

Seahorse Tales

TERM 2, ISSUE 1

MAY 1, 2008

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

WELCOME BACK, AND THIS TERM

I hope all families had a great holiday break. It is great to see so many happy and smiling faces on our kids as they start another busy school term.

Some things of note for this term include:

- ◆ an attempt at the world record (with other schools across Australia) at having the most number of kids skipping at once (week 2);
- ◆ National Testing for years 3 & 5 (week 3);
- ◆ Education Week (week 5) where activities will include a BBQ, an Art Exhibition and a year 6 student being *Principal for a Day*;
- ◆ Multicultural Day (week 9);
- ◆ NAIDOC Week celebrations (Week 10); and
- ◆ Reporting on student progress to you as parents and carers (week 9).

And these are just some of the term 2 plans! A very busy term, indeed. Stay tuned.

BAND AND MUSIC PROGRAMS AT WPS

The school is working to lift the musicianship and performance skills of students here at the school. To this end we now have recorder lessons in place for all year 2 students, and a band (open to students in years 3-6). Nicola Fraser teaches these lessons.

In addition to this, Chris Browne (Assistant Principal – support) is now offering guitar/string lessons for students.

Some of these activities are free and some incur costs – specifically around payment of salaries or instrument hire.

If you as a parent or carer would like your child to participate in an additional music activity but you are worried about the cost please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me.

FRIDAY ASSEMBLIES

On Fridays our school celebrates quality learning that has occurred in classrooms by featuring a different class each week as hosts for the assembly. This class also shares the work they have been doing in their class with all of us.

I would like to extend a special invitation to all parents, family and carers to join us if they would like, when their child or class is featured, or at any other time.

The schedule of classes presenting is posted each week in this newsletter, for your information.

GRANDPARENTS AND FAMILIES

Do you have a family member (eg. Grandparents, non-custodial dad, etc) who you think might like to receive our newsletter?

If this is the case we can send them a weekly copy, in the mail, if you can give us their address.

Or, they may choose to receive the newsletter electronically over the email. Again, just email the school their email address.

We are very proud of our school and love to share the achievements with as many interested people as possible.

Cheers, Graeme Ross, Principal

P&C NEWS ~ MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

Our Mother's Day Raffle will be drawn on Thursday 8 May at the morning assembly. Please ensure that you have returned all raffle tickets (sold and unsold) by Wednesday 7 May. The Mother's Day stall will be held on Friday 9 May in the school hall. Items for sale will be priced between 50c and \$5 so that all children are able to experience the joy of giving to their 'Mum, Carer or Grandmother'. Please ensure that any donations are delivered to the office by Tuesday so that we have time to wrap everything. Volunteers are needed to assist with wrapping on Wednesday in the hall, so if you can help it would be greatly appreciated. We would also appreciate volunteers to help 'man' the stall on Friday, so if you can manage to assist even for an hour or so, please put your name on the list at the office. Donations of baked goods can be made on the Friday, but please list all ingredients and wrap appropriately so that goods can arrive home safely in little hands. It is envisaged that all classes will have visited the stall by the end of lunch-time so between 2-3pm items left will be for sale to parents and siblings. Thank you everyone for your cooperation. Together we can make this a successful event.

Judy Niiven, P&C President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Walk Safely To School	Fri Apr 2
Gymnastics Commences	Thurs May 8
Mothers Day Raffle Drawn	Thurs May 8
Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off	Fri May 9

CONGRATULATIONS!

Certificate of Merit

- ◆ Jagveer Singh - KF
- ◆ Ciarnah Robertson 1H
- ◆ Jasraj Sidhu 2G
- ◆ Brittany Cardwell 2R
- ◆ Zac Farnsworth 2R
- ◆ John Critten 3/4C
- ◆ Heavenly Hand 4/5C
- ◆ Mitchell Rankins 4/5C
- ◆ Lynette Hand 5/6M
- ◆ Callum McPherson 5/6M
- ◆ Joshua Butterworth-Harvey 5/6R
- ◆ Alex McCaw 5/6R

Certificate of Excellence

- ◆ Madison Jurotte-McVey 1B
- ◆ Jessica McInerney 5/6M

Principal's Values Award

- ◆ Addisen Mallett 2R
- ◆ Jayde Watson 5/6R

All parents and carers are welcome to attend 'Friday Assemblies'. This week they will be hosted by: Stage 1~ Brandan Webb & Zoe Batty at 10:20am
Stages 2&3 ~ Members of the SRC at 12:20pm

**A VISIT FROM MR ANDREW FRASER
MEMBER FOR COFFS HARBOUR**



Mr Andrew Fraser MP visited our school on Wednesday to present a new State Flag, (our old flag was in disrepair). The school captains, Joel Collinson and Gabby Simcoe, proudly accepted the flag on behalf of WPS. Mr. Fraser's explanation of the flag's heraldic description proved to be very interesting to students attending the morning assembly.

TRANSLATED DOCUMENTS

The Department of Education & Training has translated a range of useful documents for parents and caregivers. These documents have been translated into over 40 different languages, including Punjabi, Arabic, Spanish and many more. Should you wish to access these documents please visit:

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/index.htm>

TIPS FOR ENCOURAGING GOOD BEHAVIOUR

MAINTAIN A SENSE OF HUMOUR

Another way of diffusing tension and possible conflict is to use humour. You can pretend to become the menacing tickle monster or make animal noises. However, humour at their expense won't help; young children are easily hurt by parental 'teasing'. Humour that has you both laughing is great.

TRY HUMOUR 'INSTEAD' OF ANGER

'If you find the right tone, humour can be an incredibly effective way to get kids and parents laughing through difficult situations. Keep in mind that young children are literal and may not always get a joke, but will love to laugh along with a parent. And school children hate sarcasm directed at them, but love being in on a witty, joke'. (Written by Michael Thompson, PhD, Co-author, Raising Cain).

<http://raisingchildren.net.au>

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CANTEEN ROSTER



Maree Hartin Raelee Wright	Fri 2 May
CLOSED MONDAY	Mon 5 May
Maree Hartin Lorraine Webb	Tue 6 May
Maree Hartin Dot Falzon	Wed 7 May
Maree Hartin Sandy Butler	Thur 8 May

DID YOU MOVE DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

If you changed your address during the school holidays, or if you have a new or different phone number, please advise the school office as soon as possible. Any changes to emergency contacts, medical details, preferred doctors etc. also need to be kept up to date by the school.

Thank you for your assistance.

OUR VOLUNTEER HELPERS ENRICH WPS



Our volunteer helpers are currently being contacted to update details and to complete a new child protection declaration form.

In line with departmental policy, these forms are required to be updated every twelve months. WPS acknowledges the important role of 'our wonderful helpers'.

COMMUNITY NEWS

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Free parenting courses are currently being offered for Term 2 at the UnitingCare Burnside Family Centre. Simple discipline programs that really work (1-2-3 Magic!), courses to assist in encouraging good behaviour, independence and self esteem, sessions specifically for dads, and lots more. Places are limited so please book early. To find out more Ph: 6652 7666.

WOOLGOOLGA HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB

The health and fitness club now offers free childminding. The hours are 9-11:30am Mon to Fri and Weds nights 4-8:00pm. Bookings are essential.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

For more information about 'After School Care', please contact the program coordinator on Ph: 6654 8554.	Monday to Friday
Vacation Care is also available each school holiday. Venue ~ Short St, Woolgoolga	

NEWS ARTICLE FROM 4/5C

First term has been and gone very quickly and now term 2 is under way. We have seen successes at our Swimming Carnival, Rugby League trials, Multicultural Public Speaking and Cross Country.



What has impressed me, as a newcomer to Woolgoolga has been the manner in which 4/5C (and other students) have competed in all our school activities. Their sportsmanship and participation is to be commended. In class, most students are 'doing their best' - completing class tasks and regular homework. Great results are showing through, especially in learning table facts.



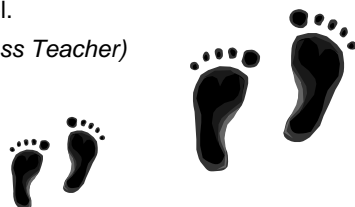
Yesterday saw the running of our school cross country after being washed out at the end of term 1. It was held under perfect conditions and everyone had a wonderful day.

Many thanks must go to the students for their participation and sportsmanship, also to the many parents who were able to come, cheer and support their children.

Congratulations to the following students from 4/5C who have made it to the District Carnival:

Angus Rissel, Mitchell Rankins, Cadan Glattback, Brock Sankey, Justin Keys, Kane Atkinson, Heavenly Hand, Rylee Swatten and Alisha Phoonie. Well done and good luck at the next level.

Mr John Carter (Class Teacher)

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM**

There are still a few vacancies in the school's instrumental music program for students in Yrs 3-6. In the storeroom we have the following instruments available for hire: Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Glockenspiel.



Tuition fees are \$12.00 per week and instrument hire costs \$30.00 per term. If you would like your child to learn to play an instrument but you are concerned about the fees, please make an appointment to discuss this matter with Mr Ross.

Students with their own instrument may also be eligible to join the music program, depending on the instrument and need.

For more information please contact Ms Nicola Fraser, Music Tutor.

EATING TIPS FOR CHILDREN**THE IMPORTANCE OF BREAKFAST**

It is important to encourage breakfast. A good night's sleep followed by food in the morning helps your child to stay active and concentrate at school. It also means your child is less likely to be too hungry during the morning. Be a role model and let your child see you eat breakfast too. A bowl of cereal with milk and fresh or stewed fruit is a great starter for the whole family.

School lunches

As you are well aware our school has a canteen that offers a range of healthy food choices. However, an alternative is a packed lunch from home, which is a great way for your child to learn about healthy food as well as to help with preparation.

Some lunch box suggestions include:

- ◆ Sandwiches or pita bread with cheese, lean meat, hummus and salad.
- ◆ Cheese slices, crackers with spread, and fresh or dried fruits.
- ◆ Washed and cut up raw vegetables or fresh fruits
- ◆ Frozen water bottle or tetra pack of milk, particularly in hot weather.

