Family Fun Night Success!

What a great night we all had at the Family Fun Night! It was fabulous to see so many families acquainting themselves with the new staff and introducing themselves to the parents associated with their child's class and of course enjoying the fine foods on offer!

It was also very rewarding to see the students proudly showing off their own classrooms, the specialist areas of Japanese, PE, the Gym/Hall, the Resource Centre and Music Room.

I would like to thank the staff and parent volunteers who organised the catering and assisted with the serving throughout the night. Your help was greatly appreciated by all.

Annual General Meeting

Governing Council is the main decision making body of the school. The council determines the broad directions of the school and makes decisions about priorities, policy and the budget. It is representative of the community and monitors our improvement, priorities and financial position.

There are several sub committees of Governing Council that assist with decision making by doing the groundwork and reporting their recommendations to the Council. These sub committees include School Directions and Accountability, Finance Committee, OSHC Management Committee and Canteen Committee.

Members of the Governing Council act on behalf of the parent community of our school and are your 'voice' when making decisions about the school and its future directions.

Involvement in the Governing Councils means committing yourself to attend two meetings per term.

Nominations for membership to the Governing Council or one of the sub committees are a formal requirement and you will find nomination forms accompanying this newsletter. If you believe that you can offer the school something towards helping your child and the school in general please complete a nomination form and come along to the Annual General Meeting.

For further information about the Governing Council and its role within the school, please contact Carey Greenslade (Chairperson), any one of the Council members or me at your earliest convenience.

The Governing Council will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday 9th March starting at 7:30pm in the Resource Centre.

Greg Graham
Welcome Dinner

Last Friday night was the second Welcome Dinner for parents of students starting school for the first time. The evening was hosted by parents of students in Year 1 and there were about 58 people in attendance. The night was an enjoyable event where new friendships and networks were made and information about school business shared. Hopefully the success of this event will see such gatherings continue in the future. Thank-you to organising committee for a job well done!

Term Planner Update

Just a reminder, to update your Term 1 'Fridge' Calendar. In the Diary Dates column the newest additions for your calendar is the School Choir excursion to Glenelg Primary School on Thursday 25th February.

Bicycle Safety

At last week’s assembly the student body were reminded that riding bicycles and scooters in the school yard is not allowed. We are also asking parents to observe this safety requirement and to make sure that bicycles and scooters are walked into the yard and taken to the Bike Cage located at the rear of the school near the big eastern oval. We would also remind bicycle and scooter users to secure their bikes/scooters with a bike lock.

ICAS Curriculum Competitions

Each year, students throughout Australia are given the opportunity to participate in the International Competitions & Assessments for Schools (ICAS) formerly University of NSW, curriculum competitions. The competitions cover six subjects and students can choose to participate in one or all. Over the past three years we have several students participate in these competitions and each has gained significant success with their results. The competitions are only available for students from Year 3 upwards. There is a cost involved and this varies according to the cost of materials and the assessment of each subject. The students will receive a certificate of achievement as well as an analysis of their results. The subjects and costs are:-

- Digital Technologies - $8.80
- English - $8.80
- Mathematics - $8.80
- Science - $8.80
- Spelling - $12.10
- Writing - $18.70
Or $66.00 for all subjects

If your child is interested in participating in any or all of these competitions please see Robyn in the Front Office. The closing date for entries in all subjects is Friday 1st April.

Road Crossing Monitors

Every day the school pedestrian crossing will be monitored by students and teachers both before school and after school. The students have been trained by the SA Police Traffic division and have the official authority to report any pedestrians or motorists who disobey the crossing signals and traffic signs adjacent to the crossing. Infringements include:

- Motorists failing to stop when the signs are displayed, or speeding though the crossing.
- Motorists parking illegally on or near the crossing.
- Pedestrians can be reported for disobeying the signs, 'J' walking within the crossing zone (identified by the solid white line).
- Pedestrians or motorists who threaten or abuse the monitors or act in an unsafe manner when using the crossing.

All reports are forwarded to the SAPOL Traffic division and are followed up by the police as required. The monitors are easily recognised by the orange safety vests, signs and whistles. We seek the cooperation of the community to ensure the safety of the students and parents who use the crossing.

HEALTH ALERT

Nut Awareness

We have had an increase in the number of students across the school that are highly allergic to nuts and nut products. Some of these children require specialised medical attention including immediate hospitalisation. As many of you are aware, there are not too many snack foods for children that do not have traces of nuts or traces of nuts in them. Some of these children can have a medical reaction from simply smelling food with nut traces in them through to touching something that has had traces of nut residue on it (e.g. a tap, door handle, a book cover).
We have notices displayed on the classroom doors and windows identifying classrooms where a child with an allergy is located. We ask your cooperation in recognising that your child may have a classmate who is allergic to nuts and/or nut products and ask if you could alter your child’s lunch or recess pack so that it does not have any nut products in it.

**FESTIVAL CHOIR**

Festival Choir is a choir held at Warradale Primary which is offered to all Year 5-7 students. Students joining Festival Choir are asked to commit from February to September and there is a cost of $25 which includes a choir book, cd and weekly lessons from our choir trainer Lee Ching. In September, our Choir joins with choirs from across the state to perform at the Festival Theatre in a combined choir of 600 children. Students attend rehearsals in town closer to the performance date and parents can purchase tickets to watch the performance. We had our first choir lesson this week. Students are allowed to come and try choir for two weeks and then they will be asked to commit and pay. Please talk to your child about taking up this opportunity.

**RIDE2SCHOOL DAY**

Just a reminder that Warradale Primary will be participating in the Ride2School campaign by asking our students to ride their bicycle or scooter to school on Friday 4th March. We encourage students and their families to leave the car at home or park it away from the school and get a taste of the benefits, ease and fun involved in riding scooting or walking to school.

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

Our school will be involved in the annual Clean-up Australia Campaign to be held on Friday 4th March. Each class has taken on the responsibility to clean up an area around our school and within the local community. We ask if the students can provide their own gloves. They need to be sturdy gloves such as rubber or gardening gloves.

**ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

This year we have modified the focus on the Achievement Awards presented to students at our fortnightly assembly. We are using the five school values of Responsibility, Respect, Caring, Courtesy and Courage as headings for individual certificates. For example a student who demonstrates acts of responsibility, such as completing work, looking after their own and school property, being honest, are dependable and reliable, etc. will be given a Responsibility Certificate with a brief statement describing their actions. Students, who show respect such as using manners, honouring school rules, respecting the rights of others etc., will be presented with a Respect Certificate. Actions such as helping others, looking after our school environment will be recognised through the Caring Certificate. If a student is persistent with their work, willing to try new things, not give up and ask for help they will be awarded Courage Certificate and finally to be awarded a Courtesy Certificate, a student will be polite, take turns, share equipment, apologise for any wrongs and encouraging others.

All of these personal traits are the typical characteristics that we would like our students to pursue and uphold throughout their schooling and beyond.

**SPORT**

**Summer Sports**

Training has begun for cricket and T-Ball! Cricket training will be on Wednesday’s from 3:20-4:20pm and T-ball on Thursday nights 3.20 to 4.20.

All parents are required to attend training with their child and to help the coach with training sessions.

**A Note from the Counsellor...**

‘The principal goal of education in schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done’ – Jean Piaget

amber.dohnt391