Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope that everyone enjoyed a relaxing holiday with their children during the last holidays. I know you would have been very unhappy when the holidays finished and you had to return your children to school. Due to unforeseen circumstances the incoming Principal who was supposed to start at the beginning of this term will not be starting here until week 4. The new Principal’s name is Mrs Jo Hine. She comes to us from Tuart Rise PS and has had quite a bit of experience as a Principal at various schools. Please take the time to introduce yourself and show her the WJPS hospitality.

MEDICAL FORMS

It is extremely important that you keep the school updated on any medical issues concerning your children. If your child has a medical issue it is always a good idea to touch base with the class teacher at least a couple of times a year and also to ensure that all medical forms are kept up to date and all permission slips are signed. I am not being melodramatic in saying that sometimes lack of information that can easily be supplied to the school may sometimes result in a situation that may literally be a case of life or death.

ATTENDANCE

While over 90% of the students attending WJPS have an excellent attendance record we do have a small group who seem to be constantly absent. This makes it very difficult for the class teacher to run an effective program in the classroom as they will be constantly re-teaching concepts for students who have been away. Even if your child is away just 5 times a term, throughout the course of their schooling they will have missed half a year of school. In today’s competitive world you want to give your children every opportunity possible for success so please don’t just decide for example, that a 2 week holiday in the middle of the school term (coincidentally when air fares are cheap) is going to be beneficial to your child because all studies that have been done indicate otherwise.

Student Absences - New Option to Notify WJPS by SMS Message

SMS Student Name, Class, Room Number & Reason of Absence on:

0437 808 544

2015 Uniform Shop Opening

Time

The Uniform Shop will be open EVERY TUESDAY ONLY from 8:30am - 9:30am.
Thank you to the volunteers who offer their time to run the shop.

Westminster Junior Primary

Calendar Dates

- Room 4 Assembly - Tuesday 5th May
- History Incursion “Then and Now” - Thursday 7th May
- Disability Services Commission, Local Area Hot seat Hosted by CPC Westminster - 8.30-10am Tuesday 5th May, Tuesday 2nd June and Tuesday 7th July
- NAPLAN Week - Monday 11th to 15th May
- Combined School Assembly WJPS & WPS - Monday 18th May
- School Board Meeting 3.15pm - Friday 22nd May
- Bringing Up Great Kids Hosted by the CPC Westminster – 9.30-11.30am 27th May - 24th June 2015
- School Photo Day - Wednesday 27th May 2015
- Balga Friday Market – Each Friday 8am-12noon. Located at Princess/Wallington Reserve Balga.
**WINTER**

Having said all that about maintaining a good attendance I think it is also very important that if you feel your child is too sick to come to school then please keep them home. With the winter months fast approaching it is important that illnesses such as flu aren’t “shared” with the rest of the class/school. We also don’t have the facilities (or the staff) to look after sick children. If your child doesn’t have a school jacket or jumper remember that the P&C run the uniform shop in the under-covered area every Tuesday morning. They are there from 8.30-9.30am. Please remember that the people who run the uniform shop (Alisa, Britt and Norm) are volunteers and take time out of their own busy days to help the school. Can you also ensure that you put your child’s name on their jumper/jacket.

**THANK YOU**

For the final time thank you to the entire school community (staff, parents, students and relatives and friends) for the support that you have given me in the past year. As the new Principal coming in is a Dockers supporter I want to use this final opportunity to say “Carn the Mighty Eagles”.

Thank you

Chris Flynn
Principal
(08) 9349 4290
chris.flynn@education.wa.edu.au

**News**

**ANZAC Day**

We wish to thank Georgina Newton (Eloise’s Mum Room 10) for the great job she did of arranging the bouquets. Thanks also to Mrs Hayman, Mrs Fairbairn and of course Mrs Thompson. The ANZAC flowers looked stunning and the children who placed them at the flagpole showed such grace and respect.

**Year 1, Room 10- ANZAC Biscuits**
**Community Events**

**BALGA FRIDAY MARKET**

The Balga Friday Market operates on each Friday at Princess/Wallington Reserve Balga. Sellers admitted from 6.30am to 12 noon at $10 per bay, and buyers from 8am to 12 noon at no cost. Bric a Brac, plants, clothing, tools, books, toys etc are all for sale and morning tea/coffee, light snacks, cool drinks can be purchased. For further details please contact Renee Colvin on 0422 327 909 or Alan Stafford on 9342 4895.

**Disability Services Commission Local Area Coordinator HOT SEAT!**

Hosted by the Child and Parent Centre Westminster

- 8.30am to 10.00am
- Tuesday 5th May
- Tuesday 2nd June
- Tuesday 7th July

Drop in and ask any questions related to caring for children with additional needs. Stay for a cuppa afterwards.

**Bringing Up Great Kids**

Hosted by the Child and Parent Centre Westminster

- 9.30am to 11.30am
- BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL!

A five week parent program that runs from 27th May until 24th June 2015.

**Child and Parent Centre Westminster**

- 24 Marloo Road
- Westminster

- Phone: 9440 1097
- Email: cpcwestminster@thesmithfamily.com.au
Community News Continued...

The Child and Parent Centre has been operating fully since December 2014, we have lots of activities for children and workshops and information sessions for parents. We are located at 24 Marloo Rd (opposite Matt Williams Reserve) on the site of the Junior Primary School.

Here is a story which one parent asked us to share.

Child and Parent Centre Westminster: A mum’s story

“I want to share my story with everyone about how the Child and Parent Centre has helped me feel part of this community. I came to Australia with my husband four years ago with a baby and I now have another two children. I started to go to the playgroup last year and here I have met my best friend.

The centre is a place for children to come and make friends, play and learn, but it is also so much more. Here I have found everything I have been looking for and it is a safe place. I was always thinking, where do I go and what can I do with the kids? Especially in the school holidays. I went to the centre and they told me ‘we are here for you, you can come here with the children instead of sitting at home’, so I took my children lots of times and they played and I talked to other parents.

The ladies at the centre make me feel so welcome, you can ask any question or come with any problem and they will listen. Recently my son had to go into hospital and my husband and I were so worried, we did not know how to prepare him. They helped me to understand what would happen and gave us some ideas. It made us feel less scared and because we knew what to expect, my son also was not scared.

When you read this please know that you are welcome and you will find more than you expect. It feels like they are part of my family.

Areej (Mum of Antoine, Joelle and Peter)