Hi, my name is Amanda Wealleans and I am your school nurse. I will usually be at the school on Tuesday mornings. I say “usually” because I am also the child health and school nurse for Pannawonica and visit there each week, and I also provide child health services to Tom Price and Paraburdoo on a semi-regular basis.

If you want to contact me, leave a message with school reception, with your child’s teacher or ring me direct on the office number 9184 3211. If I am not there, leave a message and I will call you back as soon as possible.

One of my main duties is to provide a health assessment to children who enter school for the first time, either kindy or pre-primary. I send home a form, and if it is returned, completed and signed, I conduct a hearing, vision and speech assessment, but can look at other problems if the parent has a concern eg concentration, gross motor (walking, running, jumping etc) or fine motor (hand-eye co-ordination, writing etc). I can refer to the speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, social worker, dietitian, diabetes educator and paediatrician. All of these services visit Onslow regularly and operate out of the hospital/community health centre or visit the school. A mental health nurse and psychiatrist also visit regularly.

Another duty is to monitor the immunisation status of every student. In the event of a breakout of disease, any child not fully immunised can be excluded from the school for up to two weeks, which can be very difficult for working parents. If you know your child is not fully immunised or you want to check, ring me at Community Health on 9184 3211. I will be contacting parents over the next few weeks if there are queries regarding your child’s immunisation status.

Year 8 students are eligible for the free School Based Immunisation Program and forms have been sent home with students for parents to complete and sign, and then return to the school. These needles will be given at school on a date to be confirmed. If your year 8 student did not bring home a form, contact school reception for another.

Seasonal flu (influenza) vaccinations will be available after March 15. Pregnant women, Aboriginal Australians aged 15+, any child aged 5 and over with a medical condition, and all children aged 6 months to 5 years are eligible for the free flu needle. These vaccinations will only be given at Community Health so ring me to make an appointment.

Regards,
Amanda Wealleans
Parents’ involvement is the secret ingredient to a child’s success.

If you want the best outcome for your child or young person then it’s important that you become involved in as many aspects of your child’s education as possible.

The involvement of parents helps breakdown the mystique about school that can exist for some students. Their chances of success are much better when they see school as an extension of their home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parent’s views, so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Participation as a parent can be much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple things that you can do at home that will assist your child to maximise their learning experience. These include: talking to your child about their day, hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and having had plenty of sleep.

Speak to your child’s classroom teacher if you would like to offer assistance in the classroom to listening to kids read and assisting children when spelling and writing stories.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven contributor to a student’s success.