



Keeping In Touch

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Warragamba Public School

Week 7, Term 4

27 November 2008

Good afternoon to one and all.

I apologise for beginning this newsletter on a sombre note, but several events across NSW in the last fortnight have prompted me to do so. I know that many of you will spend at least part of the upcoming holiday in the water, be it at the beach, a backyard pool or public pool. Please look after your children when near the water. They are the most precious things in the world and to read what several families across the state are currently going through because of what can be nothing more than a momentary lapse of attention breaks my heart. Please be vigilant.

Congratulations!

Well I'm sure you've seen it on the TV, heard it on the radio and read about it in the newspapers and on the internet, but I'm going to tell you again anyway; we have living in our midst one of the best spellers in New South Wales. Jordan Powell of 4E has beaten all comers from across the state to become the Junior Premier's Spelling Bee champion for 2008! After placing 3rd last year Jordan was determined to go one better this year, and he certainly didn't disappoint, nailing the winning word "caricature" with ease. On behalf of the Warragamba PS community I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you Jordan, not only on becoming the Premier's Spelling Bee champion but also on the humble, modest way you have conducted yourself in regard to your victory. A great speller and a great role model, top work champion!

More Congratulations!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate those students who have been elected as our Student Councillors for 2009: Chelsie Moore, Taylor Sherlock, Lawry Woods, Sophie Tombs, Eden Craker, Tom Summerhayes, Jordan McMillan, Rhys Worger, Tyler Jones and Jarrod Sherlock. I feel confident that our elected councillors for 2009 will do an excellent job of representing the student body and of acting as positive role models for all students. I would like to thank all students who ran for election; you are all a credit to your school and to your families and I felt very proud watching as each and every one of you delivered your speeches to the audience. Once again, congratulations.

Canteen

As you may be aware, our school canteen was advertised for private tender earlier this month. No applications were received therefore as of day 1, 2009 the school will not be able to provide a canteen service. The workload already endured by our administrative staff is way above and beyond their roles and responsibilities and I will not burden them with the added task of running the school canteen. If you would like to apply for the tender of the school canteen please see Mr Smith; I'm sure there are a few of you out there who are up to the task, either as individuals or as a collective.

Warragamba's Got Talent!

Wasn't it wonderful to see how many talented students we had performing at last week's talent quest! The aim of the show was simply to provide the children with an opportunity to showcase their many and varied talents; and many and varied they were! From masks to Michael Jackson to singing, dancing and instrumental expertise, there was something for everyone. Congratulations to all children who performed, you should be proud of your talents and the confidence you displayed when performing in front of a very large audience. Thank you to Miss Foster and the Year 6 Technology Team for providing this great opportunity for the children.

Student Reports

Student reports are currently nearing completion. Our teachers have spent many hours collating assessment results and formulating reports to provide you with information regarding your child's education for semester 2, 2008. At this stage it is anticipated that reports will be sent home late in week 9. The reports will be of the same format as sent home in semester 1.

Annual School Report

Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete and return the mathematics and school life survey from the last newsletter. The information you provided was very valuable and informative and assisted us greatly in preparing the Annual School Report, which will be distributed early in 2009. Thank you also to the staff and students from years 2-6 who also completed several surveys to aid in the completion of the report.

Presentation Days and Award Ceremonies

Our annual Presentation Day ceremonies are fast approaching. Presentation Day for Years 1-6 will be held on Tuesday 9th December, with the stage 3 (years 5 & 6) ceremony being held from 9:30am-10:30am, stage 1 (years 1 & 2) 11:30am – 12:30pm and stage 2 (years 3 & 4) 1:45pm – 2:45pm. The Kindergarten Graduation ceremony will be held on Wednesday 10th December from 9:30am – 10:30am and the Year 6 Graduation will be held on Monday 15th December from 9:30am – 11:00am. All ceremonies will be held in the Warragamba Town Hall and photography and videoing is permitted.

Industrial Action

Please be aware that if your child did not attend school on the day of NSW Teachers Federation industrial action (Wednesday 19th November), they will NOT be marked as absent from school.

P & C Working Bee

As previously advertised the Warragamba Public School P & C will be holding a working bee on Sunday 7th December. As the saying goes, many hands make light work, so if you're available on Sunday 7th December and would like to help the school out, you are of course more than welcome to join us. Please contact either myself or a P & C member to register your attendance.

A Pleasant Phone Call

Quite often when our students do the wrong thing, members of the public trip over each other in the mad rush to let us know. So I must admit to being pleasantly surprised to receive a phone call from Sharon at Fairlight Developments, who recently held a fundraiser to assist the people of Nepal. Sharon contacted me to commend the efforts of one of our year 6 students who had helped out not only at the event itself but on evenings and afternoons prior to the actual event by decorating, arranging, cleaning up, counting money, welcoming guests and so on. Upon being given the name of the student, I was not at all surprised; in fact the student is one of our Councillors for 2009, Lawry Woods. Congratulations Lawry on your efforts, you're a wonderful ambassador for our school and for year 5 students in general!

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Ben Matthews

Principal

Student Banking

The last day for student banking for the year will be next Tuesday 2nd December 2008. We would like to thank our lovely banking ladies; Kirstin Ible and Novea Riley who have volunteered their valuable time for this service in 2008.

Uniform Shop

Just a reminder that the uniform shop operating hours are: Mondays from 8:30am to 9:15am and on Thursdays from 2:30pm to 3:15pm. Please note that the uniform shop will also open the day before students return in 2009 (Tuesday 27th January 2009 from 9:30am to 10:30am for your convenience).

Dates to Remember

Tuesday 2 December – Kinder Assembly 11:30 – 12:30

Wednesday 3 December – P & C Christmas Stall

Tuesday 9 December – Presentation Day Yr 1 – Yr 6

Wednesday 10 December – Kindergarten Graduation

Thursday 11 December – Year 6 Farewell

Friday 12 December – HAWK Award Day

Yr 6 – Don Bosco Ctr., K-2 – Glenbrook Theatre,

Yrs 3-5 – Warragamba Pool



WARRAGAMBA P&C

CHRISTMAS STALL

The Christmas Stall will be held on Wednesday 3 December 2008. An amazing range of gifts are available for ladies and men. All children please bring a plastic bag to keep their gifts safe.

Students can purchase gifts for \$5.00

Any remaining gifts will be available to purchase the next day, Thursday 4 December at the multi-purpose room from 8.30am – 8.55am.

The P&C would appreciate parent helpers at the stall, to be held in the multi-purpose room. Volunteers will be needed from 8.30am and finish at approximately 11.00am. We hope helpers will get into the festivities by wearing Santa hats, Christmas clothing, jewellery etc! If you are able to help on the day please complete the slip below and return it to your child's teacher.



CHRISTMAS STALL HELPERS

Yes, I am happy to help with selling gifts on Wednesday 3 December 2008.

Name: _____

Child's name: _____

Child's class: _____

