert as well as our Wilston String Trio. At the end of the concert, I will talk to the parents about the expectations of the String Program at Wilston State School.

Kathryn Payne – String Teacher

TUCKSHOP NEWS

We still need volunteers in the Tuckshop, some days we only have one person. Please come and help, you will meet some lovely people and have an enjoyable day.

Next term we will launch a brand new and exciting menu, with lots of delicious and healthy food. We plan to make every day a special day at The Wilston Tuckshop!!!

Keep watching this space to see what exciting changes are coming your way.

Next week’s roster:
Monday 24/3.  Marion Jones, Mirella Fyimoto
Tuesday 25/3.  Megan Beattie, Catherine Scott, Megan Poynter
Wednesday 26/3.  Kate Leggett, Nicola Bartlett, Kim Allen
Thursday 27/3.  Dana Hughes, Melinda Jennison

FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

SHOP OPEN: Monday, Wednesday and Friday during Term 1, between 8.15 and 9.45am.

SHOP ONLINE: Go to www.munchmonitor.com; Username: wilstonss and Password: munch4051. All items purchased online are delivered to your child’s class.

Stock Update:
Out of Stock:
- Small socks (9-2; available in Term 2).

Uniforms:
Winter items: Is your child looking for something warm to wear already? Then visit the shop for all your winter uniform items, including microfibre jackets ($46), rugby-style tops ($30), cargo pants ($30) and straight leg stretch pants ($30). There are also plenty of pre-loved items to search through! Drop by and have a look!

Pre-Winter Specials
Buy a brand new microfibre jacket or rugby knit top and receive 10% off any second new item purchased (second item must be the same or lesser valued than first item). That means you could have a new winter jacket and pants set for only $73 or a rugby knit top and winter pants set for only $57. So come and bundle a bargain – the offer is valid until the end of May. Please note that the discount is only available directly from the shop (excludes online orders).

Discontinued Stock Clearance – Wednesday 2 April (shop open 8.15am – 12noon this day only).

Love a bargain? Then come to the Discontinued Stock Clearance Day on Wednesday 2 April (that’s inter-house cross country day). All discontinued items will be below cost price! Items include: girls’ blouses ($18), panel skirts ($15), printed polo shirts ($10), Microfibre tracksuit pants ($15), and girls’ bootleg pants ($15). Some items have limited sizes and quantity, so be quick (excludes online orders)!!

Christine Matheson, Convenor. Ph. 3552 8490 / 0448 633 737 / chrismath1@hotmail.com
NEWS FROM THE P&C

Last Days - 2014 Annual P&C Easter Egg Raffle
We are in the final days of our Easter Egg Raffle. The raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 1 April 2014. Easter raffle donations are needed – please take your donation to the Tuckshop ASAP. Tickets need to be returned in the blue bag no later than Friday 28 March to be entered in the draw. A big thank you for all your donations received so far and for all the tickets sold and returned. Good luck!!

Melinda Ferrier (0438 742 409) or Emma Kelso (0402 837 693).

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Club Championships commence this Friday night 21 March 2014, we look forward to two great weeks of racing – a reminder all fees must be up to date to compete at the Club Championships. The Club Presentation Night is being held on Saturday 29 March 2014 from 6.00pm. We look forward to seeing everyone there to celebrate a great season of swimming.

Congratulations to all who competed at the Morningside Flyers Carnival on the weekend. The Wilston Crocs had a great result with many personal best times achieved and a special mention to Allie G, Josh A, Abigail A and Charlotte C who all won individual medals.

Winter Swimming – we have squad and learn to swim available year round with the pool heated to 29 degrees – our current timetable will remain the same for squads in Term 2. Swimming year round has many benefits and we encourage all our squad and learn to swim kids to maintain their skills and swim over the winter months – if you have any questions please see Simon or Kirsten at the pool.

Bookings are now open for Term 2 Learn to Swim, please note your child’s place is not automatically rolled over each term. We are also offering our Learn to Swim Intensives over the Easter Holidays from Monday 7 April 2014 to Friday 11 April 2014, we offer 5 x 30min lessons at the same time each day. Cost for the 5 days is $65.

Places are limited and all fees must be paid prior to the commencement of the program. Please contact Kirsten in the office for bookings.

Congratulations to our trainer of the week: Abby E.

Club night duties this week: BBQ – Edgson and Canteen – Boyle, Stuart and De Mel. If you can help out on the BBQ this week, please see Terri or Susan in the canteen on arrival.

Good luck to our swimmers competing at the Queensland Primary School Championships next week – go Crocs!

Our AGM will be held on 13 May 2014 at 7.00pm, it would be great to have some new representatives involved in the committee – it is not a large time commitment and there are many ways to be involved in our swim community. For further details or information please see Emma or Bernie at club night.

See you at the pool!

W: www.wilstonswim.org.au E: info@wilstonswim.org.au

Remember when you believed in anything and everything?
Researchers from the University of Western Australia are investigating children’s ability to detect and avoid potentially harmful social interactions, such as being easily fooled or tricked into doing something.

We are looking to see how this develops in children, and when children outgrow this vulnerability.

We are looking for parents of Kindergarten – Year 6 children across Australia to complete an online survey (15 – 20 minutes). Participants will go into a draw to win one of 10 $50 gift certificates to Coles/Myers.

To participate go to: http://tinyurl.com/childsqv

Or for more information please contact Rebecca Seward at (08) 6488 4652
**MIXED BOWLS**

Barefoot bowls with your friends & family
Come and have some fun with your friends and family at the next B20
Bowls at the Grange Bowls Club
(Sellheim Street, Grange).
Play starts at 3:30pm and goes
to 5:30pm with a sausage
sizzle at half time. **Next game is Saturday 15 March** and all equipment
is provided.
Round 1 - 15 February Round 2 - 1 March Round 3 - 15 March Round 4 - 29 March Round 5 - 22 April Round 6 - 10 May

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**WANT TO PLAY HOCKEY IN 2014?**

It’s never too young to start!

Valley Women’s Hockey Club is looking for players for our
Junior girls grass teams for 2014. We are particularly keen to recruit girls in the U13 age group.

We train on Wed nights at Shaw Park, Wooloowin

Matches are played on Saturdays at Downey Park, Windsor.

For further information about sign on days, please contact:
Cathy Kraatz (VWHC – Jnr-Sec) on hockeyck7@gmail.com
or refer to our:
Club Website: www.vwhc.org.au
Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/valley.hockey.9

Please help to make this event as successful as previous years.

We kindly ask for donations of Easter Eggs/baskets/plush bunnies/allergy free items to be brought along to the Tuckshop.

Raffle tickets are only $1 each

If you have any questions please call Melinda Ferrier (0438 742 409) melindaferrier@gmail.com or Emma Kelso (0402 837 693) matthewkelso@optusnet.com.au