

*Greetings one and all, I hope this sunny Thursday finds you all well.*

### **ANZAC Ceremony**

*Thank you to those families who sent in flowers for our school ANZAC Ceremony on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. According to our long-term staff members it's the best response we've ever had in regard to ANZAC flowers so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support. Thank you also to those of you who instil in your children the notion that the sacrifices of our ANZACS never be forgotten. Thank you to Miss Foster, Mr Blain and Mr Smith for their work in organising the wonderful ceremony and congratulations to the children who all behaved in a respectful and courteous manner. Finally, thank you to Mr David Coleman who addressed the assembly from the perspective of a Vietnam veteran.*

### **NAPLAN Tests**

*The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy Tests were held this week at school, and were sat by all students in years 3 and 5. The NAPLAN Tests replace the old Basic Skills tests and were sat by all year 3 and year 5 children across Australia. The tests will be sent away for marking with results envisaged to be sent out later this year. Four tests were conducted: language, reading, writing and numeracy. Those children who were absent on the days of the tests are able to sit the tests this week only; a "make-up" session for these children will be held at school on Friday.*

### **New School Caps**

*Well, they're here and they're flying off the shelves like the proverbial.....things that fly off shelves! The new caps have proven very popular with the children and we've sold almost 200 this week alone! Thank you to those of you are supporting the push to see all children in full school uniform every day, your efforts and support are greatly appreciated. Caps are available for \$10 from the uniform shop (near the staffroom, open Mondays 8:30am – 9:15am and Thursdays 2:30pm – 3:15pm) or directly from the office.*

### **Athletics Champion!**

*Congratulations are most definitely in order for Samantha McKechnie from 3D who was recently crowned as the Warradale Little Athletics Club "Junior Athlete of the Year". This past season Samantha represented her club firstly at Zone and then at Regional levels. She also set a new record in the 200 metre event at the Warradale Centre championships and tied as the most improved athlete in here age group. Congratulations on your wonderful achievements Samantah, you should be very proud of your efforts.*

### **Gala Days**

*The first of the year's Gala Days will be held tomorrow, with WPS fielding teams in both the netball and soccer competitions. Thank you to Mrs Eccles for her extensive organisation of the Gala Day teams and to Mr Daniels and Mrs Barlow for their coaching skills and enthusiasm. Many of you might not have considered the fact that events such as the Gala Days also require support from those staff members not involved, who sometimes end up with more children in their class than they would normally have; thank you to all teachers for your help and support in this regard. A reminder that all children representing our school at the Gala Days must wear the full school sports uniform including a hat. Those children who arrive at school tomorrow to participate in the Gala Day without the full sports uniform will not be permitted to attend.*

### **Website**

*Thank you to those of you who have been browsing our website; the counter is steadily rising so it's great to know that the site is being used. Permission notes are gradually being added, so if those pesky note gnomes strike and make off with a permission note, they'll be available to download from the website. I've also ordered a new program to allow us to easily create photo galleries which will be a fantastic way to display pictures of school events, such as the upcoming Education Week celebrations and Book Parade. If you have any feedback or suggestions regarding the school website I'd love to hear them. For those of you who are yet to visit our website, we're at [www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au).*

### **School Photographs**

*School photographs have arrived and are in the process of being distributed to the children as I type. This year is the first that we've employed the services of Advanced Photo; if you have any feedback regarding the photographs.*

### **Cyber-Bullying**

*No, I'm not making things up, it's an actual term and refers to children being bullied using email, MSN, sms and mobile phones. Please be aware that we have had several instances of cyber-bullying over the last 12 months. Please keep an eye on what your children are doing on the home computer and on their mobiles. For more information visit [http://www.netalert.gov.au/advice/risks/cyberbullying/What\\_is\\_cyber\\_bullying.html](http://www.netalert.gov.au/advice/risks/cyberbullying/What_is_cyber_bullying.html).*

### **Education Week**

*As previously mentioned, week 5 is Education Week (May 6<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>). Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May is the date to put in your diary as our Open Day. We'll be having open classrooms, an author visit by Jan Lephed, a family picnic and in the afternoon the Book Character Parade. Can't wait to see you all there!*

### **Industrial Action**

*The NSW Teachers' Federation will be conducting a 24 hour strike next Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Many of our teachers will not be present at school on this day. A note regarding the industrial action will be forwarded home to parents early next week.*

*Thanks everyone, wishing you all a great weekend.*

**Ben Matthews**  
Principal