Principal's Piece

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2014. Thank you to all of you who have said hello and made me feel welcome in the first few weeks of the school year. We have started the year with relative ease with only a few minor class changes and a completely new kindy class.

I am slowly getting to know all of our students and to find out about their interests, likes and dislikes. The teachers and teacher assistants have been very busy setting up activities for their classes and they are working hard to ensure that your children have an interesting, relevant and challenging program of work.

General Expectations

I am very keen to ensure that students from Walliston Primary present themselves at school and while representing the school in a positive and energetic manner. This includes all children having the right to be safe and respected as well as showing respect to all staff, parents and visitors on the school site. In regard to these aspects of good citizenship I have had very good reports regarding our students from the bus driver taking the students to swimming. I have noted that generally the students are conducting themselves very well. Unfortunately there are a small number of students who feel that it is acceptable to swear at school and to engage in anti social behaviour. I would hope that we can work together to send a strong message to these students that this sort of behaviour is very damaging to our school’s reputation and that they need to exercise a greater degree of self regulation when faced with emotional situations or decisions they disagree with.

Student Leaders

Our student leaders will be announced this week on Thursday morning at a special student assembly after our graduating class breakfast. Voting has taken place and I am sure we are all interested in seeing who will be representing the school in these important leadership positions.

P and C

I was very pleased to attend the P and C AGM last Thursday evening and to see the degree of support offered by you the parents for this very important school group. While the P and C does excellent work in raising funds for the school they are also very pro active on a range of other fronts. I would urge all of you to give some of your time this year to assist the P and C with their many worthwhile activities.

Mobile Phones I Pods

I have noticed some students have been bringing mobile phones to school. I would ask that students only be permitted to bring phones to school when there is a need for them to have contact with you by phone after hours. Any student parent contact which needs to happen during the school day can take place via the front office.

Students who bring phones to school must have a phone agreement signed by a parent and must leave their phones at the front office to be picked up at the end of the day. Students must not have their phones in their possession during the school day.

Fire Emergency

Walliston Primary School sits in a high fire risk area. In the event of the forecast of catastrophic fire conditions parents would be notified of a school closure. This would happen via a note home on the day before the closure.

If a fire started during the day and the school was deemed to be in the path of the fire students would all be moved to our designated safe zone which is the Junior Area at the front of the school on Dianella Road. Parents will then be able to sign their children out from this area. If conditions became severe and roads were closed this section of the school would be protected by the Fire Services.

Please check your school calendars for forthcoming events at the school. I look forward to meeting up with all of you in the coming weeks and months. Have a great year.

Bernie O’Hara
Principal

Graduating Year’s Breakfast
Thursday 20th Feb (tomorrow)
8 am
New Undercover Area

ASSEMBLY
Reminder: 1st Assembly will held on Friday 7th March in Week 5. This is a special assembly hosted by the Staff at Walliston, sure to be a laugh!
The World's Greatest Shave

This fantastic event is one that Walliston Primary School has been participating in for a number of years now. Last year 12 year 7 students (3 girls) fundraised and shaved their heads, and well over $3000 was raised by our school. This year it is open to Year 6 and 7 students!! As a school we are offering to colour any students hair for the cost of a gold coin donation, and we have a donation tin in the office for anyone who wants to support this worthy cause.

This iconic event is one of Australia’s biggest fundraising events. In 2014 more than 150,000 people will get sponsored to shave or colour their hair to support Australians with blood cancer and fund research. This year we are holding our ‘Great Shave’ on the 10th March. Ms Nicky Rosie will be in charge of the clippers and the hair will be ‘shaved’ professionally. After the students have been cleaned up, the student leaders with teacher supervision, will colour the students hair who have brought their gold coin. This is also open to the teachers. I hope to get a nice green, purple and white colour, the same colour as a certain football team........

The link to the school team: http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/WallistonPrimarySchool
Thank you
Adrian Wilson
School Chaplain

Rainbows Program

We are very pleased to have the Rainbows Program beginning at Walliston Primary School this term. Rainbows offers children from families who have experienced a major loss, either through the separation/divorce of parents or through the death of a family member, the opportunity to meet in a weekly support group over a period of 10 weeks.

It has been found that when something significant happens in a family, the entire family is affected. If a parent dies or divorce occurs, not only do the parents grieve, the children do also. Because of their age and short life experience, children find it very difficult to verbalise their feelings.

We will be sending letters out to families shortly. It will be offered to students from Year 4 to Year 7, and to be included, the note needs to be signed and returned by the date indicated. This is a program that we offer at the school at no cost to the students, and is done at a time in the day that minimizes the interruption to the class and does not interfere with any important subjects.

The sessions will run for 30 minutes once a week for 10 weeks, it will be held at the school with a trained facilitator working with each group. If you have any questions please contact Adrian Wilson (School Chaplain) the Rainbows Coordinator

Thank you
Adrian Wilson
School Chaplain

Community News

Lesmurdie Warriors Netball Club
Registration Day - Tuesday 25th February from 4 to 7pm at Ray Owen Centre.
Contact Sharon West 0401 293 632.

Forrestfield United Soccer Club WA
Players wanted:
Register online now at www.fusc.org.au or at Hartfield Park clubrooms on Tuesday 18th Feb 5pm.

Lesmurdie Saints Junior F.C
Registration Day
Sunday 23rd Feb 2014
St Brigid’s Junior Oval/Gym
10am—1pm

Tangos Netball Club
For more info and registration details please contact Rod on 0452 225 036 or email: tangonetball@hotmail.com.au

Kindy Room 16

A big Welcome to our new Kindy group for 2014. We hope these children have a wonderful and productive start to their school education at Walliston Primary School.

P & C News

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
Saturday 8th March, helpers needed for the roster, please contact Shireen on mobile: 0438 021 453 if you are able to help.

Wally Boys Car Show Sunday 23rd March
If you are able to help out at any of the fundraising stalls please call the respective coordinators.
Fairly Floss - Natalie 0413 137 862
Sausage Sizzle - Shireen 0438 021 453
Cake/Drinks - Belinda 0418 807 225

If you have any water based sample paint pots that you wouldn’t mind donating to the school we would love them for our painting the car activity, as well as any large men's t-shirts. This would be greatly appreciated.