On Wisdom…

To be wise you must first have reverence for the Lord. If you know the Holy One, you have understanding. Wisdom will add years to your life. You are the one who will profit if you have wisdom, and if you reject it, you are the one who will suffer. Proverbs 9: 10-12.

Dear Parents and Guardians

On Tuesday afternoon I had the pleasure of joining a small group of our parents and guardians as they listened to Lesley Harrison from the Australian Communication and Media Authority (ACMA).

Lesley explained that today’s Primary school aged children have never known a world without digital technology. Children use the internet to socialise, entertain and to be informed. Many children are information technology (IT) savvy and use tools such as msn because it is far quicker to communicate than using email. Put simply msn affords instant gratification – no waiting. Google, Facebook and U Tube are the three most popular search engines. Young children are known to use Skype, Face time and EBay with great proficiency. The skillful use of EBay temporarily stunned me! Lesley informed us that surveys of over a 1000 children indicated that 99% of Year 7 children have access to dsi or psp and that in a confined space a child has access to up to 16 people using blue tooth facility. This can be fun but also very dangerous!

We were advised of the following:

1. The bedroom or quiet space within the house is where a great deal of the cyber bullying takes place. The catch cry is ‘I.T. in the Open’.
2. Educate your children as to Public V Private. Once photo’s, phone numbers, addresses, names, dates and other personal details get into cyberspace all manner of dangers are automatically present. It’s hard to take back what you’ve sent out into cyberspace. Digital reputations can be ruined by lack of parental supervision or knowledge.
3. Recruitment and Identity theft are prevalent. 56% of Year 7 children that were surveyed by ACMA acknowledged that an unknown person had tried to contact them when they were online.
4. Children need to be aware of Scamming. Scamwatch.gov.au is useful in this matter.
5. Be aware that children should not have Facebook pages until they are 13 years old.
6. Defamation, harassment and making threats are answerable under either State or Federal laws.

Children don’t like to report cyber bullying because they don’t think adults make a difference, they believe the bullying will escalate and they think parents will take the technology away if danger or misuse occurs. We need to build capable, resilient and clever users of Cyberspace and technology!

God bless you

Warren Smith
Interim Principal

Notes home this week:
Yr 5&6 Human Growth & Development Night 13/06/2012
Yr 5 WAMSE note
Update Term 2 Planner, Weeks 7 - 11
Disco Note
DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 31 May</td>
<td>2W Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4 June</td>
<td>WESTERN AUSTRALIA DAY – PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5 June</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>Thursday 7 June</td>
<td>Merit Assembly</td>
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Congratulations to those children who have celebrated their birthdays recently.

Claudia G, Macy B, Carlos L, Amy M, Skylar Blue M, Elijah d’Avoine, Te Huika M, Kaela-Paige C

SCHOOL MATTERS

ATTENDANCE RECORDS AND WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT: The school day officially begins at 8.20am each morning. Monday, Tuesday and Friday all classes from Pre-Primary to Year 6 attend morning fitness on the oval or basketball courts. The Education Act prescribes that a daily attendance record be kept by every classroom teacher. Children who have not arrived at school by 8.40am, which is when Specialist classes commence, are recognised as being ABSENT and an entry is recorded as such in the classroom Attendance Register. Should a child enter the school LATE (after 8.20am) they are expected to go to the office to receive a LATE NOTE. On entering the classroom this note is handed to the teacher who marks the child as LATE in the attendance register. Every year as part of a School Data census the attendance percentages for each year level and the school overall are calculated. The attendance register is a legal document and over time it builds an accurate record of your child’s school attendance. Please consider whether you are getting your child to school on time. It is legally important but also teaches them about promptness.

RECONCILIATION WEEK 27 MAY - 3 JUNE, 2012: Reconciliation Week focuses on building relationships for positive change between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and all other Australians. This week our school is recognising some of the many contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make to our country. Our students have made a hand symbolising our commitment to genuine reconciliation as a gesture of respect for Aboriginal culture and tradition. These have been displayed throughout the school during the week. Last week we held a special assembly and I would like to thank the following students for participating: Elaina Hinder, Lia Barmuta, Alyzza Crouch, Angelikah Ryder, Millie Mazurak, Tyeesha Ryder, Ludwig de Campo, Jaylon Eades, Ella Birchall, Lance Hinder, Claudia McDermott, Akor Maker and Victoria Pang. Thank you to Mrs K. Young, Mrs N. Sullivan and Mrs J. Johnson for their support of these events and a massive thank you to Mrs A. Parata and Mrs J. Birchall for coordinating the assembly.

YEAR 5 & 6 HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT TALKS: We have organised guest speakers from the Catholic Family Planning Centre to present talks to our Year 5 and 6 students and parents on the themes of ‘Becoming a Man’ and ‘Becoming a Woman’. These talks are scheduled to be held in the Music Room and Library between 6.30pm and 8.00pm on Wednesday 13 June. In the past these talks have been very popular as they enable a direct link into conversations that have / have not already commenced at home. Be aware that the content of these talks will be introduced from a Catholic perspective. Please indicate your intention to attend by filling out the return slip on the bottom of the note sent home to parents with this newsletter.
AUSTRALIAS BIGGEST MORNING TEA: We would like to thank everyone who made their ‘cup count’ when we held the Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday 24 May. Several of the classes supplied large quantities of food and both parents and children joined with teachers to have a lovely time, chatting and enjoying each other's company. In excess of $650.00 has been raised for the Cancer Council of Western Australia. It is with great pleasure that I thank Miss J. Cooney for all her efforts in coordinating this event.

CONGRATULATIONS MR AND MRS LO FARO! We are delighted to announce that Mrs Susanna Lo Faro who earlier this semester, was our class teacher in Kindergarten Blue, gave birth to a beautiful little girl and has named her Georgia Anne. Both mother and child are doing well.

CONFIRMATION NEWS: The Confirmation programme has been completed. The candidates can receive their certificates by attending one of the weekend masses held within the Parish. Masses are held at 6.00pm Saturdays and 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.30pm on Sundays. On arrival at Church simply approach Father and let him know which Confirmation you attended.

LOOKING AHEAD SACRAMENTALLY: The next sacrament to be undertaken this year is Eucharist. This sacrament is available to candidates who have registered earlier in the school year and who are predominantly in Year 4. You must attend one of each of the following:
1. Attendance at one of the Commitment Masses which will be held over the weekends of 28 / 29 July and 4 / 5 August.
2. Attendance at one of the Parent / Student workshops which will be held at 5pm and 6.30pm on Tuesday 28 August and Wednesday 29 August.
3. Attendance at a Eucharist Mass which will be held at 6pm on Saturday 8 September and 9am and 5.30pm on Sunday 9 September.

ON LINE SAFETY STRATEGY FOR KIDS: Over the next few weeks we will share seven key messages which we believe form the basis of an online safety strategy for kids – Message 2: Think Before You Send. Remind kids cyberspace is a very public and permanent forum. A text message or image sent to just one person can be passed to a potentially unlimited number. Once they are sent they're almost impossible to erase and take back.

LAPS TO LONDON UPDATE: Miss Watkins has reported that in Week 5 the children ran 3,621 laps which converted to 720 kilometres. We have now run to Dhaka in Bangladesh. Congratulations to 5B; they ran 605 laps in Week 5 and have run the greatest distance two weeks in a row!

RESILIENCY ROBBERS: Number 7: Rescue kids from challenging or stretch situations.
There are many times kids are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones for a time. For instance, giving a talk, singing at the school concert or going on a school camp may be challenges for some kids. They are situations that kids usually cope with so show your confidence in them and skill them up rather than opt for avoidance or make excuses for them. Resilience notion number 7: Overcoming challenges enables kids to grow and improve. Sometimes the manageable hardships that children experience such as a friend moving away, not being invited to a party or completing a difficult school project or homework are fabulous learning opportunities. They help kids to stretch and grow. Dealing with them effectively also teaches kids they are capable of coping when they meet some of life’s curve balls. And that is a huge lesson to learn at any age!

CARITAS AUSTRALIA FAST FACTS: Together we can work towards the creation of a world that God desires to be just and compassionate. www.caritas.org.au
NUMBER 3 – Based on enrolment data, about 72 million primary school age children in developing countries are not at school. Some 57% of them are girls. (Millennium Development Goals Report)
NUMBER 4 – In developing countries, 100 children in every 1000 die before turning 5 years. In Australia it is around 4 in 1000. (Centre for Environment Education)
To show our Mums and Grandmothers how much we love them, we had a special pamper morning for them. We invited them into our classroom and we did their hair and nails and gave them massages. We even got to spray them with perfume. We had so much fun!