Dear Parents and Guardians,

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2013
This year the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy better known as (NAPLAN) will be held from the 14 – 17th May. NAPLAN is now in its sixth year and the wealth of data available as a result is increasingly being used by schools, as well as research bodies, to help improve educational outcomes for all Australian students. This national testing program will involve students in the year 3 and 5. The NAPLAN 2013 Information for Parents brochure is now available at (http://www.nap.edu.au/verve/_resources/NAPLAN_2013_Parents_Brochure.pdf).

Mothers and Special Persons Day Stall
A reminder that tomorrow the school is holding a Mothers & Special Persons Day Stall with gift prices being $5 and $10.

School Uniforms
A reminder that the wearing of school uniform is compulsory at Wales Street. I have noticed lately that some students are not in uniform or are wearing a mixture of uniform and non-uniform clothing. The Uniform Shop is located in the school hall, shop hours are Thursday 3:00-3:45pm. Uniform order forms for Term 2 were distributed this week, if you have uniform requirements this term please ensure orders and payment are returned to the school office by tomorrow, Friday 10th May 2013. Orders received after this date will be processed in Term 3.

School Community Free Exercise program
The Darebin Council is offering free indoor exercise programs to Wales Street parents and guardians, from 9.00-9.50am in the School Hall. A big thanks to the Darebin Council for organising the program and for Anna agreeing to make the teaching space available for these sessions. No bookings are required. Just bring water and a towel. It's free, so come along and have fun.
2013 Education Week 19th - 25th May
This year Education Week is being held from the 19th – 25th May and it is an opportunity for the community to visit the school. The theme this year will be “Inquiry learning through the Primary Years Program (PYP) at Wales Street”. There will be with an Open Morning on Thursday 23rd to see Wales Street in Action with student tours. That evening a parent information night will be held, highlighting the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program (PYP) and how Transdisciplinary Teaching works with Inquiry Learning at WSPS. A special morning tea will be held at 10.40 – 11.10 am in the school hall and everyone is most welcome. To assist in catering for the morning tea, could people please either contact the school office or send a note by Monday 19th May.

Prep Enrolments for 2014
The enrolment process for next year has commenced this term and prep school tours are held on Mondays and Tuesdays up until the 31st July from 9.30 -10.30am. Contact the School Office if you wish to take up this opportunity for a tour or pass this information on to families who you think will be interested.

Parents who have an existing child/ren at the school please note after the 31st July enrolment applications will be restricted to only those children where Wales Street is the closest school regardless of whether you currently have a child at the school so please enrol by this date.

Christopher L. Sexton
Principal

Mothers’/Special Persons’ Day Stall
Friday 10th May

- A reminder that the Mothers'/Special Persons’ Day Stall is on Friday 10th May
- Gifts will be priced at $5 & $10
- Children need to bring money in a named envelope or purse if they would like to purchase a gift from the stall. Sorry – I.O.U.’s will not be accepted

Parent Helpers: If you can help on the day, please leave your details at the school office.

Library News...

SCHOLASTIC ALL STAR BOOK FAIR

Tuesday May 14th from 3pm to 4pm and then daily, 8.30-9.30am and 3-4pm until Monday 20th May

Come and find great children’s books to buy.

If you buy a book, you will be able to enter the competition …
“Guess the number of pages in the pile of books at the front desk” ....

The books will be tied with a bow and include some of our teachers’ favourites.

We will also feature a Teacher’s wish list. If you would like to donate a book to your child’s classroom, have a look at the wish list and make a purchase. We will add a book plate, naming the donor and present it to the chosen class.

The Library receives Commission on all sales, which we take in the form of books from Scholastic.

VICTORIAN PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE

Remember to send in your completed Reader’s Challenge permission form to the School Office as soon as possible. The task of loading all names onto the database is still befuddling the technicians at the VPRC Office. When we receive everyone’s Log on details, they will be sent home.

In the meantime, remember to write down the title and author of all the books you are reading so that you can add them to the database. Families are welcome to come and visit the Library afterschool on Tuesday or Thursday to look for suitable books for the challenge.
**Prep – 2 Swimming**
A reminder that deposits are due NO LATER than Friday 7th June, with the balance due by Friday 6th September STRICTLY. Late deposits cannot be accepted.

**EXERCISE CLASS**
Just a reminder that the YMCA exercise classes have started again this week for parents. The sessions are free and run on Wednesdays at 9am in the Hall for 45 mins, catering to all fitness levels. It would be great to see big numbers there!

**Woolworths Earn & Learn**
Please remember to ask for your “Earn & Learn stickers” when you shop at Woolworths, because sometimes they don’t ask whether you would like them… Kay will be counting our stickers this weekend and we will have an interim tally for you in next week’s Newsletter. Please stick them on a brochure that you can get from the Woolworths Service Desk and then place it in the box in front of the School Office.

**SAC REPORT**

**Family news from ACECQA**
The latest issue of Family News from ACECQA is now available to download from their website. Families can now find information about the quality of hundreds of children’s education and care services on the ACECQA website (www.acecqa.gov.au/national-registers).

ACECQA has launched its National Registers, which include the first quality ratings for around 2000 services. All Australian governments agree it is important families can make informed choices about education and care for their children. The National Registers give families information about the quality of education and care provided at each approved service in Australia. More than 13,000 children’s education and care services will be assessed and rated, with quality ratings progressively added to the National Registers.

The publication of the national registers is another important milestone in the progress of the National Quality Framework. The registers provide open and transparent information to families about children’s education and care services.

**What is the purpose of a public rating?**
One of ACECQA’s roles in guiding and implementing the NQF is to publish the ratings of services. Ratings promote transparency and accountability and help parents assess the quality of education and care services. Every service receives a rating for each quality area and an overall rating. These ratings must be displayed by each service and are published on the ACECQA and the MyChild websites. The publication of registers follows the independent evaluation conducted by ACER and the proclamation of the law in all states and territories. Click here for more information.

**When will my service’s rating be published?**
Once a service has been assessed and given its final rating, the results will be published in the national registers. The registers will be updated on a weekly basis. Services must display their ratings, even if they have not yet been assessed and the status is ‘Provisional – not yet rated’. Wales Street SAC has not yet been assessed and rated.

**What are the ratings?**
The new national assessment and rating system promotes and continuous improvement in children’s education and care services. Services are now being assessed against a far more challenging scale and it may take time for services to meet the quality standard in all seven quality areas. More than half of assessed services are already ‘Meeting’ or ‘Exceeding’ the new standards, while about 45 per cent are ‘Working Towards’. Over time, all services should aim to be ‘Meeting’ or ‘Exceeding’, however it is realistic to expect that services will continue to identify areas for improvement. Families can be assured that services take the safety and health of children seriously. Your child’s safety and health is important all day, every day.

For more information about ratings and what they mean, see the poster attached to this newsletter.

FETE NEWS

A big thank you to the fete community, families and friends of Wales Street Primary. I’m pleased to announce that a container of children’s clothing and shoes is on its way to the capital of SOMALILAND (horn of AFRICA). Thank you very much for your donations to directly clothe communities in that region! Continual donations of all sorts of clothing and toys is always greatly appreciated. Goods can be brought to my place (close to school).
Call me on 0435 275 120 PAULA FORRESTER.

Department of Health
Incorporating: Health, Mental Health and Ageing

02 May 2013
Dear Parent / Guardian of Children Attending Swimming Lessons or Swim Clubs

An outbreak of cryptosporidium infection (also referred to as ‘crypto’) is affecting Melbourne and many parts of regional Victoria. The Department of Health is requesting that parents and guardians of all children who attend swimming lessons or swim clubs in Victoria be provided with information on how to protect themselves and others when swimming. This letter does not indicate a problem with the facility your child attends - it is being provided across the State and contains advice that is important all year round.

Crypto is a parasitic infection that causes gastroenteritis, with the most common symptoms being diarrhoea, stomach cramps and nausea. Symptoms may last for weeks and have serious consequences for people who have weakened immune systems. During swimming, people can become infected by swallowing water which has become contaminated by human faeces, usually from tiny amounts that cannot be seen. Crypto can also be spread from person to person, especially in settings such as childcare facilities and in households where there are cases.

All swimming pool patrons are able to become infected if the pool is contaminated with crypto because crypto parasites are not killed by the normal levels of chlorine used in swimming pools. Without realising, people with crypto infection can contaminate pool water up to 14 days after their diarrhoea has stopped. Pool operators have taken steps including decontamination of water where appropriate as a protective measure, but this cannot break the cycle of crypto infection without the help of patrons.

To prevent the spread of disease, parents / guardians should ensure they and their children take the following actions to protect themselves and others:

- Do not swim if you have diarrhoea or if you have had diarrhoea in the past two weeks;
- Shower and wash thoroughly with soap before entering the pool;
- Wash your hands with soap after going to the toilet or changing a nappy;
- Avoid swallowing pool water.

For more general information on avoiding Crypto and other infectious diseases while swimming, please go to: http://health.vic.gov.au/water/recreational/cryptosporidium.htm
Hello Everyone,

This newsletter began with a letter from the department of Health regarding parasitic infections and their relation to swimming pools - it's good to know isn't it, as there has been too much gastroenteritis about for too long a while. The most interesting point, that I think many people are unaware of, is that children with diarrhea can still shed the parasite up to 2 weeks post illness. It's a long period of time that these parasites hang about. If you are concerned check yourself or your child out at your Doctors.

I also received some information from Sunsmart that reminds us of our vitamin D requirements when out in the lovely autumn sunshine…..

**An update from SunSmart…**

**From May put sun gear away.**

Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones, muscles and general wellbeing. The best natural source of vitamin D is the sun's UV.

From May to August when UV levels are low (below 3), Victorian schools are advised to put sun hats and other sun protection gear away and ensure staff and students get some sun for vitamin D. At this time of the year, staff and students need to expose their face, arms and hands (or equivalent area of skin) to midday winter sun for 2-3 hours spread over the week. Those with naturally very dark skin may need 3-6 times this amount. Sun protection is not required at this time of year, unless near highly reflective surfaces such as snow, outside for extended periods or when the UV reaches 3 and above.

**Vitamin D**

Vitamin D is a hormone that controls calcium levels in the blood. It is needed for the development and maintenance of healthy bones, muscles and teeth and it is also important for general health. Vitamin D is made in our bodies through a series of processes that start when our skin is exposed to UV radiation. Some foods, such as oily fish and eggs, contain small amounts of vitamin D, while margarine and some types of milk have added vitamin D. However it is difficult to get enough vitamin D from diet alone.

I’m a big fan of getting the vitamin D levels up to their required levels; aside from the lovely sunshine it is vital to our bodies in so many important ways.

I hope you get lots of sunshine in the next week, stay healthy.

Catherine Fisers - School Nurse (R/N)

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**CLASSIFIEDS:**

_School Council accepts no responsibility for goods/services offered here_


For sale. 1 pr size 4 1/2 tap shoes, reasonable condition - $30, 1 pr size 8 tap shoes, reasonable condition - $30, 1 as-new size 140 cm white karate uniform - $15. Call Jane 0407 464 161


Northern Panther’s Rugby Union U12 team, the winners of the Vic. Ten a side Championship, held in April ’13 need you! Rugby is a 15 a side game. The team needs at least four more players for the season. The team has been chosen to form the Guard of honour for the Wallabies at the June 29th Test in Melbourne against the British and Irish Lions. Contact Olevia on 0469 780 213 or 9404 5481, or Grant Wason, 9458 6168

LOST. Normal school zip up hoodie – clearly named Rachel Kunnumpurath. Please return to the Office