From the Principal

The last couple of weeks have been extremely busy for staff as they are currently writing student mid-year reports, participating in training and development as well as the usual day to day business in the classroom. You can expect to receive your child’s report on the last day of this term. If your child is away, the report will be posted. We are still transitioning between the South Australian Curriculum (PE & Health, Art, SOSE) and the National Curriculum (History, Geography, English, Mathematics and Science) as indicated on the report formats.

By the end of 2014 we will be implementing the National Curriculum in Mathematics, Science, English, The Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences (Geography, Civics and Citizenship, Economics and Business). Health and Physical Education and Technologies (Digital Technologies, Design and Technologies) will be trialled in 2015 and implemented by 2016. The Governing Council have approved a Pupil Free Day on the 21st July (first day of Term 3) to look at the new Civics and Citizenship curriculum as well as Economics and Business. Having the Pupil Free Day at the beginning of Term 3 allows two terms to familiarise ourselves with the curriculum before implementing it in 2015.

This term we have participated in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) on Students with a Disability. The Australian Government and all state and territory governments have agreed to work towards the full implementation of the data collection by 2015. The purpose is to:

- Capture a wider cohort of students than is currently covered, by including all students that meet the disability criteria under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Have a nationally consistent picture of Australian school students with a disability. Currently data is inconsistent across jurisdictions because of varying eligibility criteria for disability support programs
- Support professional judgement of teachers about their students
- Support students with a disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability (Disability Standards for Education 2005)

This means that teachers have gathered evidence about all the students in their class, not just those identified by DECD Disability Policy, to determine whether students could be included in the collection using the DDA definition of disability (physical, mental, sensory, intellectual etc.). Parents will be consulted and permission sought to include their child’s data in the collection to be submitted. Student personal details are kept confidential. At a school level the collection of data has strengthened our understanding of student needs and strategies to support teaching and learning. It has also been a worthwhile opportunity to engage in professional learning and develop a deeper understanding of the needs of students with a disability.

‘Fast track’ is a new term we are using for students who are removed from Art, Science and/or Health and PE (specialist subjects). Specialist teachers only have students for 50 minutes at a time but they too, like classroom teachers, need to meet the demands of a rigorous curriculum. Unfortunately some students view specialist subjects as less important than classroom subjects resulting in poor behaviour. This behaviour cannot be dealt with in a 50 minute lesson without impacting on other students learning time. Specialist teachers give students a reminder about appropriate behaviour but will if necessary exit students to the office for 15 minutes or the
Exciting happenings at Two Wells Primary School next term!

In term 3 we will be running the Active After-school Communities (AASC) program. This Australian Government program is run by the Australian Sports Commission and provides opportunities for primary school children to participate in free sport and other structured physical activity, after school.

In Term 3 a Gymnastics program has been put together for children to enjoy. The activity will focus on increasing physical activity and improving skills in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

Consent forms will be sent home later this term with further information.

From the Finance Officer

Materials and Services Charge invoices were raised in Term 1 and due on 31 March 2014. Statements were mailed out last week to remind those parents who are yet to pay. Payment of this charge is offered via a number of flexible options, including the following:

- By cash, cheque or credit card to the Cash Office at the school.
- By electronic funds transfer (EFT)/direct debit.
  
  Bank details for the school account are:
  
  Account Name – Two Wells Primary School Council Inc Consolidated Account
  Account Number – 10000275
  BSB – 065 174

  Please ensure that you provide your Invoice Number and surname for identification purposes.

- Completion of an Agreement to Pay by Instalments form, obtained from the Cash Office.
- Applying for School Card. Application forms can be obtained from the Cash Office.

The Cash Office is now open for payments and for School Card applications daily from 8.30 am until 3.30 pm.

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Skoolbag app. Survey (please tick relevant boxes only)

□ I have installed the Skoolbag app.
□ I am happy to receive the newsletter via Skoolbag only.
□ I would still like to receive a paper copy of the school newsletter.

Parent name _______________________________ 
Child’s name ____________________Room ______

Lynda Fitzpatrick-Brown