Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to return to school for Term Two and to be greeted by our students with such enthusiasm. We would like to welcome all families back to school. The children have told us about their Easter holidays filled with sun, family and lots of outings, which we have all enjoyed sharing.

The students have settled back into the school routine extremely well. They are following the classroom structures and routines with enthusiasm, which is really pleasing to see. The independent behaviours and work habits that have developed in Term One are guiding the students very well in the classroom. Term Two promises to be exciting as we investigate the topic of 'Transport- On the Move.'

DEVELOPMENTAL CURRICULUM

The children are continuing to participate in 'investigations' this term centring on fostering creativity, imagination, and active engagement through student's interests. So far we see lots of interest in drawing, letter writing, shop keeping along with box and block construction. Our Integrated topic of 'Transport' will focus on ways of moving around, different forms of transportation and the many uses and purposes of specific types of transport. If you or your child has any books, toys etc relating to our theme, please send them in. We are looking forward to a term with lots of probing and questioning, making, discovering and creating!

LITERACY

In Reading this term, we will be focusing on the main reading strategies of one-to-one correspondence when reading (tracking), letter sound knowledge and using pictures to help decode a word. Also cued articulation, rhyme and word families. In Writing, we are encouraging independent writing with a focus on 'having a go' even when it seems challenging. Children will participate in journal, recount and procedural writing. In Handwriting we will be teaching letter formation, size and placement. We will also identify different fonts and investigate a variety of text types such as books, signs and menus.

It is still very important that you continue to read with your child nightly and practise their letters and sounds or word lists.
NUMERACY
In Numeracy this term we will continue to extend the children's understanding of numbers up to 20. Children will be learning addition, making to ten and counting on from any number. Foundation students will be studying whole/halves, length, weight/mass, day/night, doubles, capacity, 2-D shapes and o'clock times. They will be using various materials to support their learning such as counters, unifix blocks and pop sticks. These hands on materials assist kinaesthetic learners to grasp topics.

EXCURSION
This term the Foundation students are going on their first excursion, on Tuesday 13th May, it will be a very exciting time for all! The children will be attending The Lego Education centre Docklands. We are very appreciative of those parents who have offered their time and help on the day of the excursion already and remind parents if you are not involved in this excursion, that there will be further opportunities to help in the classroom through the year. Thanks again for your offers of assistance.

Open Day
Wattle Park Primary School will be celebrating an “Open Morning” on Saturday 24th of May. We invite you to come and visit your child's classroom and look at the wonderful learning that has been taking place.

LATENESS AND ABSENCES
A reminder about students being on time for school and absence notes. The beginning of the day can be quite busy as students come to class, hand in notes, change their take home books, lunch orders etc. Classroom teachers need to start their classroom programs as soon as possible in order to maximise student learning in the morning. Therefore we are asking parents to bring students to class on time at 8.50am. In the morning or after school is a good time when you can make appointments to speak to your child's teacher.

If your child is absent for any reason the office does require an absent note stating the dates absent. This is to be handed to the class teacher and is a legal requirement from the Department of Education.
CLASSROOM MATERIALS

We are in need of craft materials -
- old birthday cards and wrapping paper,
- information fliers, magazines, menus, brochures, catalogues etc.
- ice-cream containers, large yoghurt containers, baby food jars, meat trays, egg cartons
- boxes – tissues, soap, cereals, biscuits etc

If you have any of these unwanted materials at home send them (cleaned) with your child to school. Remember too, that the art room can always use these and many other items.

Thank you parents for the support you provide for your child and our programs, and thank you to the students for an enthusiastic start to Term Two. It is so rewarding to share in the many discoveries students make in literacy, numeracy and other areas of the curriculum and to watch their curiosity, excitement and enthusiasm to learn.

Thank you for your support and assistance,

Foundation Team

Pia Chadwick  Kathy Skantzos

Principal
Gayle Cope

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 13th May  Lego Docklands Excursion
Saturday 24th May  WPPS Open morning 9-11am
Friday 6th June  Curriculum Day
Monday 9th June  Queen's birthday holiday
Tuesday 10th June  100th Birthday Commemorative Assembly 3.00-3.30pm
Monday 23rd June  Reports go home
Wednesday 25th June  Parent Teacher meetings.
Friday 27th June  Last day of Term 2 dismissal 2.30pm