The Wantirna Whisper

Principal - Mrs Heather Norbury
2013 School Captains - Chloe, Luke, Regan and Georgia

www.wantirnaprimary.vic.edu.au
Message from the Principal’s Desk

December is here, Christmas is near and we are all looking forward to holiday cheer!

Class structures for 2014 – Due to our increased numbers across the school, there will be some class structure changes for 2014. In the JL we are currently looking at a Prep class, a Prep/1 class, and a Year 2 class. If we enrol any more Prep-2 students, there may be a need to have a Year 1/2 class, instead of a straight Year 2 class.

In the SLU there will be 2x multi-age classes. There will be students from years 3-6 in both SLU classes as this enables both teachers to have ownership of all the students and curriculum in the four year levels as well as allowing for team teaching in its true sense. The rooms will be set up to accommodate three learning areas as well as the current L Space. Students will continue to be taught at their level of need, which has been a strength at our school for a long time. There will also be an extra teacher working in the SLU three days a week, for the core subjects – literacy and numeracy – and this will allow for smaller focussed teaching groups. We are also providing literacy and numeracy intervention in the SLU for students with specific learning needs.

It is a very exciting time at Wantirna PS, as our numbers begin to grow, providing us with opportunities to implement extra programs. If any parents wish to speak to me about the class structures please contact me as soon as possible during school hours on 9801 1938 or send me an email – norbury.heather.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Reports and Staff placements – Staff are currently writing student reports and these will be sent home on Wednesday 18th December. Included in the envelope there will be a slip notifying you of your child’s class and teacher for 2014, as well as the 2014 Booklist. We are still finalising staffing for next year.

IPad program – Don’t forget that you can bring your child’s iPad to school before the end of this year to be set up ready for use on the first day of 2014. You can also do this on January 24th – on book selling day!

Final School Council Meeting – On Monday 9th December we will be having our final School Council meeting for 2013. I would to thank all members of the School Council and all the committee members for their hard work this year. It is a big commitment from parents but we appreciate your support of our school.
Prep Transition Sessions - Our final transition session is on Tuesday 10th Dec and is from 9-11am. All our new Preps and Year 4 buddies are getting to know each other very well and we will be matching them for the Better Buddies program in 2014.

Prep Information Night - On Tuesday 10th December there will be a Prep Information Night for our new Prep parents. This is an opportunity for parents to hear all about the start of the year and what to expect in the first year of school. There will be information given from Prep teachers, OSHC, School Council, PFN, our chaplain, etc. We encourage all new parents to come along and to collect a goodies bag for their child.

Year 6 Transition Day - On Tuesday 10th December our year 6 students will be spending the day at their secondary college. We wish them all the best as they start their journey into Year 7. We look forward to hearing about your day!

WPS Carols Concert - On Thursday 12th December we are holding our annual Carols Concert. You are invited to have dinner at school from 5pm with the concert commencing at 6pm. We are hoping to have a special visitor at the end of the concert. The PFN are running a sausage sizzle for those who would like to have sausages in bread for dinner - $1.00 each.

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 return your raffle tickets by our Carols Night on Thursday 12th December.

Parent Helpers Ceremony - Next Friday 13th December we are holding a special thank you ceremony for all our parent helpers in 2013. The ceremony will be part of our assembly which begins at 9am. We invite all parents who have helped at our school this year to come to assembly and then to join me for coffee and cake in the staffroom!

Instrumental Music program in 2014 - We have been very fortunate to have Maryanne Wright teaching musical instruments at our school for many years. If you would like your child to learn an instrument during school hours please read the attached flyer about the program that is run at WPS. This is an excellent way of providing your child with experience in many instruments before choosing one to purchase and continue to learn.

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 raised almost $50 for our school. We had lots of people ask if we could do it again in 2014 and it has been added to our fundraising list for next year.

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

Chaplain’s Chat

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The end of the year is here. I hope that it is well with you all, and that the school holidays are a time of fun and relaxation. A time when as families we come together, perhaps you have not seen relatives for a long time and it's like a reunion, or you may be remembering loved ones who are no longer with you, whatever your Christmas looks like may you have peace and love mingled with Joy and Happiness. Try not to eat too much! I look forward to serving you in this community of wonderful people again next year. Please feel free to come and have a chat.

Chaplain Julie
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

Elisha in Prep has lost her school hat. Could everyone check their names on their hats please!

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
@ WANTIRNA PS with Marianne Wright

The ABC program is a 16 week instrumental program designed to provide students with experience in many musical instruments with a qualified teacher, during school hours, without buying an instrument.

JUNIOR ABC (Prep to Gr2) enables the student to learn Piano, Keyboard, Clarinet, Junior Flute, Junior Guitar, Recorder, Percussion and basic theory.

Each instrument is studied for 2 weeks then revised in the second 8 week term.

Musical games are included in the weekly lesson where the children dance, learn rhythms and name songs after hearing them played.

At the end of the 16 weeks parents receive a report which provides an assessment on all of the instruments and a recommendation on which instrument your child could specialise in for the next new term.

Some instruments can be hired, bought 2nd hand or new at reasonable prices.

To enrol your child in the ABC program, the investment is $300 for 16 weeks.

To book your child in for the 16 week program, deposit $300 in the following account, with your name and Wantirna PS as your reference.

BSB 633-000 Account 142789767

All enquiries to Marianne Wright - mwrightmusic67@yahoo.com.au

Phone - 0409125464
WANTIRNA PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROLS

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER

Warm up those caroling voices and dress in your most festive attire as the excitement is building as our Christmas Carols are almost here!

Time: 5.00pm - (Family Picnic – PFN are selling sausages)
   6:00pm - Christmas Carols start
   7:00pm – A visit from that man in red