



# Keeping In Touch

2-4 Fourth Street  
Warragamba 2752

Ph: 4774 1205

Fax: 4774 2475

Email: [warragamba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:warragamba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Warragamba Public School**

Week 2, Term 2

7 May 2009

*Hello Everyone,*

*Welcome to term 2. I trust that you all had a safe and relaxing holiday and that the batteries are at full capacity for what is shaping up to be an eventful term at Warragamba PS. Full steam ahead....*

## **Honesty Is the Best Policy**

*It's always good to be able to kick off a newsletter with a "good news" story so I'm happy to relay to you all one that transpired on Wednesday morning. One of our parents found herself in the rather unfortunate position of having lost \$50 in the playground, a situation we've all been in at some stage. The money was found by Happy Chittick of 1J who promptly handed it to the office ladies, who were able to return it to its rightful owner. I would like to congratulate Happy on this wonderful display of honesty and maturity and I know that his mum and dad are very proud of his actions, just as I am. Well done Happy, you're certainly due some good karma!*

## **Playground Additions**

*No doubt you've all noticed a splash of colour across the school, specifically in both quadrangles and the toilets in the South Playground. As mentioned last term, the new games and painting were the brainchild of parent Mrs Julie Robertson, who felt that such games would not only brighten up our school but provide additional activities to engage the children during play times and via PE and sporting programs. Mrs Robertson is a teacher at Chifley College Senior Campus at Mount Druitt and enlisted the services of her year 12 students, who are participating in a community service program, to make her vision a reality. Despite extremely ordinary weather conditions Mrs Robertson and her dedicated crew – which of course included our P & C President, Mr Steve Bloem – braved the elements to undertake the painting during the school holidays and on a few subsequent Saturdays. I'm sure you'll all agree that the games and murals look sensational – the children are clearly quite taken by them, judging by the fact that they ASKED to remain in the quad for recess on the first day back! Thank you to the following wonderful students from Chifley Senior College for sacrificing their own time to ensure that Mrs Robertson's project came to fruition: Nicole Lowe, Cameron Wilson, Alicia Davidson, Luke Hagan, Jasmin Lawson, Rees Simpson, Hayley Moore, Emily Braithwaite, Hayley Webb, Tori Ford-Haigh and Peter Georgievski. Thank you of course to Julie, Mark and Todd Robertson and Steve Bloem. Your efforts are sensational and we will be forever appreciative of your hard work and dedication to Warragamba PS.*

## **Education Week**

*Education Week takes place in week 5 of this term (25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May) and will run concurrently with Reconciliation Week. While arrangements are not quite finalised I can tell you that our Open Day will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May. Classrooms will be open from 11:20am, a picnic lunch will be held from 12:30pm – 1:30pm and our Book Character Parade will take place from 1:30pm – 3:00pm in the K-2 quad. The children are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character and if last year's parade is any indication it should be a fantastic event. All family and friends are welcome, we'd like to see each and every one of you here to help us celebrate Education Week. There will also be our annual Book Fair in the library on Open Day commencing at 8:30am.*

### **NAPLAN**

*The National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) for students in years 3 and 5 will be held next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Language Conventions and Writing tests will be held on Tuesday, Reading on Wednesday and Numeracy on Thursday. All tests will be 40-50 minutes in duration and will be held during the morning sessions. I would like to wish all of our students the best of luck with the test and also reiterate that while being of high importance I do not like the thought of either children or parents enduring undue stress because of the tests. If you have any enquiries regarding NAPLAN please contact your child's class teacher or myself.*

### **Voluntary Contributions**

*Thank you to those of you who have paid your P & C voluntary contributions, your efforts are very much appreciated. Voluntary contributions are \$40 per child or \$60 per family and may be paid at the office. All funds raised assist the P & C to purchase educational resources to support classroom teaching and learning programs.*

### **Ice Cream Containers**

*To assist in the completion of the playground painting we are in need of plastic ice cream containers. If you have any that you are able to give to the school please send them directly to Mr Matthews; they will be used as paint containers during the next Saturday painting session.*

### **Playground Equipment**

*Several parents have asked me this year why we do not have any playground equipment. While these facilities are certainly worthwhile additions to a school environment they are not on our current list of priorities for a number of reasons, the most important being that we do not currently have a hall or COLA. Given this situation I am loathe to spend money on playground equipment; in no way am I totally ruling out such a purchase in the future however at this point in time we need to focus on resources and facilities that best suit the needs of all students.*

### **Security Lights**

*The electricians have been busy this week repairing and replacing the school's security lights. Last term I received an email from a community member who walks his dog in the area each evening; he informed me that large portions of the school were plunged into total darkness after sunset and that this presented a security risk. I could not help but agree and would like to thank Mr Tim Goris for bringing the matter to my attention; it is very reassuring to know that community members are keeping an eye on our school when it is unattended.*

### **Athletics Champs**

*This year the Warradale Little Athletics club awarded the 2009 Junior Athlete of the Year Award to not one but two outstanding junior athletes. Congratulations to Ryan Stanford and Zoe Walther, both of whom are from 1J for this huge achievement! Both young athletes have trained and competed all year at many carnivals. This year at Zone they both won gold in all four events that they were entered in. Both athletes now hold two zone running records and two club records each! Well done Ryan and Zoe, what a fantastic achievement.*

### **Semester 1 Reports**

*The staff is currently conducting ongoing assessment and evaluation leading up to the semester 1 reports, which will be completed and distributed to parents later this term. The reports are unchanged from those used in 2008. Parents will receive an opportunity to discuss their child's progress during parent/teacher interviews, to be held in week 10; further information regarding the interviews will be sent home later this term. Please be aware that interview times are allocated on a "first in, first served" basis, so return your booking slip promptly to ensure that you receive the desired timeslot.*

*Thank you, have a fantastic weekend.*

*Ben Matthews*

**Principal**

## **FOR SALE**

1986 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER  
UTE HJ75 SERIES (WHITE)

In A1 condition, bull bar, tow bar,  
CD Player/stereo, recently detailed.

\$8 990- ONO 362 500 km

Please call Chris on 0400 430 363!

### **Dates to Remember**

**Tuesday 12 May – Thursday 14 May      NAPLAN Testing**

**Friday 15 May      Gala Day 1**

**Monday 18 May      P & C Meeting**

**Thursday 21 May      Primary Assembly 3/4E**

**Friday 22 May      Zone Cross Country**

**Friday 22 May      OC Forms due back**



