Good Evening Everyone,

Welcome back to 2011!

It is really pleasing to note that the children have quickly settled back into the routines of school after the summer break. It was great to see almost all students fully complying with dress code on Wednesday – let’s keep up the good work.

Class Structures 2011
At present our enrolments are 113, with a possibility of one/two more students yet to join us.
As previously advised the class structures for 2011 are:
Kindergarten 12 students
Pre-Primary/Year 1 24 students
Years 2/3 22 students
Years 4/5/6 27 students
Years 4/5/6/7 28 students
The Year 2-3 students have been split into two separate groups each morning for Literacy and Numeracy instruction under the guidance of Mrs Kendrick/Miss Slatter and Mrs Flett.
Some additional teaching support time has been allocated to the two senior classes to allow for remedial and extension teaching with these students, as well as support to the teachers.
We welcome Mr Ian Logan as teacher of the Years 4-6 class and look forward to a year of settled staff to provide the best possible opportunities for all students. Mr Logan comes to us with an extensive teaching and sporting background and we look forward to his input to Walpole PS.

Building Constructions
Our new buildings are still not finished, however we are able to use the transportable and minor completion works are being undertaken including connection of the evaporative cooler (once Western Power has upgraded our power system).

The undercover area is now supposed to be ready for handover by 18 February – there are still a number of items require finishing including power and protective railings.

Student Update forms
A number of forms are being sent home and I ask that you complete and return these as soon as possible:
- a blanket excursion permission form for all land excursions within walking distance of School.
  Teachers will still be required to obtain separate permission forms where an excursion requires transport or if it involves aquatic activities.
- Student record update
- Medical information update.
If you have any concerns regarding these requests please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Doust or me.

Bell times are:
8.45am Warning Bell
8.50am School commences
10.40am Morning Recess
11.00am Second session commences
12.25pm Lunch
01.05pm Afternoon teaching begins
03.05pm School concludes
This configuration allows for 315 minutes of instruction each day (minimum is 310 minutes).
Kindergarten students attend from 08.50 – 12.00 noon on Mondays and Fridays and for the full day on Wednesdays providing for slightly more than the recommended minimum attendance time of 11 hours per week.

CANBERRA CAMP
THANKS to Ms Walker and parents for their support of the fundraising activities during the holidays. A camp newsletter will be sent home shortly detailing fundraising and calling a parent meeting.
A current version of the School Information Booklet has been posted on the School website: www.walpoleps.wa.edu.au
This booklet contains a lot of information that impacts on the day to day running of the School.

School Lunches
A new menu from Wooz and Suz will be sent home shortly – please note that we will not be able to organise lunch orders that are forgotten as **ALL lunches require cash payment**.

Friday lunches will resume this week and will be available on each subsequent Friday – an order form will be sent out early each week. Cost will remain at $2.00 per student and lunch will include a sandwich/plate of salad/etc plus a fruit drink and a piece of seasonal fruit. This week’s lunch is zucchini slice and salad.

School Fees
The School Council set the voluntary contribution fees for 2011 at:
**Kindergarten** $50.00 per child
**Years P-7** $25 per child
These fees enable the School to provide additional facilities to **all students** and parent support in making the contributions will be appreciated.
Thank you to those parents who have already made this payment.

Active After School Sport
Sessions will recommence in Week 3 on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons (Gymnastics at Rec Centre, Lawn Bowls at The Country Club and Karate at The Rec Centre respectively). Provision has been made for all students to have the opportunity to participate in at least two of these activities. Sessions will run from 3.30 – 4.30 pm each day under the coordination of Mrs Gardner and include an afternoon snack.
Parents of students participating are asked to collect their children promptly at 4.30pm. More details in due course.
We sincerely thank the Australian Sports Commission for their support of these activities.

**PUNCTUALITY and ATTENDANCE**
We ask that students arrive at School by 8.45am so that they are ready to commence instruction at 8.50am. This will avoid unnecessary disruption to learning caused by late arrivals.
It is important that students attend school every day that they possibly can. When students have had days off for what appear to be minor reasons they often perceive school to be unimportant or irrelevant. Please do not keep them home unnecessarily (eg their birthdays, or they don't feel like coming to school) as the number of absences over a period of time quickly accumulates and has a very negative effect on their academic progress.
Most research suggests that children who fall behind struggle to catch up with their schooling.

**Dress Code**
School Dress Codes have been mandatory since 2007 and should be observed by all students in Years Pre-Primary to Year 7 – Kindergarten students have been excluded from having to observe the policy. A copy of the code is available to all families enrolled at the School.
Please note that students MUST NOT wear denim (in any form) except as agreed to by the School (eg free dress day; working in the garden, etc). Whilst students do not have to wear Dress Code to/from School those who do not comply with the code will be asked to change into uniforms available at School for the duration of the school day. This includes wearing scarves, beanies, etc
Please also note that jewellery is to be kept to a minimum (no rings, one set of sleeper earrings) and that finger and toe nails are not to be painted.
Please also ensure that students are appropriately dressed for P.Ed lessons **each Tuesday** as they cannot wear Rossi boots or leather shoes if they go to The Recreation Centre.

**Outdoor Activities**
Sunscreen is available outside each classroom for students use. Teachers will not offer the sunscreen; students will need to exercise responsibility to remember its use.
As part of our dress code students require a broad-brimmed hat to participate in outdoor activities – students not able to meet this requirement will be required to undertake indoor work.
IN-SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS
The survey conducted late last term resulted in almost equal numbers of parents showing preference for Peaceful Bay and Coalmine Beach with a small majority preferring lessons in Term 4.
Accordingly the students will be offered lessons at Peaceful Bay in Term 4 – lessons will be completed in a one week block which was the least disruptive option for students and staff. Specific information will be provided in late Term 3.

SCHOOL COUNCIL
The Council will hold its first meeting on Monday 14 February. One of the main items will be further discussions on a submission to become and Independent Public School.
If you have any matters that you wish to have raised please either contact me or one of the School Councillors shown below:
Glen Burton Chair 9840 1332
Deanne Blake 9840 1849
Matt Wrigley 9840 1852
Antony Egerton-Warburton 9840 1636
David Edmonds 9840 1105
Karen Pascoe 0458140656
Julie Ewing 9840 1441

STUDENT STATIONERY REQUISITES
PLEASEx check that your child has all the necessary stationery items needed to be able to fully participate in all lessons. Some students have started the year without initial essential supplies. The basics for most classes are as follows:
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- 3 or 4 lead pencils
- a good wooden ruler
- set of 12 colouring pencils
- set of textas
- 3 or 4 red and blue biros (years 4 to 7)
- eraser
- library bag
Having all these items in good condition makes it easier for students to complete class work and be engaged in learning. Please check with your child to find out the condition of their stationery. Teachers will be conducting audits of student’s stationery over the next few days and sending home notes if there are required items missing from pencil cases.

“CLUB’ ACTIVITIES”
Following on from the success of Mrs Brodie’s sewing group last term, we will be offering students the opportunity to participate in an activity they choose from the range offered – there will be a limited number of students in each group. These activities will run each Wednesday for 5 or 6 weeks in the middle of each term.
Parents are requested to assist with the activities by contacting their child’s teacher indicating their area of expertise.
Some of the activities will require provision of materials by the students or may in some cases involve a small cash payment
In Term 1 activities will be run during weeks 5-10 (March 9 – April 13). In Term 2 students will be given the opportunity to try a different activity with previous non-participants being given preferential selection rights.
The following are the 2011 term dates for Government Schools.
Semester 1
Term 1 Wed 2 Feb – Tue 19 April
Term 2 Thurs May 5 – Fri July 8
Semester 2
Term 3 Tues July 26 – Fri Sept 30
Term 4 Tue Oct 18 – Wed Dec 14
If you have any matters that you wish to discuss with me please telephone to make a mutually convenient appointment – at present I have teaching responsibilities each morning. I can’t guarantee the answers that everyone wants BUT I will listen and endeavour to negotiate an acceptable solution or to investigate your concerns and get back to you!

Have a great fortnight.

Richard

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK
‘We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams.’

Jimmy Carter (1924-?) American statesman. 39th President of the USA.

"To get the rainbow, you've gotta put up with the rain."

Dolly Parton
**CANBERRA FUNDRAISING RAFFLE RESULTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Ticket No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>1673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>0641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>1557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>0766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>0206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth</td>
<td>1584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh</td>
<td>1441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eighth</td>
<td>1246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the P&C will take place at 7.00pm in the School Library on Wednesday 16 February. The doors on the ramp will be open to admit interested parents and community members.

**P & C AGM**

Wednesday 16th of February at 7pm

Walpole Primary school would like to invite all interested parents, guardians and community members to attend the Parents and Citizens Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 16th of February at 7pm at the school library.

At this meeting office bearers for the P&C Committee will be nominated and elected or re-elected for 2011. Following the election of office bearers a meeting will commence to discuss P & C business including any issues that people would like addressed and to plan for any fundraising ideas for 2011.

Please come along and get involved in your children's school and have a say in issues relating to resources, facilities, amenities and education.

If you have any particular issues you would like addressed at this meeting please let Debra Doust at the front office know or phone Fiona on 98401852. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Life's Greatest Lessons: 20 Things That Matter**

I came across this article on success in Wayne Mansfield's newsletter, The Maverick Spirit. The points are a summary of Hal Urban's book with the above title. Great tips for yourself and also to instil in the children in your life.

Life doesn't require us to always come out on top. It asks only that we do our best at each level of experience. This is what successful people do in some of the most important areas of life:

**Successful people:**

- accept life as it is, with all its difficulties and challenges. They adapt to it rather than complain about it. They accept responsibility for their own lives instead of blaming or making excuses. They say YES to life in spite of negative elements and make the most out of it, no matter what the circumstances.

- develop and maintain a positive attitude toward life. They look for good in others and in the world, and usually seem to find it. They see life as a series of opportunities and possibilities, and always explore them.

- build good relationships. They're sensitive to the needs and feelings of others. They're considerate and respectful. They have a way of bringing out the best in other people.

- have a sense of direction and purpose - they know where they're going. They set goals, accomplish most of them, and then set new goals. They accept and enjoy a challenge.

- have a strong desire to learn: about life, the world, and themselves. They see learning as a joy, not a duty. They continually enrich their lives by learning new things and improving themselves. They are always discovering, always growing.

- are action-oriented. They get things done because they're not afraid of hard work, and they don't waste time. They use it in constructive ways. They don't get into ruts or become bored because they're too busy looking for new experiences.

- maintain high standards in their personal conduct. They know that honesty is one of the main ingredients in the character of a good person. They are consistently truthful in both their private and public lives.

- understand the difference between existing and living, and always choose the latter. They get the most out of life because they put the most into it. They reap what they sow. And they enjoy life to the fullest.

From The Maverick Spirit 7 April 2008 (http://www.au1865.com/archive.htm)