

# Seahorse Tales

TERM 4, ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 16, 2008

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### WELCOME BACK

Term 4 here at Woopi has certainly got off to a great start! A special welcome to the new families that have enrolled with us. It was good, as well, to get back and see all the wonderful kids refreshed and keen to get into some exciting term 4 activities.

I must acknowledge the tremendous work the staff did in my absence at the end of last term, particularly Kerry Dibb as relieving principal and Maxine McClelland in the office, together with all staff in ensuring that the school and all students were well looked after.

*(And I love being back, and the year 6 Canberra trip was great!)*

### OUR NEW SMARTBOARD

The first of what I hope will be several of these incredible devices has been installed in 5/6M – Mr Rowen McRae's classroom.

There is no getting away the power of 'instant access' to the world. These devices in classrooms enhance teaching and learning in very special and engaging ways. Rowen has written further about this here in our newsletter, accompanied by some photos.

### OUR GARDENS

We already have 4 of our classes gardening ... vegetables, herbs and some flowers. The enhancements to our gardens will continue, as we look to engage more of our students in actively taking a role in gardening and building that knowledge.

But gee, doesn't our school look attractive! (And thanks particularly to Graeme Sibbald and his team in preparing the garden beds, and helping to maintain them.)

### Cheers

*Graeme Ross, Principal*

### TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED AT WPS

Our school has further enhanced its reputation as a school on the cutting edge of technology in education with the purchase of it's first interactive whiteboard.

An interactive whiteboard essentially replaces the old style blackboards and whiteboards used in classrooms for decades. Our 1st is a touch sensitive, 77 inch SmartBoard with full access to our school's computer network, the Internet and printing facilities.

It enables the teacher and students to quickly and easily access the vast educational resources of the world wide web as well as utilising great programs such as Google Earth.

It allows the students to use touch sensitive pens to draw and write on the SmartBoard (they can even fingerpaint if they wish!), insert pictures and shapes and even rub out using an electronic eraser.



SmartBoard in Action at WPS



The 1st of these amazing learning tools has been placed in 5/6M's classroom, and plans are already in place for further expansion of interactive whiteboards throughout the school.

Interactive whiteboards create an engaging atmosphere of fun and excitement in the classroom environment, and Woolgoolga Public School is proud to offer these exciting advancements to students.

**Rowen McRae, Computer Co-ordinator**

All parents and carers are welcome to attend 'Friday Assemblies' This week Stage 1 (10:20am) will be hosted by Hamish Rissel & Hayley Allen of 2R Stages 2-3 assembly will be held at 12:20pm

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

P&C Meeting	Tue 21 Oct
Kindy Orientation Day 5	Fri 24 Oct
Kindy Orientation Day 6	Wed 29 Oct
Sausage Sizzle	Wed 29 Oct

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### Certificate of Merit

- ◆ Felix Farwell KF
- ◆ Reece Mitchell KF
- ◆ Zara Saxby KF
- ◆ Byron Hartin Singh KF
- ◆ Sophy Simson KK
- ◆ Velvet Allen 1B
- ◆ Jayden Amos 2G
- ◆ Brittany Cardwell 2R
- ◆ Cavan Lalli 2R
- ◆ Taylor Holcombe-Nancarrow 3/4C
- ◆ Paris Grayson 3/4E
- ◆ Matthew Landi 4/5C
- ◆ Elijah Woods 5/6R

### Certificate of Excellence

- ◆ Rajeeva Chahal 1H
- ◆ Salina Chahal 3/4C
- ◆ Chloe Sankey 5/6



### Principal's Values Award

- ◆ Kaela Forbes KF
- ◆ Luke Hennessy 3/4E

### Silver Award

To be presented at the end of year assembly  
◆ Lachlan Jenkins 2G

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WPS

### Rock & Water ~ Stage 3 Boys Education Pool Visits

Throughout this year the boys in Yrs 5 & 6 and Mr Carter's Yr 4 boys have been involved in a world renowned program called 'Rock & Water', which was developed in the Netherlands.



This program helps young people to get to know themselves better, develop strategies to protect themselves against bullying, promote acceptance and tolerance of others and contains a physical component where boys challenge themselves and others so

they understand their abilities and limits.

This term the boys will take part in a weekly session, every Wednesday morning, at Woolgoolga Swimming Pool. This program will include various types of water skills to help develop physical fitness and enable the boys to challenge themselves and set goals.

**Sharon Rovere, (Rel.) Assistant Principal**

### Early Arrivals

#### Official start time at WPS is 8:45am

It was noted, last term, that quite a few students were arriving at school well before the official start time.

We ask all parents and carers to ensure their child does not arrive at school prior to 8:45. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**Kerry Dibb, Assistant Principal**

### Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Register

#### Important information

A new system has been introduced to record student late arrivals and early dismissals.

Please note a parent or carer is now required to sign their child in or out of school by completing the 'Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Register', located at reception.

**Thank you for your co-operation.**

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS

### Stay Safe In the Sun

UV radiation is strongest between September and April, between 10am and 3pm. If you can, it's a good idea to save trips to the playground, the park or the beach for early morning and late afternoon.

Sunscreen combined with clothing, sunglasses and shade is the most effective way to keep your child safe from the sun and its reflection from water and sand.

All children, no matter whether they tan easily or not, should be protected from the sun. Children with fair or red hair, pale eyes or freckles are at most risk.

By teaching children safe sun habits while they are young sets a good pattern for later life.

<http://raisingchildren.net.au>



## WPS WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

### Our Australian Animals

This site looks at Australian animals, their physical features, food, homes, environment and social groups.



**In the water!**

**In the air!**

**On the ground!**

If you enjoy learning about Australian animals you will really enjoy exploring this site. Just follow the link below:

<http://www.abc.net.au/schoolstv/animals/default.htm>

## TIME TO LAUGH

**Q:** Have you heard about the restaurant on the moon?

**A:** Great food, but no atmosphere!

**Q:** What do you call a sleeping bull?

**A:** A bulldozer!



## WE NOTICED THAT ...

- ◆ **Karn Brocklehurst** of 2R has made outstanding progress in his reading work
- ◆ **Jarred Benn** of 2R is doing a great job visiting classes, with Mrs Seymour, to obtain information for staff meetings
- ◆ **Mrs Ewart** says that **all** her class have returned from holidays very settled and keen to work
- ◆ **Paige Nicolson** of 5/6J was caring for a Kindergarten student whilst walking her to school
- ◆ **Alex McCaw** of 5/6R has been sharing books from home with another student after noticing a keen interest in them
- ◆ **Brenden Downton** of 5/6R caringly helped a Kindergarten student who had fallen over and hurt her knee

## BACK TO SCHOOL ALLOWANCE 2009

The \$50 Back to School Allowance for every child attending school in NSW will be paid by the Department of Education and Training and is designed to help families meet some of the costs of getting their children back to school at the start of the 2009 school year.

To enable the payments to be made, schools have been asked to provide details of family and student names and addresses. The Department proposes to forward the \$50.00 allowance from mid January 2009 for students in Years 1 to 10 in 2009, and from mid February for students in Kindergarten and Yrs 11 & 12 in 2009. The allowance will be paid to the nominated parent or custodial guardian. If you have recently changed your address or family details, please contact the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Maxine McClelland, Administrative Manager**



Last term **KK** was learning about different **Places in the Local Community.**  
 On Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of September we walked with our teachers, class helpers and fellow kindergarteners from KD & KF to the **Guru Nanak Sikh Temple** in Woolgoolga.  
 Photographs and article compiled by Nelly Singh (Prac.Teacher)



We took off our shoes and covered our heads before entering inside the temple. The priests played Indian instruments and showed us around.

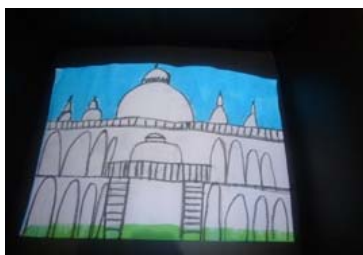


On Friday I went to the Gurdwara with kindergarten. We had to take off our shoes and cover our heads. We had fun.  
 By Sophy Simson

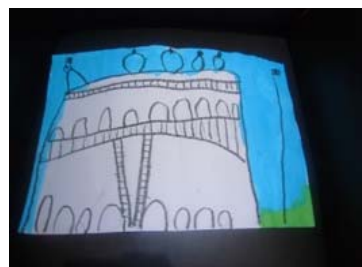
On Friday we went to the temple. There were two statues of warriors on horses at the front. We had to cover our heads inside.  
 By Brynd Storrie

Last Friday we walked to the temple. We listened to Indian hymns and got lollies and ice-cream before returning back to school.  
 By Conan Brisley

We have been practising how to write recounts in class so we decided to write recounts on our excursion to the Sikh Temple.



By Mya Thompson



By Sukhraj Tiwana



By Byron Grant

In art we made sketches of the Sikh Temple using crayons and ink.

**BRAIN TEASERS**

**Congratulations to our 'Holiday Brain Teasers' winner Lani Goodman** of 3/4M who was the first person to be drawn out of the Brain Teaser Answer Box, with the most correct answers.



What a fantastic effort Lani!

**Answers to the holiday puzzles:**

- ◆ **A Knotty Problem:** cross your arms before you seize the ends of the string. Uncross your arms and it will tie a knot in the cord.
- ◆ **What day is it:** Friday.
- ◆ **Which word was the odd one out:** forth! (It was spelt wrong).
- ◆ **How long can a cockroach live without a head:** about 14 days. It does not use its head to breathe and can go without eating for almost a month.
- ◆ **How long has the yo-yo been around:** it was first used in Greece more than 3000 years ago.
- ◆ **Find the missing word:** the sea animal is oyster.
- ◆ **Wash day puzzle:** 45 minutes! (One shirt takes exactly the same time to dry as three shirts).
- ◆ **Red or Blue:** the answer is red because an odd number plus an even number always makes an odd number.

**This week's Brain Teaser Questions:**



**Q.1** ~ What game was often included in the tomb when a pharaoh died in ancient Egypt?

- a) Chess    b) Backgammon, or
- c) Checkers



**Q.2** ~ What is Donald Duck's middle name?

- a) Francis    b) Fauntleroy, or
- c) Ferdinand

**Don't forget to fill in your Brain Teaser Answer Sheet to be in the draw for a prize at the end of this term!**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

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

**FREE PARENTING COURSES**

A large selection of free parenting courses are available at Uniting Care Burnside. More information Ph: 6652 7666.

**WOOLGOOLGA LITTLE ATHLETICS**

The new season commenced 14 October, Woolgoolga Sports fields (near the high school). For further details contact Lisa Scott Ph: 6654 7112.

Woolgoolga Public School

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Website: [www.woolgoolga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://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.*

**BREAKFAST BASICS ~ FUEL UP FOR SCHOOL IN T4!**



**Yes, it's true** - breakfast is the most important meal of the day and yet too many adults and children leave the house each day with little, or nothing, in their stomachs.

Not only does breakfast kick-start our metabolism, it feeds the body & brain and provides the energy and stamina your child needs to pay attention in

class, get schoolwork done and participate in physical activities.

**Children who miss breakfast** - are often tired, irritable, restless and less focussed than their full-bellied classmates.

**Breakfast suggestions:**

We all know the benefits of a healthy breakfast, but how do we get our kids to eat if they're 'not hungry', 'running late' or 'can't make up their mind'? Why not try some of these creative suggestions:

- ◆ **A smoothie:** blended fruit, milk and perhaps a dollop of yoghurt makes a great breakfast.
- ◆ **A toasted sandwich:** instead of plain old toast, make a cheese and tomato, or banana, toasted sandwich which at a pinch can be eaten on the way to school.
- ◆ **Offer toppings for cereal:** cereal out of the box day in and day out, can get really boring, so try adding fresh or tinned fruit slices, dried fruit, nuts, honey or golden syrup to spice things up.
- ◆ **Go the savoury route:** anything can be breakfast - last night's leftover pasta, a toasted bagel with baked beans, toast with roast chicken on top.
- ◆ **Breakfast on the run:** if your child really does have to leave the house four minutes after they have rolled out of bed, toss them a cereal bar, a tub of yoghurt or a banana. On occasions they can eat these on the run and still arrive at school fuelled up.

<http://www.kidspot.com.au>

**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

# October 2008

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



			1	2	3	4	
	<b>School Holidays</b>						
5		7		9	10	11	
12	13 Term 4 Commences	14 Kindy Orientation No.4	15 	16	17 Interschool Cricket	18 	
19 	20	21 P&C Meeting SmartBoard Demo	22 Stage 3 Pool Visit <b>UNICEF Day</b>	23	24 Kindy Orienta- tion No.5 9:30-11:30am Interschool Cricket	25	
26	27	28	29 Stg3 Pool Visit Kindy Orienta- tion No.6 5:00-7:00 incl. Sausage Sizzle	30	31 Interschool Cricket		