Welcome to week nine of the term one. We only have few events and it will be the end of term. On Friday 4th April we will have an Assembly presented by Room 1 and you are all welcome to attend. The following Friday will be our ANZAC Ceremony which will be conducted in the morning. We look forward to as many of you as possible attending this very important ceremony.

Our year six and seven students are participating in their Camp Week and have spent Monday and Tuesday at Woodman Point Camp with an overnight stay on Monday night. They have participated in a range of activities including Climbing, Rafting and Archery on Monday and Kite Making and Ultimate Sports on Tuesday. On Wednesday the students will be attending Bayswater Waves. From what I could see on Monday the students were all having a great time at camp and no doubt will have many stories.

Last week Mr Levy and I attended a Gardening PD which provided some valuable advice and resources on the setting up of a school community garden. This project has already been discussed at our P&C meeting and we will soon be setting up a committee to manage the start up and ongoing operation of the garden.

I recently attended a meeting along with other principals in the district with the Forrestfield and High Wycombe Community Bank. This was to inform us of the “Bendigo Bank – School Technology Initiative”. At this event we received a briefing on the School Technology Initiative which is offering local schools a grant of $20 000 to invest in technology and technology related programs. We will be putting an application together in the coming weeks to access this very important project.

Next term commences for students on Tuesday 29th April as the teachers will be attending a Professional Development day on Monday 28th April. NAPLAN Testing for year 3, 5 and 7 students will take place in week 3 of next term and we will provide further details early in the term.

Stirk Swimming Carnival

The Stirk Swimming Carnival was last Thursday 27th March at Bilgomen Swimming Pool. Congratulations to all the competitors for their effort and excellent behaviour on the day. Gooseberry Hill won the day with 389 points, Kalamunda 2nd with 381 points and Wallistons 5th place. Thankyou to parents, spectators and relief staff who helped at the carnival due to the absence of permanent staff members being unavailable on a sad day for our school community.

Our individual winners were:
Yr 5 Girl Runner-up Chanelle Miller
Yr 5 Boy Runner-up Joel Foote
Yr 6 Boy Runner-up Brayden Rumsley
Yr 7 Girl Champion Eliza van de Velde
This week the year 7 and year 6 students went on an overnight camp to Woodman Point. On Monday many excited students arrived early with their luggage eager to get on the bus and off to camp. The camp gave them a chance to challenge themselves and try new activities. It was amazing to see students climbing the 30 foot wall, some found it easy, others had to struggle to overcome their fear of heights but everyone gave it their best. They then moved onto archery where most managed to hit the target by the end of the session. Raft building was a true test of team work and provided many laughs as rafts fell apart and then insisted in travelling in the opposite direction to where they needed to go. Eventually everyone got around the buoys and safely back to the beach. On Tuesday we played team sports and then made kites which were flown in the sun and proudly carried home.

It was great to see students challenge themselves, work together in teams and share the fun of staying overnight. We certainly all came home with new skills, funny stories and many special memories.
CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

The school community received a shock last week with the passing of one of the school’s favourite staff members. There are many students, staff and parents still grieving the loss, and will continue to do so for weeks and months and will never forget the friendship and impact that Nicky Rosie made on Walliston Primary School.

This is a time when parents need to be communicating with their kids and making sure the children are handling their feelings and emotions.

Some Helpful Tips:
Children grieve in bursts – they don't show their grief in the same way as adults. Keep to family routines as much as you can to give security. Let the teacher or childcare worker know what has happened. Be honest, trustworthy and reliable. Give your grieving child special times with you to talk about feelings. If your child or teenager seems to not be managing, seek help.

For further information http://www.earlytraumagrief.anu.edu.au/

Adrian Wilson
School Chaplain

The school’s playgroup had a Teddy Bears Picnic on Friday 21st March to help celebrate Playgroup W.A. week. The children made their own honey sandwiches, went on a search to find the perfect picnic spot and then enjoyed a feast with their teddies in the Early Childhood playground.

‘Little WAMOs’ has gotten off to a wonderful start this year and new members are always welcome! Please contact the school’s front office if you or someone you know is interested.

Playgroup Leaders Sandra Fields and Ruth Stump

Uniform Shop
Long sleeve polo tops are now available for sale from the uniform shop.

Easter Raffle
Please return all raffle tickets and money to school by next Tuesday 8th April.

ANZAC SERVICE

Please remember we are holding our ANZAC ceremony at school on Friday 11th April commencing at 9am.

This will be held at the front of the school near the flagpole. The Walliston Choir will be performing.

Everyone is most welcome to attend.
Pickering Brook Golf Club

Free Golf Coaching for 8 to 15 yr olds. Each Saturday at 9am to 10am. Starting on May 17th. Bring your own gear or borrow the clubs. Cost $5 for insurance fee. For more information please contact the president Dene Marshall on 9398 2453.

Curtin University Mathematics Enrichment Classes 2014

Mathematics enrichment program for years 5 - year 11 students. There will be 16 weekly sessions held at the Curtin University campus in Bentley. The cost for two terms will be $319 per student. For more information and applications visit their website at http://maths.curtin.edu.au/enrichment.cfm

The Shire of Kalamunda libraries will be hosting some fascinating and fun Scitech workshops during the April school holidays. Details are available at the libraries and on the Shire website www.kalamunda.wa.gov.au/libraries