FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Pickup Zones
Over the last few weeks the Brisbane City Council has been supporting us by conducting a review of the traffic situation around our school predominantly at the 3.00pm pick up. The idea is that we will develop a School Traffic Management Plan. This plan is currently in draft form and open for consultation. I would hope that the plan can be finalised later in the year to be enacted from 2017. This project has only been possible due to the drive of parent Mar-teena Pearl and I certainly appreciate her commitment to address this very important matter.

Last week I was standing on the corner of Thomas and Primrose Streets with officers from the BCC and unfortunately we witnessed first-hand the dangerous driving behaviour of a couple of parents.

I would like to remind all parents, grandparents and carers that if you are in the 2 minute zone and your child is not ready to be picked up, the procedure is then to exit the zone and drive around the block.

One of the suggestions coming from the review is to encourage parents to park and then walk into the school to pick up their child. I have included within this newsletter a map of the local area and the designated parking areas. Another suggestion is to delay your arrival at school by 5-10 minutes.

Communication Devices – Smart Communication
We are beginning to see more and more students arrive at school with smartphones and devices such as a watch that allows students to communicate with the outside world. Our policy is that if students do bring these devices to school they need to bring them up to the office and they will be stored safely for the day and the student can then pick it up on the way home. If your child does have such a device could you please remind them of this policy.

School Disco
I would like to thank parents David Castles, Saskya Hunter, Jennifer Pointing and Claire Stanley for organising this year’s School Disco. It is such a wonderful event and the students love it. Thank you!

White Ribbon Day
I deplore violence of any form and when I read the Vision Statement of the White Ribbon Organisation I realise how sheltered my own life has been. Their Vision that we are a nation that respects women, in which every woman lives in safety, free from all forms of men’s abuse.

This should be a given. White Ribbon Day will be recognised on Friday the 25 November and we will support this foundation with a gold coin donation.

Guy Hendriks
Principal
Again this year we are collecting for the Salvos at Stafford, helping 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 encyclopaedias 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.

**SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

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 student 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, grandma, 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 for your ongoing support and generosity.

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

Last Chance: Mater Little Miracles Fundraiser

The Mater Little Miracles fundraising Jelly Bean guessing competition finishes soon. Guesses (and donations) will be taken up until the end of lunchtime next Monday 14 November, with the winner being decided and advised on Tuesday 15 November and the winners announced in the Wilston Weekly on 17 November.

Remember we’ve made it very affordable to have a go, at just $1 a guess, or $2 for 3 guesses which makes it an inexpensive and fun way to contribute to greatly needed funds for new and premature babies born into the care of the Mater. And if you don’t want to win the jelly beans, but still want to make a donation, you can just give a gold coin donation instead.

I will be in the Undercover Area every big lunch break until the end of lunch next Monday 14 November, ready for your guesses and/or donations. Thanks for your support.

**Kassidy Beaman, 6B**

**LOST PROPERTY**

Lost property has a large amount of lunch boxes etc. in it at the moment. Please make sure all items are marked clearly with your child’s name and class in order that items may be returned. Please note that any items left at the end of term will be donated to charity.

**BOOK CLUB**

The last issue of Book Club for 2016 is coming home this week packed with favourite series books and new titles. Australian Christmas books start at only $2.

Orders will close on Friday 18th November.

Thank you for using our method of payment– LOOP – Linked Online Ordering and Payment available on www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download the LOOP Apple or Android app. No need to send your order to school if using the LOOP ordering.

Please note, cash orders are not accepted at Wilston State School. We are running a cashless Book Club.

Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our library and class rooms, however there is never any obligation to purchase.

Sue Burgess. Teacher Librarian

**YEAR 4 SCI/ART PROJECT**

This term students in Year 4 will be engaging in a collaborative SciArt installation project exploring the interconnectedness of science and art and associated philosophical concepts. Have you ever thought how careful, considered observation underpins both science and art? In doing science we are becoming astute observers, experimenters and analysts. In engaging in art we employ these same skills. In combining art and science, we further explore creative and innovative boundaries; different communication methods; broaden our general knowledge and deepen our levels of thinking.

In partnership with a parent volunteer artist-in-residence (Karalyn Shaw - who has a keen interest in the integration of maths, science, art and philosophy and in S.T.E.A.M. education - supporting the role of the ‘Arts and thus creativity and innovation in S.T.E.M. subjects), we will integrate (at an age appropriate level):

- the physics of energy (specifically transverse waves);
- mathematics (the geometry in origami);
- philosophical concepts raised by the project (aesthetics, causality, creativity, knowledge, virtue and peace) and
- the art of creating an installation.

Year 4 classes aim to complete the work by week 8 of this term. The installation and a description of the aim of the work and process involved will be displayed in the Science Room during weeks 9 and 10.

Brendan Medlin

**CHOIR NEWS**

Wilston Wonders

We are looking forward to our Platinum Pizza Party this Friday!!
Upcoming Performance Dates:
Christmas Services St Columbas  Friday November 25th
(9.30am Juniors; 10.15am Seniors)
Alderley Community Carols  Sunday Dec 4 Wilston Wonders
6.00pm approx.
(Note with more info coming soon.)
School “Carols By Daylight”  Wednesday 7 December
Undercover Area

Miranda Charters

TUCKSHOP NEWS

The countdown is on Christmas is rushing toward us and Tuckshop is getting ready for a busy end of term.

We also have some lovely jams, pesto and relishes for sale in our coffee shop they would make great gifts.

The tuckshop will be closed the last week of school but the Coffee Shop will be open Monday through Wednesday.

Roster for the week beginning 14 November 2016
Monday 14  Closed
Tuesday 15  Leonie Crawford, Sharon Waddingham
Wednesday 16  Elissa Hoey, Sharon Darmody
Thursday 17  Sian Pratt, Jacinda Geritz, Bev Mitchell
Friday 18  Nat Scott, Charlotte Muir, Chris Beehler, Geraldine Mercer, Angela Knight.

Bec Macdonald 0448 804 279
Dot Milne 0408 729 021

FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

The biggest selling item in the Uniform Shop this year was our small socks (373), followed by our size 6 new polo shirts (309). In the Bookshop it was our Year 3 48-page exercise books (118), followed closely by our 72-page scrap books (116). Your support helps the P&C make Wilston a great school. It also means there’s less stock to count come STOCKTAKE DAY which is Wednesday, December 7. We can’t do a stocktake without your support so please, if you have an hour to spend after drop-off, pop in and lend a hand. Morning tea/brunch is provided and it’s a great way to meet parents and catch-up before the holidays begin. Give Debra a call (0412 417 552) if you can help.

Here’s a few more things you need to know this week:
Openings 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: wilston0 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: This Friday, November 11, is deadline day for free delivery of our 2017 book packs so go to www.edSCO.com.au click the green button on the right that says: To Order BOOK PACKS Click Here, and cross this off your “TO DO” list. Orders received by this date will be delivered to your home before the end of the school year. You can still order after this date but a $10 delivery charge will be added to the order.
Senior Shirts 2017: Monday, December 5 is the deadline for current Year 5 families to buy a new 2-colour polo shirt (or give us an existing 2-colour polo shirt in good condition) which will become the senior shirt for their Year 6 student next year. Senior shirts will have the names of everyone in Year 6 printed on the back and are something students are very proud to wear in their final year at primary school. These shirts will be kept at the Uniform Shop and taken for printing in Term 1 for a nominal fee. Any current Year 5 student ordering a shirt via MunchMonitor 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: “TO DO” lists are a great way to manage stressful situations, which typically occur at this time of year but they often don’t account for the importance of each task or the time it might take to get things done. If you are feeling overwhelmed by school book orders, bills, work/study, end of year break-ups, or Christmas shopping, try keeping a calendar that allocates an amount of time to each activity over the course of a week. That way you chip away at the heavy tasks as well as the easy ones, rather than leaving the big jobs to the last minute.

Did you know: Wilston State School’s Christmas Church Service is on Friday, November 25. Remember to wear your formal school uniform that day to make Wilston look great as we represent the school in our community.

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

I hope everyone that attended the school disco on Saturday night had a great time, it’s always good to see the kids having such a fun time and also to see some parents getting into the groove on the dance floor! Many thanks to Saskya Hunter and Claire Stanley for organising a great night and thank you to their many volunteers who helped out which also included some volunteers from Wilston Kids Care.

I wanted to remind everyone, the last P&C meeting for the year will be held on 17 November at 7.00pm in the Staff Room (D Block). At this meeting there will be a vote on the proposal for building in part of the Undercroft at L Block and providing shade via a new awning. The proposal provides a multi-purpose space for both the school and Kids Care and allows the Kids Care service to increase their licence number to meet the demand for new families. There may also be a proposal to replace the broken sign out the front of the school on the corner of Primrose and Thomas St with an electronic sign. Please note, new P&C members are accepted at the end of the general meeting therefore only existing members of the P&C may vote at the next meeting.

Chris Burke. President

Wilton State School Disco
What a great night! The evening went off without a hitch and the kids (not to mention a few parents!) had a great time dancing to their favourite songs. Claire and I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who helped before, during and after the disco to ensure it all went smoothly. We couldn’t have done it without you! A big thank you to Leigh Hofmeister also for being our trusty school liaison.

Saskya Hunter and Claire Stanley

NEWS FROM WILSTON KIDS CARE

Disco and WKC
If you were at the disco, you will have noticed that some of the WKC staff was present and assisted with activities. These young people all volunteered their time, to support this much-loved yearly event that raises funds for the school.
The subcommittee is very proud of having such a dedicated team and thanks everyone for their effort.

Please Bring Back Your Forms
We do require your forms by the 30 November. This will assist us in allocating space as per the prioritisation agreement.

What Limits Our Numbers.
Many parents have been asking why the Centre cannot accept more children. WKC is governed by the same rules as Child Care Services, and is currently licensed for a maximum of 200 children in care at any time. The P&C has been investigating options for increasing capacity of the service in line with increasing demand. This is something that would require an increase in staff, an assessment of risk, and provision of additional indoor space (the rules require provision of 3.25 m² of indoor space per child).

Like anything in life, there is always an ‘opportunity cost’ and the P&C and school together are assessing the merits and costs of providing additional space for WKC, weighed against other needs of the school and those who rely on it. These decisions affect everyone in the school community, and will be discussed further at next Thursday’s (17th November) P&C Meeting.

Any Questions? Please Ask…
Tamara or Danielle in the WKC office. They will assist you as best as they can.
But please do not to distract the educators from their duties. They are not involved in the strategic decisions regarding WKC (such as license capacity), but they are responsible for the safety, wellbeing, and care of your children while they are at WKC – please direct questions regarding waiting lists and capacity to the WKC office.

WKC’s Policies and Procedures.
These can be found on the Parents and Citizens website:

Office: 3352 6753
Service Manager (Tamara): 0402 621 150
wkc.admin@wilstonpandc.org.au

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB
Good luck to our 8 teams competing at the Brisbane Club Relay Championships at Chandler this weekend.

Reminder - nominations close at 6.00pm Wednesday nights. Nominations are now open up until the last Club Night of 2016 - 2nd December.

Swim Club duties this week:
Canteen: Moore, Sharpe and Paul families
BBQ: Nowlan, Edwards, and Jennison families.

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

The next Swim Club Meeting is Thursday 1 December at 7.00pm, poolside. We look forward to seeing you there.