Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It has been nice to meet our Kindergarten and other new students over the past couple of weeks and also welcome back our returning students. The school has been really buzzing with anticipation and activity during the first few weeks of term. If all of the children keep up the fantastic levels of enthusiasm that I am seeing in classrooms and the playground we will have a very successful year.

Reorganisation of Classes - As mentioned at the morning assembly on the first day of school and in the newsletter that was sent home in Week 1 the classes that children were put in were only temporary. Due to our enrolments increasing we are fortunate to be able to form an extra class. By being able to form this class the number of students in several classes will be reduced. Classes will be reorganised early next week and a note will be sent home with any child who moves to a different class to inform parents/carers.

‘Meet the Teacher’ Evenings – Last year we held ‘Meet the Teacher’ evenings to provide information about the year ahead in your child’s class. These evenings were very well attended and greatly appreciated by parents. In response to this we will be having ‘Meet the Teacher’ again this year. The dates for the ‘Meet the Teacher’ evenings are:

Tuesday, 26th February – Years 5 and 6 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Wednesday, 27th February – Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 from 5:00pm – 6:00pm; Years 3 and 4 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm

P&C Annual General Meeting – The Annual General Meeting of the P&C will be held on Tuesday, 19th February at 9:15am in the staffroom. All parents are welcome to attend and it would be great to see as many of you as possible.

School Car Parking Areas – The two school car parking areas are for staff parking only. Please do not use the school car parks as a drop off or pick up zone for your children unless you have prior permission to use the disabled parking space in the front car park. This is for the safety of all of our students. We would hate to see a child injured because someone has driven into the car park unexpectedly.

Children at school before 8:30am – There are a number of children who are arriving at school before 8:30am, some as early as 8:00am. All parents are reminded that the school does not officially open until 8:30am and there is no supervision provided until this time. If you need to send your child to school before 8:30am due to work commitments arrangements should be made for your child(ren) to attend before school care.
Approaching Your School – A parent and community guide for seeking information and expressing concerns

From time to time parents or other members of the school community may need to approach the school in order to:

- Discuss the progress or welfare of own child
- Express concern about actions of other students
- Enquire about school policy or practice

It is therefore necessary to have procedures that will help solve problems as soon as possible so that a safe and harmonious school environment is maintained. The best results usually flow from working together.

These guidelines aim to:

- provide a guide in order that concerns are dealt with in an open and fair manner.
- ensure that the rights of students, teachers and parents are respected and upheld.
- support sensitivity and confidentiality.
- help reach an agreed solution

On occasion, concerns may cause frustration and anxiety. At such times it is always important to organise a time to talk with school staff in an unhurried and confidential atmosphere.

Trying to talk to teachers when they are trying to teach, manage children or are engaged in another conversation is inappropriate.

Teachers, parents and community working together for successful schooling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONCERN</th>
<th>APPROPRIATE ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The academic progress of own child</td>
<td>Directly contact the child’s teacher either by note, by phone or in person to arrange a suitable time to discuss any issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The welfare of own child</td>
<td>For minor issues directly contact your child’s teacher to clarify information. For more serious concerns, contact office. State nature of concern and arrange a suitable time to talk with class teacher or appropriate staff member.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actions of other students</td>
<td>Contact the class teacher for a classroom problem. Contact the Assistant Principal responsible for your child’s stage or Principal for playground problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School policy or practice</td>
<td>Contact office. State nature of concern and make an appointment to see the Principal and/or appropriate member of staff.</td>
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As indicated in the table above the child's class teacher is the best person to talk to first in most circumstances. If they are unable to assist they will refer you to the staff member who has dealt with the issue, one of the Assistant Principals or the Principal.

IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION

On the school side of Wetherill Street there is NO PARKING between the hours of 8.30am - 9.30am and 2.30pm - 4.00pm. This area is for passenger set down or pick up only. You have no more than 2 MINUTES to drop off or pick up and you must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

A reminder to parents to take care with parking on Wetherill Street before and after school. Our children need to be kept safe. Wetherill Street is a busy road and I ask parents to consider safe parking in order to drop off and collect their children. Also consider our school neighbours by not parking in their driveways at any time. We rely on our neighbours to assist in security issues and wish to maintain positive relationships with them.

K. Smith
Principal
SPEECH PATHOLOGIST

A Speech Pathologist will be working in our school throughout 2013.

Tina Simicevic is a qualified Speech Pathologist who works for Educational Speech Pathology & Therapy Services. Tina will be working at our school each Monday throughout Terms 1-4.

Parents, it is important to note you cannot refer your child directly to the Speech Pathologist.

If your child already attends speech therapy outside of school please do not stop attending. The Educational Speech Pathology program cannot offer the same individualised therapy your child will receive through either Community Health or Private speech therapy.

Tina’s main role will be to work with our teachers in the classroom to support the speaking and listening skills of the children.

Tina may also be conducting screenings and full diagnostic assessments. You will receive written information if your child requires a full assessment or is required to be withdrawn from class for group lessons. Your written permission is required for this to occur.

We have chosen to focus the program on Kindergarten, Years 1 and 2 during Semester 1. Tina will be speaking at the Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 ‘Meet the Teacher’ evening on Wednesday, 27th February to provide information about the program.

PSSA

PSSA – On Friday 15 February PSSA Newcombeball and T-ball teams will be playing Prairievale Public School in the first round of the PSSA competition at Endeavour Reserve and the Oz-Tag team has a BYE. Please note change of venue.

On Friday 22 February PSSA Oz-Tag and T-ball teams will be playing Fairfield Heights Public School and the Newcombeball team will be playing Harrington Street Public School in the second round of the PSSA competition at Endeavour Reserve.

Parents and friends are most welcome to come along and support teams. PSSA sport commences at 9.30am. Good luck to all teams. R. Howitt

WOOLWORTHS EARN AND LEARN PROGRAM

Our Woolworths Earn and Learn Resources have arrived. These are a selection of the $4000.00 worth of resources SWPS was able to purchase thanks to the generosity and impressive shopping ability of our families. S. Pilgrim
UNIFORM SHOP
Uniforms will be available for purchase on:
Wednesdays and Thursdays
8.30am-9.30am and 2.30pm-3.00pm
Please see staff in the Administration Office

Catholic Scripture – Confirmation 2013 – Enrolments for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be accepted at the 6.00pm Saturday and all the Sunday Masses in Smithfield Parish on the weekends of 2&3 March and 9&10 March 2013. Enrolment forms are available from Scripture Teachers, in the Parish churches or phone Halina or Maureen on 9725 4317.

SPORT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Smithfield Panthers Netball
2013 Registration date: Saturday 16 February from 11.00am - 1.00pm at Endeavour Reserve, Maud Street Fairfield West. All players welcome, family discounts available. For further information contact: Irene Robson 0416 134 113 or Deb Bruce 0407 254 830.

Wetherill Park Westerners Soccer
2013 Registration Dates: Saturday 16 & 23 February from 12.00pm - 4.00pm at our club rooms at Emerson Reserve, Mansfield Street Wetherill Park.

We have teams in all grades: Minis, Juniors, Seniors, All Age Men, All Age Ladies and Over 35s. Concessions available for 5 and 6 year olds. New players are required to provide original proof of age. For further information contact: Harry 0417 223 941 or Michael 0419 225 859.

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