Change to Assembly Time for Term 4
Due to the swimming program this term we will be conducting our whole school assembly on Fridays at 3pm in the hall as opposed to the regular Monday. This change will remain for the whole of Term 4.

Regional Athletics Competition
Congratulations this Week to all our students who competed at the Athletics Competition held this week on Tuesday at Meadow Glen: Angus Brown (Shot put), Tomas Gembarovski (800m), Nicholas Kardamitsas (200m), Charlotte Williams (3rd High jump, 3rd 100m), and the following students will go on to participate in the Regional Championships next Wednesday: Chella Rusciano (1st Triple jump, 1st Hurdles), Steph Jones (2nd 200m, competed Shot put), Chloe Williams (2nd Discus, 2nd Triple jump), Lily Fennell (2nd High jump), Mark Chamberlain (2nd Hurdles), Amy Tapp (2nd Hurdles). Congratulations to everyone involved and thank you to Anna and the staff and parents who supervised and helped out on the day.

School Age Care News

School Working Bee – October 27
On Sunday 27th of October Wales Street will be conducting a working bee at the school from 10am to 2.30pm. As you have probably seen or heard we have made improvements to our grounds over the term holidays and the working bee presents a great opportunity to complete other works at Wales Street. For more information please visit [http://walesstps.vic.edu.au/articles/176](http://walesstps.vic.edu.au/articles/176)

School Sun Smart Policy
All students should be wearing either a broadbrim, bucket or legionnaires hats. The Wales Street Primary School Sun Smart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff of the school are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. The policy is available at: [http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/image/ak9t/WSPS_Sun_smart_policy.pdf](http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/image/ak9t/WSPS_Sun_smart_policy.pdf)

To help implement this policy we ask parents to assist by ensuring their children have a labelled school appropriate hat which protects the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (recess, lunch, sport, excursions, camps and the School Aftercare program) from September 1st until May 1st.

Wanted! Cardboard Boxes for a NEW LUNCHTIME CLUB - Making Arcade Games!
Inspired by ‘Caine’s Arcade’ (check YouTube), a new lunchtime club creating sideshow/arcade games is starting in Donna’s room (3/4F) on Wednesday in Week Two and we want your cardboard boxes! Please drop any boxes off at the 3/4 building before or after school!
School Nurses Report
Welcome back to Term 4! A term where the whole school, at one time or another, will be swimming. A term full of sun, camps, triathlons, and swimming carnivals amongst may other fabulous happenings. Also on the agenda- you may well have figured from the large sign below- is a focus on walking to school. You may have noticed information in the newsletter from the fantastic group of hardworking parents, the Active Travel Working Group – that there are many and varied ways to travel to school. Amongst other things, they are working on the best way to make it as easy and safe for everyone to participate.I hereby dedicate this newsletter to the wonderful cause “Walk to School”. For further information please click here http://walesstps.vic.edu.au/articles/178.

From the Principal
Commencement of Term 4
Welcome back everyone and I hope you all had a wonderful break. If you are a Hawthorn supporter life has been particularly enjoyable over the past week and my commiserations to Fremantle supporters. Schools are not as fiercely competitive but there are lessons there for everyone about the importance of having a clear goal, strategic and long term planning, teamwork, hard work, determination and the development of skills in order to reach your goals and in being able to ‘be the best you can be’. Much has happened in the school grounds with a flood light installed on the basketball court area, new flag poles and the old stage removed and lots of colourful stencils painted on asphalt areas of the school grounds. Many thanks to Trevor for removing the stage and the old damaged flagpole.

Planning for 2014
I have now received the schools ‘Indicative Student Resource Package (SRP) for 2014 which is $3.792 million dollars and can commence the process of budgeting and planning for next year. This may sound like a lot of money but it is to cover salaries, many of the education infrastructure costs (such as computers, printers), facilities upkeep, energy running costs, water etc. Much has been made about increased funding to schools through Gonski, or Better Schools, however, to date there has been a lot of talk but no actual additional funding has been forthcoming. In reality the funding per student has only been increased by 1.71% for 2014 which is well below inflation and follows a consistent trend of underfunding of schools particularly on maintenance and buildings.

I will now start working with staff and the School Council Finance Committee to plan and finalise staffing, classes and budgets to have this completed by the end of the year. Staffing will be finalised as early as possible as I complete the process of grade formation with staff. For 2014 there are a number of staff positions that will need to be advertised from short term 1 year contracts to ongoing positions. I am anticipating that next year we will conduct 23 classes and have an enrolment of approximately 560 - 565. The Prep orientation program begins next week.

Enrolment Intentions for 2014
Apart from Year 6 students, could parents/guardians who currently have children attending Wales Street and are planning to transfer at the end of this year please notify the school office by Friday 1st November. It is vital that we have accurate information as it greatly influences planning of class numbers and staffing for next year.

The Process of Class Formations for 2014
In the process for developing classes the staff endeavours to ensure that there is an even match of gender, social skills and a range of student academic abilities. Last year we also added the philosophy that students should have more of an opportunity to mix socially and develop friendships with other students as we found that this had not been occurring. This change has proved be a very beneficial experience for students and therefore parent requests for specific friendship groups will now not be considered as part of the class formation process. However parent input regarding specific personal information is still an important aspect of the process. Parents are now invited to write to me by Friday 1st November to indicate information that should be taken into account by staff in forming classes.

Please address the letter to:

2014 Student Information
Christopher Sexton - Principal
Wales Street Primary School

Yours faithfully
Christopher L. Sexton
Principal