Dear Parents,

**WORKING BEE - Saturday March 5th**
On Saturday March 5th we will be holding our first ‘Working Bee’ for the year, from 9.00am - 12.30pm. We are looking forward to as many people as possible attending. The school will be providing 'sausage sizzle' lunch for ‘Working Bee' helpers. Come along, even if only for an hour, and meet new families and perhaps make some new friends while helping the school improve the grounds for our students at the same time. Everyone is welcome and any assistance appreciated.

**BADGE PRESENTATION FOR STUDENT LEADERS**
On Monday 7th March, we are holding a special assembly at 9.30am to present badges to our student leaders for 2016. Ms Anna Burke, Federal Member of Parliament for Chisholm, will be presenting the badges to the students. It is usually a very proud moment for these students as they are presented with their badges and recognised by the school for their leadership potential. A morning tea will be conducted for leaders and their parents at the conclusion of the assembly.

**TWILIGHT SPORTS**
We will be conducting our Twilight Sports evening on Thursday March 10th, commencing at approximately 6.00pm. This is a fabulous opportunity for parents to meet other families from the school and it is usually a great social occasion. Activities will take place on the oval.

Our Parents Club will be holding a barbecue during the evening, selling sausages and drinks to our families. I look forward to seeing you all there.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
Our school photographer will be in attendance on Wednesday March 9th.

**WAVERLEY LINKS LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**
On Thursday 10th March and Monday 21st March some of our student leaders will be taking part in the Waverley Links Leadership Program which aims to further develop the leadership skills of the students involved.

The Waverley Links Schools are a group of five schools with...
similar philosophies that work together to provide opportunities for students and staff to improve their knowledge and skills. The schools involved are: Brandon Park Primary School, Burwood East Primary School, Highvale Primary School, Syndal South Primary School and Pinewood Primary School. This year Pinewood PS will be hosting the Waverley Links Leadership Program.

PRINCIPAL’s CORNER
As I move around the school playgrounds during recess and/or lunchtime, it is amazing to observe the various skill levels, behaviours and communication styles children use to initiate friendship or to approach a group to join in a game. Although a school’s main focus is on the development of children’s academic skills, it is equally important to provide time and guidance for the development of important social skills, which contribute so much to children’s happiness and sense of belonging.

This week, I would like to share the following article with you about how parents/carers can enhance the development of important social competencies in their children.

I hope you find the article helpful.

Social Skills for Children By Michael Grose, Parenting Ideas Educator.

Children who are able to form friendships when they start school are happier at school and also learn better.

More significantly, positive friendships have long-term implications for social and indirectly academic success.

Today’s children grow up with fewer siblings, fewer opportunities for unstructured play and less freedom to explore friendships than children of even ten years ago.

Parents can help kids develop important social competencies by teaching them sociable behaviours at home, being good role models and providing opportunities for kids to play with each other in a variety of situations.

Here are 7 important social skills to help children to develop:

1. Ask for what you want
Help children ask for what they want. It means they don’t throw tantrums, whinge, and sulk or expect parents to guess what’s on their minds. While we need to be patient with toddlers, we need also to give older children the chance and opportunity to ask for what they want. Sometimes we need to ignore shrugs and grunts and expect them to articulate their wishes. This is the basis of civil behaviour, as well as a basic human skill.

2. Good manners
Teach kids good manners, in particular the three ‘power words’. These words are very persuasive because they have a way of breaking down barriers and people’s defences. These three words are: your name; please; thanks. These terms are the basis of good manners, and, when used, will increase the likelihood of getting what you want.

3. Sharing
Sharing is a basic social skill. Developmentally, very young children like to keep their possessions themselves. As they get older and move into Pre School and beyond the notion of sharing becomes a pre-requisite for playing with and forming relationships with others. Other children like to play and be with those who share their time, possessions and space with them. Sharing is the start of empathy as it shows sensitivity to other people’s feelings.

4. Holding a conversation
Holding conversations with others is a lifetime friendship skill. Conversations require self-disclosure, which can be challenging for some children. Good conversationalists give of themselves, but also take an interest in the person they are talking to. Many children forget that good conversations are two-way events, and tend to focus solely on themselves.

Children within conversations need to learn to ask good or interesting questions; to take turns when speaking and to show you are...
5. Winning and losing well
Kids need to learn to win without rubbing others noses in it, and lose gracefully without throwing tantrums and making excuses. Wanting to win is natural, but they need to do so in a way that they maintain a relationship with other players so they will play again. Losing may make kids feel bad, but kids need to control their negative feelings so that others will play with them again.

6. Approaching and joining a group
The ability to approach strangers in social situations is a valuable skill that opens up many doors, both friendship-wise and business-wise. These skills can be learned and practised during childhood, so that it becomes second nature in adulthood.

7. Handling fights and disagreements
Disagreements happen in families and among friends. The key is to make sure disagreements don’t lead to the breakdown of friendships. It’s important to get across to kids that having an argument or disagreement doesn’t mean that a friendship is over. Strong friendships, like strong family relationships, withstand disagreements. In fact, they only serve to strengthen friendships.

The results of a number of studies indicate that children can be taught friendships skills. The strategies are simple and revolve around teaching children a range of friendly behaviours such as: talking with others while playing, showing an interest in others, smiling, offering help and encouragement when needed, a willingness to share and learning how to enter a game or social situation.

As parents we often focus on the development of children’s academic skills and quite easily neglect the development of important social skills, which contribute so much to children’s happiness and wellbeing.

SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS
A huge “thank you” to parents who have nominated for School Council positions. We value and appreciate your commitment to education and our school and your willingness to stand for nomination.

We have received eight nominations for the four Parent Vacancies on School Council, therefore we are required to conduct a ballot.

All families will receive ballot papers this afternoon. Once you have filled out the ballot paper, please bring it to the School Office as soon as possible.

At the office, you will be required to place your ballot paper into an envelope and then place your vote into the Ballot box (envelopes will be provided). You will also be required to sign the register of voters.

All ballot papers must be received by the school by 4.00 pm on Monday 7th March.

Karen Jenkin
Principal

From the Assistant
Principal’s Desk

Just Get Active Program @
Pinewood Primary School

This classroom-based program provides safe and appropriate health performance education & training for all year levels and abilities. It provides fundamental movement and cognitive skills training and is designed to complement curriculum guidelines set by The Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation and the AusVELS’ ‘Three Interwoven Purposes’ model - to equip students with the capacity to:

1) Manage themselves and their relations with others
2) Understand the world
3) Act effectively in that world

The Just Get Active Primary Health Program is presented in electronic form, utilising already established in-class monitors and interactive white-boards. Video material is updated regularly and remains positive, simple, engaging, and fun. It's now easy to 'Get Active' in class everyday with videos ranging from 2 to 16 min. The program is fully inclusive and easy to implement, requiring no investment in equipment or specialty training.

Please note that this online program will be instructed by the classroom teacher on a daily basis for the whole year. 
Uniform Opening Times are changing!

From this week, the uniform shop will be opening on THURSDAY and FRIDAY afternoons.
Thursday, 3.15pm—3.45pm
Friday, 3.15pm—3.45pm

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Anooj T. Prep P
For being a kind and caring friend and always helping her classmates with a smile on her face!

Arlo N. Prep R
For the wonderful efforts he puts into all activities and for being a responsible and cooperative class member. Well done Arlo!

Cooper P. Prep M
For confidently speaking to the class during Show & Tell sessions. Cooper always tries his best.

Zara F. Prep H
For her positive attitude towards all activities and attempting all tasks with a smile. Well done!

Emilie H. Prep L
For listening carefully to classroom instructions and for being a kind friend. Well done!

Catherine P. 3B
For her enthusiastic attitude towards all school activities and for always producing high quality work.

Lachlan S. 5D
For the 100% effort he puts into all classroom learning. You are a role model in 5D. Keep up the excellent effort.

Kelvin F. 5K
For your support with our class blog and your enthusiasm in Maths. Your focus in class demonstrates strong leadership qualities. Well done Kelvin.

Vansh M. 6U
For demonstrating excellent sportsmanship at the Summer Sport Round Robin. Well done and keep it up, Vansh!

Mina S. 6D
For her fantastic effort and excellent sportsmanship at the Summer Sports Round Robin. Well done Mina!

Sethumi F. 4C
For helping me out in the classroom without being asked. You have great initiative, Sethumi. Well done!

Timothy K. 1T
For being a kind, helpful and polite student who always does his best with his school work. Well done Timothy!

Hannah R. 1A
For always trying her best and for consistently using her excellent listening skills. Keep it up!

Emily P. 1H
For listening carefully to instructions and striving to do her best in the classroom. Well done!

Ben G. 2G
Ben has shown a positive attitude this year, always trying his best and participating in all class activities. Well done Ben. Keep it up!

Lucas R. Prep P
For making an excellent start to school. Lucas is working hard to learn his Wizard Words and always tries his best!

Drew T. 2R
For being an organised and enthusiastic member of 2R. Keep up the positive attitude Drew!

Ross M. 3K
For being an extremely organised learner and for presenting your homework to a very high standard.

Marissa C. 4H
For your enthusiasm and positive attitude towards your learning. You turn up everyday with a smile on your face and you take your learning seriously. Keep up the great week!

Asha S. 4M
For demonstrating persistence when completely her work and for having such a positive attitude in class. Keep it up!

Becky M. 6H
For her fantastic support towards teammates during Summer Sports and her commitment to helping the team in any way she could.

Rose W. 2M
For always bringing a positive attitude to all learning activities and working hard to complete all tasks.
Year 6 Incursion

On Monday the Year 6 students participated in four rotations organised by United Energy. There was a range of fun activities to do with creating energy without electricity and we used some unusual objects such as lemons and potatoes. We learnt about electricity volts, circuits and how electricity is distributed throughout Australia.

The people from United Energy were very interesting and we all learnt something new about electricity and how it works. On behalf of all the Year 6 students, we would like to thank United Energy for coming and Mr Tate for organising the rotations.

By Eva and Isabella, Year 6.

CLASSROOM REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2016

We are looking for parents who would be interested in being a class representative for their child’s class this year.

Prep D -
Prep H -
Prep L -
Prep M - Charmaine Wickremasinghe
Prep P -
Prep R -
1A -
1H -
1JK -
1T -
2G - Roshini Kirubaharan
2M -
2R - Georgia Sinclair
3B -
3K -
4C - Lisa Strong
4H - Charmaine Wickremasinghe
4M -
4R -
5D - Sue Bleeker
5K -
6D - Cindy Lowe
6H - Louise Berry
6U - Arlete Jurdukian

PARENTS CLUB NEWS

Pinewood Parents Club will be running an Easter Chocolate Hamper Raffle which will be drawn at the end of term Assembly.

Raffle tickets will be sent home for children to sell next week.

NEXT PARENTS CLUB EVENT:

Twilight Sports Barbeque, Thursday 10th March

See the Parents Club Notice Board (outside the Uniform Shop) in the Front School Building for a full list of this year’s events.
Dear parents and students,

Pinewood Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 9/03/2016
School photo order envelopes have been or will be distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

ONLINE ORDERING Your child’s school photos are now available for secure online purchase, please note if you are ordering online, you do not need to return an envelope to the school

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

Step 1: Easy Access Link: Click on this link if you are using a supported device: Click Here
- OR - Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [YHM KF9 SL6]

Step 2: Enter your student’s details

Step 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection)

Step 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

Please Note: Late fees will apply once orders are closed (5 days after photo day)

FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS No envelope required if ordering online

4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

- Go to www.advancedlife.com.au before photo day and enter your school code [YHM KF9 SL6]
- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on 7/03/2016
- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with cash or cheque enclosed

ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE

ENVELOPES WILL BE HANDED TO EACH CHILD, PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE

Step 1: Student Details: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope.

- Please use black or blue pen.

Step 2: Purchase Details: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.

Step 3: Payment Method: Select your payment method.

Credit Card – Online Only at www.advancedlife.com.au

Cash – Please enclose correct money – no change is given under any circumstances

Cheque – Make payable to Advancedlife Photography with your name & address on the back of cheque

Please allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised - a $25 fee will apply to any dishonored cheque payments

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries in regards to your child’s school photo order.

info@advancedlifevic.com.au or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team

Advancedlife Photography, design, printing

2016 Photo Day
Envelope and Order Instructions