FROM THE PRINCIPAL….

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome Back and General School Information
I would like to welcome everyone to the 2013 School Year and especially those new to our school community. I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday break. I would also like to welcome new teaching staff to the school this year; Rachael Sear (5/6), Kane Richardson (3/4), Sarah Childe (3/4), Donna Bucklow (3/4) and Maria Michael (3/4). I am also delighted to announce that Leigh Morrison and Nicholas Hessenkamp have joined the school as integration support staff.

Our new School Strategic Plan commences this year and over the summer break staff have worked very hard to build their planning around its implementation and in setting up the school for a smooth start to the year. What you perhaps won’t see immediately has been the planning and organisation by the staff to enhance and provide a better and more interesting learning environment for all students. Already specialists lessons have started and the students as well as staff are settling into their new classes. To assist in this process, for the first two weeks all classes will be conducting a special ‘Start Up Program’ to establish, working routines and individual class and student goals and expectations of class behaviour.

Over the Christmas/New Year holiday there were extensive landscaping works carried out around the Clyde Street building to address a problem that has been an ongoing issue since its construction. New furniture has been purchased and extensive areas of pin boards have also been installed to display student work.

Despite the current industrial climate and Education Department restructuring it has been a wonderfully smooth start to the school year. Congratulations everyone and especially to our new prep students and their parents and families. I believe it will be a very interesting and exciting year ahead and I wish everyone a wonderful, happy and successful time. Next week a 2013 Yearly Planner will also be put up onto the school website outlining the school events.

Industrial Action 14th February
Yesterday the Victorian State Government failed in its Federal Court bid to prevent the Australian Education Union (AEU) Stop Work Action and therefore this will now go ahead for next Thursday 14th February. All staff have been asked to indicate if they will
be taking Industrial Action and you will receive a note today, Friday (to be brought home by students) indicating if your child/ren will be affected. There will also be information on the school website as this becomes available.

Unfortunately, the Victorian State Government in launching legal action against the AEU this week will escalate the situation and make it even more difficult to achieve a speedy resolution. Personally, I find it an extremely disappointing state of affairs which has been dragging on for over two years (and you have to go back to the 1960s to find a similar situation). Hopefully it will be resolved sooner than later as it is affecting everyone, parents, students and staff and although we are trying to manage all school programs and activities, it is making things much more difficult.

Parent Teacher Information Exchange and Prep Information Night
Despite the current industrial climate the school will be still holding a Parent Teacher Information Exchange for 1 - 6 Year Levels on Wednesday 27th February (Prep parents will be scheduled on Wednesdays to meet with their child’s teacher this term). The Parent Teacher Information Exchange will commence at 2.30 and continue to 7.30 pm with 10 minute interviews for parents to book times. This year we will be trialling all interviews being held in the Clyde Street building to make it more convenient for parents to transition between meetings. Please keep this date free and details on how to book will be provided in next week’s Newsletter.

A separate Prep Information Night 6.30 -7.30pm will be held on Tuesday 26th February in the Wales Street Building and again further detailed information will be provided next week.

School Structure for 2013
The structure for this year will have 23 classes grouped into 5 Professional Learning Teams. There will be four straight Prep classes, seven 1/2 Year level classes, six 3/4 Year level classes and six 5/6 level classes (see table below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>*Rebekah Morton (Husk)</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>*Steve McArthur</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>*Marie Apostolou</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>*Lisa Teasdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Ben Jones</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Sue Losada</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>#Kane Richardson</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Kate Bowran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Anne Graham</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Rosemary Hughes</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>#Sarah Childe</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Derrick Benjamin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Clare Chambers</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>David Altis .8 Kay Landgren .2</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Toby Marquette</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Dan Jazby (Bromley)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Helen Iliadis</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>#Donna Bucklow</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Noel Carter/ Jason Sergi</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Renee Patkas</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>#Maria Michael</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>#Rachael Sear</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Geoff O'Connor</td>
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</tbody>
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* Professional Learning Team (PLT) leader  # New staff appointments to WSPS

Administration & Teaching Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal</th>
<th>Christopher Sexton</th>
<th>Assistant Principals</th>
<th>Jenny Deeble</th>
<th>Trevor Robinson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support Teachers</td>
<td>ICT Jason Sergi</td>
<td>PYP Coordinator Noel Carter</td>
<td>Student Literacy Intervention Grade 1 to 4</td>
<td>Sotiroulla Kyriannou</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Staff</td>
<td>Maria Nord, Pina Ioannidis and Sallie Mc Cleery</td>
<td>Integration Staff</td>
<td>Skye Fisher, Steve Mayhew, Mary Heymanson, Helen Fuller, #Leigh Morrison, Nicholas Hessenkamp and Joshua Iacono</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Sallie Mc Cleery</td>
<td>School Aftercare Care Program SAC</td>
<td>Cangie Bevilacqua, Vanessa Dalton, Cheryl Tsakonas and Poppy Kouskoulis</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Nurse</td>
<td>Catherine Fisers</td>
<td>Student Welfare Officer</td>
<td>Sharon Butler</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
School Lunches
Unfortunately Anna and Thea have not been able to continue the school Lunch program this year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their hard work last year in setting up and refining their student lunch program. Feedback from students and parents suggests that there is a demand for a lunch program. Our new provider is Classroom Cuisine.com.au. See details elsewhere in this Newsletter or visit our website.

Hot and Wet School Days
If the temperature reaches over 35, or it is raining, the school operates indoor staff supervision activities for students and they remain inside during these periods of high temperature or rain.

Happy Chinese New Year and the Year of the Dragon
Chinese New Year commences on the 10th February 23rd and 2013 is the year of the Snake. Under Chinese traditions each year is represented by one of twelve animal zodiac signs representing twelve different types of personality. The zodiac traditionally begins with the sign of the Rat, and there are many stories about the Origins of the Chinese Zodiac. The following are the twelve zodiac signs in order so you might like to work out you birth year sign.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zodiac</th>
<th>Year of Birth</th>
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Pupil Free Days 2013
School Council has also approved Pupil Free Curriculum Days and School Council Committee Dates for 2013. Please note the following dates: Tuesday 29th January, Friday 26th April (the day after Australia Day), Monday 4th November (the day before Melbourne Cup Day) and Friday 20th December (the last day of school). I believe that this arrangement will best suit parents and will enable the professional development of the staff.
School Fete Saturday 23rd March
The Fete committee has been meeting since last year and planning during the school holidays. It now needs lots of support for our School Fete this term on Saturday 23rd March. I am encouraging all parents to get behind their efforts to make this a truly successful and enjoyable event. Please contact the school office and leave your details if you are interested in assisting. The committee is planning to meet every Tuesday at 8pm starting next week until the fete is held.

Picking up Students after School
A reminder to parents to please organise specific arrangements with their children about collection after school. Staff are on duty from 3.30-3.45pm and will then lock the school boundary gates apart from the main school and after care gates in Speight Street. Staff will instruct students that when they are not picked up, they are to go to the School office. If for whatever reason you are running late, or alternative arrangements have been made, please contact the office as soon as possible, so class teachers can inform your children and supervision arrangements can made.

Calls for School Council Vacancies and Elections 2013
Each year approximately half the members on school council face election as part of a process to ensure mentoring and renewal of this body. The council members facing elections this year, as their current terms have expired are: Parent members Lucy Thornton, Ely Tapp, Maria Romnios and Melinda Story and Jenny Deeble (DEECD category). I have included information in this Newsletter that outlines the role of school council, the various categories of membership election and calls for nominations for the 2013 election. If the number of nominations exceeds the vacancies then an election is conducted for members of the School Council of Wales Street PS. Before considering standing for School Council please consider the time commitment, as it is an expectation that as a School Council member, you will also be a member of one of the sub committees. If you have not had extensive committee experience before, I would urge you to consider going onto one of the Sub committees for 12 months first, to gain the background which is necessary to be effective in the role of a School Council member.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school from Monday and must be lodged by 4 pm on Thursday 28th February. If an election is called, ballot papers will be distributed on Thursday 14th March. The ballot will close at 4 pm on Thursday 21st March and the counting of votes and results declared Friday 22nd March.

Thursday 7th February Notice of School Council vacancies and calls for nominations
Thursday 28th Feb Closing Date for School Council Nominations
Friday 1st March Notification of School Council Elections
Thursday 14th March Display a list of candidates, nominators and seconder outside Office

Thursday 21st March Close of ballot at 4:00 pm.
Friday 22nd March Counting of votes and declaration of the poll

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td>FOUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2013 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2015</td>
<td>ONE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

4. “DEECD employee” -
(a) means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an on-going capacity or for a fixed term of at least 90 days -
(i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or
(ii) by the DEECD under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or
(iii) by a school council of a State school; or
(iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1958; or
(v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and
No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.

5. Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the school on any day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.

School Council and Committee Dates for 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENTS</th>
<th>FACILITIES</th>
<th>POLICY &amp; STRATEGIC PLANNING</th>
<th>SCHOOL AFTER CARE</th>
<th>FINANCE</th>
<th>SCHOOL COUNCIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>11th Feb</td>
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<td>11th March</td>
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<td>13th March</td>
<td>15th March</td>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>27th March AGM</td>
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<td>17th May</td>
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<td>10th June</td>
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<td>11th June</td>
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<td>22nd Oct</td>
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<td>11th Nov</td>
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<td>* 2nd Dec</td>
<td>*4th Dec</td>
<td>*4th Dec</td>
<td>*29th Nov</td>
<td>*3rd Dec</td>
<td>4th Dec</td>
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+ Special Joint School Council Professional Development Meeting  * Meeting if required  ** Fete committee meeting weekly up to the Fete on the 23rd March

- Events: 7.00 pm Mondays
- SAC: 8.00 am Fridays
- Finance: 7.00 pm Tuesdays
- School Council: 7.00 pm Wednesdays

School Council

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council? There are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category. More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child’s school as long as they are not employed at the school.

A mandated elected DEECD employee category. Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category. Its members are co-opted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members. Wales Street under its current School Council membership schedule does not have any positions under this category.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important? Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved? The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant. In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child’s school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school’s future.
What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March. If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category. DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled. Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination. If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Please ask at the school office for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do. It is also a very good idea to consider initially going onto a School Council Committee rather than School Council itself as a way of ensuring that you are not over committing yourself and are clearly about what is involved as a School Council Member. However, please do consider standing for election to Council and if elections are required be sure to vote. Contact myself for further information.

Christopher L. Sexton
Principal

Working with Children Check and Parent Helper Induction

At Wales Street Primary School we greatly value the support we receive from parents throughout the school year at various events and their involvement in school programs.

As School Council has approved the introduction of the WWCC policy, we would like all volunteers to register their WWCC accreditation at the office before commencing work in class rooms. It is a simple process of showing your WWCC to office staff for them to take a photocopy as well as registering your details with us. If you do not have a WWCC, we will be conducting a morning session with a representative from the post office to assist with the application process. This session will be on Tuesday 12th February at 9am in the Hall.

The WWCC information session will be held from 9.00-9.30 in the Hall. If you wish to have your form collected and your photo taken at this time, there are a number of requirements:

- The photo cost is $15.95 for 8 passport photos.
- Or you can provide your own passport photo but must be passport quality size and clarity.
- 100 points of identification- passport, licence, medicare card etc
- Mandatory to have proof of address. (utility bill or any bill showing address)

We will also be conducting a Parent Helper training course to support parents who are willing to volunteer in the classroom in a variety of ways.

The Parent Helpers training will be held on the same day in the Hall from 9.30-10.45am. The training will be conducted by Trevor Robinson and Sotiroulla Kyprianou and as we have not run this course for the last few years, we urge all parents to attend. This is to ensure that all our volunteers have a common understanding of the expectations and school processes in all areas of the school.

A note has been sent home today with a tear off slip attached if you are interested in attending.

Thank you

Jennifer Deeble
Assistant Principal
Convenor of Policy and Strategic Planning Committee
Changes to EMA 2013

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including textbooks, stationery, uniforms and excursions for their child up until the age of 16. From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of $150. The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep will receive boosted EMA payments of $200.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, $62 million over four years will be redirected to the State’s most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;
• Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account or
• Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection or
• Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

Eligibility:
To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:
_ be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
_ be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004* or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a temporary foster parent.

* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at 29 January 2013 (Instalment One) and 15 July 2013 (Instalment Two).

Payment Amounts - 2013:
Prep: Instalment One $140, Instalment Two $60 Annual Total $200.
Years 1 – 6: Instalment One $105, Instalment Two $45. Annual Total $150

*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable

Contact: School Office for an EMA application form and to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is 28 February 2013.


Instrumental Music Lessons at Wales Street Primary

Wales Street Primary values instrumental music lessons and believes it is an important component of the ‘holistic’ education of a child. However, we are not funded by the Department to provide instrumental music lessons. In lieu of a school funded program, we are striving to facilitate access to quality instrumental music lessons through a user pays system delivered by external providers. Through this system, teachers pay a room hire fee of $25/day $12.50/half day which covers electricity and heating costs. They then bill students directly and keep 100% of the fees. School Council is responsible for supporting instrumental music teachers and ensuring that parents/students are happy with the quality of teaching.

This year we are pleased to announce that there will be a dedicated instrumental music room at Wales St Primary. There will also be two other rooms used which are private spaces. The school hall/kitchen will no longer be used for lessons.
Wales Street Primary would like to welcome the new stringed instrument teacher to our school. Carrie Webster is an experienced string teacher and performer. She teaches all levels of students, and draws on her own playing experience to teach using a wide range of styles, including classical and folk genres.

Further information on our instrumental music programs can be found under the “About Us” tab on our website.

**AFTER SCHOOL AGE CARE**

**Active After School Sport**

We have received funding once again from the Active After School Sport Commission. This Term Keith Howden from Collingwood Harriers will teach the children Athletic skills on Mondays. Deanne Tonking will attend on Wednesday and teach the children Gymnastic Skills. The programs will operate from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm and is free to children who attend Aftercare on these two days.

**REMINDERS**

**BOOKINGS**

To ensure adequate supervision is provided, families need to book child/ren either on a Permanent or Casual basis. Permanent bookings days can be swapped/changed by letting the Supervisor know in advance. Casual bookings can be made in person with staff, email - oshc.wales.street.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au, over the telephone or answering service by 2.30 pm on the day the booking is required. Casual bookings cannot be made by children and will NOT be accepted without prior registration. When leaving a voicemail/email booking message, please indicate if your child needs to be alerted to come to after care.

**CANCELLATIONS**

Families, who have booked their child/ren to attend the program & need to cancel that session need to notify us of the cancellation in advance or by 2.30 pm on the day of the booked session either by coming in personally, leaving a message on the phone or email. If families change, cancel or swap a day of booked care after the close of booking time (2.30 pm) on the day care is required, will still be charged the daily fee that applies to you for that day (non-cancelation fee). This means parents/guardians will be invoiced for the day of booked care regardless of attendance. Only bookings that are changed, swapped or cancelled before the close of time do not incur a daily fee.

Failure to inform staff when your child will not be attending a session can cause inconvenience and concern when the whereabouts of a child is not immediately known, often necessitating several phone calls, thus taking time away from the program.

Please Note: The school does not inform the service when children go home during the day, or are not at school, this is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify SAC.

**SIGNING IN & OUT**

The Program’s responsibility for the child begins when she/ he is presented and signed in and ends when the child is signed out. For the safety & protection of children, and in keeping with Duty of Care considerations, the program has strict procedures regarding the delivery & collection of children & particularly the persons who may collect children from the program.

All children attending the program must be signed in and/or out by the parent/guardian/authorised person every session (signing in and out includes the time of arrival for Before Care and departure for After Care. If your child’s name needs to be added to the roll, it is a legal requirement for your child’s full name to be written down. You cannot sign once for two children. Children need to be signed in and out individually. Signing out children from aftercare allows educators to be aware that a child has been picked up and accounted for. Children are not to be dropped off from your car and arrive at the program in the morning unaccompanied.

If your child is to be picked up by a person not listed on the enrolment form, the staff must be informed.

**A REMINDER THAT THE AFTER CARE PROGRAM CLOSES AT 6.00 PM**

The service closes at 6.00 pm. Late fees will be charged at $15 per 15 mins (or part thereof after 6.00 pm) CASH ONLY. Parents/guardians who continue to be late will have their children withdrawn from the program. as per the Late and Non-Collection of Children Policy – a copy of this policy is available at the program.

Late last year this policy went under review and in consultation with the SAC Sub-Committee it was decided that the
late fee would now be increased to $15 per 15 minutes (or part thereof).

If parents expect to be late, they must make alternative arrangements for the collection of their children and notify the service.

**FEE PAYMENTS AND FORTNIGHTLY STATEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED ON 11TH FEBRUARY**

Accounts are calculated on a fortnightly basis usage using the “qikkids Computer System” showing usage and other information from the Child Care Management System (CCMS) and are distributed electronically by email or via the “statement box” for families wishing to receive their fortnightly statement by hardcopy.

Families can query and request a statement at any time if required.

Families who attend regularly are required to pay fees on a regular basis, weekly/fortnightly and need to remain up to date or in advance throughout the year. Accounts must be brought to a nil balance within 2 weeks of the account date.

Payments can also be made by EFTPOS including credit card payments over the phone, cash or cheque – A receipts will be given upon payment.

Personal fee payment may be made during Before and After School Age Care hours and at the main school office between 9.00am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. See Pina or Sallie.

**SPORTS NEWS**

The sports program is getting off to a quick start as always with the Northcote District swimming carnival on Thursday 21st of Feb. To select our team I will be using the student times recorded last year at the Wales Street PS carnival, however if your child/ren have improved over the holidays and you wish to submit a new time (over 50m, in your child’s chosen stroke) please do so to me, by Tuesday 12th Feb. Grade three students turning 9 years in 2013 are also eligible to compete, once again their times need to be submitted by Tuesday.

If you have any questions please contact me on 9484-3949.

**Free Exercise Sessions At Wales Street Primary School!**

The Darebin council is once again running free exercise classes here at WSPS for parents and community members every Wednesday morning from 9-9.45, in the hall. The classes cater to a broad range of fitness levels and provide a fun challenge for all participants. Everyone is welcome, all you need is a water bottle and your runners!

Hope to see you there

Anna

**LUNCH ORDER SERVICE**

Commencing with Wales St Primary School in 2013

Service available on Thursdays from 21st February!

**Classroom Cuisine.com.au**

CHOOSE either a TWO Course Meal ($6.95) or a THREE Course Meal ($8.45) from the 24 OPTIONS within EACH COURSE EACH DAY!

ORDER AND PAY ONLINE AND WE DELIVER TO SCHOOL IN TIME FOR LUNCH!
WALES STREET PRIMARY FETE
Saturday, 23rd March - 11am to 4pm

Popcorn, Fairy Floss, Reptiles and Rides,
Haunted House, Lucky Jars with surprises inside,
Magic, Music, Food, Food and Fun,
Fete preparation time has begun!

From the Fete Committee
While months of preparations have already taken place for the 2013 Wales St Fete, with less than 7 weeks to go, we now hand over to you, our school community, to ensure its success.

Over the coming weeks, each family at Wales St will be asked to volunteer in some capacity towards the successful running of the Fete. We will provide plenty of options and suggestions for your involvement so please help out as much as you can.

Last year the fete continued to raise funds to be used for the implementation of our school Masterplan.

FACT: Government schools do not receive enough funding.
FACT: Schools have to raise funds for a variety of needs.

Currently, and over the past 3 years, fundraising efforts have and are maintaining payment for the upgrade of the Prep-2 playground equipment, the relocation of the boat play equipment and the establishment of the new west end playground and equipment. This project was much needed to facilitate the physical wellbeing and physical safety of the school's ever growing student population. This year, in 2013, over the course of the year through to December, the school will be repaying a sum well over $30,000, which it has been doing over the last 3 years, to complete our obligation.

So please come on board join in the efforts, lend a hand, donate a service if you are a business, put out a call to business colleagues and networks, let the fete committee/school know of any funding possibilities and opportunities offered by organizations, or any ideas you may have.

This year our fundraising efforts will go towards maintaining the playground equipment and any extra funds will be used towards the next big project: Rejuvenating the oval, which is in need of tender loving care.

We have seen the fete get better and better each year. With your help we can make this year better still. We have some fantastic volunteers lined up already, but we need the WHOLE SCHOOL to lend a hand. Get on board. Your child's class will be assigned a stall and you will receive a volunteer slip. Volunteer on one stall or two. Ask how you can help out.

All of our kids will benefit from our hard work.

Further Fete Information will be coming home in a note with your child/ren next week – please look out for it…

Many hands make light work.

There are many ways YOU can help…
1. We are still looking for volunteer stall coordinators for Toys, Souvlaki, and Pancakes. Please contact Maria Romnios on 0407 999 270 if you are willing to give it a go. You will be well supported.

2. Throughout the holidays we have been contacting local business owners who may be interested in sponsoring the 2013 Wales St Fete either through financial support or the donation of goods / vouchers for raffle prizes. If you have any suggestions for sponsors or donations, please contact Maria Romnios on 0407 999 270.

3. Finished the vegemite or jam? Keep the jar and fill it with treasures and treats for the Lucky Jars game.

4. Mark the date on your new 2013 calendar and ask your family & friends to save the date – Saturday 23rd March.

5. Ensure that you assist your grade by filling volunteer timeslots for the stall allocated to your class and by donating goods towards your grade’s Hamper Theme. This information will be sent home next week.

Fete Donations can be placed in the cardboard fete collection boxes outside your child’s classroom starting Wednesday, February 13th. At this stage we can accept the following: books, toys, clothes, hamper theme items (once allocated), glass jars/lucky jars and small bric-a-brac items. Please ensure that items are clean and in working order. Large bric-a-brac will be accepted 1 week before the fete. (We are short of storage space.)

And Please do not leave items in the office foyer. Put items in the collection boxes outside your child’s classroom.

The Handcraft Stall is looking for donations of craft/sewing materials. Any fabric, buttons, zips, yarn or other odds and ends would be greatly appreciated. Please pop your donations in a bag labelled Handcraft Stall, and put them in the donation boxes outside your child’s classroom.

Also if you are a crafter of any persuasion - Knitter, sewer, patchworker, scrapbooker, soapmaker, embroiderer, etc., and would like to volunteer a small amount of time or a sample of your work to make our Handcraft Stall wonderous, please contact Deb Allen ph: 0422 915416 or email: dearsomeonemail@gmail.com

**MAKERS OF PRESERVES**

PLEASE NOTE: each batch you make needs to be identifiable, so ensure that you record the following details on a LOG sheet which you must give to the coordinator when handing in your marvellous creations!! Ensure JARS and LIDs are sterilized/clean and in good working order!

For each BATCH of preserve you make, please RECORD on LOG SHEET the following:
NAME and CONTACT email / phone
DATE: when the preserve was made.
INGREDIENTS: used to make preserve.
Your jars will be labelled by the coordinators when you deliver these to the school before the fete.

People made some beautiful preserves last year and we are hoping that you can do the same again... I think, it may be a good season for aromatic and tasty fruit this year… let’s see.

**FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE**

Hello everyone,

Welcome to another fabulous year at Wales street. A special welcome to all our new preppies and their lovely families- a new school, new faces and friends makes for a busy and rewarding time.

It’s to be another exciting year of discovery and learning, so let’s prepare ourselves to optimize the year.

As most of you are aware- our First aid room holds many resources that are readily available for you to access and borrow- these include DVD’s on Healthy lunch box options, managing Diabetes in the classroom, Swim safe stay safe, and the Asthma Foundations “Asthma can’t stop me” DVD, just to name a few. I have handout booklets on Asthma for the newly diagnosed Asthmatic or for those parents who find the whole thing rather confusing, it looks at the medication and reviews asthma in a friendly concise manner. I also write a weekly newsletter with general information about health/illness/injuries that helps keep us all up to speed with how to best care for our children. If anyone would like me to research a particular subject please feel free to let me know. I’m open to anything! I, m sure there is more information to be had - just ask and I shall endeavour to assist.
On the topic of Asthma- all our students with asthma are required to provide a ventolin/ spacer set to school for their personal use- generally these are kept in sick bay labelled with the child’s name, so that they can go with them on any excursions and can be used if they were to experience asthma whilst at school. The Asthma Foundation eloquently explains why:-

**Spacers and Schools/Preschools: Reminder for Parents & Carers**

Schools/preschools in Victoria have been informed by The Asthma Foundation of Victoria about new guidelines regarding the use of spacers for children with asthma. Spacers are essential equipment when following Asthma First Aid best practice, however schools/preschools will no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students with asthma symptoms.

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a student does not have their own spacer available, if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Some schools/preschools may implement a policy where parents/carers are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

**Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer is always available to school/preschool staff. Please make sure your child always brings a spacer with them to school, or has one that stays at school.**

For more information, please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 278 462 or email schools@asthma.org.au

There is also a new look Asthma Care Plan for Education and care services. These will replace the Asthma Foundation of Victoria’s School’s Asthma Action Plan and Children’s Services Action Plan. It is available as a free download at

[www.asthmaaustralia.org.au](http://www.asthmaaustralia.org.au)

Speaking of Plans- all children diagnosed with Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Allergies, Diabetes, Epilepsy etc. require an Action Plan. These ensure clear communication and best practice when caring for your child’s needs, updated yearly, they are invaluable and important. Please bring in all updated plans to the office or alternatively on to my desk- thank you to all those parents who have already done so, it’s most impressive!

Now… I just have to put in this information about the Weetbix Triathlon- it looks like such fun for all kids- the actual site online is fabulous-check it out!

**A positive and rewarding experience for your child**

The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon inspires children to get moving in a friendly and supportive environment where the emphasis is on enjoying an active lifestyle. Kids of all abilities cross the finish line a champion and everyone who participates takes home a medal.

It is often difficult for us, as adults, to truly appreciate what it means to be a kid today. In our era, we didn’t have to contend with such a rapidly growing population putting pressure on space, resources and transport. Everything seems faster, more pressured, increasingly disposable.

**Boosting children's confidence and self-esteem**

In event research conducted after the 2012 Series, over 80% of parents surveyed thought their child’s self-esteem improved as a result of participating in the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon.

- After registering, children were more motivated to exercise.
- Parents were sure that their children's good exercise habits would continue into the future.
- Parents were happy that all children were made to feel like winners.

Based on this feedback, we decided to conduct some more research, drawing on the leading healthcare professionals to examine the correlation between physical exercise and mental wellbeing.
The results, published in Dec 2010 in the Active Bodies, Healthy Minds report (PDF), have reinforced our commitment to the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon.

**Kids also enjoy other event keepsakes:**

- Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon Official Kids TRYathlon T shirt
- Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon Official Swim Cap
- Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon Official 2012 Medallion (on Event day)
- Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon numbers
- Online BUPA Get Ready training program
- FREE Weet-Bix "Breakfast of Champions" for family and kids on event day
- Celebrities and sporting stars at each event to cheer kids on and award medals!
- Plus loads of other cool stuff in the participant pack and on the day!

We've seen the positive mental and physical impact that the Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon has had on Aussie kids. Get behind them. And get in behind our kids, so their childhood is every bit as idyllic, pressure-free and rewarding as we remember.

* - Peter Davis  National Tryathlon Manager.  

I hope you have a terrific start to the year.

Until next week

Catherine Fisers (R/N) School Nurse.

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**WSPS CHESS 2013**

*Coach: Jim Cannon, PhD, UMelb, Dip Ed, UMelb*

**New to Chess? Try two classes OBLIGATION FREE. Parents welcome to sit in.**

I would like my child ________________________________________ in grade ___________ to participate in Chess Club in 2013. I enclose $50.00 per term. Cash, cheque (to J.F.Cannon) or direct deposit (JF Cannon, Westpac, BSB + A/C#: 037-138 56-4211. Thank you)

Signature of parent / guardian _______________________________ Date / /

Name of parent / guardian __________________________________________________

Phone: Home___________________________ mob________________________________

Email _______________________________________________________________________

*Please tick “Term enrolling” below*

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Creative Arts after school Program -
Judith Jackson Joyce

Students at Wales Street PS have the opportunity to learn and/or extend their skills and knowledge of Art techniques through an inspiring Art program. This term children will utilise clay, Japanese brush ink painting, stencilling, watercolour, guache, charcoal, pencil and oil pastel.
The focus is on mixed media as a means to create 2D and 3D still life. This class will help develop children’s confidence in their own abilities and choices to create artwork in a nurturing, safe and happy environment.

I am a trained and registered Art and Textile teacher as well as a Wales Street PS parent.

Cost: $90 ($15 per lesson). Please supply own art smock and an extra snack to eat after school. All other materials are supplied.

Dates: Classes held Mondays (term 1) commencing 11 February – 25 March (excluding Monday 11 March – Labour Day). (6 weeks)

Location: Wales Street PS Art room at 3.45pm until 5.00 pm.

Payment: Payment for the term can be made to me directly at the first session in cash, cheque or electronically (please put student’s name as reference). BSB: 944300 Acct# 006525180

Enrolment: Fill out the attached enrolment form and leave at the school office or email me judithjacksonjoyce@y7mail.com with your child’s and your contact details by 8 February 2013.

Please call or e mail with any further queries on 9480 1015 or judithjacksonjoyce@y7mail.com

Enrolment Form (or email details)

Child’s Name..........................................................................................................................
Year level....................................................        Age...............................................
Parent/Guardian Name..................................................................................................................
Contact phone number ............................................Email...................................................
Any allergies or relevant/important information..............................................................................
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Please return to WSPS office or by email to judithjacksonjoyce@y7mail.com by Friday 8 February 2013.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Foster Care Information Session A home cooked meal, a warm bed and your care could be the greatest gift you could offer. There are many care options available to support children and young people, including emergency care, respite care, short term and long term care. What sort of care would suit your family?. Thursday 7th February 2013. 7 – 8.30pm. 239 Murray Road, Preston. To register and receive an information pack phone Anna Jones. 8470 9951 or email anna.jones@anglicarevic.org.au

Northcote High School Tours
Tours commence Monday 11 February, and run most Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays, commencing at 9.15 am until late May. They take about 1 hour. Check our website for details. All welcome.
http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au or ring the office to book a place 9488 2300.

Northcote High School Open Morning
Open Morning will be on Wednesday 24 April 2013, from 9.15 -12.00 noon. Information sessions will be run through the morning. A repeat information session runs at 7 pm at night.

ACE High Achiever's Program Yr 7 Entry 2014
Information regarding this program, and application forms, are now on our website. The changed arrangements of 2012 no longer apply and any interested families are encouraged to apply. See our website for details: http://www.nhs.vic.edu.au
Applications Close: Monday 29 April, 2013. 12.30 pm. Test Date: Saturday 4 May, 2013. 9.00 am
Yarra Jets FC Open Day. Sunday 17 February from 11am. Quarries Park, Clifton Hill. Teams for boys and girls. Strong emphasis on girl’s football. Socially inclusive club with scholarships available for low income families from public housing estates. Special guest appearance by U20 Female Footballer of the Year and Melbourne Victory Women’s Captain, Steph Cately. For more information, www.yarrajetsfc.org.au, 0430 164 417, secretary@yarrajetsfc.org.au

Ivanhoe Knights. Kids Saturday Basketball. Competitive team basketball for girls and boys from ages 7 and up. Basketball is a good introduction to team sport for kids. No prior basketball experience is necessary for children of any age. Registration Day for Winter Season (school terms 2 & 3) is on Saturday 16 Feb, 2013, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Ivanhoe East Primary School, Warncliffe Road, Ivanhoe East, Melways Ref 31,J9. Cost is $110 per player plus uniform. The Ivanhoe Knights have beginner to advanced teams in all age groups. New players are welcome. The winter season runs from April to September (excluding school holidays and long weekends). See: www.ivanhoe knights.org


Come & Try Soccer Day. For Girls Aged 4-11. Feb 17th, 2013 10:30am-12pm. A.H. Capp Reserve, Halwyn Cres, Preston. Darebin Falcons will run girls only soccer programs for Under 5, 7 and 9 year olds and will field teams in Under 9, 11 and 12 competitions during the 2013 season. Come along and give soccer a go! For more information contact Jasmine Hirst 0422 991 687 or jazhirst@yahoo.com.au. www.falcons.org.au

Northern Falcons FC. Boys & girls of all ages welcome. Qualified coaches & support staff, ensuring your child develops correct football technique. Venue: Hayes Park, Flinders St., Thornbury. Registration Day: Sunday 10th February at 10am at Hayes Park, 143 Flinders St., Thornbury. For more information contact: Tanya Franco – 0415 547 396, John Zanin - 0417 554 577, Max Loche - 0400 486 192, Kon Avramidis - 0401 989 472. EMAIL: northernfalconsjnrs@gmail.com or WEB: www.northernfalcons.com

TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER. Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2013 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

The Darebin Bulldogs Junior F.C. Registration Day!! Sunday February 17th – 1p.m. Free registration for all kids! The club is looking to enter U9’s – 13’s for the 2013 season to compete in the Northern Football League. The 2013 season commences on April 14th with home and away games on Sunday mornings. Home games will be at W.R Ruthven V.C Reserve on the Corner of Albert Street & Malpas Street, Preston. Please contact for more information. Rick Thorneycroft on 0420 426 758

Alphington Football Club. Will be having a soccer registration day for preps to Under 18s for both boys & girls in 2013 on Wed 20th Feb., 5-7pm at The Old Pavillion under the Kevin Crehan Grandstand at Alphington Park. Season commences after Easter. Contact: Lisa Jacob – 0403 676 596 or Nigel Odell – 0418 354 639.


Children’s Performing Company of Australia. Song, Dance and Drama for 5-18yos. Call 03 9384 1644 or cpca.com.au

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Wales St News 15
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