Welcome back

I hope that everyone had a happy and safe holiday and that none of our school community were adversely affected by the storms that we had last week. This term will be a busy one for us with reports coming home at the end of this term.

Naplan

The NAPLAN 2015 Tests for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held from Tuesday 12 May to Thursday 14 May 2015. For more information and test samples, see www.naplan.edu.au/parents/parents.html

Parent /Staff Choir

Starts this coming Friday at 8am. Please meet in the school hall. Lessons will take place in the library and children are welcome to attend and read, play or sing with us.

Mother’s Day Breakfast

Don’t forget that our annual Mother’s Day Breakfast will be held on Friday 8th May starting at 7.45am.

Due to limited funds we ask that all students have breakfast before coming to school as we will have to limit breakfast to Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunts and Caregivers first and then children second. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Anzac Assembly

Well done to our student leaders who conducted our Anzac Assembly. Their presentation was both informative and sensitive and gave a different perspective as to how war affected not only the soldiers and nurses but family and loved ones left behind. I was very proud of them and impressed by their efforts.

Severe weather conditions and school opening

During last week’s severe weather conditions we had numerous calls from parents wanting to know if the school was open or if they could keep their child home from school.

The Department of Education will always put a notice on their website as to school closures. We will also endeavour to notify parents should the school be closed. It is entirely up to you, as parents, to make the decision as to whether you send your child to school during severe weather conditions. To assist us in situations such as this it is important that your contact details are correct.
Friendly Reminders

Help Needed
If any parents have professional experience and equipment and are willing to volunteer to film the school concert/performance in Term 3 would you please contact Miss Belme, or leave a message at the school office.

New procedures for Morning Assemblies
Due to an increase in student numbers at the school we will be trialling new procedures for lining up in the morning. In Term 2 beginning Tuesday 21st May, all students will line up in their designated area. Music will be played at 8:50am as a signal that all students will proceed to their area. The bell will then ring at 8:55am. By this time all students should already be in line and the children, along with their teacher, will proceed to the classroom.

Parents are asked to assist us by:
1. Ensuring that their child is at school on time.
2. Not engaging the teachers in conversation.
3. Moving away from the area once your child has been dropped off at the designated area.

Parking Around School
Please do not park across residents’ driveways, or the designated parking areas of the surrounding units. We are constantly receiving phones calls from our neighbours complaining that they cannot access their driveways or parking spaces. We have advised them to report it to the Police or Council Ranger in future.

Holiday Leave Application Forms
As part of the implementation of the National Standards for Student Attendance Data Reporting, holidays taken by students outside of school vacation periods will now be included as absences on the student attendance roll. A Certificate of Exemption can no longer be granted for this purpose. Families are encouraged to holiday or travel during school vacations. If travel outside of school vacation periods is necessary, parents will need to complete an “Application for Extended Leave – Travel”, available from the office, for the approval of the Principal. If the application is approved your child’s absence will be marked as “leave”, if not approved, it will be marked as “absent”.

School Visits and Safety Induction
When you come onto school grounds you will need to come to the front office and sign in to receive a visitor’s badge. You will also now be required to have a safety induction. The gates on Mons and Bennett Streets will be locked during the school day - please enter via Endeavour Street.

Communication Channels
With regards to all classroom and playground related matters please follow the sequence outlined below:
First point of communication: Make an appointment with the class teacher or email the school. The email will be forwarded to the classroom teacher.
Second point of communication: Make an appointment to see the Team Leader for your child’s grade or stage.
Third Point of communication: Make an appointment to see the relevant K-2 or 3-6 Assistant Principal.

Speech Therapist
We again have the services of the Gladesville Speech Pathologist on site every week. If you think that your child needs speech therapy please come to the office and ask for a referral form. The speech pathologist will contact you directly to arrange a time that suits you. Please note that there is a cost involved and that this is not a free service.
Canteen News

Commencing in Week 4 this term, the following Autumn/Winter specials will be available at the Canteen:

Tuesdays to Thursdays recess and lunch (please order from Canteen window) - Warm Milo with milk - $1.50 a cup (with lid).

Tuesday lunch each week - Chicken, potato and carrot (or pumpkin) soup with 1 slice of wholemeal toast - $3.50.

Thursday lunch each week - Fried rice with egg, onion, peas, corn and carrot, $3.50.

Please note: only limited portions of the above lunch items will be available each day. A note will be sent home next week with order details.

Tuesday, 12th May (Week 4), there will be a BBQ Sausage “Hot Dog” lunch special for $3.50. Lunch order forms will be sent home this week and are to be returned to the Canteen Order Box by Wednesday, 6th May.

Our Canteen is in need of a parent volunteer to fill the role of Canteen Purchaser - the role involves liaising with canteen suppliers weekly/fortnightly via email and/or telephone to place orders for food, drink and miscellaneous stock. Please contact Veronique at veroniquepn@yahoo.com.au if you are able to help. Thank You.

Our Canteen is also in need of more parent volunteers to sign up for once a week/fortnight or monthly duty. Either between 9.30am to 12.00pm OR 12.00pm to 2.45pm on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. Please contact Shakeela at shakeela.ahmed@gmail.com if you are able to help. Thank You.

Uniform Shop News

Term 2 2015 Opening Days:

Wednesday (8.45am – 9.15am)
13th May & 27th May
10th June & 24th June

If you are not able to attend the uniform shop on opening days order forms are available from the office. Please fill in the form and put cash (correct money only no change given) or cheque (payable to West Ryde Public School Uniform Shop) in an envelope and give to the office. Your order will be filled as soon as possible and given to your child.

P&C News

Welcome back everyone, to a very wet and soggy Term 2. I know that I’ve been rather slow to get back into gear this last week, so I’ll keep this short and sweet.

Canteen

The canteen is a great asset to our school and our children, and helps to bring in funds for the P&C to support your child’s education and school experience. Without enough active volunteers, the canteen as we know it may need to close. Please consider whether you can help out.
They are currently most in need of a new volunteer to help with weekly purchasing. Huge thanks to Zen who’s been doing a great job in that role to date, and to Shakeela who’s not only managing rostering but also now covering purchasing until a new volunteer can be found.

The end of last term saw a big drop in general volunteer numbers. More people are needed who can help on a regular basis (once a fortnight or even once a month, if weekly doesn’t suit).

In addition, our canteen coordinator, Veronique, is also due to end her association with the school at the end of this year so a new coordinator will be required if the canteen is to remain active. Please keep it in mind.

**Mother’s Day Stall**

On Thursday 7th May the P&C will be running our regular Mother’s Day stall. For those that are new to the school, the stall provides a range of small gifts for the children to buy, ranging from $2 - $10. It’s an event for the kids and parents are not involved with the shopping. Children can only make purchases during the morning at their class’ allocated time, not before school with their parents. Teachers and volunteer parents are available to help them spend their money and make decisions.

If you have the morning free and would like to help on the stall, please get in touch and let us know (pc@westrydepublicschool.com.au)

**Illegal Parking**

The wet weather last week left everyone very soggy when dropping their kids off at school, but it also brought to light some very dangerous practises as people tried to drop their kids as close as possible to school gates to avoid getting out and getting wet. Wet weather is when we should be driving at our safest, not cutting corners. You might get wet finding a safe parking spot and walking to a crossing, but you won’t melt and our children will be safer.

Just to name a few;

- It is dangerous and illegal to stop directly outside the Bennett St gate as it blocks the view of the children crossing for passing cars.
- It is dangerous to ask your kids to run across a road unsupervised or not at a crossing, especially in the wet when cars can’t stop quickly and visibility is poor.
- It is inappropriate to use residents’ or school staff car parks or driveways to drop off your child.

If your response to statements such as these is that you have few other choices, then please let us know what parking solutions you would like to see around the school to make your parking experience easier.

Note: Council Rangers were in attendance for some of last week and a number of drivers were booked for illegal activity. They will continue to visit the school and patrol during peak hours so it’s in your best interests to drive within the law.

Please drive safely!

Thanks everyone.

Regards,

Alison Chan - P&C President
president@westrydepublicschool.com.au

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**Have You Got Any Old Mobile Phones?**

Have you recently upgraded your phone and have no use for the old one?

The P&C are collecting all old mobile phones for recycling. For every phone donated, the school receives $3. Please ask around and send any old mobile phones to school with your child – yours, your neighbour’s, friend’s, anybody’s.

A collection box can be found in the office area. Thanks for your support.

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The NEXT WRPS P&C MEETING DATE
Wednesday 20th May, 7:00 pm
In the school library. Free child minding available.
We hope we’ll see you there.
Free Seminar: Identifying and Managing Child Anxiety

In partnership with the Rotary Club of North Ryde, the Centre for Emotional Health is pleased to invite the parents, school counsellors and teachers of your school to this free community event.

When: Thursday, 28 May 2015
Where: Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University
Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

In this information session, Dr Lauren McLellan will discuss:

- Ways to identify anxiety in children, ages 7 to 12 years
- How anxiety can affect children and
- Tips to manage child anxiety

For more information or to register.
ATTENTION MUMS AND DADS!

Group Fitness Classes will be starting at Meadowbank Park Netball Courts in Term 2
Children and toddlers are welcome to join in at no cost

WHEN: Wednesday 22nd April
TIME: 9:30am - 10:15am

$100 For the Term (10 wks)
or $12 per week

- Train with like-minded individuals
- Have fun whilst getting fit
- Catered for all fitness levels
- Lose weight and tone up
- Enjoy the fresh air where there are no mirrors, egos or queues
- Set in a motivating, yet non-intimidating environment
- Shelter provided in case of inclement weather

Classes are conducted by a Fully Qualified and Insured Personal Trainer, Master Functional Trainer, Boxing Trainer, Weight Loss Specialist Coach, Specialist Children's Fitness Trainer, Diploma of Physical Education and Diploma of Fitness.

DON'T MISS OUT!!
0405 014 629
michael@alivept.com.au
www.alivept.com.au

THE ACTING EXPERIENCE

The Acting Experience specialises in acting classes for:

› CHILDREN'S DRAMA
  (for school years 4 to 6)
› YOUNG ADULTS
  (for High School students)

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?
2-HOUR CLASSES EACH WEEK
SMALL CLASS SIZES

Students at The Acting Experience can expect:
- Specialised curriculum
- On stage performance experience
- Increased confidence
- Enriched communication skills
- Boosted imagination
- Enhanced acting skills

The Acting Experience also runs School Holiday Workshops in:
- Primary School Drams Days
- Teenage Screen Acting

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
actingexperience.com.au
info@actingexperience.com.au
0457 574 862

Photo @Rosemary TimeHill
Special Winter Offer

FREE RACQUET VOUCHER

All new players who enrol in term 2 tennis will receive a brand new free racquet to help them get started in tennis. Present this voucher to claim your free racquet!*

Benefits of the term 2 Voyager
Tennis program include:

- Best coaches in NSW
- Supervision until 6pm
- A 10 week tennis program that has players progress to serve, rallying and scoring quickly through the use of modified courts and low compression balls
- Kids meet new people and make new friends in a fun environment

Location: Next Generation Club
504a Victoria Road, Ryde
For all enquiries and questions please call 0402 477 762 or email
nextgeneration@voyagertennis.com

*Only available in Term 2, 2015 to new players

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PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE WITH THE
NORTH RYDE HAWKS JRLFC

Rugby League Is Played On SUNDAYS
Fun and Safe For Everyone

Our Under 7s and Under 9s are looking for new players to join our dynamic teams
Registration cost is $85.00 which includes high quality Jersey, Socks and Shorts
The season has just begun and welcoming new registrations for the next few weeks.

Club Activities Such As Tug-O-War, Relay Race, Kicking Competition
As Well As Weekly Wrap-Ups Where The Players
Get To Tell Everyone About Their Game That Day

Join Our Friendly, Fun, Family Club
CONTACT: Sam 0404 865 004 or
Amanda 0425 326 288
Come along and try it out on our Thursday night
training at ELS Hall in Kent Road Marsfield