FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

What Is The Point Of Examinations?
Apart from the obvious use – obtaining a qualification to get into further education or a job – what is the point of all the testing and examinations our students endure at school?

One leading education expert, John Hattie of the University of Melbourne, believes the purpose of most assessments is not to measure precisely how much students know at a given moment. Rather, it’s to provide information to teachers and school leaders about the impact of their teaching on students, so that educators have the best information possible about how they need to change and adapt.

Assessments are powerful tools for improving teaching and learning when they provide timely, informative reports directly related to what teachers have taught. This allows teachers to constantly monitor their impact on students and get feedback about their teaching and how it can be improved to get the best possible results.

The best teachers also get their students self-assessing and taking responsibility for continuous improvement. After all, it is their schooling, their lives, their futures that are at stake in classrooms.

What is the difference between formative and summative assessments?
One explanation: When the cook tastes the soup, it is formative; when the guests taste the soup, it is summative.

Many students are now facing their summative assessments, the examinations that will show their accumulated knowledge, skills and learning mastery. The results of some of these examinations will be crucial for the futures they are planning for themselves. Their results should help students understand their own progress in learning – what they can do, what they cannot yet do, where to go next.

This is valuable information for parents too. Examination results give you a snapshot of where your children are at this moment. Use the results, not for blame or recriminations, but to discuss how they got to this point, where it leads them for next year and what they need to do to achieve better results or to maintain their steady progress.

**WELL DONE AWARDS JUNIOR**

PA  Darcy H, Jasmine P.
PB  Isobel H, Grace M
PC  Riley P, Quinn Mc
PD  Alexis C, Madeline S, Saoirse O
PF  Elijah T, Daniel H, Zoe H, Noemie W
1B  Will Q, Matilda L, Suraya Mc, Jade S
1C  Joshua P, Caitlin P, Tom C, Ben R
1D  James H, Gemma H, Emerson B
1E  Poppy Mc, Hannah P, Millie B, Archie M
1F  Aaron B, Jude L, Olivia O
2A  Oliver A, Amelia H, Oliver G
2B  Kaden B, Sarah H, Abigail A
2C  Ashima R, William T, Thomas J
2D  Gabriela G-G, Declan C, Emily W
2E  Max S, Nicholas M, Thea L,
2F  Jonny S, Camie K, Annabel S

**SALVATION ARMY FOOD/GIFT CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2015**

Again this year we are collecting for the Salvos at Stafford, helping those in our local community.

We are always amazed at the generosity of our school community and the excitement we see in our children when they place a gift of food for a child or adult that they do not know. What a wonderful way to teach our students about the true meaning of giving.

You will find our Christmas tree in the office foyer in C Block. Bring the children to have a look. There will be gift tags with boy/girl, adult, grand-ma, grandad etc for those who would like to place a gift under the tree. Canned goods are always welcome as well as everyday items such as cereal, biscuits, sauces.

A representative from the Salvation Army will address the children at our final assembly where they will be presented with our gifts.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and generosity.

**2016 CANBERRA/SKI TRIP**

The 2016 Canberra Ski trip will be held from Sunday 26 June until Friday 1 July. If your child is interested in attending please complete the Expression of Interest and return it to the office via your class Blue Bag.

**STUDENT PAYMENTS**

**Outstanding Monies Owing to School**

There are still quite a number of families who have not finalised their account for activities which their children have participated during the year. As the end of the school year is fast approaching, we ask that all accounts be finalised as soon as possible. Term 4 accounts which went home at the beginning of the term should have been finalised by now. Years 4 to 6 have participated in GALA Days and there are families who have not paid for this activity. Expenses, such as bus costs and entry fees, have been paid by the school. Monies for such expenses are included in the costing of excursions, etc to families. If you have any queries about your account, please contact me.

Pink statements have gone out this week. Please send all payments to the office via the class Blue Bag.

**ECOMARINES**

We are on a mission to reduce plastics. We are going to start small and hopefully we can make a difference. Our mission for the rest of the year is to try and reduced our use of plastics on a Wednesday, so we are introducing to you ‘Wrapper Free Wednesdays’. On every Wednesday all we ask is for you to TRY and pack your lunches without using cling-wrap and zip lock bags. Every time we choose not to use plastic bags, we are helping our planet become more and more healthier. Here is a song, to help you remind yourself!

**WRAPPER FREE WEDNESDAYS**

You see this wrapper,  
You all know what it’s for,  
But do you know, it kills, what we all adore,  
Our poor marine life,  
Are suffer –ri – i – ing  
If we reduce this, we’ll change, every-th-i-ing.

Wrapper Free Wednesdays the way to go- oh  
Wrapper Free Wednesdays let’s make it show

Wrapper-Free, Wednes-day’s, let’s make the change  
Come’on and pack, your lunches, a different way,  
We can reduce, plas-tics, every day,  
Here we go,  
Oh, oh  
Wrapper Free Wednes-day!

(Repeat Chorus)  
YAY!

**NEWS FROM HPE**

Congratulations to the 24 students who representing Wilston SS at the Queensland Primary School Invitation Relay Swimming Carnival at the Chandler Aquatic Centre on Friday night. All students swam well with a number of teams progressing through to the finals. Our junior boys team consisting of Angus K, George B, Blake J and Josh A, picked up Bronze in both the freestyle and medley relay finals. Thanks to all parents for their support and getting their children to the championships.

Congratulations to George B who has been selected in the Met North Aquathlon team to compete at the State Championships next year.

**CHOIR NEWS**

The Wilston Wonders have been invited to sing at an event organised by the Commonwealth Government at QUT next Wednesday (Nov 18th). A permission form was sent home on Monday with details.
FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

SHOP OPEN: Monday, Wednesday and Friday during Term 4, 2015 and Term 1, 2016. Closing day for 2015 is Wednesday 9 December. Shop reopens prior to Term 1 on Thursday 21 and Friday 22 January between 8.30am and 11.30am, then again on first day of Term 1 (Wednesday 27th) and Friday 29 January 2016.

Shop Online: Go to www.munchmonitor.com; Username: wilstonss and Password: munch4051. All items purchased online are delivered to your child’s class. Please note: Deliveries are only made on the days that the shop is open.

Stock Update: Out of Stock: dress (size 6, 8 and 10); embroidered polo shirt mocha (size 6, 8 and 10), embroidered polo shirt gold (size 6), cotton polo shirt mocha (size 4 and 6), senior shirts (size 14), girls’ winter stretch pants (sizes 6, 8, 10 and 12); tights (size 6-9), Paterson shirts (s.10). Some current stock will run low and will not be replaced while the updated uniforms are in production. Thanks for your patience and understanding over the next few months.

New Uniform Update

The NEW POLOS HAVE ARRIVED!!! The shop is fully stocked with our new two-colour shirts in sizes 4-16. The price remains unchanged at $28. The button up shirts are expected in early December and the new dresses will hopefully be available at the start of Term 1 2016!!

FROM THE STRINGS DEPARTMENT

The Parent Information Evening for the students who were selected into the Strings Program for 2016 will be held on Tuesday November 24 in the D Block Staffroom. If you are unable to attend, please contact Mrs Payne to make a time to discuss the program on kpayn49@eq.edu.au. String lessons will finish on Friday, November 27. All students with school instruments will need to return their instrument for servicing by this date. Students performing in the Carols and Church Service can return them after the performances.

BRASS WOODYN & PERCUSSION

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The Christmas Party is on 26 November we would like all our lovely helpers to join us in celebrating the festive season.

Check on MunchMonitors as lots of changes are happening as we come closer to the end of term

Monday 16 CLOSED
Tuesday 17 Leonie Crawford, Megan Chambers
Wednesday 18 Kathryn Napier, Sarah Bender, Peter Power, Lisa Pyne
Thursday 19 Chole Smith, Sally Carson
Friday 20 Sharon Royal, Kathy Davies, Sharon Snowdon, Andrew Quinnland.

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

NEWS FROM THE P&C

The school DISCO will be held on Saturday 14 November. Parent helpers for set-up and on the night are required.

You can easily choose what you would like to help with and the time from our volunteers sign-up page at www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0D4DAFA92CA7FD0-disco

Please note that a few volunteers are required for the afternoon of Saturday 7th November to help paint the decorations that will go up at the disco. Please sign up and contact either Jane Miller (janemiller100@hotmail.com) or Kristina Row (Kristina.row@gmail.com) so they can give you more information.

Tickets are now available through Munch Monitors via the School Shop page. Ticket sales close at 9:00am Friday 13th November. Tickets can also be purchased at the gate on the night.

Some new food arrangements are being trialled this year and we will be welcoming the following food providers to the school for the event:

• Sushi Neko
• The Fire Inside (mobile pizza)
• Thumbs Up Hot Dogs
• Rainbow Smash slushees
• Volunteers urgently required for security and bar
• Entrance will be via swimming pool gate
• Disco will go ahead rain or shine!!

Come and buy your 2016 uniforms before the 2016 rush!

2016 Book Packs – Final week for free delivery!

The 2016 book pack order forms have been distributed! Place your order as soon as possible to ensure early delivery. All orders placed before 13 November will be freight free and will be delivered to your home by Friday 11 December.

Ordering information: Order by logging on to the Edsco website (www.edsco.com.au) and following the prompts. Remember to select Wilston State School then the grade your child is in next year. Alternatively, return your forms via the blue bags in the classrooms or direct to the bookshop.

Please note: You will see a price difference between the online order form and the paper version. This is because the online lists have all the list items pre-selected, including anything listed as an additional/carry-over item. If you do not need certain items on the order form, just change the order quantity for those items to 0 before submitting your order.

Need an order form? Spare copies are available from the school admin office or on the P&C website.

Volunteers for Prep Orientation Afternoons and Stocktake:
The shop will be open for uniform fittings and sales on the Prep orientation afternoons scheduled for Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 November. To make this event run smoothly, we need current school parents to share their knowledge and help fit these excited new preps with their uniforms.

Stocktake (uniform counting) is scheduled for Wednesday 9 December. If you can spare an hour or two on any of these days, your help would be very much appreciated.

**Gold Shirt Clearance**

This amazing offer continues into Term 4! Buy one gold shirt, get one free!! Sizes 8-12 available.

Christine Matheson and Debra Bela – Convenors Ph. 3552 8490 / 0448 633 737 (Christine) / bookshop@wilstonpandc.org.au
NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Congratulations to all our swimmers who competed at the Nudgee College A Grade Meet last weekend. It was great to see so many competing. Many swimmers received medals on the day and swam personal best times. A special mention to Hilary T who has qualified for 200 IM and 100 Breaststroke for State Championships.

Meet Roc the Croc - Sami O won the movie passes for her excellent suggestion for our club Mascot – Roc. Congratulations Sami. Make sure you come and say hello to Roc at the next Club Night.

Thank you to everyone who helped on Saturday at the working bee. The pool complex is looking better every week thanks to your efforts.

Also well done to all the swimmers at the school relay championships.

The annual Terry Sullivan cup is coming up! The team is in the process of being finalised and selected swimmers will be notified during this week. In the meantime, keep the afternoon of 5 December open and keep on training!

Reminder- club night nominations close Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

Swim Club duties this week:
Canteen: Moy, Howes, Fidler
BBQ: Purssey, Tilbury, McDonald.

If you are rostered on canteen or BBQ can you please arrive by 5:50pm. If you are unable to attend on your rostered night please find a replacement, or contact the office to assist you with arranging a swap. The canteen and BBQ roster is an important function for the Friday Club Nights and relies on the generosity of club volunteers to maintain this service.

The final Swim Club meeting for this year will be held at 7.00pm Thursday 3 December – pool side, all welcome. If you would like to understand what makes the Crocs tick, please come along.

The Wilston Crocs have a Facebook page. Please ‘like us’ and keep up to date on all swimming news.
WILSTON STATE SCHOOL presents

School disco

Saturday 14 November
Join us for a mystical night of music & magic!

Entry
$8 per child
Parents, teachers & Pre-Prep FREE

Pre-Prep to Gr 2 4.30–6pm
Gr 3 to 6 6.15–8pm

Tickets available via Munch Monitors

Children MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult while on school grounds.