**FROM THE PRINCIPAL....**

Dear Parents,

**School Musical DVD has Arrived**
Yesterday I picked up the musical DVD and I am very pleased with the quality. If you have pre-ordered you should receive your copy this week. 120th Celebration Commemorative Book copies are also available for purchase from the school office for $25. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, Eftpos, credit card and would make an excellent Christmas gift for grandparents or family friends and memento of a wonderful event.

**School Levies and charges for 2012**
I apologise for the incorrect School Nurse levy figure in last week’s Newsletter. As you can see increases have been kept to a minimum with only two aspects increasing - Essential Education Items: Classroom Consumables and the School Nurse Levy both by $10. Unfortunately, with the reduction per student of State Government funding in 2012 and rising costs there has had to be some increase in family school levies and charges.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essential Education Items: Classroom Consumables</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excursions</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Levy</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Nurse Levy</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Fund - suggested contribution</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$460</strong></td>
<td><strong>$480</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As Militsa Toskovska, the School Council President, notes in previous Newsletters that although the Education Department gives the School funds, it is a very tight budget, and hence the need for constant fundraising and the school fees.

The fees the school charges include a couple of areas which we, as a group, agreed are important for the learning and wellbeing of our children at Wales Street. With this in mind, a couple of years ago we proposed the hiring of a nurse for the school and also to introduce an ICT (Information Communication and Technology) levy to ensure children had access to quality learning and technology and the school nurse to address student health and wellbeing. Parent contributions to the Building Fund of over $40,000 have also been crucial over the past four years to ensure the improvements to student classrooms such as new white boards, painting and carpeting and air-conditioning. Next year, with this funding, we are planning with the increase to 23 classes rooms to revamp the St David OHSC building and repaint and install new air conditioners in all rooms, convert two new areas of the Speight Street building into grade 5/6 classrooms and create a new meeting room. It is an investment parents have made to their children’s education and the improvements to all classrooms, the staff room, and also the creation of the ICT Centre can be seen.

**School Structure for 2012**
I have now finalised the school structure for next year, we are anticipating 530-535 students with 23 classes grouped into 5 Professional Learning Teams (PLT's). There will be four straight Prep classes, seven 1/2 Year level classes, six 3/4 Year level classes and six 5/6 year level classes (see table below). Staff have now commenced the process of forming classes and this will be completed on the basis of their professional judgement, knowledge of the students and any information that you have provided. Sometimes staff cannot meet all parents’ requests but we will certainly make every effort to meet these requests.
Student Transfers for 2012
Apart from Year 6 students, could parents/guardians who currently have students attending Wales Street and are planning to transfer at the end of this year please notify the school office as soon as possible. It is vital that we have accurate information as it greatly influences planning of class numbers and staffing for next year. Class Formation, Staffing and School Structures will be organised over the next month in preparation for 2012.

After School Chinese Language Program
A reminder that the After School Chinese School has commenced this term with the lessons being offered free of charge and run from 3.45-5.30pm. This is a trial service in our school and from Term 1, 2012 charges will apply to use the program. Lessons for this program will be conducted in the Reading Room in the Wales Street building. With the reintroduction of Mandarin as one of our LOTE programs this year, this is a wonderful opportunity to support the school’s curriculum. Information about the program is available at the school office.

Christopher Sexton
Principal

Sick Bay Linen Duty
18/11/11 - Sarah Williams
25/11/11 - Olivia Millard
02/12/11 - Evelyn Gebhart

WSPS Facebook & Twitter
Wales Street now has a facebook page and a twitter account! We are looking to use social media to inform and engage Wales Street families. Comments and questions aligned with the Wales Street values of empathy, respect and integrity are welcomed and encouraged.

The Wales Street Facebook page can be found by searching “Wales Street Primary School (Official)”. Alternatively, you can follow the link from the home page of our website. You can also follow us on twitter @wsps3139.

Good luck to all our Triathlon teams who will compete in the District triathlon tomorrow at Northcote Aquatic Centre. We have 115 students participating in teams of three either swimming 100m, running 1km or cycling 2km. Any parents or family members who want to come along and support our teams are most welcome! Events will start at 9.30am with the older students racing first.

Next Thursday we have 5 teams of eight students entered into the District Kanga Cricket comp at McDonnell Park, starting 9.30am. Kanga Cricket is a modified cricket game that encourages players to take on different roles throughout the match, giving them the opportunity to experience batting, bowling, wicket keeping and fielding. Once again anyone wanting to come and watch or help out the teams is welcome.

Thanks...... Anna de Vos - PE Coordinator
SAVE THE DATE
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MARKET
WSPS in the WALES STREET BUILDING
Monday 5 December 2011 from 6.30pm

The market stalls are filling fast and this year's event promises tonnes of great Christmas gift ideas. Lots of jewellery, handbags, soaps and skin creams, crafts, cards, candles, cakes and accessories. All of the stallholders will donate back to the school, so the more you buy the more we will get back for the kids.

The market is on the same night as the ABC Instrumental Concert so we encourage all the parents who are coming to watch the performances to also check out the market while you are at the school. Of course if you are not coming to the concert, please come along to the market with your shopping bags at the ready.

We would appreciate a gold coin donation on entry.

For any questions or to have a stall, please contact Leah Taylor on leah.taylor@straightshooter.com.au or call 0403 576 925.

ABC Music - END OF YEAR CONCERT
Wales Street Primary School in association with the ABC Music cordially invites parents and relatives to come along to our “End of Year Concert” for the keyboard students.

This is an opportunity for our students and teachers to show all their hard work and achievements during this year. The concert will be held on Monday 5th December @5.30pm at the school hall.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Megan & Melissa

SCHOOL AGE CARE (SAC)
IMPORTANT NEWS — Fee Increase
As of 1st February, 2012 (Term 1) there will be an increase in fees
The new fee structure will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>New Fee</th>
<th>Current Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before Care</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After Care</td>
<td>$14.00</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Finishes</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These changes were decided by the Before & After School Age Care Committee and then approved by School Council.

The changes to the pricing structure is to assist the service with the increasing costs of materials, food, staffing and to improving and dealing with the increasing licensing requirements the childcare industry faces.

FEE ASSISTANCE
The Australian Government helps families to pay for child care with two payments:
Child Care Benefit (CCB) & 50% out-of-pocket reduction to Child Care Rebate (CCR).

The main difference between the two payments is that CCB is income-tested, while CCR is not. This means that if your family income is too high for CCB, but you pass the work/study/training test, you can still get CCR.

All families are encouraged to contact the Family Assistance Office (FAO) on 13 61 50 to determine their eligibility to claim CCB & CCR.
LIBRARY NEWS…..

BOOK FAIR!

Our Christmas Book Fair continues ‘til the end of this week!

Monday 14th Nov to Friday 18th November

8.30-9.30am and 3-4pm daily

Thank you to all who have visited the Book Fair this week. We will be open until Friday 18th Nov at 4pm.

If you have not been able to get to the Book Fair, you can log onto the SCB website at www.scb.com.au and purchase using the promo code, which is wales. This means your purchase will be put towards this Book Fair when SCB is calculating our commission.

Orders taken and paid for during the Book Fair, should be ready for arranged pickup or delivered to classrooms, by next Wednesday at the latest. There may be one or two outstanding orders at that stage, due to low warehouse stock.

Borrowing stops in the last week of November in the Library, and Home Reading area. This allows Trevor, Sotiroulla, parents and myself, to mend, weed, refile, stocktake and order new items as required within these collections.

- All Home readers have to be back by Dec 2nd
- All Library books have to be back by Dec 2nd

During the final week of November, I will be sending to class teachers, lists of all outstanding student loans. I will be sending out notices for monies owing on lost books in December. Please look in all those strange places that may be housing your lost book before this time.

We suggest that students visit their local public Library to borrow a book for class silent reading or alternatively, bring a named book from home. There will be a box of Christmas/ Holiday themed books available in the Library for class teachers to borrow to read to their classes during December.

Sallie McCleery

CLASSIFIEDS School council accepts no responsibility for goods / services offered here

Kinder Vacancies at Fairy Hills Kindergarten.
Fairy Hills Kindergarten in Ivanhoe has a new building and is running extra classes in 2012. There are still some places left for next year's 3 & 4 year old classes. Ring 9499 5429 for info. 3yr old enrolments are made via the kinder, whereas 4 y.o enrolments are handled by the Banyule Council Kinder enrolment officer, 9457 9954.

LITTLE BOLTERS ...where fun comes 1st FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
Arrange:5.45pm. Canteen will be open at this time for refreshments and BBQ. Start Time:6.00pm, Finish Time:8.00pm.
Venue: Collingwood Little Athletics Track (George Knott Reserve Heidelberg Rd, Clifton Hill), wear:T-Shirt, shorts, leg-ins, running shoes... whatever you feel comfortable in. For: Anyone who is aged 5-12yrs old can join in the fun of Little Bolters. You don’t have to be a member to participate. Cost: $5 per child or $10 family wishing to participate.(CLAC members free). Program involves races, coaching & nonstop activity in all athletics events. The day will conclude with relay team events where all can join in the fun. More info:Contact Mark Buttifant 9482 9227

Holiday House
Wales St family has a holiday house for rent at Ventnor Phillip Island. Ideal for 2 families, sleeps up to 12 in 5 bedrooms. Large, fully fenced, pet friendly yard ideal for children. More info www.orchardbythesea or call 0419 346 120 20% discount for Wales Street families.

Getaway— Perfect for a great school holiday break or relaxing weekend. Escape to Phillip Island in a modern 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom house, suitable for 2 families, with big screen LCD, coonara, reverse cycle air con & fabulous outdoor entertaining area with bbq. Enjoy lots of fun activities & attractions that are close by. See property at http://www.rentphillipisland.com.au/accommodation/979 but enquire & book direct through Sarah on 0419 872 480 for a discount.

**Christmas Concert**

**Bushwahzee Bush Xmas**

**Monday 12th of December, 2011**

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 day program varies from the Bush Cabaret to include preps (mock) busking and singing "We Wish You A Happy Xmas, Aussie Jingle Bells (Dashing Through the Bush In A Rusty Holden Ute), John Lennon's "And So This Is Xmas", The Jingle Bell Waltz and bush dances that reflect Xmas themes.

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 all classes will be involved in workshops and rehearsals during the day ready for a fabulous performance in the evening. What a way to celebrate the end of the year!

Permission/payment notes for the workshops will be sent home with children this week.

**Bring your picnic tea, a blanket, your dancing shoes and your Christmas cheer!**

**The performance will commence at 6pm on the oval (weather permitting).**