

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

We have spent last week organising classes for 2009. As you may know, Education Qld staffs us according to our enrolment numbers. At present, we are right on the edge between 14 and 15 classes for next year. My feeling is that we will get the handful of extra students we need to have 15 classes but we have to do all our planning on 14. With 14 classes our school will look something like this:

Prep A	4A
Prep B	4B
1A	5
1B	5/6
2A	6
2/3A	6/7
2/3B	7

You will notice that there are two composite classes in the upper school. While composite classes work very well for teachers, many parents have reservations about them. I feel they can be organised to be very effective ways of delivering curriculum. My point is that roughly one third of our upper school will be in a composite class under this arrangement, so it is very hard to cater for all parental requests in this area. However, should we get the few new students we need to get to 15 classes, the look of the school is somewhat transformed, as follows:

Prep A	4B
Prep B	5A
1A	5B
1B	6A
2A	6B
2/3A	7A
2/3B	7B
4A	

This is a much neater set up and I hope that it is the one we have in 2009. We will be using the 14 model for now, so when your son or daughter meets his or her new teacher next Tuesday, the composite classes will be there. These classes will remain into the new year and we will adjust to the 15 model in the first two weeks of school, should the need arise.

As mentioned, students meet their new teachers on Tuesday next week. Staffing is still being negotiated with District Office so we are yet to have every teacher in place as we are waiting for a new Year 1 teacher and a new Phys Ed teacher as Mr Carter has been granted a move to a High School in 2009. I hope to have all positions filled by the end of this week. Also next Tuesday,

students will receive their book lists and their Report Cards for this semester.

Last Wednesday, the panel consisting of our Librarian, Mrs McArdle, our P&C President, Mrs Lynne Austin, our present School Captains Alexandra and Jayden, and I had the pleasure of interviewing the eight Year 6 candidates for the position of 2009 School Captains. It was a very enjoyable hour when we asked each student three questions about themselves, the school and their ideas for the future. All eight acquitted themselves very well and we chose the best four as our Captains and Vice-Captains for next year. As we chose them on their ability rather than their gender, we ended up with one boy and three girls. I am very happy to announce our School Captains - Avishek Singh and Simone Fernandez and our Vice-Captains - Jayde Rhodes and Monique Watters. I am sure that they will do a wonderful job in their roles next year.

What a week we have coming up. Tomorrow is Volunteers' Morning Tea and all parent helpers are welcome to attend at 9:15 in the Staff Room (straight after parade). Our student leaders are off to Wet and Wild on Wednesday, so it must be Walking Wheeling, Wet and Wild Wednesday! Thursday is a huge day for our Year 7s with High School Orientation for Aspley and Sandgate students in the morning and our Graduation Ceremony in the evening. I think we'll all need a quiet Friday to recover!



Mark Fisher
Principal

P & C NEWS

Greetings All

With only 2 weeks left of school, Christmas is almost upon us. I can't believe that my little girl's first year of school is almost over. I have been involved with the P & C Committee for all of 2008, and even though at times it's been quite busy, I must say I have enjoyed myself and of course I have met some fantastic people. One of the highlights was last Tuesday afternoon, being asked to help choose our School Captains for 2009. What a fabulous time I had. All eight students were great but, as you know, only 4 could make it through. We have chosen fantastic School and Vice Captains for 2009, so congratulations to you all and I know that you will do a great job.

Last Friday was the last day of the Tuckshop for the year. I would like to say a big thankyou to all our volunteers. If it wasn't for all your hard work and dedication, our Tuckshop would not have been able to function. Next year we will be looking for a new Tuckshop Convenor and many more

volunteers for our Tuckshop to continue, so if you have any spare time at all, even just a couple of hours a week it would be greatly appreciated.

Raffle tickets are rolling in for our Monster Xmas Raffle. All tickets, sold or unsold, must be returned by Friday 5th Dec. Great prizes are up for grabs and will be drawn at the Carols by Candlelight on 9 Dec, so don't forget to include your name and telephone number. More tickets are available from the Uniform Shop.

We are very excited about our Christmas Stall which will be held this Thursday 4th and Friday 5th December from 8.00am – 8.45am in front of the Tuckshop. We have some fabulous gifts to purchase for all the family, so please come along to your one stop stall for all your Xmas pressies. Everything will be priced from 50c – \$5.00. What great value. Thanks to all parents and caregivers for your lovely donations.

Just before I go, here is a riddle to keep those brains working. The first person to give me the correct answer will be rewarded with a Bakers Delight Shopping Voucher. Good luck!

*They call me a man but I'll never have a wife
I was given a body but not given life
They made me a mouth but didn't give me breath
Water gives me life but the sun gives me death
What am I?*

Have a great week
From your friendly P&C Committee

SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for selecting me as a 2009 School Captain. I look forward to working together with you all and having your continuous support.

Avishek Singh

SAFE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

As students around the state head home for summer holidays, it is an important time of year to be mindful of your children's safety.

Some simple precautions can help to make sure that your children have a fun and safe holiday.

Things to keep in mind to ensure your child returns safely to school in 2009 include:

- Is the pool properly fenced with a self-closing, self-latching gate?
- Have they "slip, slop, slapped" against the strong summer sun, by donning a shirt and hat and plenty of sunscreen?

- If travelling, are your children belted properly in the car? Or if on a bicycle are they wearing a crash helmet and are they aware of the road rules?
- Beware of driveway dangers. Don't let young children play on driveways.
- Every year Fair Trading Queensland identifies toys that have been deemed dangerous. To find out Christmas toys deemed unsafe this year visit the Fair Trading Queensland website at: <http://www.fairtrading.qld.gov.au/>
- Most importantly make sure the whole family knows to call 000 in an emergency, for the ambulance, police or the fire brigade.

WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Orientation Day for Students

In Year 8 2009

Monday 8 December 2008

Assembly Hall

Telopia Avenue, Wavell Heights

8.30am for 8.45am start

3.00pm finish

(Morning Tea provided for parents at 10.00am)

Students to bring/wear:

Primary School Uniform

Notepad & pens

Morning Tea & Lunch

Shop Hours – Monday 8 December

Stationery 2.00pm – 7.00pm

Clothing 3.00pm – 7.00pm

Used Clothing (D Block) 3.00pm – 7.00pm

Applications still welcome.

Enrolment Enquiries:

Contact Jane Bedewi, Enrolment Officer on

3350 0328



AFL QUEENSLAND
2009 SCHOOL HOLIDAY
CAMP



- **Date:** 21st January & 22nd January 2009
- **Time:** 9am – 3pm
- **Venue:** St Joseph's Nudgee College
Sandgate Road, Boondall
- **Cost:** \$90.00 (for the 2 days)
- For all children aged 8-12 years
- Every participant receives:
 - Lunch (daily)
 - Football
 - Sample Bag (inc. Drink Bottle, Hat, Stickers)
- Run by qualified AFL staff and coaches

Contact Ben Drew - AFL Qld Brisbane North office on 3865 8700 for more details.