



Keeping In Touch

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Warragamba Public School

Week 1, Term 2

1st May 2008

Well hello there!

Welcome back to one and all, I hope that despite the weather (about which I will speak no more for fear of unprofessional language) you all had an enjoyable holiday; I was going to use the word “restful” but that always annoys parents!

Always plenty to see, hear and do at WPS, such as....

ANZAC Day Parade

It was my great privilege to attend and participate in the Warragamba ANZAC Day ceremony on ANZAC Day, Friday 25th April. I've never been involved in an official ANZAC Day march before and I must say that it was an extremely rewarding experience on many levels. Forty two of our wonderful students participated in the march as school representatives, and what an awesome job they did. Their behaviour was exemplary and I felt extremely proud and honoured to be able to commemorate the sacrifices of servicemen and women both past and present, in the company of this fantastic group of young Australians. Thank you to all the mums, dads and family members who supported the children and their school, your assistance and support cannot have a value placed on it. If anyone has any photographs of the children at the march I'd love a copy, please feel free to email them to warragamba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

New Caps

They're being made as we speak! Check out the “Community” section of the school's website for pictures of the cap, I think you'll all agree that they look fantastic and will be a great addition to our uniform.

Calendar

The term 2 calendar is filling fast, with very few days this term currently being “free”. A term calendar can be found within this newsletter and also on the school's website.

Thank You

Thank you very much to the Eldridge family (Josh is in 4/5S, Sam is in 1P) who have very kindly responded to our request for a fish tank. The fish tank will soon be home to a number of reptiles and will be located in the library, cared for by our resident herpetologist extraordinaire, Mr Muller.

NAPLAN Test

The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) takes place in week 3. These tests essentially replace the Basic Skills Tests (BST) that were previously conducted. They will be of a similar format and will be marked and reported on in a similar fashion. As important as these tests are, please do not place undue stress or pressure on your children in regard to their performance; it's not good for them!

Deadly Australians

Continuing the reptilian theme, permission notes were sent home this week for the visit by "Deadly Australians", a company which visits schools with venomous native wildlife in tow. The children learn about these fascinating creatures and are taught ways in which they should respect such wildlife. Permission notes and payments need to be returned to school by Friday 16th May.

Education Week and Open Day

Week 5 of this term (Monday 26th – Friday 30th May) is Education Week. The school will be celebrating Education Week with an Open Day on Tuesday 27th May. The Open Day will include classroom visits, a visit and readings by a local children's author, a family picnic and, given that it's also Book Week, a character parade in the afternoon session. The Book Fair will also be open at school during Education Week. More information will be sent home shortly regarding Education Week; please don't miss our Open Day, it promises to be a lot of fun (yes, we're allowed to occasionally have fun at school).

School Canteen

Please be advised that due to rising costs the prices of all items in the school canteen will very shortly rise by approximately 20% across the board. While this may on first glance appear to be substantial, please keep in mind the fact that the canteen is no longer run by the school, it is somebody's business and consequently their livelihood. As such, price rise will occasionally be necessary. The items offered for sale by the canteen still represent excellent value for money.

Another Thank You

Several weeks back I mentioned in the newsletter that children were not to be at school prior to 8:30am due to their being no supervision available. I have noticed a significant drop in the number of children arriving prior to 8:30am; thank you very much for your quick attention to this matter, we greatly appreciate it.

Gymnastics

The program for gymnastics for all students K-6 commenced this week. Please ensure that all payments and permission notes are returned promptly to your child's class teacher.

Gala Day Trials

Gala Day Trials for students in years 3-6 interested in representing the school in netball or soccer during term 2, will be held this Friday. Please note that ALL students chosen to represent the school must wear full school sports uniform to the Gala Days, including a school hat. Please also note that, in accordance with Razorback PSSA Guidelines, those children competing in soccer must have their own set of shin pads.

It's great to see you all back at school. If there's anything I can do for you in regard to your child's educational needs here at WPS please don't hesitate to pop in and see me.

Cheers!

Ben Matthews

Principal

Stewart House

The Stewart House Clothing appeal is on again. The bags have been distributed with this newsletter and are to be collected on Tuesday the 28th May. If you are able to fill a bag, could you please leave it in the A.V. Room ready for collection before this date.

Dates to Remember

Friday 2nd May Anzac Ceremony

13th-15th May NAPLAN Test Years 3 and 5

Friday 16th May Gala Day 1

Wednesday 21st May "Deadly Australians"

26th-30th May Education Week

Tuesday 27th May Open Day Book Week Parade

Wednesday 28th May Year 5 Hill End Excursion



Walk Safely to School Day

Walk Safely to School Day is tomorrow Friday, 2nd May 2008. Warragamba Public School is encouraging ALL children to become involved in the "Walk Safely to School Day" program.

Even if children only walk part of the way their participation will be acknowledged.

In conjunction with the "Walk Safely to School Day" program, WPS is also promoting children having a "Healthy Breakfast" before coming to school!

Good nutrition is essential for good health and a good breakfast is vitally important for good nutrition. Breakfast gets the metabolism going and helps prevent a slump in concentration during the late morning hours. Studies also show that those who eat a healthy breakfast eat less junk food later in the day and have a lower intake of saturated fat and a higher intake of essential nutrients and dietary fibre for the whole day.

For home breakfasts, good choices include:

Some fresh fruit plus quality whole-wheat breakfast biscuits or natural muesli with milk, toast with an egg, toast with cheese or peanut butter, a smoothie (blend fat-reduced milk, yoghurt, fresh fruit and a little honey).

Poor choices anywhere include:

Breakfast bars (too much sugar), sugary cereals, crisps or chips, soft drinks, juice drinks.

Thank you for your participation in the two programs!