PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

Windsor State School has an excellent reputation and strong community support. This results from parents and school working together to provide the very best educational opportunities for our children.

There are many opportunities for parents to be actively involved in the wide variety of school and community events. Parents act as volunteers in classrooms supporting the literacy and numeracy programs of our school. Parents are actively involved in working bees and fund raisers to enhance the school environment and school resources. I thank all parents who actively support Windsor State School, it is greatly appreciated by staff.

On Monday, we had the induction of our school leaders for 2016. At this assembly, we recognised and celebrated the achievements of those students who we, the staff and students, selected as the representatives for our school. Congratulations to our Student Executive Leaders and Student Councillors on their selection. I am certain that 2016 will provide them with many opportunities to learn and practice the habits of effective leaders. These habits of Speaking Up, Stepping Up, Having a Go, Thinking Team and Showing the Way are their toolkit to success. I also commend the parents of these students on their efforts to nurture and guide them as they have grown.

I hope that this year provides them with the opportunity to flourish and further develop into wonderful young people who will grow to be our leaders in the future.

CLASSES & MASTER PLANNING

Each year a school’s staffing ratio is determined by the Day 8 enrolment data. I am pleased to advise that there will be no changes to our existing 26 classes and that, based on current enrolments, we are able to provide supplementary staffing to benefit the entire school.

Currently, Windsor State School is at capacity. As we have no available or suitable classrooms for an extra class, we will provide additional teacher-aide support to all classes in Years 3-6. This support will align with classes in Prep-Year 2, who all have had additional early intervention support for over 12-months. All classes in the school now have extra human resources.

Over the last twelve months, representatives of the Windsor State School community, parents and staff have been undertaking a master planning process. This has been in consultation with Department of Education Facilities and Infrastructure personnel, architectural firms and different consultants to develop a master plan for our school. After extensive work our
P&C has a plan that encompasses present and future needs of the school. This plan was presented to members of the school community after an extensive feedback process. At the P&C Meeting on Monday November 16, 2015 the P&C ratified the plan as the basis for ongoing discussion with DET personnel. As Windsor State School has now reached capacity, further dialogue will now take place, with DET, to progress the master plan to provide for future enrolment forecasts and school needs.

SAFETY FIRST

Parents, please be cautioned to use our two minute drop off zones correctly. I have notified the relevant authorities that, at the moment, some parents continue to contravene the law, particularly on Harris Street.

STOPPING ON LUTWYCHE ROAD, TO WAIT FOR THE 2-MIN ZONE TO CLEAR, IS BREAKING THE LAW. PLEASE CONTINUE TO DRIVE AROUND THE BLOCK UNTIL THERE IS SPACE FOR YOUR CAR WITHIN THE ZONE.

Once again, I find it difficult to believe that, year after year, it is necessary to remind parents of the need to obey the council signage and road rules around our drop off zones. The drop off zones on Constitution Road and Harris Street are two minute stopping zones. Parents cannot leave their vehicle, you must move to the head of the queue, if your child is not ready to be picked up you must drive around the block and return to the end of the queue. Council Parking Inspectors and the police have been ask to patrol the area and fine people that are doing the wrong thing. Please respect our staff in the two minute zones who are there to ensure your child's safety. Also, please ensure that your children know afternoon pick-up arrangements before they get to school each day.

REPORT CARDS

QParents...please get on-board! Our school has now had QParents for 8 months. Parents should have received an invitation email or letter by now and it's great to see that over 50% of parents have registered already.

If you have not received an invitation, please advise us, at Admin, immediately. QParents is becoming an integral part of how we communicate with parents. Get on board to enjoy the ease and convenience that QParents offers. QParents saves time when paying invoices as it takes you directly to the payment screen. Class timetables will also be available on QParents in the coming weeks. Ensure that your email address, as well as other details, are up to date.

IMPORTANT!! From 2016 onward, Student Report Cards will be emailed to parents each semester. When the reporting period is finalised, these report cards will then be accessible through QParents also. Parents will also be able to access past report cards. There will be no printed report cards provided to Parents, from 2016, unless requested at Admin.

ALLERGIES & INTOLERANCES

As it is the start of the year, this is just a reminder to be weary of what you pack for your child's lunch. Windsor State School cannot enforce a nut free policy; however, we can appeal to your goodwill and request that you do not send products that may cause severe allergic reactions. It is important that all students can feel safe whilst eating. Below are some links to give assistance in understanding food related allergies and intolerances and how it can affect one's child.

   Kids with Food Allergies  http://www.kidswithfoodallergies.org/index.php
   Allergic Child  http://www.allergicchild.com

ABSENCES

Please notify the school absence line (ph. 3866 4360), or register an absence using QParents, if your child is going to be absent from school. You are asked to confirm this absence in writing on the child's return to school. Unexplained absences for over ten days will be forwarded to appropriate authorities. The school will endeavour to contact all families of absent children if we have not received prior notification of the child's absence.

Harris Street, Windsor Q 4030  
PH 38664333     FAX 38664300  
EMAIL: theprincipal@windsorss.eq.edu.au  
ABSENTEES 3866 4360
TUCKSHOP 3866 4306
AFTER SCHOOL CARE 0458 009 761

Parents and Citizens Association meet on the third Monday of each month at 7.30pm
RECENT BOMB THREATS

As I am sure all are aware, there has been intense media coverage about a number of bomb threats in Queensland State Schools. Please be assured that, at Windsor, all staff and students are familiar with our emergency response procedures if we need to enact these for any reason. Each term we undertake a full school drill and I am always impressed at how quickly and orderly our whole school responds in these situations.

Often the most difficult aspect of situations like the current threats is controlling the information and stories that circulate. If you want to be well informed and know exactly the facts if something like this occurs, I strongly urge all parents to ensure that they have the QSchools App on their phone and have set it up to receive push notifications from the school.

For more information about QSchools and how to access this http://deta.qld.gov.au/about/app/qschools-app.html

Also, remember to follow Windsor SS on Facebook www.facebook.com/windsorsss and Twitter @WindsorSS. In the event of an emergent situation, our first communication strategy will be to use these networks for reaching as many families as possible quickly. We will then activate our parent email network. To avoid creating panic in the community, emergency situations will be considered carefully, and safety assessed, before contact with parents is made. We do not want to risk people entering potentially dangerous situations.

I can assure you that if an event does arrive we will provide every avenue of support to safeguard the welfare and wellbeing of everyone in our school. Their safety will not be compromised.

Have a happy and successful week.

Matthew Keong
Principal

**********************************************************************************
STUDENT COUNCIL DISCO

The Student Council welcomes everyone back to the New Year with a Disco THIS THURSDAY 18th FEBRUARY, the first Disco for 2015. This Disco helps to raise money to support student council projects at the school, including our World Vision Sponsor Child.

The theme of this disco is: THE COLOURS OF THE KEYS TO SUCCESS

Students are invited to dress in a colour that reflects one of the Keys to Success.

Tickets will be available in the Early Years Precinct, before 8:50am in the week leading up to the Disco ($5.00 single ticket; $10.00 family ticket- 2 or more). Pre-purchasing tickets makes it quicker and easier to get into the disco.

The Disco times are as follows:

- Prep-Year 2 5:15pm-6:30pm
- Year 3-6 7:00pm-8:30pm

All Prep-Year 2 students must be accompanied by their parent/guardian at all times during the Disco. Parents/Guardians, you are responsible for your own children. Teachers will supervise at the Year 3-6 Disco. Parents are not required to stay at this Disco, but must collect students promptly at 8:30pm. Food and drink will be on sale at the Disco. The DJ will also be selling glow products.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Queensland School Photography will be taking all school photographs on Thursday 17th March.

Students must wear their correct formal school uniform with black shoes and white socks, which is the checked shirt (boys) or dress (girls), not the sports uniform.

To ensure a smooth running day, please note that all photographs will be supplied on a pre-paid basis only. Payment envelopes will be distributed this week and must be returned on photo day only, no exceptions will be made. Parents wanting their children to be photographed together, please collect a family envelope from the school administration and bring the completed envelop, along with your children, to the hall between 7.00am and 9.00am.

If for any reason you are not satisfied with the photos taken of your child, Queensland School Photography will provide a full refund. Queensland School Photography will accept late orders for individuals and group photographs; however a late fee to cover postage and handling will apply.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Queensland School Photography customer service department on 3807 9601. More information will be sent home in a letter accompanying the ordering/payment envelope.

Follow Windsor SS on Facebook & Twitter!

Get the most up-to-date information and school alerts by following Windsor State School on Facebook www.facebook.com.au/windsorss and Twitter @Windsor_SS

You can also access important school information and alerts, including Facebook/Twitter, via the Qschools app! Download it now and keep informed of everything that is happening at our school.
RELIgIOUS INSTRUCTION

The Department of Education, Training and Employment outlines that schools are to provide comprehensive information to assist parents to make an informed decision about their child’s participation in Religious Instruction. At Windsor State School, Christian Religious Instruction is available on Tuesday afternoons between 1.50pm and 3pm for half an hour. The year levels that participate in Religious Instruction depends on the number of approved volunteers from local faith groups.

This semester, Religious Instruction is available to students in Year 2 and Year 4.

The school has recently been provided with a new Cooperative Arrangement signed by religious leaders of local faith groups. This agreement outlines that the Connect program and its associated materials is the only program that will be used during RI. The Christian Education Publications (CEP) Connect Lower Primary and Upper Primary provides the curriculum for the RI Program. Volunteers are required to strictly adhere to the approved curriculum in these workbooks. You can also visit http://cepconnect.com.au/ for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participating Faith Groups in the Cooperative Arrangement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglican</td>
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</table>

The cost of the workbooks published by CEP and used in RI classes will be invoiced to the parents of the children participating in RI.

Students are allocated to RI based on information provided by parents on the completed Application for Student Enrolment unless other written instructions have been provided to the school. Only students who have identified as one of the above faith groups will participate in religious instruction unless other written instructions have been provided. Students who are not participating in RI will be provided with other instruction in a separate supervised location. Other instruction must relate to part of a subject area already covered in class and may include, but is not restricted to, wider reading, personal research and revision tasks.

If at any time you would like to change your preference for your child’s participation in Religious Instruction, please send an email to admin@windsorss.eq.edu.au or complete a form that is available from the school office.

QParents…please get on-board!

QParents
Secure online parent portal

Our school now has QParents. Parents should have received an invitation email or letter by now and it’s great to see that so many parents have registered already.

If you have not received an invitation, please advise us immediately. QParents will soon become an integral part of how we communicate with parents. Get on board to enjoy the ease and convenience that QParents offers.

IMPORTANT!! QParents will be the means by which parents access Semester 1 Student Reports. It is important to register now as printed reports are no longer sent home at the end of each Semester. Help us become more 'paper-less' by registering for QParents now!
EVERY DAY COUNTS!

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL ABSENCE HOTLINE 38664360 IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT.
Leave a message stating student's name, class, reason for absence and length of absence.

Every Day Counts is an initiative addressing the issue of student attendance at school. The initiative is designed to change parent, community and student attitudes to school attendance. It requires the support of both parents and the community if student attendance is to be successfully addressed.
Every day counts... because children achieve best when they attend school all day, every day!
Every day counts... because going to school means getting a better chance at life!
Every day counts... because school helps children build social and emotional skills such as communication, teamwork and resilience!
Every day counts... because going to school is a legal requirement!

Parents, under the law, you must make sure your child is enrolled and attends school on ALL school days unless you have a reasonable excuse. You must not keep your child away from school for minor reasons. Under the law, schools must monitor attendance of students and follow up with parents and caregivers any unexplained absences.
What you can expect from Windsor State School:
- Monitoring of student attendance.
- Letting you know if your child is not at school.
- Following up unexplained absences every day.
- Effective teaching strategies to engage your child in learning.
- Strategies to help you to encourage your child to go to school.

If your child does not want to go to school, or is missing school without you knowing, contact your school immediately for assistance and support.

Just a little bit doesn't seem much but ......

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just....</th>
<th>That equals....</th>
<th>Which is.....</th>
<th>&amp; over 13 years of schooling that's...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 mins per day</td>
<td>50 mins per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>nearly ½ year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 mins per day</td>
<td>1hr 40 mins per week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>nearly 1½ years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1hr per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>over 2½ years</td>
</tr>
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RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR & CODE OF CONDUCT

Social Emotional Learning
YCDI is a program that teaches children a number of different skills that they need to be successful and happy, not only at school but during their years in primary, secondary school and beyond. "Successful" means every child doing the best they can. "Happy" suggests children who like themselves and have a good self-esteem, have friends, work hard in learning activities at school, challenge themselves, help others in need, and make school and home a safe and organised place to live and learn. YCDI aims to establish an environment where children will not spend a lot of time feeling extremely sad, worried or angry and will not want to fight with others or spend a lot of time alone and withdrawn from play or work activities.

There are 5 Foundations (5 Keys) that young people need to develop in order to be successful and happy. These are:

CONFIDENCE
PERSISTENCE
ORGANISATION
GETTING ALONG
EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

Although these words may seem "very grown up", especially for Early Childhood, the YCDI program will introduce each Foundation (Key) with a character: Connie Confidence; Pete Persistence; Oscar Organisation; Gabby Get Along and Ricky Resilience. The Foundations (Keys) will also be emphasised in Social Emotional focussed teaching and Pastoral Care, through children's stories, in creative lessons and activities and in songs. These different components will give your child time to learn about and practise each Foundation (Key) thoroughly. It is important that parents talk to children about the 5 keys and use the language of You Can Do It at home also!!

Our Whole School Responsible Behaviour Plan has been developed around students' behaviour choices and their commitment to our school rules, beliefs and values (Respect for Self; Respect for Others; Respect for the School). Bronze (C- Satisfactory), Silver (B- often very good), and Gold (A- consistently excellent) levels are achieved when students achieve specific criteria. These criteria are related to the school beliefs and values about RESPECT and the development of the 5 keys to success and happiness, CONFIDENCE; PERSISTENCE; ORGANISATION; GETTING ALONG; RESILIENCE.

All students (except Prep) begin on Bronze at the beginning of the year and may apply for Silver (after 4 weeks on Bronze) and Gold (after 6 weeks on Silver) as the year progresses.

Students may progress up, or down, these levels as a result of the choices they make. Again, being a Silver or Gold student reflects an awareness and understanding of our schools' values and beliefs about Respect and the development of the five foundations. It is the responsibility of each student to follow the process when applying to become a Gold/Silver student. This process includes completing an application, demonstrating that they meet the criteria of behaviours, negotiating with classroom teachers and acquiring the necessary signatures to confirm that they demonstrate each of the criteria. Students in Years 2-6 may begin their applications for Silver in Term 1, Week 5 beginning Monday 23rd February 2015. Class Teachers will present them with the criteria sheets.

The school acknowledges positive role models of behaviour in many ways throughout the year (merit badges; public acknowledgements). This year, we will celebrate students' efforts and achievements in class and at special parades throughout the year.
SCHOOL STUFF OPENING HOURS

Now that everyone is back at school with all their Booklist items for the year, Schoolstuff is entering their low season. From the 15th February through to the 4th October, they are open from 9am to 4pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. There are three simple methods for filling orders through Schoolstuff:

- **ONLINE:** Go to [www.schoolstuff.com.au](http://www.schoolstuff.com.au) at any time to place your order. You can either have your order despatched to your chosen address or it can be collected from our warehouse. Orders are despatched on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.
- **PHONE:** Call us on 33917000 and we will place the order for you.
- **RETAIL STORE:** Visit our store at 81A Caswell St East Brisbane for an instant service. Our staff will pick and pack your order for you while you wait. The store is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 9am - 4pm throughout the year, including school holidays.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM INFORMATION

**How is the Australian Curriculum organised?**

There are three dimensions in the Australian Curriculum:
- learning areas
- general capabilities
- cross-curriculum priorities.

1. Learning areas

The Australian Curriculum is organised into learning areas and subjects. Some learning areas bring a number of subjects together: Humanities and Social Sciences includes History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business; The Arts includes Dance, Drama, Media Arts, Music and Visual Arts; Technologies includes Design and Technologies and Digital Technologies. There is also a choice of 15 Languages.

Learning areas contain content descriptions that detail knowledge, understanding and skills to be taught each year or across a band of years. These content descriptions are accompanied by achievement standards that describe what students will know and will be able to do as a result of teaching and learning in the classroom.

2. General capabilities

General capabilities are included in the content of the learning areas. These are the skills and abilities intended to help prepare young Australians to learn, live and work in the 21st century. The Australian Curriculum has seven general capabilities:

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capability
- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Personal and Social Capability
- Ethical Understanding
- Intercultural Understanding

3. Cross-curriculum priorities

In a similar way, there are three priorities critical to Australia's future:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Histories and Culture
- Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia
- Sustainability

They build across the curriculum and allow students to connect the content of learning areas.
Where can I find more information?

Find more information about the Australian Curriculum on the ‘Parents’ page of the Australian Curriculum website, where you can:

- download fact sheets and brochures, which give more detailed information about the Australian Curriculum in the first year of school (Foundation), Years 1–2, Years 3–4, Years 5–6, Years 7–8, Years 9–10
- find answers to frequently asked questions
- see links that help you find information about:
  - samples of student work
  - student diversity
  - learning areas or subjects
  - general capabilities
  - cross-curriculum priorities
  - the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) and its relationship to the Australian Curriculum
  - implementation of the Australian Curriculum in states in territories.

Valuable information for teachers & parents

Valuable information for teachers & parents


www.australiancurriculum.edu.au

Have a wonderful week!

Roxanne Nielsen
Deputy Principal
The Seven Steps is a system that chunks writing into seven main techniques. The chunking concept is modelled on the way we learn sport. Take tennis for instance.
1. First we learn the individual skills - forehand, backhand, serve, volley and smash.
2. Then we practise the skills over and over until the skills move into ‘muscle memory’.
3. Finally we put the skills together to play a whole game.

It isn’t just about students ‘writing a whole story’ or ‘writing a whole persuasive text’. Rather, the focus is on teaching the chunks (The Seven Steps) for them to then be able to put these together to write a complete text.

What ARE the Seven Steps?
1. Plan for Success
2. Sizzling Starts
3. Tightening Tension
4. Dynamic Dialogue
5. Show, Don’t Tell
6. Ban the Boring
7. Exciting Endings

These steps may not necessarily be taught in the above order. The Seven Steps program works for ALL text types.

Writing with the Seven Steps can be practised in lots of different ways, both at home and at school. In fact, this practice may not necessarily even involve putting pencil to paper! See the parent information sheet below on Step 1: Plan for Success, for an outline of this step and how you can practise it at home with your child:

**Step 1:**
**Plan for Success**

**SEVEN STEPS WRITING TIPS**

If you got a dollar for every time you told your kids to plan their work, you’d be living on a tropical island now, right???

It’s hard to show people HOW to plan, so here’s a quick method. Good stories (like movies, books, poems and even jokes) are all planned - and they all have a similar structure. This is what it looks like:

1. Start with a bang - this usually has the main character in an action scene.
2. Back fill - the Who, What, Why is filled in while the action unfolds
3. The main problem is introduced
4. Complications and more problems. Things get very bad indeed
5. Tension scene where hero/heroine fights against incredible odds
6. Climax – incredibly, wonderfully they win!

Once writers know these basics, they have a SYSTEM to their planning - and this really improves their writing.

**TOP TIP:**
Think first, write second.
Draw yourself a graph like this one and plot your stories out BEFORE you start writing.

**ACTION ACTIVITY:**
Watch TV ads - you know the ones that ‘tell a story.’ In 30 seconds, some ads can create a start, tension scene and great ending, exactly like the story graph.
READING @ WINDSOR STATE SCHOOL 2016

Windsor State School is implementing a consistent, whole school approach to reading. Our reading framework for P-6 engages the Australian Curriculum English, CAFÉ strategies and Daily 5 structure. The explicit teaching of reading strategies at Windsor SS is by The Literacy CAFÉ strategies.

C.A.F.É is an acronym that stands for Comprehension, Accuracy, Fluency and Expanding vocabulary. Reading instruction and practice are structured through the Daily 5 model of focus lessons, Read to Self, Read to Someone and Listen to Reading.

All students at Windsor State School will:
- work with their teachers to set realistic and achievable reading goals
- know their reading goal/s
- articulate their reading goals
- discuss what they are doing to achieve their goal/s
- have their own reading box filled with a variety of “Good Fit Books” (“Good Fit Books” are books that the students enjoy and that seem a perfect fit for them)
- be explicitly taught how to pick “Good Fit Books”

Teachers will be posting their reading strategies on their CAFÉ Menu in their class rooms as they are introduced.

Jan Moore
WSS Master Teacher
We have started planning this year’s *SHOP FOR YOUR SCHOOL* event to be held @ *PETROL* on **Tuesday 22 March** at **6.30pm**.

Windsor State School and Petrol have run *Shop for your School* for more than 10 years. Lock it in your diaries, the event is known as the Mum’s “Highlight” of term 1.

A fun and exciting part of the event has always been the prizes provided by the generous support of the business owners within our school community. If you would like to promote your business we would be grateful for any donations of lucky door and raffles prizes for this event.

If you are able to help out with the organisation in the lead up to the event or on the day we would love your help.

For more information, to donate a prize or offer assistance email Sonia Gold Dooney (Year 2 Mum) *sonia@petrol.net.au* 0407 100 175.
Think Clever, Creative, Global. Think QACI.

Open Day
Sat 20 Feb
1pm - 4pm

61 Musk Avenue, Kelvin Grove T: 3377 9366
www.qaci.eq.edu.au
2016 season 1 commencing soon

Brothers Touch Association will be running 2 seasons of Female Touch football competition in 2016.

Season 1 - Commencing Friday 11th March

REGISTER AS A TEAM OR AS AN INDIVIDUAL

MAX - 12 players (6 players on field at one time). Teams will need to supply own manager and referee.

Cost $100 per player

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL UNTIL THURSDAY 25th FEBRUARY**

$90 pp**

Registrations open Monday 15th Feb
Visit to Brothers touch page at brothersrugby.com for more information