Welcome back to term 4. We say that each term is busy but I think this one is more so as we have to prepare for 2014. I would like to thank everyone for making Craig feel so welcome at Wallington. I met with Craig over the holidays and he was just full of praise for Wallington.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Active After School Program commences next Monday with Lincoln Beckworth. This term we are doing cricket and softball skills. Enrolment forms are available at the office.

Chess. There will be no chess this term as Phil is unavailable. It will recommence in 2014. Congratulations to Sarah Harris (Best and Fairest Player term 3). The Silver Grasshopper award goes to Max Bluml and the Bronze award goes to Hugh Harris. Well done.

Enrolments
Currently we have 28 enrolments in Prep. If anyone is aware of other families that intend to enrol I would appreciate if you could let us know so we can plan for 2014. Also if any families are moving for next year can you please also let me know.

Strawberry Fair
The next meeting of the Strawberry Fair will be on Thursday 17th October in the staffroom at 7:00pm. We need to continue with the organisation of our 30th Fair. We are asking for sugar again. Any donations can be left at the office.

Toucan Appeal
The Geelong Food Bank is seeking donations of foodstuff. We participate in this appeal each year. A box is in the Foyer for any donations.

Children’s Fair
The Annual Children’s Fair will be held on Friday 18th October. Each grade runs a stall and the children are given the opportunity to go around and visit the other stalls. Stalls include mud cones, photo booth, white elephant, teacher sponge throw, ball machine catch, etc. The money raised goes to our World Vision sponsored child – Jacklyn Annan.

Grounds Person
Alan Clark our grounds person has finished up with us, unfortunately. He and his wife are going to enjoy retirement. I would like to publicly thank Alan for the work around the school. In the time here he has kept the school in tip top condition and he will be missed. He is currently away, but on his return the school will put on a morning tea for him so that we can acknowledge the contribution he has made.

So, I am on the lookout for someone to take over. If anyone knows of someone who would like to volunteer can you please let us know.

What is Cyber bullying?
Cyber bullying is threatening, lying about, stalking or otherwise harassing a person online or via other electronic communication devices like a cell phone.

It is becoming a bigger problem as more and more people spend time on the Internet. There are a number of behaviours that are considered cyber bullying, including:

- Sending harassing messages
- Impersonating another person and gaining trust
- Posting someone else’s personal information
- Posting false or unsavoury information about another person
- Posting private or doctored pictures about another person
- Using the Internet to encourage others to bully the victim

Be firm. Set rules regarding when and how long your child can be online. Accessing the Internet is akin to inviting someone into your home, so you may choose to only allow Web time when you’re at home. Use Internet filters, timers, and whatever else you need to do to protect your child.

Know the danger signs. Your child may become more withdrawn or moody. They may spend more time online, or may refuse to use the computer altogether. They may cut off ties with friends. If your child gives any indication that they are being bullied on or offline, take it seriously.

Educate. Teach your child what to do in cases where they feel threatened or bullied. They should ignore the offender and contact an adult immediately. They should never engage with the person who is threatening them as that is only encouragement for the behaviour to continue. As an adult, if you feel threatened by someone online, contact the police just to be safe. You can also use built-in measures on certain websites, such as ignoring or reporting someone else.
The annual Children’s Fair will be held next Friday (18 Oct). P-2s would love donations for the White Elephant stall. Any preloved books and toys in good condition can be brought to the 1/2 portables before the fair.

Desperately seeking…… someone to transport 15 cartons of jam and sauce jars + lids from Preston in the next week or so. These are for strawberry fair and need to be picked up if possible as the freight is too expensive to Geelong. They aren’t heavy to pick up or transport in the boot/backseat of a car and they are well packaged so travel well (i.e, haven’t had a breakage yet) Pick up is between 8am and 4pm Mon-Fri only. Please let either Leigh McLaren or Jen (Bayley Herbert’s mum 3/4L) know if you are able to help out.

SUGAR…SUGAR….SUGAR….SUGAR
We aim for approximately 65kgs of white sugar (packets unopened) each year. This is for the various jams we make for strawberry fair. Any donations gratefully accepted. We currently have 5kgs…….

Talking About Childhood Asthma
Live From The Airways
Presented by The Asthma Foundation of Victoria and Royal Children’s Hospital
Sunday 27th October 2013 4pm - 6pm FREE!
Ella Latham Auditorium, Ground Floor, Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne
Ask questions, gain advice on: medications, diagnosis and asthma management from top Respiratory Specialists:
A/Prof Sarath Ranganathan
Prof Colin Robertson
Dr Jo Harrison
Light refreshments will be served and tickets are limited, therefore registrations are essential. Attend the event at the Royal Children’s Hospital OR watch the LIVE Webcast online. Register at www.asthma.org.au or call 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462)

Air Pollution and Asthma
School age students and young children with asthma can often have breathing difficulties when exposed to air pollution. Air pollution can occur:
Outdoors – smog (made up of nitrogen oxides and ozone), bushfires, cigarette smoke.
Indoors – formaldehydes/resins (some building materials), volatile organic compounds (found in paints, furniture, cleaning products), cigarette smoke, poorly maintained gas appliances.
The most important way to reduce the impact of air pollution on your child’s asthma to avoid the pollutant completely if possible.
- Stay indoors on high smog days, close windows and external doors
- Make sure you have a bushfire plan if you live in a bushfire prone area
- Make sure your child’s asthma is well controlled and that you and your child know what to do if their asthma gets worse
- Make sure your gas appliances are serviced regularly by a registered or licensed gasfitter and that there is adequate ventilation in rooms containing gas appliances
- Choose building items, furniture, paints and wood items that are certified to emit low levels of formaldehyde and volatile organic compounds.
For more information about air pollution and asthma, contact The Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 ASTHMA (278 462) or visit www.asthma.org.au.

So Long Surfside Kindergarten
This year marks the 26th anniversary of Surfside Kindergarten and it is also the year we say goodbye to the long standing institution. A group of current and past parents have formed the Friends of Surfside Kindergarten and will celebrate over the weekend of 26th & 27th October. An over 18 Cocktail party at the Ocean Grove Cricket Club on Saturday 26th October will be followed by a family Open Day at the kindergarten on Sunday 27th.

Tickets for the cocktail party are available at Surfside primary school and Hayden Real Estate in the Terrace Ocean Grove. They will also be available on line – go to the “Friends of Surfside Kindergarten” Facebook page or SMS 0417531718.

The Open Day at the kindergarten will have music, activities and displays of old and new, so it is hoped that as many past students and parents and friends as possible will attend and take part. The Ocean Grove CFA will be conducting a sausage sizzle and a coffee van will also be on hand. We look forward to seeing everyone there to celebrate and say “So Long Surfside Kindergarten”.

Kath Beaman, on behalf of “The Friends of Surfside Kindergarten Committee”

You are invited to attend ‘The Business of Parenting’ Workshop
An introduction to the world-renowned parenting program Parent Effectiveness Program (PET)
Wed 16th Oct 2013 7-9pm Ocean Grove Bowling Club
To Book a Place, call Lisa on 0412 329 085 or email lisa@parenttraining.com.au or Facebook: The Business of Parenting
Cost $37 Bring a friend for free! Hurry Limited Seats www.parenttraining.com.au