FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Classes 2017
Over the next three weeks we will begin the process of placing students into next year’s classes. I anticipate that we will grow by a class.

Earlier in the term I asked that if you felt there were particular issues that we needed to consider when placing your child in a particular class that you communicate this to the relevant deputy principal. I would appreciate it if you could do so by this Friday. We may not be in a position to consider requests beyond this time as draft classes will be formed.

Book Donations
Book Week reminded us all about the joy of reading. Thank you to families who attended or supported our Book Week Activities. We have been asked to collect second hand children’s books for a Brisbane school community. Many families in this area are at or below the poverty line. Discretionary family funds are prioritised in areas other than literature for children.

Research continually shows that reading to young people results in significant gains in learning in primary school age children. Some families simply can’t afford books. This is where we have been asked to help. If you have second hand books at home that your children have outgrown or no longer ready, please send them to school. They will be sent to another school and donated to their families in Term 1 2017.

Please do not send encyclopedias or damaged books. Thank you for sharing your love of reading with those less fortunate.

Books will be collected by the classroom teacher and sent up to a collection point on the C Block verandah, outside Mrs Hofmeister’s room.

A Spanner in the Works
Students who do the same things in the same ways, day after day, soon become lulled into complacency by the predictability. So does the teacher. Sometimes we need something that throws a spanner in the works, messes things up and makes us think in new ways.

Challenges and problems can make us more creative and help us produce our best work. The psychologist Katherine Phillips gave murder mystery problems to students who were collected in groups of four and given dossiers with information about a crime. The groups were asked to figure out who committed the crime. Some of the groups were four friends who all knew each other well. In other groups three friends were joined by a stranger.

The groups with the stranger solved the problem more effectively. In fact, they solved the problem a lot more effectively. The groups of four friends had only a 50-50 chance of getting the answer right. The three friends and the stranger, even though the stranger didn’t have any extra information, had a 75% chance of finding the right answer. That’s quite a big leap in performance.

When Katherine Phillips interviewed the groups of four friends, they said they had a nice time and they thought they’d done a good job. They were complacent. When she spoke to the three friends and the stranger, they had not had a nice time. They thought it had been rather difficult, rather awkward, and they were full of doubt. They didn’t think they’d done a good job even though they had.

Brian Eno is a composer who has worked with musicians like David Bowie, U2, DEVO and Coldplay. What does he do to make these great rock bands better?

He makes a mess. He disrupts their creative processes.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL (contd)...

One of the ways in which he creates this disruption is through a remarkable deck of cards. They’re called The Oblique Strategies. When a band is stuck in the studio, Brian Eno will reach for one of the cards. He’ll draw one at random, and he’ll make the band follow the instructions on the card.

One says “Change instrument roles”. And everyone swaps instruments so the drummer is on the piano for instance. Another card says “Look closely at the most embarrassing details. Amplify them”. Yet another “Make a sudden, destructive, unpredictable action. Incorporate”. These cards are disruptive. The musicians hate them.

But just because you don’t like it doesn’t mean it isn’t helping you. Cards are used because a list didn’t work - it wasn’t messy enough. Your eye would go down the list and it would settle on whatever was the least disruptive, the least troublesome, which of course misses the point entirely.

What Brian Eno came to realise was that Oblique Strategies or disruptive techniques help us. They help us solve problems, they help us be more creative.

But we also need some persuasion if we’re going to accept this. So however we do it, all of us, from time to time, need to be the awkward stranger or the drummer instead of the guitarist.

Acknowledgement: Tim Harford, TED talk “How messy problems can inspire creativity”.

WILSTON STAR AWARDS

Prep

Year 1
Ruben P 1A, Violette B-T 1A, Scarlett L 1B, Shaun G 1B, Mia H 1C, Emily W 1C, Kai M 1D, Addison E 1D, Lola H 1E, Jake C 1E, Lucy H 1F, Fletcher G 1F.

Year 2

STUDENT PAYMENTS

White statements home this week to those families who have not yet paid their term fees. There are a number of excursions/camps/incursions this term. Please ensure payment is made well before the date of the activity if you wish your child to attend. Any queries please contact Leigh.

Year 5 and 6 Forensic Workshop 31 October 2016
Year 5 and 6 Preparing for Puberty November 2016
Year 6 Camp November
Year 6 Graduation December.

On the statement there is a link http://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/dete if you click on this it will take you straight to the page you require to make your payment. Biller Code 1002534.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Skate Nights
Years 5 and 6 3 November 2016 6.30 to 8.30pm.


Mater Little Miracles Fundraiser
The annual Mater Little Miracles jelly bean guessing competition fundraiser will be held for the next two weeks until 15 November during the big lunch break in the Undercover Area. For $2 per guess, you can have your guess at how many delicious jelly beans there are in the Mater Little Miracles container. All funds raised will go to helping Mater Little Miracles take care of premature and new babies.

As Mater Little Miracles was born out of a desire to provide the best possible start to life for seriously ill and premature babies cared for at Mater—that’s more than 2,000 new Queenslanders born every year. These babies are often born too early, very sick, or too small to go home with their parents just yet. They can be born as young as 24 weeks, weigh as little as 400 grams, and come from all over Queensland. Mater Mothers’ Hospitals welcome a new baby into the world for every 32 births in Australia—that’s one in every seven Queenslanders born who can say they’re a ‘Mater baby.’ Without the generous support of fundraisers like ours, these tiny patients cared for at Mater’s Neonatal Critical Care Unit each year would not receive Mater’s specialised care.

We would like to give special thanks to Inspirations Paint at Newmarket for kindly donating the delicious jelly beans for the fundraiser.

Kassidy Beaman, 6B

2016 YEARBOOK

Order forms for the 2016 Yearbook will be sent home this week. The Yearbook contains all class, sport and music photos plus contributions from all classes. And the wonderful individual profiles and portraits from our graduating students. The Yearbook is a great way for your child to remember their school year - all for the low cost of $25. The Yearbook will be ready for collection in February 2017. Please return your order form and money via your class Blue Bag by Wednesday 9th November. No late orders please!

NEWS FROM HPE

School Swimming Carnival – Dates
Wednesday November 30 Senior Swimming Carnival
Thursday December 1 Senior Swimming Carnival
Monday December 5 8 Years Swimming Carnival
Tuesday December 6 6/7 Years Swimming Carnival

More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Annual Invitational 9 – 12 Years Swimming Relay Carnival
The QSS Annual Invitational Swimming Carnival will be held at the Brisbane Aquatic Centre on Friday 18 November. Notes will be sent home to students shortly.

Met North Triathlon/Aquathlon
Any students interested in trialling for the Met North Triathlon or Aquathlon (run/swim/run) can see me for details and information. The trials are on the 6 November at Kawana.

Rodney Bell. PE Specialist
CHOIR NEWS

Wilston Wonders
Well done to the Wilston Wonders for their performance on assembly today!! The students have come such a long way since the start of the year.

PRESTIGE MUSIC FEST is this SUNDAY!! Students arrive at 12.00pm in full performance uniform. We will meet out on the lawn. There is no transport from school – parents are to organise.

Please remember there is an entry fee for audience members: Adult Single Day - $10.00, Concession Single Day - $5.00, Family Single Day - $20.00, Adult Unlimited - $20.00, Family Unlimited $35.00

MUSIC COUNT US IN!! With the Wilston Wonders leading, the whole school will be singing together at the start of assembly next week to celebrate this national initiative that promotes the importance of music in schools! Please note that assembly will be held at 11.30am for this event to take place.

Miranda Charters

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The new contact email for Tuckshop is tuckshop@wilstonpandc.org.au

The last day of Tuckshop this year is the 2 December 2016. It is also the Graduation Day for the year 6’s therefore the Tuckshop will be only open for big lunch and closed for little lunch.

To all our volunteers we are having our Xmas on the 24 November at 6.00pm until 8.00pm.

Roster for the week beginning 1 November 2016

| Monday 1     | CLOSED                |
| Tuesday 2    | Ellie Cayas, Louise Astori |
| Wednesday 3  | Steve Lawson, Kate Usher |
| Thursday 4   | Chloe Smith, Sally Carson, Wendy Bensly |
| Friday 5     | Tina Robinson, Tarah Hastie, Sue Anderson, Aislim Ivison |

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

FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

Our new supply of school polo shirts is selling well and we have made contact or left messages for everyone on our shirt registry. Visit us at the uniform shop if you need a shirt and you can try before you buy.

Opening times: In Term 4 we are open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8.15am-9.45am. We are located in D Block, next to the Tuckshop.

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

2017 Book Packs: If you don’t have your 2017 booklist for school yet, you can do two things: drop by the Uniform Shop where we have spare copies, or go to the EDSCO website: www.edsco.com.au and click the green button on the right that says: To Order BOOK PACKS Click Here. Orders received by November 11 will be delivered for free to your home before the end of school.

Senior Shirts 2017: Year 5 students will soon receive a note about their Senior Shirts for next year.

The Senior Shirts are the new two-tone polo shirts and they will have the names of everyone in Year 6 printed on the back.

To make sure we get these shirts printed early next year, we need Year 5 students who are continuing at Wilston next year to purchase a Senior Shirt for printing, or to give us a shirt that they currently wear but which is in good condition. These shirts will be kept at the uniform shop and taken for printing in Term 1 for a nominal fee.

Be mindful that students wear these shirts all through the year so it does make sense to have two shirts printed with one in a larger size for the second half of the year.

From next week, any current Year 5 student ordering a shirt via Munch-Monitor will have that shirt held for Senior Shirt printing and a note will be sent home confirming it has been received.

Tip of the week: Entertainment books can still be ordered through the school and all the great discounts are valid until the end of June 2017. Visit: www.entbook.com.au/221987b to purchase a digital copy or hard-copy which will be delivered to your home for free. And remember 20 per cent of sales is donated back to the school.

Did you know: The invention of early texts for teaching was a worrying change for some ancient Greek philosophers, including Socrates, who feared texts and writing would weaken a person’s ability to memorise knowledge and retell stories.

Ever Onward Wilston!

Janice Nykiel and Debra Bela – Convenors
Ph: 3552 8490/0403 153 096 (Janice)
bookshop@wilstonpandc.org.au

NEWS FROM THE P&C

It was good to see some new faces at the P&C meeting this month, all parents are warmly encouraged to come along and hear what’s happening in the school or raise an item for discussion and have their say. This month, we discussed:

1. Religious Education (RE) in the school - some members of the community are seeking alternatives for children who do not participate in RE. The school administration may canvas the school community early in 2017 for ideas eg. ethics curriculum or other structured activities.

2. The P&C will be sponsoring a morning tea for the teachers to celebrate World Teacher’s Day on Friday, 28th October.

3. Wilston Kids Care (WKC) - Options for providing more indoor space to allow the licence limit to be increased above the current 200 were discussed. The option includes providing a multi-purpose space, for both the school and Kids Care, by building in part of the Undercroft in L Block and providing additional shade through the use of awnings. The option will be presented at the next meeting to allow for a vote to take place. Funding for the design activities to support the proposal was approved.

4. Considering the current demand on WKC, there was discussion about the prioritisation of access and more detailed enrolment criteria (modelled on those used in other similar schools) have been agreed. These will be communicated to parents as a matter of urgency to allow care arrangements for next year to be confirmed.

See you at next month’s meeting on November 17 at 7.00pm in D Block (Staff room).

Wilston Kids Care - Prioritisation of Access
There is a high demand for the Outside School Care services provided by Wilston Kids Care, the service has reached the limit of its current licence and as such there is a waiting list in place for care on certain days (currently after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays).
The P&C have had to review the prioritisation of access and a more detailed enrolment criteria has been agreed. This has been modelled on those used in other similar services in Brisbane state schools. The Australian Government have set out three levels of priority which we are obliged to follow.

These are:
1. A child is at risk of serious abuse or neglect.
2. A child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under section 14 of the Family Assistance Act.
3. Any other child.

The more detailed order of priority for enrolment for Wilston Kids Care is as follows:

**General Enrolment**
1. Children at risk of abuse or neglect are a priority group for access according to Section 6.3 Childcare Services Handbook 2013-2014.
2. A child of a single parent who satisfies, or of parents who both satisfy, the work/training/study test under section 14 of the Family Assistance Act.
3. Continuing Wilston State School pupils already enrolled in Wilston Kids Care, for whom there are no problems with outstanding fees. (Re-enrolments and applications for siblings will not be processed until requests for fee payments have been met.)
4. Newly enrolled Wilston State School pupils who are siblings of the above.
5. Pupils on the waiting list who do not fit into priority 1-4 will be given access to the service in the following priority (as outlined in section 6.3 Childcare Services Handbook 2013-2014).

**Casual Enrolments**
1. Cases of special hardship will be given urgent priority for casual or short-term care.
2. Applications for continuing enrolment based on special hardship will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and will be accommodated outside the above priorities if necessary.

**Waiting List**
If all places have been filled, then children are to be placed on a waiting list. When a place becomes available, the next child whose enrolment date is closest will be offered the place.

**What does this mean for me?**
The above prioritisation of access will come into effect for the 2017 enrolments and as such there will be the following impact:
1. We will be unable to guarantee any places for new 2017 enrolments for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and strongly suggest arranging alternate care as a backup where possible.
2. Existing families who have not completed their enrolment by November 30 or who have outstanding fees may be requested to vacate their place to accommodate new enrolments as per the above priority.

**School Disco**
Wilton’s traditional end of year disco is coming up fast! It’s a great way for the kids (and parents) to let their hair down as the end of year approaches, so please see the flyer included with this newsletter for details. Don’t forget to get your tickets through Munch Monitor though tickets will also be available at the door for anyone who decides to come at the last minute. Please also consider volunteering on the night using the following link (http://tinyurl.com/zw8qvog). We are looking for one final person to act as convener for the security which requires minimal time prior to the event.

This is the third year that Claire Stanley and I are organising the disco and this will be our last hurrah! We’re looking for someone else to take it over or even better, do it with a friend! If anyone would like to take it on, we’d be happy to show you the ropes this year and support you next year.

Please let us know! Thanks and see you there!

Saskya Hunter (0439 760 028)/Claire Stanley(0402 739 502)

**NEWS FROM WILSTON KIDS CARE**

**Run for Your Kids by You.**

**Halloween at WKC.**
Have you seen how the Centre has swapped its pirate decor for something a little more spooky? The 31 October is fast approaching. Like many of our celebrations in current day Australia, Halloween is the outcome of old pagan tradition and Christian religion; it is now celebrated by anyone who wants to join in.

For the kids, it is a great opportunity to take the paper, scissors and glue out, start creating and have fun while developing these fine motor skills. Orange and black handmade paper garlands and paper bats are now hanging from the walls. balloons, pumpkins, spiders, and cobwebs have been added to complete the decor.

And, on Monday, it is likely that our staff’s blue and red uniform will be replaced by ...something a little more creative...

**At the risk of repeating ourselves: 2017 Registration**

We urge all families requiring after school care to get their enrolment applications in as soon as possible. Spaces for next year will be limited and unfortunately, availability of care cannot be guaranteed.

**WKC Subcommittee Meetings:**
Our meetings are designed to accommodate working parents and in particular single parents. The meeting starts early, 6.00 pm, just after the Centre closes, free child-minding is provided and the children are fed, food is also supplied for the parents, discussions are focused so that you and your child/ren can be home at an appropriate hour for bedtime. Come and meet us and you will be surprised at how very rewarding getting involved can be.

The next WKC committee meeting will be Wednesday, 12 November at 6.00pm in the WKC office.

**WKC’s Policies and Procedures.**

Have you ever wondered what governs WKC?
NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

We need your help! The position of Canteen Convenor is vacant. Without a convenor the canteen may not be able to open on club nights. The canteen and BBQ is an important function for the club, and we rely on the generosity of club volunteers to maintain this service. The position of Race Secretary/Carnival Organiser is also available. If you are interested in this position but may not be sure what it entails, we are happy to provide further details and training - it is not a time consuming position.

Swim Club duties this week:
Canteen: Babnik, Mackay and Bender families
BBQ: Victorsen, Pearl and Kelly families.

If you are rostered on BBQ or canteen you will need to arrive by 5:45pm.

Congratulations to all our swimmers who competed at the East Brisbane Annual Long Course Meet last weekend.

The next Swim Club Committee Meeting is Thursday 3 November 7.00pm pool side.