The Wantirna Whisper

Principal - Mrs Heather Norbury
2013 School Captains - Chloe, Luke, Regan and Georgia
Message from the Principal’s Desk

**Weird Melbourne Weather** – The weather over the last two weeks has created havoc in many places and it is difficult to know what is going to happen next. Our thoughts are with the people in NSW who are threatened by the bushfires so early in Spring.

**Metal2Metal Challenge** – Our Metal2Metal Challenge fundraiser begins on Monday October 28 and all you have to do is give us all your metal rubbish. There will be a skip in the staff carpark for two weeks from October 28 – November 11 and we can put any metal rubbish in it. A flyer was sent home last term with a list of all the items that can be placed in the skip! Items include cans, fridges, washing machines, stoves, hot water surfaces, metal stakes, wire fencing, table and chair frames. At the end of the two weeks we will have the skip weighed and we will be given a cheque for the total weight! If we fill our skip quickly we will get a second, third, fourth one!!! So keep all your metal to one side and bring it along from October 28! Tell your neighbours, friends and families as well!

**Trivia Night** — Our first Trivia Night for many years was held last Friday and was a huge success. The games were a highlight and nearly everyone went home with a prize or purchase of some kind. Many thanks to Leisa and Ana in particular, for their collection of such a vast range of items for the raffles, lucky envelopes and silent auction. We have raised in excess of $1400 and will purchase two fitness stations to go near our fitness track. We are planning to hold another Trivia Night in 2014.

**Fundraising – where has the money been spent?** – All the money raised by the PFN and Promotions and Marketing Committees has been spent on a variety of things around the school. We have resurfaced the fitness track, purchased several sets of sports uniforms for the SLU students to wear when representing our school, beanbags for the library, and a TV and several apple devices to allow students to show their work from their iPads and to conduct assemblies on Fridays. We can only achieve these things with the hard work of our PFN members and your support of our fundraising events.
Parent Opinion Survey – We have received the results of the 2013 Parent Opinion Survey and the parent comments and results have been discussed at staff meetings and School Council. One area that was of particular interest was extra-curricular activities. These activities are those that are offered on top of what is taught in the classroom. The parent perception is that we do not offer enough of these so I would like to list all the extra things we offer our students – Gateways – opportunities for our students to attend sessions that will challenge their thinking; Sport Clinics – including rugby league, basketball, cricket, Coach Approach; lunchtime and after school programs – Dance, Soccer, Cricket, art; Instrumental Music tuition every Thursday; Plus 10 in the SLU; The other area of concern was the lack of specialist programs because we are a small school. All areas of the curriculum are covered by the teachers or companies we bring in to the school. Our music program is covered by programs such as Zumba in 2013, ballroom dancing and productions in previous years; our science is covered through our Integrated Topics such as Power, Minibeasts, weather cycles etc. Our language program is Japanese in the JLU and we will be investigating which language we introduce in 2015 as a directive from the DEECD. The iPad program will also allow us to utilise apps to help support areas such as Science, Languages and Music.

Thank you to the parents who completed the survey – it provides us with valuable information as to how we can provide an even better education for all our students.

If you would like to let me know what you would like to see more of at WPS please contact me either by email or phone at school.

Summer Sport Round Robin – Summer Sport was held last Friday and all SLU students participated in table tennis, softball or volleyball. All the children had a terrific day and our Cricket team were District champions. Unfortunately cricket does not progress to a division or state level, but this is a great effort from our boys.

JLU Swimming Program – The JLU swimming program commenced last Wednesday and all the students enjoyed their first session. The children become very independent over the eight weeks – especially our Preps.

Garden – You may have noticed that our vegie garden is looking a lot tidier and some new plants have been put in. Many thanks to Michelle and Kim for tidying up the gardens and planting some new things. If anyone would like to help these two mums, please let me know. We are also in need of wire coathangers to help secure the netting over the strawberry plants.

iPad Information Night—Our iPad parent information night was held last Tuesday. Although only a few parents attended it was great to be able to share our journey so far with them. All our staff presented where their learning has taken them and we showed several clips of work created by our students. The iPad App guide was presented as well and we were able to help answer some of the questions raised by the parents. Thank you to Luke for organising the night and for all our staff for attending with our parents.

WPS Camping Program — Our SLU students are busily preparing for their camp to the City next week and are very excited about the activities they will be participating in – Yarra River cruise, Melbourne Gaol, MCG tour, Melbourne Aquatic Centre, Shrine, to name a few. Also our JLU is having their own “camp” program as an introduction to the SLU camp program tomorrow night. Our Preps will have an extended day until about 5pm; our Year one’s will have a pizza dinner and our Year two’s are having a sleepover. This will be an exciting experience for our JLU and I know all our children will participate.

Prep Transition Sessions – Our 2014 Preps enjoyed their second session at school and were involved in a science lesson. It was terrific to see them exploring and making boats and attempting to float them. Our next session is on Friday 1st November and will be run by our PE teacher, John.

Chaplaincy Survey – Each year we are asked to evaluate our Chaplaincy program by Access Ministries, who help fund the program. A Chaplaincy survey is on our website and I encourage everyone to fill it in, even if you have never utilised the program. The survey is very short and should only take about 5 minutes to complete.

Have you downloaded Tiqbiz yet??– Many parents have signed up to the Tiqbiz App and many of you will have received alerts from us about various events happening at school, including our newsletter. This is a very quick way for us to also send out reminders or information, rather than using reams of paper. The App is free and can be downloaded onto your iPhone, iPad or desktop computer. So join up now so that we have everyone on board!

Heather Norbury – Principal
norbury.heather.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
Congratulations to the following students:

Elisha M – JNB – For participating in P.E. with a ‘smile on her dial’.
Semin L – JNC – For having a friendly nature.
Puli T – SNE – Student of the Week Award.

Chaplain’s Chat

How are you at managing your time – it can be really hard with so many things to juggle! Take some time to read this story and look at what are your priorities in life and not just what others may be expecting of you.

- Rocks in the Bucket

Use this time management story to show how planning is the key to time management.
Start with a bucket, some big rocks enough to fill it, some small stones, some sand and water.
Put the big rocks in the bucket - is it full?
Put the small stones in around the big rocks - is it full?
Put the sand in and give it a shake - is it full?
Put the water in. Now it’s full.

The point is: unless you put the big rocks in first, you won’t get them in at all.

In other words: Plan time-slots for your big issues before anything else, or the inevitable sand and water issues will fill up your days and you won’t fit the big issues in (a big issue doesn’t necessarily have to be a work task - it could be your child’s sports-day, or a holiday).

~author unknown

Have a great week.

Julie Reiher
CUT CHILD CARE COSTS! CLAIM YOUR CHILDCARE REBATE STRAIGHT OFF YOUR WEEKLY OSHC FEES.

Everybody that attends OSHC is entitled to Childcare Rebate and it is not income tested. Childcare Rebate is available on all out of pocket expenses, for childcare provided by an approved Children’s Service, up to the amount of $7500 per child per year. (Wantirna OSHC is an approved Childcare Service.)

Remember: That your Childcare Benefit (means tested) also comes off your weekly fees.

If you would like to book your child/ren in for care they must be fully enrolled into the program. We cannot take a booking without the enrolment form being filled in – this is a legal requirement. If you think you might need the OSHC program as a one off or even just casually you can pick up an enrolment form from the school office or from OSHC.

**After School Care .......... $17.00 per session**

**Before School Care.........$22.00 per session**

To make a booking or for any further enquiries regarding OSHC please call Premila on 0405 736 870 or you can book through the school office on 9801 – 1938.

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**Get Safe for Summer!**

Spring is here, the sun is out, and summer is just around the corner. That means holiday time, fun and games often based around water at pools, the beach, rivers and lakes. We would like to give all children at Wantirna Primary School the chance to get safe for summer by having a free swimming / water safety lesson at Kings Swim Centre in Wantirna.

At Kings we know how much fun children can have in the water, and we believe all children deserve the chance fully enjoy water activities. As part of our community support program we want to offer the students at Wantirna Primary School a free swimming lesson at a time of your choice to help build their confidence, develop their skills, and increase their water safety.

To take up this offer simply call 9800 2555, select a day and time that suits for your class, and quote the code "Wantirna Primary School safety program". We hope this gives your whole family a head start to enjoy summer fun by the water this year.
LOST & FOUND

Could everyone please ensure their school hat and uniform are clearly named so they can be easily returned.

Please ask your child/ren to check they pick up their own clothing item. We have sent a Head Lice notice home today and if the children share their hats they are more likely to be infested with Head Lice.

We have also have had a number of spectacles handed into the office in the past two weeks. If you have lost yours just pop into the school office and see if they are yours.

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EGGS!   EGGS!   EGGS!

Our chickens are laying and we have lots of eggs for sale. If you would like to purchase some eggs they are for sale at the school office - $3.00 for half a dozen. They make delicious egg sandwiches. All organic and free range!

The Vegetable Patch

Our Vegetable Patch is looking fabulous and we are looking for donations of some seeds and plants to plant in the patch. If you can help us out, could you please drop them off at the school office.

Thanks Michelle McLean & Kim Twomey.
Colin Thompson was born in London in 1942 and started to write and illustrate children’s books in 1990. He has had over 65 books published.

In March 1995 he visited Australia and then returned two weeks later to live. He is now an Australian citizen!

His favourite fruit is cherries. He is left-handed and colour-blind.

Remember, our school Library is a great place to borrow books written by Colin Thompson. It is open Monday, Thursday and Friday second-half of lunchtimes for reading and borrowing.