Attendance target 94% or better. Last week’s attendance was 92%. Thanks to Bundy Bowl and Leisure Complex for giving the school some awards to promote attendance each term this year (www.bundybowl.com.au).

New Families

It is a great privilege and pleasure to interview new families and introduce them to Woongarra School. It allows me, and Ms Oakley, to concentrate on those things that make Woongarra special.

So what are these?

- Our 5 B’s (Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Positive, Be Proud and Be Tolerant)
- Our 3 Step Plan (Tell them to stop and mean it, move away and ignore them, tell a teacher and tell the same teacher if it happens again)
- Achievements (eg. Instrumental Music and Choir, Sport, Naplan Academic Results)
- Uniform (worn so proudly and yes Mr Irwin does insist on shirts in!!)
- Great Facilities

But what strikes me the most and is great to share is; yes, Woongarra is a big school but we all care about individuals. It is our kids that make this a great place to be!

Technology and Young People

As a father of 3 children, one turning 27, one 24 and our youngest turning 22, I understand the difficulties of bringing up teenagers in this era.

Mobile phones…SMS…Internet…Emails…Chat Rooms…Facebook…Instagram….twitter all quite new for me but part of their life.

We are often told at school about possible harmful situations, that don’t occur at school but do impact on student behaviour. Cyber Bullying, inappropriate images, harmful messages or comments are all possible but certainly not desirable.

- How often do you talk to your kids about their emotional well-being?
- How often do you monitor their home computer/technology usage?
- Does your child have access to a computer/device connected to the internet?
- Are you aware of what your child sends or receives on their email/chat/facebook etc?
- How often do you discuss technology use?

Unfortunately, we have far too many kids who are 12 years old but who want to act or look like 16 year olds or their favourite characters on ‘Home and Away’. In most cases, they don’t have the emotional maturity to deal with the information and pressures the media presents.

Please seek help if you need it. Better to talk to someone and not need their help than be quiet and just struggle on! As a side note most applications require children to be at least 13 to have an account!!
Car Park
I understand that the car park area can be quite frustrating to all drivers. Cars are often lined up out the car park and along Kleins Road. Please if the drop off zone is full then move forward to another car park. Regularly the Drop Off area, which only has 4 parking bays, is full but there are plenty of other car parks. Consider others and move into a car park even if it means you need to get out of your car to collect your children. Patience and consideration are the keys!!

Reporting End of this Semester Years 1 - 6
In the last week of this term, written report cards will be issued for Years Prep – 6.
For children to receive better than a “C” or “working with” they need to be working above the standard for their year level. In other words a “C” or “working with” means working at year level and understandably this is most children. So do expect to see “Cs” on report cards! The standard expected “at year level” is certainly higher with the National Curriculum.

Every Day Counts
Every classroom teacher will tell you that specific new lessons are structured in very precise ways: - there is usually an introductory phase that establishes the learning, a developmental stage that introduces the new knowledge and concepts and finally a synthesising stage that firms up exactly who has understood what.
Later on revision goes over this ground but not necessarily using exactly the same formula or method as earlier lessons.
Research has shown that students who miss a lot of school are placed at serious disadvantage.
Clearly students are at risk when they reach High School if they are not as Literate, Numerate or as Technology savvy as they should be.
Obviously when children are sick, they need to be home to recuperate quickly and not pass on colds and flus to others.
The Education Act has a legal requirement that all parents must present their children for school every day unless there are mitigating circumstances e.g. sickness. It is for a very obvious reason – namely, the protection of the rights of the child to receive an education.
Missing out on schooling unnecessarily will clearly affect a child’s progress while moving through Primary, from Primary to Secondary schooling and to adulthood. Please make every effort to have your child at school every day! Children being away for their birthday or spending a few days to see visitors are not legitimate reasons for not attending school. Parents must explain their child’s absence (so it is no longer recorded as unexplained) but if the reason is not a valid reason, (e.g. illness) the absence is recorded as unauthorised.

Student of the Week
This section will appear every week in the Newsletter and provides the students with a chance to shine. Students are awarded a Student of the Week Certificate for displaying high achievement levels or efforts in the classroom and quality behaviour and positive attitudes.

Prep BK Calix E Prep J Owen G
1C Allyssa W 1GM Xavier C
1L Kasey H
Willow R
2KC McKenzie P 2L Harrison B
2V Jorja O
3B Ashton R 3R Cameron S
3W Kenan U
4E Sophie N 4H Max M
Joshua G Evie H
4/5L
5M Cooper L 5PR Dallas P
6S Shakira B 6V Elle W

Quote: “If you want anything said ask a man. If you want anything done ask a woman.” stated by the late Margaret Thatcher

Jeff Irwin

Band students playing on assembly
Make sure you bring your instrument to play on assembly this Friday and start setting up in the hall straight after morning tea.

School Photos - Wednesday 8 June -
Please ensure students are wearing correct school uniform
Please ensure your child has brought home the photo envelope and write your child’s details on it. Each child will require a separate photo envelope.

Sibling Photos are available and will be taken on the same day. However we request that students be at school at 8.30am - this will be the only time these photos will be taken. If you want to have your children photographed together, a “SIBLING ENVELOPE” must be collected from the office and returned with payment before 8 June. Please note that Sibling Photos are for enrolled siblings only, no other family member’s photos will be taken.

Please note: All envelopes are to be returned to your class teacher, even if you are not purchasing any photos. All orders are pre-paid and must be received by 8 June. Please have correct money as no change is given.
Albert Einstein said everything is energy. Remember his formula E=mc squared? He believed that energy and matter were interchangeable. Everything is vibrating energy, including our bodies. Every word and every thought carries a certain vibrational frequency. A Japanese scientist, Dr. Masaru Emoto, proved this when he did an experiment with water. He found out that water is affected by words. He took water droplets and exposed them to various words. He froze them for three hours and then examined the crystal formations under a microscope. The results were totally astounding. When positive words were spoken over the water, it formed beautiful patterns. Negative words produced ugly patterns. Since our bodies are approximately 72% water, we know that our bodies are greatly affected by negative speech. He did another experiment with rice where he spoke "I love you" to a jar of rice for 30 days. To another jar of rice, he spoke the words "You fool." After 30 days, the rice in the "I love you" jar was white and the rice in the "You fool" jar was black and rotten. (Facts taken from Dr. Emoto's book "The Hidden Messages in Water.") Parallel Verse from Proverbs: Kind words are like honey—sweet to the soul and healthy for the body.

P&C News

Jake’s Candy …
The goodies will be available for collection on Thursday 2 June from the school hall between 2 - 4pm.

Polo Shirts in House Colours …
To purchase a shirt, please complete the order form and return it to the office with correct payment in an envelope marked HOUSE SHIRT. Orders will be processed and shirts distributed each Friday. These school HOUSE SHIRTS may be worn EVERY FRIDAY.

Thank you all for your support. Please let me know ASAP if you can’t attend your rostered day.

Lyn Dobbs
Convenor
(H) 4152 6381

Jane Barratt, P&C President