From The Principal

Parent Information Evening and Welcome BBQ

What a terrific time meeting so many of our families last Tuesday. The teachers valued the opportunity to communicate with parents and the opportunity to welcome familiar and new families to WPS in 2016. Thank you to all that gave of their time, staff and families combined!
The staff have been discussing bell times at school and opportunities to maximise student learning time throughout the day. The school start teacher supervision time has also been part of this discussion and we will now be providing 30 minutes teacher supervision prior to the school day starting at 8.55am (teacher on duty in lower COLA area 8.25 - 8.55am – then school start bell). The start time, 8.55am and end of school day time, 2.55pm remain the same. We have created the following three blocks of learning time Monday - Friday:

Session 1 Learning time – 8.55-10.55am
Session 2 Learning Time – 11.35am-1.35pm
Session 3 Learning Time – 1.55-2.55pm

I am hopeful the changes below will increase learning time, particularly in the afternoon and **improve late arrival of students which has been an observed issue that needs rectifying at our school.**

I have outlined these matters in a specific note that will be coming home today in your child’s bag.

**Notes in bags today!**

- Bell times and gates (all students)
- Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6) Overnight Excursion to Canberra notes
- International Competitions and Assessment (ICAS) - Years 3-6 (opt in opportunity)

**CHESS!!**

Learn how to be a chess champion! Coaching for students at Wentworth Public School is held on **Thursdays** from **8:00am-8:55pm.** Term 1 lessons will commence on **25th February, 2016.**

Chess is the world’s most loved board game. Learning and playing chess helps children develop their logical thinking and problem solving skills, improves their concentration and focus, while also being a great source of enjoyment! Activities include group lessons on a demonstration chess board or interactive whiteboard, puzzle solving and fun practice games, with personal feedback from the coach.

Students earn merit awards by making checkmates, solving puzzles, or by displaying skills and positive qualities, which all good chess players strive to develop.

If your child is interested in taking part, you can collect an enrolment form from the school office, or email enrol@sydneyacademyofchess.com.au for a copy. For all enquiries, please contact Sydney Academy of Chess on (02) 9745 1170.
Clean Up Australia Day

Teachers and Students will participate in Clean up Australia Day on Friday the 4th of March.
We will be cleaning up our school grounds. Children are invited to bring along disposable gloves and a plastic bag that day.

More information about Clean up Australia Day can be found at http://www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au/

High School - 2017

Year 6 Students - High School in 2017

High Schools are already starting to think about their 2017 enrolments and are hosting open days/evenings. These events are for our current year 6 students to attend and learn about what each school has to offer before completing high school enrolment forms later in the term. Please look at the attached files to learn more. Applications for the Northmead HS Gifted and Talented Programs and the Creative Arts Program can be collected from Mrs T Eastwood or downloaded and printed from the files below.

Mrs Vanessa Rogers