FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Welcome to our new and returning families.

Having been away for the last six months I found it very refreshing to visit all classes yesterday morning. The year has started well! I would like to thank John Cattoni for his leadership over the last semester, my transition back could not have been smoother.

I welcome Ms Clare Ralph (Prep C), Ms Georgina Hall (1B), Ms Kathy Grant (1C), Ms Kristy Bray (2C), Ms Jessica Markus (2D), ) and Ms Ceri Frost ( 5C) Roxanne Smith, Louise Mammoli and Georgie Cape (SEP) to our school.

Last semester I was seconded to the Department of Education, Training and Employment’s Audit team. The audits that have been completed of all state schools in Queensland to date have either been on their Teaching and Learning practices or their managing of student behaviour in a positive environment—a Behaviour Audit. As well as conducting audits of schools in Brisbane, I had the opportunity to visit schools from Cooktown in the north down to Coolangatta in the south. I spent several weeks auditing schools in the Emerald district, the Mackay area, the Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba. I audited schools whose students predominantly come from very affluent families to ones that are recognised as having a greater percentage of parents whose income is at the other end of the scale. I also conducted audits in schools ranging in enrolment size from twenty-six students to Prep to Year 12 Colleges with enrolments in excess of a thousand students. Our state school system is a very complex entity.

My overall impression was that I was extremely heartened to see first-hand a very hard working profession that is totally committed to the improvement agenda that is being set by the Department.

My knowledge of our educational system has certainly deepened and I was fortunate to visit many schools that had exceptional leaders. Their dynamic approach to leading their school is very particular to the context of the community that they service. It is obvious that good leaders are able to refine their leadership skills depending on the educational environment that they are in. My journey also affirmed that the work we have committed to here through our improvement agenda is very appropriate. Over the last three years we have concentrated on academic improvement in reading, spelling and problem solving in Mathematics. Our focus on ensuring we have clearly understood and documented expectations of the pedagogies required to deliver a dynamic curriculum and then supporting our staff through effective professional learning to deliver this curriculum is delivering improved student outcomes. Results that I would expect to continue to improve.

The most effective leadership teams within high performing schools “talked and walked” the explicit improvement agenda of that school. The common phrase of if you expect it then inspect it needs to be the mantra of all leaders of any school.

We've had a very positive start to the year. I look forward to meeting you sometime throughout the year.

Guy Hendriks
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Arrival at School
School commences each day at 8.55am. The first bell rings at 8.50am. Students should be at school by this time to allow them to settle down and prepare for the day's lessons. Prep students are required to be escorted by a responsible adult to and from their classroom each day.

We ask that parents do not deliver any children to school before 8.00am unless attending prearranged rehearsals or practices. Students arriving before 8.30am must assemble under C Block and wait for the 8.30 bell. After this bell students are able to proceed to their classroom area. This process is for students’ safety.

Students arriving late for school must report to the school office, with an adult, to collect a late slip before proceeding to class.

Students that have not been collected from school by 3.30pm must go to the school office to wait for collection.

CROSSING SUPERVISOR

Casual positions exist for School Crossing Supervisors at multiple schools throughout the region. Please tell neighbours, friends and family of these positions available. Please help us to help our students.

School Crossing Supervisor positions are for up to five days per week on a roster. Remuneration $27.94 per hour.

Contact Brisbane North Road Safety Office for more information. Phone 3863 9873. Email zillmere_road_safety@tmr.qld.gov.au

STUDENT BANKING

Welcome to Term 1 School Banking will resume tomorrow Friday 30 January. A new range of rewards will be out soon. For those who redeemed last year, you will receive your rewards soon.

NEWS FROM HPE

Welcome back everyone.

The Tuckshop will open next week with a few changes to the menu. Remember to place orders go to www.munchmonitor.com; Username: wilstonss and Password: munch4051.

If you have any free time this term, we are in need of people to help once a month in the Tuckshop. Prep mums and dads are more than welcome to come and help. It is a great way to meet other parents.

Week beginning 2 February 2015
Monday 2  Lisa McGrath, Leonie Crawford
Tuesday 3  Louise Astroi, Ellie Cayas, Micheal Stein
Wednesday 4  Sharon Darmody, Sarah Moore
Thursday 5  Angela Pratt, Harriet Carter, Angela Patel
Friday 6  Gail Tilbury, Josie Parry, help needed.

Bec Macdonald 0448 804 279 60huet@gmail.com
Dot Milne 0408 729 021

FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

SHOP OPEN: Monday, Wednesday and Friday during Terms 1 and Term 4 2015 (between 8.15 and 9.30am).

*** Please note – the SHOP will be CLOSED – Wednesday 11, 18 and 25 February ***

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: Senior/rep shirts (size 12); dress (size 8 & 10); embroidered polo shirt mocha (size 6).

Volunteers Needed
Welcome back!!! It's been a big start to the year for the shop. Naturally we've had some long queues – and we thank everyone for their patience while waiting to be served.

To help reduce these queues, we rely on our wonderful volunteers. If you have an hour to spare in the morning, please contact us asap – we could really use your help!! Spaces are available every morning that the shop is open.

Stationery
The shop is stocked with all your stationery requirements. So if you have a few more items to get, drop into the shop or order them online (delivery to the classroom).

New House Polo Shirts
The sports polo shirts have been given a fresh new look, with an embroidered emblem and the name of the house added to the front of the shirt. The biggest change is to Lawson, which is now a rich green instead of the former teal. The house polo shirts remain $25 each, except for the teal Lawson shirts which have been discounted to $20.

Christine Matheson and Janice Nykiel, Convenors
Ph. 3552 8490 / 0448 633 737 / chrismath1@hotmail.com

Rodney Bell
PE Specialist
NEWS FROM THE P&C

WILSTON STATE SCHOOL
PARENTS AND CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY. 7.00PM D BLOCK.

Nominations are now open for Officer positions on the WSS PCA.

Whilst we welcome nominations for all positions, we do have some incumbents nominating again this year, and we’re seeking in particular nominations for the following positions:

President
Vice-President (2 positions)

The WSS PCA has a proud history of supporting the educational needs and aspirations of the school and our kids alike, and is pivotal in ensuring a great sense of community at WSS through operating before and after school care, the tuckshop and swim club as well as a number of wonderful family social events.

Being part of the P&C Executive is a very rewarding experience representing the families of WSS and collaborating with the school to continually develop our children’s educational experience.

Please consider getting involved.

Nominations can be sent to the Secretary at: adam.spencer@wilstonpandc.org.au

See you at the AGM!!

Kevin Mercer. WSS P&C President

Beach Party

The school Beach Party will be held on Saturday 7 March from 4.00pm so lock it in your calendar. The family Beach Party is a welcome party for families of the school with activities planned such as swimming, riding the mechanical surfboard, a bungee run, little kids slide, Dodge Ball, Dunk tank, Face painting, Music Band, Bar, Food and more. So:

• Ring everyone you know and tell them the family Beach Party is the place to be.
• Ask your kids about the Inter-house Dodge Ball Competition. The kids play it all the time at school and they love it.
• Dust off that favourite Hawaiian shirt and the old zinc cream.
• Check out the volunteer list at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0D4DAFA92CA7FD0-beach1 and help out for an hour or 2.
• See how far the kids go on the Bungee run or riding the mechanical surfboard and dunk a teacher
• Shake the hands of friends old and new and dance up a storm with the band.
• Get excited about having fun with your family, meeting new friends, catching up with old friends, and immersing yourself into the fantastic community spirit which is Wilston State School.

Tickets are available from Munch Monitors or the P&C website using paypal.

We are looking for convenors for the BBQ, little kids slide and box building. For further information please contact Jason at jdfinselbach@optusnet.com.au or Gaby at dfinselbach@optusnet.com.au.

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Club resumes this Friday night, 30 January.

This week the following families are on BBQ and Canteen duty:
BBQ - Del Favero, Crawford and McLean families
Canteen - Leggett, Pedroni and Pearl families.

Club Night nominations close Thursdays at 6:00pm. If you miss nomination, you will not be able to swim on that particular club night.

Congratulations to Georgia K, Will B, and Sally H who represented the Club at the State Championships during the holidays. Georgia made the final of the 11 years 100 butterfly. She qualified 4th fastest and finished 8th in the final. A great effort for her first championship. It was also Will’s first state champs and he competed in three events recording PB’s in all. Sally also improved her time in her 100 butterfly.

There is limited availability for Term 1 Learn to Swim which also runs on Saturdays this term. Please see Kirsten in the pool office for availability.

Term 4 swim fees are now overdue. Please see Kirsten in the pool office if you are unsure if you have any fees outstanding.

See you at the pool.

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

ATTENTION PREP PARENTS!!

NEXT WEEK:
WSS Prep Parents Welcome Night
Friday 6th Feb, 2015, 7.30pm till 9.00pm
In the Staff Room (D Block - above the Tuckshop)

Come along & meet other Prep Parents & Staff
This is a FREE event. Pizza will be served.
Drinks available for purchase.

Please note: this is a licensed function and as such, children are not permitted.

RSVP
by writing your details on the list outside your Preparatory classroom
no later than pick-up on Wednesday 4th Feb.
KIDS LOVE DRAMA
PARENTS LOVE THE RESULTS!
Our unique drama system develops confidence and communication skills in children and teenagers. Dynamic and structured, our programme covers speech, movement, creative drama and language development with all students participating in an end-of-year production.
Our acclaimed drama programme is implemented by dynamic teachers who work enthusiastically to bring out the very best in your child.
Affordable Fees! No Hidden Costs!
Lower Primary (5-8), Upper Primary (9-12) and Youth Theatre (12-18).
Helen O’Grady Drama Academy
Please phone the Principal Margaret Treuel B.A., Dip Ed. 3353 0555

Wilston Grange Junior AFL
Club Sign On Days
February 8th and 9th
Gorillas Den, Hickey Park, Babarra Street, Stafford.
Saturday and Sunday 7th and 8th February
10am to 2pm
New players please bring Birth Certificate.
Any enquiries please email Jo Jardine on jo.jardine@gorillas.com.au or wgjafc@optusnet.com.au or phone 3166 8379
Play Hockey in 2015
St Andrews Ladies Hockey Club
Dedication – Perseverance – Loyalty – Friendship
If you are aged 5+, we would love you to join Brisbane’s oldest and most successful women’s hockey club. Come on your own or get together a group of friends!
Qualified coaches
Grass training and games held locally at Downey Park
New Under 7 and Under 9 players receive a free hockey kit (hockey stick, shin pads and ball) *(while stocks last)*
*For fun, fitness and a lifelong sport – play hockey!*
Sign On: Saturday 7 February, 10:00am to Noon.
Upstairs @BWHA (“Brisbane Women’s Hockey Assoc”) Clubhouse, Melbourne Street, Windsor (DOWNEY PARK)
To register or for further details visit www.standrewshockey.com.au
Or contact: Simone Casey, Registrar, 0402 351 527 or Michele Barnes, President, 0408 418 689

Love to Sing?
Leading children’s choir, Voices of Birrallee, invites young singers to join their Clayfield program.
Voices of Birrallee is a non-profit organisation, nurturing a child’s love of singing in a fun and educational environment. Tuition is provided by professionals who are highly regarded and experienced in their field. A strong emphasis is placed on holistic education, building social and cognitive skills, emotional resilience, confidence and musical expertise.
2015 enrolments are now open for the following ensembles:
Birrallee Kids: Grades 2 - 4
Birrallee Singers: Grades 5 - 8
We run a yearly program with semester-by-semester enrolment options. Please visit our website www.birrallee.org to enrol or for more information.
We look forward to hearing from you!

'Greater Brisbane Junior Tennis (GBJT) conducts weekly Tennis Fixtures at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson and The University of Queensland for children up to 18 years of age.
Grading day for new players is to be held on Sunday 8 February at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson from 3.00pm to 5.00pm.

Further information is available at www.gbjt.org.au or by phoning Mrs Peta Davis on 3374 0516.'
Wilston State School Tuckshop

We currently have over forty volunteer parents volunteering in our Tuckshop.

Roster days have become available on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

If you have ever considered volunteering in the Tuckshop, now is a great chance.

Please fill out the following form and return to the Tuckshop via the class Blue Bag.

Tuckshop is a great way to make new friends and meet other parents in the Wilston Community.

Bec Macdonald (0448 804 279. 60huet@gmail.com) and Dot Milne.

Tuckshop. (Please return this slip to your child's class teacher to come up to the office via the class Blue Bag).

☐ I am available on a Monday.

☐ I am available on a Wednesday.

☐ I am available on a Thursday.

☐ I am available on a Friday.

Name: ________________________________________

Phone: ________________________________________

Email: ________________________________________