FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

A Thought to Consider

"Every time we rescue, hover, or otherwise save our children from a challenge, we send a very clear message: that we believe they are incompetent, incapable, and unworthy of our trust. Further, we teach them to be dependent on us and thereby deny them the very education in competence we are put here on this earth to hand down."

Jessica Lahey in The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed

City Cluster Advance (was Retreat however our forward looking approach is coined in the term change to Advance)

Last week the leadership teams from all schools in the City Cluster attended a two day professional development workshop that focused on how our Cluster of schools could effectively; provide meaningful professional development activities that would enhance the pedagogical skills of our teachers and deliver a suite of activities that we can offer our students to extend and challenge their thinking.

The keynote address was delivered by the learning consultant and futurist, Tony Ryan. Tony is very innovative and focuses on innovative future-focused practice. In his own words, “I want to teach the world to think.”

I took away a number of key messages from his presentation.

The Australian Education system is a very good system when compared to the many well educated countries around the world. (We have a lot to be proud of.)

This generation of students will not engage in employment the same way we have. That is they are not likely to hold down one job for life.

If they don’t see the relevance in something they are not likely to engage with it. (They may not necessarily see the benefits of a tertiary education, particularly with the rising costs of studying at this level.)

New types of jobs are being created all of the time. Our students need to know how to think and are flexible enough to adapt to the opportunities presented to them.

The rapid rate of change in technology is ever increasing.

Keep A Watch On Our School These Holidays

With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please remember to call the School Watch number – 13 17 88. The School Watch program is a partnership between the Department of Education and Training, the Queensland Police Service and the State Government Protective Security Service. It aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools.

If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

Keep the number handy – 13 17 88 – and let’s work together to help create a safer school community.

I hope you have a safe holiday.
STUDENT COUNCIL

Skate Night
Year 5 and 6  Thursday 28 April 2016
Year 3 and 4  Thursday 5 May 2016
Prep to Year 2  Thursday 12 May 2016

STUDENT BANKING

Congratulations to all of our school bankers—we have had a record number of new accounts opened this term. Please note that Friday 18 March is the last banking day for Term 1.

You may have received a communication slip in your deposit book this week. We are requesting contact details from parents we can contact you more efficiently with banking-related issues. If you haven’t received a communication slip and you wish to receive SMS notifications from school banking, please email sharon.snowdon@gmail.com

ECOMARINE UPDATE

Have you had a look at our library display? If not, there’s still heaps of time! Our EcoMarine Warriors have been hard at work in creating marine life out of recyclable and reusable materials. There is also heaps of facts and information included with our display to help you understand more about our marine life around Moreton Bay and what the EcoMarine team do.

DID YOU KNOW?
The triangular symbol made from arrows is known as the Mobius loop. It indicates that a product is recyclable, but it is not reliably found on all recyclable items. Rather than relying on the symbol, a better way of identifying whether an item is recyclable is to ask yourself what it is made from. If it is made from paper, cardboard, firm plastic, metal (aluminium and steel) or glass, it can be recycled in Council’s recycling bins.

AND
Plastic bags are only recyclable through dedicated plastic bag recycling collections at local supermarkets. They ARE NOT recoverable through Council’s household recycling service, as they damage and jam the machines at the recycling facility. Recyclable items should be placed loosely in your recycling bin and not in plastic bags. Plastic bags, cling wrap, bubble wrap and nappies are considered contaminants in the recycling process and should be placed in the general waste bin.

For more information go to, http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3583576.htm

(http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/3583576.htm)

(Warning: there are some graphic pictures of marine life that have unfortunately become victims to plastics).

CHESS CLUB

This Thursday on assembly Andrew from Gardiner Chess will be launching Wilston’s before school chess program, starting on the 13 April (first Wednesday back). Flyers will be sent home with the youngest student in every family.

To register you will apply online via http://www.gardinerchess.com.au/. The cost per term will be $88 per student.

Remember children need to be exposed to a myriad of opportunities in their young lives, whether these be artistic, sporting or literary pursuits, to enable them to discover what excites them and what can contribute to their life skills in an enjoyable way. Extensive research has been conducted all around the world proving that chess helps children to ‘think smarter’.

In a nutshell, this is why children like to learn chess:
• They realise it helps them to think smarter.
• In most cases, after only a short time, they will be able to beat their parents at chess.
• They will be able to compete in a school team in the interschools chess competitions.
• Most kids find this to be an awesome experience.
• The most important . . . because it’s fun!

NEWS FROM HPE

Cross Country
Below is the Cross Country program for March 22.

Approximate times:
9.15am  8 Years (2008) Boys and Girls – 1km (1 outside lap)
9.30am  9 Years (2007) Boys and Girls – 1km (1 outside lap)
9.45am  10 Years (2006) Boys and Girls – 2km (2 outside laps)
10.10am 11 Years (2005) Boys and Girls – 3km (3 outside laps)
10.45am 12 Years (2004) Boys and Girls - 3km (3 outside laps)
11.15am  Morning Tea Break
11.40am  Prep Boys and Girls – 300m (1 inner lap)
11.55am  6 Years (2010) Boys and Girls – 300m (1 inner lap)
12.10pm  7 Years (2009) Boys and Girls – 600m (2 inner laps)
12.30pm  Presentations

I’d like to thank all parents that have helped out, both in and out of the water for class swimming lessons this term. Your contribution to the swimming program is very much appreciated.

Rodney Bell
PE Specialist

CHOIR NEWS

Birralee Voices Children’s Choir - Scholarship
Congratulations to Charlotte C. and Oliver H. from Year 6 for being selected as the recipients of a Birralee Voices scholarship. These students were chosen for their vocal ability, commitment to the school choir and their motivation to improve as singers. Well done and we hope you enjoy your experience at Birralee.

Upcoming Performances
**It would be great if the Wilston Wonders (Years 5-6) could wear their yellow polo shirts for the Easter performance below this Friday.

Easter Church Services
Friday March 18th St Columbas Church
Lower School service (Yrs 1-3) 9:30am (Junior Choir)
Upper School (Years 4-6) 10:15am (Wilton Wonders Senior Choir)

Anzac Parade
Thursday April 21 Assembly Area
1.45pm Whole School

Bev Barnett and Miranda Charters
**TUCKSHOP NEWS**

With summer weather still here the kids might look forward to a Tuckshop ice for 50c or lemonade icy twist for a $1.00 at big lunch and you can order any of our lovely juices and cold water.

With the success of crazy hair and all the winners receiving a yellow Tuckshop voucher we wanted everyone to know that they have a value of only $1.00. There has been some confusion with this voucher.

Thank you for all our lovely volunteers for a wonderful term. We value our helpers and the Tuckshop would not function without them.

**Roster for the week beginning 21 March 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 21</th>
<th>CLOSED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22</td>
<td>Leonie Crawford, Lorraine Tibbits, Sharon Waddingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23</td>
<td>Sharon Darmody, Elissa Hoey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24</td>
<td>Sian Pratt, Jacinda Geritz, Harriet Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 25</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP**

Come on down for our never to be repeated EASTER SALE. From tomorrow we'll be setting up tables outside the Uniform Shop and filling them with the best value school uniforms you'll ever be able to buy, including:

- Gold polo embroidered shirts - $10
- Gold cotton polo shirts - $10
- House shirts in the former house colours and style - $10
- Track pants in sizes 14 and 16 - $10
- Straight leg stretch pants, sizes 2 & 4 (good for kindy kids too) - $5
- Original dress in sizes 12/14/16 - $20

These uniform items are able to be worn for the next two years and would make a great standby uniform for those rainy days when the washing will not dry.

Here's a few more things you need to know this week:

**Opening times:** Monday-Wednesday-Friday: 8.15am-9.45am (next to Tuckshop). Remember next Friday is a holiday so there's only three more Uniform Shop days before Easter.

**MunchMonitor:** Order all your uniform and stationery items online at www.munchmonitor.com. Username: wilstonss and Password: munch4051. Please place orders by 9.15am on Monday-Wednesday-Friday. This will ensure orders are delivered to teachers' pigeonholes for class delivery on those days.

**Easter service:** Let's show off our new formal school uniform by wearing the check shirt or dress to tomorrow's Easter service at St Columba's.

**Senior shirts:** They’re here! Thanks to everyone’s efforts, the senior shirts are being delivered to classrooms this week. Please let us know if yours hasn’t arrived and we’ll chase it up.

**In stock:** Gaberdine shorts in size 10 are now in stock.

**Tip of the week:** To get the most out of our new two colour polo shirts and house shirts, do not use fabric softener and keep them away from clothes dryers. The chemicals in softeners could compromise the structure of the fabric and the heat from a dryer could react with the polyester/cotton blend and misshape the shirt.

**Did you know:** Fabric softeners used to be a blend of soap and olive oil or other natural oils but today have a blend of chemicals and fragrances that coat clothes and make material less absorbent.

An alternative is to dissolve half a cup of baking soda in water and add to your load before washing.

Ever Onward Wilston!

Christine Matheson, Janice Nykiet and Debra Bela – Convenors
Ph: 3552 8490/0448 633 737 (Christine)
bookshop@wilstonpandc.org.au

**NEWS FROM THE P&C**

**Saturday 19th March - 8:00am - 2.00pm**

The STEM Robotics group will be organising the Election day BBQ and we need your help

If you are available to spare a couple of hours to setup, serve, cook or clean-up it would be appreciated

Please email Susan at bouchersri@gmail.com

You don’t have to be in Robotics to volunteer!

We are raising funds for STEM Resources

Susan and Chris

**Final Days—2016 Annual P&C Easter Egg Raffle**

All donations need to be delivered TOMORROW, Friday 18 March. Tickets need to be returned in the Blue Bag no later than Wednesday 23 March to be entered in the draw. For a greater chance please return your tickets by tomorrow, Friday 18 March. The final draw will take place early next week during the Easter Parade. Good Luck!!

Kath O’Hara kohara@bigpond.net.au or 0411 699 867

**2016 Trivia Night**

The P&C’s major event in Term 2 is traditionally the P&C Trivia Night. It is a night of great fun, lots of laughs and you don’t even have to be any good at trivia! We have organised the night for the last four years but are looking to hand it over to a new group of parents as our children start to head off to high school. To ensure this great night continues to entertain parents/carers each year, we are urgently seeking volunteers to help run this year’s event. Please contact Michelle Tribe (michmatt@bigpond.net.au) or Kath O’Hara (k-ohara@bigpond.net.au) if you are willing to help to keep this fun night going.

**WILSTON STEM ROBOTIC NEWS**

Our first term is almost over and we have seen our Robotic students steadily pacing themselves preparing for Robocup 2016. Learning and having fun has certainly been our theme in both classes. Our beginner Robotics students have learned how to program a robot to sense its environment and to react by movement, sound or display. We hope to introduce to our students this year sensors for visual, temperature and sound.

Thank you to James, Shirley, William W and MicroChannel Services for the donation of another laptop for our students to use.

**MicroChannel Services**

**Election Day BBQ 19 March**

Please support our P&C Sausage Sizzle by buying a sausage, drink or burger or sponsor to Robot!

All proceeds will be used to increase the Robotic resources (new sensors and parts.)
Payment of Term Fees
Payment of term fees are now due $40 Club or $30 Beginners Workshop. A Bank transfer is the preferred method for payment. Please reference Robotics and your child’s name. Contact Susan or Chris for details.

Chris and Susan

NEWS FROM WILSTON KIDS CARE

Run for Your Kids by You

Vacation Care – Kids/Staff Ratio: How It Works
WKC falls under the child care centre category and has to abide by very strict operational requirements. One of these is that the centre has to maintain a ratio of 15 children per educator at any time. During vacation care, the centre welcomes 60 to 100 kids every day, allowing for a certain number of late bookings and walk-ins. But when the centre falls victim to its success, additional staff has to be called in at short notice. If no additional staff is available then the child cannot be accepted as it would put the centre at risk of breaching its license. A breach of license could result in closure and this is not something that any working parent at the school would like to see. Therefore it is preferable to book for Vacation Care early, not only because space is limited but also because it helps the centre plan ahead for staff availability, side activities and food.

Wilston Kids Care Garden Project
At WKC, the staff is always aiming at providing a safe, enjoyable and educational environment for students. With sustainable practices becoming part of the WKC mission statement, Ryan (educator) seized the opportunity to propose a new garden project that will contain a selection of edible and non-edible plants and will also revive the dull and lifeless concrete space at the entrance of the building. The activities revolving around the project will be many and will teach students valuable skills in the processes and benefits of gardening. Ryan has started collecting the material required and we all look forward to the outcome of his hard work.

WKC Committee and Staff - Come and join us!
The next Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, 14 April at 6.00pm in the WKC office. Free kid-sitting and dinner provided on site for the children, nibbles for the adults.

Tel: 33526753
wilstonkidscare@optusnet.com.au

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Club Championships commenced last Friday night with some great racing. We look forward to our final night of racing for the season this Friday. Our Trophy Night and AGM for the election of office bearers will be held on Saturday 16 April at 5:30pm in the schools Undercover Area. Following the formal presentations there will be pizza for the children and a disco. We look forward to seeing everyone there to celebrate a great season of racing.

Congratulations to our swimmers who competed at the Brisbane Junior Championships over the weekend.

The last Learn to Swim and Squad Session for Term 1 will be on Thursday 24 March 2016.

Holiday swimming - Learn to Swim Intensives will be held over the first week of the Easter holidays from Tuesday 29 March to Friday 1 April. Lessons will commence from 8:30am and the cost for the 4 days is $52.

For bookings please email swim@wilstonpandc.org.au.

Holiday Squad will run from Tuesday 29 March - 1 April and Monday 4 April – Thursday 8 April. Squad will commence at 7.00am each morning. Cost will be $8 a single swim or unlimited swimming will be $50. Program details will be released shortly.

Swim Club duties this week:
Canteen: McLean, Gladman and Davies
BBQ: Gill, Wright and Shabayek
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 Wilston Crocs have a Facebook page. Please ‘like us’ and keep up to date on all swimming news.

See you at the pool!