FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

P&C AGM – Thursday 7.00pm in the Staffroom

I preside over a very good school and a major contributing factor to the success of this school is the parents!

As the Annual General Meeting of the P&C takes place this week I would encourage as many parents as possible to be involved in this very important organisation. I have been informed that all Executive Members intend standing down. This is a great loss to the school as the work and the issues tackled by the current executive have been significant and I have certainly witnessed and admired their impartiality when dealing with these matters.

Through experience I know that there would be many parents in this community that would value add to this school by being actively involved in the P&C. I also know that many are not that good at self-advocacy. If in your circle of friends, you know of someone who would be a good President, Treasurer or Secretary could I ask that you encourage them to join the P&C. I know our current Executive Members would be very supportive of mentoring parents into these positions.

The importance of the P&C cannot be understated. I have certainly appreciated the financial support, which has been significant, but the strength of this organisation is the contribution it makes to creating a supportive environment for all in the community, students, teachers and parents.

• the social events that we engage in each year or every second year. Fetes, Trivia Nights, Disco’s, Beach Party, Prep Parent Welcome Night etc.
• Facility improvements. Air-conditioning (this has certainly been appreciated this year); Outfitting of the current Tuckshop; the Primrose Street entrance to the school and Year One and Year Two play area; the Prep eating area; Shade areas around the school; the Tennis Courts and the Oval.
• Management of our Sub-committees: The Swim Club (Crocodiles); Outside School Hours Care; Tuckshop and Uniform Shop.

The P&C have also influenced a number of the programs that I have introduced into the school. For example, when I first arrived there was a great commitment by the parent body to a Biennial Art Show. This was a major event at the time and it influenced my decision to employee a Visual Art and Dance Teacher. Likewise, the P&C commitment to supporting the Robotics Program and placing an emphasis on STEM has contributed to my decision to redeploy Dr Brendan Medlin into the specialist Science teacher position. Both programs are having a major impact on student learning.

QParents

A flyer will be going home to the youngest in the family giving you a little information about QParents. This is a new convenient, online parent portal which will assist both staff and parents in sharing and responding to information in an efficient and effective way. QParents will allow parents to connect instantly with our school to access and manage their child’s student information, including: attendance and absence details, accessing academic report cards, viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history and making payments online. More details regarding registration etc will be given in future Wilston Weekly’s. For more information about QParents please visit https://qparents.qld.edu.au/#/about

Guy Hendriks
Principal
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Year 5/6 Extension
Last week your Year 5/6 child may have shared a flyer with you about some exciting extension programs offered at Kedron State High School.

In 2017 Kedron State High School is offering an INFUSE program to those Year 5 and 6 students who would benefit and enjoy being extended in either music, Spanish, Chinese or STEM.

The important information for applicants and their families:
• Due date for the application form is Monday 20 March 2017. We will be reviewing applications soon after and will notify families by Friday 28 April via email.
• The cost for the 11 week program is a total of $20 to cover a materials fee. This is payable once the student’s application has been accepted and before their INFUSE program commences.
• Students can apply for more than 1 extension program, though please note that INFUSE STEM and INFUSE LANGUAGE will be run at the same time this year on a Tuesday afternoon therefore they will need to choose one or the other. The great news is INFUSE MUSIC is available on a Wednesday so does not clash with other programs.
• Start date is Tuesday 1 August 2017.
• Places are strictly limited.
• If a student has completed an extension program before, they are welcome to apply again but preference will be given to those students who are yet to experience the rewards of an INFUSE program.

If you have any questions or need further information please contact Dana Holden A/HOD Junior Secondary/Teach Team Ambassador, Kedron State High School. 3630 3333 or https://kedronshs.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx

STUDENT COUNCIL

Upcoming Dates:

FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

World Science Festival Brisbane—Flight Club
The World Science Festival Brisbane is being held between 22-26 March 2017 and will take science out of the laboratory and into the streets, parks, museums, galleries and performing arts venues of Brisbane and regional Queensland. This is only the second time the World Science Festival has been held in Australia. The original Festival began in New York in 2008 and is an annual weeklong celebration and exploration of science.

Educational workshops are being offered to primary students, and Wilston has secured 28 places at the Flight Club presentation on Friday, 24 March 2017 (1:00-2:00pm), at the Science Centre, Level 1, Queensland Museum. Flight Club allows students in Years 4-6 to explore how the animal kingdom has perfected the art of flying, soaring, parachuting and gliding to survive within diverse habitats. In this hands-on workshop, students will get up close and personal with museum specimens, examine the unique features and adaptations that enable flight, and use the wonders of nature to inspire their very own winged creation.

The cost of the excursion is $23.00 (including bus travel to and from the venue). Students will have an early lunch and depart from school at approximately 12:15pm, and depart from the Queensland Museum at approximately 2:15pm.

Please see Mr Brendan Medlin (Science Room, F Block) for a permission form.

Return the permission form and payment directly to Mr Medlin by Monday, 20 March 2017 to ensure you get a place. Do not place in the class Blue Bag.

NEWS FROM HPE

City District Swimming Carnival
Congratulations to the 36 strong Wilston State School swim team that was successful in winning the City District Championships last Friday. It was an outstanding result for the team winning by a large margin over the second placed school. As a result of the day we have 17 students qualify for the district team to compete at the regional championships on 21 February. This is significantly more representatives than any other school within the district. The team had members on the podium 33 times including 13 district winners.

We also had the following students break district records:
Abigail A: Girls 10Yrs 100m Breaststroke
Kyan B: Boys 10Yrs 100m Breaststroke
Will M: Boys 10Yrs 100m Freestyle and Boys 10Yrs 100m Backstroke
Stella S: Girls 11Yrs 50m Breaststroke.

The following students have gained selection into the City District Swim Team:

Rodney Bell
PE Specialist

CHOIR NEWS

Choral Honours Camp
Nominations have been submitted for the Honours Camp. Successful students should be notified within a couple of weeks. It was great to have so many quality nominations.

Miranda Charters (Classroom Music Specialist)

TUCKSHOP NEWS

As you can see from the roster below we are looking for help in the Tuckshop. No experience needed. Think about volunteering once a month or once a term. Bec and Dot do the cooking so it just putting stickers on bags, placing the lunch bags in the Tuckshop boxes and some stocking up. It’s all very easy and we give you a coffee, mornig tea and lunch. Also included are the joyous smiles your children give you when they see you at their school. Please come and help out!

Rosters for week beginning 20 February 2017
Monday 20 Closed
Tuesday 21 There is no one on our roster can you help?
Wednesday 22 Harvey McKibbon, we need help on this day too.
Thursday 23 Sian Pratt, Angela Patel
Friday 24 Paige Osleiben, Peta Bunce, Bob and Sue Behan.

Bec Macdonald 0448 804 279 60huett@gmail.com
Dot Milne 0408 729 021
FROM THE UNIFORM/BOOKSHOP

Week four and the queues at the Uniform Shop have settled down so if you’ve been putting off coming to see us to try on new sizes, pick up a pair of extra socks or some stationery items, now would be a good time.

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

Opening times: In Term 1 we are open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday 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: wilstonss and Password: munch4051. Please place orders by 9.15am on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This will ensure orders are delivered to teachers’ pigeonholes for class delivery on those days.

Senior Shirts: Thanks to all the families who have returned permission forms for the senior shirt printing. Keep them coming, the sooner we get all consent forms, the sooner we can send the shirts to be printed.

Entertainment Books: Early bird offers will soon be available for the 2017-2018 Entertainment Books. Look out for information coming home in the next few weeks. Last year we sold 40 digital or printed Entertainment Books and the school received $650. Thanks to all the families supporting the school through this fundraising opportunity. The books have hundreds of discounts on food, entertainment and holidays.

Tip of the week: A total of 98 school hats were purchased in the first three weeks of this year. To keep those hats bouncing back to you when they get lost, consider embroidering your student’s name on the hat, write on the hat directly with a colourful laundry marker, or try iron-on or sew-on labels.

Did you know: If temperature and humidity levels are close to the dew point, it will be very difficult to dry your school uniform on a line outside, in fact it might get more wet. This is because the dew point is the temperature to which a given parcel of humid air must be cooled for water vapour to condense into liquid water as rain, fog or dew. Check out www.bom.gov.au and see how the climate levels change as we move out of Summer and into Autumn (and yes, we do want to hurry that along).

Ever Onward Wilston!

Janice Nykiel and Debra Bela – Convenors
Ph: 3552 8490/0403 153 096 (Janice) / 0412 417 552 (Debra)
bookshop@wilstonpandc.org.au

NEWS FROM WILSTON SWIM CLUB

Last Friday, 3 February, the P&C sponsored the Prep Welcome Night. There was a huge turnout and it was a great night for Prep parents to get to know one another. I would like to say a special thanks to Amanda Burke and Jules Irwin for organising the night and also thank you to Matt Irwin, David Castles, Alana Curran and Tim Curran for helping out on the night.

As mentioned previously, the Executive for 2016 are not seeking nomination this year. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the Executive members for 2016, Adam Spencer, Saskya Hunter, Luke Moulson and Craig Parravicini, thank you for your support this year, it was great to work with such a pragmatic group of people.

We would encourage people to volunteer and get involved, being part of the P&C Executive is a very rewarding experience representing the families of WSS and collaborating with the school to continually develop and improve our children’s educational experience.

The P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for Thursday 16th Feb. 7.00pm in D Block.

The P&C will be welcoming nominations for all positions:
- President
- Vice-President (2 positions)
- Treasurer
- Secretary.

We are also seeking volunteers for several other items, we’re looking for some people to get together to be convenors for the Fete this year, and also people to be involved as Grants and Sponsorship co-ordinators.

NEWS FROM THE P&C

Nominations for Club Championships are now open. The championships are held over two weeks, the 10 and 17 March. Nominations for the championships close on Saturday 25 February at 11.00am. You must have swum a minimum of six Club Nights to compete or if you joined in 2017, a minimum of three. Races are swum as age on blocks. All swim fees (Club, LTS or Squad) must be up to date prior to Club Championships nominations closing. If you are unsure if you have any outstanding fees please check with Kirsten.

The Presentation night will be held on Saturday 25th March in the schools undercover area. More details will follow shortly.

Preparation for the Ascot Cup on 4 March is coming along well. Thank you to all the parents who have volunteered to assist on the day. We need more volunteers though! Also if you can donate any prizes for the raffle that would be great – we would like bottles of wine, chocolate, or other gifts that are appropriate. Donations can be dropped into the pool office on Friday night or weekday afternoons.

Reminder- Nominations close Wednesdays at 6.00pm. You can nominate on the Crocs website – http://swim.wilstonpandc.org.au/club/nominate-here/

Swim Club duties this week:
BBQ: Carley, Slater and Bender families
Canteen: Kronberg, Shepherd and Kelly families.

If you are on roster please arrive at 5:45pm. If unavailable to attend on your night please arrange a replacement, there is no need to contact the office.

The next committee meeting is Thursday, 2 March 7.00pm poolside.

This is our last meeting before the Ascot Cup and Club Championships so it would be great to see as many people there as possible.

There is still some availability for Learn to Swim in Term 1. Classes are held Monday to Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings. Please email swim@wilstonpandc.org.au for bookings.

Open Day

Wednesday 8 March
3.30–6.00pm

For more information please phone 3552 7333 or visit kelvingrovess.eq.edu.au
Orienteering - Coaching

Orienteering Queensland is excited to announce an ongoing coaching program for young people. **Ultra Mini Cyclones**, launched on 18th of January at Pine Rivers Park, is perfect for people who have enjoyed some orienteering at school! Coach Gordon Bossley has worked with other senior orienteering coaches and the president of Orienteering Queensland to create a competency-based program for young orienteers. This program is a great way for young people and their families to build their knowledge and skills, after completing the Sporting Schools program.

Gordon says: “We’ll run about six sessions each year however, attendance to all sessions is not compulsory. Participants can progress at their own pace, and get involved as often as they want to.”

To get involved with Ultra Mini Cyclones you do need to be a member of an orienteering club. To find out more contact Gordon at gbossley@westnet.com.au or on 0412 776 876.