LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY – The new Working With Children Check.

ART & CRAFT SHOW

After discussion with Mark Wilson this morning (Art & Craft Show Coordinator) I have requested of Mark that all coordinators (only) complete Appendix 5 Working With Children Check - Declaration for volunteers and contractors at their meeting tomorrow night. As Department of Education & Community representative of Oatley West Public School as Site Manager and Human resources Manager, the decision with what to do this year rests with me. Parents helping on stalls etc. do not need to complete this form for this year, only co-ordinators. They then become responsible for their area.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

If you are attending school to assist in the classroom with reading groups or associated activities, you are in direct contact with children. I am requesting that you complete the formal Working With Children Check (WWCC) that involves obtaining a clearance number. The information to obtain this number was sent home last week. A copy of your clearance will be kept on file at school. If you are a volunteer parent there is no cost. The form is available on line and you will need to visit the RTA to verify your identity. This is not a Paul Nash initiative; it is a government initiative bringing NSW into line with other states. The WWCC replaces the Prohibitive Employment Form that all volunteer parents have previously signed. I’m sure that you will be pleased to know that any parent working with your child/children has taken the time to complete this clearance before volunteering to work at school.

There are many shades of grey and individual interpretations of the new legislation. I hope this clarifies my intention for Oatley West Public School.

Kind regards

Paul Nash
Principal
19/2/14