PRINCIPAL’S ADDRESS

New Student Councillors
Thank you very much to last semester’s Student Leaders. They all did a great job and were superb role models. Elections were held a few weeks ago to select semester two’s School Leadership Team. The Year 7 students presented their speeches to students from Years 1 to 7, who then voted for their preferred leader. The following roles were given: Aurora Ewing- School Captain; Richard Cullinan-Deputy. Kori Thompson- Fundraising; Ryan Skippings- Groundsman; Max Cummuskey- Sports; Harrison Clifford- Public Relations; Caelan Minchin- Environment and Monty Edmonds-Library. Congratulations!

Year Seven’s Move to High school in 2015
If your child will be heading off to high school as a year 7 and you wish them to stay at Walpole PS for another year, please come and speak to me. Exemptions can be made if it is in the best interests of the child.

Language Priority
Walpole PS has two excellent spelling programs that have been implemented. *Smart Words* is a school-wide (yr 2-7) spelling programme which teaches children the foundation skills for literacy and spelling conventions. It covers most of the knowledge and skills required for fluent reading and writing. Words are grouped phonetically and graphically to allow students to understand the link between sound s and look. The program teaches generalisations rather than exceptions to the rule.

With students who struggle to spell conventionally, the school (yr 2-7) is implementing *Cracking the ABC Code Multisensory Spelling* program. This structured program addresses the three levels of spelling acquisition: phonological awareness (ability to identify and manipulate sounds), the alphabet code (which letter is used to make what sound) and orthographic knowledge (spelling rules). Students are tested prior to commencing the program and have a booklet that they need to work through. They may even bring it home to do some homework with. Mrs Kim Clifford has been employed two mornings a week, until the end of the year, to assist in the implementation of this program.

Building Stronger Students
Most of the students at Walpole PS have a strong sense of self- they feel comfortable in their own skin. This is probably due to them feeling very connected with their small community. This sense of belonging impacts on many aspects of individual and educational life. Students are willing to take risks and step up to try something new. They’re not afraid of failing, as they know that’s how they learn.

Connectedness can be defined as a sense of belonging to a community, whatever that community is - your family, school, sports club or congregation. It is a feeling that you matter, that your contributions are valued and others care about you. Authentic connectedness, however, requires reciprocity. It means doing things for others as part of that group and taking the needs of your community into consideration. To do this you not only need to be able to relate well to people, you also have to believe that others in your community are worth the effort.

As a parent, you can encourage connectedness and resiliency by giving your child responsibilities within the family. Don’t do everything for them. They develop their sense of worth by being able to achieve for themselves. If someone else always does things for them, they fail to develop this sense of value and belonging.
Kindergarten and Pre Primary School Enrolments for 2014

Apply to enrol by Friday 30 August 2013

If your child is 4 or 5 years old by 30 June 2014, or changing primary schools in 2014, apply to enrol now.

Come in and speak with the friendly staff at our school who are here to help you with your application.

If your child is currently enrolled in Kindy at Walpole PS it is not necessary to re-enrol for 2014. ACIR Immunization records and birth certificate are required at enrolment.

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Thank you

I would just like to thank all of the students who voted me as school captain.

It means a lot to me to represent the school.

If you have any suggestions or problems at school, or just want to talk to someone, don’t hesitate to approach me in the school-yard.

From Aurora Ewing, School Captain

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Denmark High School Basketball Program

On Friday 6 September at 11.45am, Lindsay Stirling will be coming in to speak to the Year 6/7 class about the Basketball Program run at the high school. Parents are welcome to attend.

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Take Home a Big Brother or Big Sister

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2014 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, the U.S.A, South America and Japan will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.sccce.com.au, email scceaust@sccce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

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Thanks to Tash Viner for the wonderful collection of shells and other natural objects. We will put them to use in Science and Jenny Kendrick has already expressed an interest in using them as art inspiration.

Donations of any natural materials like bones, seed pods, nuts, rocks etc could be added to our science room display. Also if you have any old science magazines (ie Landscope, Australian Geographic, Habitat etc) that you are happy to part with these would be gratefully received and used for general classroom reading.

Thanks, Lisa Teague-Robertson

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VacSwim October school holiday programs

Swimming pools and beaches are part of our Western Australian lifestyle. It is important for every child to learn to swim properly and develop essential water safety skills. VacSwim’s October school holiday swimming program is conducted by qualified instructors who teach children the skills to be confident swimmers and safe in the water.

For further information and how to enrol, visit www.det.wa.edu.au/swimming.

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Denmark Little Athletics Season 2013/14

Family, Fun and Fitness

Children born on or before 30th September 2007 are eligible to register.

Registration Day Denmark. One Day Only.

When: Wednesday 18th September

Time 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Where: Football Club Rooms McLean Park.

Walpole Registration Day: Thursday 19th September 3pm outside Walpole Primary School Office.

Fees need to be paid at time of registration and prior to competition. Please pay by cash or cheque. For insurance purposes no child will be permitted to participate without full payment of fees.

Fees Are $85.00 for one child.

$75.00 for sibling.

Kids Sport Registration Desk Available.

Training 3.30 to 4.30pm Wednesday.

Competition 5-7pm Friday.

Term Four 2013 and Term One 2014

Further enquiries e mail Belinda on pj.ross8@bigpond.com or 0447 641408.
PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. RESPECT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

As parents we can show respect and concern for others by

- Showing respect for teachers by
  - Using appropriate communication channels when dealing with the school.
  - Encouraging children to use problem solving channels at school (eg. Peer mediation, chaplaincy).
  - Consulting with the teacher should incidents occur at school.
- Showing respect for students by
  - Treating all students with respect including all ethnic and racial groups
  - Keeping information about students confidential
  - Making all interactions positive
- Showing tolerance and understanding towards others.
- Taking responsibility for your own actions.
- Following school rules such as parking in correct areas and signing in.
- Welcoming new families into the school by introducing ourselves (smiling and being friendly).

2. A PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND A COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVEMENT OF POTENTIAL

As parents we can support our children in learning and encourage them to try their best by

- Being good role models. It's what we do that really counts, for example, we can:
  - Pursue life long learning and share knowledge and experiences with our children.
  - Read to ourselves and to our children.
  - Encourage the development of ‘enquiring minds’ in our children.
- Ensuring that our children are ‘equipped’ to learn, for example, we can:
  - Provide appropriate items as per the class lists including parent contributions.
  - Ensure children are well rested and well nourished when they arrive at school.
  - Ensure we provide our children with healthy nourishing food at school.
  - Encourage a healthy active lifestyle.
- Taking an interest in our children’s school work, for example, we can
  - Encourage the completion of homework in all subject areas, for example, by providing a time and place for children to do their homework.
  - Help out in the classroom or with excursions.
  - Keep up to date with school events by reading the newsletters.
  - Ask children about their day using open questions and actively listening to what they say.
  - Praise our children for all their efforts and recognize their learning.
  - Make every effort to be involved with Sports Days, Learning Journeys, art projects, assemblies and fetes.

3. SELF ACCEPTANCE AND RESPECT FOR SELF

As parents we can show self respect and self acceptance by

- Recognising our own and encouraging our children’s individuality and accepting that of other’s.
- Being confident enough to:
  - Have a go. Be prepared to make mistakes and learn from them.
  - Be able to talk about your own self-acceptance – it’s OK to be an individual.
  - Encourage decision-making and let children make their own mistakes (‘risk taking’) and learn for themselves.
  - Involve yourself in the classroom and share your own culture, skills and experiences.
  - Set realistic and achievable goals.
- Show and encourage a passion for life (Life’s good!).

4. ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

As parents we demonstrate our environmental awareness by

- Recycling, re-using and reducing (at home and at school).
- Participating in environmental excursions.
- Walking or riding safely to and from school.
- Encouraging water wise gardening at home and the school, using water wise local plants where possible.
- Encouraging awareness of our local heritage.
- Keeping Walpole and the school litter free.

5. SOCIAL AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

As parents we can show we care about our school community by

- Being involved in the school community, for example, we can:
  - Attend P&C meetings.
  - Volunteer to help with school activities (eg Friday lunch, Busy Bee’s, fundraising and sporting events etc).
  - Participate in extra curricular activities eg Junior Sport by supporting teams, coaching, umpiring.
- Treating all school property with care.
- Familiarising ourselves and our children with and respecting the school and community rules.
- Making the effort to be aware and involved with the future of schooling in Walpole.
- Promoting the culture of helping out and the satisfaction of being involved and achieving.

Compiled by Chris Cook, Endorsed by the School Board, August 2013