

# Seahorse Tales

TERM 2, ISSUE 2

MAY 8, 2008

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### NATIONAL TESTING (NAPLAN) FOR YEARS 3 & 5

Next week (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) years 3 & 5 students will be involved in the National Testing program. This testing takes the place of the Basic Skills Tests, traditionally held in August.

On Tuesday students will be asked to answer questions around language usage, and write a story (narrative). On Wednesday there will be a reading comprehension test, and following on Thursday, numeracy will be tested.

Students can prepare for the test days by having a good breakfast and arriving at school on time.

Once at school we are ensuring that all students will be supported to ensure that they do their very best. (But it is nothing to worry unduly about though!)

We wish all our students the best.

### CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM: KINDERGARTEN ~ YEAR 6

Each year in all public schools, all students are expected to participate in Child Protection lessons. These lessons are written by the Department with a specific set format, for all teachers to follow.

Lessons are about to begin in some classes, here. Others will follow later. If you have any concerns or questions about the content of the lessons please make an appointment to talk with your child's class teacher, where you will be able to view the lessons.

If you wish to exclude your child from the lessons, you need to do this in writing to the class teacher, and alternative arrangements will be made.

### ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

In line with the State Government's initiative around improving attendance of all students at school, principals have been advised on new procedures that need to be followed if there are problems with student attendance or lateness to school.

Here at Woolgoolga Public School it is expected that all parents and carers would advise the school, **in writing**, of any **absence** their child might have incurred.

This needs to be done as soon as possible, with the **reason for absence** stated.

You might like to phone the school office to inform us of the absence, in the first instance.

(Generally though, here at WPS, you as parents and carers are very good with this; phoning and writing – thank you.)

We need to change one aspect though, and this is to do with **lateness to school** in the **mornings**.

Parents and carers will now need to **sign** their children into school at the front office and **collect a late slip**. A reason for lateness will need to be given.

The child can then go to the classroom with you, together with the late slip. Teachers will not accept 'late' students without a 'late slip' issued from the front office.

Afternoon **early exit** from school procedures **will continue to apply**; i.e. by firstly signing the child out at the front office (with reason), and then giving the early exit slip to your child's class teacher.

Thank you, in advance, for your attention to this.

### Cheers

*Graeme Ross, Principal*

### COMING UP SOON! ART SHOW SPECTACULAR AT WPS



On Tuesday 27th May, as part of the Education Week celebrations, we will be hosting an Art Show in the school hall. Families are invited to come along, between 5:00 & 7:00pm to celebrate the creative efforts of students at WPS. We are aiming for every child to be involved individually or with their friends. A focus will be on 2D visual arts. It promises to be a great exhibition.

### RE THE ASSEMBLIES THIS FRIDAY

Please note that, due to a hectic school calendar, this week's Friday assemblies will be 'held-over' until next week.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jump Rope 4 Heart Mothers Day Stall	Fri 9 May
National Testing Yrs 3&5	13/14 & 15 May
District Cross Country	Fri 16 May
Otitis Media Testing P&C Meeting	Tue 20 May

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### Certificate of Merit

- ◆ Ashley Dawe - KD
- ◆ Ethan Duncombe - KD
- ◆ Stephen Kelsey - KD
- ◆ Inderjot Singh - KD
- ◆ Reece Mitchell - KF
- ◆ Brooke Vandermeel - 1H
- ◆ Trey Forrest - 2R
- ◆ Oskar Farwell - 3/4E
- ◆ Luke Hennessy - 3/4E
- ◆ Emma Bramich - 4/5C
- ◆ Cadan Glattback - 4/5C
- ◆ Kye Goodman - 4/5C
- ◆ Elizabeth Hanna - 4/5C
- ◆ Alisha Phoonie - 4/5C
- ◆ Damian McTighe - 4/5C
- ◆ Jake Rovere - 4/5C

### Certificate of Excellence

- ◆ John Critten - 3/4C
- ◆ Callum McPherson - 5/6M
- ◆ Joshua Butterworth-Harvey - 5/6R

### Principal's Values Award

- ◆ Jasmine Chahal 5/6J
- ◆ Sukhjeet Tiwana KK



**WOULD YOU LIKE A NEW PET?**

One that will mow your lawn and eat your scraps?

If so, then a Guinea pig is the one for you. Gentle, easy to maintain and friendly.



Guinea pigs for sale! Only \$4.00 each!

If you are interested please call at the school office for more information, or a small picture pamphlet.

**EDUCATION WEEK 2008**

Education Week runs from Monday 26th May to Sunday 1st June 2008 and the theme is:

**'A love of learning,  
NSW Public Schools ~ leading the way'**

**SAFE BIKE RIDING TIPS**

- ◆ Teach children to walk bikes across pedestrian crossings instead of riding across the street. Children need to show that they can follow road rules, and predict what cars will do, before being allowed to cycle alone. This takes a long time and a lot of practice.
- ◆ Teach children that riding in wet weather requires different skills and extra caution.
- ◆ Teach children to wear enclosed footwear when riding, rather than thongs or bare feet. Bare feet can be hurt if they catch in the spokes or chain or if they're used as a brake.



**Happy cycling.**

**'KEEP THAT SMILE PLEASE!' ~ SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

Last week we advertised in our Seahorse Tales 'Monthly Calendar' that school photographs would be taken on 22nd and 23rd May. Would you please edit your calendar to read Wednesday 2nd July (Wk10 T2). *Many thanks.*

**TIPS FOR ENCOURAGING GOOD BEHAVIOUR**

**SAY IT ONCE & MOVE ON**

It is surprising how much your child is listening even though he/she may not have the social maturity to tell you. Nagging and criticising is boring for you and doesn't work. Your child will just end up tuning you out and wonder why you get more upset. If you want to give her one last chance to cooperate, you can remind her of the consequences and start counting to three. <http://raisingchildren.net.au>

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**



Maree Hartin Raelee Wright	Fri 9 May
<b>CLOSED MONDAY</b>	<b>Mon 12 May</b>
Maree Hartin Dot Falzon	Tue 13 May
Maree Hartin	Wed 14 May
Maree Hartin Sandy Butler	Thur 15 May

Have you tried our school canteen's salad sandwiches? What about their salad bowls with a choice of different meats? They are simply delicious! Price Lists are available from the school office.



**CHILDREN ARRIVING AT SCHOOL**

**BEFORE SUPERVISION BEGINS AT Wps**

Occasionally our school encounters the problem of parents leaving their children in the school grounds prior to the commencement of the 'before school supervision roster'.

We are seeking your assistance in this matter as this practice poses risks to students and the Department, both in terms of child protection and a risk of injury. We appreciate that many families have two working parents and may find it difficult to stay at home until school begins. However there are often alternatives available so that parents can arrange appropriate supervision of their children.

**Thank you for your support.**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

Free parenting courses are currently being offered for Term 2 at the Uniting Care Burnside Family Centre. Simple discipline programs that really work. To find out more Ph: 6652 7666.

**LEARN BALLROOM DANCING**

Pacific Dance Centre, Coffs Harbour Showground Dance Pavillion. For more information Ph: 6651 3032.

**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

NEWS ARTICLE FROM KK

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..making things with play dough,



..painting great pictures,



..learning about sounds,



..playing with the cars,



..reading fantastic books,



..using the computers,



..playing on the oval,



and dressing up in the playhouse.



But most of all we love being friends.

### EDUCATION WEEK AND 100 YEAR CELEBRATIONS AT OUR SCHOOL!

On Monday 26 May (Education Week) we will be celebrating a 100 Year Old Birthday!



The building on the left, as you walk through the school gates, was constructed on that site in 1908. It is currently occupied by 5/6R (Mrs Rovere's class) and 3/4C (Mr Critten's class).

To help celebrate this auspicious occasion we are organising a special assembly, a 20 minute talk by Mrs Cowling, special guests, past teachers and pupils.

Teacher's Aide Special, Karen Stoker, is currently gathering old memorabilia to place on display and is seeking assistance from anyone who has an aunt, uncle or grandparent that may be willing to loan an old school uniform (box pleat), student council badge, wooden desks and chairs, or anything from the old 'Woolgoolga Central School days'. Any items loaned to the school would be looked after with great care. Photographs would be scanned and immediately returned to the owners, and copies used for display items.

If you can assist in any way it would be greatly appreciated. For further information please do not hesitate to contact the school.

### NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY

During Term 1 Students in Years 5&6 were invited to try out to be a Library Monitor.

Some students loved the responsibilities that came with the position and have been a fantastic asset to the school library.

Congratulations to the following students. They will be presented with a library monitor badge at Monday morning's assembly:



- ◆ Courtney Smart
- ◆ Cristal Atkinson
- ◆ Kajal Gill
- ◆ Floyd Baskett
- ◆ Sunny Commandeur
- ◆ Matthew Landi
- ◆ Tumma Murray
- ◆ Jodeci Dunick
- ◆ Lynnette Hand

Thank you to Daniela Hagl, Hugh Semple and Lei Buddee who are happy to continue being monitors from 2007 and have been helpful training our new monitors.

### LIBRARY CHANGE FOR YEAR 2

There has been a change in the day that 2R and 2G attend the school library for class borrowing and information literacy sessions.

They now have a session on Monday afternoons instead of Wednesday afternoons. Children will need to bring a bag to protect their library books. Thank you.

*Ms Tanya Molloy (Librarian)*

### MOTHER'S DAY STALL (P&C FUNDRAISER)

A friendly reminder that the Mother's Day Stall will be held this Friday 9th May, and a large variety of gifts will be available for purchase ranging in price from 50 cents to \$5.00 per item. See part of the selection below.



To avoid disappointment, please ensure that your child has sufficient funds to surprise their loved ones on Mother's Day. Volunteers to assist at the stall would also be greatly appreciated. Unsold goods will be available for purchase by parents/carers and siblings between 2 and 3pm. Thank you.

*Judy Niven (WPS P&C President)*

### HAPPY MOTHERS DAY WISHES ARE EXTENDED ...

to all of our WPS mothers and carers. We hope you all have a wonderful day on Sunday. You deserve it.

### BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Come and have a cuppa and help raise much needed funds for cancer research, prevention and support services.



**Time:** 10:00am til 12:00 noon

**Where:** WPS Library

**When:** Monday 19th May

**also**

**Where:** Woolgoolga Lake

**When:** Saturday 24th May

Small donations for the Biggest Morning Tea raffle are now being sought, and can be left at the school.

If you would like to donate a small prize these can be left at the school office, or if you would like to help, in any way, please contact Bino Foord on:

**Ph:** 6654 8401 or **Mob:** 0403 849 260