Our Purpose
We will create a caring learning environment that provides students with the opportunity to develop the academic and social skills they need to achieve their individual potential.

School Website: www.upperswanps.wa.edu.au

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS
Welcome to the new school year. Voluntary Contributions for 2015 are $60.00 per child, per year. We do encourage payment of the Voluntary Contributions for your child/ren at the beginning of each school year, directly to the school office or via the school bank account. Reminder Statements of outstanding amounts will be issued at the beginning of each Term to parents. If you would like to make arrangements to pay instalments on either Contributions or Charges please contact Wendy Dailey on 9296 4622.

Thank you to the families that have made payment to date. Your continued support enables us to provide the extra resources we need to enrich your child's/ren's learning. The money we collect is a vital part of our school budget.

There is an expectation that all students pay for incursions/excursions, or make arrangements for a payment plan with classroom teachers or directly with the office. Charges for each optional activity should be paid into collection envelopes and placed into the collection tin outside reception. Permission slips should be returned to the class teacher for their records.

SCHOOL BANKING
Every Wednesday 8.15am – 8.45am in Library
Regards Tara Leader and Helen Ainsworth - School Banking Coordinators

Uniform Shop
Tuesday afternoons 2.30pm – 3.00pm
Wednesday mornings 8.30am – 9.30am
Enquiries: Jenelle 0411 183 099

PLEASE READ: DIRECT DEPOSITS
When making Direct Deposits into the school bank account for Voluntary Contributions PLEASE put the CHILD'S SURNAME, FIRST NAME OR INITIAL as the reference. This allows me to allocate to the correct student.

At present I have 1 deposit that I am unable to allocate. If you recognise the references below could you please contact Wendy to rectify as soon as possible:

WECU Upper Swan PS $120.00
Editors If you wish to contact the Principal - Stephen.Green@det.wa.edu.au

On-Entry Testing
During the next four weeks your pre primary, year 1 and year 2 children will complete what is known as On Entry Assessment. The main purpose of the assessment is to give teachers the opportunity to collect information on the essential literacy and numeracy skills and understandings of each child in their class. This will assist your child’s teacher to develop learning programs designed to foster each child’s learning, reflective of individual needs.

A report summarising each child’s development will be available at the parent / teacher meetings on Wednesday, 1 April.

School Council Representatives
It’s that time of year where we call for nominations from parents interested in joining our School Council. We have two vacancies as Dr Natalie Gasson and Mrs Dianne Petrich have completed their two year term. I would like to thank them for their thoughtful contribution to the debates and discussions we have had about improving our school.

Meetings are held once per term, usually on a Monday at 3:15. However, we are giving strong consideration to an evening timeslot as that is more manageable for people with primary aged children.

What Does the School Council Do?
This is a summary of the roles of the school council:

- establish and review the school’s objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
- advise and help plan the financial arrangements to achieve the school’s objectives;
- evaluate the school’s performance in achieving its objectives;
- advising and formulating codes of conduct for students;
- determine the dress code for students;
- promoting the school in the local and wider community;
- approve charges and voluntary contributions;
- approve items for student personal use (“booklists”);
- approve any agreement the school might make for advertising and sponsorship;
- provide general advice on a range of school policies that are reviewed and developed from time to time.

If you’re interested, please send Stephen a message by email, note or phone call by Friday, 13 March.

Role Models
Recent events involving sports people in Queensland has focussed attention on the importance of children having positive role models. The question being; should sports people be regarded as role models?

As parents and guardians, you are the most important role models your children have. Your children may also have other family members and close family friends that are role models, mentors and advisors. Teachers can also be regarded as role models. Put simply, role models teach by example. It can be anything from developing strong values, good manners, ways of resolving conflict and personal qualities needed to achieve goals.

I think it is not possible for someone your children don’t personally know to be a role model. Elite athletes may give children something to aspire to, but they can’t truly be role models.

Who are your children’s role models?

The Office Money Box – What Goes In / What Doesn’t
You are probably aware there is a letter box on the wall near the entry to the office reception area.

It is for payment of school related activities: incursions, excursions, swimming lessons, voluntary contributions, camp fees and the like. In 99% of cases, if it’s not in a small yellow payment envelope, it doesn’t go in the box. Permission slips always go directly to teachers.
It is not for: Subway orders, letters and notes to staff, updates of personal contact details, Book Club, anything for the P & C.

**Leadership Team Out of School This Week**

This Thursday 26 and Friday 27 Mrs Guy, Ms White and Mr Green are out of school. Should you require assistance; Miss Kongras is available on Thursday and Mrs Stotter is available on Friday.

**Assembly Postponed – Friday 27 moved to Friday 6**

Due to work being done in the undercover area and all admin staff being out of school, this week’s Student Council assembly has been postponed to next Friday, 6 March.

**P & C Committee**

I would like to acknowledge the fabulous community service our school has received from our retiring president, Mrs Sharron Attwood. It is a challenging job to bring people with different ideas together in the spirit of cooperation so we can provide additional resources and learning opportunities for your children. In Sharron’s time as president many thousands of dollars have been invested in mobile technology and the many bits and pieces that go with maintaining that technology. The investment has been a huge bonus for your children and our staff.

Mrs Charlotte Gosatti retired from the role of secretary. Charlotte has given many years of dedicated service to our school in a variety of roles, including serving on our School Council. I would like to thank Charlotte for her contribution to the team.

**P & C Committee Update**

President - Mrs Debbie McDermott  
Vice President - Mrs Jenelle Booth  
Secretary - Mrs Naomi Roney  
Treasurer - Dr Natalie Gasson  
School Council Rep – Mrs Tanya Taylor

Our next P&C meeting will be on Tuesday 17 March at **7.30pm** in the staff room. A 9:00pm curfew is being introduced so we can keep the meetings ‘tight’.

**Crunch and Sip Award**

At every assembly the classes with the most children regularly “crunching and sipping” are acknowledged. To be a ‘crunch and sipper’, all your children need is a re-fillable water bottle and a healthy fruit or vegie snack to take in to the classroom.

**Waste Free Wednesday**

We encourage you to get involved in reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill. We have made Wednesdays a focus, where we ask you to provide your children with food that comes in re-usable and / or recyclable containers. The class with the most children bringing waste free food is acknowledged at each assembly.

**Green Team 2015**

Mrs Holmes is the leader of our Green Team. Together they coordinate our recycling and re-using programs. Some of the things they do include: managing the collection of waste paper for recycling, sorting out food scraps suitable for the worm farm and chickens, selling produce from the vegie patch, selling worm wiz and helping maintain the fruit and vegie garden.
Labour Day Long Weekend
Remember this coming Monday, 2 March is the Labour Day long weekend. I hope you're able to enjoy an enriching family day.

P & C Easter Raffle - Donations
Hi Folks,

Just a little hip-hip-hoppity note inviting your family to support the P&C EASTER RAFFLE. Donations are made up into prizes AND DO NOT NEED TO BE EASTER EGGS.

Tickets available from Monday, 9 March; before school in the breezeway. Cost = $1

Ticket sales are on MONDAYS – WEDNESDAYS – FRIDAYS
Drawn at the final term 1 assembly on Thursday, 2 April

Basket for donations in the Office

Student Councillors
These fabulous, community minded year 6’s have volunteered to be a part of our Student Council. First term is a ‘try out’ phase, so we can be sure all team members are willing and able to carry out their responsibilities. They did an outstanding job at our first assembly.

Merit Award Recipients – Friday 13 February

Little Athletics – Championship and Awards Season
Judging by the number of children who have shared their achievements with me, I have figured out that Little Athletics is getting into the major competition phase of the season. Pictured here is one of our amazing year 2 students who received a club champion award. Jack is an all-rounder, with several records in throwing and jumping events. Congratulations to Jack and all families who enable their children to participate in active and healthy pursuits.
Community News

Paid Advertisements – if you wish to advertise in newsletter, the cost is $5.50 per week.

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