



# Wales Street Primary School Newsletter

Date 21/07/2017

Term 3, Number 1

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The yard is supervised before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm. **Students must not be dropped off and left alone before 8:45am. Any student in the yard unsupervised before 8.45am will need to go to our school aged care program.**

An important reminder that any change of address or contact phone numbers needs to be updated with the office. This includes work numbers and emergency contacts. It is very important that the school is able to contact families in the event of an accident or illness.

**Recess: 10.40am–11.10am Lunch eating time: 12.50pm-1.00pm Lunchtime: 1.00pm – 1.50pm School Finish: 3.30pm**

## Events

**Monday July 24**  
Grade 3&4 Excursion  
Connecting to Country  
**Wednesday August 23**  
Curriculum Day  
**Wednesday August 2**  
Student Led Conferences  
**Wednesday August 9**  
District Basketball

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### WELCOME BACK

We have had a smooth start to the term with students settling quickly into their learning routines. Term three offers a great opportunity for continued learning growth. The student led conferences coming up in week 3 will provide you with a chance to see your child's growth and be part of the discussion around what their future learning goals will look like.

### STUDENT LED CONFERENCES 2017 VARIATION OF ATTENDANCE 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST

Student Led Conferences will be held on the afternoon and evening of Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. The school will close early at 1pm. Parents and carers are asked to pick their children up or organise after care at Wales Street.

### STUDENT REPORTS 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Student reports provide students, teachers and parents with a clear and concise picture of a student's achievement and progress at a point in time. Teachers make informed and consistent decisions about student progress against the achievement standards using a variety of assessments and observations to inform their judgement. They map the student's learning against the achievement standards, and place the student on the learning continuum, that best reflect the student's level of performance and progress.

You may notice some changes to our student reports this semester in line with the implementation of the new Victorian Curriculum in all government and Catholic schools from the beginning of 2017. The Victorian Curriculum replaces the previous AusVELS curriculum.

As a result schools now have the flexibility to design their reports to show each student's learning progress. Our school staff have consulted with School Council to create a student report that best meets the needs of our school community.



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The Victorian Curriculum is structured as a single developmental learning continuum and is organised by levels not years of schooling. The curriculum consists of Towards Foundation Levels A to D and Levels Foundation to 10. All curriculum areas have achievement standards, describing what students are able to understand and do. All students progress along the learning continuum at their own rate and from their own starting point. Students are taught at the level that suits their needs, rather than being taught to the year level and age group they are in. Teachers provide learning opportunities to support the learning for all students, including those students with additional learning needs or a disability.

Please keep in mind that as this is a new curriculum this report is not designed nor should be compared to previous years' reports. We can, however, show your child's progress in English and Mathematics in Semester 1 as these learning areas were introduced and taught in 2016. For all other curriculum areas being introduced with the new curriculum, student progress can only be shown in reports from Semester 2, 2017 onwards.

### OUR REPORT FORMAT

This report will look slightly different to reports from previous years as we migrate to the new curriculum. We have also introduced the Interim reports that were sent out earlier this year. As we are reporting more often, the semester report will be more concise and will contain information about student progress after two terms at school.

The Victorian Curriculum graphic will be included against a five-point achievement level scale but other elements such as specialist sections have been measured against skills taught this semester using a five-point scale. We have included a section that focusses on the PYP Approaches to Learning, linked to our teaching, and learning of the Units of Inquiry.

Class teachers will write a general comment providing feedback about your child's learning and achievements as well as a written section providing suggestions for improvement in 'The next steps are to.

### CURRICULUM DAY 23 AUGUST

Our final student free curriculum day will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. The purpose of the day will be to look at the Digital Learning Technology curriculum with staff and continue work on the implementation of the whole school Annual Implementation Plan for 2017.

## **WHAT ARE STUDENT LED CONFERENCES**

At Wales Street Primary School we conduct Student led conferences as another way of communicating to parents and families, the learning experiences of our students in a meaningful and purposeful format. The students reflect and articulate their understandings through the sharing of their portfolio. The portfolio includes work samples and evidence of the learning experiences throughout the semester. This process places the student at the centre of the learning and is an important part of the reporting process that is focused on 'what the child can do'. Written reports are sent to parents prior to the SLC to inform them of their child's progress against the standards according to the Victorian Curriculum.

"Student-led conferences involve the student and the parents. The students are responsible for leading the conference, and also take responsibility for their learning by sharing the process with their parents... The conference involves the student discussing and reflecting upon samples of work that they have previously chosen to share with their parents. These samples have been previously selected with guidance and support from the teacher, and could be from the student's portfolio." (Making the PYP happen: A curriculum framework for international primary education, 2009)

### **THE OBJECTIVE OF OUR SLCS ARE:**

1. To offer a more concrete and meaningful dimension to the concept of assessment for learning in which students, and subsequently their parents, would be more focused on the learning process as opposed to a summative assessment grade.
2. To give further meaning and importance to the IB Learner Profile for the students themselves, i.e. that they are involved in reflecting upon themselves as learners.
3. To move the student to the centre of the reporting process as opposed to being a passive bystander. Moreover, to shift the focus of attention away from teaching and more on learning with teachers acting more as facilitators in an extension of the learning process.
4. For students to use and demonstrate the trans disciplinary skills that they are learning in a real and significant context.
5. To more directly involve our subject specialist teachers in the report process and give greater significance and importance to their subject areas by helping parents to understand a little more about the learning that takes place in each of these subject areas.

We hope you enjoy the experience.

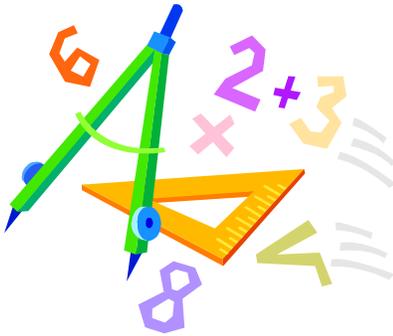
## **MATHS FOR PARENTS!**

**WALES STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> 2017**

**6.30-8.00 PM GRADE 3/4 BUILDING**

**PRESENTER: MICHAEL YMER**



Michael Ymer is a specialist mathematics consultant who is working with the staff at Wales Street Primary this year. He is involved in many Professional Development programs in schools across Australia and Asia.

Michael is an informed, enthusiastic and entertaining presenter who has a clear and practical approach to the challenges that confront schools and parents in mathematics.

On the night, Michael will address the following issues:

- What is my child learning in mathematics?
- How can I help my child become an efficient problem solver?
- How do children best learn mathematics?
- How can parents promote quality thinking and learning?
- How can I help my child in mathematics?

We invite all parents to this informative, interactive and engaging night that will help parents and carers understand the focus of mathematics in schools today and offer strategies and ideas to help you support your young mathematicians.

**Please ring the office and let Kim or Lisa know if you are able to attend.**

Christian, Jenny & Robyn

## **FASE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

We hope you all had a great holiday and managed to stay warm and heathy.

### **Disco**

The disco held Friday 23 June was a huge success. We have had fantastic feedback and by all accounts everyone had an amazing night. It was wonderful to see not just students but parents getting into the neon theme.

We want to thank all of the people that made the night such a success. We can't express how appreciative we are of your time and effort. These events are a mammoth undertaking and they simply can't be done without the help of the school community. We particularly want to thank our generous bakers, decorators, face painters, light donations, Chakras Middle East Foods for donating the juice, the amazing Dad Crew for working into the wee hours setting up the hall, managing the bar and packing down and the food and drink stall helpers. A huge thank you to Manuel and Florencia for the best DJing. The very small FASE committee can't thank you enough!

We understand that there were some disappointed students as not everyone was able to get tickets. Unfortunately, our hall isn't big enough to accommodate the entire school community along with parents and siblings. We are looking at doing things differently next year and would welcome ideas and people to help organise it.

### **HELP NEEDED**

The second half of the year is upon us and we are working hard to ensure that there are lots of fun fundraising and social activities to be enjoyed. We are looking for helpers to take on a task for the planned events. We will be doing a call out closer to each event. If you in the meantime, you have any ideas or are looking for creative outlet and want to manage an event please contact Tracy on 0403 615 817.

### **Save the date – more information to come**

Father's/Special Person's Day Stall	Friday 1 September
Trivia Night	Saturday 16 September
Outdoor Movie Festival	Friday 17 November
Mango Fundraiser	November
Twilight Market	Monday 4 December

Warm regards,  
The FASE Committee

Second-hand  
uniform



There will be a number of items for sale during the morning tea as well. Most items will be a gold coin donation.



Principal's

## Morning Tea

*Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August in the*

*Staffroom*

*at 9:30am*

Parents and Carers are warmly invited to Morning Tea with the Principal, Christian Woodcock.

We hope to continue this event each term as this will be a great opportunity to catch up with our Principal and members of the Leadership Team along with other parents and members of the Wales Street Community.

## 2017 Wales Street Primary School Art Show



The Art Show is a celebration of our student's artistic journey.

Wednesday 13th September

Art Show Opens at 5.00 pm - 7.00 pm (3/4 Building)

## DITCH THE PLASTIC



We [Caitlin Broadway and Daphne Hennessy] are from 34F and are doing Individual Learning Time (ILT). ILT is when you have a driving question, such as “How can I act to improve the world?” and you explore an area you’re curious about. We are curious about how rubbish affects our world, particularly landfill and plastic bags, and want to make a difference in our community.

We began our inquiry the questions like how much rubbish goes to landfill and what do people buy the most.

We created a survey which we handed out to one grade in each year level [PREP Annie, 1/2 Lesley, 3/4 Rebekah and 5/6 Anne] because we wanted to find out more information about how many plastic bags families are throwing into landfill.

Please return the survey to us at 34F or to Rebekah as soon as possible so we can collect the data about our community’s plastic bag use.

We are hoping to make a change. We are asking that you sign a petition to ban the plastic bags in Victoria because every state in Australia has banned plastic bags EXCEPT Victoria. This is OUTRAGEOUS!!!!

Please sign the petition by clicking the hyperlink below.

<https://www.change.org/p/ban-plastic-bags-across-nsw-victoria-and-wa>

We thank you for contributing.

Kind regards,

Caitlin and Daphne From 3/4F

## SKIING OPPORTUNITY

The Victorian Interschool Snowsports Championships are held at Mount Buller in August. Competitors from all ability levels are encouraged to enter, prep to grade 6, with an emphasis on fun and participation. Disciplines include skiing, snowboarding and cross country racing with cheap lift passes available for participants and team managers. For more information go to <http://vicinterschools.com.au/home> or contact Mick Kelly (parent) on 0402 295 763 or [mwk2063@gmail.com](mailto:mwk2063@gmail.com).

Regards,  
Mick Kelly.