FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

2016 Classes
Our process for class allocations for 2016 has commenced and is near completion. As mentioned previously we can no longer accept information from parents as the final date for receipt of these has passed. Allocating students to classes is a complex task and our teachers have been working collaboratively to ensure the best possible mix for our students in 2016.

Amaya Visits The ABC
Earlier this year on the Ekka holiday Amaya G had the chance to go into the ABC studios at Southbank to draw. The team at the ABC gathered interested young artists for a drawing day in the foyer. One of Amaya’s pictures was chosen by the producers to be animated for TV on ABC3 Doodles. Amaya was then invited by Spencer Howson to the radio station and was interviewed about her love of drawing. Amaya is a student who is passionate about drawing and cares deeply about how her drawings look. She was recognised for her hard work on parade today. At Wilston State School we are very proud of Amaya and we certainly value her dedication to continuing to improve her drawing skills.


White Ribbon Day
Unfortunately throughout this year a number of disturbing domestic violence incidences have generated wide publicity. Next Wednesday is White Ribbon Day and we will be holding a special parade to acknowledge this Day. One of the White Ribbon ambassadors, Mr Tim Class Auliff, happens to be a parent at this school and Tim has offered to speak to the students at this parade.

Mr Class Auliff has assured me that the message he conveys is appropriate to primary students and I hope will raise the awareness of this issue and how we can all play our part in ensuring domestic violence is not accepted. ‘White Ribbons’ will be for sale at parade at 9.00am for $2.00 each.

School Officer
At the end of last term our permanent School’s Officer (formerly janitor/groundsman) resigned and we have been very fortunate to have had Mr Shane Coleman undertake this role until we were able to complete the recruitment and selection process necessary to fill the role. I sincerely thank Mr Coleman for the sterling work he has done for us in the short term.

When a position becomes available in our Department the first step in the recruitment process is to see if there is a suitable applicant on relocation and if this is not the case then approval to go to open merit commences. Our process did go to open merit and I am pleased to report that the successful applicant is Mr Andrew Carrick.

Currently, Andrew is working at Eagle Junction SS on Thursdays and Fridays for the rest of this year and as from 2016 will be full-time at Wilston. Andrew enjoys most sports, especially Rugby Union and has represented Queensland and Australia in Waterpolo. Having 28 years of landscaping experience, Andrew brings a wealth of knowledge to the role and is looking forward to being involved with the whole school community in his new role.

Guy Hendriks
Principal
STUDENT COUNCIL

White Ribbon Day
25 November 2015. The school will assemble at 9.00am in the Undercover Area. White ribbons will be for sale at $2.00 each.

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, granddad 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.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION UPDATE

Deadline Tomorrow Friday 20 November

Please note that your input items for the Graduation AV Presentation are due tomorrow, Friday 20 November.

This includes:
Prep photo (to be emailed).
General photos (upload or Usb)
Music suggestions (form to be returned via class Blue Bag)
Families leaving WSS this year (email).

Please refer to the memo sent home last week via students and via email from your class rep. Any queries, please contact me at roxanne@photographyrox.com.au

Roxanne Gorman

2015 YEARBOOK

Order forms for the 2015 Yearbook went home this week. If you did not receive your order form please call in at the office or download from our website.

The Yearbook has all class, sport and music photos plus camp and special events held throughout the year. All of your 2015 school memories are available for the low cost of $25.00. The year book will be ready for collection in February 2016. Please return your order form and money via your class Blue Bag by Wednesday 25 November.

Danielle Freeman (Year Book Co-Ordinator)

UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

Year 5 Readers Cup Competition

Well done to our Year 5 Readers Cup team - Kassidy, Lucy B, Lucy L and Sophia who represented Wilston SS in the competition held at McDowall State School last Thursday. The girls have been reading – and reading! – since the holidays to prepare for the event. They are to be commended on their hard work and commitment. The results were extremely close, with teams separated by only half points.

All were pleased with their efforts and had a lot of fun on the day. Two wartime titles were chosen for study in recognition of the Gallipoli centenary and they were quite demanding, but also rewarding. A special thank you to Mrs Hogan for keeping the team on track!

2015 WILSTON SCIENCE COMPETITION

The annual Wilston Science Competition has been judged and placegetters were awarded at the Year 3-6 School Assembly on Thursday, 19 November. Over 150 students entered the competition, and the overall quality of entries was extremely high, particularly in Divisions 1 and 2.

Congratulations to all the winning students:

DIVISION 1

1ST PLACE
PERCIVAL E (2D) Which type of ball when kicked will travel the furthest?

2ND PLACE
VIOLET S (2A) Falling upwards

3RD PLACE
LUCY McC (2D) Handwashing

HIGHLY COMMENDED/ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD:
URSULA E (Prep E) Which plant will grow the best?
JESSICA K (2A) Lights out
JAMES T (2D)/JAMES W (2B) How does exercise affect your heart rate
RAPHAEL G-V (2F) The golden ratio
HANNAH P (1E) How to make a parachute

DIVISION 2

1ST PLACE
JOSH B (5B), DAMON C (5B), JACQUES W (5B) The amazing balancing forks

2ND PLACE
LAURA P (3C) Iron at my breakfast table

3RD PLACE (shared award)
SOPHIA C (5C) Heart rate: Response to stimuli
TOBY G (4E)/ANGUS K (4E) Rugby at an angle

HIGHLY COMMENDED:
LIAM C (4E) Life cycle of a lizard
ANNABEL B (3B)/BRIDIE MAC (3B) White or bright?
SAM C (4C) Water quality in Kedron Brook
ELIZABETH P (3D)/ANITA Z (3D) Where did my milk go? How different cereals absorb milk.

DIVISION 3
1ST PLACE
JOEL G (6C) How the strength of a magnet varies with the temperature

2ND PLACE
CALLAN J (6B) Guess what? I know ... what puts the sour in sour-dough

3RD PLACE
ELORA B (6C) Weeds in my garden

HIGHLY COMMENDED:
ASHLEY P (6A)/POLLY LAWRENCE (6A) Edible diamonds
RUBY Mcl (6A)/LILJA WOLRATH (6A)/ MAYA WHEATLEY (6A) Apes alive
DANIEL McH (6B) Asymmetrical surfboards
ZACHARIAH MclN (6B) Frog
BAILEY Y (6C) Paper towel absorbency test
SAM R (6C) Blow your own horn
LIAM N (6C)/OLIVER R (6A)/AIDAN R (6C) Classified herb collection

JUNIOR SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR (Division 1-2):
SCARLETT S (5B)/CLEMENTINE S (3A) Our Big Hero 6: From Hypatia to Honey Lemon

YOUNG SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR (Division 3):
SAM I (6A)/JOSHUA K (6A) Get more bang for your buck with batteries

A big thank you to parents and family members for their support and encouragement of students entering the competition. Even a cursory examination of the results above shows that the science competition is a family event in some households. Thanks also to Mr Peter Beadle (6A) and Mr Dan Spencer (QUT Internship) for being part of the judging panel. The judging panel were impressed by the range of topics, and the quality of scientific thinking evident in the entries.

The Wilston Science Competition will return in 2016 – bigger and better!

Brendan Medlin

NEWS FROM HPE

Swimming Carnivals
The school swimming carnivals for students in Year 1-6 will be held in the second last week of term. Students will compete in their year of birth for these carnivals. The carnivals will also be used as selections trials for students to gain selection into the school swimming team for next year’s City District Swimming Carnival.

Junior Carnival
Monday 30 November 9.00am to 11.00am 8 yrs (born 2007)
Tuesday 1 December 9.00am to 11.00pm 7 yrs (born 2008)
Tuesday 1 December 11.30am to 12.30pm 6 yrs (born 2009)
# Year 1 students only

Senior Carnival – 9 yrs to 12 Years (born 2006 – 2003)
Wednesday 2 December
9.00am Introduction
9.10am -10.50am 1st Session - Backstroke
11.00am – 11.30am Morning Tea
11.30am - 1.00pm 2nd Session - Breastroke

Thursday 3 December
9.00am Introduction
9.10am -10.50am 1st Session - Freestyle
11.00am – 11.30am Morning Tea
11.30am - 1.00pm 2nd Session – Butterfly

More information is provided on the Swimming Carnival notes sent out earlier this week. These were sent to the youngest in the family.

Rodney Bell. PE Specialist

CHOIR NEWS

Yesterday our Wilston Wonders sang at a Government launch for Emergency Services at QUT Garden’s Point. They did an amazing job and were treated to a pizza party afterwards! Many thanks to the organizers and also Mrs Barnett, Mr Hendriks, Ms Dietz, Mr Fay and Jodie Dent for their help!

We are working on a date and time for a break-up Christmas party for the Wilston Wonders. More info to follow.

Upcoming Dates:
Friday November 27 Church Services St Columbas
Juniors 9.30am, Seniors 10.15am
Thursday December 3 Music Assembly 1.45pm
Wednesday December 9 Carols by Daylight
Assembly Area 11.30am

TUCKSHOP NEWS

Tuckshop will be closed for morning tea on the 4th December due to the graduation ceremony for Year 6.

The Christmas party is on the 26th November. We hope to see you all there.

Help is needed in Tuckshop if you can. Even if it only a couple of hours.

Monday 23 CLOSED
Tuesday 24 Tracey Woolaston, Marion Jones
Wednesday 25 Kate Usher, Liezel Boshoff, Zoe
Thursday 26 Megan Beattie, Chris Shume, help needed
Friday 27 Nat Scott, Chris Beehler, Geraldine Mercer, Jess Draper

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

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 29 January between 8.30am and 11.30am, then again on first day of Term 1 (Wednesday 27) 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: The NEW POLOS HAVE ARRIVED. The shop is fully stocked with our new two-colour shirts in sizes 4-16, and they are selling quickly. 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!
Uniform Policy
It will be mandatory for all students to wear black closed-in shoes from the start of Term 1 2016. Preps commencing in 2016 will be required to purchase either the check shirt or a dress, to be worn on excursions, special assemblies and for school photos. Continuing students will be asked to update their uniforms with the new items as required, with the expectation that all students will have one formal uniform item for the above occasions by 2018.

2016 Book Packs
Place your book pack order asap to ensure early delivery.
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 THE P&C
Well done to Saskya Hunter and Claire Stanley and their amazing team of volunteers for a great end of year Disco last Saturday. The weather smiled on us (sort of) and our Disco Dynamos raised more than expected. My favourite moment of the night was a little boy giving his mother some change and saying ‘I wasted my money on sushi.’

The last P&C Meeting for the year is this week (Thursday B block, 7.00pm). I’ve received some applications for new members, which is fantastic. If you would like to join one of the most amazing P&Cs in Queensland, email me at president@wilstonpandc.org.au to get a form. It’s free! And you don’t have to come to every meeting.

Wilton Disco
Despite the threat of stormy weather, much of the Wilston school community turned out to enjoy an evening of magic and dancing at this year’s Wilston Disco.

A big THANK YOU to:
- All the fantastic dancers. We thought the excitement of the Year Prep to 2 could not be matched until the fabulous Year 3 to 6 hit the dance floor. Boy those kids can dance!
- All who helped organise things behind the scenes as well as on the night.
- All those who came along to support the disco.

We wouldn’t have done it without you and it certainly was a success! Hope to see you again next year.

Saskya Hunter and Claire Stanley

NEWS FROM WILSTON KIDS CARE

Vacation Care
The booking forms are now available for Vacation Care for December and January. You need to book in early to secure a spot. There are lots of activities planned to keep the children occupied this holiday. The first week has swimming and skating at Stafford City Skate Centre. The second week has a trip to the movies at Hoyts Cinemas. After Christmas and New Year we have two weeks of fun including pyjama parties, games trailer and go carts. So make sure you fill out your booking forms and get them to the WKC office. Please remember if you need to cancel we need to know 7 days in advance. We have very strict children to supervisor ratios to maintain so we need to staff accordingly. Late bookings and cancellations need to be managed carefully.

We would also like to remind parents they can always access the policies and procedures for WKC from our website at http://www.wiltonpandc.org.au/index.php/wilston-kids-care/important-parent-information

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Term 4 swim fees – Learn to Swim, Squad and Club Membership are now overdue. Please see Kirsten in the pool office if you are unsure of you have any overdue fees or to discuss payment. Failure to pay your invoice could see your child removed from their class or no longer able to compete for the club.

Information Sessions with Noel - After spending a few weeks with our children, Noel is keen to hold an Information Session with parents to talk about his coaching approach, philosophy and goals for our children, and to provide an opportunity for parents to ask questions. Two Information Sessions have been scheduled - Thursday 26 November at 7.00 pm and Saturday 27, 8.45 am. Saturday 28 will also be our final pancakes morning for the year.

Calling for Nominations for 2016 Wilston Croc Captains and Vice Captains
Club Captain (2) and Vice-Captain (2) positions are open to all active club members in Year 6 or above in 2016. To nominate for this position, please complete the attached nomination form and submit by emailing the secretary (swim.secretary@wilstonpandc.org.au). The committee will be looking for Wilston Crocs who demonstrate active participation in club activities including squad training, competition and carnivals and demonstrate leadership qualities during Croc events (in particular, Friday club nights). Due date for nominations is 1 December.

Swim Club Vice-Chairman – An Opportunity
We have a vacancy — Election at last Swim Club Meeting for 2015 – 3 December. We need someone like you to join our merry band of volunteers to keep this the best Swim Club in QLD.
No prior experience necessary, just a willingness to have a go and have some fun. Call or email Matthew Crook for more information (0407 734 694, swim.chair@wilstonpandc.org.au)

Good luck to all our swimmers competing at the River City Rapids A Grade Long Course Meet this weekend. It is great to see so many competing.

Reminder - Club Night nominations close Wednesdays at 6:00pm.

Swim Club duties this week
Canteen: Allen, Jeremijenko and Leggett
BBQ: Moy, Godbolt, McNamara.
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.
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 3rd 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.

Terrariums
Due to current demand for Christmas presents and Teacher gifts, I am planting another selection of Terrariums.
There are different sizes and styles available and they range in price from $30 - $60 each.
Samples can be viewed at the tuckshop or email – caghillr@bigpond.com for photos.
Anyone needing glass planted up please contact me now.
All orders in by Wednesday 25.11.15 please.
Finished terrariums will be available for collection before school finishes on Friday 11.12.15.
For terrariums and any other plant requirements for Christmas gifts please contact Alison on 0417 757 058 or email (as above).

Does your child love to sing around the house?
Leading children’s choir, Voices of Birralee, invites young singers to join their Bardon program.
Voices of Birralee 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.

2016 enrolments are now open for the following ensembles:
Birralee Piccolos: Prep – Grade 1. Saturday 12:45-1:30pm
Birralee Kids: Grades 2 - 4. Saturday 1:30-2:30pm
Birralee Singers: Grades 5 - 8. Saturday 3:00-4:00pm
We run a yearly program with semester-by-semester enrolment options. Please visit our website www.birralee.org to enrol or for more information.
We are off to a flying start with donations already coming in for this year’s food and gift drive.

You can find our Christmas tree in the office foyer.

There are gift cards on the tree. Feel free to take one if you are planning on giving a gift, otherwise food and toiletries are also needed and greatly appreciated.

It’s a wonderful lesson for children; to give a gift to someone they don’t know.

The true meaning of giving.

Thank you.