Week 8, 19 March 2015

Hello everyone! I hope week 8’s copy of the school newsletter finds you all well and enjoying those last few rays of sunshine and warmth before the cooler weather starts to set in.

**Regional Swimming Carnival**
Congratulations to Ruben A, Matthew C, Nicholas C, Isaac B and Adrian V who all represented the Razorback Zone Team at the Regional Swimming Carnival on Tuesday this week. You all did extremely well and we are all very proud of your efforts. A very special congratulations to Nicholas C who will be heading off the State Swimming Carnival next Wednesday at Homebush to represent not only his school, but also South Western Sydney Region. Congratulations Nicholas! We may not all be able to make it to Homebush next Wednesday, but rest assured all of Warragamba Public School will be behind you on the day. Good Luck!

**Footsteps Disco**
A reminder that Footsteps discos will be held on Wednesday 1 April (Week 10) for students who participated in the Footsteps Dance Program. The K-2 disco will be held from 4:30pm-5:30pm in the school hall, and the 3-6 disco will be held from 5:30pm-6:30pm. All children attending will need to be collected by a parent/caregiver at the end of each disco.

**Parent-Teacher Interviews**
Parent-Teacher interviews are being held next week. Interviews are currently open to be booked via an online system at the following web address: [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au)

If you are yet to book a parent-teacher interview, please be mindful that bookings will close on Friday morning this week. Parent-Teacher interviews are a great way to keep in touch with your child’s academic and social progress, as well as discuss ways to help your child at home.

**K-2 Easter Hat Parade**
This year’s K-2 Easter Hat Parade will take place on Thursday 2 April (Week 10) starting at 2:15pm under the South Playground COLA if the weather is fine, or otherwise in the school hall. All students from Kindergarten to Year 2 are encouraged to participate by making or decorating a hat to model during the parade. Your support in helping your child/children to make a hat at home would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to a fun day - parents, carers, relatives and friends are welcome to attend!

**P & C News**
The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday 23 March 2015 between 2:00pm and 3:00pm in the staffroom. I encourage all parents to attend to contribute to the wonderful job our P & C does at ensuring the students at WPS are provided with the best possible opportunities.

**Cross Country**
This year’s 3-6 Cross Country is being held on Friday 27 March at the Warragamba soccer ovals. Please put this date in your diary and come along to support the children or help out on the day. Please let Mrs Barlow know if you are able to assist in any way possible.

**P & C Easter Raffle**
A very big thanks to the following parents who assisted with the wrapping of prizes for the P&C Easter Raffle being held next week. Amanda Donnelly, Brenda Lessie, Losa Power, Natalie Saunders, Sarina Acsai, Yvette Firth and our very own GA, Mr Steinweiss. At Mondays K-6 Assembly the top 5 prize winners will be drawn with the remaining prizes to be drawn by the P&C and announced via the school website and Facebook page soon after.
Partial Absences
From time to time, it may be necessary for students to be picked up early from school to attend medical or specialist appointments. Please remember that all parents must obtain an early departure slip from the office prior to picking children up. This slip is to be given to your child’s classroom teacher when you are collecting them. Also, if you are arriving at school with your child after 9:15am, you will now need to go directly to the office to collect a late arrival slip, which should also be given to the classroom teacher. Please note that children arriving between 9:00am and 9:15am and going directly to class will still have their absence recorded as partially late. Arriving late to school means learning opportunities are lost. Please work with us to provide your child with the best chances of learning by ensuring they are in school, every day and on time. Remember…

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!

500 Schools Planting Program
Over the next five years, 20,000 Western Sydney School children will have the opportunity to plant 100,000 trees within the Western Sydney Parklands and Friday is Warragamba Public School’s turn to contribute. On Friday this week, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Jacka will be taking a contingent of 40 Stage 3 students to the Western Sydney Parklands to plant a range of native bushes, trees and shrubs and participate in this worthwhile experience. Happy planting girls and boys! Thank you to Mrs Taylor for organising and Mrs Jacka for attending with the students on the day.

THANK-YOU! K-2 End of Day Procedures
A very big thank you to everyone for being so understanding and assisting the school to maintain a safe environment for our students by following the newly developed end of day procedures for K-2. Early next term, the school is aiming to host a community forum involving Wollondilly Council, NSW Police, Roads and Maritime Services, The P&C Association and the local community to discuss the ongoing issue of traffic around our school. It is great to see that we now have a set of flashing lights on the 40km/h speed zone sign along Weir Road. Please stay tuned for more information about our community forum happening next term.

NAPLAN Tests
From Tuesday 12 May till Thursday 14 May 2015 students in Year 3 and 5 will sit the 2015 NAPLAN tests. All students are expected to participate in the testing. Students will be assessed in language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation), writing, reading and numeracy. Detailed information was sent home in week 7.

Class Dojo
While Class Dojo is a fantastic way to keep in touch with how your child is going in the classroom, I would encourage parents to avoid using Class Dojo as a means of communicating with your child’s classroom teacher throughout the day. Please remember that if you need to get an urgent message to your child, you should contact the school office on 4774 1205 and the message will be passed on to your child’s teacher.

ANZAC Day
A reminder that all students are invited to take part in Warragamba’s ANZAC Day March, to be held on Saturday 25 April 2015. A note with further details will be sent home early next week so please keep a lookout for further information.

Bandaged Bear Multi-Day
On Wednesday 11 March, the school held a Multi-Day in support of the Children’s Hospital Bandaged Bear Appeal. This year the children and staff at Warragamba Public School collectively raised $426. Congratulations everyone on a fantastic effort!

Principal Vacancy
The process of selecting a new principal at Warragamba Public School is now well underway and should be finalised by the end of Term 1. The successful applicant is expected to begin on day one Term 2 and rest assured as soon as information about our new School Principal is made publicly available, I will inform you of the outcome. In the meantime, may I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your continued support in my role as relieving Principal at WPS.

Enjoy the rest of your week!

Kind regards,
Mr Nathan Smith
Relieving Principal

Zone Trials Report
Term One has been a busy term for zone trials. In Basketball we had 3 girls successful in making the zone team who narrowly lost the final at the regional carnival. Congratulations Breanna F, Hayley C and Emily M. In Rugby League, Isaac B and Wesley T made the train on squad for the opens side. In the 11’s we had 3 boys make the train on squad; Ruben A, Jordan B and Joshua G. Hayley C was successful in making the Girls Touch Football team. In AFL, Jordan B and Matthew C made the zone teams and competed at the Regional Carnival yesterday where both boys were part of the winning team becoming zone champions. Still to come are zone trials for Softball, Netball, Boys Touch Football, Rugby Union and Girls and Boys Cricket – Mrs Merrick