Dear Parents and Carers,

The school term is now well underway. It has been great to have worked with all of the classes and to have seen how happy and engaged students are in their learning.

Over the last 12 months, the community, staff and I have been working together towards the development of the Wallacia Public School 2015 –2107 School Management Plan (SMP). This plan will drive the direction that the school takes for the next 3 years and will be evaluated regularly to ensure that it best meets the needs of our community and ultimately our students. As a result of community, staff and student consultation, the following two programs will be implemented over the next 12 months.

**Positive Behaviour For Learning**

The school is currently in the process of implementing a program called ‘Positive Behaviour for Learning’ (PBL). This is a program that explicitly teaches behavioural expectations across the different areas within the school and also allows staff to teach our students the values of being ‘Safe’, ‘Respectful’ and ‘Learners’. In exploring these values, staff will begin to explore with students terms such as what it means to be ‘safe’, what it means to be ‘respectful’, and what it means to be a ‘learner’ in their classrooms. Ultimately, we will develop signage that will be displayed within the school grounds that allows students to see at a glance what is expected of them in any context. Positive Behaviour for Learning is an evidence-based program that is successfully operating in many New South Wales Public Schools. If you would like any further information, or have a discussion, about the PBL program, please make an appointment to have a chat with me.

It is anticipated that as these expectations are developed by staff, a community information session will be held early in Term 2, where these expectations will be conveyed to our parents and carers. At this forum, parents and carers will be provided with the opportunity to discuss how these values could be reinforced at home.

At this stage, it would be greatly beneficial for the terms ‘safe’, ‘respectful’, ‘learners’ to be discussed in terms of what they may look like in the home environment. This establishes a link between home and school and provides a consistency of language that will support our students to become more successful learners and citizens.

**Taking Off With Numeracy (TOWN)**

In Term 2, we will be implementing a program called Taking Off With Numeracy (TOWN). This program is designed to improve student outcomes in numeracy, emphasising an understanding of place value in Number. This program will operate K-6 with a particular focus on Years 3-6. Your child’s teacher will be involved in professional learning on all aspects of this program and will be able to provide you with additional strategies to support your child in numeracy as the year goes on.
Luddenham Show
Over the past weeks, students were busy producing work for display at the Luddenham Show. It is my pleasure to announce that the following students were successful in gaining either a highly commended or a place in the competition.

Highly Commended
Eloise Sammut – K/1/2T
Jack Gerhard – 2/3/4B
Kai Sluyter – 2/3/4B
Katelyn Dinsmore – 2/3/4B
Luca Hautrive – 5/6J
Brieanna Morehead - 5/6J

Third Prize
Jett Gonzalez - K/1/2T
Harry Love – 2/3/4B
Katie Astley – 2/3/4B

Second Prize
Gabrielle Sammut – K/1/2T
Katelyn Smith – 2/3/4B
Hannah Ison – 2/3/4B

First Prize
Kiana Love – 2/3/4/B
Erin Haly – 5/6J

Congratulations to all of these students. Their work will be displayed in the school foyer for the fortnight following our next assembly.

Uniform
Just a reminder that there is an expectation that all students wear full school uniform each and every day. In the last few weeks, there have been isolated instances of students wearing incorrect uniform. I understand that there are instances where it is not always possible, but ask that you send a note explaining the situation with your child if this is the case.

Most forms of jewellery are also not considered uniform. For further information, please see the relevant section of the 2015 School Information Book (see below), which will be published on the school website in the near future.
School Contributions
Thank you to those parents who have already paid their school contribution for this year. A reminder that these are due, and whilst payment is voluntary, we do rely heavily on these contributions to pay for several items that we supply to students throughout the year and therefore payment is greatly appreciated.

School Information Booklet
In the coming days, the 2015 Wallacia Public School information booklet will be published on the school’s website. This information booklet contains valuable information on all school matters, and will be a great place to go for information on many aspects of school life.

World Cup Cricket Excursion
On Friday evening last week, many of our students and parents joined Miss Jackson and myself on an excursion to the Sydney Cricket Ground. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience the atmosphere of a major world sporting event. All of our students were extremely well behaved and represented our school with pride. A big thank you to Miss Jackson for all her work in organising this event for our students.

P&C Meetings – Change of Time
At our last P&C meeting, a decision was made to move future P&C meetings to 2.30pm on the first Monday afternoon of each month. The first meeting at this new time will occur this afternoon (Monday 2 March) in the school library. We hope this new time allows some new parents, who may not have been able to make evening meetings, to join us. All are welcome.

PSSA Sports Trials
Over the last few weeks, selected students have been participating in trials for representative teams in a variety of sports. These trials are highly competitive, and students who are selected for representative teams must have demonstrated high levels of skill in their particular sport. I would like to congratulate all of the students who have represented Wallacia Public School at these trials. Team managers and selectors reported that all of our students were competitive and respectful at all times. I would particularly like to commend Liam Ison, who was selected in the Rugby League side to represent the Penrith area at the next level. Well done, Liam!

District Swimming
The Penrith District Swimming Carnival will be held this Wednesday at the Penrith Swimming Centre. I would like to wish our representative swimmers the best of luck at the carnival.
Compulsory School Attendance
There have been changes made by the Department of Education and Communities in relation to Compulsory School Attendance. I ask parents to have a look at this information (included in this newsletter, and available from the school website) as there have been significant changes, particularly in relation to Certificates of Exemption for family holidays.

The following link should take you to the relevant site:

Premier’s Reading Challenge 2015
The Premier’s Reading Challenge is now open! A number of our students have completed the Challenge in previous years, and we expect that many students will attempt the challenge again this year. Mr Davies as Library teacher will be the PRC Coordinator.

Parents play a key role in supporting students in completing the challenge. Below are some tips for parents, from the PRC website
https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/teacherNotes.html

Premier’s Reading Challenge – Tips for parents
★ Familiarise yourself with the PRC website https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html. Logon is not required to view the Booklists, or read the Rules and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).
★ Set reminders for Challenge opening and closing dates in your and your child’s calendar.
★ Find out your child’s logon details. For public schools, students’ logon will be the same one they use to access computers and the internet at school.
★ Assist your child to borrow books from the school or local library. Listen to your child read and talk about the story/characters/information. Read to or with your child if she/he is participating in the K-2 Challenge.
★ Help your child to log on and add books to her/his Student Reading Record regularly.
★ Check your child’s Challenge history – log on to the website, go to Student Reading Record and select tab My Information. If Challenge participation at a previous school is not listed, contact your child’s PRC coordinator.
★ Contact your child’s PRC coordinator if:
★ Your child has any difficulty using her/his logon details to access the PRC website, or you are concerned that his or her name is not spelt correctly in the system
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Late/absence is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conference

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory, the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs, further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions, contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities
### Luscious Catering

#### Wallacia Public School Lunch Order Menu

**Term 1, 2015**

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**HOW TO ORDER**

- Name
- Class
- What you would like to order
- Specify any changes required for your order
- How much money you put in

***NOTE ANY ALLERGIES***

**CORRECT MONEY IS APPRECIATED**

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### SANDWICH/ROLL

*Choose from either White or Wholemeal bread*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUTTER AND JAM</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUTTER AND VEGEMITE</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOASTED CHEESE</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEESE &amp; SALAD</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; CHEESE (Toasted or fresh)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAM &amp; SALAD</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALAD</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGG</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EGG, LETTUCE &amp; MAYONNAISE</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNA</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNA, LETTUCE &amp; MAYONNAISE</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN SHREDDED</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN, CHEESE &amp; MAYONNAISE</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN &amp; SALAD</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### SNACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARROT STICKS</td>
<td>$0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRESH BAKED BANANA BREAD</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRESH BAKED VANILLA CUPCAKE</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 FRESH PIECE OF FRUIT - slinky apple, orange</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sliced or whole) or banana</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOMEMADE COOKIES</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUP OF JELLY</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRUIT SALAD - seasonal fruit</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### DRINKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WATER BOTTLE 250ml</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER BOTTLE 600ml</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUICE POPPER - 200ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORANGE</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE &amp; BLACKCURRANT</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROPICAL</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLE</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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***PLEASE INFORM US OF ANY ALLERGIES YOUR CHILD HAS SO WE CAN BE EXTRA DILIGENT WHEN PREPARING THEIR ORDER***

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**MONDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN CAESAR WRAP - lettuce, chicken, diced bacon, grated cheese &amp; caesar dressing</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMB - marinated lamb strips with salad + dressing</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEESEBURGER - beef pattie, cheese &amp; tomato sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FETTUCINE BOSCAIOLA - fettucine pasta with chicken, diced bacon &amp; mushroom in a thick cream sauce</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREEK SALAD - cucumber, tomato, black olives, red onion &amp; fetta cheese with balsamic vinegar dressing</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FRIDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICKEN CAESAR WRAP - lettuce, chicken, diced bacon, grated cheese &amp; caesar dressing</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALAFEL WRAP - falafel, lettuce, tomato, pickled cucumber + turnips with tahini sauce</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VEGETERIAN NACHOS (Baked Beans)</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEEF NACHOS</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*No butter used unless requested except with the vegemite or jam sandwich*

*** Salad includes: lettuce, tomato, cucumber & carrot

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*Choose from either White or Wholemeal bread

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*** NOTE ANY ALLERGIES ***
**Lunch Order Service**
A lunch order service will be available for our students on **Mondays and Fridays only**
We hope this service will be of value to our families.

The following procedure will apply:
- There will be an order box placed in the office foyer. Students should place their orders in this box in a sealed envelope, so that money is not misplaced.
- Students should place their orders in the order box by 9.00 am, including correct money (if possible), in a labelled envelope with the student’s order preference, name and class clearly labelled either in the envelope, or on the envelope cover.
- Orders will be delivered to classrooms at approximately 12.55pm on Mondays and Fridays.

**Supplier information:**
- All orders will be prepared by a commercial business, “Luscious Catering”, who hold all necessary food preparation licences and certificates (Licence No- FSS R0058992).
- The school will not be responsible for any issues regarding food quality, orders or money, including change issued. Any concerns should be taken up directly with “Luscious Catering” on the number **0405 146 949**.
- Overleaf is the “Luscious Catering” menu for Wallacia Public School.

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**Kindergarten 2016**
Enrol now for Kindergarten 2016. If you have a child eligible to start school in 2016 could you please let the office know. Please pass this information onto any neighbours, family and friends.
Special Swimming Scheme Transport
Because of the high cost of bus transport, parent help is needed for the scheme to proceed. If you can transport children in your car, on any of the days, it would be much appreciated. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

Lost and Found
A girl’s blue BMX bike was found at Blaxland Crossing. If your child has lost her bike and it fits the description please contact Mrs Mullen in the school office.

Year 7 2016
Enrolment Forms/Expression of Interest Forms for Year 7 2016 have been distributed to Year 6 students. Please complete the forms and return them to the school office no later than Monday March 16.

If you require any additional information, please see Mr Davies or Miss Jackson
SCHOOL PHOTOS
We are looking forward to having our school photos taken by THE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER on **Monday March 16 2015**.

An envelope regarding package information and prices has been given to each student. If you have more than one child at school, please note that an envelope needs to be filled out for each child, even when payment is made in a single envelope.

Family photo packages are also available; your eldest child will receive an envelope, if you would like to have a family photo taken. This photo is only for current students at Wallacia Public School.

Please select your preferred option/s and follow the instructions on the envelope for orders and payments and **bring it to school on the day of photos**. Your child/children should give the envelope to their class teacher, on photo day.

*Students will be required to wear full school uniform:*
Girls: School dress with white socks and black shoes.
Boys: School t-shirt with black shorts, grey socks and black shoes.
If boys have the new school uniform, could they please wear this on the day.
Combined Small Schools Cross Country Carnival

When: Thursday 26th March, 2015  
Where: Wallacia Public School

The Carnival is open to all students in Years 3-6, plus any Year 2 students turning 8 years old this year. The course will be entirely within the grounds of Wallacia Public School. Competitors aged 8, 9 or 10 years will complete 2kms, while 11 year olds and seniors will run 3kms.

The Carnival will commence at 9:30am when students will have the opportunity to walk the course. At 9:45am races will commence with 8 year olds, and boys and girls will race separately. There will be a short recess break after the completion of the 10 year old races (approximately 11:15am). It is expected that all races will be completed by 1:00pm, followed by lunch. School will conclude as normal at 3 pm.

Attire: Competitors are to wear school sports uniform, including correct school sports shorts. Students will also need a hat and water bottles.

Staff member/s with CPR training: All staff

Additional Information: Please send asthma reliever medication with your child if required. All students will remain under the supervision of teachers at all times. Students will be seated in school groups. It is expected that all students in Years 3 to 6 will attend the carnival and any students in Year 2 turning 8 years of age.

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 20 March.

…………………………………………………………………………………........................................

Combined Small Schools Cross Country Carnival  
Please return to the office by Friday 20 March.

I hereby give consent for my son/daughter ................................................................. to participate in the Combined Small Schools Cross Country Carnival to be held at Wallacia Public School on Thursday 26th March.

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:  
Yes: ☐ No: ☐

Signature of Parent / Caregiver ............................................................................. Date : .....................
Wallacia Public School
Second Hand Uniforms

We have reintroduced the second hand uniform stall. All stock is available at the rear of the office, most days of the week. Gold coin donation for any items purchased.

If you would like to donate any dresses or school jumpers, these will be gladly accepted and available for other families to buy.

With the introduction of new school shirt/uniform there is the opportunity to recycle our old green “bottoms”. St Clair Public School is interested in any unwanted green shorts/skirts etc. These can be donated to the office and will be delivered to St Clair Public School. All old Wallacia Public School T-shirts will not be needed but these can be recycled via your local charity bin.

Thank you for supporting this project and if you are buying from the rack, please leave the coat hangers.

Thank you
Bec Love
No Pedestrian Access Via the Staff Car Park Gate.

Please use the small gate at the front of school. There have been some “near misses” with cars and pedestrians.
A Reminder to Parents to Notify the School About Your Child’s Health

We welcome information from parents about your child’s health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child’s health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child’s health and wellbeing.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter’s health needs or as otherwise required by law.

*Emergency care/response plans have been sent home with relevant students. Please return these as soon as possible.*

2015 Books and Materials Fees

2015 Books and Materials fees are now due. *Statements of Accounts or Student Invoices* have been sent home with the eldest student in each family.

*Payments can be made in instalments.* This could be a payment each week or fortnight. Please make payments as soon as possible; we request that all book and material fees be paid by the end of Term 1.

Payment/s can be made by direct credit via the school website “$Make a payment”. Please note that separate payments will need to be made for each child. Alternatively, payments can be made by completing a payment envelope and posting it into the red payment box in the school office foyer.
P & C News

At our last meeting, we held the AGM and the Committee positions are:

President         Mrs Jody Smith
Vice President    Mrs Carla Whibley
Secretary         Mrs Jayne Parsons
Treasurer         Mrs Deborah Robinson
Fundraising       Mrs Meagan Preston, Mrs Kelly Ison
School Banking    Mrs Natalie Micsko
Book Club         Mrs Michelle Bastoli

We hope all the children enjoyed their pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. I would like to thank Mrs Whibley, Mrs Parsons, Mrs Astley and Mrs Maher for helping prepare them. Once again a BIG THANK YOU to Mr & Mrs Garton, Mc Donalds Penrith for donating the pancakes.

On Friday March 13, we are screening “How to Train Your Dragon 2” on the school grounds. Gates will open at 6.30pm; movie will start at 7.30pm. Entry fee is $20 for your immediate family and $7 per person for others. Wood-fire pizzas, popcorn, drinks, tea and coffee will be available for purchase. Please bring your chair, picnic rug and torch.

We are seeking businesses to sponsor the event for either $50 or $100 (it is tax deductible) if you know anyone who may be interested, please see a P & C committee member. This is our second year of running a very successful outdoor movie night. It is our major fundraiser for the year. We look forward to seeing many members of our community there.

Jody Smith
P & C President
Where: Wallacia Public School grounds.
When: Friday March 13th
Gates open @ 6:30.
Cost: $20 per immediate family & $7 per person for others.

- For sale on the night;
  - Wood-fire pizzas
  - Popcorn, tea, coffee & drinks
  - Bring your own picnic rugs, chairs and torch.

Thank you for your support Wallacia P S P&C
Thank you to our major sponsor Penrith Home Maker Centre

Back up date is Friday March 27