FROM THE PRINCIPAL….

Dear Parents,

Commencement of Term 4
Welcome back everyone and I hope you all had a wonderful break. Much has happened over the holidays around the school. Playground safety markings have been completed as has the bike shed enclosure which will greatly improve storage and security. The refurbishment of the 5/6 area was also completed with the installation of sound proofing doors and refurbishment of the third story classroom.

If you are a Geelong supporter life has been particularly enjoyable over the past week and my commiserations to Collingwood followers. I was particularly impressed with the gracious sportsmanship of the Collingwood Football Club president, Eddie McGuire, who although would have been extremely disappointed at the loss, made the effort to visit the Geelong rooms and to congratulate the Geelong team on their win.

Schools are not as so fiercely competitive and are kinder places but, there are lessons there for everyone about the importance of having a clear goal, strategic and long term planning, teamwork, hard work, determination and the development of skills in order to reach your goals and in being able to ‘be the best you can be’.

Planning for 2012
I am anticipating that next year we will conduct 23 classes and have an enrolment of approximately 535 - 540. Currently, the enrolment is 506 students with 21 classes. Apart from Year 6 students, could parents/guardians who currently have children attending Wales Street and are planning to transfer at the end of this year please notify the school office by next Friday 21st October. 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 during October in preparation for 2012. The Prep orientation program begins next week and Class Formation, Staffing and School Structures will be organised over the next month in preparation for 2010.

Staff Planning for 2012 and New Staffing Appointments
During this term I will be working with staff and School Council to finalise class arrangements, set budgets and plan activities for next year and to appoint additional staff. This is how the process works. I have received an ‘Indicative Student Resource Package (SRP) for 2012 from DEECD of over 3.4 million dollars. This may sound like a lot of money but it is to cover salaries, many of the education infrastructure costs, facilities upkeep, energy running costs, water etc. The $ figure is linked to enrolment but is influenced by inflation, pay rises, State Government policies and initiatives. Unfortunately, the funding has only been increased by 1% for 2012 which is well below inflation. For 2012 there are a number of staff positions that will need to be advertised from short term 1 year contacts to ongoing positions. I will now start working with staff and the School Council Finance Committee to plan and finalise staffing, classes and budgets and am hoping to have this completed by the 16th December.

Policy and Process of Class Groupings
This year I will again be following the process that has been developed over the past few years of class grouping arrangements to ensure the transition of students from one year and class level to another is as positive and beneficial as possible. As part of this process parents are now being invited to write to me by Friday 4th November to indicate information and aspects such as friendships or relationship issues that should be taken into account by staff in forming classes. Please address the letter to me Christopher Sexton Principal Wales Street Primary School and headed “Parent Request for Student Placement Considerations 2012”.

Please do not leave it until after the cut off date as information will be too late to be considered by staff.
After the closing date for submissions the staff will then commence the process of class formation. Decisions will reflect our best professional thinking and judgements, as well as taking into consideration parent information; in making the most appropriate class grouping for your child/ren. It will also be linked with the deployment/employment of staff in line with their experience and school priorities.

Sometimes things are not as perfect as you would like them but that’s life and that is often where the greatest learning occurs from adversity. As a young parent myself I use to try and ensure that my children never had any negative experiences and everything was as perfect as I could make it in their lives, however, as I started to watch them grow and develop I realised that not only could I not do this but it was not a good idea. That in fact they usually learnt more from overcoming difficulties than avoiding them.

I therefore ask that parents and students respect these professional decisions. Sometimes schools delay providing this information to the last minute to parents to avoid this possibility of parents ‘negotiating’ a change of class. I believe if staff are provided with sufficient time to plan and parents and students have had their input taken into account then the staff professional judgements will not be altered.

It is a very complex and careful process and next year there will be 23 classes and from past experience not everyone will be pleased with all the outcomes regarding class student groupings or allocated teaching staff. Staff take into account not only parent and student friendship group information/desires but also academic skills and gender balance as well as existing relationship issues between students. It is very much a balancing act at times to create the best match ups and class groups within the school at all levels.

I plan to have information to parents and students as to the structure and staffing of the school by the 16th December. I used to also release full grade lists, however, with the advent of privacy laws and societal attitudes to the publishing of such information that is, unfortunately, no longer possible.

School Production DVD
A reminder that orders for the DVD - Celebrating 120 years of Music at Wales Street PS - are to be returned to school by Friday 14th October (tomorrow). Sherrill has composed a wonderful mural of the event outside the stairwell of the Speight Street building so if you have a chance, have a look. Thanks also for the many positive comments from parents and grandparents who attended the School Production it is much appreciated by the staff. It was a real team effort by every staff, students and parents.

Alumni Report
Term 4, 120th School Anniversary Celebrations - The Alumni Association has planned a range of events and activities this term that will appeal to all the Wales Street Primary School Community – Past & Present, Student & Staff, Parents & Guardians. The major focus will be over the weekend of Saturday 22nd & 23rd of October, when we will officially mark the school’s 120th Year and invite everyone to join in the celebrations. I have outlined below the events that will run over the course of the weekend. Further details will be provided on our website and in our newsletter as we draw closer to the event.

FOUNDING WEEKEND 22nd and 23rd October 120th CELEBRATIONS
Saturday 22nd of October, 2011 Open Day
Venue: Wales Street Primary School
Time: 2pm to 4pm
To include: School Tours, Open Classrooms, Display of the School’s Photographic Collection dating back to 1891 and Afternoon Tea in the School Hall.

Saturday 22nd of October : Wales Street Primary School Celebration Ball - Has had to be cancelled.

Sunday 23rd of October, 2011 Family BBQ & Fun Day
Venue: Wales Street Primary School
Time: 12.30pm to 4pm
Food & Drink Stalls, Live Bands & Entertainment, Games for children, Display of the School’s Photographic Collection dating back to 1891 and the School will officially commemorate its 120th year with the laying of the 120th Time Capsule.

To assist us with our preparations I ask you to return your Expression of Interest in attending the following events by next Friday 21st October.

Wales Street House Swimming Carnival Tuesday 25th October
The Wales Street House swimming Carnival is taking place Tuesday 25th October at the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre. The event will run from 10am till 2pm. Students will walk to and from the event. All students from grades 3-6 are being invited to swim for their house teams. The swimming carnival is also an opportunity for students to be timed in preparation for the 2012 District swimming sports, as well as the 2011 district triathlon.

Any student wishing to participate must be able to CONFIDENTLY swim 50m unassisted. Students will be allowed to choose which events they compete in.
Students will have the opportunity to swim Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly. As we will be recording each student’s time we are asking for parent helpers to assist with this task.

Anyone able to help with this could you please contact Anna at the school on 9484 3949.

On the day students will need:
- to wear their bathers and bring a change of clothes,
- a towel,
- Goggles (if required)
- lunch, a labelled water bottle
- hat/sunscreen

As students will be competing for their House, they are encouraged to wear house colours to support their team.

We will need as many parent helpers as possible on the day to ensure accuracy when recording the students' times, so any time you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

Any queries please contact Anna de Vos the PE co-ordinator.

School Sun Smart Policy Hats now required
A reminder that it is now after the 1st September and under the school Sun Smart policy all students should be wearing broadbrim hats. The Wales Street Primary School Sun Smart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff of the school are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun see http://www.walesstps.vic.edu.au/image/ak9t/WSPS_Sun_smart_policy.pdf

To help implement this policy we ask parents to assist by ensuring their children have a labelled school broad brimmed or bucket hat (with a brim of at least 6cm) which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (recess, lunch, sport, excursions, camps and the Out of School Hours program) from September 1st until May 1st. Could parents also:
- Encourage your children to wear sunglasses.
- Encourage the children to bring and apply a broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen, SPF 30+.
- Encourage the use of available areas of shade for outdoor activities, the drinking of water and appropriate play activities on hot days.
- Act as role models by practising Sun smart behaviour.

Commencement of an After School Chinese School
I am pleased to be able to announce that starting on Tuesday, 18th October; Wales Street Primary School will commence offering Chinese School from 3.45 -5.30 pm. The 2011 Term 4 classes will initially be offered free of charge as we trial this 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.

Xin Jin Shan Language and Cultural School Inc who will be conducting the program and is the largest Chinese school in Melbourne and has access to a large number of fully qualified outstanding Chinese teachers with experience teaching both Chinese and non Chinese students. They have been offering Chinese courses for 20 years and aim to also encourage mutual respect and understanding among people of different cultural backgrounds. For further information their web address is http://www.xjs.vic.edu.au/html/studentworks/view_183.html.

Their teaching methodology integrates language learning with cultural understanding and in addition to language learning, the program also includes painting, dancing, cooking, singing, games and handicraft.

The program coordinator is Joanna Liu and she can be contacted on 9888 1688, for further information.

If you would like to enrol your child in this free trial program for Term 4, enrolment forms can be obtained from the school office and this must be completed and returned to the school office.

Christopher Sexton
Principal
Sick Bay Linen Duty
14/10/11 - Simon Negrelli
21/10/11 - Jackie Chalker

Prep-2 Swimming Program
Term 4
Preps: Wednesdays 19/10/11 - 7/12/11
1/2’s: Fridays 21/10/11 - 9/12/11

Prep 2012 Orientation
➢ Thursday 20th October 9:15-10:45am
➢ Thursday 27th October 9:15-10:45am
➢ Thursday 3rd November 9:15-10:45am

P.E. NEWS
This term is already a big one for the PE program. Tuesday this week we had 15 students represent Wales Street in the Darebin divisional Athletics Championships, in Epping. Of the 15, 9 students will return next Tuesday to compete in the Regional Athletics championships. Jack Hart, Marcel Laidlaw, Pip Reihana, Luke Garganis: 4x100m relay, Pip Reihana: Triple jump, Ellie Christopoulos: High Jump, Emily Williams: High jump, Maryellen Matsas: Hurdles and 100m, Mia Thorley: 1500m, Isabelle Fletcher: Discus. Congratulations to all our competitors many of whom placed in the top four in their events and only just missed out on a spot in the regionals.

At the end of last term we set a very exciting Wales Street record: Most number of students skipping rope with a partner. Well done to all the students who participated and made the event a memorable one. Just a reminder that all money raised for the Heart Foundation needs to be returned this week to your classroom teacher.

Tuesday 25th October we will be having our Wales Street House swimming carnival at the Northcote aquatic centre. The carnival is open to all students in grades 3-6 and will be used as an opportunity for students to have their times recorded for the 2012 district swimming, as well as this year’s District Tri-athlon, to be held Friday 18th Nov.

To ensure that all times are recorded accurately we are asking for lots of helpers! Any parents or family members who are able to assist with the swimming carnival please contact me at school on 9484-3949.

Thanks,
Anna de Vos - PE Coordinator

FOUR YEAR OLDS TRANSITION TO WSPS FOR 2012
Come along and enjoy a play at Johnson Park, Bastings Street Northcote with our 4 year olds commencing WSPS in 2012 on: SATURDAY OCTOBER 15th at 2 PM (this Saturday) - BRING A SNACK SIBLINGS WELCOME. RSVP - MAGIO - O410 127 363 EMAIL: mayio@mac.com
Out of School Hours Care

Hats
Please bring in your hats because it is hat season. Cangie and Vanessa or any other staff members are not giving out spare hats. If you do not bring a hat to after care you will not be able to play outside.

Drink bottles
Could all children please bring a refillable drink bottle to after care as the days will get very hot and we will need to drink lots of water.

Active After School Sports
This term Cangie has booked two coaches. Lacrosse will be on Mondays and dance will be on Thursday. The coaches will be here between 4 to 5 o’clock.

Recycled art
We would really appreciate some old fizzy drink bottles to use for moulds with our recycled paper.

By Isabella and Rebecca!

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

Creative Arts After School Program – Judith Jackson Joyce
This is an opportunity for your son or daughter to extend their art experience, be inspired by new and familiar techniques and creative themes. The art classes this term will cover fine art methods, craft techniques and sculpture. I am bringing some Tuscan inspired painting methods to the class this term and Florentine medieval mosaic themes. Call Judith on 9480 1015 for further details.

Northcote Town Hall Children’s and Baby Market
Northcote Town Hall’s popular Children’s and Baby Market is on again, with over 30 indoor stalls selling both hand made and second hand children’s and baby goods including clothes, toys, accessories and equipment. Whether you’re after that something special or that special bargain for the little folk in your life, this is the place for you!
5 November, 9am - 1pm, 189 High Street Northcote 3070, Melway: 30 E9

Once Upon a Family Family Art Making Experience.
A unique, co-facilitated program that brings families together through creativity. Once Upon a Family provides the opportunity to experience the satisfaction and contentment that results from shared creative moments. Themes include: masks, puppets, play spaces, treasure boxes, etc. The program increases concentration and creative thinking, protective factors in resilience. It provides new pathways for re-engaging in family life in ways which foster rich and deep experiences. Parents are given the opportunity to learn and incorporate creative and mindful approaches to their parenting skills repertoire.
Where: The Learning Centre, CERES, Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies, Corner Stewart and Roberts Streets Brunswick East, Saturdays 2.30pm-4.00pm (beginning sat 22nd Oct), Cost: $100 per family, per session
To secure your family’s place in this program facilitated by qualified professionals, please ring: Jane 0438 347 833, Bernadette 0417 351 677

The 1st Princes Hill Secondary College Fundraising Art Auction
Friday 21st of October, viewing from 6pm, bidding from 7pm.
Princes Hill Secondary College Theatre, Arnold Street, Princes Hill. All artworks are by established artists who have close connections to PHSC.

The Australian Girls Choir Open Day invitation for P-6 girls
Sunday the 23rd of October. Our Open Day gives girls the opportunity to join a complementary tryout class, see the choir in action and for parents to attend an information session to find out more about the Australian Girls Choir.
Locations in Melbourne; Box Hill, Caulfield North, Cheltenham, Essendon, Ivanhoe, Kew, Lower Templestowe and Ringwood.
For more info ph: 9859 6499 or visit www.aspagroup.com.au
Hello Everyone,

Welcome to Term 4 – the term of sunshine. We should all be happily wearing our hats now, having checked the attachments are secure, and release easily if pulled. A full water bottle nearby will help concentration and hydration during these warmer days also.

Did you know that this week is Mental Health Week? World Mental Health day fell on Monday the 10th of October.” Mental Health Week aims to activate, educate and engage Victorians about mental health through a week of interactive events across the state including an official launch, community festivals, art exhibitions, music, theatre and seminars” Their website www.mentalhealthvic.org.au has all the dates and places for the many activities that are on-they approach subjects such as depression, anxiety, support groups, healthy living etc. One event you may be familiar with it’s the Open Mind Fiesta - it’s now held along High street Preston and has “Live music, performers, local businesses, community groups, craft stalls, children’s rides, and fabulous food “ – that’s on this Sunday!

I have 3 copies of “A resource book For Good Mental health- “Taking care of Yourself and your family” It’s the 11th Edition and covers topics such as depression, anxiety, recovery from trauma ,stress and grief. It’s simple but comprehensive. I will leave the 3 books at the office window for your perusal or ownership if you so wish.

I’ve also discovered an “app” you may well be interested in:-

“The Better Health Channel has launched a free iPhone and iPad application that can help busy parents find information on health issues, first aid and the nearest medical service in an emergency, wherever they are. The app gives access to comprehensive, reliable and easy to understand information that has been quality assured by medical experts. Users can search for medical conditions by category, body part or by using an A–Z index and email it to their friends and family. The app's ‘find a health service’ function allows you to locate nearby health service providers including doctors, dentists and pharmacists – and view detailed directions on how to get there. Users can also access first aid information for conditions such as heat stroke, hyperthermia, burns and insect bites and important contacts for medical emergencies.

For more information, see: Better Health Channel – iPhone and iPad App” Oh yes...and it’s free. Love it!

Last term I asked if parents had any words of wisdom for our new 2012 prep parents –any information can be left on my desk and I will happily pass it on during my presentation during Prep Orientation week.

Hope yours is a lovely week,

Catherine Fisers - School Nurse

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**LOST PROPERTY: WARNING!**

ALL CLOTHES (WITHOUT LOGO) WILL BE PLACED IN THE YELLOW CLOTHING BIN NEAR THE SPORT SHED AND DONATED TO CHARITY IF NOT COLLECTED BY NEXT THURSDAY (20TH OCTOBER 2011).

ALSO, THERE IS AN INCREASING AMOUNT OF LOST UNIFORMS IN BOTH BUILDINGS. PLEASE CHECK IF YOUR CHILD’S MISSING ANY ITEMS. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO CHECK THE NAME LABELS SO AS NOT TO TAKE ANYONE ELSE’S UNIFORM. THANK YOU, SKYE
Parvovirus B19
(Slapped Cheek or Fifth Syndrome)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There have been reports of Parvovirus (slapped cheek) in the grade 1\2 area.

Slapped cheek syndrome is a viral infection caused by the parvovirus B19. It is also called fifth disease or erytherma infectiosum. It usually affects children between the ages of 4 to 10 but can happen at any age, even in adulthood. Six out of ten people in the population have had the virus by the time they are adults. It is not life threatening and complications are rare.

Signs and Symptoms
- It may be between 4 to 14 days after getting the virus before any symptoms begin
- Symptoms are mild. Many people don't even know they have had the virus.
- The first symptoms can include fever, headache, stomach upsets, aches and pains. This is the time when the virus can be spread to others.
- A bright red rash appears on the cheeks 3 to 7 days later. The cheeks look like they have been slapped.
- Your child may also have a different rash on the chest, back, arms and legs. It looks like a pink lace pattern on the skin. The rash can come and go for several weeks, especially if the skin is exposed to sunlight or after exercise.

Causes
Slapped cheek is caused by a virus called the human parvovirus B19. This is different from the parvovirus that is seen in cats and dogs.

How it is spread
By touching or breathing in the coughed or sneezed fluid drops from an infected person.

Treatment
Most children do not need any treatment except for resting and allowing the body to fight the infection. Antibiotics will not work as it is caused by a virus.

Exclusion from school
No exclusion.

High Risk groups
Pregnancy: - Pregnant women need to see their Doctors if exposed to this virus. The risk is low as most women will have had the infection before pregnancy.
Compromised immunity: - those people being treated for cancer/severe asthma or Hiv/Aids need to see their Doctors for review.
Blood disorders:-ie: sickle cell anemaia, thalassaemia .people with these disorders will also need review.
Final CHESS TOURNAMENT #4

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

The final exciting interschool Chess tournament coming up! Here is the chance for your child to participate in a fun, safe activity. As there are only limited places available, first in gets to play! The event is fully supervised, but parents are required to make their own transport arrangements to and from the venue. Car pooling is greatly appreciated!

Date: Monday 17th October 2011, Time 9.15am - 2.00pm, Host School: Ivanhoe Primary School, 124 Waterdale Rd, Ivanhoe. Cost: $16.00 Cash or Cheque made out to “Chess World”.

Please leave payment and completed registration form at the school office no later than Monday 10th October. Unclaimed reservations must be surrendered on this day and your child will lose the chance to play if not registered via this form by the deadline.

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I give permission for my child ____________________________ in Grade__________ to play in the Ivanhoe Interschool Chess tournament on Monday 17/10/11.

Parent’s Name______________________________________________ Phone________________________

Mobile________________________ Email address__________________________

Date / / Signed___________________________

I look forward to seeing your child there.

Warm Regards, Jim Cannon - School Chess Coach

WSPS School Production

Celebrating 120 Years of Music at Wales Street

DVD Order Form

Parents have the opportunity to purchase a DVD of the WSPS School Production Celebrating 120 Years of Music at Wales Street that was held at Dallas Brooks Hall on Tuesday 13th September 2011.

If you would like to place an order please complete details below and return to school, together with your payment, by Friday 14th October 2011. (Delivery will be during term 4)

Please come to the office if you would like to pay by eftpos/credit card.

Number of DVD’s required…………………………… at $20 each = $…………………………

Child’s Name:____________________________________________________ Grade:_____________

Parent Name:__________________________________________________________


TEA TOWELS

Dear Parent / Carer,

As part of Wales Street Primary School 120th celebrations, the school is running a popular group tea towel project to help raise funds for a Kitchen Garden.

The unique souvenir tea towels contain pictures drawn by all the students and staff. The pictures will be arranged into one commemorative design and will be screen printed onto high quality white tea towels.

There will be two tea towels produced: One for the Prep-2 area, and one for the Grade 3-6 area.

We chose this project because it involves the children, produces a wonderful memento and meaningful gift for parents, relatives and special friends. The tea towels look amazing, are so easy to post and make a fabulous reminder of your child’s early years. There is an example of a tea towel in the office foyer.

It is only $12.00 per souvenir tea towel. They can be ordered by sending the order form below, together with full payment, in an envelope clearly marked “TEA TOWELS” and returned to your child’s class teacher.

Everyone from the school will have a picture and their name included, so make sure you don’t miss out on this unique opportunity to preserve your child’s artwork and remember friends and teachers forever!

Final orders must be in by → Friday 28/10/11. Late orders will not be accepted.

Once orders arrive they will be given to children via their class teacher.

TEA TOWEL ORDER FORM

Final orders must be in by → Friday 28/10/11. Late orders will not be accepted.

Child’s Name: _________________________________________ Class: ___________

Prep-2 Tea Towel: Quantity__________ x $12 each = $________________

Grade 3-6 Tea Towel: Quantity__________ x $12 each = $________________

TOTAL Enclosed: $________________
WALES ST PRIMARY SCHOOL

FAMILY FUN DAY

120TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday 23rd October
12 – 4pm

An opportunity for all students, staff and parents to come along and celebrate the wonderful history of our school.

- Time Capsule ceremony at 12.15, Wales St Entrance
- Live Music: Shivering Timbers, One House Town, WSPS student performances
- Sausages, veggie wraps, cakes, Coffico coffee and drinks available to purchase
- Bring a picnic rug
- Games for kids
- Historical photographic exhibition
- WSPS Memorabilia for sale: mug, tea towel, retro t-shirt, commemorative book

To make the day fun we need some fabulous volunteers!!

Things to do/setup: BBQ, Stage, Tables & Chairs, Sizzle Sausages, Assemble Veggie Wraps, Serve.

Please volunteer some of your time. Fill out your details on the roster at the School Office, email the school, or call Maria Romnios 0407 999 270.
Victoria Walks to School (previously Walktober Walk to School) is on again! Victoria Walks to School day on **Wednesday 19 October** is an initiative to promote more walking in your school community.

**So come join in the fun and walk to school!** You can park your car a block or two away and get walking. You can skip, hop or dance your way to school!

Walking to school is an active and fun way to keep children healthy, connect with friends and neighbours, reduce traffic congestion, save money and help the environment.

In primary school, children become more independent in their travel – as pedestrians and cyclists. Parents/carers can help them prepare for increased independence by providing plenty of practical supervised experience in using the road safely and by modelling safe road use. Your children learn by watching what you do!

**Crossing the road safely - Stop, Look, Listen and Think**

Help your children understand the correct road crossing procedure – STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK.

- Hold an adult’s hand (for younger children)