



Keeping In Touch

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Warragamba Public School

Week 6, Term 2

4 June 2009

Greetings everyone.

Well yet again the Weather Gods are playing havoc with our outdoor events. It seems that every time we plan an event requiring copious amounts of sunshine, the sun makes way for the clouds, which promptly empty their contents on us. I've a sneaking suspicion that the expression "I hate to rain on your parade" was coined with our book character parade in mind.

Hall and Administration Block Upgrade

Last Monday our school played host to a cast of thousands from the construction industry, all of whom were here to conduct site surveys for the construction of our hall and extension/upgrade of the administration block. Core samples have been taken from the site of the hall and once analysis of these samples is complete construction should commence. Over the course of the next 12 months our school will resemble a construction zone and this may cause inconvenience from time to time; please keep in mind that this short term pain will bring about long term gain.

National School Pride Program

Run concurrently with the Federal Government's "Building the Education Revolution" (BER) program is the "National School Pride" (NSP – lots of abbreviating going on) initiative. This will provide funding to every Australian school—primary and secondary, government and non-government—to undertake construction of small scale infrastructure and/or minor refurbishment projects. Warragamba PS will receive \$150 000 as part of the NSP program, which will in part be used to fund a refurbishment of the toilets in Block B (the K-2 quad toilets). This money will shortly be received by the school allowing this project to commence.

Education Week and Open Day

As eluded to in the opening paragraph, our Education Week Open Day and Book Character Parade were somewhat rain-affected. However the show must go on, and go on it did, albeit in a slightly amended format. Constant rain forced our parade into the Town Hall, the move inside necessitating splitting the parade into separate K-2 and 3-6 events. Fortunately the children all received the opportunity to show off their wonderful costumes, many hours of work obviously having been directed towards making these outfits. I would like to thank the following people for ensuring that the parade went ahead: Miss Foster and the Technology Team, Mr Steinweiss and the invincible Tarago, the parents who so willingly helped set up and pack away chairs, the staff for running with the last-minute amendments to the day's timetable and of course the children for their conduct both at the Town Hall and moving between the school and Town Hall. Many of you managed to visit your child's classroom and also the Multi Purpose Room to view the wonderful display of children's work. Thank you to Mrs Macias for all of her work in organising our Open Day and thank you to all of you who braved the elements to ensure that your children had a memorable day. If any of you have some photographs of the day's events feel free to email them to the school at warragamba-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and I'll place them on the school's website.

Human Swine Influenza

All of you are no doubt aware of the impact that human swine influenza, or the H1N1 virus, is having. In conjunction with the Department of Health, the DET has a range of procedures in place to ensure that schools act appropriately and swiftly in the event of a student being confirmed as a carrier of the virus. Please be advised that if you have recently returned from the United States, any other country affected by human swine influenza or the greater metropolitan region of Melbourne your children must remain away from school for a period of 7 days; it is also highly advisable that you consult your doctor during this period and inform him/her of your recent travels.

Sporting Event Postponements

The recurring theme continues (as they are prone to....). Last Friday's Razorback Zone Cross Country was held at a rather muddy Camden Equestrian Centre, having been postponed from the previous Friday due to rain. A large contingent of our students, staff and parents made the trek to Camden so that the children could compete on what could only be described as a REAL cross country course. Several great efforts highlighted the day, with some exciting sprint finishes making for top level spectating. Congratulations to all children who represented WPS; your conduct, your efforts and the pride you displayed while representing your school were all stellar and we are all very proud of you. Thank you to Mr Blain for organising the team and training them twice a week, Mrs Barlow for her assistance on the day and all the parents who so willingly formed the convoy from Warragamba to Camden and return. A photo gallery of the day can be found on our school website, www.warragamba-p.schools.nsw.edu.au.

The Razorback PSSA Gala Day scheduled for tomorrow (Friday 5th June) has been cancelled due to ground closures. The next Gala Day will be held in week 9 (Friday 26th June); it is not known at this stage if tomorrow's event will be rescheduled.

The CRL Rugby League Knockout planned for Tuesday of this week also succumbed to ground closures; this event will now be held on Tuesday 23rd June (week 9).

Adopt-a-Pensioner Scheme

Many of you will recall the Adopt-a-Pensioner food drive conducted by the school in 2008, driven by student Jessica Webb. Jessica's sense of moral purpose shows no limitations and she is again running a food drive. If you have tinned or boxed household items within current use-by periods and would like to donate to the drive please send these items to Mr Matthews. All items need to be sent to school by Tuesday 30th June so that they can be distributed by the Neighbourhood Centre. Thank you to Jessica Webb of 5/6B and her mum Sharon for their fantastic efforts regarding the Adopt-a-Pensioner scheme.

Carparks

Just a reminder that all of our carparks are "out of bounds" areas at all times. We go to great lengths to educate the children in regard to road safety; we would appreciate your support of this stance by making sure that you do not walk through the school carparks.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Ben Matthews

Principal

Wollondilly Aboriginal Art Exhibition

Congratulations to Sam Ryan, Sarah Jones and Tom Summerhayes! Their artwork has been selected to go on to the letterhead for official documents of the Wollondilly Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Our school recently submitted a number of artworks to the exhibition, which is currently being held at Picton Council rooms. We got very positive feedback from Deb and Livvy, who coordinate the exhibition. We were the only school ready on time, and we had lots of great artwork submitted! Thankyou to the teachers who gave students the opportunity to participate.

Jenny Macias.

Live Outside The Box

Well done to all the students who participated in the Live Outside The Box program. Points have been tallied, and certificates will arrive shortly. It was great to see records of activity and the types of foods eaten – hopefully it was not too much of a chore for parents, and it gave everyone an idea of how much time was spent active/inactive, and which food groups were neglected/included in students’ diets. If you have any feedback, let me know! Nutrition is an ongoing topic which will be promoted in class. Our Crunch and Sip Program continues to be implemented, and it is great to see such a variety of fruits and vegetables being brought in each day.



Jenny Macias.

School Photographs

Advancedlife Photography (the school photographers) recently upgraded their operating systems. Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond their control Advancedlife experienced unforeseeable challenges in the transition to the new operating system during the first term resulting in several weeks of unscheduled down time. We have been advised that photos should be returned to the school within the next two weeks.

Stewart House

The first Stewart House clothing collection for the year will be on 10 June 2009. Please send in any of your unwanted clothing that is still in good condition for this worthy cause.

LAKESIDE PERFORMING ARTS

We are having a fete at Wallacia Progress Hall. Cnr Roma Avenue and Greendale Road Wallacia on Sunday 14 June 2009. The purpose of the fete is to raise money to send 20 local children to USA for dancing. The children are either still enrolled in our local or are ex-students and we would appreciate your help. For any further information please contact Kirsten on 0438 355 304.

Dates to Remember

Monday 8 June	Queen’s Birthday
Wednesday 10 June	ICAS Science Test
Thursday 11 June	Regional Cross Country
Friday 12 June	Yrs 3-6 Athletics Carnival (Field Events)
Thursday 18 June	Primary Assembly - 4/5S
Friday 19 June	Yrs 3-6 Athletics Carnival (Track Events) K-2 Sports Carnival





