



Wilston State School Ever onward

Term 1. Issue 8. 19 March 2015.

DATE CLAIMERS

19 March	Yr 6 to Brisbane Urban Environ P&C Meeting 7.00pm. All welcome.
20 March	National Young Leaders Day Yr 2 to Sciencentre
24/26 March	Met Region Choral Honours Day – Selected Yr 6 students
27 March	Easter Service
28 March	Swim Club Trophy Night
31 March	Cross Country
2 April	Easter Hat Parade Last day of Term 1
3 April	Good Friday
16 April	P&C Meeting 7.00pm. All welcome.
20 April	First day of Term 2
22 April	WKC Committee Meeting
23 April	School ANZAC Ceremony
25 April	ANZAC Day
28 April	2A and 2C to Newstead House
29 April	2B and 2F to Newstead House
30 April	2D and 2E to Newstead House
5 May	City District Cross Country Skate Night – Year 2 and 4
12 May	Naplan – Year 3 and 5 Skate Night Prep and Year 1
13 May	Naplan – Year 3 and 5 WKC Committee Meeting
14 May	Naplan Year 3 and 5
19 May	Yr 5B to Southbank Skate Night Year 5 and 6
20 May	Yr 5A to Southbank Choral Fanfare – Wilston Wonders
21 May	Yr 5C to Southbank P&C Meeting 7.00pm. All welcome.
22 May	Gala Day
28 May	City District Rugby Union Trials
29 May	Gala Day
31 May	Wilston Wonders to Wilston Winter Market Festival
2 June	ICAS Science Year 6 Only Met North Cross Country
3 June	Yr 5 and 4/5F to Planetarium ICAS Science
3-5 June	Year 6 to Camp Laidley
4 June	Forensic Science Workshop
5 June	Forensic Science Workshop
5 June	Gala Day
8 June	Queen's Birthday
10 June	WKC Committee Meeting
18 June	City District Softball Trials P&C Meeting 7.00pm.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Audit

Several weeks ago the Regional Auditor spent a week analysing our practices and procedures in relation to Workplace Health and Safety, Human Resource Management, Finances, Facilities, ICT and all aspects of student management. I am pleased to report that many aspects of our procedures were highly effective and our report has significantly improved since our last audit in 2012. I commend Mrs Debra Jackson, our Business Services Manager, and my administrative team for this good result.

Two Minute Parking

Last year the school introduced the Look Out program. This program supports parents who drive to school to pick up their children. Our staff who man this program have been trained. It has come to my attention that a number of parents are moving into the two minute zones but are remaining longer than is necessary. Could I ask that in consideration to other parents who are doing the right thing, that you need to drive out of the zone and circle the block if your child is not ready to be picked up after two minutes. The staff on duty have been asked to politely ask you to move from the area. Please do not abuse them!

How Curiosity Boosts Learning

Brain scans have found that when a student's curiosity is piqued, two things happen:

- The brain is primed for learning. This includes remembering unrelated information, because curiosity puts the brain in a state that allows it to learn and retain any kind of information like a vortex that sucks in what you are motivated to learn, and also everything around it. So if a teacher is able to arouse students' curiosity about something they're naturally motivated to learn, they'll be better prepared to learn things that they would normally consider boring or difficult.
- Curiosity makes learning more rewarding. When curiosity is aroused, there's activity in the hippocampus (which deals with forming memories) and also in the area of the brain that deals with reward and pleasure, releasing dopamine, the feel-good chemical. So telling students the answers before they've had a chance to explore it squashes the chance for them to exercise their curiosity. Rather than jumping straight to the answers, try to start students off with the sort of questions that encourage them to do their own seeking.

"Why Curiosity Enhances Learning" by Marianne Stenger in Edutopia, December 17, 2014.

"It's more important to focus on what's to blame, rather than who is to blame." Ben Dattner.

Guy Hendriks

**Guy Hendriks
Principal**

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FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Easter Service

Our Easter Service will be held on Friday 27 March 2015 at St Columba's. Year 1 to 3 will attend from 9.30am and Year 4 to 6 from 10.15am.

NAPLAN

National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy

The National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5 7 and 9. The program commenced in 2008 and tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation and numeracy. The test is designed to examine literacy and numeracy skills that have been developed over time—it is not a test of curriculum content. All eligible students are expected to participate.

NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and are administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or the principal.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of the school's assessment and reporting process and do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student's performance. NAPLAN results add value to teacher assessments by showing how their students' achievement compares to a wider group of students across Australia.

Teachers can use NAPLAN results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support. Schools can use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching and learning programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.

Although all students are expected to participate, exemptions may be granted (upon application) to students from a non-English speaking background who have been attending Australian school for less than one year and to students with a significant disability. Contact your child's school to discuss your child's participation.

Test dates are Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May 2015.

TEMP TEACHER AIDE (LANA)

Expression of Interest. Temporary Teacher Aide (LANA)

Expressions of Interest are invited for a position of Temporary Teacher Aide. The position is for 20 hours per week from 20.04.2015 to 27.11.2015 (excluding school holidays).

Role of the Teacher Aide—LANA (Literacy and Numeracy Assistants)

- * Contribute to the provision of quality educational service by assisting and supporting teachers with the enhancement of learning and associated activities.
- * Support activities with the objective of improving learning outcomes of students in literacy and numeracy.

Selection Criteria

SC1: A demonstrated capacity to follow the direction of the class teacher to provide support and instruction to groups of junior primary children in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

SC2: A capacity to build and maintain relationships with staff and students in a professional manner.

Application Process

- Applicants should refer to the generic position description for Teacher Aides.

- Applicants need to provide a written CV and brief application addressing the selection criteria, of no more than two A4 pages.
- Applicants are subject to a 'working with children check' as part of the employment screening process.
- Applicants should also provide the names and contact details of two referees.
- Applications will be short-listed and interviews will take place prior to the end of term.

Enquiries should be directed to:

Debbie Mill
dmill108@eq.edu.au
A/Deputy Principal
Wilston State School
Primrose Street
Grange 4051

Closing date for applications: **Monday 23 March 2015.**

ICAS TESTS

The International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) tests will be held in Term 2 and 3. Letters advising of competition dates and costs have been sent home with the students. Unfortunately the Science competition sitting date clashes with the Year 6 Camp. So that students in Year 6 who wish to sit the science ICAS test are catered for, we are offering an alternative testing session on Tuesday June 2 at 7:45am. For more information please visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au. We look forward to your child's participation in these valuable competitions.

Just a reminder that the ICAS permission forms and payment are due back by **Friday 27 March 2015.**

Please make sure a separate permission form is completed for each of your children. Please return this to the office via the class Blue Bag in an envelope clearly marked with the students name and class.

STUDENT BANKING

Last day of school banking this term is **Friday 27.**

Don't forget to send in your banking folder every Friday. Every deposit made is an entry into the draw to win a backpack full of Dollarmites merchandise. The winner will be announced in Term 2.

Also for those of you with more than 10 tokens remember to redeem, send your tokens with your choice of reward. We currently have hand-balls and the popular ET movie, next term we will have two new rewards on offer that we can't wait for: Intergalactic Rocket and Invisible Ink Martian Pen. Keep on saving!

Any questions do not hesitate to contact us on gfinseibach@optusnet.com.au

NEWS FROM HPE

District Sports Touch

Congratulations to Jack M, Lincoln D, Callan J and Polly L who were successful in gaining selection into the City District Touch teams. These students will represent the district at the Regional carnival on the 3 June.

Soccer

Congratulations also to Jaden F for being selected into the City District Soccer team to compete at the Regional trials on the 19th and 20 May.

Cross Count

The school Inter-house Cross Country will be held on Tuesday 31 March on the school oval and surrounds. Students will have received an information note this week with details and approximate times of races. The carnival will also double as selection races for students born 2003 to 2006, to pick the Wilston SS team to compete at the City District Carnival on Tuesday 5 May.

Rodney Bell. PE Specialist

CHOIR NEWS

Don't forget the Easter church services at St Columba's next Friday March 27th. Juniors 9.30am and Seniors 10.15am.

Date Claimers – Term 2

Thurs April 23rd - Anzac Ceremony. 1.50pm

Wednesday May 20th - Choral Fanfare Competition – Wilston Wonders (in school time)

Sunday May 31st - Wilston Winter Market Festival – Wilston Wonders.

Miranda Charters and Bev Barnett

FROM THE STRINGS DEPARTMENT

Uniforms: Children in Years 4-6 are required to purchase a white music polo shirt from the Uniform Shop or through Munch Monitor for \$30. This is part of our performance uniform and we will be wearing these at each of our performances. Please buy one at your earliest convenience. **Please note: Year 3 beginners do not buy a music shirt.**

Pizzicato Strings Concert: All Year 3 beginners will be performing in the Instrumental Room on Tuesday, March 31 from 2.30pm. All parents and families are invited to come and see what we have achieved so far this year. This concert will also feature our chamber strings group.

Easter Service: A selected group of our senior strings will be performing at the Easter Service on Friday, March 27.

For any queries regarding the string program, please contact Mrs Kathryn Payne at kpayn49@eq.edu.au

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Have you seen the new furniture in the coffee shop? We have two lovely couches with cushions and brand new white tables and chairs for you to sit at while you enjoy your morning coffee. Please come down and enjoy the new additions soon.

For all your Tuckshop purchases log on to Munch Monitors and make a selection from all the yummy items. Some new things you may have missed are rice pudding, mango sorbet, and tomato and bacon pasta. If you haven't signed up to Munch Monitors, get started now using the log in below.

User name: wilstonss

User Password: munch4051

Week beginning the 23 March 2015

Monday 23 Lisa McGrath, Leonie Crawford

Tuesday 24 Marion Jones, Catherine Moulson, Sabina Row

Wednesday 25 Kate Leggett, Julia Jenyns, Nicola Bartlett, Kim Allen

Thursday 26 Melinda Jennison, Sian Pratt, Megan Chambers

Friday 27

Priscilla Camisa, Amber Frazer, Louise Blake, Bob and Sue Behan.

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).

SHOP ONLINE: Go to www.munchmonitor.com; Username: wilstonss and Password: munch4051. All items purchased online are delivered to your child's class. PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CHILD'S CLASS WHEN PLACING AN ORDER TO ENSURE SPEEDY DELIVERY.

Stock Update: Out of Stock: dress (size 8 and 10); embroidered polo shirt mocha (size 6), senior shirts (size 14), tights (size 10-12), prep hat ribbon.

Senior Shirts

All shirts and forms should now be submitted, and the printing of the shirts will be underway very soon. There is limited stock remaining of size 8 and 12 shirts, in case you'd like another senior shirt in your cupboard!

Music Shirts

All year 4-6's (not Year 3's) require a white music shirt to participate in orchestra performances. These shirts are available in sizes 6-14 for \$30 each.

Stationery

Key stationery items are now back in stock, including Whiteboards for problem solving, whiteboard pens and erasers, dictionaries, atlases and headphones.

Winter Items

When that cold snap finally arrives, visit the shop for all your winter uniform items. There are plenty of jackets (\$46), long-sleeve rugby polos (\$30) and cargo pants (\$30) in stock. There is limited stock of girls' stretch pants (\$30) in varying sizes, and a limited stock of tights.

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

NEWS FROM THE P&C

2015 Annual P&C Easter Egg Raffle

We are in the final weeks of collecting for the Annual Wilston State School Easter Raffle. Students should have received their tickets – please return asap via the class Blue Bag.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. When you are out shopping please add in a little something for the Easter raffle and send it into the Tuckshop.

Please consider donations of allergy free items, colouring books, stickers or Easter craft items. All donations will be gratefully received and should be delivered to the tuckshop.



Should you require more tickets, please contact Kath O'Hara 0411 699 867 k-ohara@bigpond.net.au

NEWS FROM WILSTON KIDS CARE

Update On After School Activities

Background

The WKC committee decided at the last meeting, 11 March 2015 that we will conduct a review of our current procedures to provide access for children enrolled at WKC to private and Wilston P&C after school activities.

In reviewing our policy and procedures we have always kept the safety of the children paramount in our decisions.

Currently a large number of WKC children are involved in a range of after school activities provided on the WSS campus. Some of these activities are run by private businesses and some, like swimming, are run by the Wilston State School P & C. Children need to be taken to their activities from WKC with a qualified carer. Up to now we have tried our best to accommodate these requests using existing staff, however with daily attendance now reaching 200, on four afternoons, the subsequent increase in demand for this service required us to review it.

Duty Of Care – 3.00pm Starts

The first review was to discuss the number of students needing to be at different activities at 3.00pm. This is our most difficult accommodation. Under our licence we are required to check each child into the service at the end of school. We perform this check in during Roll Call from 3.00pm in the Undercover play area. Children on our rolls for attendance that day but do not turn up for Roll Call are immediately identified. Our policy is to start to call parents to locate the child, if parents are unable to be contacted we are required to contact the police. This process is very important as we need to know we have all our registered children in our care. This Roll Call takes approximately 15 minutes. We try very hard to complete the process as quickly as possible with all staff on separate rolls managing the large number of children.

The problem we face is that when we are requested to have children to their activities by 3.00pm. We physically cannot accommodate this request. Children who take themselves to these activities will be recorded as missing from Roll Call. We have tried to request that WKC children start their activities 15 mins after 3.00pm to accommodate our processes but we have found problems this year.

Staff to Children Ratios

The second problem we face is the staffing required to manage the number of students who go to activities and then come back to WKC. We have, as an interim solution, put extra staff on to accommodate the situation, at no additional cost to parents at this stage.

Revising The Number of Activities

We will need to review the current list of providers. We are hoping that we can find a way to work with them as we do for the Swimming lessons. We are also aware of the large number of children who are not attending WKC but attend after school activities with their parents or on their own. We need to know who the children in our care area at all times.

Currently we have children going to the following activities:

- Swimming
- Jujitsu
- X country
- Arts Extra
- Typing
- Drama
- Tennis
- Cricket

- Music
- French
- Little athletics
- Auskick

Safety Of Children While In The Care Of WKC

Finally we have found that there are many of the activity providers who are more than happy to work in with WKC, however there are some that allow children to go unsupervised around the school and once a session has finished will send the children unsupervised back to WKC. We are responsible for the children's safety and we need to have them handed over to the care of a WKC staff member at the completion of the activity. This will ensure that the responsibility is handed back to WKC and negates the issue of children going missing between activities and WKC.

Review Process

The committee is going to discuss these issues at the next meeting of WKC which is held the second Wednesday of each Month at WKC. All parents are welcome.

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Club Championships commence this Friday night 20 March 2015, 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 28 March 2015 from 6.00pm. We look forward to seeing everyone there to celebrate a great season of swimming.

The **engraver** will be at both Club Championship nights. It will cost \$4 per medal and if you could have correct change or close to, that would be great.

Good luck to all swimmers representing the crocs at the Brisbane Metropolitan Relay Championships this Saturday.

Winter Swimming – we have squad and Learn to Swim available year round with the pool heated to 29 degrees. 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.

Bookings are now open for Term 2 Learn to Swim. We are also offering our **Learn to Swim Intensives** over the Easter Holidays from Tuesday 7 April 2015 to Friday 10 April 2015, we offer 4 x 30min lessons at the same time each day. Cost for the 4 days is \$52. Please contact Kirsten in the office for bookings.

Congratulations to our trainer of the week: **Dylan A.**

Club night duties this week:

- BBQ – **Cameron, Boshoff and Volunteer needed**
- Canteen – **Godbolt and Laurent**

See you at the pool!

W: www.wilstonswim.org.au

E: info@wilstonswim.org.au