

Seahorse Tales

TERM 1, ISSUE 10

APRIL 2, 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS AND TERM 4 FINISHING DATE

Parents and carers may have noted that all Public Schools have been given two additional School Development Days, to be notionally held on the last 2 days of Term 4. These 2 'new' days can be changed to other holiday or weekend days, with the approval of the Regional Director. Therefore school will officially finish for students this year on Wednesday 16th December 2009. Thursday 17th December 2009 will be a Pupil Free School Development Day for staff, with Friday 18th December 2009 being the start of the summer holidays for all staff.

One of these 2 days is being used on Monday 27 April, officially a school holiday, whereby all staff will be on site to engage in professional learning. Topics for this day will include a research presentation around Quality Teaching, led by Jan Martin, from a report prepared for our school, in partnership with the University of Newcastle.

Tuesday 28 April is also planned as a School Development Day, with major topics including disabilities support in schools, teaching children with ADHD and some further work around the School Plan 2009-2011. All students will resume school for Term 2 on Wednesday 29th April 2009

TERM 2 LEAVE

I would like to take this opportunity to inform all parents and caregivers that I will be on leave for the first 5 weeks of Term 2 from Monday 27th April through to and including Friday 29th May 2009. Ms Kerry Dibb will be the relieving Principal in my absence, with Mrs Barb Booker 'stepping up' to be the relieving Assistant Principal for Early Stage 1/ Stage 1.

SCHOOL BASED STUDENT REPORT AND PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Semester 2 School Based Student Reports will be completed by teachers during the second half of Term 2. Parent-Teacher-Student interviews will be held after these reports have been sent home. Further information will be sent home to parents when dates have been finalised with staff. If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's progress, at any time, please contact the school to make an appointment time to meet with your child's teacher.



'FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES'

All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

This week:
Stage 1 (10:20am)
will be hosted by
Alexandra Rook and
Baillie Duroux of 2C
Stages 2-3 (12:20pm)
Item by ..

ELECTRONIC INTERACTIVE WHITE BOARDS!!

At the last meeting of the budget committee approval was given for the purchase of 2 more electronic Smartboards for classrooms within our school!!

One of these Smartboards will be installed in Mrs Martin's 4J classroom. The other will be installed in Mrs Rovere's 5/6R classroom. Both teachers and their students are very excited about the arrival and use of this innovative technology!

Our school is committed to supporting technological advances and our ultimate aim is to eventually have an electronic white board in every classroom.

Cheers

Graeme Ross, Principal

HELPING YOUR CHILD TO READ AT HOME INFORMATION NIGHT



A very big thank you to all parents who responded to the expression of interest to attend the information sessions.

The response was very pleasing with over 50 responses received from K-6.

Responses indicated that a morning session commencing at 9:30am and evening session commencing at 7:00pm were by far the most popular.

Due to the very busy schedule within our school, until the end of Term 1, this very important information session will be held during the first two weeks of Term 2.

A note inviting parents and caregivers to attend will be sent home in Week 1 Term 2.

Kerry Dibb, Assistant Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Sausage Sizzle | Mon 6 Apr |
| Cross Country | Tue 7 Apr |
| Easter Activities | Thu 9 Apr |
| Last Day of Term 1 | Thu 9 Apr |

CONGRATULATIONS!



Certificate of Merit

- ◆ Xanthi Hand KD
- ◆ Talisha Harboe KD
- ◆ Alyssa Jenkins KK
- ◆ Harry Robertson 1B
- ◆ Xander Pilon 1RB
- ◆ Ebony Courtenay 1/2H
- ◆ Reagan Scheuermann 2C
- ◆ Brooke Vandermeel 2C
- ◆ Lachlan Jenkins 3/4G
- ◆ Joshua Murray 5/6R

Certificate of Excellence

- ◆ Jaide Topp 1RB
- ◆ Ainsley Wadwell 1RB
- ◆ Ashlee Vandermeel 2C

Principal's Values Award

- ◆ Ethan Newton-Ritchie 4J

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WPS**Sausage Sizzle ~ Monday 6 April**

Pre-orders are now being taken for next Monday's sausage sizzle. Please note that orders need to be returned to the school, with payment, no later than tomorrow Friday 3 April. The cost is \$3:50 for the sausage sizzle meal pack.

Deb Baker, Coordinator

Cross Country Carnival ~ Tuesday 7 April

Weather permitting, the Cross Country Carnival will be held on Centennial Oval on Tuesday 7 April. Full details have been sent home. Students must wear appropriate footwear, sunscreen and hat on the day. An extra bottle of water is also required (please label with your child's name). Families, carers and friends are all welcome to come along to watch the event. Hope to see you there!

EASTER ACTIVITIES**K-2 Hat Making ~ Wednesday 8 April (1:50pm)**

Students will be making hats at school for the Easter hat parade.

A note has been sent home detailing what items are required.

Pictured left: students at last year's parade.

K-2 Easter Hat Parade ~ Thursday 9 April (10:30am)

The Easter hat parade will take place in the Primary COLA area. Student's families and friends are all welcome to attend. *Note: Stage 2 & 3 student's may also participate in the parade if they bring a hat.*

Easter Raffle

The P&C Easter raffle will be drawn at the conclusion of the hat parade. Please ensure that all sold raffle books and money are returned to the school office by **Tuesday 7 April**. Don't forget to fill out the green ticket attached to each raffle book once each book of raffle tickets is sold. This will give you a chance of winning a great Easter prize. Good Luck!

Hot Cross Bun Morning ~ Thursday 9 April (11:00am)

Families and friends of students are asked to join us for a cup of tea or coffee supplied by the school. A note has been sent home to order and pay for the hot cross buns. Even if you are unable to attend the morning tea you may still wish to place an order for your child. **All hot cross bun orders need to be received by Monday 7 April**. Please note: late orders cannot be accepted.

K-2 Easter Tabloid ~ Thurs 9 April (11:35am-12:50pm)

To be held in the Kindergarten COLA area and vacant block south of the hall.

Mums, Dads, grandparents and friends are invited to join us to help run this fun filled session of fitness activities with an Easter theme! Carrot relay, egg and spoon race, bunny hop races and lots more.

Kerry Dibb, Assistant Principal / Stage 1 Supervisor

**WPS SRC
Profile**



Name: Brianna Hughes

Class: 6M

Favourite Season: Summer

Favourite Food: Chicken schnitzel & gravy

Favourite TV Programme: Home and Away

Favourite Movie: Lots!

Favourite Song: Heaps!

Favourite Colour: Hot pink

Favourite Holiday Destinations: Hawaii & Thailand

Favourite Hobby: Going to the beach

Favourite Animals: Puppies and rabbits

Favourite Sports: Cricket and NRL

As a member of the SRC: I would like to be involved in making our school community a safer place for everyone. It means a lot to me to take on the roll of school captain and also that people believe in me.

TIME TO LAUGH**Funny Book Titles!**

- ◆ Who Dunit? *By Ivor Clew*
- ◆ Crime Does Not Pay *by Laura Norda*
- ◆ The Artic Ocean *by I.C. Waters*
- ◆ Making Snacks *by Sam Widge*
- ◆ Hair Disorders *by Dan Druff*
- ◆ Parachute Jumping *by Hugo First*



**WPS Staff
Profile**



Name: Rowen McRae

Nickname: Shrek

Position: Classroom Teacher 6M / IT Coordinator

Favourite Foods: KFC

Favourite Season: "Footy Season!"

Favourite TV Programme: One Tree Hill

Favourite Movie: Forest Gump

Favourite Song: Lest We Forget by The Waifs

Favourite Colour: Black

Favourite Holiday Destination: My Backyard

Favourite Hobbies: Audio / AV and Garage Sales

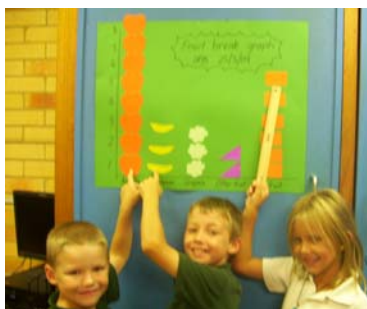
Favourite Animal: Chooks

Favourite Sport: Footy

Newsletter Article 1RB

What a busy term 1RB has had!

- ♪ Our focus in CAPA (Creative & Practical Arts) has been how stories are told about Australia.
- ♪ We have been using percussion instruments and singing to create musical sound-scapes that tell a story.
- ♪ We have been telling stories in Visual Arts using paint, collage and drawing techniques.
- ♪ We have been listening to 'told stories' and sharing narrative and poems to learn about Australian animals and the landscape.
- ♪ On Harmony Day we were privileged to share a Smartboard dreamtime story from the ABC's website 'Dusk Echoes' with Mr. McRae's 6M class. This was a beautifully produced animation. (Refer: Term 1 Issue 6 of the Seahorse Tales for the Dusk Echoes website review and address).
- ♪ Our class timetable is a very full one and the class has settled in to our routines very well.
- ♪ Club 20 for Home Reading is now underway and some students are ready to receive their awards. Thank you to parents for supporting this project. Supporting your child in these early years of reading will change their lives forever.



Jaxson, Jack & Rubee



By Brock



Xander, Kaela and Brock

A reminder about hats. We have our school cross country on Tuesday 7 April in Week 11. We will be using our sport and fitness times to prepare for this and each child will need their hats at school.

Mr Jenny Read / Mrs Debby Baker, Classroom Teachers

**New
Regular
Item**

**K-2 Club 20
Take Home
Reading Reward
System**

Congratulations Club 20 'Award Recipients'

Sukhraj Tiwana 1B

Emmett Weiss 1B

Jacob Gorman KD

Kobey Styles KD

Our reward system for the take home reading program is now up and running for Kindergarten to Year 2 students. Award recipients will be named in the school newsletter on a regular basis. Special congratulations to our very first award recipients!

A FEW REMINDERS AS TERM 1 DRAWS TO A CLOSE

Parents and carers are requested to assist the school by:

- ◆ checking lost property for any items of clothing that your child may have lost during first term
- ◆ picking up any medication held at the school that will be required during the holiday period
- ◆ returning overdue library books. **Many thanks.**

WE NOTICED THAT ...

- ◆ **Cassidy Pierce** of 5A has quickly become an important part of 5A
- ◆ **Sherydan Simson** of 3C is doing really well in maths groups
- ◆ **Jamie Newland** of KD, even though not playing with the toys in the Stage 1 area, cleaned them all up at recess (what a great helper Jamie!)
- ◆ **Lani Goodman** of 4/5M gave a great multicultural speech



WPS P&C NEWS

What a great turn out we had for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year! It was wonderful to see so many new faces and lovely to see continued support from last years' members. All in all we had 17 people attend the March meeting including some new member grandparents. It is fantastic to see support and interest from all caregivers in our school community, not only parents.

The Woolgoolga Public School P&C is a group of parents / caregivers working in co-operation with teaching staff for the benefit of all students. It is an invaluable way to keep informed about what is happening in the school and about coming events and activities. The P&C is here to offer a forum for discussion, provide another link between caregivers and teachers and to be involved with the way our school is run. Being involved and informed about what is happening at school will make a great difference to you and your child(ren). The P&C also plays an important role in raising funds for numerous projects and resources for our kids. In 2009 the P&C aims to raise enough funds to purchase another Smart Board and other additional resources. We have many fundraising events planned for throughout the year including our upcoming Easter Raffle, Mother's and Father's Day stalls and another ice-cream day like the one just held last Monday.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who helped on P&C Ice-Cream Day and of course, thank you to all the students (and teachers and staff!) who bought all the ice-creams.



Heidi Stewart, Marie Davis, Kylie O'Connor, Sue Stabback, Heidi Harper, Jemma Hartin, Bec Smart, Hayley Henry, Merran Storrie, Sherree Hall, Racinda Koopmans and Kellie Simson all braved the rain to help scoop and serve hundreds of icecreams.

We raised over \$300 during the lunch hour!

We hope that you will continue to support our wonderful school in whatever capacity you can, from buying a raffle ticket, to volunteering on fund-raising days or attending a P&C meeting.

The P&C meets in the school staff room once a month on the third Tuesday at 7.00pm during school terms.

The P&C meetings are always attended by the Principal and/or an Assistant Principal. It is a great opportunity to hear first hand what is happening in our school and to be involved in your child's education.

The 2009 P&C Office Bearers are:

- Kellie Simson – President
- Racinda Koopmans – Vice President
- Merran Storrie – Vice President
- Heidi Stewart – Treasurer
- Helen Rook – Secretary (Minutes)
- Joan Simson – Secretary (Correspondence)

**Thank you for your ongoing support,
2009 P&C Committee**



2009 CANTEEN MENU & PRICE LIST

Our 'Canteen Menu and Price List' is being sent home today with the newsletter. Please note there has been a slight increase in costs.



The Canteen Menu is also available for download on the school's website.



**Maree Hartin,
Canteen Supervisor**

REMINDER ~ GYMNASTICS PROGRAM

Year 1 & Year 2 ~ 7 May to 2 July (Term 2)

Next term Yrs1-2 will be involved in a 9 week gymnastics program that will be delivered by nationally accredited, fully qualified and experienced gymnastics teachers. The course costs \$30.00 per student. Permission notes are available at the school office if you haven't already completed one. It is expected that all students in Yrs1-2 will participate.

Barb Booker, Gymnastics Coordinator



WPS WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

Exploring Global Environments

Examine animals of the ocean on the whale research vessel *Discovery*

<http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/publications/whales-kids-interactive/index.html>

HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS

The Internet



In this age of technology into which our children have been born they are often more knowledgeable and skilful in using computers than we think.

There are many things parents can do to help and guide their children in safely using the internet even though they may be less knowledgeable about how

to actually access and use the internet themselves.

Parents need to talk to their children about a number of things such as:

House rules ~ establishing rules about the amount of time children are permitted to spend online and when they can use the computer eg. after homework, when chores are done, after some outside activity etc.

Stranger Danger ~ reminding children that they have been taught about 'stranger danger' but people on the Internet are strangers too. Therefore, they must not give out any personal information about themselves, their email address, their name, their home address, their school etc.

Consider:

Placing the computer in a central place ~ where there is plenty of family activity and you can monitor your child's work. A computer in a child's bedroom is not a good idea.

Surfing the net together ~ exploring sites can be fun and gives parents an opportunity to assess age appropriate websites.

Blocking and filtering software ~ readily available to help prevent undesirable material entering your home via the Internet.

You can help your children to use the internet safely ~ by monitoring, protecting and teaching them and by learning about the internet yourself. Remember, learning to use the internet safely is like learning to cross the street. It takes time and careful guidance from trusted people like parents and teachers.

www.raisingchildren.net.au



WANTED! ...

Norco Cash Caps ~ can you help us with this fundraising activity?

Norco caps can be dropped off at any time to the office or the classroom.

Woolgoolga Public School

PO Box 523, Woolgoolga NSW 2456

Ph: 66541305 Fax: 66540028

Email: woolgoolga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.woolgoolga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

WPS SCHOOL CANTEEN



OPEN: Tuesday to Friday

CLOSED: Mondays

If you would like to help out, our canteen manager, Maree Hartin would love to hear from you.

FUN THINGS TO TRY AT HOME

'Crayon Eggs' ~ Easter Craft



What you'll need:

- ◆ Crayons
- ◆ Boiled eggs
- ◆ Food coloring
- ◆ White vinegar

How to make them:

- ◆ Be sure that boiled eggs are cool and dry. Place a double folded kitchen towel on the table so if the egg slips it will have a soft cushion to land on!
- ◆ Use crayons to draw designs on the eggs.
- ◆ Mix 1tbsp of white vinegar into a coffee mug of water (filled ¾ full) then add several drops of food coloring.
- ◆ Dip the crayon coloured egg into the dye and let sit for about a minute. Remove and let dry.
- ◆ The dye makes the crayon look brighter, especially if you use neon food coloring!
- ◆ **Have fun!**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Woolgoolga Public School does not endorse or make any recommendation concerning community notices

COFFS HARBOUR RAILWAY MODELLERS OPEN DAY

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th April, 9am-4pm



Prize winning model railway display, one of the largest in Australia, to be held at Coffs Harbour Showground. Gold coin donation.

SOUTHERN CROSS CULTURAL EXCHANGE

SCU Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteer families to host high school students from Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Finland and other countries. Students will arrive early July for 5 to 10 months.

If you are interested in becoming a host family please contact 1800 500 501 for more information.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

For more information about 'After School Care', please contact the program coordinator on Ph: 6654 8554.

Vacation Care is also available each school holiday. Venue ~ Short St, Woolgoolga.

Monday
to
Friday