Dear Parents, Staff and Students:

Attendance target 95% or better. Last week’s attendance rate was 96.5%. Let’s together make every day count!! Thanks to Bundy Bowl and Leisure Complex for giving the school some awards each term to promote attendance.

**School News**

**Bullying Behaviour… Part 2**

Kids come to school to learn in a safe, supportive and challenging school environment and no one has the right to make others frightened, uncomfortable or unhappy.

These are some of the strategies used to combat bullying behaviour at Woongarra State School.

- “Bullying” is defined so that kids and parents know what it is that we are trying to prevent. Not all incidents are bullying. Most are “one-offs” but still need to be dealt with!
- “Bullying” is a topic of conversation at assemblies.
- Kids inform us of poor behaviour.
- Teachers are responsive and follow-up “bullying” and other poor behaviour instances that are known.
- Consequences occur for students who exhibit bullying behaviour (e.g. Student Reflection sheet).
- Kids are taught a range of strategies (3 step plan) e.g. confront and tell them to stop … move away … tell an adult.
- Parents are informed of significant incidents or repeat incidents through phone calls to parents.
- Staff are always “out and about”, observing.
- School Chaplain is available.

Please encourage your children to make positive choices, as we encourage them too!

At assembly this week we will discuss the “Cool and Right Way” to solve incidents in the playground. Please reinforce this at home. The “Agro Way” doesn’t solve your problems. It often only inflames the problem or as I often speak to kids about ‘it is like pouring petrol on a fire’.

**The cool and right way is to:**

- Ignore their behaviour.
- Tell them to stop annoying you.
- Speak in a firm, not angry voice and stand tall.
- Look in their eyes firmly (but not in a threatening way).
- Stay in control of yourself.
- Walk away from them.
- See an adult.
- If it continues see the same adult. (Tell your class teacher).

**The agro way is to:**

- Push, punch, trip or kick another person.
- Speak discourteously.
- Use insults and put-downs.
- Call people names, make blaming comments.
- Shout or swear.
- Stand too close to the person and act in a threatening manner.
- Lose control of yourself.
**School News**

**Helping with Reading**

To get your child interested in reading, it's important to vary the books you read together and to talk about the types of material you read each day.

Our school encourages parents to work with us to develop children’s reading skills. Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Play number-plate games in the car by making sentences starting with the same letters as on different number-plates.
- Encourage children to re-tell stories they have read and to share these stories with other family members.
- When reading to your child, stop and ask, “What do you think will happen next?” and occasionally ask, “Why do you think the author included that part in the story?” This will be a check to ensure they understand what they are reading.
- If your child makes a mistake when they are reading aloud, give them time to correct the mistake themselves. Encourage your child to read every day and ensure they see you read as well.

**The 5 Bs**

The 5 Bs are five simple expectations we apply with all students at Woongarra State School. Each class will discuss how each of these rules applies to their particular age and year level.

For the next 4 weeks, we are concentrating particularly on ‘Being Responsible’. This is our second 5B. Children demonstrating this 5B outside in the playground will be recognised with a “Woonie”. All Woonies achieved give the recipients a chance to win an ice block and bookmark at assembly each week.

**Week 4 winners** were (from Prep to year 6): Indie H, Pyper R, Chelsea H, Georgia G, Aiden S, Zaschella H and Mikaela D.

**ICY CUPS**

Wednesday - second lunch break

$0.25 ½ cup for Prep students

$0.50 full cup

Each student may purchase 1 icy cup for themselves only!

Prep money is collected from class in the morning and icy cups are delivered to class.

**Student Banking**

Keep saving for a chance to win a trip to Tokyo Disneyland

Simply make 15 or more School Banking deposits before the end of Term 3, 2017 and you’ll automatically receive an entry into the competition for a chance to win an unforgettable family trip to Tokyo Japan. One lucky winner and their family (up to two adults and three children) will be able to explore Tokyo Disneyland with its amazing attractions, including the futuristic Tomorrowland, plus enjoy the fun rides at Tokyo DisneySea.

Tracy Balto (School Banking Co-ordinator)

**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.

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Quote: “People who are late are often happier than those who have to wait for them!”

(Taken from a Chinese Fortune Cookie)

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.

Lisa Palmer

**Synth City**

~ The Evolution of the Keyboard ~

**Tuesday 28 February**

$5.00

Travel through time to trace the origins of the amazing keyboard synthesizer Teleporting back to the dawn of classical sounds and instruments and swinging through to the 60s to hear the birth of the electronic keyboards and its coming of age in the 21st Century, Synth City reveals in the boundless possibilities of playing those black and white notes!

Lionel Robinson introduces members of the synth’s family tree with plenty of humour, fun facts and impressive demonstration, showing off the clavichord, harpsichord, grand piano, Hammond organ, electric piano, Moog synthesizer and digital sampler. As educational as it is entertaining, Synth City stimulates an interest in music by showing the incredible potential offered by keyboards today.

As is usual with school performances, the curriculum is supported, and it is expected that all students will attend to learn and enjoy.
A word From Chaplain Paula

When I’m feeling sad
I feel like someone has taken all the colours away …
And everything is grey and gloomy and droopy.

When I’m feeling sad
I feel like I could cry … and cry … and cry soooo much that I make a flood!
I want to crawl into bed and pull the covers over my head … and stay there until the sadness goes away.

Some things make me really sad … Like when I hear mum and dad arguing, or when I am sick and my body doesn’t work properly … or when someone, or something, I love dies.

It’s okay to let yourself feel sad … but it could help to talk to someone about it.

Sharing your feelings can sometimes make you feel better. When I’m feeling sad I try to be kind and gentle to myself. I like to soak in a big bubble bath, or listen to my favourite music.

Sometimes, just being with friends and family makes me feel better … even if I don’t want to talk. But the nicest feeling of all is when a kind person gives me a hug and says ‘Everything is going to be okay.’

Text taken from When I’m Feeling Sad* by Trace Moroney

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International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

At this time each year we invite parents to consider nominating their children in Years 3-6 to compete in ICAS. The competitions form the largest independent assessment program for schools available in Australia, Asia and the Pacific region.

All competing students receive a certificate and result sheet. These certificates, result sheets and test booklets are distributed to individual students when results are returned to the school. Each competition costs $8.00.

**Science:** Tuesday 30 May

**English:** Tuesday 1 August

**Mathematics:** Tuesday 15 August

Parents interested in registering students are asked to forward money in an envelope with competitions clearly indicated and your child’s name and class. **Nominations will be accepted until Friday 24 March.** We particularly encourage all Year 3 - 6 students in extension Maths or English to ‘have a go’.