



Welcome

We reached the end of Term 2, we're well into winter with some very cold starts to our days. The children don't let the temperature slow them down, soccer, skipping and obstacle courses give everyone a great start to the morning and keep the shivers at bay.

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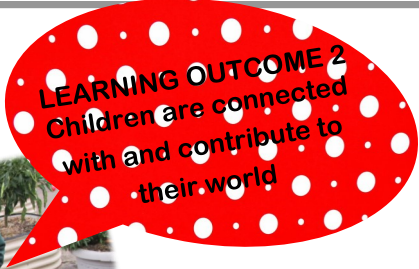
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COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE

As we have moved through Term 2 we have transitioned from an unusually warm autumn with super warm days well into early June to the last few days of term sliding to the bottom end of the thermometer with extra cold mornings. The children have kept themselves warm in the mornings with playing active games but we have had to come inside a little earlier in the afternoons.

We welcomed new casual staff members – Jordan Mah and Angus Nelson, both Jordan and Angus were WPPS pupils, attended WPOOSC as children and completed their Duke of Edinburgh Community Volunteer Service with us so it is lovely to welcome them back.

We have successfully applied to increase our authorised places to 75 children per session. This has cleared our waiting list and left vacancies available each day for casual places and emergency care. During Term 3 we will begin accepting registrations for 2017 and it should be a much smoother process with the Centre being able to meet our family's needs for places.



A WORD FROM OUR EDUCATIONAL LEADER

LOST PROPERTY

Once again we have an overflowing basket, and being winter its full of jumpers!

Please check for items but also please remind your child to ensure they have their hat & jumper and jacket when they leave

We've had a great variety of activities this term, each with their own values in both intentional and spontaneous learning and development

The use of exercise mats for 'yoga-like' stretches, jumping in autumn in leaves, the children loved playing and stamping the crunchy dry leaves, and the very popular easel painting with acrylic and water colours.

Some of the older children organised a talent show and were involved with the music, costumes and judging the performance.

In the craft room the children have been enjoying weekly visits by Kerry who has been creating beautiful dolls out of recycled milk bottles, Thank You to Dave Parker for cleaning and donating these bottles and also Thank You to Eva S-B for the foam offcuts.

Maddy, our dance teacher spent many afternoons teaching the children jazz and contemporary dance. At the end of each session the children performed for their peers and staff.



We also tried out a few science experiments, one of them being the egg experiment. Playing with goop (a mixture of cornflour and water) and playdough have been great for the younger children to build on their fine motor muscles but also very popular with the older children.

Cooking always draws a crowd. Very often this becomes a spontaneous activity depending on the ingredients available. We work in small groups, measuring and weigh liquid and dry ingredients, the children take turns sifting, beating and cracking eggs.

Our new laptop has enabled the children to look up information or follow instructions on Hama beads, origami and other craft ideas.

The garden has secured some attention with new seeds planted and watered – carrots, peas and pansies and Jerusalem artichokes.

We have had a disco with glow sticks and torches which the children really loved.

Pokémon cards made a resurgence and the children were gathering in groups indoors and outside battling and trading their cards very happily but as with all the fads, school has now requested that the children do not bring Pokémon any more as the trading has caused some issues.

NEW ROUTINES

In the morning the kindys continue to put their bags in their classes at 8.15 and then walk to class when the bell rings (while we discreetly watch from the verandah)

Throughout the term we have continued to collect the kindys in the afternoons but from next term we will supply the class teachers with daily lists and supervise the kindy children coming to OOSC by themselves. .

'It is very important that the children learn independence in managing the routine of arriving at class in time for the teacher to greet them and in the afternoon to learn the responsibility of coming straight to OOSC when the bell has rung.



Gathering for afternoon tea has changed slightly, we have separated into two groups -

- Kindy & Stage 1 on the kindy verandah
- Stage 2 & 3 in the hall cola

This has speeded up roll call time, serving of tea (and has also allowed for more 'serving assistants' - a very popular position.



Cardboard boxes are the basis of many a creation and we would like families to bring in (or bring back!) empty small boxes, please ensure that the boxes have not contained any nut products. We would like small recycled items for craft such as lids from soft drink and milk bottles, ribbons, tubes (no toilet paper) egg boxes and recycled paper is always needed. if your office has any non-confidential paper for recycling please bring it in. We have also reached the bottom of our fabric pile so are looking for donations

Allergies & Asthma

Remember to update and inform us of changes in your child's medical needs



We will hold our next committee meeting on **Wednesday 3rd August at 7 p.m.**

DROP-OFF, COLLECTION & NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

Mornings

Many thanks for noting our start time of 7.30 and giving staff time to prepare rooms before entering in the morning.

Afternoon

All children must come directly to OOSC when the school bell has rung, please discuss this with your child, and we sign each child out to extra-curricular activities and check and sign return to OOSC.

A reminder—if a brother or sister under 18 yrs. is collecting your child we require a letter to hold in our files.

Absence

This is unfortunately a repeat of an item from our last newsletter but we must emphasize the importance of notifying our office, either by email, phone or a phone message if your child will be absent. Staff are spending a huge amount of time calling parents and we have reached the point where we have asked the management committee to approve a fine of \$10 EVERYTIME we have to call to check if a child has been taken home or was absent from school. We must also emphasize that **IT IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WEST PYMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION TO INFORM US OF ABSENCES.**



ACCOUNTS

Unfortunately due to increasing costs we have found it necessary to review the current session rates and will be applying a 5% increase across the board to our fees to meet general increase in costs. This will commence in Term 3.

In addition, we are putting a great amount of administration time into following up on overdue accounts and it has become quite difficult, our staff are child care professionals, it is embarrassing for them to continually ask families for money for their childcare.

Obviously, if you have a financial problem we can arrange a payment plan but accounts are due **IN ADVANCE** each term, (in line with other OOSC services, pre-schools and day-care services).

Please see Sonja de Jong if you have any concerns.



OFFICE TIME & ENQUIRIES

We are generally happy to see you when you bring in and are collecting your child but at times we may be busy with other duties, so for a quick chat we can usually help you but for any issues that require a longer discussion please call and make an appointment.

Please avoid coming in the 10 minutes before school when we are busy with kindy group time as it is very distracting for the children and just after the end of school bell we are focused on getting the children signed in.