FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

Semester 2 Reporting
Over the coming weeks, staff will be finalising assessments and completing report cards for Semester 2. As always, if you have any queries or concerns about your young person’s learning, please contact classroom teachers so that we can continue to work together to ensure every day, in every classroom, every student is succeeding. Reports for years Prep-Year 5 will be distributed on Wednesday, December 7 and Year 6 will receive theirs on Thursday, December 8 due to Wet’n’Wild excursion.

Hot Weather
The weather has certainly heated up quickly this term so a reminder that students are required to have a hat available not just for play time, but for outside learning activities. Sun cream is available at school, but it is highly recommended that sun cream be applied each morning before leaving for school so that children are protected. We appreciate your support with this. If your child suffers any reactions from sun cream, please let your child’s teacher know so that if is offered before an outside activity we have the most recent information for our students.

Smart Choices
Smart Choices is the name given to Education Queensland’s Healthy Eating policy that schools and P&C’s are bound by. It uses the traffic light system to identify foods: RED: only to be available twice per term and approved by the Principal; AMBER: to be consumed in moderation and GREEN: to be consumed often. School tuckshops are required to identify Amber and Green foods on the menu and are also required to offer more Green food options than Amber. I am currently working with the P&C to implement an updated version of the policy for 2017. If you ever have any queries about the food available at the tuckshop, please ask tuckshop staff for any clarification.

Celebrating Birthdays at School
It has always been a tradition in schools that some children celebrate their birthdays with the sharing of cake or food with classmates. This is a lovely tradition and one that we do not want to change for families that choose to celebrate this way. To ensure that we can keep the tradition and still comply with our Smart Choices policy, we will be developing a recipe book and tuckshop options that can be purchased and delivered to classrooms for such an event. This will be distributed at the beginning of 2017. This doesn’t mean that you can’t provide your own cakes (baked or purchased) but to cover this we will be seeking parent permission re: what you would like your children to consume if these celebrations occur in the classroom. This will include allergies, intolerances, sugar preferences and portion size. This is necessary as parents have the right to make informed decisions about their children’s diet and this enables us, as a school, to support those decisions while still permitting birthday celebrations involving food. I ask for your support with this so that we can continue this lovely opportunity for our students.

Student Leadership Applications Due
Student Leadership applications are due to the office, Wednesday, November 2. We are looking forward to the selection process and announcing our Captains, Vice Captains and House Captains for next year.

Kind Regards,
Linda Knight
Prep Enrolments for 2017 – LIONS (Learning In Our New School) Program

We were excited last week to hold the first of our LIONS sessions for our 2017 Prep students. The LIONS sessions (Learning in Our New School) are an opportunity for next year’s prep students and their parents to meet together, familiarise themselves with the school facilities, staff and community. If you have a child who is eligible to attend prep at Waterford State School in 2017 and have not yet completed an enrolment form and attended an enrolment interview please contact the school as soon as possible so that you can attend the LIONS sessions.

Hear and Say Centre – Hearing Screening – Prep Students

If you currently have a prep student attending our school this year you would have received a letter offering the opportunity for the Hear and Say Centre to conduct a screening hearing test. If you would like your child to participate in the screening process and have not yet returned your child’s Hear and Say Screening test forms please do so prior to Tuesday 1st November. The hearing screening will take place on Thursday 10th November here at school. Please contact the office for further details if required.

Sally Elsby

FROM THE Go...

CONFIDENCE

How Confidence Develops

For most children school means spending more time on learning and less on ‘play’. It also means more expectations of them – from parents, carers, teaching staff and also of themselves. Children typically start out with high expectations. When they see how well they do things compared to others, their view of their own abilities often changes. They learn that they are good at some things and not so good at others. They also see how others respond to what they do. These things influence their confidence in their abilities, and influence how willing they are to have a go in situations where they feel unsure.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

Confidence improves through building on small successes. Parents, carers (and teaching staff) can help by:

- explaining that skills develop with practice
- encouraging persistence when outcomes aren’t achieved straight away
- praising effort, persistence and improvement
- making sure that goals are achievable by breaking down large tasks or responsibilities into small steps
- being ready to help when necessary, without taking over
- encouraging children to have a go and valuing individual improvement

Confident Thinking

Self-esteem is an important part of confidence. Having good self-esteem means accepting and feeling positive about yourself. Confidence is not just feeling good but also knowing you are good at something. Remember: How I think affects how I feel.

Particular ways of thinking are very important for building confidence. Helpful ways of thinking include:

- believing that, if you try, you can succeed
- finding positive ways to cope with failure and being prepared to give it another go
- enjoying learning for its own sake by competing with your own performance rather than that of others.

Dealing with Disappointment

Everybody fails to achieve their goals sometimes. Parents and carers (and teaching staff) can help by:

- acknowledging feelings, and respond sympathetically and with encouragement e.g. “You sound disappointed, but at least you had a go.”
- helping kids focus on what they can change to make things better, rather than thinking that the situation is unchangeable or that there is something wrong with them, e.g., “What can you try that might make that work better next time?”
- challenging words like ‘I can’t’ or ‘I’m a failure’, and letting them know that ‘giving up’ may not help them reach their goal.

Let them know you believe in them and remind them of what they have achieved.

Adapted from: www.kidsmatter.edu.au

Traci McNicol & Julie Robinson
LIBRARY NEWS...

Book Club
Book Club orders have arrived and are now being distributed to students. We are very fortunate that so many students, parents and carers continue to support Book Club and our annual Book Fair. The benefits in encouraging reading are significant for students and the Library, thank you for your continued support. There will be a final Book Club for the year in November.

Book Exchange
The Book Exchange will be held outside the Library on Tuesday 29 November and Wednesday 30 November. The Exchange gives students the opportunity to swap some of the books they have finished reading for books that other students have finished reading. Reading over the long Christmas holidays is very important and a couple of books from the Exchange might provide the opportunity for practising reading skills as well as enjoying a good read!

Students are able to bring books in for exchange from Monday 31 October. Books should be given to their classroom teacher so that numbers can be recorded for each student. Those students bringing in multiple books have an opportunity to visit the Exchange before anybody else. While we understand that the books have been pre-loved, we do ask that they are in reasonably good condition with no scribble or missing pages.

Premier’s Reading Challenge
Congratulations to all students completing the Premier’s Reading Challenge and thank you to Mrs Warwick for organising it for us this year. Over 300 students completed the Challenge this year – what a fantastic community of readers! Certificates will be presented soon.

First Read Club
The First Read Club continues to meet on Wednesdays and Thursdays at second break in Term 4. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend some quiet time sharing different worlds and some brand new books! We really enjoy welcoming the regulars every week, but would also welcome new readers.

As we approach the end of the year, we would appreciate it if everybody could check at home for any library books that might be hiding out! Thank you!

Alison Johnson

FROM ENGAGEMENT TEAM...

Rule of the Week—Term 4 - Week 3

School Rule:  Be Safe — Acting Out the High Five

Rule of the Week—Term 4 - Week 4

School Rule:  Be Responsible — Listening to the High Five

Michael Skelton and Mary Edwards

INDIGENOUS NEWS...

Meet Australia’s first Aboriginal Rhodes Scholar, Rebecca Richards.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER...

To sign up for our electronic Newsletter please type the link below into the address bar of your browser. Australian Newsletter Services has made the signup process automated and only takes a few minutes when prompts are followed. Your email address will only be used to send out school electronic Newsletter and nothing else.


If you experience any difficulties please feel free to contact AustNews IT department on 1800 245 077 or email help@austnews.com.au.
AWARD WINNERS...

STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Term 4, Week 3

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SCHOOL BANKING...
Our school banking ladies are in dire need of volunteers to assist them with banking every Thursday morning. If you can spare an hour or so, please let Student Administration know of your interest.
STUDENT ADMINISTRATION...

Health Tip
Warmer weather is upon us and it is extremely important to keep hydrated. Please ensure that students come to school with a full water bottle and are reminded to drink throughout the day.

Sickbay
When coming to Sickbay with an injury or feeling unwell, please ensure you have a completed Sickbay Slip from your teacher, a Teacher Aide or a Teacher on duty.

There are quite a few students who present to Sickbay with extremely minor ailments (eg; tiny, non bleeding scratches, itchy bites, bruise from injury that occurred days ago) which do not need any form of Sickbay care. Parents/carers could you please talk with your children about appropriate reasons for attending Sickbay.

Late to school
Please ensure that you come to Student Administration to collect your late slip if you are late to school. Failure to do so will result in an absence text to parent/carer.

Absenteeism
If your child is expected to be absent from school, please ensure that you advise Student Administration at your earliest convenience via a phone call/message.

- Text Messages:
  If your child is absent from school without an explanation, a text message will be sent. Please ensure that a reply to this text is returned stating brief explanation.

P & C...

Volunteers Needed
Do you have a spare hour or two to help with various events at our school like setting up/cleaning up at school discos, helping with Mothers’ Day/Fathers’ Day stalls, or helping our tuckshop ladies? If so, please leave your name and contact details at the Administration Office and we will have a P & C representative contact you.

Expression of Interest
Next year the Treasurer position on the P&C Committee is open for nominations. If you are interested, please leave your details with Administration. Training for this position will be available with our current Treasurer.

Fund Raiser
Challenge........The first class to fill a 1.25L plastic bottle with 5 cent pieces only will receive a Pizza Party!!!! All monies collected go to the P&C for future projects for our school.

Christmas Raffle
The P&C would appreciate if families could donate non perishable items towards the prizes which will be made into hampers. Could all donations please be left at the Tuckshop. Tickets will be sent home on 2nd November, 2016 and will cost $1 a ticket. The winners will be drawn at the P-2 Christmas Concert on Wednesday 7th December, 2016.

Festive Season Carols Evening
This year the P&C along with the WSS Community will be holding a Festive Season Carols Evening on the 25 November, 2016. There will carol singing, student performances, face painting, food and drinks for sale and much more. Closer to the event a flyer will be sent home with more information.

Tuckshop...

Gala Day (Fri 28/10 and Fri 4/11) $5 meal Specials on Munch Monitor only.

Uniforms
If you order uniforms via Munch Monitors, please be aware that it may take upto 2 days for the uniform to be delivered via tuckshop basket.