P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2ND MARCH
You are invited to attend the P&C AGM on Wednesday, 2nd March at 7:00 pm in the staffroom. All executive positions will be declared vacant with elections to occur. Please contact outgoing president Nick Fiennes (wpspandc@gmail.com) for more information about the P&C roles or alternatively, see the P&C webpage. Come along and meet other parents with the common goal to help make The Bush School the best school for our kids.

CHESS NEEDED
Mr Evan Jones, a former Bush School parent has been leading our chess program for a decade. This year, we are searching for an interested parent volunteer who is available on Tuesdays at lunchtime to shadow Mr Jones with a view to succeeding his throne. For more information please contact me.

PARENTS SWIMMING HELPERS
Parents assisting with swimming are reminded that they are able to access the adult toilet and change-room next to the library before and after lessons if required.

FORE!!!!!!
It’s here! The Wahroonga Masters will be an annual event that I am looking forward to hosting each year of my principalship. It is for mums, dads, grandparents and friends of Wahroonga. It is for golfers and hackers alike. This year’s Masters will be played at Asquith Golf Club on Friday 20th May. All the information you need to know can be found here.

BREKKY BBQ
What a terrific morning it was last Friday for our first brekky BBQ of the year. It was a fabulous opportunity to meet Bush School parents new and old. I am exceptionally grateful for the work of a number of early rising parents who assisted in the preparation and cooking, and to the Hanly family for the donation of hundreds of sausages.

CAR MIRRORS
Yet another school parent has reported to me that her car’s side mirror was smashed on Water Street one afternoon. My advice is to fold your mirrors in if parking on either Water Street or Burns Road as they are quite narrow.

THANK YOU TEACHERS
Our many extra curricular groups including dance, choir, chess, sports and debating are only possible due to the kind-heartedness and goodwill of volunteer teachers who are not at all remunerated or rewarded for giving up their own time to act as coaches, choreographers, conductors or coordinators. I understand that not all students can be selected for groups – this is NEVER because we take joy in disappointing young children, but because outside limitations beyond our control limit the number of participants. Take it from the number 10 batsman, non-bowler of the Epping Boys High School second XI cricket team – failing, missing out, or finishing second best is sometimes a blessing in disguise. It can build resilience and persistence despite the obvious disappointment of missing out. I’d like to thank all of our teachers who go above and beyond and acknowledge the parents who are supporting their children no matter what the
outcome of their trials. During term 2, a number of interest groups will be available during lunch times for all students.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS
Thank you to the many parents who have promptly paid school contributions. Both hard copy and electronic notices were sent home this week. I am undertaking to gradually air condition the school for the benefit of students and staff, and your contribution to cover our at-cost expenses in other areas will allow me to direct some other funding to this venture. If you are experiencing financial hardship or would like to discuss school contributions, please contact me, as some assistance may be available.

ALISTER HENSKENS VISIT
It was my privilege to host local state member of parliament Alister Henskens last Friday. Mr Henskens and I discussed many issues faced by the school including the tricky management of our grounds, inclusive education, STEM education and road safety surrounding the school. I thank him for his interest.

WORKING BEE
Are you a working bee? Each term we like to hold a community working bee to complete tasks the General Assistant has no time to complete or large scale jobs that require additional bodies. Parents, students, friends, grandparents and others are invited to join me on Saturday March 5th (also Clean Up Australia Day weekend) where we will be starting to re-mulch the ‘mulch area’ and putting the finishing touches on the Bush Patch veggie garden. It doesn’t matter whether you can spare just one hour or the full day, whether you have any landscaping experience or not, there will be a task suitable for you on the day. Food and drink will be provided throughout the day including a BBQ lunch from 11:30. To register your attendance, please complete this form. Students who attend will receive a certificate to acknowledge their effort.

SCHOOL STREAM APP
At the time of publication, 249 users have downloaded the School Stream App. I strongly urge all parents to download this free app as soon as possible. It has a number of user-friendly features, and is our only capacity to send instant notifications to phones in cases of emergency. I am happy to receive feedback and suggestions about the app.

WHO WILL BE MY 100th TWITTER FOLLOWER?
Only one more to go…!

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