From the Principal

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR LANGUAGES AT WALES STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

The memorandum of understanding with Department of Education for the additional funding the school has been receiving ends in December 2015.

As a result of this the school will form a working party to look into how language(s) will be offered at the school in the future. The working party will consult the parents/carers and staff of Wales Street Primary School and will report back to the School Council.

THANK YOU FOR PAYING THE NURSE LEVY AND CONTRIBUTING TO PROVIDING A SAFE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT AT WALES STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL!

HOWEVER : The cost of our nurse has risen in recent years with additional hours being allocated to support our growing school. Unfortunately the recovered amount is decreasing each year drawing money away from other priorities. Your support is therefore critical in maintaining this much valued service.
Here are few things our nurse does:

- Attends to around 4,000 students per year, who attend the First aid room, and follows up with care as required.
- Is a constant for the children (rather than many different teachers and staff) so that as children attend first aid, she will pick up any child who comes frequently and follow up any worsening illness, injury or potential worry/psychological issue.
- As a Registered Nurse she is trained to identify and assist with illnesses and injuries within her scope of practice.
- Teaches all asthmatics correct technique for asthma medication administration as well as recognise and understand medications used by that child. She hands out specialized booklets/information packs from Asthma Victoria so as to assist in asthma education for families.
- Performs medical procedures as required, within her scope of practice.
- Manages administration and information connected to any child with a medical requirement i.e.: anaphylaxis/diabetes/epilepsy/asthma/allergies etc. which includes action plans/care plans/management plans and medications required.
- Organises education of all staff in respect to medical requirements i.e: asthma/epilepsy/anaphylaxis by bringing in Health Professionals for lectures.
- Gives lectures to staff (anaphylaxis briefs) and to new Prep parents for Prep transition.
- Organises the medical requirements for all excursions/sports days and camps, including liaison with staff, parents and camp sites.
- Attends all camps that require the support of a Registered Nurse.
- Liaises with our schools Welfare Officer in order to assist children with particular welfare needs.
- Maintains and updates all first aid stores/stock as well as the Yard duty bags, putting together and updating all portable first aid kits as well as maintaining first aid room for effective assistance in first aid.
- Liaison with Occupational Health and Safety group to assist in identifying and reporting any areas in the school that may require maintenance.
- Liaison with staff who work with the “walk /ride to school days”- promoting this via the newsletter.
- Liaison and assistance with update and extension of Emergency Plan for our school.
- Writes fortnightly newsletters to parents that include information that may help parents in the care of their child regarding their health, illnesses and injuries - using reputable web sites to do this.
- Responsible for formation and update of policies relating to first aid: - i.e. first aid /sun smart/head lice/anaphylaxis/medication policies.
- Attends conferences on emergency nursing/asthma/anaphylaxis/epilepsy and relevant health topics and brings this information into first aid for utilization.
- Organises staff flu immunizations in order to assist in staff health and wellbeing - attends to staff health needs as requested by staff.

SCHOOLMATE APP

The Department of Education and Training has released an App which is designed to help you better understand the curriculum we use to teach your children every day.

The App, called SchoolMate, is available for free download now in the App Store for iPhones and iPads and in Google Play for Android phones and tablets.
SchoolMate gives you a general overview of the Victorian curriculum in each subject at each year level and:

- Provides you with an overview of what your children are learning in each subject at each year level according to the Victorian curriculum (AusVELS)
- Provides you with tips regarding activities and things you can do at home to help your kids in each subject and year level
- Suggests apps, books, events and activities related to each subject area and year level.

Our school, like all other government schools in Victoria, uses AusVELS as the basis for the learning programs we run at school every day.

Our teachers adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of our students and community, for example, designing learning programs around what your children are interested in, or around days or celebrations that are important to our community.

SchoolMate is designed to give you an overview of what children are expected to learn in Victorian government schools across every subject from Prep to Year 10.

I encourage you to download SchoolMate and to please talk with your teacher or myself if you are interested to find out more about how our school teaches the curriculum.

Please click on the link below for more information.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=j4frMDFlwUg

From the Nurse

Hello everyone

Well, we are over the 570 mark for documented children attending First aid this term. Thirty two children required going home and there have been 54 asthmatic episodes. So far then this year there have been a total of 1290 children visiting first aid.

Over the last couple of weeks it appears that the whisper of winter is here with the rumblings of respiratory illnesses, coughs, colds, and tonsillitis. Have you had your flu immunization yet? Our staff had their flu immunization a couple of weeks ago, helping us all avoid at least a few of the lurgies.

In discussion with the 5/6 teachers about healthy living I have been researching topics of interest to share with the 5/6 classes. I wondered:

How to share the healthy message without being boring!

How to tell grade 5/6 children to eat healthily is a difficult endeavour! A wonderful way is to show them what the bad stuff does - namely Sugar.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lEXBxiQREo

…this is a TedEd video - you may want to show your children what sugar does. It's a total turnoff for sure as well as arming us with the information to argue against another sugary snack! As the blurb about this video says...

“When you eat something loaded with sugar, your taste buds, your gut and your brain all take notice. This activation of your reward system is not unlike how bodies process addictive substances such as alcohol or nicotine – an overload of sugar spikes dopamine levels and leaves you craving more. Nicole Avena explains why sweets and treats should be enjoyed in moderation”

Click here for more information on this topic