Monday 22nd February 2016

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, Westport Public School, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students in Years 4 to 6, to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between Weeks 8 and 9. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A consent form for parents/carers is being sent home this week with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 4th March, 2016. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

Have a great week.
Tony Johnston
Principal

PBL Focus
This week our whole school Positive Behaviour for Learning focus is ‘Be Co-operative’. This means to accept and follow directions including sitting in bus lines, sit and listen to class discussions.

Last week our focus was ‘Be Safe.’ The children have been very proactive in identifying and modelling safe behaviour throughout the school.
12RR students displayed Be Safe – in the library. They kept hands and feet to themselves when sitting on the floor and followed teacher instructions. Students also demonstrated how they line up when they borrow books from Ms Cassidy.
56A students display 'Be Safe' this week by being in the right place at the right time. They ate lunch in class lines and sat while eating.

**COMING EVENTS TERM 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm – School Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Feb</td>
<td>Aboriginal Parents Afternoon Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 29th Feb</td>
<td>Kinders now finish school at 3.05pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue 1st Mar</td>
<td>Hastings Secondary College Information evening for Yr6 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 2nd Mar</td>
<td>School Photos – Full School Uniform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 3rd Mar</td>
<td>Yr1 &amp; Yr2 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<td>Thurs 10th Mar</td>
<td>Yr3 to Yr6 Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 7th to Fri 11th Mar</td>
<td>PLP Interviews with Aunty Marilyn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat 19th Mar</td>
<td>National Close the Gap Day</td>
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**Parent Teacher Interviews**

Yr1 & Yr2 will be held on 3rd March between 4.30pm and 6pm.
Yr3 to Yr6 will be held on 10th March between 4.30pm and 6pm. Notes have gone home with students so if you would like an interview please return as soon as possible.

**Swimming Skills for Sport**

There are still 11 spots left for the Yr3 to Yr6. Swimming Skills for sport which begins Thursday 25th February. Please ensure your child comes to school with all the necessary items they need to participate eg: swimmers, rashers shirt, sunscreen, goggles, towel and thongs to wear to the pool.

**Bookpacks/Voluntary Fees**

Thank you to all the families who have been so prompt in paying their child’s book pack and school contributions. These payments contribute towards the cost of classroom resources and consumables that your child has access to throughout the year. This is essential to your child’s learning.

**Canteen News**

**Roster:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 23rd Feb</td>
<td>Stuart, Alison, Cathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 24th</td>
<td>Amanda, Kerryn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 25th</td>
<td>Cathy, Sarah, Bronwyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 26th</td>
<td>Cathy, Liza, Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29th</td>
<td>Cathy, Crystal</td>
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We are always looking for new volunteers, if you would like to volunteer please contact our canteen manager Cathy on 65838506.

Cathy

Canteen Manager

**Aboriginal Parents Afternoon Tea**

There will be an afternoon tea for our Aboriginal parents this Wednesday 24th February at 2pm in the Mingaletta room. Please feel free to bring along a friend if you wish. We hope to see some of our new parents attend too if possible.

**Personalised Learning Plans**

Letters have been sent home this week with students notifying parents/carers of their scheduled times for their PLP interviews. If you haven’t received these from your child, please contact the school.

Aunty Marilyn

**Dance and Choir practice timetable**

Please remind your child for dance and music practice if they are involved in the following:

**Monday**

- Junior (Year 1 and 2) Choir
- Stage 3 (Year 5 and 6) Dance

**Tuesday**

- Junior (Years 1 and 2) Dance
- Boys (Years 1-6) Dance

**Wednesday**

- Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) Dance

**Thursday**

- Senior (Years 3-6) Choir

**Friday**

- Senior (Years 3-6) Choir

**Year 6 Shirts**

Notes have been sent home for the Yr6 senior shirts. Orders are due back by the 11th March as a bulk order will be put in. No orders can be taken after this date. Please make sure measurements are correct as there can be no exchanges as this is a special order.

Mr Ainsworth

**Transportation**

A Reminder:

All bikes and scooters are to be locked up with a chain to the bike rack near the Kindergarten classrooms. Helmets must be worn to and from school. No skateboards are to be brought to school.
P&C News

P&C Meeting
We already have a few new members joining our fantastic P&C this year and we would love to see some more. All are welcome to come along and see what the P&C is all about on the 24th February at 6pm held in the Staffroom at school. Our AGM will be held on the 23rd March.

Uniform Shop
The P&C are looking for someone to volunteer in our Uniform Shop on Thursday mornings between 8.45am – 9.30am. If you would like to volunteer, even just once a fortnight, please contact Donna on 0401340844.

Easter Raffle
The P&C will be running an Easter Raffle again this year. We are asking families if they could donate Easter eggs. Any donations of Easter eggs can be dropped off to the Canteen in the mornings before school. We thank you in advance for your donations.
Donna Edenborough
P&C President

School Photos
Our school photos will be on Wednesday the 2nd of March. The Photo Order Envelopes will be going home today please ensure not to misplace these as we have limited replacement envelopes. Family photo envelopes can be requested through the office. All students are required to wear full uniform including black shoes.

Please ensure that you enclose the correct amount as the photographer and the school office will not be giving change. The office will be unable to ring home on the morning for forgotten envelopes as staff photos promptly commence at 8.45am and students photos at 9.05.

Envelopes after this date cannot be accepted through the school, your child will still have their photo taken and photos will need to be ordered online through the photography company.
To make payment for school photos after photography day just refer to the information on the envelope.

Fruit & Veg Program – Urgent
We are hoping to get our wonderful Fruit & Veg program up and running but we need your help on Thursdays, 1-2:30 pm. Please leave your details at the office. Thank you for your support!

Student Banking
Get your child involved in a fun way to learn how to save money. Student banking is every Thursday morning between 8.45am and 9.00am at the banking window, look for Pat the Dog. Applications can be made on line, in person at the Commonwealth Bank or collect an application form from the banking co-ordinators on Thursday morning.

Head Lice
Please be vigilant in checking your child’s hair regularly for head lice. One treatment is not enough to get rid of them. There must be a follow up treatment no more than 7 days after the first. Checking every 2-3 days is the best way to keep on top of head lice and making sure that eggs are removed.

Community News

FREE TENNIS SCHOLARSHIPS
VALUED AT OVER $2000.00

West Port Macquarie Tennis Club, located at 33 Woods Street, Port Macquarie is offering a number of tennis scholarships to aspiring tennis players within the Port Macquarie area.

The scholarships include:
- One 30 minute private training session
- Access to courts in daylight hours for additional training/practice at West Port Macquarie Tennis Club when available
- Use of ball machine
- Scheduling and planning advice
- Training camps during school holidays (when appropriate)
- Entry into JDS tournaments
- Entry into Saturday afternoon junior competition held at WPMTC complex
- Membership to WPMTC
- Shirt and cap in WPMTC colours

Those interested in applying can obtain an application form from the Administration Office. Please note that applications close on Saturday 12th March, 2016.
All enquiries should be directed to Club Secretary, Duncan Wyndham, phone 6582 1188.

Hastings Secondary College, Westport Campus is conducting a review of its uniform and an online survey has been created to obtain feedback from the community. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and will enable a new uniform code to be developed that has widespread acceptance.

The survey link is on our website:
http://www.westport-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/
There are a couple of scholarship forms at the school Office.