Term 1 2013

Week 4 - February
Fri. 22nd  ES1 & S1 Assembly – 2.30 pm Host 2D
         St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 6G

Week 5 – February – March
Tues. 26th  Ship o’ Fools performance
Thurs. 28th Scripture starts
Fri. 1st    Clean up Australia day
           St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 3C

Week 6 – March
Fri. 8th   ES1 & S1 Assembly – 2.30 pm Host 2W
           St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 6M

Week 7 – March
Wed. 13th  Kinder Parent Interviews
Thur. 14th Kinder Parent Interviews
Fri. 15th  St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 3/4

Week 8 - March
Tues. 19th  P & C AGM 6.00 pm
Thur. 21st  Harmony Day
Fri. 22nd  ES1 & S1 Assembly – 2.30 pm Host 2J
           St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 5/6W

Week 9 - March
Thur. 28th  K-2 Easter Hat Parade
Fri. 29th  Good Friday

Week 10 - April
Mon. 1st   Easter Monday
Fri. 5th   ES1 & S1 Assembly – 2.30 pm Host 2M
           St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 4C

Week 11 – April
Fri. 12th  ANZAC Ceremony
           ‘I Was Here First’ performance $6.00
           St 2 & 3 Assembly – 2.50pm Host 5H

Principal’s Message
We had a very successful swimming carnival last week - my congratulations to Mr Gallagher in his thorough organisation in ensuring all students were engaged in a number of activities.
Thank you to all the parents that made time to meet with teachers at the Parent Information evening. This really helps ensure open communication between home and school to provide a positive start to the year.

It is starting to become a very busy term; you can stay up to date with our website, newsletter, twitter and facebook page.

Philippa Young
Principal

Enrichment Program
We anticipate the enrichment program commencing in week 6. This semester programs will include public speaking and debating; ANZAC legends poetry; Artist in Residence mural project; Ukulele and band programs; Chess club; robotics lego; SRC; Tournament of the Minds; Newcastle Herald Newspaper competition; and mathematics design projects.
Students do not need to be identified as gifted and talented to participate, rather they will have the opportunity to be nominated by teachers or self-nominate based on interest and ability.

GATS Identification
Parents who wish to complete nominations for Gifted and Talented identification may now do so; applications are available on our website or from the front office. Once applications have been received the nomination will be considered by the Learning & Support and GATS team including the school counsellor. Additional data will be gathered which may include class teacher and stage leader submissions, learning style assessment, intellectual assessments, diagnostic and or external assessment data, analysis of school achievements, progress and work samples. This will assist in identification and provision for each individual student.
During 2013 the GATS team will schedule activities which will offer enrichment and challenges for identified GAT students in a variety of areas. Some extra-curricular GATS activities may be scheduled for the entire identified cohort from the school and cater for their diverse range or build on their current levels of thinking skills and challenge them.
In addition we propose that within the classroom, there will be curriculum differentiation and Individual Education Plans (IEPs) to address the needs of identified students.
Once this process has taken place parents will be invited to an Individual Learning Support meeting to discuss the nomination.

**Contributions and Payments**
Thank you to all families who have already paid their voluntary contributions and stage pack fees. We request that payments be made as quickly as possible if not already done so to allow students access to certain texts and programs such as Mathletics.

**Payments for 2013 are as follows:**
- Voluntary Contributions: $30 per child or $55 per family
- ES1 Pack - $50.00
- S1 Pack - $30.00
- S2 Pack - $20.00
- S3 Pack - $20.00

Where payment of these items may impose a financial burden on families, parents/caregivers are urged to apply for support from Student Assistance funds. Support may be an arrangement of programmed payment over a period of time, or partial assistance from these funds. Applications will be considered, individually, in confidence, by the principal.

We thank you for your support of our school and its programs.

**Please Use Designated Crossings**
We are fortunate to have two designated and supervised crossings, situated in Ferodale and Brocklesby Roads. It is essential that students and parents use these crossings when arriving and departing the school.

The children are instructed about the need to be safe and use the crossings. Parents who defy the rules and cross in other areas are placing their children at risk.

Drivers on both roads do not expect people to be crossing the roads at any other points apart from the designated crossings. By not using the crossings parents are teaching their children that it is ok to defy rules that are set down for the safety of others.

**New Staff Bios**

**Ms J Hubbard**
- **Class:** 5H
- **Previous School:** Raymond Terrace Public School
- **Previous Class:** Year 6
- **Extra curricula interests:** all sports and debating

**What do you love about your job?**
It is fun! There are not many other jobs where you can learn new skills every day, play games and sport, create artworks, learn a musical instrument. School is a fun place to be!

**What do you like so far about Wirreanda?**
The awesome kids, friendly parents and helpful teachers.

**Favourite Book?**
Anything by Roald Dahl!

**Mr J Cook**
- **Class:** 4C
- **Previous School:** Shortland Public School
- **Previous Class:** Year 4/5
- **Extra curricula interests:** sports, technology

**How long have you been teaching?**
3 years

**What do you love about your job?**
Diverse, every day is different and I play a part in shaping our future society

**What do you like so far about Wirreanda?**
There is a lot to like – beautiful school, lots of space, plenty of resources and supportive colleagues.

**Favourite Book?**
A book of naughty children by Enid Blyton
Correct Use of School Gates
Parents are asked not to use school driveways when entering or leaving the school grounds. Serious accidents and deaths have occurred elsewhere when children have been struck by cars when walking through school carparks and driveways. Driveways are clearly marked and signs request no pedestrian access. For your child’s safety, please use the correct gates.

Kindergarten Sip and Crunch
Each kinder class has begun sip ‘n’ crunch. How does this work you may ask? Your child has been assigned 1 day a week to have their news. This is also the day they bring a container of fruit or vegetable, cut into pieces/slices/chunks to share with the class. As there are 3 or 4 other children assigned the same day, the container of fruit/veg does not need to be any bigger than a Chinese food take away container. Please label the container with your child’s name if you would like it to be returned. Your child’s news day/sip ‘n’ crunch day is the same day every week. If you are unsure of your child’s day, please see your child’s teacher.

Reading Matters...Beginning Early...Enhancing Your Child’s Literacy
There are a few easy things parents and other adults can do to enhance the literacy of the children in their lives.
1. Make sure that babies have books around them from the very beginning of their lives.
2. Books provide a great toy. This will allow the baby to bond with them.
3. The book that you buy for baby should have lots of contrasting colours.
4. Buy books that can be propped up.
5. Buy 1 or 2 made of cloth or other material that can make it through a few rounds of chewing.

Toddlers and pre-schoolers will often sit and listen to a whole story.
- Make sure you choose books that have repeating text and depict familiar items.
- Stories should focus on things that relate to the child’s experiences e.g. toilet training, teaching things like counting and colour identification.
- Buy interactive books such as lift-the-flap, “feel and touch” and pop-up books. These are all well received by children in this age group.

P&C Meeting Rescheduled
The next scheduled meeting was to be Monday 18th March at 10am. This will now be held on Tuesday 19th March at 6pm to allow the AGM to be held in the evening.
Wirreanda P&C Association

Art Donations
Can you assist our mural project with artist Sophie Mill? We are seeking donations of:
- Acrylic water based house paint – left overs, any colour exterior or interior
- Ice cream containers
- Baby food jars
- Sponges
- Rags
- Old socks
Please send donations to the library.

Important Information regarding dogs at school
Section 14 of the Companion Animals Act (1998) prohibits dogs on school grounds except where the principal gives permission.
Dogs must be kept on a leash in school grounds.
When selecting dogs to visit schools, particular attention should be given to the suitability of the dog’s temperament. Dogs that have difficult temperaments and are fearful, timid or dominant should not be used in the school situation.
Any dog that has been declared dangerous under section 33 of the Companion Animals Act must not be allowed on school grounds. Local councils retain this information.
When dogs visit a classroom, it is inappropriate to subject them to any procedures other than observation, discussion of behaviour and limited, well-supervised handling.

Sports News
Wirreanda House Captains 2013
Wirreanda School would like to congratulate the following girls and boys who have been voted in by primary students to assist with house sport for 2013. Well done!

Bannaroo
Girl Captain – Chloe Williams
Boy Captain – Jack Bendich
Girl Vice Captain – Erin Smith
**Anulka**
Girl Captain – Ebony McGrorey-Clarke
Boy Captain – Travis Taylor-Dubois
Girl Vice Captain – Mikayla Ellis
Boy Vice Captain – Jordan Smylie

**Coorama**
Girl Captain – Alice Rogers
Boy Captain – Jacob Wark
Girl Vice Captain – Rebekah Holt
Boy Vice Captain – William Weeks

**Kinarra**
Girl Captain – Charlotte Kuszelyk
Boy Captain – Dylan Petith
Girl Vice Captain – Erica Evans
Boy Vice Captain – Sean Workman

**SRC Report**
We are looking forward to this year in leading this school and making the right decisions to make this school a better place for our fellow students. Congratulations to SRC (Student Representative Council) representatives who were elected by their peers:

1/2K Travis & Shiyla 2D Amelia & Cody
2J Lillannah & Lachlan 2W Kyara & Bailey
2M Lily & Braydon 3C Macey & Riley
4C Megan & Jayden 4F Georgia & Nathan
3/4A Jasmyn & Arlie 3S Shayley & Olivia
5H Harry & Luka 5/6W Abbey & Ben
5O Corey & Isabella 6G Annelise & Nathan
6M Alice & Noah

We look forward to working with all these new leaders. Badges will be handed out at Monday morning’s assembly.

Hannah Bailey & Pierce Jones – School Captains

**Canteen News**
Due to an increase in prices from our suppliers the following items have had a price increase:

- Up & Go $1.60
- Fried Rice (GF) $3.00
- Fish Vege Burger $3.20
- Chicken Caesar Wrap $4.00
- Chicken Chilli Tender Wrap $4.00
- Salad Box with Ham or Chicken $4.20
- Chicken Caesar Salad $4.60
- Side Salad (GF) $2.50

A colour coded copy of our menu showing the updated prices is available on the website. Our daily menu options are 75% green with 25% amber. Additional amber foods are available only once or twice a week.

**Weekly Roster**

**Week 4**
- Thur 21st: A Tolhurst, S Kertez
- Fri 22nd: A Pyne, L Mildren, N Athey

**Week 5**
- Mon 25th: K Yowanowski
- Tues 26th: M Harris
- Wed 27th: K Leard, K Pink
- Thur 28th: A Tolhurst, K Leard
- Fri 1st: A Pyne, A Nielsen

**Week 6**
- Mon 4th: M Cieplechowicz, L Webster
- Tues 5th: M Harris
- Wed 6th: K Pink, K Leard, C Batt
- Thur 7th: A Tolhurst, K Leard
- Fri 8th: A Pyne, L Mildren, S Morton

**Amended Stage 2 & 3 Assembly Timetable**
The first Stage Assembly will be held on Friday 1st March in the MPC at 2.50 pm. This year Stage 2 and Stage 3 assemblies will be combined and the first assembly will be hosted by Class 6G. The term 1 amended assembly timetable, showing the host class, is set out below:

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<td>7</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Good Friday No Assembly</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6G</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>No Assembly</td>
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PORT STEPHENS POWER
JUNIOR AFL CLUB

Ferodale Park, Corner Ferodale Road & Kirrang Drive, Medowie

Registration Day at Ferodale Park
Sunday 24th February 9.00am - 1.00pm
NAB Auskick - 5 Years to 8 Years - $60
(Jewel 2013 Auskick Pack)
Juniors - 8 Years to 17 Years - $90
(New players receive - sports bag, water bottle, playing shorts and socks)
$10 discount for extra family members
***** NO WEEKLY FEES *****
For further information please contact Jodie at portstephenspower@gmail.com

Family Law Network Australia
We have recently launched the website Family Law Network Australia. The website is a free information resource and referral service for family law matters. Please visit http://familylawmattersaustralia.com.au
Family Law Network Australia - where you can find information on separation and divorce, parenting arrangements, property settlement and child support.

Wirreanda Students ‘Dive in and help out’
Learning to swim is an important milestone for any child, but for Tim, Maddy and Mitch it is extra-special – and they have four school friends to thank.
To help them attend swimming lessons, fellow students from Wirreanda Public School, swim laps in the YMCA’s annual fundraiser at the YMCA-managed Lakeside Leisure Centre, Raymond Terrace last year. Luke and Joel Trindorfer, and Pierce and Harrison Jones, raised more than $500.
This year, Luke and Joel will once again ‘Dive In and Help Out’ at the YMCA Swimathon. Their goals are 5km each and $1000 to enable more students with disability to learn to swim. Remarkably, they will be joined in the pool by event ambassadors Maddy, Mitch and Tim.
The YMCA Swimathon 2013 will be held at Lakeside between 10am-2pm on Sunday, 3 March, entry during that time is a gold coin donation. Nationally, more than 50 YMCA pools will be taking part, making it Australia’s biggest swimming event.
The event caters for all ages and swimming abilities, with a competitive category encouraging participants to nominate how far they will swim in an hour and how much they will raise to support this important cause.
Registrations are free and open now at www.ymcaswimathon.org.au at Lakeside Leisure Centre.
Or sponsor one of your fellow students:
Dylan and Maddy – Maddy’s Team-Ability
Luke and Joel Trindorfer – “Lions”
tim and Mitch
See Mrs West or Mrs Muller at school for further information on how to sponsor Tim & Mitch.

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR CHILDS SCHOOLING?
Youyoong Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) is the place to make that difference. AECG is an Aboriginal community organisation that works with schools & community to better the outcomes for Aboriginal Education.
If you would like to have a say in your child’s education come along to our meetings, or if you just want to learn more about what we do please contact Rachel on 0431 580 086.