From the Principal

CURRICULUM

All grades have commenced their second unit of inquiry for the year and information has been sent via Tiqbiz to inform families about the key trans-disciplinary skills and concepts related to the central ideas. Teachers plan and organise many incursions/ excursions to support the learning of concepts and to enrich the experiences of our students so that they can develop their knowledge of the enduring understandings, which are the Central ideas in each unit of inquiry.

Here are examples of our program in action:

- Grade 56 have walked to CERES and learnt about energy use and sustainability to support their learning of the Central idea - Energy use impacts society and the environment.
- Our prep students have had visitor talks about different roles in the community related to the Central idea - People play different roles in the community, and have had many parents share their expertise.
- The grade 34 classes have been experiencing hands on science tasks with a visiting scientist to build their understanding of the Central idea - Humans use their understanding of scientific principles.
- The grade 12 team’s central idea is – Lifestyle choices affect our health and well-being. Guest speakers and incursions have visited over the past few weeks including Market Fresh for healthy eating, learning yoga and relaxation techniques and First Aid training by St Johns.

These experiences provide rich discussions and opportunities for the students to express their understanding through writing tasks and presentations.
Grade 12 will be having an open afternoon this Friday from 2-3pm so that our students can demonstrate to their families, their learning and understanding of their current unit of inquiry. All welcome.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

A survey is currently being developed for parents in relation to their needs for a possible re-introduction of a School Holiday Program at Wales Street Primary School.

The survey will be issued to parent soon. Please take the time to complete the survey so the data can be used by the school council to make an informed decision.

DOGS ON SITE

A reminder for parents and carers that dogs are not permitted on our school site. There are a number of students who are frightened of dogs. Thank you for your support in making all our students feel safe.

EARLY ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

Some students have been arriving at school too early. Students are welcomed from 8.30am onwards. Students who arrive earlier than 8.30am will be required to attend the (user pay) Before School Care Program in the hall where they can be appropriately supervised.

AFTER CARE TEAM

The Aftercare program is a licensed child care service which operates from 3.30 to 600 pm with the following outdoor areas licensed to the program – Asphalt Boat playground and oval

The boat playground will solely be utilised by the After Care program from 3.30 to 3.45, from then onwards the children will access all licensed areas as mentioned above.

As this is a service that is required by families attending the school, we appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE - REMINDER

Please be reminded that Victorian Government schools do not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for decisions regarding their children’s accident insurance, including ambulance cover. Wales Street Primary school does not have a whole-of-school accident insurance policy covering students.

If a parent/guardian makes the decision to take out accident insurance for their child(ren), such insurance policies are available through a number of companies.

Parents are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including transport costs.

These costs may be recoverable where the injury is caused by negligence (carelessness) of the Department, a school council or their employees or volunteers under the Department’s public liability insurance policy.
CELEBRATING PREP! – AN UPDATE FROM ALEX DARLINGTON-CRAMMOND

In Prep we’ve been counting how many days the children have been at school for and the fiftieth day is approaching. As we are tracking the first 100 days of school, and this being the halfway mark, we’ve decided to celebrate with a ‘Half Way Day’ on Monday 11th May.

We are asking that children show their excitement about being half way by dressing in a half outfit. This could be half one colour, half another or half stripy and half spotty. They could even have a ‘half hairstyle’. This could be half one colour, half another or half one style, half another.

Families could even be creative with the Prep’s lunchbox and pack half apples, half muesli bars and cut the sandwiches in half as well. We will be running lessons related to the concept of half throughout the day and generally celebrating having made it this far!

We’re looking forward to seeing what outfits our creative Preps can come up with!

Jump Rope for Heart

As part of the PE program all students are taking part in the Heart Foundation’s Jump Rope for Heart. At the completion of the unit all students will participate in a ‘Jump Off’ (Friday 15th May). This will include a range of activities allowing them to demonstrate the skills they developed throughout the unit.

Fundraising is a major part of JRFH and will all be done online. Please use the following link to set up your student/s own page.


Once here click on the green ‘Join now’ button and follow the prompts.

Prizes for funds raised this year include: Remote control helicopters, bikes, skateboards and inflatable crocodiles!

All funds raised will go to the Heart Foundation to assist in their ‘Hear health’ research.

Thank you for your support

Anna de Vos

PE teacher

Library News

Kings, Queens and Castles: Enter the Kingdom of Books!

In the WSPS Library

The Book Fair starts on Tuesday 19th May at 3pm and runs all week until Monday 25th May at 4pm.

Opening hours will be 3-4pm and 8.30-9.30am daily

Please put the dates in your diary and bring your family to this celebration of reading with hundreds of fun, engaging, affordable books for them to discover.
Inaugural Wales St Family Bike Club Swap Meet

Is your son/daughter ready for a new bike? Do you have bikes and parts you're not using? Need a bike yourself so you can ride with the kids?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above, the new Wales St Family Bike Club is keen to help. We've organised a swap meet event at which you can buy or sell bikes and parts and share the bike love. The event is supported by Darebin BUG (Bicycle User Group).

When: 1.30 to 3.30pm, Saturday 23 May 2015
Where: Wales Street Primary School

Featuring: puncture repair workshops at 2pm and 3pm
Everyone is welcome to this FREE event. Hope to see you there.
Further information: heidlandsimon@gmail.com

Help your child Draw Talk Write

Drawing is fun and helps your child to explore their world. Drawing is an important form of play. Drawing helps children learn to write.

Talking helps children to learn about words they will need to read and write.

Writing is another way for children to communicate and express themselves. Encourage children to continue to draw while they are learning to write

Want to know more?

http://www.csu.edu.au/faculty/educat/edu/staff/profiles/lecturers/noella-mackenzie

From the Nurse

I love this autumn weather! So fresh, especially when it's pouring with rain of a Sunday morning and you're up at the crack of dawn for football! I hear you all those footy parents!

So far 230 children have been documented as coming to first aid this term - 18 of those went home and 25 suffered asthma.

This last couple of weeks, staff have been educated and updated in the glorious subjects of asthma and anaphylaxis. They then have their flu immunizations to look forward to in early May.

I cannot overestimate the importance of renewing and updating your student medical information. We are an “asthma friendly school” which means, amongst other things, we maintain our asthma updates for staff and encourage education for families alike. I receive newsletters from the Asthma Foundation Victoria, and pass on information to you within these newsletters, and sometimes around the school, in the form of posters. You may remember that last year there was a free Panel event at the Royal Children’s? Click here to read further on this topic.