Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

A big welcome to all for the commencement of the 2017 school year. Our kids skipped into school last week, they looked terrific in their uniforms, and our staff were well prepared and eager to greet them. The start to the year was very, very smooth!

We all know that WPS is the best school around and that we genuinely outperform other schools like ours – and we have the data to prove it. But, sadly, there is one area where, last year, we did not perform as well as we should have – and that is Attendance.

Our school’s Attendance rates are BELOW similar schools across the state.

So lets talk about Attendance, and then look at ours….. Did you know that if your child’s attendance is at 90% (one day off a fortnight) which is considered good, that over the course of their education they will miss one and a third years of learning?

Let’s look at the WPS attendance figures for 2016 Regular Attendance (90 – 100%)
• Only 147 Students or 54% fitted in this category
At Risk (80 – 90%)
• 72 students or 34% fitted into this category
At Risk Moderate (60 – 80%)
• 23 students or 7% fitted into this category
At Risk Severe (0 – 60%)
• 15 students or 5% fitted into this category

Firstly, we applaud and really appreciate the 54% of parents that managed to get their child to school more at 90% of the time, however it was rather worrying that 46% of our students fell into the At Risk to the At Risk Severe categories. There were a few students on approved Vacation, but these were in the minority. So, in order to maximise student learning and be better than the rest, we will be having a big push with Attendance this year. There will be regular updates in the newsletter – and we will be phoning and writing to parents when student attendance falls below 90% without a reason given to the class teacher.

Along similar lines, our hardworking office staff issued 2998 Late Notes last year – something to think about!

Our community is well known for its Can Do approach so we ask that all parents consider the number of absences their kids have. You can see the attendance rate of your children from their end of year reports. The Department of Education expects an Attendance rate of above 90%.

We are going to have an excellent year at WPS in 2017 with great activities, great learning and great friendships. We all look forward to the year ahead!

Cheers,
The Admin Team.

An Invitation to all Winterfold Families

Please come along to the
Winterfold P&C
Annual General Meeting
Monday, 13 February 2017
At 6.30pm in the school library
**WHAT’S HAPPENING**

**Monday 13 February**
- P&C AGM 6.30pm in the Library

**Friday 17 February**
- Room 10 Assembly

**Monday 27 February - Friday 10 March**
- Year 5 & Year 6 Swimming Lessons commence at Coogee Beach  
  *(please note lessons will be now held at Coogee Beach)*

**Monday 6 March**
- Public Holiday - Labour Day

**Winterfold Primary School has great pleasure in announcing the 2017 Student Leadership Team:**

- Jasmine Falkner    Head Girl 2017
- Maurice Lismann    Head Boy 2017
- Raff Bebbington    Literacy Minister
- Kiah Wisby         Literacy Minister
- Liam Cervenka      Science Minister
- Harry Green        Science Minister
- Severin Lowe       Sports Minister
- Mischa Locke       Sports Minister
- Maya Lemus Lindebrigths Sports Minister
- Finn Bergin-O’Connell Sports Minister
- Harvey Templeton   Sports Minister
- Noah Cervenka      Sports Minister
- Nardia Niessink   Numeracy Minister
- Tyson Elverd       Numeracy Minister
- Elize Loreto       Environment Minister
- Robin Lismann      Environment Minister
- Connor Sheehy Hebb Music Minister

Well done and congratulations to all these students on their wonderful leadership achievement.

We look forward to fostering a rewarding relationship with these students in 2017.

**Kindy Carpark Instructions**

All Kindy parents, please note that the Kindy carpark will be closed at 3pm every day.

If you think that you will be remaining on the school grounds past this time, please park on the road.

Thank you for your understanding.

**WPS Staff Professional Development Days, Public Holidays & Term Dates for 2017**

As you are aware there are a certain number of days set aside each year where your children are not required to attend school due to our staff attending Professional Development (PD) Days.

**The PD Days for 2017 are:**
1. Term 1, Week 1 - Monday 30 January
2. Term 1, Week 1 - Tuesday 31 January
3. Term 2, Week 1 - Monday 24 April
4. Term 3, Week 5 - Monday 14 August
5. Term 4, Week 5 - Monday 6 November

**Public Holidays for 2017 are:**
- New Year’s Day - Sunday 1 January
- Australia Day - Thursday 26 January
- Labour Day - Monday 6 March
- Good Friday - Friday 14 April
- Easter Monday - Monday 17 April
- Anzac Day - Tuesday 25 April
- Western Australia Day - Monday 5 June
- Queen’s Birthday - Monday 25 September
- Christmas Day - Monday 25 December
- Boxing Day - Tuesday 26 December

Please do not send your children to school on these days.

**2017 Term and Holiday Dates are:**

**Term 1**
- Wednesday 1 February - Friday 7 April
  Holiday Break - Saturday 8 April - Sunday 23 April

**Term 2**
- Monday 24 April - Friday 30 June
  Holiday Break - Saturday 1 July - Sunday 16 July

**Term 3**
- Monday 17 July - Friday 22 September
  Holiday Break - Saturday 23 September - Sunday 8 October

**Term 4**
- Monday 9 October - Thursday 14 December
  Holiday Break - Friday 15 December - Wednesday 31 January 2018

**Perth Goju Karate**

Perth Goju Karate teaches karate classes at South Fremantle SHS, down the road from Winterfold Primary.

A special offer for Winterfold students - 4 WEEKS FREE beginners karate lessons!

Classes are held after school and are a great way for children of all ages to learn self-defense in a fun and safe environment.

Karate has many benefits which include confidence, respect, discipline and fitness.

Call now to take advantage of this 4 week trial.

Sensei Johnny Moran - 0402 830 402
**2016 Graduation Award Information**

We have great pleasure in announcing our Year 6 Graduation Award Recipients for 2016:

- Norika Hainsworth Year 6 Dux Award
- Regan Cain Year 6 Jim Richardson Endeavour Award
- Oliver Hess Year 6 Rosa Mastropierro Citizenship Award
- Flynn Waddell Rowe Year 6 Science Award
- Angus Fisell Year 6 Science Award
- Patrick Hay Year 6 Numeracy Award
- Norika Hainsworth Year 6 Literacy Award
- Angel-Lee Rauter Year 6 Sport Award - Female
- Thomas Locke Year 6 Sport Award - Male
- Angel-Lee Rauter Year 6 Music Award
- Regan Cain Year 6 Drama Award
- Norika Hainsworth Year 6 Italian Award

Congratulations to all of these students and we wish all our Graduating Year 6 students the best of luck in their secondary schooling in 2017.

**2016 Book Award Recipients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room 1</th>
<th>Asha Philips</th>
<th>Torey McKay</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Room 2</td>
<td>Lachlan Sweeting</td>
<td>Enya Srhoj</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 3</td>
<td>Samuel Smith</td>
<td>Nikki Atkinson</td>
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<td>Room 4</td>
<td>Lucy Edwards</td>
<td>Alex Beltran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 5</td>
<td>Jayden Scott</td>
<td>Molly Matur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 6</td>
<td>Jasmine Falkner</td>
<td>Maja Archibald</td>
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<td>Room 7</td>
<td>Harry Green</td>
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<td>Room 8</td>
<td>Connor Sheehy Hebb</td>
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<td>Room 9</td>
<td>Elise Moncur</td>
<td>Scarlett Turner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 10</td>
<td>Olivia Smith</td>
<td>Noah Gunnarsson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room 11</td>
<td>Ffion Williams</td>
<td>Elijah Nathan</td>
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**P&C News**

Welcome back, and Happy New Year to you all! Our focus for Term 1 will be our Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be held in the school’s library on Monday, 13 February 2017 at 6.30pm. All Executive positions are available. For more information about each Executive members role please see the attachment with this newsletter. If you feel you would like to join as a member only, that’s great! Come along to our AGM. The P&C are also looking for volunteers for the Canteen and Uniform Shop. If you wish to contact the P&C with any question or suggestions, please email us at - winterfoldpandc@gmail.com.

We can't wait to start this year, we have lots of events and fundraisers to come. See you soon!

**Our New Nature Play Area is finally arriving!**

We are so excited that after 18 months of planning, negotiating and fundraising that this project is nearing completion. You may have noticed last week that work has commenced around the slide area to prepare the area for our nature play construction. Terry and his crew from ‘Nature Based Play’ have started construction today and hope to be completed by the end of next week.

During construction, the area will be fenced off and will be a “no go zone” for kids. However, they may enjoy watching the construction process from the top of the hill.

Not only will the area provide a wonderful new play space for our kids, but it will also solve a long standing problem with erosion of the hill around the slide. A double win!

Special thanks to those parents who have worked hard over the summer to keep this project moving in the right direction and to Mr Berry whose holiday was regularly interrupted with emails and questions! We appreciate your efforts.

We look forward to the opening and watching the kids play!

We'll be looking into some tree planting after the works are completed to provide more shade and stability to the bank. Watch this space as we'll be looking for trees and helpers!

**Thanks to our sponsors so far:**
Main sponsor - The Winterfold School Community, through the P&C fundraising events, and in the Voluntary Contributions.

Winterfold Primary School.

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**P&C Canteen News**

2017 is off to a flying start for the canteen. Thank you to Kym, Dina, Amber, Sunnie, Trish, Sarah and Astrid for being our week 1 helpers. We have helpers signed up for week 2, but are still short of volunteers for every other week of term!

Room 10 parents, please consider helping on Friday, 17 February before or after watching your child’s assembly item.

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**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop will be open on FRIDAYS during Term 1
Opening Hours: 8.15am - 9am
THANKYOU!

We have received a very exciting and interesting donation from Indali Buchanan-Taylor’s grandfather. A micro bat nesting box which will be placed high in one of our beautiful trees to encourage a microbat to nest. Microbats are very small mammals and can eat up to 1200 mosquitoes in one hour. Look out for the box high in one of our trees but it’s important not to disturb it so you don’t scare away any potential visitors. If your family would like to purchase one of these boxes for your own garden please contact Don Buchanan via email canningmensshed@gmail.com for more info.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you to the many families who have already paid their School Voluntary Contributions (VC) and P&C Voluntary Contributions. These funds further enhance your child’s education so please support our school by making prompt payment.

School VC for Kindy, Pre Primary and all years through to Year 6 is $60 per student.
P&C VC is $15 per student.

Payment can be accepted at the office from 8.15am to 4pm and cash, cheque and EFTPOS are all accepted.

Scholastic Book Clubs LOOP

Dear Parent,

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our school is participating in Scholastic Book Clubs this year. Twice a term during the school year the school will send home a Club flyer with a different selection of books offered. You'll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. The books span a wide range of children’s reading levels and interests. There are many inexpensive titles to choose from (some books cost as little as $2) to build your Home Library.

Just look over the flyer with your child, select the books you want, and go to: http://parentpayments.scholastic.com.au/ or download the Scholastic Book Club App found in the iTunes Store or GooglePlay. For ease of use and to ensure families are placing correct orders and making secure Credit Card payments, we are offering Linked Online Ordering and Payment Payments (LOOP) only, please do not send in any money to the school for Book Club Orders.

The books will arrive around two weeks after the Book Club LOOP closing date. Upon closing orders, they are submitted to Scholastic and will be delivered to the school and given to the Class teacher for distribution. Owning your own books is something special! Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however there is never any obligation to place orders. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Information and catalogues have been distributed on Monday 6 February and the due date for the first catalogue is 21 February 2017.

I hope you enjoy Book Club in 2017!
Laura Bell-Ocejo (Library)