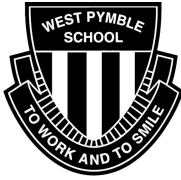


# WEST PYMBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL



Apollo Avenue  
West Pymble  
NSW 2073

Phone: (02) 9144 7584

Fax: (02) 9988 3875

E-mail: [westpymble-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:westpymble-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Web Site: [www.westpymble-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.westpymble-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

*To work and to smile*

## MERIT AWARD SYSTEM

### OUTCOME

**Students are consistently recognised for their achievements and performance in their career at West Pymble School.**

The Merit Award System encompasses all that happens within the school to reward positive behaviours and is designed to provide individual students with positive recognition of achievement in their school life. The intent of the system is to encourage each of the students to do his or her personal best with the ultimate aim for each child to seek intrinsic rewards for their own behaviours. It includes:

#### § **Individual Class Systems**

Teachers develop and use reinforcement systems suited to the needs of the individual students and designed to maximise the unique qualities of each class. Teachers use a large variety of reinforcers, including:

- Stickers
- Individual and /class charts
- Sharing achievements with other teachers, students and the Principal

#### § **Merit Levels**

The system is designed to provide cumulative recognition throughout their career.

1) **Merit Award Cards** - Merit Cards are awarded in recognition of an achievement or appropriate behaviour in the classroom or in the playground. Merit Cards are presented in class. They can be awarded for:

- Achievement
  - Improvement in academic work
  - High achievement in academic work
  - Effort in academic work
  - Improvement in specific behaviours
  - Active participation in an activity
  - Completing a test to the best of the student's ability
  - Cooperation in group work
  - Consistent effort
- Appropriate Behaviour
  - Positive behaviour
  - Good communication with members of the school community
  - Good citizenship
  - Helping with equipment
  - Displaying tidiness
  - Care of personal/school property

Cards are awarded weekly to both participants of in-school Friday sport PSSA teams (one per team) for "Best and Fairest"

2) **Merit Awards** - The attainment of five Merit Cards leads to the presentation of a Merit Award at an Assembly (The students receiving this award are recognised in the Newsletter.)

- 3) **Certificate of Merit** - The attainment of five Merit Awards leads to presentation of a Certificate of Merit by the Principal at an Assembly. (The students receiving this award are recognised in the Newsletter.)
- 4) **WPPS Gold** - The WPPS Gold is awarded to a student who has achieved or performed at an outstanding level over a period of time, indicated by the accumulation of five Certificates of Merit. This award is presented at a *special or the last Assembly of each term*. *Parents are invited to come and the children have a morning tea with the Principal. They are also recognized in the Newsletter.*

§ **Principal's Award**

The Principal's Award can be presented to individual students for outstanding achievement and performance. This Award can also be given to groups of students and classes.

§ **WPPS Mystery Outing**

Students in the house with the most points by the end of November are invited to participate in a Mystery Day Out to be Held in December and the school funds this activity.

§ **Sporting Blues**

A WPPS Sporting Blue includes:

- Ribbons for achievement at various levels
- Recognition in Whisper and Assembly
- Age champions to receive a Principal's Award
- Recognition for high achievers at Annual Presentation Ceremony

### **Implementation Guidelines for the Award System**

1. Staff consistency is essential in implementing this policy. Staff are to ensure that:
  - They are fully aware of the system
  - They consistently implement the criteria according to the agreed criteria
  - They maintain accurate records of awards presented
  - Regular discussion between teachers to maximize consistency across the school
2. Merit Cards and House Points are to be processed by individual teachers.
3. Delegated students will do the tallying of House Points.
4. Students who have achieved five Card Awards or Certificates are to place them in the box in the office so that the next award can be prepared. These will be presented to the student at the next Assembly. Processed cards will be placed in teachers' pigeon holes for return to the student.
5. A record of awards issued from the office will be maintained on a database.
6. The cards will be stamped when processed as a record that they have been seen.
7. Children are responsible for their own cards. Missing cards to be reported to the teacher and a check will be made with the records. Missing cards will only be replaced if they can be validated.
8. Scripture, Music and short term casuals can award Merit Cards.
9. ESL, Library and temporary teachers award Merit Cards as well as House Points.
10. Each teacher will receive a term allocation of cards, consistent across all staff members. The number of cards will be determined by the Principal
11. The database of Merit Award and Merit Certificate recipients will be reviewed every 6 months.

Drafted by	B Wilson	Approved	Staff	Review	Staff
Date	June 2006	Date	June 2006	Date	June 2008