



Westminster
Junior Primary School

WESTMINSTER P&C NEWS ISSUE 11 – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2014

P & C News

Congratulations to all our students for their participation and tremendous sportsmanship during the Sports Carnivals. The Carnivals were well organised and extremely successful. Congratulations also go to our Father's Day Raffle ticket winners – we know that the hampers would have been well received on Sunday!

Many **thanks** to our volunteers including Brogan, Alisa, Theresa, Peter and Teresina Coci who assisted with the sausage sizzles, and Gordana who assisted Liesl in the canteen. Your time and effort was a valuable contribution to the success of these events. Furthermore, sincere **gratitude** to Norman for organising everything – without his commitment none of this would happen!

On **Monday 8th September**, the Committee held its meeting. Thank you to all our usual parents who braved the elements to attend. At this meeting our Principals informed the Committee that of our three schools, Westminster Junior Primary School and Westminster Education Support Centre would become Independent Public Schools (**IPS**) in 2015. Although our Principal and staff were disappointed with the outcome for Westminster Primary School, they will not be deterred from moving forward from this decision.

The three Westminster Schools have always worked well together and aligned decisions that are for the benefit of our children and for the entire Community. This regime will not change, as **the three schools (WPS, WJPS & WESC) will continue to work closely with each other** and provide support from 2015 onwards. Being an IPS will not change the quality of education our children receive. The underlying difference is that IPS's have the flexibility and responsibility to make decisions across a wide range of operations.

We will continue to have one P&C for ALL three schools regardless of IPS status. The Committee will continue to have cohesion with ALL three schools and maintain a "business as usual" approach. We will continue to co-ordinate "whole" school events and fundraising activities. We will not isolate any of our schools from our discussions or meetings - we will be the voice for the entire Westminster school community.

As your President I encourage you to celebrate the successes and achievements of all our schools whether IPS or not and to remember that we are fortunate to have Principals, Teachers and Support Staff who have a vested interest in the education of our children. Undoubtedly there will be some changes and challenges in 2015. As a Community we should embrace these challenges and support our Schools for decisions made for the benefit of our children.

Family Portrait Fundraiser – Sunday 14th September - CANCELLED:

A fundraising event often needs time to be planned and organised. Although there was Community interest in this event, there was a lack of communication when it came to formally booking a photo session. To those families who got in early and made a booking, thank you but my apologies for having to cancel this event.

Footy Finals Fever Day – Thursday 25th September

Show your support for your favourite footy team, by wearing your team's colours. The P&C will be cooking a sausage sizzle in honor of the day at a cost of **\$2.50**. Students will need to PRE-ORDER as per normal practice either at the canteen or through their classrooms.

What's on in October?

"Rainbow" Disco – Friday 17th October

The P&C is excited to co-ordinate the school disco for the children of the Westminster schools. The theme for this disco is "colour". So come dressed in your favourite bright, colourful or even fluorescent outfit for a night of fun and excitement. More information will follow soon.

Canteen – "Farewell":

It is with sadness that we farewell Brogan Gibbons our longstanding canteen volunteer. Brogan Gibbons will be devoting his time towards completing his university studies and will no longer be available to assist Liesl in the Canteen. Brogan has been a valuable help and support to Liesl over the last few years. Brogan has also been available to assist at our many sausage sizzles either at school or Bunnings. For those who know him, Brogan is outspoken, witty, articulate, well read and knowledgeable. We will miss Brogan but wish him every success with his studies.

So where does it leave the Canteen. It's simple **NO HELP NO CANTEEN!** The Canteen operates with the strength of volunteers and our Manager Mrs Smithers. Without this close relationship, the Canteen would not operate at all. With Brogan leaving, we are left with a dilemma. We are looking for parents and caregivers who have the interest of their child and the Westminster Community at heart. If you can help your school canteen please put your hand up! **The Canteen is OPEN 5 DAYS A WEEK, unless advised otherwise.**

We are almost at the end of another Term! We hope that all our students, teachers and parents have a safe and restful holiday.