FROM THE PRINCIPAL….­

Dear Parents and Guardians,

ABC Music Concert and Christmas Night Market
Congratulations to the students who performed at the ABC music concert on Tuesday night in the school hall. It was wonderful to see their confidence to perform and willingness to demonstrate their learning. It was also great to see the support and encouragement from their families and friends. It was a lovely and memorial occasion and well done to everyone.

Congratulations to Maria, Leah and the Events Fundraising team members for their Christmas Night Market event in the Clyde Street building. It was amazing how they were able to transform this space into a bustling market with over 30 stalls. It did live up to its hype ‘of amazing stalls showcasing thousands of products and you won’t be disappointed’. It's certainly becoming an institution so put it in your calendar for next year’s Christmas shopping.

New Strategic Plan 2013 -2016
The new school Strategic Plan covering the period 2013-2016 has been approved by School Council and will now be forwarded to the Department Of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD). I would like to thank all the school community members for their input, support and encouragement in this process.

Student End of Year Reports.
The Australian Education Union has placed a work ban on its members providing comments on school reports. Most teachers at Wales Street Primary School will only be reporting on VELS progression points and will not be providing written comments in this report cycle. These reports will only contain the A-E marks for each subject area, 12 month progression marks and an effort/ behaviour scale. If your child’s teacher has chosen to follow union bans a note will also be included with your child’s report. However, the teaching staff will be providing a student portfolio viewing and discussion opportunity on the 10th December as these are a comprehensive document that show what individual students have achieved over the course of the year. Student End of Year reports and student class allocations will be finalized by Tuesday 18th December.
Upcoming Events
Next Monday 10th December the Bushwahzee incursion will be held for all Prep-Year 4 students followed by an evening performance and participation by the school community at 6pm. Year level 5/6 students are most welcome to attend but as they are on camp the rest of the week it has not been made mandatory for them and therefore they have not been included in the Bushwahzee incursion. The Events Committee will be running a BBQ as well so there will be food available.

Student Portfolios will be available for sharing with parents and guardians in student classrooms from 5.00-6.00pm prior to the commencement of the Bushwahzee performance.

Parent Helpers Morning Tea
The staff and I invite all of the many parent school helpers to a special morning tea on Monday 17th December at 10.40am in the school hall. We really do appreciate all the work and support that we receive from the school community and therefore I would like as many people as possible to attend.

To help with catering if you are able to attend please contact the school office by Friday 14th December.

Last Day of the School Year for Students 2012
This year as Friday 21st December will be a Pupil Free Curriculum Day the last day of the term for students will be celebrated on Thursday 20th December. Students will be dismissed at 3.30pm as usual with a Farewell Assembly at the Flag Pole commencing at 3.00pm. The SAC program will be running on the Friday.

School will recommence for students in Year Levels 1-6 on Wednesday 30th January 2013. School begins for Preps the following day on Thursday 31st January, there will be a 9.15am Parents Welcome Morning Tea in the Hall.

Pupil Free Days 2013
School Council has approved the following Pupil Free Curriculum Days in 2013.
- Tuesday 29th January,
- Friday 26th April (the day after ANZAC Day),
- Monday 4th November (the day before Melbourne Cup Day)
- Friday 20th December (the last day of school).

Primary years program (PYP) and the ‘Action Component’
There are several key reasons why Wales Street decided to adopt the International Baccalaureate Primary Year Program (PYP). The focus on inquiry learning and development of personal qualities, positive ‘attitudes’ and an international perspective and most importantly the ‘action component’ which is ‘doing stuff’ as a result of your new knowledge. A good example of the important of empowerment that can come from ‘using your new knowledge’ can be seen in the 3/4 year level. Students have recently been inquiring into Wealth and Opportunity through the Trans disciplinary theme ‘Sharing the Planet. This is a focus into rights and responsibilities in the struggle to share finite resources with other people and other living things; communities and the relationship within and between them; access to equal opportunities; peace and conflict resolution.

The 3/4 year level students have found through their inquiry great inequalities, a sense of injustice and have developed strong personal connections which has led to a desire to do something about it and to make a difference (the action component). They will therefore be running a mini fete to raise money to donate to several self-help agencies that they have investigated. It will be held next Monday 10th December at lunchtime.

Both the 3/4 and 5/6 level students have also been creating wonderful physical displays around the Clyde Street building and school wall murals of the PYP Learner Profile. These are:
- **Inquirers** - their natural curiosity has been nurtured and they actively enjoy learning
- **Thinkers** - they exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to solving complex problems
- **Communicators** - they receive and express ideas and information confidently in more than one language
- **risk-takers** - they approach unfamiliar situations without anxiety and have the confidence to explore new ideas
- **knowledgeable** - they have explored themes that have global significance and have acquired a critical mass of knowledge
- **principled** - they have a sound grasp of the principles of moral reasoning and have acquired integrity, honesty and a sense of justice
- **caring** - they show sensitivity towards the needs and feelings of others, and have a sense of personal commitment to helping others
- open-minded - they respect the values of other individuals and cultures and seek to consider a range of points of view
- well-balanced - they understand the importance of physical and mental balance and personal well-being
- reflective - they give thoughtful consideration to their own learning by constructively analyzing their personal strengths and weaknesses.

Christopher Sexton
Principal

**Mini Fete : Support the Grade 3/4’s**
**Monday 10th December 2012**
**During lunchtime**

There will be drinks, icy-poles, second hand books, face painting, lots of different games, busking, performances and more. All money raised will be donated to our chosen charities.

The Grade 3/4 students will also be continuing their fundraising efforts during the Bushwahzee Night. We will be selling soft drinks and icy-poles from 5.00pm onwards. This is a great opportunity to mingle and grab refreshment before the Bushwahzee performances.

Come and support a great cause.

Thanks – the Grade 3/4 team

**LIBRARY NOTES**

Please remember to look for Library books and Home readers and return them to Wales Street PS promptly.

*Darebin Libraries is running a Summer Reading Challenge*

This summer, Darebin Libraries are running a Summer Reading Challenge for cool kids aged 5-12.

“Enter a mysterious world of puzzles, challenges and codes at your local Darebin Libraries branch! Find clues hidden around your library, unlock secret codes, solve puzzles and read some great books. Can you decipher the five Challenge Code Words and become a Reading Challenge Champion?”

Grab your Challenge Booklet from any Darebin Libraries branch now and get started!

For more information contact 1300 655 355 or visit www.spongeclub.com

**Bushwahzee Bush Xmas : Grades Prep-4**
**Monday 10th of December, 2012**

The Bush Xmas gives the kids and parents a chance to dress up in the traditional Xmas costumes of crimson, green and white, Xmas hats and reindeer antlers etc.

The content of the show is fairly secular in feel and approach and feedback suggests it is seen as a happy variation on the usual Carols night at the end of the year.

Children in grades Prep-4 will be involved in workshops and rehearsals during the day ready for a fabulous performance in the evening.

The cost for children to participate in the workshops is $8 per student. This amount will be deducted from the Excursion Levy.

If you have not paid the Excursion Levy, please forward payment of $8.00 to your child’s class teacher by Monday 10th December 2012.

The performance will commence at 6pm

Parents and Guardians please note that Student Portfolios will be available for sharing with parents in student classrooms from 5.00-6.00pm prior to the commencement of the Bushwahzee performance. Parents will be able to take portfolio’s home.
XMAS SHOPPING MARKET

Wow what a buz!!!
The Xmas Shopping Market in the Clyde Street building was a great success on Tuesday night 4 December. With 34 stalls in total - 11 more than last year - there was a great range of craft, silks, lotions, candles, cards, children's toys and clothing, Christmas items. A creative selection of accessories, purses bags, beautiful clothing, knitwear and jewellery.

Well done and thank you to all family and friends who supported the market by attending buying and spreading the word ... In turn , the stall holders donated back to the school a percentage of items/cash which will be utilized in the 2013 Fete as auction and or raffle prizes.

Congratulation Leah Taylor for organizing a successful Xmas Shopping Market Night!!! Big thank you to Scott Taylor, Leah's dad, Trevor, Amy C, student's staff and members of the Events committee. Parents, Friends and family who helped in one way or another setting and packing up.

EVENTS UPDATE
Events such as Xmas market can be successful productive and enjoyable when we are willing share the tasks needed to be undertaken to achieve creative, social and economic success. Funds raised from the events held at and by the school benefit our children's educational experience, they go towards works and equipment that is needed to supplement limited funding schools generally receive from governments.

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 schools ever growing student population. Next 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.

Fact, schools have to raise funds to maintain their schools equipment etc..

No more than 15 years ago it was the various regional offices in the education department who would be responsible for the upgrade of equipment to cater for growing needs of schools, maintain facilities, supply stationary and equipment, pay for utilities and attend/repair maintenance emergency at no cost to the school... You could say principal’s staff and teachers were able to and were left to dedicate all their efforts to the business of facilitating the educational experience of our children.

School are responsible for all the above with limited budgets.

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 events committee/school know of any funding possibilities and opportunities offered by organizations, or any ideas you may have. If we share in this information there may be others who can and are willing take on these ideas, actualize them and successfully achieve fund raising results which in turn will benefit our children’s experience at Wales Street.

FETE 2013 Saturday 23 of March
Please mark this date in your calendar. During the break and when cleaning up and out please: Pack and store your preloved clothing, books and unwanted Christmas gift in boxes and bags .... ready for the fete which will be held close to the end term 1 in 2013.

For people interested in making preserves and craft items during the holidays. I will provide you with coordinators name and contact detail in next week's newsletter. This should enable people to connect, clarify share ideas and planned making projects, that need to be undertaken, so as crafters can work and create with time on their side.

Similarly, for the preservers to consider recipes and to embrace the fruit producing bearing period during the break when fruits come into season and are less expensive or free on trees in gardens , if you know what I mean.

Maria Romnios
Events / Fundraising Committee
SAC Program

LAST DAY OF TERM IS THURSDAY 20th December: Before and After School Care will operate as normal. If families have a permanent booking for Thursdays and do not require care for the last day of term will need to let staff know of the cancellation or a non-cancellation fee will be charged.

Friday 21st December is Pupil Free Day

We are seeking interest from families who will require care on Friday 21 DECEMBER.

Bookings for Pupil Free Day must be made by Thursday 13th December. No bookings will be taken after this day.

Booking can be made by phone, in person or email oshc.wales.street.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au. Due to pupil free day occurring on the last day of this year, families will need to pay $35.00 for the day (less if you receive Child Care Benefit/Rebate) in advance when making a booking.

Only families who have paid in advance will be registered to use the Pupil Free Day.

Cancellations after Friday 14th December (5 days before Pupil Free Day) will incur full fee if the program is scheduled to operate.

Children will need to bring morning & afternoon snack, lunch and a drink bottle. Children cannot turn up on pupil free day without a prior booking; there are staffing and ratios to consider.

All accounts must be settled in FULL by TUESDAY 18th DECEMBER.

I have charged all families to Thursday 20th December, to allow families time to settle their account. Please Note this statement does not include the Pupil Free Day booking.

Families who settle their account to the end of the year and have made a cancellation by 2.30, then the cancellation will be credited to next year’s account. If you also make extra bookings then it will be added on to your account and this statement will be adjusted and will need to be settled by the end of the year.

Please note: Exclusion from the program will apply, if your account is not settled IN FULL by the end of Term 4 (as per our Fee Policy)
Christmas Shopping Market
A VERY BIG THANK YOU

What a wonderful night it was. The Clyde Street Building was filled on Tuesday night with 34 gorgeous stalls and hundreds of beautiful items from a bunch of very clever stallholders. To round out the picture, hundreds of parents, teachers, kids and community members joined in to shop and marvel at the gifts on offer. So far we have donations worth over $2,100 – any money received will go towards the Fete and donated products will be auctioned on Fete day. Please remember to come and check out these items and bid for your favourite things.

This market has grown over 4 years thanks to lots of terrific support:

- Thanks all of our stallholders. Please support these great businesses. Many of them have websites so check them out online

- Thanks to everyone who came along to browse or shop or just have a glass of wine to be part of it all

- Thanks to the merry band of helpers who moved tables, collected money, cleaned up and were generally very useful. Special thanks to Maria, Natasha, Scott, Georgia, Xavier and Yiannis who were there right through to the very end.

- Thanks also to Pina and Sally who added these newsletter items each week – sometimes even after deadline. I appreciated their assistance in helping me spread the word. This also extends to those who helped with letterbox drops and placement of posters to tell the community about this event.

We will do this all again next year. Merry Christmas.

Leah Taylor

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Hello Everyone,

Whilst it is the season for festivities, swimming and holiday planning, it is also the season of the blood Nose! The warm weather and the allergy season tend to irritate sensitive blood vessels in the nose, making them burst and bleed. According to the Royal Children’s Hospital fact sheet (http://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Nosebleeds/)

A nosebleed (also called epistaxis) occurs when a small blood vessel in the lining of the nose bursts. The inside of the nose is delicate and the blood vessels are close to the surface, making them fragile and easy to burst and start bleeding.

There are a few other causes of nose bleed, such as infections, colds and flu, knocks or bumps to the nose, foreign bodies (love those peas!), excessive straining (as occurs with constipation) and certain medications i.e.: nasal sprays. I tend to see those who knock their noses, or more commonly those children who are prone to hot weather bleeds.

Utilizing our Royal Children’s site the first aid for nose bleed is as follows:-

- **First Aid**

  Your child may be very distressed and upset by the sight and taste of blood during a nosebleed. Try to reassure your child and tell them that they will be fine or that ‘everything is ok’. They may be frightened that there is something seriously wrong.

  Crying will make the bleeding worse, so firstly it is important for you to calm and soothe your child.

  **Follow these instructions:**

  - Sit your child upright in a comfortable position, slightly leaning forward.
  - Squeeze the lower, soft part of the nose with your fingers, a tissue or a cloth (your child can do this if they are older) for 10 minutes.
  - Applying an icepack or cool, wet cloth to the bridge of your child's nose may also be helpful.
  - Offer your child an icy pole or cold drink, this will cool them down and get rid of the 'yucky' taste of blood.
  - Encourage your child to 'spit' out any blood that has dripped from their nose into their mouth. Swallowed blood may make your child vomit and cause bleeding to continue or worsen.

© Kids Health Info
RCH, Melbourne
Important: DO NOT keep checking whether the bleeding has stopped by removing your fingers. The blood needs to clot and this takes time! Reading a book or watching a video is a good distraction for your child.

Have a clock handy so you can be sure 10 minutes has gone by. Release the nose and check if the bleeding has stopped (if the nosebleed continues then repeat the above process for another 10 minutes).

Once the bleeding has stopped, ensure your child doesn’t pick or blow their nose for 24 hours. Your child should not run around or play rough for a couple of hours after the nosebleed stops to prevent it from bleeding again.

You will find that leaning forward stops the blood from going down a child’s throat, and the pinching of the nose will assist greatly in stopping the bleed.

The website goes on to tell you what to do in case a nose bleed doesn’t respond to First aid - i.e.: see a Doctor for treatment, and talks of care at home and what other things to expect. Within the confines of this newsletter I shall keep it simple - if you would like further information click onto the above site and it will all be there for you.

Next week I’m very lucky to be off to the 5/6 camp – so you won’t be hearing from me until our last week of school.

Until then…. take care of your noses.

Catherine Fisers - School Nurse (and camp Nurse to be!) (R/N)

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**SCHOOL NURSE … cont***

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**CLASSIFIEDS** School Council accepts no responsibility for goods / services offered here

**Holidays by the sea or mountains.** Maranoa in Sorrento - Two bedroom apartment available from 12th January. 5 minutes walk to quiet, safe bay beach. Sleeps up to 6 with queen bed, double bunk and 2 singles. To book call Michelle on 0417 669269 or email m.rowsell@live.com.au


Music Lesson Enrolments Open For 2013.

Enrolments for music lessons with Cat Canteri are now open. Lessons on Drum-Kit (1 places only), Keyboard and Guitar are available. These are 20 or 30-minute individual lessons which are held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during school hours. m: 0432339255 e: catcanteri@yahoo.com.au  Bachelor of Music (Improv), VCA, The University of Melbourne. Ad. Dip of Music Performance, NMIT.

The Anxiety Disorders Association of Victoria presents “Deliberate self-harm: an information session for parents, teachers & carers”, presented by Jenny Furey, Psychologist. Thurs. 21st Feb. 2013. 7.30 – 9.30pm. Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre (Large Community Space) 5 Sargood Street, ALTONA, VIC (Melway Ref: 5 G11) Cost: $22 Non-Members, $12 ADAVIC members


Baseball Victoria Summer Tournament. Join BV’s Justin Huber & Bubbie Buzachero. 21-23 Jan. Essendon Baseball Club. 9am start (Drop off from 8am) Must be picked up by 6.30pm. Open to all player levels. Bring friends & family for a great day of training & games. Stay for morning or whole day. BYU food or order from Canteen. Contact: Baseball Victoria 9645 8000 or Justin.huber@baseballvictoria.com.au

Thornbury High School Boy’s Uniform. (In excellent condition purchased brand new from Academy Uniforms) Pullover – size 10 ($55), Black shorts - size 10 ($30), Polo Top (white) – xxxS x 2 ($18), Polo Top (gold) – xxxS ($20), Sports Shorts – xxS ($15), Track Pants – xxxS ($32), Track Top – xxS ($60), Cap ($7), School Bag – ($45), Contact: Linda 0409 175 699