Principal's Message

Over the last few weeks, a variety of school events have occurred on which I would like to reflect and comment. In doing so I would like to highlight the level of commitment provided by staff, who ensure that Wallacia Public School students have opportunities to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities. These activities are in addition to school curriculum, however, are, in my opinion, the ‘glue’ that cements academic learning. I would also like to once again thank the parents and carers who assist with transport and act as officials at these events. Without this assistance, we would struggle to attend many of them.

On **Tuesday 23 July** selected students travelled to ‘The Kingsway’ to play in the Penrith Primary Schools’ Touch Football Gala Day. Thanks to Miss Jackson for organising our teams and accompanying them on the day. As usual, all Wallacia Public School students demonstrated excellent sportsmanship and were highly competitive throughout the day.

On **Wednesday 30 July** all students from Wallacia Public School travelled to Warragamba Oval for our annual Small Schools Athletics Carnival. The day was a great success with all students participating and giving of their best throughout the day. I would like to acknowledge the work of Mr Greg Winterton from Luddenham Public School, who spent countless hours organising this event. I would also like to thank all of the parent volunteers who assisted on the day. Without this assistance, the carnival would not be as successful as it was.

On **Friday 1 August** we celebrated Education Week at Wallacia Public School. I would like to thank all of those parents, carers and visitors who took the time to visit us on this day to celebrate Education Week. Our choir opened proceedings - singing beautifully for our guests followed by classroom visits. Everyone then enjoyed a BBQ lunch provided by our P&C. After lunch, our visitors joined with students for an afternoon of tabloid sports. It was an excellent day and one in which we shared a little of what we do on a daily basis at Wallacia Public School.

On **Monday 4 August** our choir performed at the Penrith Valley Performing Arts Festival. Mrs Mullen was in the audience and reported that the singing and other musical performances were of a high standard. Thank you again to Miss Jackson who has given up her own lunch times to train the beautiful voices of our students in our choir.

On **Tuesday 5 August** selected students travelled to Lynwood Park, St Helens Park to participate in the ‘Wanderers School Cup’ soccer tournament. Mr Bourne reports that the students displayed a high level of skills and were highly competitive on the day. Well done to the students and a big thank you to Mr Bourne for giving up his lunch times to provide coaching for them.

On **Thursday 14 August** selected students travelled to St Clair to participate in the Milo Cricket T20 Blast Gala Day. Miss Jackson reports that the students were extremely competitive and very well behaved. Our girl's side narrowly missed out on progressing to the regional final. I would like to thank Darren de Kretser, who gave up some of his leave time to assist with the coaching and selection of the teams for the day.

As you can see, the staff and students have been busy over the last month. These events don’t just happen. They require planning, training and sustained effort to make them successful. I would once again like to thank all of the staff who make them happen, including the staff who remain at school when these events are running, supervising students that may not normally be in their classes, in their work programs. I also would like to acknowledge the support of the entire school community as these events would not be possible without community support.
**SASS Staff Recognition Week (1 September – 5 September)**

Our school community is made up of a lot of different people, all of whom play a part in the running of schools and the provision of quality education to students. This week is special one in which we acknowledge and celebrate the vital role that our SASS (School Administrative and Support Staff) play in the education of students at Wallacia Public School. It would be fitting if all parents who visit the school office could say a special thank you to our SASS staff during this week.

I would like to publicly take the opportunity on behalf of the teaching staff to thank Mrs Mullen, Mrs Stove-Wilson, Mrs Gilham and Mr Cooke for all that they do within and around our school, to support both the teachers and the students. We couldn’t do our jobs without you.

**Payment of fees**

I have recently looked through the receipts for payment for the voluntary school contributions and outstanding monies for text books and other expenditure not funded by the Department of Education and Communities. I am concerned that there are many outstanding invoices. Although voluntary school contributions are ‘voluntary’, we do rely on these funds to purchase items that we supply to students such as additional workbooks, toiletries and consumables. Regarding other programs we decide to become involved in, decisions to become involved in programs that will require additional payment from families are discussed at P & C meetings prior to being sanctioned to go ahead. When particular families opt out of these programs, it means that the school has to meet the shortfall from its budget. This reduces the school's capacity to purchase other educational resources. Over the coming weeks, Mrs Mullen will provide an invoice to each family outlining outstanding payments. If your family circumstances are such that you may require financial assistance such as a payment plan, please call me so we can discuss options.

**Updating Parent Information**

We are seeking your assistance in updating our records of parent or carer educational and professional background, as we understand that personal circumstances change over time. These records are **treated with complete confidence.**

Under the Resource Allocation Funding Model for schools, specific funds are allocated to schools based on the schools Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI) that is determined by the data provided by parents upon school enrolment. Schools in an area where many parents are unemployed would be entitled to extra funding under this model. It is crucial therefore that parents and carers are accurate in reporting their current employment status. It is also important when stating educational level attainment that the parent or carer is aware of whether their qualification is recognised within Australia and relevant to their current occupation.

Wallacia Public School has a wide range of educational and professional backgrounds among its parent community. In advising the school of your current status, please only include those qualifications which you currently use in your job. This will ensure that our socio-economic status is not artificially high.

On the same basis, please do not hesitate to record a status of ‘not currently employed’ and or ‘casually employed’ if this applies.


Mrs Mullen will send a new form to each family today. If your circumstances have changed since you enrolled your child or children, please take the time to fill this out and return to school as soon as possible as this may impact on the funding the school receives.
**Book Parade**
Our annual Book Parade will be held on Tuesday 19 August at 9.30am. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Please note that those students who wear costumes that preclude them from learning or being comfortable throughout the rest of the day should bring their uniform to change back into. Teachers will ensure that suitable areas and timeframes are in place for students to do this. If weather is inclement, the Book Week Parade will be held in the School Library.

**Upcoming Events**
A reminder that all upcoming events are noted on the term planner on the school’s website. This can be accessed using the following link or by clicking on the ‘Term Planner’ tab on the main menu bar within the website.


This planner is updated regularly to reflect new events that are scheduled within the school term. We aim to ensure that all parents and carers are provided with more than adequate notice for events so that busy work schedules can be rearranged if required to attend a special school occasion. If you become aware of an event that you feel should be added to the term planner, please contact Mrs Mullen or myself.

**School Planning 2015 – 2018**
All Public Schools in N.S.W. are currently in the process of beginning to develop their ‘School Plan’ for the three year cycle 2015 – 2018. Early in Term 4, parents will be surveyed on a variety of aspects of practices and procedures at Wallacia Public School. It would be beneficial if everyone began to think about what our school does well, what could be improved and how, ideas on future directions and priorities and ways in which the community could become more involved in whole school planning and decision making. Community consultation in these areas is pivotal to the success of the new school planning tool and your input will be greatly valued. Keep your eye out for this survey early in Term 4.

**Enrolment for 2015**
If you are aware of any persons in the community who may be considering enrolling a child in school in 2015, please advise them to call in to the school for a tour and a chat. This does not bind them to Wallacia Public School, however, it does give me the opportunity to showcase the great things that we do, explain the benefits of a small school with small classes and to provide them with a personal welcome to our school community should they choose to join us.

**Trees**
I am pleased to advise that all of the trees that were identified as requiring attention have been either pruned or removed. This means that the school’s playground is now open. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Richmond TAFE for their assistance in pruning the trees on the northern side of the school. Ongoing tree maintenance will continue to occur in the future as required to ensure our students are safe when on our playground.

Regards,
Mark Davies
Principal
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PVPAF School Choir Concert

On Monday the 4th of August, our beautiful choir performed at the Joan Sutherland Centre. They sang 7 wonderful songs. After all the rehearsals and practising they did a fantastic job! The concert started at approximately 7:00pm and ended at 9pm. Students got there at 6:15pm and all the schools were practising until it was time to perform on stage. When we got on stage the song started playing and we started singing. We sang 4 songs then we got off stage and continued practising. Then we went back on and sang 3 more songs, including a medley. All of the students from all the schools had a fantastic night and enjoyed singing all of the lovely songs. Thank you to all of the teachers that made this night happen and rehearsed with us. All the students appreciated it.

By Kirsten Wilson
P & C News

Our first AMF bowling night was a huge success last term and we had 82 bowlers participate raising a total of $574. Stuart Meyers who is a friend of the Ison family won the Wallacia Cup Trophy that was donated by Arnall Trophies in Penrith. It was a great night out and we hope to do this again next year.

The Wacky Walkathon was also a big success raising $2700 and we now have been able to purchase reading materials for Stage 2 and Stage 3 reading groups. We hope the children enjoy reading some new and exciting literature.

We would like to thank ELG Accountants at Silverdale who are auditing our P&C financial books and appreciate their volunteer service.

Recently, our children have been representing our school at sports such as soccer, touch football and Oztag. They will now look very professional, thanks to our last P&C meeting, as where we voted on purchasing 15 bottle green jerseys with numbers on the back and 15 bottle green football socks for $373.50.

We hope you all enjoyed your sausage on a roll at our BBQ on Education Day and had a great time with your children doing some school activities. We would like to thank Mulgoa Gourmet Butchery for donating the sausages and a big thank you to the parents who helped out on the day. We raised $121 from the raffle, and congratulations to the McCarthy family for winning the family pass to AMF bowling.

Our Father’s Day Stall will be open on Wednesday the 3rd of September with gifts available to be purchased for dads and grandfathers on the day.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their chocolate money, there are still some families that need to return the payment so please do so ASAP.

Our Bunnings BBQ at Penrith is on Sunday the 14th of September and we will need a lot of helpers on this day so if you can spare 1 or 2 hours that would be great. The roster will be in the school office so please put your name down with a preferred timeslot so we can plan the roster for the day.

Our school disco will be held on Wednesday the 17th of September and we hope to see all the children there.

Our next P&C meeting is on Monday 1st September at 6.00pm in the library.

Warradale Little Athletics. Family, Fun & Fitness for children of all abilities aged 3yrs to U/17’s.
Registration Days for 2014/15 Season: Fridays 22nd August & 5th September 2014.
Warragamba Sporting Oval. Warradale Rd, Warragamba at 6.00pm – 7.30pm.
On-Line Registration preferred via LANSW website (select Warradale in drop down box) with payment via credit card or submit application only and pay at club. All manual registrations via cash or cheque only.
The Athletes Foot shoe store will be in attendance with shoes on sale from $40.00. Cash only.
Season starts Friday Sept 12th at 6.00pm.
New registrations welcome ~ Proof of age required.
For more information: Contact Annette email: tillman@bigpond.net.au
Western Sydney Wanderers
School Cup
On Tuesday the 5th of August, a selected amount of amazing and talented students went to St Helens Park to represent Wallacia Public School in the Western Sydney Wanderers School Cup. We played a total of 4 outstanding games. Unfortunately, we did not win any of our games but Lachlan Potter scored some amazing goals. Riley Berwick also saved some wonderful goals. Even though we did not win any games, we had the time of our lives. We learnt heaps and will improve for next time.

At the end, there was a presentation and everyone received a Wanderers soccer ball to take home and play with. It was a wonderful day. We would like to give special thanks to all the parents who drove us there and helped out, and we would also like to thank Mr Bourne for training and organising everything. We all enjoyed it a lot.

By Natalie Maher
Milo Cricket Gala Day – Girls Opens
On Thursday the 14th of August, the Wallacia PS Opens team went to Mark Leece Sporting Complex, St Clair. The girl's team played a total of 3 games and made it to the finals. The team had to play against 4 schools; Wallacia won all games except the final. In the first game we played against Banks and the score was 83-69. In the second game, we played against St. Clair and won 101-58. In the last game, we played a tight game against Holy Spirit and the score was 84 – 70. Since we won all three, we made it to the finals so we then had to play against Blackwell. This game was even tougher and we lost this game 107-50. After that game we shook hands like we always did and then Blackwell gave Wallacia three big cheers. After all the games were done, there was a competition for the highest catch and there were two girls and two boys from each school. Renee and Claudia represented the girls and they did an awesome job. At the end, there was a presentation and the girls' got Milo and different invitations to join a real team. Everyone had been practising so hard with the help of Miss Jackson. The day was a beautiful and fun. It wouldn't have happened if it weren’t for Miss Jackson and the parents, so we give a big thanks to them. Everyone had a fun time.

By Erin Haly
Transition to school sessions for students starting Kindergarten in 2015 will occur over a ten week period throughout Term 4, 2014. These transition to school sessions aim to provide Kindergarten students with opportunities to familiarise themselves with the school environment, with school routines and to meet the teaching and administrative staff. They are also an excellent opportunity for our new students to meet with current Kindergarten students and begin to develop relationships with them and their class teacher.

In addition, a formal Orientation Day Information Session will be held on Friday November 14 between 9am and 11am.

**Transition To School Program - Dates and Times:**

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<tr>
<td>Tuesday October 14</td>
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<td>Tuesday December 9</td>
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At these sessions, all new kindergarten students will receive a school information pack, a special ‘Welcome to our School’ booklet (social story) and participate in a variety of experiences that will be similar in nature to those that they will experience when they start school with us.

A school pamphlet outlining some of our fantastic programs will also be delivered to Preschools in coming weeks.

I personally look forward to meeting our new kindergarten students and their parents on Tuesday October 14, or before, if prospective parents have any additional questions about an education for their child at Wallacia Public School.

Mark Davies
Principal
CAMPS

**Year 3 and 4 Camp Blue Gum Lodge Springwood**

Thank you to those parents who have responded positively to the combined 2 day overnight (1 night) camp organised for students in Years 3 and 4 from Luddenham, Mulgoa, Wallacia and Orchard Hills Public Schools to Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood to be held on Thursday 30 and Friday 31 October, 2014 (Week 4 Term 4).

Student numbers attending the camp have now been collated from each of the four Small Schools (61 students). This enables the camp to be able to go ahead with the final cost to be $191 per student (including meals, accommodation - cabins/bunk beds), full amenities, coach hire and all activities.

Payment Plan Option

$141 camp fee ($191 minus $50 deposit previously paid) Due in full by Friday 15th August

Payment 1 Due Friday 15th August $71

Payment 2 Due Friday 5th September $70

**Year 5 and 6 Camp the Great Aussie Bush Camp - Kincumber**

A combined 3 day (2 night) camp is being organised for students in Stage 3 from Wallacia, Mulgoa, Luddenham and Orchard Hills PS to “The Great Aussie Bush Camp”, Kincumber to be held on Wednesday 22nd October – Friday 24th October, 2014 (Term 4, Week 3).

Total Cost: $265 per student. The cost of the camp includes meals, accommodation (cabins/bunk beds with amenities), coach hire and all programs and activities.

Payment Plan Option:

Payment 1 – Due Friday 27th June $50 deposit (non –refundable)

Payment 2 – Due Friday 8th August $80

Payment 3 – Due Friday 5th September $80

Payment 4 – Due Friday 10th October $55

OR Full payment: Due Friday 10 October, 2014.

**BOOK WEEK**

*(Please note amended date)*

Book Week will be celebrated in Week 6 this term. As is tradition, we will hold a book parade on **Tuesday 19 August**. This parade will begin at 9.30am and conclude at 10.30am. It would be great to see all students dressed as a character from a book they enjoy. All classes will parade around the covered area and each student will be given the opportunity to announce the character they have come dressed as to the rest of the school. Children are asked to bring their school uniforms to change into after the parade to resume their normal school day. If weather is inclement, the Book Week Parade will be held in the School Library.

**DRIVEWAY PARKING**

Please adhere to road and parking rules at all times; please consider our neighbours and do not park across driveways at any time. Your help and consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.
Dress Up As A Scientist Day

On Wednesday 27th August Wallacia Public School will hold a dress up day to raise funds for the Leukaemia Foundation.

To support us, come to school on this day dressed as a scientist. We will have lots of fun with science experiments that all classes can do throughout the day. We’d like all students to bring in a gold coin donation to support the Leukaemia Foundation.

See you there!
Wallacia Public School
Fundraising group
(Note by Desiree Robinson
Year 5)