Welcome back to an exciting year at Wallington. We especially welcome the new families to the school and hope that you find Wallington a fantastic school with an amazing school community. The best way to become an active participant in the school community is to get involved in the activities and events that the school has to offer. Parents and friends meet on a regular basis and we are having school council election soon (information to follow).

**Life Education**
We have the Life Education (Life Ed) Van coming to Wallington from 16th – 20th February. This long running program is part of the Health Curriculum at Wallington and will involve each class attending a session in the Life Ed Van and other activities within the classroom. The Life Education Van comes to the school and will be parked out the front of the school. There will be some disruption to the flow of traffic past the van during morning drop off and afternoon pick up.

**Student Valuables**
The school is not responsible for the items that students bring from home. It is up to each student to look after his or her precious items. In the event of person items being lost or damaged, the school cannot be held liable. If your child wishes to bring along a special item, please make arrangements for their safe keeping – such as having the teacher lock it away or come and collect it when it has been used.

**Brain Food**
At Wallington, classes break up the 2 hour learning periods by allowing the children to have a Brain Food snack. This is to give the students a quick break and to recharge with some foods. Brain Food is either a piece of fruit or vegetable. Brain Food should be something that is quick to get from their bag or locker and can be eaten at their tables easily. We ask that yoghurts and packed snacks not be used as Brain Food.

**Sushi Thursday**
Sushi Orders will commence next week. Orders need to be in the drawer of the white cabinet (this is located in the front foyer) no later than 1:00 pm on the Wednesday. No late orders can be accepted. The sushi will be delivered to the school on the Thursday at lunchtime. A copy of the menu can be located on the school website.

**Lost Property**
Lost Property is located outside the sick bay. Please feel free to come in and check the lost property. Those items with names on them will be returned to their owner. To assist with this, I ask that all items of clothing are labelled including shirts.

**Future event dates are regularly posted on the school website.**

**CALENDAR EVENTS**
- **Fri 3rd Feb** Assembly
- **Thu 9th Feb** Parents & Friends AGM – School Hall 9 am
- **Thurs 9th Feb** Strawberry Fair Meeting
- **Wed 15th Feb** Strawberry Fair Meeting
- **Thu 16th Feb** Welcome BBQ 5 pm onwards
- **16-20th Feb** Life Ed Van
- **Thu 23rd Feb** Strawberry Fair Meeting
- **Wed 1st Mar** Strawberry Fair Meeting

**ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY**
Our first assembly will be Friday 3rd Feb. The Grade 6 students will receive their leaders badges. The following week the preps and new students to the school will be presented to the school by the grade 6 students and other class representatives.

**Welcome Picnic**
We invite all our families, especially our new families, to join us at the Welcome Picnic on Thursday, 16th Feb from 5 pm onwards. BYO everything.

**CAR PARK REMINDER**
The following rules apply to the car park:
- No students are permitted in the car park at any time, unless accompanied by an adult.
- Park as close to the marker in the centre of the parking area. There is plenty of room for 2 rows of cars to be parked in this area. Parking is also available along the southern edge of the car park.
- If the entire car park is full, as can happen on special days, you will need to park off the road along the drive-way.
- In the mornings you may drop children off at the Drop Off Zone. Children should alight from the vehicle on the passenger side and enter the school grounds via the front gate. You must then move off to allow other cars access. Please note it is a DROP OFF zone only.
- At pick up time, all parents must park in the allocated areas and collect their children from either of the gates. No parking is permitted in the drop off zone.

The road rules we adhere to whilst driving apply whilst driving in the car park. This includes the use of mobile phones as well as observing the speed limit. Please remember that the traffic management rules of the car park exist for the safety of everyone. These arrangements work well as long as everyone adheres to them.

**Strawberry Fair**
The Strawberry Fair is on **Sunday 5th March**. It is expected that all families help out to ensure the success of the day. Parents who have volunteered to coordinate areas are asked to attend the meeting next **Thursday (9th Feb - 7:00 pm in the staffroom)** so that we can begin to finalise preparations and begin the ordering phase. We still have places to fill on the roster. If you are a new family to the school please come along and see what it is about and to see how you can be of assistance. See further information in this week’s newsletter.

**Newsletters Via Email**
It is easier and better than ever to get the school newsletter online. Did you know....

- 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg of CO2 in the atmosphere.
- 3 sheets of A4 paper = 1 litre of water

**Think Before You Print**
It’s time we considered our environment before printing off the newsletter. As we are a Waste Wise school this will be your contribution to assisting our environment. It is also an excellent way to ensure that you actually receive the newsletter weekly and it is not forgotten at the bottom of a school bag. It’s simple, all you have to do is go to our web site: www.wallington-ps.vic.edu.au

Click on the **News Tab - Newsletters** - then follow the prompts
The newsletter is also available through the **Skoolbag App**. Download the Wallington Primary School App and receive it and other alerts and reminders on your phone (instructions overleaf).
Next Meeting - AGM
The AGM is on Thursday 9th February 9am in the school hall. Come and see how you can get involved in P&F in 2017 over a coffee and chat. All welcome.

Parents Social Horseriding Group
Upcoming rides for 2017
Friday February 17th
Blazing Saddles 2.5hr beach and bush ride
Saturday April 29th
Spring Creek day ride to Anglesea pub
All riding levels welcome
Contact breeeschammer@bigpond.com for more info and to book your place.

Stay up to date
With lots of Parents and Friends news and upcoming events by joining our Facebook page.
Search for “Wallington PS Parents and Friends” and request to join.

Strawberry Fair
The exciting and much anticipated fair is upon us with just over 4 weeks to bring it all together. A few quick reminders to help us all on track after our summer break.

Weekly Meetings - Everyone Welcome! If you want to find out how you can help or what is happening, come along to the weekly meetings at 7pm in the staffroom: Thurs 9th Feb, Wed 15th Feb, Thur 23rd Feb & Wed 1st March.

Strawberry Fair newsletters - to get up to date on all news Strawberry Fair, previous editions are available on the school website: http://www.wallington-ps.vic.edu.au/ or via the skoolbag app. Next one due out early next week!

Volunteer Rosters - we need all hands on deck leading up the fair and over the fair weekend. You have the opportunity to nominate your role on the day by placing your name on the roster sheets outside Mr McLaren’s office window by Friday 24th Feb or be allocated a role by the committee. Any questions please contact Fiona Ferguson 0427 502 518.

Cake Stall & Lucky Dip Bags - start to think about what items you can source to fill the lucky dip bags or what you might like to bake for the very popular cake stall.

Flash mob - for the kids practices on the dance to ‘Can’t Stop the Feeling’ by Justine Timberlake will start take place each Friday at 1.30pm in the hall.

Auction Items - Kath Rahdon our Auction Leader would appreciate any help she can get to approach business for items - please speak to Kath directly on 0417 894 518 first with any leads to help us avoid ‘harassing’ local supporters and doubling up on requests.

Any questions regarding anything Strawberry Fair please see Mr McLaren or Kerri Wrench.

Flash Mob Dance
There will be Flash Mob dance practice every Friday lunchtime leading up to Strawberry Fair. All children who wish to participate can go to the hall at lunchtime for practice. There is no cost to attend. Thank you to Georgia, our parent helper, who will be leading the flash mob dance.

Art Smocks
A BIG welcome back to lots of colourful fun in the Art Room this year. ALL students are to bring a clearly NAMED smock to school, which is stored in the Art Room. Thank you.

Book Buddies, Cambodia
A number of families donated books towards the end of last year. These were sent during the holidays, and have been gratefully received. Book Buddies is an ongoing charity project. If you have any picture story books that are no longer needed, please bring them to the Art Room. Thank you for your generous support.

Judie MacMillan