FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome Back
Welcome back to a new school year at WHPS. We hope that your family had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday. A special welcome is extended to our new students and their parents.

2014 Classes
2014 classes were formed today. Teachers and class names are listed on page 4 for your information.

School Calendar 2014
Accompanying the newsletter today, you will receive a copy of the Term 1 school calendar for 2014. To avoid confusion if there are changed dates, we are sending home the calendars each term. In addition, parents are also asked to check the fortnightly newsletter for updates and confirmation of school events.

Parent Information Nights
Parents will be invited to information sessions over 2 evenings on Tuesday 25th and Thursday 27th February. Details of classes/stages and times are included in a note that is accompanying this newsletter.

Swimming Carnival – Congratulations!
Congratulations to all our students who had a great day at yesterday’s school swimming carnival. A big thank you to all the parents who came and supported their children on the day. Finally, thank you to Ms Johnston and Ms Russell for a huge effort in organising the swimming carnival.

NEW School Account System
In an attempt to streamline our school account system, several changes will be introduced this term. Starting in 2014, the following changes will apply:

- Term accounts will only include; school/grade/stage based fees, excursions and school/grade activities
- All extra-curricular activities will be ‘pay as you go’, that is, payment must be returned with the permission note, eg. swimming scheme, dance groups, choir, PSSA teams, zone sport, UNSW competitions, support unit activities etc

School accounts will be sent home next week and payment must be made by 28th February.

Swimming Scheme - Change
The two week Special Swimming School is a ‘learn to swim’ program subsidised by the Department. It is usually run towards the end of the year at this school. We have decided to offer this program in Term 1 for 2014. Parents of students in Years 2-4 will receive a note today. Notes and payment must be returned to school by Friday 14th February. We apologise for the short timeframe.

Maxelle Matthews

CONTENTS
Page 2: Deputy’s Report, School News, Taxi Bay Rules
Page 3: Book Club, School Banking
Page 4: Classes and Teachers for 2014
Page 5: P & C News
Page 6: Insights Parenting Article

CALENDAR
Week 2
Wednesday, 5th Feb Kindergarten Students start
Wednesday, 5th Feb Training Band Tutorials begin
Thursday, 6th Feb Uniform shop open 8.40am & 6 pm
Friday, 7th Feb Summer PSSA Sport Trials

Week 3
Monday 10th Feb Band starts
Tuesday, 11th Feb School Banking starts

Week 4
Monday, 17th Feb Band Workshop
Monday, 17th Feb Homework starts for Year 1-6

Week 5
Tuesday, 25th Feb Parent Information Evenings
Thursday, 27th Feb Parent Information Evenings

WHAT’S DUE?
Friday, 14th Feb Swimming scheme – note and money
Friday, 14th Feb Living Skills note & money
Friday, 28th Feb Stage 3 Excursion permission note
Friday, 28th Feb Kinder Excursion permission note
Friday, 3rd Mar Kinder & 2/6P Excursion note
Friday, 28th Feb Term 1 School Account

ACCOMPANYING NOTES
- Term 1 Calendar
- Parent Information Evenings
- Swimming Scheme – for Year 2, 3 & 4
- Living Skills Note for all Support Unit classes
- Stage 3 Excursion - City
- Kinder and 2/6P Excursion – Fagan Park
- School Accounts – will be issued next week

Email Only
- Dance Auditions
- Tigers Rugby League Registration
- Tigers – Skills and Games
- Greek Festival
- Canteen Menu
- Hills Family Centre – Term 1 Newsletter
- 2014 Canteen Menu
FROM THE DEPUTY

Welcome Back!
Welcome back to another exciting year. It was great to see all the kids and teachers returning to school last week with smiles and just a few butterflies. It was also exciting to watch the kids move to their new class lines today with eager anticipation. This year will see the students having more opportunities in sport and the Creative and Performing Arts, be challenged with rich activities and be engaged with technology and work linked to the real world.

I am looking forward to another big year at Winston Hills.

Awards System
Already students have greeted me at my office with piles of certificates to collate or news of receiving some merit awards in the first few days.

Just a few helpful hints in how the merit award system works. Merit awards are handed out by class teachers for safe, respectful and responsible behaviour and accrued over time by the children. When children reach one of the milestones listed below, they can bring the last 10 merit awards, with their last honour certificate, to their teacher or my office.

Please ensure certificates are submitted at least a day before the assembly, to ensure that certificates and awards are ready on time.

   **Award Levels**
   10 Awards = Honour Certificate
   20 Awards = Honour Certificate
   30 Awards = Small Banner
   40 Awards = Honour Certificate
   50 Awards = Bronze Medal & Morning Tea with the Principal
   60 Awards = Honour Certificate
   70 Awards = Honour Certificate
   80 Awards = Large Banner
   90 Awards = Honour Certificate
   100 Awards = Silver Medal & Morning Tea with the Principal
   110 Awards = Honour Certificate
   120 Awards = Honour Certificate
   130 Awards = Small Banner
   140 Awards = Honour Certificate
   150 Awards = Gold Medal and Morning Tea with the Principal

Being Responsible
The students have started collecting their Winnie Award House Points and placing them in the appropriate coloured house bins. The focus area for this week involves playing the right game in the right area and from day 1, teachers have noted kids choosing activities that are appropriate for the area, time of day and weather conditions. Keep up the good work kids!

‘Gifted & Talented’ Mentor
Congratulations to our new Science mentor, Mrs Johnston (not Ms Melissa Johnston). Mrs Johnston is a parent of the school who has volunteered to manage a blog aimed at challenging some of our Gifted and Talented students with some real life experiments. Parents who are interested in volunteering for a similar project are asked to contact me at school.

Winston Winners
Congratulations to Jamie Wilbow, who will be performing in the Riverside Theatre’s production of Annie.

Ian Short

SCHOOL NEWS

New Fence – Near Staff Car Park
There have been a number of safety concerns in the front car park with students and parents walking on the road section. To avoid the risk of any injury, a new fence is being erected at the bottom of the crossing stairs across to the canteen. Please follow the signs and walk on the path when entering or leaving the school.

Reminder - Minor Uniform Changes
As a reminder, the four items that have changed are:
- The hat has changed from yellow to green
- The boys’ shirt has changed from white to green & gold and match the grey pants
- The boys’ and girls’ sports shirt has changed from a yellow polo to a green & gold microfibre polo shirt
- A black multipurpose / hybrid shoe will be the uniform shoe to be worn every day by boys & girls

Please remember that changes will be phased in over a 12 month period, so that parents will be asked to purchase new items only when the current uniform items have worn out or your child grows out of what they are wearing.

Summary of Dates for Minor Uniform Changes
- **2013** – Old stock of the 4 items being replaced will be sold off at greatly reduced prices
- **2014** – New uniform items will be made available in January 2014 from the Uniform Shop. Both current and new uniform items will be accepted as official school uniform.
- **2015** – Only new uniform items will be accepted as official school uniform.

OSHC Vacation Care – Expression Of Interest
As a result of parent requests, the OSHC is considering re-opening vacation care at Winston Hills. If parents are interested, please contact Suzie - OSHC Coordinator on 0429 388 359 or email her on oshc.winston@ymca.org.au and express your interest.

TAXI BAY RULES

In order to provide a safe pick-up and drop-off zone for our students, parents are asked to take note of the following rules for using the taxi bay area.

- No students are to be dropped off in the taxi bay area before 8.30am.
- Only students from the Support Unit can be dropped off in the taxi bay before 8.45am. Other students can be dropped off between 8.45-9am.
- Only students from the Support Unit can use the taxi bay in the afternoons.
- Due to ongoing issues with traffic congestion creating unsafe conditions, taxis transporting students from the Support Unit will leave the taxi bay at 2.55pm each afternoon.
- There is no pedestrian access via the taxi bay. Parents are not to walk through the taxi bay with their children.
- Parents need to stay in their cars in the taxi bay at all times. A staff member will walk your child to your car.
- All students must enter and exit cars on the curb side only.
- Staff will remove any school bags and student belongings from the boot of cars. Parents are to remain inside their cars at all times.
- No overtaking other cars in the taxi bay unless directed by staff.
PARENT INFORMATION

Choosing school shoes
Are expensive school shoes the best option for happy feet? Let's face it. School shoes have never been at the cutting edge of fashion. In fact if you look at what your parents were wearing, the humble school shoe really hasn't evolved much at all.

Tips for choosing shoes:

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Helper Needed
A helper is needed to join the Book Club team this year. The job includes sorting brochures for the students, collecting orders and sorting books when they are delivered to the school. Collections days are always two Fridays each term but the sorting can be done whenever is convenient for you. If this sounds like something you are interested in doing please email me at sarah.johnstone@iinet.net.au

Issue 1
Orders for Issue 1 of Scholastic Book Club will be collected in the old hall on Friday 21st February from 8.40-9.15am. Unfortunately late orders cannot be accepted. Payment can be by cash, cheque or credit card. If you are paying with cash, please have as close to the correct amount as possible. If paying by cheque please make cheques payable to Winston Hills Public School. Credit card orders need to completed online or by phone prior to giving in your order, please see the brochures for Scholastic’s contact details.

Sarah Johnstone
Book Club Coordinator

Cool Kids Crunch & Sip*
Don't forget the bottle of water and fruit or vegetables for Crunch & Sip* everyday!

HOMEWORK STARTS for Year 1 to Year 6 on Monday, 17th February

SCHOOL BANKING

Welcome back to School Banking for 2014. Banking will recommence in Week 3, Tuesday 11th February. Banking will finish the second last week of Term 1.

Last year the School Banking Team raised over $1000 for the school so a huge thank you to all the families who have participated and especially to our wonderful volunteers who process the deposits. We are looking for 2 new volunteers for the banking team as some of our current team has returned to work, so if you're interested and have 1 hour to spare on a Wednesday morning- every second week, we’d like to have you on board- no experience necessary!

To participate in the School Banking program, parents open a Youthsaver account with the Commonwealth Bank and students bring their deposit to school in their deposit wallets, every Tuesday morning and hand to their class teacher.

We encourage students to complete their own deposit slips but please ensure all details are completed. All new students will receive their student number for banking the first time they bank at WHPS. Please ensure all students have their new 2014 class written on the front of their deposit wallet.

Also keep an eye out for regular School Banking updates in the School newsletter throughout the Term, check out the Commonwealth Bank website:
or email us if you require further information.

Regards
Micaela & Lynelle
School Banking Co-ordinators
schoolbankingWHPS@gmail.com

SCHOOL BANKING
starts on Tuesday 11th February
**STAFF NEWS**

We would like to welcome a number of new staff members to our school – Ms Tracey McDonald, Miss Megan Ta, Miss Elise Murray and Mrs Jessica Matthews (Classroom Teachers). Welcome back to Mrs Wendy Kayello and Mrs Carmen Bolst who have been on maternity leave.

**CLASSES & TEACHERS 2014 – Term 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS</th>
<th>TEACHER</th>
<th>CLASS NAME</th>
<th>TEAM LEADER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KINDER</td>
<td>Miss Erin Adams</td>
<td>KA</td>
<td>Miss Erin Adams</td>
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<td>KINDER</td>
<td>Mrs Jill Parmis</td>
<td>KPE</td>
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<td>KINDER</td>
<td>Mrs Jenny Chapman (M, Th), Mrs Jessica Matthews (F)</td>
<td>KJ</td>
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<td>KINDER</td>
<td>Mrs Hayley Kitchener</td>
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<td>TEAM LEADER</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>Mrs Kerry Wood</td>
<td>1W</td>
<td>Mrs Kerry Wood</td>
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<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Whittingham</td>
<td>1F</td>
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<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>Miss Monica Kazmierski</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 1</td>
<td>Miss Elise Murray</td>
<td>1A</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 1/YEAR 2</td>
<td>Ms Tracey McDonald</td>
<td>1/2M</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>Miss Claire Downton</td>
<td>2D</td>
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<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>Mrs Sall Hawkins (W – Th)</td>
<td>2HB</td>
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<td>Mrs Kylie Brugadac (M &amp; F)</td>
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<td>YEAR 2</td>
<td>Mrs Glenda Rooney</td>
<td>2R</td>
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<td>TEAM LEADER</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 3</td>
<td>Mr Colin Booth (M, T, W)</td>
<td>3BG</td>
<td>Mrs Ilana Shelton &amp; Mrs Wendy Kayello</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mrs Katie Gardiner (Th-F)</td>
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<td>YEAR 3</td>
<td>Mrs Melissa Johnston</td>
<td>3J</td>
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<td>YEAR 3</td>
<td>Mrs Ilana Shelton (M - Th)</td>
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<td>Mrs Wendy Kayello (F)</td>
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<td>YEAR 4</td>
<td>Mr Steve Freney</td>
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<td>YEAR 4</td>
<td>Mrs Noeline Luther</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 4/YEAR 5</td>
<td>Mrs Sue Buyruk</td>
<td>4/5B</td>
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<td>YEAR 4/YEAR 5</td>
<td>Mrs Sue Buyruk</td>
<td>4/5B</td>
<td>Mr David MacSporran</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 5/YEAR 6</td>
<td>Mrs Rebekah Stewart</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
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<td>Miss Caroline Peace</td>
<td>5/6P</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 5/YEAR 6</td>
<td>Mr David MacSporran</td>
<td>5/6M</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR 5/YEAR 6</td>
<td>Mrs Stephanie Russell</td>
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<td>YEAR 5/YEAR 6</td>
<td>Miss Meagan Ta</td>
<td>5/6T</td>
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<td>SUPPORT CLASSES</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR K-6 IQ/AUTISM</td>
<td>Mr Andrew Petersen</td>
<td>2/6P</td>
<td>Ms Sarah Spink</td>
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<tr>
<td>YEAR K-6 IQ/AUTISM</td>
<td>Ms Sarah Spink (M-W)</td>
<td>3/6SB</td>
<td>Mr Andrew Petersen</td>
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<td>YEAR 3-6 IQ/AUTISM</td>
<td>Mrs Grewal</td>
<td>1/5G</td>
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<td>YEAR 3-6 IM</td>
<td>Miss Lana Frank</td>
<td>3/6F</td>
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<td>SUPPORT STAFF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Release from Face to Face (RFF) &amp; Part-time</td>
<td>Mrs Llewelyn Powell</td>
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<td>Mrs Cathy Di Pietro (Wed – Th)</td>
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<td>ESL</td>
<td>Mrs Belinda Harvey (Mon – Thurs)</td>
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<td>Mrs Jenny Middleton (Friday)</td>
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<td>Reading Recovery/RFF</td>
<td>Laura Barnett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Support</td>
<td>Mrs Lucia Schimanowsky, (W-Th) Ms Michelle Rose (M-T)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>Miss Bronwyn Grant (Mon – Fr)</td>
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<td>Mrs Rachael Frame (M &amp; T)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLSO Support Unit</td>
<td>Mrs Janet Brown, Mrs Mary Castle, Ms Caitlin Lam, Mrs Merryn White</td>
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<td>Ms Sarah Spink</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLSO Integration</td>
<td>Mrs Sabah Nahlous, Miss Mia Sheppard, Mrs Katherine Herrera, Mrs Jenny Dingli</td>
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<td>Ms M Matthews</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
<td>Mrs Mari Wilson, Mrs Julie Robinson</td>
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<td>Ms Maxelle Matthews</td>
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*Living and learning together*
P & C NEWS

BAND NEWS

Welcome new and existing band families to our band program for 2014.

Starting dates for 2014 include:

- Training band - Wednesday 5.2.14
- Tutorials for Training Band ONLY commence. A parent must be present during this first session to sign all contracts, collect hire instruments, meet band committee and tutors etc. Please meet in the new hall at 3pm.
- School band - Monday 10.2.14 4-5pm rehearsal
- Performance band - Monday 10th February 8-9am rehearsal and 3-5pm lessons.

Term 1 2014 - Days & Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training band-</th>
<th>School band-</th>
<th>Performance band-</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 3-4pm(from Term 2) Rehearsals</td>
<td>Monday 4-5pm Rehearsals</td>
<td>Monday 8-9am Rehearsals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3-4pm Tutorials</td>
<td>Wednesday 4-5pm Lessons</td>
<td>Monday 3-5pm Lessons</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3-4pm Rehearsals</td>
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</table>

School/Performance Band Students

For individual lesson days/times please refer to the email sent to all families late January 2014. If you did not receive this email with your allocated day/time please contact me immediately.

Dates for your Diary

- Band AGM Monday 17th March 6pm.

Band Positions – Still available in 2014

If you have a child in years 3-6 interested in joining the band program please contact us at bandwhps@gmail.com or on 0402623391.

We are seeking an experienced keyboard player for our performance band. If you have piano/keyboard experience and can play approx. grades 1.5-2 music please contact as immediately.

Look forward to another great year!
Sue Bryant & Band Committee

NEW CANTEEN – WELCOME

Welcome to Mel, our new canteen manager and to Trish, her helper from Healthy Canteens Australia!

Please note some new procedures:

- Our canteen is now open 5 days a week!
- The canteen is open from 8.30am for recess and lunch orders.
- All orders must be placed by 9.30am. The letter box is no longer used for orders and has been taken away.
- Any recess orders must be in a separate order bag.

Canteen Menus were sent out at the end of last year. An electronic version is accompanying this newsletter and will soon be on our school website.

P&C

Next Meeting – Tuesday 18th February

Welcome to a new year at Winston Hills. Our P&C is a friendly forum where we discuss issues relating to the school and the work of our sub-committees which are involved in providing services to the school.

We have a very supportive volunteer base in our school. Our P&C meetings are held in Week 4 and Week 8 of each term. The first meeting for the year will be Tuesday 18th February at 7:30pm in the staffroom.

Everyone is welcome. Please bring 50c to the first meeting you attend this year for your association membership.

If you have anything you would like to discuss at P&C, please email me on vincentlisa@optusnet.com.au or phone me on 0403556654 by the Friday before the meeting. This enables me to construct the agenda and complete any research required.

Vincent Riordan
President

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Hours

- Thursday morning’s 8.40-9.30am
- 1st Thursday night of each month 6.00-7.00pm

New Uniforms

- Boys size 6 shirts & green hats are out of stock until at least week 3.

Rosters

- 5th February: Libby Davis, Karen Carpenter, Lucy Chin
  Evening: Jen Barclay & Eva Dale.
- 13th February: Julia Maguire, Melissa Thomas, Kate Salmon
7 ways to make this year your child’s best year ever at school

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child’s performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours.

Here are seven ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school:

1. Commit to your child going to school every day on time. One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.

2. Help kids start each day well. A good night’s sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time to get up, eat and get ready for the day.

3. Establish work & study habits. The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school’s expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child’s or young person’s school and help them establish a work routine that matches.

4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep. Many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their well-being and their learning. A good night’s sleep consolidates learning, as well as assist future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bed-time and get-up time each day. Have 45 minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5. Encourage kids to exercise. Kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage kids to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives.

6. Focus on being friendly. Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations each day. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers.

7. Develop self-help skills. Successful students are often well-organised, self-directed and self-motivated. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their every day lives. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school.

At the start of the school year kids are more likely to adopt changes than at any other time. Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas to really focus on and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place.