FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Parent Information Evenings
It was great to see so many parents at our Parent Information Evenings last week and then staying for the BBQ. I received some really positive feedback from both parents and teachers about both the information sessions and the BBQ. I hope that everyone enjoyed the experience and now know a little more about what’s happening in their child’s class this year. Thank you to Mr David MacSporran for initiating and organising the BBQ for parents. If you have further questions or issues to discuss, please refer to the copy of “Contacting the School – A Guide for Families” which is being emailed out with our newsletter today.

REMAINDER - Parking Across Driveways
I have received a number of complaints from our neighbours that parents from our school are parking across their driveways. Some residents have called the council and have been advised to take a photo of the number plates of the offending parents and forward it to the police. Parents are asked to be considerate of our neighbours when dropping off and picking up their children. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Parent Morning Tea – Anti-Bullying TOMORROW
Parents are invited to attend the first ‘Parent Morning Tea’ for the year on Wednesday 4th March from 9.15 – 10.45 in the school hall. Please RSVP today as soon as possible if you plan to attend. All welcome!

SPECIAL EVENT – Parent ‘Cyber Safety’ Talk
The P&C has organised a special event for parents and caregivers on Tuesday 31st March at 6.30pm in the school hall. The presenter Leonie Smith, is an expert on cyber safety and will give a presentation on ‘Raising Responsible Digital Citizens’. The P&C has heavily subsidised the cost of this presenter so that parents can learn about this important topic. A flyer is accompanying our newsletter today with more details. Please RSVP as soon as possible. All welcome! Please note: The students in Years 3-6 will also attend a ‘Cyber Safety’ talk during the day at no cost.

Meet Miss Rodricks – 3R Parent Information Session
We extend a warm welcome to Miss Lisa Rodricks who is the new teacher replacing Miss Kermeen who has been appointed to Waitara PS as a permanent teacher. Parents of students in 3R (formerly 3K) are invited to attend a Parent Information Meeting with Miss Rodricks. The meeting will be held in 3R classroom on Wednesday 18 March, 5.00 – 5.45pm. At this meeting she will discuss class routines, homework, student expectations and generally outline his plans for the rest of the year.

Maxelle Matthews
FROM THE DEPUTY

School Band Annual General Meeting
After four years of hard work and commitment to the Winston Hills School Band, Sue Bryant has made the sad but very understandable decision to step down from the role of band coordinator.

In that time Sue has led the band and its committee along a journey of enormous change and improvement. Sue has established a three band system, a vastly improved tutorial model, a new model of student leadership and has placed the band in a very strong position to be handed over to new leadership.

To help manage this change in the management of the band, Sue has kindly offered to take on a band co-ordinator role which will involve supporting the parent(s) who take on this position.

On Monday 9th March at 7:00pm, the band committee will be holding their Annual General Meeting, to decide on the following roles

- Training Band Coordinator
- School Band Coordinator
- Performance Band Coordinator
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Music resource Coordinator

All band parents are urged to attend this meeting to help in the staffing of these positions and continue the band on its successful journey.

Teacher Car Park
To ensure the safety of the children, parents are asked not to park their cars in either of the teacher car parks. Recently several parents have parked their cars in the Junction Road car park to pick up their children after school. This hinders teachers exiting the school and jeopardizes the safety of students and parents using the taxi bay.

The school thanks you in anticipation of your understanding in this matter.

NAPLAN
In May this year, Years 3 and 5 will be participating in the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). NAPLAN is a series of examinations that provides important information to schools about what each student can do. The results also guide schools in making decisions about teaching and learning and Learning Support programs.

A note explaining the dates and providing more details will be issued to Year 3 and 5 students with this newsletter.

ICAS examinations
The UNSW run an annual series of competitions for students from Years 2-12. This program provides an opportunity for students to compete in a challenging competition to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

This year we are planning on running the competitions before school, so as to not interrupt the day’s lessons. More information and permission notes will be included in the next newsletter.

High School Information

Model Farms High School Open Night
A reminder that the Model Farms High School Open Night is on tonight at 6:30. An information sheet with details of times, venues and the night’s programs has been issued to Stage 3 students today.

Muirfield High School Enrichment Class Information
Parents interested in the child applying for the Enrichment Class for Year 7 2016 are asked to contact me at school for an information booklet, which outlines the application process and details the Enrichment Class program.

Enrolment and Expressions of Interest Forms
Later this week, all Year 6 students will be issued with a High School Expression of Interest form. This is the official application for a Secondary School placement. It ensures a placement in a secondary school in 2016. Parents who are planning for their child to attend a private Secondary School are also asked to complete the document, to book a place in a local High School, in case plans change later in the year. The Expressions of Interest will be due back to the student’s class teachers by 19th March.

Call for Parent Helpers for the Multi-Lit Program
Winston Hills in 2014, ran a very successful, researched based learning support program called Multi-Lit. It is an intervention that explicitly teaches and revises phonetics; an essential component of reading. Last year a team of parents managed the program, working with individual students in an easy to run program. We are again calling for volunteers. A note providing more details is attached to this newsletter.

Parent Working Bee
Mr Macsporran is once again organising a working bee to further beautify our school grounds. It will run from 3:30 this Friday. Any time parents can donate to the school will be greatly appreciated.

Ian Short

FOOTSTEPS

Winston Hills has traditionally run a comprehensive Dance program with the assistance of the Dance Company, Footsteps.

The Kindergarten, Stage 1 and Support Unit classes will be participating in this 10 week program in Term 2 and will cost $35.00 per child. A permission note with more details will be included in the next newsletter.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Kindergarten Assembly
- Kindergarten will commence their assemblies in Term 2

Stage 1 Assembly – Years 1 & 2
- Assemblies will start on 11 March

Stage 2 & 3 Assembly – Years 3 - 6
- Thursday 5 March – 2.10pm to 3.00pm
- Class Item – 5/6M
- Parents are Welcome
SCHOOL NEWS

PSSA Results – Round 1

Cricket
- Junior's Vs North Rocks Public School  Won 43 - 40
- Senior's Vs North Rocks Public School  Won 54 – 32

Softball
- Senior Boys Vs Winston Heights Public  Lost 0 - 14
- Senior Girls Vs Winston Heights Public  Lost 4 – 7

T-Ball
- Junior Boys Vs Winston Heights Public  Won 16- 12
- Junior Girls Vs Winston Heights Public  Won 19 – 16

Touch Football
- Junior Boys Vs Jasper Road Public School  Lost 1 - 3
- Junior Girls Vs Jasper Road Public School  Won 3 - 0
- Senior Boys Vs Jasper Road Public School  Won 3 - 1
- Senior Girls Vs Jasper Road Public School  Lost 4 – 5

Training
- Girls Touch Football & T-Ball — Thursday morning at 8.15am
- Boys Touch Football, Softball and Cricket — Friday mornings at 8.15am

PSSA Results – Round 2

Round was cancelled for all students by the CHPSSA committee as some fields were closed due to rain.

Training
- Girls Touch Football & T-Ball — Thursday 8.15
- Boys Touch Football, Softball and Cricket — Friday mornings at 8.15am

Draws & Tables
Can be located on Castle Hill PSSA website
http://castlehillpssa.wix.com/chpssa

Melissa Johnston
Sports Organiser

PSSA Congratulations

- Isaiah McDonald 5/6K
  Has been selected to represent CHPSSA at the SW Cricket carnival. This will be held on Thursday 5th March at Max Ruddock Reserve, Winston Hills.

- Harley Briggs 5/6R
  Has been selected to represent CHPSSA at the Boys SW Touch Football carnival. This will be held on Thursday 27th April.

- Hayley Silver-Holmes 5/6K
  Has been selected to represent CHPSSA at the SW Girls Cricket carnival. This will be held on Thursday 19th March at Ted Horwood Reserve, Park Rd, Baulkham Hills.

- Hayley Silver-Holmes 5/6K
  Has been selected to represent CHPSSA at the SW Girls Football (soccer) carnival. This will be held on Wednesday 18th March at Marayong Oval, Davis Road, Marayong.

- Yasmin Alosio 5/6F
- Charlotte Bradfield 5/6F
- Milla Elaro 5/6F
  Have been selected to represent CHPSSA at the SW Girls Touch Football carnival. This will be held on Thursday 27th April.

Melissa Johnston

REMINDER – Stage 1

Change of date on the WHPS Calendar for Bicentennial Park Excursion Year 1 & 2
Year 1 is now 12 March
Year 2 is now 25 March

MultiLit 2015
Stage 1 students last year had success with the Multilit program and this year we wish to continue the program with your ongoing support. This program is designed to aide students with their reading skills and has been developed by Macquarie University.

We are seeking parent, caregivers, grandparent and community support to help continue the Multilit program. If you can share your time with us, please fill out the 'Parent Helpers' letter attached this newsletter and return it to your child's teacher or the office.

We greatly appreciate your ongoing support.
Stage 1 teachers and the Learning Support Team.
SCHOOL BANKING

Welcome back to school banking this year.
The term 1 dates for banking are:

First day: 10th February
Last day: 24th March

Information for all new students
Students bring in their banking wallets with the slip and stub completed with the following details

- Name
- Date
- Deposit amount
- Account number
- Student number
  (will be allocated the first day your child banks)

The wallet is given to the class teacher on Tuesday morning & is returned Wednesday. Any amount can be banked- from 5c to $200- however for security we ask that large amounts of money be broken down into smaller amounts and spread over a few weeks.

Every 10th deposit a student makes they get a reward. This is ordered automatically and will arrive a few weeks after their 10th deposit.

School banking is also a fantastic fundraiser for the school. The school receives 5% commission from the Commonwealth bank on all money deposited through the school and last year we raised over $985 for the school!

Volunteers Needed
The school banking program needs help from volunteers to be run at Winston Hills- we currently have 2 vacancies for new parent volunteers.

We have 2 fantastic groups which meet every second Wednesday from 9-10am to process the deposits. (3-4 hours per term) It's easy, good fun & no experience is necessary!

Please contact us via the email below if you're interested in joining the banking team, or check out the website for more information on the School Banking Program.

Happy banking,
Micaela & Lynelle
WHPS School Banking Coordinators
schoolbankingWHPS@gmail.com

REMINDER TO PARENTS!!!

CHANGE TO OUR SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

There will be **no school for students** at Winston Hills Public School on **Monday, 16th March** as our school has swapped the School Development Day in Term 2

Teachers will be attending a full day workshop on ‘Dyslexia & Working Memory’

SCHOOL PHOTO’S

Reminder
Wednesday 11 March 2015
Students are to wear
Full Summer School Uniform
With Black Shoes
BAND NEWS

Band Captains
Congratulations to Fintan Riordan, Nicholas Baker and Ruby Condell who are our band captains for 2015.

Mentor Program
This has now commenced with students in Year 6. Performance band level who do not already hold a school leadership position were eligible to apply.

Amended Date
Apologies the date for the NSW uni festival for all three bands is Sunday 23rd August

Band Camp
These notes are now OVERDUE please return to the black bands note box as numbers need to be confirmed.

Fees
Term 1 fees are now OVERDUE please make payment asap or speak to either Karen (treasurer) or myself. Many thanks to those families who have already paid these fees.

General Meeting/AGM
Monday 9th March 7pm in the school staff room.

Fundraiser #1 for 2015
Open to all family and friends of the WHPS community
We are very excited to announce our first fundraiser for 2015. An adults only social event with the talented Mr Greg Page (ex yellow wiggle) performing alongside the WHPS band tutors.

Please look out for invite, we thank you in advance for supporting this wonderful event. All money raised from this event will go towards purchasing new band equipment/instruments.

Band Committee
Class of the week

We have been on a Schoolyard Safari
Hunting for Minibeasts

Living and learning together