FROM THE PRINCIPAL….

Dear Parents,

Water Safety Information
Please read the Water Safety Information contained in Catherine’s School Nurse Report this week. I know many of the students are very competent swimmers, however, the open ocean, lakes, rivers and dams are very different from swimming pools. Holiday times are times were parents and guardians also want to relax; however, holidays are notorious for students accidents so have a read through and make your children aware of the dangers and issues around water safety.

Updated School Structure for 2012
Last week I indicated that we would have 23 classes for next year, however, after reviewing the numbers in the 5/6 area we have decided to make a change to class compositions. Although my preference is for composite classes, these need to be, roughly, even numbers in each year level. Next year in the 5/6 area there will be 52 year 6 and 87 year 5. Clearly, there are too many year 5 students to make even classes and we have therefore decided to run two straight year 5 classes rather than six 5/6 composites. Staff have now commenced in earnest the process of forming classes and this will be completed on the basis of their professional judgement and knowledge of the students of any information that you have provided. Sometimes staff cannot meet all parents’ requests but we will certainly make every effort to meet these.

Updated School Structure for 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialists</th>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>1/2</th>
<th>3/4</th>
<th>5/6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Prep</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music / Performing Arts</td>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Prep</td>
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<td>5/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Prep</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No of classes:</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

End of Year Events
Please note that there are a number of school events listed before the end of the school year. Could you check the Calendar of Events section in the Newsletter so you don’t miss out as I know things get really busy between now and Christmas.

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 @wspss3139.
**Calendar of Events**

- **24-26/11/11** Expedition
- **1/12/11** China Café 3:30-5:00pm
- **5/12/12** ABC Music Concert 5:30pm
  - Xmas Shopping Market 6:30pm
- **12/12/11** Bush Wahzee Bush Xmas Workshops
  - & Concert 6:00pm
- **14/12/11** Parliament Exc: 56A/56B
- **19/12/11** Grade 6 Graduation
- **21/12/11** Funfields Toboggan Park Exc: Gr 5/6
- **22/12/11** Last Day of Term – students will be dismissed at **1,00pm**

**2012**

- **02/02/12** School Begins for Grades 1-6
- **03/02/12** School Begins for Preps

**Meeting Dates & Times**

- **29/11/11** Finance 7:00pm
- **30/11/11** School Council 7:00pm
- **5/12/11** Events 7:00pm
- **6/12/11** Facilities 7:15pm
- **7/12/11** Policy & Strategic Planning 7:15pm
- **9/12/11** SAC (OSHC) 8:00am
- **14/12/11** School Council 7:00pm

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**Sick Bay Linen Duty**

- **25/11/11** - Olivia Millard
- **02/12/11** - Evelyn Gebhart
- **09/12/11** - Sharyn Petrevski
- **16/12/11** - Anna Mathioulakis

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**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 - ABC Music Teachers

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**Missing School Tops**

4 x school jumpers missing, all are named, belonging to Elenia & Jorden Giacomi.

Parents please check labels on school jumpers/clothing and return to the office if found. Thank you.

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**Lunches To Grow Has Now Closed**

TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL CUSTOMERS

As you may have heard from your School Council, Lunches to Grow has ceased to operate.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have used the service at any time, particularly those who have used LTG on a weekly basis; your customer loyalty has been very much appreciated by all of us here at LTG.

😊
**China Café**

The 2011-2012 Wonky Dragons invite you to our next China Café. We would love to see you there. Our last Café was amazing. Thanks for your support in getting our China Trip organised.

**Where:** Assembly Hall  
**When:** Next Thursday 1st December, 3.30-5.00pm  
**What:** Spiders, milkshakes, tea and coffee, yummy treats.

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**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.
School Nurse Report

Hello Everyone,

Next week is “Water Safety Week”- organised by Aquatics and Recreation Victoria. Water Safety is always a relevant and important subject, but it’s also something that we need to think about and brush up on, particularly as the Summer Holidays loom. You may have noticed at your local swimming pool new regulations about young children – it’s a program titled “Watch around Water”, whereby parents need to be within arm’s length of their young children at all times. Northcote Pool has the little ones wearing an identification bracelet during their swim to further promote safety.

“Aquatics and Recreation Victoria have instituted new policies in relation to young children around the water, which have been brought into the YMCA. Watch Around Water is an important campaign that is mandatory in its following. If your child is under the age of 5, you need to notify reception. Your child will then be given a wrist band so that centre staff are aware of the ages of most of the children in the pool. All children under the age of 5 MUST BE accompanied by a parent/guardian in the water with them. If your child is in the water unaccompanied, they will be removed from the pool by the lifeguard/management. All children between the ages 5-10 must be closely (at arms length) supervised by a parent/guardian. This policy is in your children’s best interest, so please be sure to follow it.”

Further to “Water Safety Week “information, I scrolled through the website......
http://www.aquaticsandrecreation.org.au/watersafety , which is absolutely full of information. This can be quite daunting – however, I found a” Water Safety Guide” that encapsulates everything quite nicely. This guide looks at Water safety signs, Pool safety, Inland Water safety, River safety, Beach safety-it even gives the list of Patrolled beaches in Victoria! Love that! Rip currents, Surfing/body boarding, rock fishing and Boating safety are covered too. It sounds extensive, but it’s not at all -all areas are covered succinctly and clearly. Most importantly there is a Reuscitation Plan on the second last page. Emergency information, weather reports, beach reports and such are on the last page. Attached to this Newsletter is a downloadable version of the 2010/2011 Victorian Water Safety Guide. It’s very good. I also have a hard copy in the First Aid room if you wish to peruse it that way. I highly recommend you read it.

I hope you have a lovely week, stay safe. Until next week.....

Catherine Fisers - School Nurse

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**SCHOOL AGE CARE (SAC)**

**FEES/INVOICES**
As we are fast approaching the end of the year, can I remind families to collect their final statement in their individual family pocket located on the wall near the entry door at Before & After School Age Care (SAC). Account statements have been charged to THURSDAY 22nd DECEMBER (4 weeks in advance) allowing families sufficient time to settle their account.

All accounts must be finalised in FULL by MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER.

If accounts are not settled, the fee statement will be forwarded to the Debt Recovery Agency (Pruscha) for collection of fees. The payment of the Credit Agency will be paid by the family and not the program. Families will not be able to continue to use the program in 2012 until their account is settled. (see fee policy)

**ENROLMENTS FOR 2012**
Please collect your 2012 enrolment form and booking slip from the program. All families who wish to use the program next year are required to fill out a new annual enrolment form & booking slip.

One form for each child must be completed and returned with $10 per family administration fee.

**IF FAMILIES DO NOT RE-ENROL FOR 2012 THEN THE PROGRAM WILL ASSUME THAT YOU WILL NOT REQUIRE CARE FOR NEXT YEAR.**
LIBRARY NOTES…..

BOOK FAIR
All other books have been delivered to classes or are ready for pick up from the Library, today Thursday 24th November or next week, Tuesday 29th Nov - Thursday 1st December.

Thank you to all who visited the Book Fair last week. We had excellent sales and the Library will benefit next year with a cheque that will enable us to purchase lots of new books on top of our allocated budget.

END OF YEAR
Library books need to be returned to the Library by next Friday, December 2nd. After this time, we will shelf check and send out notices to “Please pay” for a replacement copy of any lost books. Staff will have a list in the classroom of books on loan to each child at the end of today, Thursday 24th November.

Home Readers are also all due back by December 2nd, so that the process of sorting, mending and searching for lost books can begin.

Please make an effort to search your house for Wales Street PS books and return them to the school as it is very time consuming to chase after lost books and we still have to sort, mend, weed and clean these collections before Dec 22nd.

VICTORIAN PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE
Trevor has received the certificates for those children who completed the Challenge successfully. Please realise that to complete the challenge you needed two thirds of your list to be “Challenge” books and up to one third of the list “Choice books”.

Depending on the class, the certificates may be going into Portfolios or being sent home with students.

Thanks,

Sallie, Trevor and Sotiroulla.

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

CHRISTMAS TREES

Encouragement Swim Meet.
Northcote swimming club in conjunction with the YMCA Charity Open Doors is holding an encouragement swim meet on the Sunday 11th of December beginning at 8.15am at the Northcote Pool. Events include freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly, and are 50m in length. Age groups include 8 and under, 9, 10 11,12, 13, 14 and open. Entry is $4.00 per event with all proceeds going to the Open Doors Charity. Entries from swimmers who can swim 50m are welcome and encouraged. No registration or membership of the club is required for this meet so if you enjoy swimming come along and have a fun morning having a go. For further information go to http://www.northcoteswimclub.org/news/2011springandsummerupdate and check out the flyer for the invitational meet at the bottom of the page or ring Cath Lescun on 0408568003.

Carols in All Nations

LITTLE BOLTERS …where fun comes 1st FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
Arrive: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
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).

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

FOR SALE
*"Giant" via adult bicycle, brand new $270 *Peg Perego high chair $45 *Children’s ‘park-bench’ style table (flips over becomes a see-saw) seats 4+ kids $40 *2 white bed rails, suit all bed types $35 each
Contact Helen 0422 166 062

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 0438 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.


FOR SALE: King Furniture chaise lounge, brown leather, 4 years old. As new RRP $1200, price $700. Call Angela 0417 300 848.