FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We are now up to Week 6 of the term. The time really flies!

We will be testing and assessing now until the end of the term. Please ensure your student is present each day as it is very difficult to catch up missed assessment, which will impact on their results in Semester 2 report cards.

It will be Remembrance Day on Friday. We will be talking about the significance of the day and observing a minute’s silence.

Regards

Judy Angel

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Student of the Week has been awarded to Jessica Poulsen.

Our school rule awards are:
- Respect – Cody Poulsen
- Being Safe – Abella Fleming

Sight Word Certificates – Abella, Andrew and Jessica

P&C MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 14 Nov at 6.00pm.

BOOK CLUB

Book club orders are due on the 18th November, please.

TENNIS

Any outstanding debts for Tennis need to be paid as soon as possible. We can offer a payment plan for those who are finding it difficult to pay. Due to the amount of bad debts, it is a possibility that tennis may not be offered next year.

For this term, Tennis will be at 11.00am - 12.00pm. (Same as Term 2) This means that morning tea will be earlier (10.40 - 11.00am) Tennis is for 8 weeks this term - due to the camp and swimming carnival. (8 x $7 per child = $56 per child for the term).

SCHOOL BANKING

School banking is again on Tuesdays this year. Please ensure the bank books are at the school on this day.

PREP ENROLMENTS

Warra State School is now taking enrolments for Prep 2017. If your child turns 5 by June 30th, 2017, they are eligible to commence Prep next year.

If your child is born between 1st July 2011 and 30th June 2012, please drop into our office to collect an enrolment pack. Also, please contact the school for an interview time. Enrolment forms need to be completed and given to the school plus the interview needs to be conducted BEFORE your child can commence Prep.

ATTENDANCE

Let’s work on attendance this term. The target for attendance in our school priorities as mentioned above, is > 96% (greater than 96%). Unfortunately due to sickness, our attendance rate is at 94% at the moment.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

Parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html
If your child misses …

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>That equals ……</th>
<th>Which is ……..</th>
<th>and over 13 years of schooling that’s ……..</th>
<th>Which means the best your child might perform is ……..</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2.5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 5 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 Days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 8 years</td>
<td>Equal to finishing in grade 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACCESS TO SCHOOL GROUNDS

If you see anyone on school grounds after hours or on the weekends, please ring the School Watch number – 13 17 88 or the police - 000.

RESPECT OUR STAFF, RESPECT OUR SCHOOL

Being intimidated or harassed at work is not part of our job. The department has launched a new campaign to raise awareness that violent or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated in Queensland state schools. Visit the website for more information. http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/respectourstaff/index.html

Violent or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated at the school. It’s not just a courtesy, it’s the law. Visit the website for more information. http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/respectourstaff/index.html

Posters are being displayed at our school to raise awareness that violent or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated. Everyone in our school community deserves respect.

DIGITAL SOCIAL SKILLS

By Catherine Gerhardt

As parents we want to do whatever it takes to minimise the mistakes our children make online.

Netiquette is a set of general guidelines for cyberspace behaviour. Here are some basic principles parents can use to help children solve their own ‘netiquette’ dilemmas.

Be kind Remember the human behind every screen. Every user is an independent person with individual thoughts and feelings. It can be easy to misunderstand another person’s intentions or even be rude to others when you are not interacting with them in person and given the grace of viewing facial expressions and emotions. Perhaps the best mantra we can go back to as parents is the golden rule of “Treat others how you would like to be treated.”

Respect privacy With the world wide web being a public place, privacy is paramount. Learning how to protect personal information and the importance of looking at a website’s privacy policy can help develop skills around internet privacy. Asking for permission before creating accounts and downloading files, strategies for identifying scams and limiting the type of information kids give about themselves or others can help set a strong foundation for their digital lives.

Develop their internal filter Parents may feel that they have some control over their child’s use of technology and many use programs and apps that allow for monitoring and filtering content. We need to help our children develop their internal filter, as this is the one they will always have and may need to rely on. Research is clear that the best way to teach morals and ethics is through example.

Teach them to do the right thing Parents can nurture moral principles that will guide their children to stand up for their beliefs and act right even without us. Know what you stand for so that your child knows. Discuss with your child how you feel about the issue and why.

Be upstanding There will be times online when your child will have to be brave and stand up for others, when they will have to go against social pressure to do what is right. Encourage your child to stand up, speak up and act up against online abuse. They can support the target by letting them know they are there and provide empathy. Encourage your child to report what is happening to a trusted adult; someone who they believe will listen and has the skills, desire, and authority to help.

THINK

Using the THINK rule can go a long way in practicing digital social skills. It is a checklist of questions that children must go through before they post or comment online. Is it True? Is it Helpful? Is it Inspiring? Is it Necessary? Is it Kind? Created to emphasise care online, it applies to real world engagement as well.

Catherine Gerhardt, is a dedicated advocate of critical thinking skills in children and young people. As a parent of school aged children she understands the
commitments and challenges parents face ensuring they provide the right information to young people in a way that empowers them to develop their personal and social capabilities. Catherine is a certified training provider through the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner.

Host an Exchange Student in 2017!

Do you have a spare room? World Education Program (WEP) Australia, a non-profit student exchange organisation is looking for volunteer host families to host an overseas exchange student!

- See Australia through the eyes of a non-Australian
- Visit new places and re-visit old favourites
- Teach our local customs and language
- Gain a new family member and friend for life
- Have lots of fun!

Students are arriving in February 2017 and are looking forward to learning about Australia!

Meet some of our students!

Hello, I’m Anna from Italy. I can’t wait to come to Australia! I am very sporty and I enjoy dancing, particularly hip hop. I also enjoy playing volleyball. In summer my family and I spend time together bike riding and hiking. Being outdoors in the open space in the lake, sea and mountains is something I really love!

Ola! I’m Tomas from Brazil. Here’s a bit about me! My favourite sport is indoor rock climbing and I enjoy skateboarding. My brother has also been to Australia on a WEP student exchange and I am excited to have the same opportunity. While I am learning all about Australian culture, I am looking forward to sharing mine too!

Hi! I’m Diletta from Italy. I always look on the bright side of life! I am sporty and until recently I was involved in diving competitions. My parents run a restaurant and I often work there over the summer holidays. Sometimes I cook dinner for my brothers and I can bake delicious cakes!

Find out more! Request a free information pack for your family!

text “hosting” to 0428 246 633  info@wep.org.au www.wep.org.au

World Education Program Australia Limited
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A NON-PROFIT STUDENT EXCHANGE ORGANISATION
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