Whooping Cough Alert

NSW Health has issued a warning to all parents to be on alert for whooping cough (pertussis) following an increase in the number of school-aged children diagnosed with the disease over the last few weeks.

Whooping cough is a serious respiratory infection that causes a long coughing illness, and can be life-threatening for babies. Older children can bring home whooping cough from school or childcare and the infection can then be passed on to babies in the home.

Dr Jeremy McAnulty, Acting Director Health Protection said parents can protect newborns by making sure their baby’s vaccines are up-to-date and watching out for new coughs in their older children.

“The best thing new parents can do is to protect their babies at this time,” Dr McAnulty said.

“Babies are given whooping cough vaccines at two, four and six months of age, with the first dose given from six weeks. It’s also important to be on time with each vaccine in order to get the best protection.

“Parents need to ensure that they protect their babies from anyone with a new cough, especially older children who may have picked up whooping cough from school. As the infection is spread by coughing and close contact, it’s a good idea not to let anyone with a new cough hold your baby,” he added.

Whooping cough boosters are also important for older children at four years and later in high school. Boosters give the immune system a top-up and give added protection against whooping cough and help stop the spread to others. Whooping cough immunity fades with time. This means that children and adults can still get the infection even if they’ve been immunised against the disease.

Whooping cough starts like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, sneezing, a mild fever and an occasional cough. The cough usually gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing develop. This can be followed by vomiting, choking or taking big gasping breaths which causes the “whooping” sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night. Some older children and adults just get a cough that doesn’t go away and they may not get any of the other symptoms.

Whooping cough is highly infectious in the first three weeks and can spread easily through families, childcare centres and schools. General practitioners can test for whooping cough and treat early infections to reduce spread to other people.

Anyone who is infectious with whooping cough should avoid contact with babies and stay at home from work, school or childcare until they are no longer at risk of passing the infection on.
**FROM THE REGISTRAR**

**Mrs Roslyn Cox**

This weekend we are heading to Sydney for our Information Night – being generously hosted by Jayne and Daniel Cobden (parents of Tim in Year 10). We are expecting a number of current and prospective parents and are looking forward to the opportunity of meeting up with everyone down “in the Big Smoke”. All Saints is a very interesting and positive alternative to Sydney-based schools and I am looking forward to sharing this message.

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Special thanks to Kate and Pat Bird for their support in hosting our function at Oberon last Sunday – and thanks also to our many current families, and the lovely Ellen Robinson, who took time out of their weekend to come along as well. It was a very positive event and great to catch up with some of our past parents and many supporters from the Oberon area.

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Plans for the Orientation Days are well in hand. Orientation Morning for Kindergarten is scheduled for Thursday 4th November, Orientation Day for Senior School Students is scheduled for Friday 5th November, Orientation Morning for 2-Day Transition is scheduled for Thursday 11th November, and 3-Day and 5-Day Transition for Friday 12th November. Kindergarten 2011 Information Night is scheduled for Thursday 4th November.

We are busily receiving RSVPs for these different events and looking forward to meeting up with all our new families on the different days.

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We are becoming increasingly busy with school tours and follow up from interest and enquiries through the College website. A special thank you to Alanna D’Adam who came on a tour with me last week – and did a terrific job of speaking with our visiting family. Also a special thank you to our other lovely boarding girls from Year 10, and Mrs Gowans, who also spoke with a family during a tour last week.

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**TRANSITION NEWS**

Aussie Aussie Aussie – oi oi oi came the cry from the Transition room this week as we explore the sound ‘oi’. We have repotted our sunflowers in soil and are caring for them. We began making coil bracelets with fine beads to thread and we used foil and pipe cleaners to make the letters of our name. Some of us painted boiled puddings at the easel and others were pirates on a ship singing ‘oi ship ahoy’. There have been some magnificent drawings and creativity oozing out of the children this term as they prepare to go to Kindergarten next year.

We loved Mrs Aldridge as she began library classes this week and will continue for the term, and Father Paul always has something exciting for us. Our playground is starting to grow with new turf, painting, seats and benches and there’s still more to come. If anyone has an old wooden dinghy that we can use in the playground (and bury in the ground) please come and see me.

It feels strange to be practicing for the end of year concert in October but as we only have 5 weeks left we are very excited about it and learning our special line well. Mrs Parsons.
9 YEARS KANGA CRICKET - JOEYS
The Earth shook in anticipation of this game! We travelled to Blayney for cricket on a beautiful sunny morning. Lachlan Roach was our Captain this week, and we chose to bat first (while waiting for all our team to arrive). We had a solid performance with the bat, and lost only 8 wickets for our 65 runs. The wicket was a blink, which coloured us in and we still made playing onasked probably meant that we missed a couple of chances for extra runs. But it was a very good overall performance. Our bowling was also great, and it is good to see we remember our fielding practice and took some good run out wickets. In the end the scores were level and only two wickets separated the teams. As the opposition had two extra players, and the match was so entertaining, it was called a draw. The game showed we have great teamwork and team spirit and was a credit to our boys representing our school. Our player of the week was James Denovan, for scoring 9 runs without losing his wicket, and his involvement in the fielding. Well done everyone. Mr Pickard

9 YEARS KANGA CRICKET - PUPS
On Saturday the 23rd of October the U12 All Saints’ College cricket team played their first match against St Pats Red. All Saints’ won the toss and elected to bowl first. The opening bowlers were Lachlan Wilkinson and Matthew Jackman. They bowled beautifully with Matthew even picking up a wicket. Marshall Fox, Joshua Wilcox, Lachlan McAloney and Roan Van Heekeren all bowled well too. There were some great fielding skills displayed by Will Trounson, Will Armstrong and the wicket keeper Tom Card performed well. The St Pats team scored about 2/135 and we all knew that was going to be very difficult to beat. The opening batsmen Matt and Alex batted very well until they were both dismissed by the quick bowlers. After that, David and Maxim came in to bat and did a great job with Max scoring 19 runs and David scoring 13. They were both Not Out until the last ball when David was bowled by the fast bowlers. All Saints’ scored about 3/70 and it was a good effort against a very good team. Thank you to Mr Buckley for coaching and to the scorers and supporters. Finally congratulations to all of the players on a great match. David Cant

10 YEARS CRICKET
On Saturday the 23rd of October the U12 All Saints’ College cricket team played their first match against St Pats Red. All Saints’ won the toss and elected to bowl first. The opening bowlers were Lachlan Wilkinson and Matthew Jackman. They bowled beautifully with Matthew even picking up a wicket. Marshall Fox, Joshua Wilcox, Lachlan McAloney and Roan Van Heekeren all bowled well too. There were some great fielding skills displayed by Will Trounson, Will Armstrong and the wicket keeper Tom Card performed well. The St Pats team scored about 2/135 and we all knew that was going to be very difficult to beat. The opening batsmen Matt and Alex batted very well until they were both dismissed by the quick bowlers. After that, David and Maxim came in to bat and did a great job with Max scoring 19 runs and David scoring 13. They were both Not Out until the last ball when David was bowled by the fast bowlers. All Saints’ scored about 3/70 and it was a good effort against a very good team. Thank you to Mr Buckley for coaching and to the scorers and supporters. Finally congratulations to all of the players on a great match. David Cant