



Keeping In Touch

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Warragamba Public School

Term 3 Week 9

18 September 2008

Greetings one and all.

I hope you're all well and that the flu bug hasn't taken too much of a toll on you and your family. The inconsistent weather certainly isn't helping; NSW weather seems to be taking tips from Victoria, not good! I don't know about all of you but this term has all but disappeared seemingly in the blink of an eye, life just disappears too quickly at times. However interludes of light relief are available and one such day presents itself on Friday: "International Talk Like a Pirate Day". I kid you not, check out www.talklikeapirate.com!

60th Birthday

Thank you so much to all who braved the rather unfavourable weather conditions and came along to help us celebrate Warragamba Public School's 60th Birthday on Saturday September 6th. Quite clearly Mother Nature took umbrage at not receiving a personal invite and found unpleasant ways to make her presence felt. Nevertheless a good time was had by all and the number of people in attendance was very impressive considering the weather. I noted with amusement the looks on the faces of several of our dads who found their names in "detention registers" from days gone by; even more amusing were the looks on the faces of their children! Many people walked away with terrific prizes from the raffles. Thanks to the following wonderful supportive businesses who were so kind as to donate prizes: Botanica Nursery, Dam Fine Wines, Dani's Hairport, Dutchy Automotive Pty Ltd, Envy Jewellery – Mrs Hollier, Erler Plumbing, Foodworks – Warragamba, Good Guys – Penrith, Gorgeous Hair – Silverdale, IBIS – Penrith, Mistique Hair & Beauty, Mr and Mrs Saliba's Fruit Shop – St Marys, Murray-Sibbritt Family, Nutrimetics – Sharmaen Stanford, Panthers – Wallacia, Shop Sense Warragamba, Silverdale Automotive, Silverdale Landscape Supplies – Walther Family, Sunset Nursery, The Beauty Spot (Gorgeous Hair) – Silverdale, Tony & Niki's Takeaway, Tupperware – Catrina Santas, Ultra Fresh Fruit Market, Emu Plains – Rositano Family, Valentino's Pizza Restaurant, Warragamba Family Meats, Warragamba Post Office, Warragamba Service Station, Warragamba Workers Club, Welcome Chinese Restaurant. Thank you once again to Miss Sue Hopkins and Mrs Genene Dolan for the enormous amount of effort they expended to ensure the day was a memorable and successful event and to all WPS staff and P & C members for their assistance both before and on the day.

NAPLAN Results

The results for the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) have arrived at school and I'm very pleased to report that our children's results were above the regional average in all areas of assessment, as well as being above state in a couple of areas. Of particular note is an area referred to as "value added", which is the actual growth shown by children between years 3 and 5. The value added shown by some of our students has been sensational and is testament to the hard work they have directed towards their schooling. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students on their achievements and also the staff who work so hard to ensure that the students are able to achieve at a high level. Results have been distributed to parents; if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself for assistance. Once a few technical difficulties have been sorted I am planning an afternoon information session for parents where I'll display some result charts and explain how the data we receive from NAPLAN is used to assist in formulating teaching and learning programs here at WPS.

Choir Concerts

Next week sees the culmination of an enormous amount of effort and passion when our choirs take to the stage to present "Rats" and "Colours" for your listening and viewing pleasure. There will be two performances for parents; Wednesday evening 7:00pm – 9:00pm and Thursday 12:30pm – 2:30pm. So as to provide everyone with an opportunity to purchase tickets, currently there is a maximum of 2 tickets available per child, per performance. However as of 8:45am on Monday, it'll be "open slather" as far as ticket sales are concerned. Tickets are \$3 each and I defy you to find better value for money!

Athletics Champs

The 2008 South Western Sydney Regional Athletics Championships were held at The Crest, Bankstown, on Wednesday. Three of our students competed as part of the Razorback Zone team – Craig Porter (3D), Sam Quinn (5/6K) and Samantha Moore (5B). All three competitors put in amazing performances on the day, with Samantha earning the right to represent SWS at the state carnival after placing first in both the junior girls' discus and junior girls' shot put. Well done Samantha, what an awesome achievement! I was very impressed not only by the performances on the day but also by the conduct and sportsmanship displayed by Samantha, Craig and Sam; you were all wonderful ambassadors for our school and our zone and I'm very proud of your efforts.

Gala Day

Tomorrow (Friday) our oztag and cricket teams will again venture to Camden to represent the school in the Razorback PSSA Gala Days. Good luck boys and girls, I know you'll do a wonderful job of representing WPS.

Tiger Shield

Last Saturday Mrs Eccles and a band of supportive parents trekked to Ron Dine Reserve at Camden to compete in the annual Tiger Shield soccer knockout. In very hot and windy conditions our team experienced all levels of results: a loss to Narellan Vale, a victory over Cobbitty and a draw against St Andrews. Congratulations boys and girls, I was very proud of your performances and conduct on the day. Thank you to Mrs Eccles and to all of the parents who supported the players and provided transport to and from the venue. As for that person that brought along a couple of maniacal three year olds.....!

Kids Artworks Calendars for 2009

Many of you may remember the "Kids Artworks" calendars that were put together at the end of last year. We'll be offering the same calendars for 2009, with Mr Smith co-ordinating this year's work. More details will be provided early in term 4, keep your eyes and ears peeled.

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2009

If you have a child who will be commencing Kindergarten at WPS in 2009 please collect an enrolment form from the office. If you have friends or relatives with children seeking enrolment please encourage them to visit the school and collect an enrolment form.

Arrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr (getting ready for Friday).

Ben Matthews

Principal

60th Birthday Celebrations

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make our celebrations a great success. If I leave anyone out I apologise sincerely. BIG THANK YOUS to all of the following: Mavis Morgan for her ideas, support and knowledge of school history, Genene Dolan for all her help (especially with setting up) support and ideas. Travis North KM and his family for their kind donation of our birthday cake, all the staff for their help beforehand with inspiring the children to do great work for display, for their offers of help and support, to the staff who were able to help out on the day for your flexibility and multitasking, Mrs Haste for her creativity, ideas and boundless energy at 8 months pregnant, Mr Haste for his help on the day, Mrs Cottam for her ideas and help with the displays, Mr Smith for his tallness, good humour and help with all tasks asked of him, Miss Hall for her help with the displays, Mrs Gerrie and Rochelle for their ticket stamping abilities, Mr and Mrs Johns for their marathon effort on the day, Mr Muller for a great bookfair, Mrs Kirkup, Mrs Poli and Mrs Wilson for their help before, during and after the day, Mr Kirkup for lawn mowing, the children for their great work and enthusiasm, our captains for their help on the day, all our sponsors who donated fantastic prizes, the local community for their support, all the ex-students who travelled from near and far and who didn't let the rain deter them and had great stories to tell, Mr Matthews for his support, ideas, furniture moving abilities and his great vacuuming and leaf blowing and last but not least Clifford the big red dog for entertaining us on the day. We had a great time despite the weather. Thank you to everyone once again, my apologies if I've left someone out!

Sue Hopkins

P&C Help Warragamba School Turn 60!

Congratulations to Warragamba turning 60! The P&C gave a lovely potted plant to the school to mark the big day. The P&C sold tea, coffee and cake to all of the well wishers at Warragamba's 60th birthday on the weekend. Thank you to all of the parents who helped with the stall including Barbara Laria, Julie Thompson, Steve Bloem, Bronwyn Jones and Katy Eccles. The P&C raised \$203 at the stall.

Father's Day Stall

The Father's Day Stall was a great success this year. The wonderful range of gifts helped kids spoil their dads on Sunday. How many dads were having chocolate for breakfast?

Thank you to the following parents who assisted with wrapping or on the day of the stall: Carolyn Lambeth, Leanne Lowther, April Summerhayes, Bronwyn Dunn, Evelyn Saliba, Nicole Erler, Catherine Davies, Barbara Laria, Carol Hill, Simone Cottell, Susan Hollier, Kylie Rush, Lynda Bellia, Jennifer Nash, K Paterson, Kylie Lucas, Jenny North, Stella MacPherson, Lisa Dodd and Renee Davis.

Also a big thank you to Autobarn and Warragamba Newsagency for their generous donations of gifts.

Parents will be pleased to know that the Father's Day Stall raised an amazing \$741.00 which the P&C will be using to improve the resources at Warragamba School.

Reminder – Family Photo Day

A quick reminder that the Family Portrait Day will be held on Sunday 23rd November. Keep it in mind as a fantastic option for Christmas gifts as that time of year is quickly approaching! Further details about the booking process will be in future newsletters.

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop is having a sale on the older style sports t-shirts. They have been reduced to \$5.00 each! For all your uniform needs please call in during operating hours: Monday 8:30 am - 9:15 am or Thursday 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm.

Swimsafe Learn to Swim

The NSW Sport and Recreation will again run Swimsafe classes. The intense nine-day programs give wonderful results, and are great fun as well! Plus family discounts make Swimsafe affordable for all the children in the family. Prices for nine lessons are \$55.95 for school-aged children and \$41.95 for preschoolers (Prices exclude pool entry fee). Brochures are available at the school office. For more information or to make a booking please phone 131 302 or visit www.dsr.nsw.gov.au.

Dates to Remember

Friday 19 September - Gala Day

Wednesday 24 September - Choir Concert Evening Show

Thursday 25 September - Choir Concert Matinee Show

Friday 26 September – Last Day of Term 3

Monday 13 October – First Day of Term 4



HEY KIDS!

Come to our Circus Skills Show
and learn tricks of the trade at
Wigwam on Wednesday 8 October
between 10:00am and 2:00 pm.
Cost is \$15.00 including lunch!
Book now on 4774 2450.

School Holiday

Fun!



Indoor Laser Skirmish!

\$10.00 unlimited Indoor Laser Skirmish,
Thursday 2 October at Warragamba Town
Hall 10 am - 2 pm.

Ages 11-18, arm bands for sale prior to day
from Warragamba/Silverdale Neighbourhood
Centre. Hurry arm bands selling fast! For more
information please call the Neighbourhood
Centre on 4774 1273.

OPENING SOON!



NEW MEDICAL CENTRE AT LUDDENHAM

**DR RAVIND DUTT (FROM
SILVERDALE) HAS RE-
LOCATED TO LUDDENHAM
(NEXT TO POST OFFICE AND
CLOSE TO IGA)**

**SHOP 6/2130 THE NORTHERN
ROAD LUDDENHAM
OPENING IN OCTOBER 2008
PLENTY OF CAR PARKING
AVAILABLE!**

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