



Keeping In Touch

2-4 Fourth Street
Warragamba 2752
Ph: 4774 1205
Fax: 4774 2475

Email: warragamba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Warragamba Public School

Term 3 Week 4

20 August 2009

A good afternoon to each and every one of you!

It would appear that for once the weather gods are smiling upon us, WPS having been basked in sunlight for the past couple of weeks (well, during the daytime at least....); we even got through a sporting event without having to reschedule due to rain! Let us now hope that the very act of printing such appeasement doesn't revive the curse.....

Interactive White Boards

This week two Interactive White Boards (IWB's) were installed in two of our primary classrooms; 5K and 3/4E. An IWB is a large interactive display that connects to a computer and projector. A projector projects the computer's desktop onto the board's surface, where users control the computer using a pen, finger or other device. The board is typically mounted to a wall or on a floor stand. They are used in a variety of settings such as in classrooms at all levels of education, in corporate board rooms and work groups, in training rooms for professional sports coaching, broadcasting studios and more. This is a very exciting development for the school as it will provide the students and staff with access to an excellent resource that can be used across all Key Learning Areas. We're looking forward to learning to use the IWB's and if all goes well we will investigate the purchase of more units in 2010.

A Thank You....

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Karen Klein and Miss Lesley Waghorn, our wonderful banking ladies. Every Tuesday Karen and Lesley spend time in the office collating the children's bank books and banking their deposits. You do a fantastic job Karen and Lesley, thank you so much for helping us out in this area, we greatly appreciate it.

Another Thank You....

On Monday of this week David Moore of 5/6B presented the school with a Gray-Nicholls cricket helmet. David is a keen cricketer and took it upon himself to make this very generous donation to the school; thank you very much David, what a great example you are setting for the students of our school.

Exemptions from Attendance

Just a reminder that if your child will be absent from school due to a lengthy holiday during school time (15 or more school days) you are able to apply for an exemption from attendance; this means that your child's absence from school will not be included in school and student absence tallies. Please be aware though that it DOES have an impact on the school's 100% attendance certificate! Exemption forms are available from Mr Matthews if required.

Homework

Debate regarding homework rages around the world 24/7, I am quite sure. Irrespective of ideological differences in regard to the provision of homework WPS does have a homework policy with homework set by teachers on a weekly basis. The main aim of homework is to reinforce concepts addressed in class, although on occasion it may come in the form of an assignment. Please remember that while it's fine to assist your child with his or her homework, ultimately it is the child's responsibility to ensure that homework is taken home from school, completed and returned by the specified day or date.

Golden Circle Fundraising Update

As previously mentioned, Sophie Draper from 3/4E was our highest fundraiser in regard to our cross country/jun run Golden Circle fundraising. Well it turns out that not only is Sophie our highest fundraiser, she raised more than any individual student in the entire state! Congratulations on this wonderful achievement Sophie, you're a champion!

Gala Days

Last week many of our stage 2 & 3 children participated in the final Razorback PSSA Winter Sports Gala Day for netball and soccer. I would like to thank all of the children for their conduct and enthusiasm over the 3 Gala Days and also the parents who so willingly provided transport to and from the events. Thank you to Mrs Eccles, Miss Pollock and Mr Muller for the time and energy they directed towards coaching the teams. Thank you also to the staff who remained at school; events such as the Gala Days do constitute an interruption to normal school routines and can on occasion throw scheduled programs into disarray. Thank you teachers for your flexibility in this regard.

Zone Athletics Carnival

By the time you read this newsletter episode 1 of the Razorback PSSA Athletics Carnival will have been run and won; actually it will have been jumped and thrown, given that I'm referring to the field events carnival. This year two of our teachers, Mrs Eccles and Miss Pollock, have taken on the considerable role of Zone Athletics Convenors and have been running around at a hectic pace for several months now planning and collecting information, liaising with schools and councils and dare I say pulling hair out. Thank you Mrs Eccles and Miss Pollock for all of your work, thank you to Mrs Barlow and Mr Smith for your assistance at the event and a special thanks to Mr and Mrs Garnett for the expert tutelage you have provided in the form of training for our Zone team. Well done boys and girls and good luck to those of you competing at next week's track events carnival.

Saver Plus Program

The Benevolent Society is Australia's oldest charity in operation since 1813 and manages Saver Plus in the Macarthur and Illawarra areas. Saver Plus is an award-winning program assisting low-income families to establish a long-term savings habit, build their money management skills and knowledge to save for education costs. Participants save for a minimum of 10 months and have their savings matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$1,000, which is then spent on education resources. Participants also complete 10 hours of Money-Minded training to enhance their day-to-day financial skills. For more information please contact Mr Matthews for a brochure.

Nude Food!

No, the placement of the word "nude" is not merely a gratuitous attention-getter. So what is nude food? Nude food is an environmentally friendly, easily compiled meal. For example, a nude food lunch uses:

- * paper wrap, brown paper recycled bags but no plastic bags or aluminium foil*
- * reusable containers that get taken home and washed*
- * lunch boxes that have lots of separate sections*
- * forks and spoons that get washed and re-used but no plastic cutlery*
- * drink bottles with water that can be used each day.*

Try thinking about these suggestions when putting your child's lunch together.

Uniform Shop News

School jackets have been low in stock lately but I'm pleased to advise you that additional stock has been ordered. The ordering and delivery process is unfortunately quite lengthy however we hope to have the jackets available for sale at the uniform shop by the beginning of term 4. The uniform shop is open for trading on Mondays between 8:30am and 9:15am and also on Thursdays between 2:30pm and 3:15pm.

Voluntary Contributions

A big thank you to those families who have already paid their voluntary contributions for 2009, your efforts are greatly appreciated. Voluntary contributions are \$40 per child or \$60 per family; payment envelopes are available through the office. All voluntary contribution payments go towards the P & C's efforts to assist the school in providing sound teaching and learning programs for all students.

Interrelate School Services

*Interrelate will be visiting our school on the evening of Thursday, September 10. Interrelate Family Centres provide a range of services; the one we are utilising revolves around the delicate issue of sexuality education for students in year 3-6. Although I'm sure that many of you look forward to the "how does this happen?" and "why would that happen?" discussions that the onset of puberty invariably provides, Interrelate provide a non-confrontational yet informative opportunity for such issues to be addressed. We will be running two sessions: "Where Did I Come From?" is for students in years 3-6 and explains the differences between male and female bodies while the "Preparing for Puberty" session is for children in years 5 and 6 and helps to prepare children and parents for the emotional, social and physical changes associated with puberty. The sessions run for 60 minutes and are \$15 each or \$20 for both. **Please send your permission notes and payments directly to the office, NOT to your child's class teacher. PLEASE NOTE THAT CHEQUES SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO INTERRELATE.** For more information please visit www.interrelate.org.au.*

Gymnastics Champ!

Sarah Jones of 5/6B is a very quiet, humble young lady whose demeanour belies her gymnastic ability. Sarah has been competing for 3 years as a member of the Nepean Gymnastics Association. In 2008 she made it through to the second trial for State Level 1 (there are two trials) and backed this performance up in 2009 by placing 4th overall at State Trial Level 2 – this result included a 1st in the beam, meaning that Sarah will now compete in the NSW State Competition on September 13th. I hope you're proud of your achievements Sarah – if not, you need to do a back flip on that issue! Sorry, couldn't resist the pun... Congratulations Sarah and good luck for the State Competition.

Have a fantastic (and ideally sunny and windless) weekend.

Ben Matthews

Principal

PS: no hall yet, but visits from soil testers and plumbers are surely a positive sign of imminent work!

Sacred Heart Parrish Sacramental Process – Reconciliation, First Communion & Confirmation

The 2009/2010 Sacramental process will commence on Wednesday 9 September 2009 with an Enquiry (Information) Session to be attended by parents of children in Year 3 and above, who wish to enrol their child in this year's Sacramental process. The Enquiry session will be held at the Holy Family Parish Centre, Lot 1 Willowdene Avenue, Luddenham at 9:15am and 7:00pm. For further information please phone 4773 4321.

Warradale Little Athletics

Registration Dates

Friday 21st & 28th August

5:30pm – 7:00pm

At Warragamba Sporting Oval

New members welcome!

Season starts Friday 11th

September at 6:00pm

For more information please
phone Annette on

0403 070 147 after 4:00pm.



SPRING FAIR FAMILY DAY

Saturday 26th September 2009
10am till 2pm
At Civic Park,
Weir Road WARRAGAMBA

STALL HOLDERS WANTED!

for further information please Ph: 4774 1940

- Jumping Castle
- Dinosaur Dig
- BBQ Lunch
- Pony Rides
- Plaster Painting
- Market Stalls
- Lucky Tickets
- Face Painting
- Coffee Van

■ Best Value SHOW BAGS

"CAR BOOT SALE"
Bookings Essential
Phone: 4774 1940

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 26 August – Year 3 Botany Bay Excursion

Friday 28 August – Zone Athletics Field Events

Wednesday 2 September – Father's Day Stall

Thursday 3 September – Primary Assembly – 6F

Friday 4 September – Gala Day 1 (Oztag & Cricket)



