The Wantirna Whisper

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

**Busy times ahead** – We have reached the very busy time of end of year testing and report writing. This is an exciting time for staff as they reflect on how far all our students have come in the past twelve months. I look forward to reading all the reports over the next few weeks.

**Class requests for 2014** – If you have any specific requests for your child’s placement in 2014, please put them in writing to me by the end of November, with contact details so that I can discuss your request with you if necessary. **Please note that only those requests given to me will be considered.** If you wish to discuss your request in person, please call me during school hours on 9801 1938 or send me an email – norbury.heather.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

**Enrolments for 2014** – If your circumstances have changed and you will be moving at the end of this year, please contact me as soon as possible. We have experienced a large number of enrolments across all year levels and may need more staff in 2014. The employment process does take a few weeks and we would like to have our classes and staff decided by the 6th December.

**State Rugby Finals** – On Tuesday Max and Regan joined with students from Bayswater West to compete in the State Rugby Finals. Schools from as far as Mildura competed on the day. They won the first two matches and lost the last three. Well done boys!

**PFN Christmas Raffle** – Our final fundraiser for the year is our Christmas Raffle! Please donate some Christmas items to make this raffle the biggest one yet! Leave your donations at the office and raffle tickets will be sent out in the next week or so. The prizes will be drawn at our Carols Night on Thursday 12th December.

**Working Bee** – Thank you to the families who attended our working bee last Sunday. Our picnic tables were re-oiled and the seating outside the art room was replaced. Parents also helped move some mulch from the carpark.
Prep Transition Sessions – Our new Preps have now had an art lesson and a P.E. lesson. It is very rewarding to see their happy little faces as they participate in each of the activities. Thank you to John and Olga for providing these lessons. Next week Cathy Jacobs will be running a Japanese lesson.

Uniforms for 2014 – Due to our increased Prep numbers for 2014, we are encouraging all parents to purchase/order uniforms by the end of this year. This applies to all year levels as we want to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone to buy what they need. Uniform sales will also be available at our book selling day on Friday 24th January.

Changes to Tiqbiz – send us an absence note! – 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. Now you can let us know if your child is absent. There is a section on Tiqbiz for you to fill in with the details of the absence and an email is then sent to the school. Next time your child is absent, please give this a try!

Metal2Metal Challenge – Our Metal2Metal Challenge fundraiser finished last week and the skip has been taken away. Thank you to all the families who put their metal rubbish into the skip. We are waiting to hear how much we raised. We will have the skip again next year, so keep your metal rubbish stored away!

Heather Norbury – Principal
norbury.heather.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Chaplain’s Chat

Perspective – It is really how we see it!

We really do need to have our perspective right, don’t we? We may consider some people well off and others not; however it really is in how we see it.

How the poor live

One day, a father of a very wealthy family took his son on a trip to the country with the firm purpose of showing his son how poor people live. They spent a couple of days and nights on the farm of what would be considered a very poor family. On their return from their trip, the father asked his son, “How was the trip?”

“It was great, Dad.”

“Did you see how poor people live?” the father asked.

“Oh yeah,” said the son.

“So, tell me, “What did you learn from the trip?” asked the father.

The son answered, “I saw that we have one dog and they had four. We have a pool that reaches to the middle of our garden, and they have a creek that has no end. We have imported lanterns in our garden, and they have the stars at night. Our patio reaches to the front yard, and they have the whole horizon. We have a small piece of land to live on, and they have fields that go beyond our sight. We have servants who serve us, but they serve others. We buy our food, but they grow theirs. We have walls around our property to protect us; they have friends to protect them.”

The boy’s father was speechless.

Then his son added, “Thanks, Dad, for showing me how poor we are.”

Take care

Julie Reiher
Chaplain
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.

2014 Pupil Free Days

The government allocates schools four Pupil Free days a year. The first one is Tuesday January 28th 2014 (Teachers Return to school this day).

The children will be starting school on Wednesday 29th January. The other three days will be allocated to Report Writing days. We will notify you of these dates when School Council has approved them.

Community News

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!

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.
Jacqueline “Jackie” French was born in Sydney in 1953 and has written well over a hundred books.

She wrote her first children’s book in a desperate attempt to get enough money to register her car. At the time she lived in a tin shed with a black snake named Gladys and a wombat named Smudge.

Jackie is known to be dyslexic.

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