



# Keeping In Touch

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**Warragamba Public School**

Week 8, Term 2

18 June 2009

*A good afternoon to one and all!*

*Well yet again the foul weather plagues us; blame it on the rain some might say but hey, who wants to quote Milli Vanilli in a school newsletter?! The rain quite clearly wasn't strong enough to deter our friendly playground elves, who have once again been hard at work with the paintbrushes. I hope you all have your reading goggles on, because this is a long one.....*

## **Book Fair**

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank our teacher-librarian Mr Muller, for all of the hard work he directed towards the Book Fair during Education Week. As fantastic an initiative as it is, the Book Fair involves an enormous amount of work behind the scenes in terms of bookings, ordering content, setting up and packing up, collating financial records and so on. Mr Muller's efforts have secured a tidy bounty of new books for our library; those of you who purchased items at the Book Fair are also due thanks, as without attending our very own form of retail therapy, the Book Fair would be rather pointless! Thank you also to Mrs Poli, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Thomson who so ably and diligently assisted at various times.*

## **Rugby League Jerseys**

*Warragamba PS is very fortunate to enjoy a solid relationship with the Warragamba Wombats JRLFC. Many months ago I was approached by Mr Adam Joy and Mr Dean McAskill (WPS parents and Wombats both – I mean that in the nicest possible way) in regard to the club purchasing two sets of custom-designed football jerseys for use by the school teams at rugby league knockouts. Dean and Adam, followed by Terry Noble and Libby Berg, have seen this offer through to the end and at Monday's school assembly presented the school with two sets of awesome looking WPS rugby league jerseys. On behalf of the students and staff I would like to thank Warragamba Wombats JRLFC for their generosity and support of our school; community sporting groups are often the lifeblood of a community so to ensure a positive link between such groups and schools is imperative. Congratulations also to our design competition, Patrick Lee from 4/5S; Patrick is now the proud owner of the only privately-held WPS rugby league jersey!*

## **Fun Run**

*Continuing the thank you theme.....thank you to Miss Pollock for the great job she did with the collation and distribution of the Golden Circle Fun Run prizes. Much like the Book Fair, this was an enormous job and Miss Pollock spent an inordinate number of hours collating orders, correcting forms and, finally, distributing prizes. Thanks to Miss Pollock's efforts and of course the fundraising support shown by the children and local community, over \$5000 was raised for the school. Thank you boys and girls, mums and dads, friends and relatives, dogs and cats and of course a big thank you to Miss Pollock.*

## **Human Swine Influenza**

*Please be aware that there are still DET directives in force regarding Human Swine Influenza. If you or your children have come into contact with a confirmed carrier of the H1N1 virus please call me on 4774 1205 BEFORE sending your children to school. The steps to be taken vary depending on individual scenarios so please err on the side of caution and give call so that I may advise you of the appropriate course of action. We have been advised by health care professionals that if you have recently come into contact with anyone suspected or confirmed with human swine influenza, you should contact the Penrith Public Health Unit on 4734 2022 and ask to speak with a surveillance officer, or call Healthdirect on 1800 022 222.*

### **Athletics and Sports Carnivals**

*Last Friday the 3-6 children made the arduous trek to Warragamba Oval to compete in their annual Field Events Carnival. All children received an opportunity to participate in high jump, long jump, discus and shot put, with some fantastic performances on offer for the spectating parents and relatives. Thank you to the following parents who so willingly assisted in running the event: Mr and Mrs Sargent, Mrs Dunn, Mrs McKechnie, Mrs Moore, Mrs Stanford, Mr McAskill, Mrs Jameson and Mrs Quinn. A special mention must go to Mr and Mrs Garment from Little Athletics, without whom our carnival would not occur. Barry and Anne spent a number of hours readying the track and field event equipment to ensure that the event ran smoothly. Thank you Barry and Anne. Thank you to Mr Neville Slender who generously donated his time and equipment to mow the running track in readiness for this week's event. Of course a WPS event would not be the same without considerable input from our tireless P & C president, Mr Steve Bloem, who assisted both on and prior to the day. Thank you once again Steve for your commitment to our school and its students.*

*As a side note, please remember that we are not trained athletics marshals, and this is not the Olympics. The idea of the carnival is to ensure that all children receive an opportunity to participate, with the selection of a team to represent the school at Zone being a secondary consideration. No, we don't have the same degree of expertise as LAA officials and no, we never will; but this is a fun day for the children and that's the primary consideration. We look forward to seeing you all this Friday when the 3-6 children return to the oval for their track events carnival and the K-2 children have their sports day in the North Playground.*

*Unfortunately a cement mixer recently performed some unwanted cosmetic surgery on the oval's running track, meaning that the 3-6 carnival will now be held on the "factory" side of the oval. Therefore the K-2 carnival will be held at school, due to insufficient space being available to hold both carnivals at the oval. If any parents are able to assist with the K-2 carnival activities it would be much appreciated.*

### **Mountain Biking**

*To many people the voluntary act of attaching one's self to a bicycle and hurling one's self down rock-strewn trails seems somewhat nonsensical; however as the saying goes "if you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much space!" Each year an NRMA Careflight fundraiser is held along the Oaks Fire Trail, a popular mountain biking route between Woodford and Glenbrook in the Lower Blue Mountains. The trail twists and turns its rollercoaster route between these 2 locations and this year's event will be held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Mrs Barlow, Mr Muller and I have entered as the appropriately named "Dam Busters" and while not seeking to break any records (or any bones for that matter) we're gladly accepting sponsorship dollars. Many of our students participate in sports such as motocross, go-karting and bike riding so the existence of a service such as Careflight is essential. If you'd like to sponsor the Dam Busters please contact me.*

### **Reports**

*The teachers have been hard at work lately completing student assessments and reports for semester 1. It is planned to send reports home with the children next Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> June. The reports will be individually addressed in white A4 envelopes. Each envelope will contain a copy of your child's report plus a feedback sheet. Please endeavour to complete and return your child's feedback sheet as soon as possible, as it indicates to us that you have received his/her report. The student reports are compliant with all assessment and reporting criteria.*

### **Parent/Teacher Interviews**

*Parent/teacher interviews will be held during week 10, notes having been sent home on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June. Interview timeslots are allocated strictly on a "first in, first served" basis so please ensure that you return your booking sheet promptly to avoid disappointment. If you are unable to attend on the advertised dates please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient interview time. Interviews are 10 minutes in length.*

### **40 Hour Famine**

*Earlier this year I was approached by one of our students, Annalise Seguna, in regard to participating in World Vision's annual 40 Hour Famine. I of course agreed to take part in the event, which takes place from August 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> and Janelle from World Vision will be coming to our 3-6 assembly on Thursday August 6<sup>th</sup> to talk to the children about participating. As far as our school is concerned the event is aimed only at children in years 5-6 and we will be inviting them to participate. More info to follow!*

## **BER**

*Unfortunately this week I do not have any updates for you in regard to the construction of our hall/COLA. As with all major construction work there is much paperwork and red tape to wade through – we're currently in such a phase. Rest assured that when an update is available you'll be the first to know. Well, not quite.....*

## **P & C**

*The last P & C meeting saw a few new faces grace the gathering, which of course is a positive sign. Our next meeting will be held at 4:00pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July in the staffroom. Come along to the meeting and have your say!*

## **Dance Festival**

*Mrs Jones and her dance crew have been putting in a lot of hours lately honing their routine in preparation for the upcoming South Western Sydney Regional Dance Festival. The routine looks top shelf and I have no doubt whatsoever that it will amaze the audience during the Festival, to be held at Bankstown Town Hall next week. I'd like to take this opportunity not just to wish Mrs Jones and the girls the very best of luck, also thank Mrs Jones for her commitment to this event and to ensuring that her team enjoy a fantastic opportunity. Thank you Mrs Jones and good luck!*

## **Year One Fire Safety Visit**

*On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June the friendly blokes from Warragamba Fire Station will conduct their annual Year 1 Fire Safety Talks. The aim of these visits is to instil in the children a sense of respect for fire and an appreciation of its potential danger. Thank you to the firies for their diligence in ensuring that our children receive this opportunity each year.*

## **So You Think You Can Dance?**

*Well I know very well that I can't dance, I save that for the professionals, one of whom is Kirsty Hammond from 5/6B. Kirsty is a student of Invogue Dance Studios; in fact, she is an honours student and who qualified for the Australian Teachers of Dancing State Scholarship, which was held over the June long weekend. Kirsty performed two routines for the Sub-Junior Dance and Classical Ballet Scholarships. Congratulations on your successes Kirsty; I'm sure we haven't heard the last of them!*

## **Kindergarten 2010**

*We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2010. If you have a child who will be commencing Kindergarten at WPS next year please visit Mrs Kirkup in the office to collect an enrolment pack and organise an interview time. If you have any friends or relatives who are considering enrolling their child please suggest that they visit the office.*

*Wishing you all a great weekend.*

*Ben Matthews*

*Principal*

## **Canteen News**

*As you would be aware, this Friday 19 June is our school Sport Carnival. The canteen will be open in the morning for all students to place their orders, parents please feel free to place an order also. Don't forget to write your class on the bag.*

*Primary orders will then be taken over to the oval. The oval canteen will be open for your convenience.*

*Infants orders will remain at the school. The school canteen will also be open all day for your convenience, so please come and have a look at all the yummy lollies, chocolates and chips we have for sale.*

## **Contact Details**

*From time to time it is necessary for the school to contact parents regarding their children and it is very important that we have all updated details. If you have recently changed any of your personal details including; phone numbers or addresses please contact the school as soon as possible. Thank you!*

## **Lost**

*Could parents please check your child's uniform items to ensure you have the correct ones at home. Unfortunately, there have been a few labelled items that have been lost at school but not returned to the rightful owners. It would be much appreciated if any items not belonging to your child/ren be returned to school.*

School Photographs

The latest word from the school photographers is that we should definitely receive the photos before the school holidays.

**Dates to Remember**

**Friday 19 June – Sports Carnival**

**Tuesday 23 June – ICAS Spelling & Science Test**

**Tuesday 30 June - Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Wednesday 1 July – Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Thursday 2 July – Primary Assembly Talent Quest**

**Wed. 6 July – Fri. 8 July – Year 5 Canberra Excur.**

**UPCOMING GALA DAY DATES**

**Term 2 Week 9 Friday 26 June – Gala Day Winter # 2**

**Term 3 Week 3 Friday 14 August – Gala Day Winter # 3**

**Term 3 Week 6 Friday 4 September – Gala Day Summer # 1**

**Term 3 Week 9 Friday 25 September – Gala Day Summer # 2**

**Term 4 Week 2 Friday 30 October – Gala Day Summer # 3**

***Kids Disco***

**Warragamba Town Hall**

**Saturday 27 June 2009**

4 - 7 Year Olds 4:00 – 6:00 pm

8 - 15 Year Olds 7:00 – 9:30 pm

\$5.00 Entry

Includes Chips/Drink

Great Fun & Prizes

Fully supervised by Warradale Soccer Club

