Cluster Choir
Last Thursday the Cluster Choir performed and they were amazing! The choir sounded wonderful. Thank you to Ms Talbot for training the choir, Mrs Kelly for her organisation and Mr Haug for his assistance. Thank you also to our choir students and parents for taking them to the performance.

Commonwealth Games Day
A reminder that next Monday is our Commonwealth Games Day. Children have been placed in 10 countries and can wear the colours of their country. Parents are invited to attend. The opening ceremony begins at 9.10 and closing ceremony will be held after lunch. Children must wear a hat.

Excellent Behaviour
Congratulations to all our students for their excellent behaviour both in the classroom and the playground. It is great to see that the Planning Room is empty most days. Keep up the good work!

Supervision before School
Supervision for students starts at 8.30am and students should not be at school prior to this time.

Bullying
Last week I wrote about what bullying is and this week I would like to point out that we all have a shared responsibility to prevent and respond to bullying behavior. Our school anti-bullying plan states that:

School staff have a responsibility to:
- respect and support students
- model and promote appropriate behaviour
- have knowledge of school and departmental policies relating to bullying behaviour
- respond in a timely manner to incidents of bullying according to the school’s Anti-bullying Plan.

In addition, teachers have a responsibility to provide curriculum and pedagogy that supports students to develop an understanding of bullying and its impact on individuals and the broader community.

Students have a responsibility to:
- behave appropriately, respecting individual differences and diversity
- behave as responsible digital citizens
- follow the school Anti-bullying Plan
- behave as responsible bystanders
- report incidents of bullying according to their school anti-bullying Plan.

Parents and caregivers have a responsibility to:
- support their children to become responsible citizens and to develop responsible online behaviour
- be aware of the school Anti-bullying Plan and assist their children in understanding bullying behaviour
- support their children in developing positive responses to incidents of bullying consistent with the school Anti-bullying Plan
- report incidents of school related bullying behaviour to the school
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur

All members of the school community have a responsibility to:
- model and promote positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity within the school community
- support the school’s anti-bullying Plan through words and actions
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur.


Holidays
The last day for term 3 will be Friday 19th September and school resumes for term 4 on Tuesday 7th October.

Important Dates
10th September Transition to Kindergarten 7-8pm
In the Library
11th September Blackbutt Reserve Year 1
19th September End of Term 3
7th October Beginning of Term 4
22nd October Wizard of Oz
Making Children Independence

I read an interesting article written by Michael Grose about how to make children more independent and I thought I would share part of it today. Sometimes we think as parents that we are helping children by trying to solve all their problems when actually we need to be doing the opposite – making them independent. This is what he says:

The end game or goal for parents and teachers is **redundancy**. That’s right. Your job is to make yourself redundant as an adult from the children you raise and teach at the earliest possible age. It always has been and always should be. When redundancy is your aim most of your time, effort and energy will go into promoting independence. You’ll stop doing things for kids and start giving them opportunities to do things themselves. You’ll spend most of your active parenting and teaching time teaching, explaining and prodding your child toward independence.

Independence leads to the 4 C’s - confidence, competence, creativity and character. Here’s how:

**Confidence** comes from facing your fears and doing things for yourself.

**Competence** comes from the opportunity to develop self-mastery that independence offers.

**Creativity** is developed when kids solve problems themselves as opposed to someone solving them on their behalf, or worse, keeping kids safe. It’s amazing how resourceful kids can be when they are given the chance to resolve their own problems.

**Character**, which is essential for success, is forged under hardship and is needed if kids are to live a sturdy life. Kids need to be exposed to disappointment, failure and conflict if character strengths such as grit and perseverance are too be forged.

On a basic level it’s about developing children’s autonomy. Without realising it, many adults make choices on their children’s behalf. Kids build self-confidence when they do things for themselves, and make their own decisions. It can be scary and also difficult developing independence in one big step. So smart adults intuitively develop junior versions of independence by breaking up big activities into digestible bits. Want your three year old to make the bed? Then start by arranging the teddies and the pillows (a junior version of making the bed) and let them work their way up from there. Similarly, want your five year old to walk to school yet it’s currently out of his skillset? Then accompany him most of the way and let him walk the last 200 metres to school on his own. That’s a junior version of walking to school.

In all the noise and commotion about raising kids today it’s easy to forget that the job description for parents hasn’t changed since the dawn of time. Love them, bond with them, teach them and spend time with them. But also work like mad to develop their real independence so they become capable of handling what life will throw their way.

Vacation Care

Placements will close on Friday 12th September for Vacation Care. If you are thinking of sending your child to Vacation Care during the school holidays please contact WEMOOSH on 4968 3337.

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<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>BJ Noble</td>
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<td>KW</td>
<td>Emily Field</td>
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<td>K’1C</td>
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<td>1C</td>
<td>Rebecca Skellams</td>
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<td>Kobe Howell</td>
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P&C News

**Lamington Drive**

Just a reminder that order forms are due in tomorrow, Wednesday 10th September.

**Inner City Winemakers, Wickham Friday 6-8pm**

We have a great opportunity to raise funds this Friday night by drinking wine & eating cheese! Tickets are just $20 and order forms are available at the school office. Bring a friend & join us for a fun night out without the kids.

**Canteen News**

Wednesday 10th September - Jess
Thursday 11th September - Tammy, Nat (lunchtime)
Friday 12th September - Mandie, Sarah (recess)
Monday 15th September - Mandie
Tuesday 16th September - Jane

**Snags on the Menu**

Here’s our favourite Nanny Annie and Poppy John doing what they do best, sparking the good old Aussie BBQ cooking up a storm for the kids of MWDS on Thursday 18th September for Pre 2 - Year 6 and 17th September for Pre 3.

What would we do without these wonderful helpers in our school.

Notes have come home with today’s newsletter.

If you didn’t receive one then either pop in and see the canteen OR simply write your child’s name and class on an envelope.

1 sausage on bread, 1 drink and 2 choc chip cookies (recess item) $4.00 combo

OR

All the above + and extra sausage on bread $5.50.

Each student needs their own form. Please do not write multi names on one form.

There will be no refunds if your child is absent on the day.
Success in Tournament of Minds

On Sunday, 24th August, the Tournament of Minds team competed at the University of Newcastle in the Tournament of Minds Maths Engineering regional final. This was the culmination of six weeks of preparation which had to be completed unaided. The students had to solve a complex problem, write and learn a script to show their answer, make their own costumes and props and design and build a device. They also had to complete a spontaneous problem on the day. The team was magnificent and took out first place! This means that they now compete in Sydney at the state finals next month. The team is very excited about their success. Congratulations to the team members-Ashlee Wenn, Jack Gibson, Jaz Holdsworth, Kayla Berntsen, Riley Brent and Josephine Thwaites. What a terrific achievement!

On Sunday 14th September the team will be competing in Sydney at the State Finals of Tournament of Minds at the University of Sydney. Good luck

Mrs Dabboussy