Principal's Report

Week 6 finds us at the halfway point in the final school term of the 2014 school year. The staff and students are continuing to work hard to conclude their programs for the year and to prepare for the variety of events that draw the year to a close. Dates and times for these events are posted on the term planner attached to this newsletter and I encourage you to highlight important events relevant to your child and if possible, ‘save the day/s’.

A reminder again, that we are currently accepting enrolments for the 2015 school year. If you know of any families who have school age children living in the Wallacia area, please encourage them to come in for a tour of the school.

Stage 2 Camp
In Week 4, I had the pleasure of attending school camp with our Stage 2 students, travelling to Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood. I would like to acknowledge the exemplary behaviour of the students on their first overnight camp.

Stage 3 Fundraising
Miss Jackson and Stage 3 are currently in the process of fundraising for the Year 6 Farewell. I would like to thank those who have supported this fundraising so far as this allows us to subsidise this important occasion for our students in their last year at Wallacia Public School. Upcoming events include ‘Sponge Throwing Day’ and ‘Hire a Year 6 Student Day’. The dates for upcoming fundraising opportunities can be found on the term planner. Notes will also be distributed informing the community of these activities.

Staff Changes
Over the next 6 weeks, we welcome Ms Turunen to our staff. Ms Turunen will be teaching 1/2/3T for the rest of the term as Mrs Tritton takes a period of well-earned long service leave. Ms Turunen will continue to implement 1/2/3T’s class program and will also run the Transition to School visits for our new Kindergarten students in Weeks 6, 8 and 10.

Uniform
After extensive community consultation, a new school uniform format will be adopted in 2015 for Kindergarten students, and become the expectation for the whole school from 2016. Option B on the parent voting slip was the clearly the preferred option and this was ratified by the P&C at the last meeting. The new uniform should be available to purchase before the end of the school year, however, I will keep the community informed regarding availability to purchase.

OOSHC
Thank you to all of those parents who have returned the OOSHC surveys. At this stage, it appears that there is enough interest for us to go ahead with securing an OOSHC service for the Wallacia community. I will be working with DEC personnel in coming weeks to determine conditions for the service and then advertising the opportunity to interested parties via the Department of Finance Public Tender Notice Board. This process will take time and I ask for your patience as the process follows the correct course.
School Planning Surveys

Last week, surveys were sent home seeking feedback and comment on several aspects of the school. I encourage you to return these surveys as soon as possible. These surveys are anonymous and will be used to evaluate current school practice, as well as to inform us regarding community expectations of an effective school, as we develop the 2015 – 2017 School Management Plan.

Playground Issues

Over the last few weeks, the staff have noticed issues arising when students have brought items such as Pokémon cards, toy cars and a variety of other items to school. These items provide students with objects to play with during recess and lunch breaks, and can be great tools for developing imaginative play and negotiation skills. However, there have been multiple situations develop where students have decided to swap these items with each other, leading to conflict when one decides that the swap was ‘for keeps’, or playing with these items during class time.

I have instructed students that objects brought from home remain the property of the owner and that swapping of objects is not condoned at school. I have also instructed staff that objects brought from home should not be played with during class time unless stipulated by the teacher. Objects brought from home should remain in students’ school bags until recess or lunch and should be placed back in bags after breaks.

I seek your support in having a chat with your child about these rules as this reinforces the message that the students are receiving at school and minimises the chances of confusion about these rules.

Mark Davies
Principal

Library News

Please return all library books as soon as possible so that we are able to complete our records for the year.

There will be no more borrowing from week 5 (November 4, 2014)

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Sibary in the Library
3-4 Camp

In Week 4, on Thursday & Friday, Years 3 and 4 went to camp at Blue Gum Lodge in Springwood. Everyone enjoyed camp.

When we got there, we were split into cabin groups and activity groups. After that was sorted, we went to our first activity which for me was Initiatives. We participated in three activities on Thursday as well as recess, lunch, dinner and (boring) nighttime activities. Dinner was a yummy stir fry chicken. The other two activities were bush cooking (yum) and rock climbing in the hot sun. During free time in the games room, it was as hot as a heatwave.

In the evening, after the nighttime activities, we had showers followed by trying to go to sleep. Bedtime was a nightmare, as all we could hear was the other cabin’s noise.

On Friday, there were two activities followed by breakfast and lunch. The first one was Scripture, boring, followed by the challenge course.

At about 2:30pm on Friday we had to say goodbye to camp and hello to work and torture at school, again.

Jarrod
Parsons

CRICKET RECOUNT

On Monday 27 October, selected students from Years 3 and 4 went to play cricket at Jamison Park in the Milo Cricket competition. We played four games against four different schools. We played Emu Plains PS, Emu Heights PS, Glenmore Park PS and York PS.

Although the boys played very well, they had a bit of tough luck only winning one game. The boys will get better as they practise more and work together as a team. On the other hand, the girls won all of their games. The girls all played extremely skillfully throughout the day and had a wonderful time.

We think the girls and boys both played very well on the day.

Written by Lauren Haly and Ethan Merchant
P & C NEWS
Thank you to all the families who voted for the new school shirt. Option B had the most votes (the shirt with the white vertical stripe and the black shorts.) We will now advise Abel Schoolwear so our new uniform will be ready for 2015.

At our meeting last Monday night, we discussed some things for the end of the year. I am very happy to advise the P&C voted to pay for the two buses to transport all the children to Warragamba Public School for their Christmas Concert rehearsals. The P&C are also providing the photographer for the Year 6 Farewell; this is something that we have done for many years. All the Year 6 students will receive a copy of the photos.

At our meeting in September, we were informed that our school had to dispose of 20 computers as they were no longer able to cope with the demands of the DEC network.

At our recent meeting, it was voted by all members present that we would purchase 11 laptop computers valued at $500 each & a 16 bay trolley for the laptops valued at $1400. We believe this purchase is an essential part of our children’s learning and everyone will benefit from it in the years ahead.

Our last fundraiser for the year will be our Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be available for sale at the Christmas Concert and at Presentation Day where it will be drawn. Please support us!

Regards Jody Smith

PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS
Due to the Department of Education’s end of financial year process, please DO NOT PAY ANY PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS AFTER THURSDAY NOVEMBER 27. PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS CAN RECOMMENCE AFTER TUESDAY DECEMBER 2. Thank you for your help in this matter.

ENROL NOW FOR 2015
We are currently accepting enrolments for the 2015 school year. If you know of any families who have school age children living in the Wallacia area, please encourage them to come in for a tour of the school.
Shape up with a *SPLASH*
At WARRAGAMBA POOLS Swimming Workout Sessions

Improve your swimming technique while getting an all-over body workout in a structured environment……a steady swim can burn up to 500 calories per hour.

- Improve stamina
- Get fitter
- Stronger
- Healthier
- Burn calories
- Boost metabolism
- Firm up muscles
- Additional fitness training for other sports
- No added stress on your joints

1 hour in the pool with 15 minute warm up land exercises
All ages welcome

- Participants must be able to swim multiple 50 metre distances with minimal rest.
- Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings

What you will need:
- swimsuit
- goggles
- towel

Phone Warragamba pools 4774 1681

Leader credentials:
Royal Lifesaving Society Bronze Cross
Royal Lifesaving Bronze Medallion
Austswim LTS certified
Former Competitive swimmer at State level
Highly Qualified and Recognised Aquatic Educators

We are accredited with Swim Australia so you can be assured of our standards. We work carefully with Aquatic Educators to ensure the highest standard of teaching.

Your child is safer as we background check all our Staff – Current WWC licence and CPR.

We recognise and understand the family dynamic and support parents through child’s development.

Location

Close to Glenmore Park, M4, Mulgoa so you don’t need to travel through busy Penrith traffic

Services

• Learn to Swim  • Squad Training
• School Carnival Preparation  • Baby lessons from 4mths
• Pool Party Hire/ Pool Inflatable Hire
WARRAGAMBA HOBBY HUT INC.
13 Third St, Warragamba

**Twilight Markets**

Saturday 29th November

Sharing our Dying Arts Extravaganza

**ART/PHOTO competition**

Theme: What I love about Warragamba Silverdale

Pick up Art Paper and entry forms from School Office or Participating Retailers

7 categories - Terms and conditions on entry form

Winners announced Saturday 29th November

1st prize each section: $50 gift voucher

2nd and 3rd prizes for each category

For more information call Tina 0409 124 572
Please place your donations in the box in the school office foyer by December 5, 2014. Thank you for your support.

You can help St Vincent de Paul spread Christmas cheer this year by donating items for our Christmas hampers.

Below is a suggestion of items you might like to include to help us create some delicious hampers...

Please ensure that all food items are within the expiry date.

- Christmas decorations (eg. Bon Bons, tinsel)
- Tins of shoulder ham #
- Christmas cake/pudding
- Long life custard/cream/milk
- Tins of fruit
- Lollies
- Chips
- Biscuits (assorted)
- Salsa
- Drinks (eg. soft drink, fruit juice, cordial)
- Rice
- Jellies
- Jam/honey/vegemite
- Coffee, tea, sugar
- Hot chocolate/Milo
- Gravox
- Tins of vegetables (eg. carrots, peas, corn, potatoes)
- Pasta
- Christmas plates/napkins

**Please note that we are unable to accept food items containing nuts.

# Please keep ham out of complete hampers so we can accommodate for our clients who do not eat ham for religious reasons.

Thank you for your generosity in helping to make this festive season extra special for families in need this Christmas!

If you have any enquiries about how you can be part of our Christmas Appeal, please call Ray Gentle on 0438718878
Challenging Behaviours Collaboratively Workshops

The workshop is aimed at parents only with children diagnosed with ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD), or Conduct Disorder (CD) or challenging behaviour.

Highlights
- Child development and the relationship to seriously challenging behaviours
- Looking for and identifying lost skills in AD/HD, ODD, CD.
- Parents as partners in managing behaviour
- Strategies to reduce outbursts

Presenter: Dr. Steven Walker

This workshop is not for workers. For families only.

Venue: Buzy Bee Kindy 102 Merlin Street, The Oaks

Date: Thursday 5th February 2015 and every Thursday after until 26th March 2015. Time: 6.30-8.30pm Cost: Gold coin donation.

All sessions need to be attended.

No child care available. To register phone Community Links Wollondilly.

Phone: (02) 46832776
CHRISTMAS CONCERT REHEARSAL

Excursion Description: On Wednesday December 3 2014, students will travel by bus to Warragamba Public School Hall for a full rehearsal for our Christmas Concert.

Transport: Bus

Cost: NO COST. P & C are covering all costs associated with this excursion. Thank you P & C.

Departure: Students should be at school as per normal bell times. Students will leave Wallacia Public School and travel by bus to Warragamba Public School at 9.30 am.

Arrival: Students will return to Wallacia Public School for dismissal at 3.00 pm.

Attire: Full school uniform

What to Bring: All students should bring their recess, lunch and drink bottle in a plastic bag, clearly labelled with their name.

Staff member/s with CPR training: All Staff

If your child has a medical condition that will preclude or limit involvement, please indicate this in the following section, which is to be returned to school by Friday November 28.

Mark Davies
Principal

Please return to the office by Friday November 28, 2014
CHRISTMAS CONCERT REHEARSAL

I hereby give consent for my son/daughter ..............................................Class:.................

To participate in the Christmas Concert Rehearsal, travelling by bus to Warragamba Public School Hall, on Wednesday December 3 2014.

Special needs of my child, of which you need to be aware (e.g. allergies, asthma, medication)

To the best of my knowledge, he/she has no medical condition or injury, which puts him/her at risk in participating in this activity.

I understand that this excursion has the approval of the Principal.

Signature of Parent / Caregiver .................................................................
Date: .................................
DYSTOPIA

Seven year old Daisy was in her bedroom, listening to her ‘amazing’ music. Her music was loud, so loud that she could not hear the clicking and banging sounds thought to be rats. It was the sound of gunshots in the distance.

A red ute pulled into the driveway. ‘Dad!’ Daisy thought at once.

(Click, bang, click)

Daisy turned off her radio and ran past her mother, who was boiling water in a kettle.

(Click, click, bang)

She ran out the door.

(Click, shout, click)

She ran up the hallway, past the lounge, through the door, past the not very well looked after hedge and to the ute. She saw men running but didn’t take notice.

(CLICK, CLICK, bang,) the sound was getting louder by every step.

“Daddy!” she calls with excitement. (No answer) “Dad?”

The door opens with a suspicious creak and inside is her Dad. Daisy pokes him on his elbow. His head rolls back and his eyes turn green. His head rolls forward again, and then back again, then forward.

“What’s happening? Mamma, help!” she screams with all her breath, with all her might, with all her heart.

Her mother rushes out, leaving the kettle on the bench, dangerously.

Dad asks, “What are you doing?”

Dad picks up Daisy, throws her in the back seat where a huge box thing lies with a blanket on top. That’s when her mum comes.

“Why are you doing this?” asks Mum, “Where’s Daisy?”

A small voice whispers, “Mum?”

Dad randomly grows bigger and greener.

“I will take over this land and everyone will worship me! I WILL NO LONGER TAKE ANYMORE NONSENSE.”

Dad picks up Mum and throws her in the back too. “ROAR!” he shouts.

“Please, Dad, stop!” Daisy says, feeling powerless. Daisy looks around outside and sees people, people who are fighting, cages, weapons. Daisy feels... this is her worse nightmare, a dystopian society. Why?

“Am I dreaming?” Daisy whispers while cuddling her mother. Her mother doesn’t answer. She just looks into her eyes. Daisy pinches herself thinking, ‘Is this real?’

By Desiree Robinson – Year 5

Wallacia Public School
THE HIVE

Five years ago they came and all they wanted was to enslave all humanity... they are... The Hive...

Everything is dark... I open my eyes to ...hell... hell is Earth. I look around at the devastation and rubble that was New York... my home is destroyed... my pets have gone feral but most significantly... my family is dead...

“What happened here?” I wondered.

As I stand up, I see... a doll... not just any doll... my daughter’s doll. I kneel down and cry for ten minutes. I stop crying and start to plan my revenge on these things. A tear escapes my eye as I pick up the doll and shove it into my bag.

After walking for an hour, I find a three metre long hole in the middle of a science lab. It is the entrance to The Hive’s chambers. I look around the science lab for something to use, I find an emergency fire axe and take it.

I descend into The Hive’s lair and before I know it I am in the enslavement chambers. I stare as innocent people are being infected by The Hive's bite! I grab my axe and run into the giant colony and chop my way to a machine that is holding bitten people captive. I smash the machine and feel pain on my arm. I look down and see a bite! I stare in horror as my arm turns black.

I grab my axe and carry on. I make my way to a room with a generator... it is explosive. I lift my axe and swing but I need something heavier and sharper. I search the entire room but I can’t find anything. Then I remember I have a lighter. As I grab the lighter from my bag, I feel my arm tremble as the infection covers my arm. I start burning the generator but I need a bigger flame. I search my bag but the only flammable thing is my daughter’s doll. I grab the doll and light it but no explosion... I feel the infection reach my brain. I collapse, close my eyes and cry...

By Max Sieberer – Year 6
Wallacia Public School
Dear Parents/Guardians,

This year’s Presentation Day will be held Friday December 12, 2014, at the Hubertus Country Club, 205 Adams Road, Luddenham NSW 2745. This special day will commence at 11am. The children will be travelling by bus to the venue at 10:30 am and return to school at the conclusion of the assembly from 12:30 pm.

The cost for each student is $8.00. Payment can be made by direct credit via the school website $Make a payment or by a payment envelope, placing the envelope in the red payment box in the school office. Please sign and return the note below, together with your payment prior to Friday November 28, 2014.

Students need to be in full school uniform.

You are most welcome to attend and help celebrate and recognise the outstanding achievements of our students.

Thank you,

Staff Wallacia Public School.

___________________________________________________________________________

PRESENTATION DAY PERMISSION NOTE AND PAYMENT TO BE RETURNED PRIOR TO FRIDAY NOVEMBER 28, 2014

I give permission for my child/ren ________________________________ of class _______ to travel by bus to and from the Hubertus Country Club on Friday December 12, 2014 to attend School Presentation Day.

I have made an online payment on DATE: _______ RECEIPT NUMBER________

Due to the Department of Educations end of financial year process, please DO NOT PAY ANY PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS AFTER THURSDAY NOVEMBER 27. PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS CAN RECOMENCE AFTER TUESDAY DECEMBER 2.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

I enclose a total of ____________ ($8.00 per student)

I understand that this excursion has the approval of the Principal.

Signature of Parent / Caregiver ……………………………………………………...