13th March, 2013

‘The Puggle Post’

OUR SCHOOL VISION: Encouraging all members of the school community to work together to create a positive and motivating environment, allowing all students to maximise their educational opportunities in an ever changing world.

PARENT PAYMENTS RECEIVED

163 families at WPS.
65 Completed payments = 39% (families)

Have you recently asked your child/ren......

“What did you learn today?”

Congratulations to our “Students of the Week.”

Prep C: Alicia-Rae McCrum—(Persisting and trying really hard with her pencil grip)

Prep G: Connor Allsop—(Finding known words in his text)

1/2 H: Hugh Drofenik—(Always doing his best when learning)

1/2 M: Emily Fitzgerald—(Always doing her best in all learning tasks)

3/4 B: Brayden Draper—(Being a great role model and team member during team sport time)

3/4 Y: Lachlan Hall—(Always presenting his working in a neat and pleasing manner)

3/4 L: Jack Johnson-Breheny—(Helping teachers and students)

5/6 A: Jacinta Robinson—(Always displaying a positive attitude towards learning tasks)

5/6 E: Paige Brice—(Always completing her learning task to the best of her ability)

5/6 K: Brittnee Marke—(Writing persuasive arguments about Home Learning)
A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

Meeting with Prep Parents: This week I look forward to meeting with our current Prep families to seek their feedback on their child’s and family’s transition into primary school. I found the meeting I had last year (with the 2012 Prep parents) most valuable, and the information gained resulted in us making some alterations to our transition processes. The meeting will be held tomorrow morning, (Thursday) just after the 9:00 a.m. bell, in the Library.

Visits by Sharon Blackwell: On Monday and Tuesday of last week, Sharon Blackwell, the DEECD Social Worker who often works individually with students and families at our school, met with each class and discussed bullying and un-friendly behaviour. We have had Sharon address students before on this topic and feel a yearly reminder of how to best treat others reinforces our school values and beliefs. Sharon reminded students of the difference between “bullying” and one off silly behaviour. Whilst there is not a place for either, we need to reinforce with students that both bullying and silly behaviour sometimes do occur and we need to assist students with how best to deal with these occurrences.

So what is bullying? Bullying is pre-planned, on-going verbal, physical or emotional abuse that involves one person enforcing their power over another person. It occurs in many schools, work places and in the general community, and sometimes even within families.

Students were asked to determine if a range of scenarios were actually bullying or one-off silly behaviour. This assisted students to differentiate between the two and supported them to begin to use the correct language when describing an event.

Wandong Primary School has a very detailed Student Management Process that is implemented if any incidences of bullying or silly behaviour occur at school. The process involves collection and analysis of victim and witness statements. In addition we have our “Three Step Process” that empowers our students to reduce any incidences of unacceptable behaviour.

So what can you do at home?

- Talk to your child about any incidences and don’t automatically label all incidents as bullying incidents.
- Encourage your child to let staff know about any incident. (You can ring us, but please let your child tell us personally as this builds their skills.)
- Remind students to tell the truth and to include all details if/when they have to fill in any victim or witness statements. (It is very hard to give a consequence as a school then find out three days later there is more to the story.)
- Reinforce our Three Step Process – (1) Ask others to stop (2) Warn them you will tell and adult if the behaviour continues (3) Tell an adult if the behaviour continues.
- Let the school deal with school incidences – we will notify parents as we see fit, following our process
- Start off the next new day ‘fresh’ - once an incident has been dealt with, encourage your child to move on. Do not dwell in the past. Our students will be faced with incidences for the rest of their lives, so building resilience and moving on is very important.

Sharon will be presenting a session for parents on Building Resilient Children on Thursday 2nd May in the school hall. I encourage ALL parents to attend as building resilient children is probably one of the most important things we can do as a parent.

To date this year, we have had minimal incidences of silly behaviour across the school and by working together we can keep this number low. Thank you
A Message from the Principal continued:

Regional Principal’s Conference: On Thursday and Friday, I attended the North Eastern Regional Principal’s conference in Melbourne. The focus was on preparing our students for the future and many of the workshops I attended focused on digital technology and preparing our students for a digital world. I was mind boggled by the range of ways through which students can expand their learning, interact with others world-wide and view other students’ responses to learning pieces.

“Dig In” Gardening Club: It was great to see a few parents assisting with the “Dig In” Gardening Club last week. Every little bit of help is certainly appreciated. Tomorrow we will be holding interviews for our school gardening position and our “Dig In” Gardening Club will work alongside our new gardener to help maintain our school environment.

What’s Inside the box????? I am delighted to say that we have received the many pieces of equipment that we were able to select as a result of the Woolworths voucher program last year. Over the coming week, the boxes will be opened and the items will be displayed at school. Thank you to all of our families for supporting us in this great initiative — I hope Woolworths do it again this year.

Have a great week,
Rhonda Cole

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

On Tuesday last week we met with Mrs Cole to discuss our role within the school. We will be doing some fundraising activities and keeping some money for the school and also sending some money away to support other charities. This is what we have planned…

Term one:
• Guess the lollies in the jar competition. 20 cents per guess. Winner keeps the lollies.

Term two:
• Movie night in the hall (Friday 3rd May.) Popcorn, drinks and biscuits for sale.
• Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser for Cancer Research (June sometime – stay tuned)

Term three:
• Wheelathon — bring something with wheels (bike, scooter, skateboard, pram) and do laps around the school. Get sponsors per lap and have fun!
• Inside Out Uniform Day — gold coin donation for the Royal Children’s Hospital

Term four:
• To be advised.

We are currently writing to companies to get donations for our events. Stay tuned—we plan to have lots of fun this year!!

Wandong Primary School SRC
What is Kids Matter?

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

KidsMatter Primary provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

Children who feel they belong at school are happier; more relaxed and have fewer behaviour problems than others. They also learn better, are more motivated and more successful with school work.

Towards the end of the 2012 school year, Wandong Primary School embraced the KidsMatter Primary initiative. Wandong Primary School will be presenting an information session for all parents and guardians to outline the program, how it will be implemented at our school, and our successes to date. We invite you to attend.

Where: School Hall

When: Tuesday 26th March at 7:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Supper provided

Please note: A movie will be shown in 5/6E room if you need to bring children along with you. Hope to see you there!

I………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….would like to attend the Parent session on Tuesday 26th March—7:00pm—8:30pm.

I will/will not need to bring my ...........children.

W.P.S. PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

Easter Raffle Information

Thursday 21st March: Make sure your raffle tickets and money are back at the school

Friday 22nd March: Raffle drawn at the school assembly.

Wednesday 27th March: Winners names listed in newsletter.
WOW! .... WHAT'S ON @ WANDONG

Thursday 14th March  - Prep Parents’ feedback and catch up session with the Principal
                     9:00 in Library. Please note change of date. (Invitation sent home last week)

Monday 18th March   - “Dig in” gardening club 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Thursday 21st March - Make sure your raffle tickets and money are back at the school. Got to be in it to win it!

Friday 22nd March   - Easter raffle drawn

Wednesday 27th March- Easter raffle winners names listed in the newsletter

Tuesday 26th March  - Kids Matter Parent Information session (and supper) 7:00pm in hall.

Thursday 28th March - Last day of term one
                     (2:30 p.m. Finish time)

Friday 29th March   - Good Friday (Easter)  
                     April

Monday 15th April   - First day of Term Two  
                     May

Thursday 2nd May    - Building Resilient Children with Sharon Blackwell (Parent information evening
                     7:00 p.m. in hall)

Friday 3rd May      - SRC Movie night 7:00 p.m. in hall

Wednesday 8th May  - School photos

For Sale: Student desk and trolley
We currently have one student desk and one trolley (great for the shed or garage, very sturdy) for sale. Please contact the office if you are interested in purchasing a desk or the trolley – first in gets to the goodies.

$40.00

Remember Thursday is icy pole and ice cream day at WPS.

Just send along 50 cents (icy pole) or $1.00 (ice-cream) and hand it to your teacher at the start of the day.

Icy poles and ice creams are provided at lunchtime and are delicious on these really hot days.

Prep Parents Morning Tea Reminder (TOMORROW)

Please join me for a chat and cuppa so we can discuss our transition processes and have a catch up.
Wandong Primary School
“Dig In” Gardening Club
Do you have the urge to weed a few plants, do some watering or trim a few bushes?

Our next “Dig In” gardening group of volunteers will be working in the school yard on **Monday 18th March between 9:00-10:30 a.m.**

If you have a little bit of spare time, we would love to see you here.

People in our Community Who Help Us ~ CFA Visit

The Grade 1/2 unit are currently learning about Wandong and People in our Community Who Help Us. As part of this Inquiry topic the students will be having a visit from members of our local CFA. This will take place next Monday 18th March, at 9:30am in our school hall.

Members will be visiting with their equipment and trucks to demonstrate and discuss:
- How a fire call works (the process from a civilian calling 000 to the moment they leave the fire station).
- What incidents they respond to, and how they operate during these different incidents.
- What is on their vehicles, what they wear and other specified equipment such as radios.
- General safety messages about fire.
- Other ways they support the community and how the community supports them.

So if you are passing by and see the fire vehicles on-site with lights flashing and sirens shouting, please don’t be alarmed, it will be all part of the fun of this very valuable visit.

Melanie McClure, Carol McIntyre and Heather Chisholm

HEAD LICE—NITS
There back!
Please check your children’s hair and treat accordingly if you find any lice or eggs.
Mrs Cole’s Thinklinks Group.

This semester, we are making stuffed toys. If you have any of the following and can donate them to our group, we would be very grateful.

- Fabric pieces (any size, colour)
- Ribbon
- Buttons
- Balls of wool

Red House romps home!

Red house was the first house to win the cup for 2013.

Proudly holding the cup is the Captain and Vice-Captain—Tali Kean and Zander Gladman-Mitchell
Hi Everybody,

I hope you had a great week, we sure did at OSHC. We welcomed Piper, Trinity, Findlay, Campbell and Brooke to after school care, they sure are five fun friends. We’ve been exploring bugs and other creepy crawleys in a hands-on experience, making jewellery with beads and wire, sailing the seven seas with a pirate ship and shooting around the grounds on our scooters.

Did you get a Holiday Program brochure with today’s newsletter? We have lots of exciting excursions planned such as our trip to Wonderland Funpark to ride the dodgem cars, crazy wave and roller coasters. We are also heading to Carlton to watch a cooky show at La Mama Theatre and to have a picnic in the park with Lygon Street gelato. We also have plenty of theme days and incursions including a Laser Tag Day with professional laser tag equipment for all use. If you want to book, please visit www.ssoshc.com.au or call 03 5781 1300. Don’t forget to complete an enrolment form if you haven’t already handed one in; they can be collected from after school care or the office.

Have a brilliant week,

Mick Simmons

Childcare rebate and benefit available for all before school, after school and holiday programs, saving you more than 50%!

For information and bookings
visit www.ssoshc.com.au or Ph: 5781 1300
SSOSHC blog: ssoshc.blogspot.com.au