



# Keeping In Touch

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**Warragamba Public School**

Term 2 Week 9

26 June 2008

*Hello to one and all.*

*I hope you're all well and that all is in order in your households (wishful thinking I know....). As you've come to expect things are flat out like a lizard drinking here at WPS....*

## **Reports**

*Semester 1 reports will no doubt be in your hands by the time you read this. Great effort has been directed towards the reports by our teachers so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for their hard work in ensuring that you are all provided with detailed and meaningful reports on your children's achievements, progress and areas of need. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our report format please do not hesitate to contact me at school and I'll be more than happy to discuss with you any issues you may have. Our reports address all the criteria set down by the DET in regards to mandatory student's assessment and reporting practises.*

## **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

*Last week notes were sent home with all students regarding our upcoming parent/teacher interviews. These interviews are an essential component of the assessment and reporting process and provide an excellent opportunity for you to discuss your child's education with their class teacher. Please be aware that interview times are offered on a strictly "first come, first served" basis so I'd advise returning your interview request to school as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. If for some reason you are unable to attend the interviews please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time. Interviews will be held at school next week, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Please be punctual for your interview; all interviews are ten minutes in length.*

## **Sunglasses**

*We have an opportunity to purchase student sunglasses in school colours. The sunglasses will be \$10 each and have been shown to the children at the last two assemblies; the response was overwhelmingly positive. They will by no means be compulsory but do represent great value for money and also offer protection from the sun. Best of all they come with a space on the inside of one of the arms to write your child's name. Just as well, I can see the conversation now: "I've lost my sunglasses". "What colour were they?" "Blue"..... The sunglasses will be a pre-order item, with notes going home early next term.*

## **Gala Day Changes**

*A note was sent home this week regarding the rescheduling of the week 6 soccer and netball Gala Day, which was cancelled due to wet weather. The rescheduled event will now be held on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August (term 3 week 3). A note was sent home this week regarding cricket and oztag Gala days, to be held in weeks 6, 9 and 10 of term 3. If you are able to assist with Gala Day transport please return your note to me as soon as possible, or by Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at the latest.*

## **Brainstorms**

*Last week the "Brainstorms" group visited our school and presented an anti-bullying show. The children learnt about the effects of bullying, the reasons it should be discouraged and ways in which it can be successfully addressed. The "Brainstorms" staff were extremely complimentary of our students and staff, for which they are to be congratulated. Thank you to Mrs Macias for organising the "Brainstorms" visit.*

## **Artoon**

*We also recently played host to "Artoon", a visual arts workshop whereby the children are taught cartoon drawing. Judging by the caricature that Thomas Sullivan drew of yours truly I think the workshop was a success! Thank you to Mrs Haste for organising the "Artoon" visit.*

## **Dance Festival**

*This week our dancers, under the choreographic excellence of Mrs Jones, wowed all comers at the South Western Sydney Dance Festival. The girls have put a fantastic amount of effort into their dancing and costumes and it all certainly paid off. Congratulations girls, thank you to all the mums who assisted and a huge vote of thanks to Mrs Jones for her efforts and expertise.*

## **Athletics Carnivals**

*Last Friday Warragamba Sportsground played host to the WPS sporting juggernaut, with both the K-2 Sports Carnival and 3-6 Athletics Carnival being held. After an early morning visit to inspect the ground, Mr Smith and I placed our trust in both the weather and the oval's reputation as the world's best draining sports facility (it's true I tell you!) and gave the carnival the go-ahead. I won't steal Mrs Eccles's thunder but I will say that the children's behaviour on the day was fantastic and their efforts at both competing and encouraging each other were top shelf. Congratulations boys and girls! And how about those teachers, pretty quick eh? Official word is that we won by a nose....I knew having a big nose would come in handy eventually (it's only taken 38 years!). Thank you also to all of the parents who helped out on the day and to the wonderful people at Warragamba Little Athletics, we couldn't have done it without you.*

## **High School**

*Next week I will be meeting with several staff of the DET regarding our designated local high school. Do you have an opinion regarding the distance that local students have to travel to get to school, either positive or negative? If so, please put your concerns in writing and send them to me by next Thursday, I'd love to hear your opinions on this matter.*

## **Website**

*I've updated the website again, the latest instalment including a photo gallery from the Year 5 Excursion to Hill End. The visitor counter is clicking over steadily, it's great to know that you're accessing the website on a regular basis.*

*This will be our last newsletter for term 2. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support of our school, we really do place great importance on the significant contributions that you all make and appreciate your dedication and willingness to help us continue to provide a wide range of educational experiences for your children. Have a wonderful, relaxing holiday and remember that school resumes on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008 (Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July is a Staff Development Day).*

## **Kindergarten 2009**

*Do you have a child who will be enrolling in Kindergarten at our school for 2009? If you've already picked up and returned your enrolment package, thank you! If not, please see the ladies in the office and they'll provide you with one.*

## August 6<sup>th</sup>

*As previously mentioned, keep the morning of August 6<sup>th</sup> free. I'd love to give you more information but unfortunately we've run out of space.*

*Wishing you all a fantastic weekend.*

Ben Matthews

*Principal*

## Athletics Carnival 2008

*After a very successful athletics carnival once again the sports houses finished on the following points scores: Strzelecki 1<sup>st</sup> on 726 points, Jamison 2<sup>nd</sup> on 638 points, Evans 3<sup>rd</sup> on 615 points and Caley 4<sup>th</sup> on 612 points.*

*The age champions were as follows:*

*Junior Girl – Samantha Moore*

*Junior Boy – Lachlan Santas and Joshua Stubbs*

*11 Year Girl – Rachelle Hollier*

*11 Year Boy - Bryce Lowther*

*Senior Girl – Rachelle Walker*

*Senior Boy – Dylan Sparkes*

*We also had an existing school record broken in the Junior Girls Shot Put by Samantha Moore with a throw of 6.98m. Terrific effort Samantha!*

WARRAGAMBA PRESCHOOL INC. is your community-based non-profit preschool offering high quality education for children aged 2-6 years.

The preschool has a highly regarded "school readiness" program and offers each child an individual Education Portfolio.

**The preschool has just received extra funding to help children who may require assistance with their language development. The preschools language project is funded until the end of 2008.**

There are limited vacancies for the remainder of 2008 and enrolments are currently being taken for 2009. Please call Cathy on 4774 1249 for further information.

## Dates to Remember

**Friday 27 June 2008 - Gala Day**

**Tuesday 1 July 2008 – Rugby League Gala Day**

**Friday 4 July 2008 – Last day of school**

**Monday 21 July 2008 – Staff Development Day**

**Tuesday 22 July 2008 – Students return to school**

