**Attendance at School**

Regular attendance at school is important for students to realise their full potential. All students should be at school unless they are too sick to attend or there is a pressing family commitment. Our attendance rate at Woolgoolga is below the state average. Improving our attendance rate will improve our students’ results.

It is also important that absences are explained in a timely manner – seven days is the legal requirement, after which absences are recorded as unexplained.

Punctuality is an important life skill that students will require both at school and in the workforce. In the first twenty days of school there have been 140 late arrivals at school. This causes disruption to classroom routine and means that students are missing out on important work first thing in the morning. All families are encouraged to work with their children to ensure regular attendance and punctuality.

Each term we will be rewarding students with positive attendance habits.

**Clean Up Australia Day**

The official Clean Up Australia Day for schools will be held tomorrow, Friday 1\textsuperscript{st} March.

Schools’ Clean Up Day is specifically designed to allow students to participate in Clean Up Australia as part of a school activity.

**Important information for families ...**

- **All classes** will be designated an area of the school grounds to clean up.
- **Each student** is asked to bring a pair of gloves.

It’s a great way for WPS students to learn about how to reduce the impact of waste on our environment and make a real difference in their local community.
Boardies Day 2013

Last Friday, students raised funds for the Junior Surf Lifesaving Club by wearing their board shorts to school to support Boardies Day. A total of $266.00 was raised. Congratulations!

Have You Received the Schoolkids Bonus?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 – have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive $410 a year for each primary student and $820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don’t have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children’s education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in person at a Centrelink-Medicare Office or by calling 132 468.

High School Forms

Forms for transition to high school for 2014 were sent out earlier this year. Please return these forms to school as soon as possible.
## LOOKING AHEAD

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### SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

All parents and carers are welcome to attend our weekly assemblies.

This week **Stage 1** (K-2) – **Fridays @ 2pm**
assembly will be hosted by 2B

**Stages 2 & 3** (Yrs 3-6) – **Fridays @ 12.00**
3C will be performing at this week’s assembly

### New P & C Executive

Congratulations to all incoming office bearers.

President – Duan March
Secretary – Rebecca Graham
Treasurer – Cath Parker
Canteen Treasurer – Amy Griffey