From the Principal

Here we are in week 6 of the first term of the school year for 2016. It is Autumn already. After the hot weather last week we can see signs of the nights cooling. Much better for sound sleeping. Of course cooler weather means warmer clothing and the start of wearing jackets. As the weather warms through the day off come the jackets and sometimes these get left around and, unfortunately, can be lost. We try to teach our children responsibility for their belongings but sometimes they forget, as we all do. If you name your child’s belongings clearly they have a much better chance of being able to be returned to them if they are misplaced. So get out the old laundry marker and make sure your child has their belongings well marked. Thank you for supporting us with this important matter.

Information sessions successful

Thank you so much to all our parents who were able to attend the information sessions last week. This is always such an important time to meet your child’s teacher and find out what is happening at school for your child. We do understand that there are parents that cannot attend due to work or other commitments. Information booklets for each stage of learning for 2016 have been produced and you will find these attached to this newsletter for your convenience. Hard copies are also available at the school office.

Out of School Hours Care Centre

The tender for Out of School Hours Care has been won by Cubby House Childcare. They are looking to start up in Term 2. After meeting with me on site on Tuesday, 1 March, they are keen to get started. Agreement and legalities have to be dealt with first. They are very impressed with our school and were amazed at our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program and our ongoing work around sustainability and healthy living. They would definitely like to be a part of this program and contribute to it. Very exciting. It is going to be so much easier for families having children cared for on our school site before and after school and during school vacations. I will update you as more details become available.

School Fete for 2016

We are having a School Fete, so lock in **Sunday, 30 October** from 10:00am – 3:00pm. The Fete will be held on our school grounds and will be loads of fun for everyone. Our purpose is to raise funds to build up and support our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, to build a storage facility and to purchase resource kits for our new Australian curriculum areas of Science, History and Geography. There will be major attractions as in rides and jumping castles/slides, pony rides, FOOD, stalls, a little farm, displays and entertainment, raffles, activities, show bags and many

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many more. Do you know anyone local who would like to run a stall on that day? We will have white elephant, used clothing and book stalls so you can start gathering for that. Must be useable and clean. If you have any suggestions of what we can add please put them forward. Please phone Letitia Cooley on 0406 398 183.

I Aspire Home reading program

It is so important for us to read to children or, when they are ready, have them read to us. Being able to read is the key to all learning. You cannot even operate a computer if you can’t read what to do or where to find information. Our home reading program is designed to encourage children to read every night. Reading opens a whole world of travel, history, science, space either in a factual or fictional way which stimulates the imagination. The world is now at your fingertips with the aid of an internet search engine but you still need to be able to read and understand the information. Please encourage your child to practice reading every night and open up the world of learning for them. As the little poem goes:

Read! Read! Read!
The more you read the more you know. So Read! Read! Read!

Some of our students have already received their bookmarks for 25 nights of reading. Looks like they are well on track for a reading medal at the end of the year. Well done!

Stranger Danger

Please speak to your children about Stranger Danger. Last Thursday we had a suspected Stranger Danger alert which was skillfully handled by all staff involved and followed up by Police. It gives us a timely reminder that our children are vulnerable and need to develop skills that will support them in protecting themselves. Here at school we will be running Stranger Danger lessons but are asking that you have this valuable conversation with your children at home as well.

Absences from school can affect your child’s learning

It might not seem like a morning here or there being late to school will matter or a few days off here and there, and there will affect your child at school but it can. Children do get sick and will need time away from school to recover and to ensure they do not spread germs to others and there may certainly be a time or two when it happens that they are late to school. However, it is of concern when being late to school becomes a repeated pattern or days away from school start to add up to an unacceptable level. Children’s learning can be directly affected by continued lateness to school or continued day absences from school. It is embarrassing for children to have to walk into a classroom where learning has already started for the morning. The classroom learning is also disrupted as the children’s attention is taken away from what they are doing and the class teacher has to take the attention away from what is being taught to settle the child coming late to class. Decreases in learning and confidence are often results of continued partial attendance or in many full day absences. Please support your child’s wellbeing and learning by making sure they are coming to school each day to start on time. It sets the pattern for life and a future career.

School Vandalism

Unfortunately we were the target of some thoughtless vandalism over last weekend. Entry point was through the Woy Woy Preschool long day care facility which is directly in front of our own Preschool. Our Preschool took the brunt of the vandalism with our bamboo fencing being destroyed, tables and chairs thrown and our beautiful little chookies terrorised. Very distressing for all involved. A quick clean up and repair by our Preschool staff and our wonderful Macca ensured our little Preschool children did not witness any mess and were able to start their day peacefully. Police have attended on site and are investigating. Please support us by keeping a good look out if you live close to the school or are driving past. If you notice anything suspicious please ring school security on 1300 880 021 and report it. A good number to pop as a contact in your phone. Our school community puts a lot of work into looking after our school and repairs cost lots of money so let’s all keep an eye out for our school.

Have another great week everyone!

Ona Buckley

Principal

Special Education

The Special Education Unit has been fortunate to receive support from Ettalong Memorial Bowling Club. They are allowing us to use their bus to transport our students to a variety of activities, including horse riding, gymnastics and excursions. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity as we would not have been able to run these important programs without their assistance. Gymnastics has started with all students enjoying the activities. Riding for the Disabled begins this Thursday. As part of the farm unit, K-6W and K-6PC enjoyed a visit to a chicken farm at Peats Ridge. The students were able to hold 10 day old chicks and also had a lovely BBQ lunch. Early Intervention are joining other units and having an Easter excursion to the Hawkesbury River on Tuesday, 29 March. This is a highlight for our families and the children love the Easter egg hunt.

School Photos

Class photos will be taken on the following dates:

Monday, 14 March 2016
Preschool (Seahorse Group) and Early Intervention

Wednesday, 16 March 2016
All classes, sibling (family) photos, school leaders, school service officers and house captains

Thursday, 17 March 2016
Preschool (Pelican Group)

Order envelopes will be sent home soon. Methods of payment will include:

* cash in the order envelope;
* online directly through the company (details will be on the front of the envelope);
* credit card direct to the company by calling 9674 9824 (a $5 processing fee applies); or
* money order (no cheques are accepted).

With thanks
Kerrie Stewart

Online Payments to School

Thank you to families who have made payments to the school this year as per the school costs shown in the last Namalata.

A reminder that payments may be made online using a credit or debit card by visiting the school’s website at www.woywoy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au and clicking on the “Make a Payment” tab.

K-6 Assembly Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received Academic Awards at our K-6 Assembly today:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucas Herben</td>
<td>K-6W</td>
<td>Natalie Hedge</td>
<td>K-6PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Soeats</td>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Tate Ullrich</td>
<td>KW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terence Wu</td>
<td>KY</td>
<td>Scarlett Plasente</td>
<td>K/1WN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elise Introna</td>
<td>1SM</td>
<td>Ariannah McGann</td>
<td>1M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becky Zhang</td>
<td>2S</td>
<td>Lahni Moore</td>
<td>2T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Sposito</td>
<td>2/3W</td>
<td>Dylan Smith</td>
<td>3/4C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scarlett Lowden 3/4E
Anthony Demoreland 3-6S
Heidi Fletcher 5/6A
Madeleine Cheesmond 5/6S
Ryan Zhang 3/4R
Amy Newcombe 4/5HC
Joel Weston 5/6B
Kallum Baverstock Gardening

Upcoming Events Calender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th>02</th>
<th>2.00pm</th>
<th>SRC Assembly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>02</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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<td></td>
<td>02</td>
<td>5.00-6.15pm Preschool to Year 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>06</td>
<td>6.30-7.45pm Year 3 to Year 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Zone Swimming Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Girls Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>School Photos - Preschool, EI</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>School Photos - All Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>School Photos - Preschool</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Boys Cricket</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Special Canteen Ordering Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Early Intervention Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Easter Scripture Assembly</td>
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The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: [http://surveys.case.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents](http://surveys.case.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents). The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.
A consent form for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Friday 11th March. FAQs and copies of the consent form are available from the website above.

Thank you

Janine Szostak
Assistant Principal

Special Religious Instruction (Scripture)

All scripture classes will begin on Wednesday, 2nd March, 2016.

Years 3-6 scripture classes will be held from 9:00-9:30am and years K-2 will be held from 9:30-10:00am. All classes will be taught by trained Religious Instruction teachers. Most students will remain in their own classroom and will be following Ecumenical curriculum which teaches general Christian beliefs. Catholic children will attend separate classes.

Parents who do not wish their child to attend scripture class must send a note to Mrs Pathirana, Mrs Walker or their class teacher by Tuesday, 9th March.

Thank you

Mrs Pathirana and Mrs Walker

P&C News

Thank you to all that attended our Morning Tea, it was great to see some new faces. Please remember that if you volunteer, you must have a valid Working with Children check. This only takes five minutes to complete online, and lasts for 5 years and is free for volunteers. Website is: www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/check

Fundraising

Our first disco for the year is on Wednesday 2nd March.

Disco times are as follows:

- Preschool – Year 2, 5.00pm – 6.15pm
- Year 3 – Year 6, 6.30pm – 7.45pm

Completed permission slips and payment are to be taken on the night, not to your child’s teacher. Entry is $6, with a discount offered to families with 3 or more children attending.

Canteen

Please remember all orders must be in by 9am. The canteen also sells hats. Our price list will remain the same until further notice.

Uniform Shop

Opening times – Monday & Thursday mornings 8.30 - 9.00am. Cash or Cheque Only, NO EFTPOS. We have an 8 week term layby service available, deposit required at time of layby.

School Banking

School Banking is every Friday; children wishing to make a deposit must take their deposit books and money to their classroom NOT the CA Room.

We will be holding an account opening day on Friday 11th March, 8.30 – 9.30am in the playground, please read attached flyer for all information.

Upcoming Events

- Disco – Wed 2nd March
- Easter Raffle – Thur 24th March
- Wet ‘n’ Wild – Term 1, Week 11.
Our next meeting is Wednesday 9th March, 7pm Staff Room, All Welcome.

Position still vacant: Canteen Co-Ordinator/Treasurer

If you are interested in this position, please do not hesitate to contact us: wwpspandc@live.com.au. You must be a current financial member to hold any position or vote. Membership is $2 a year.

P&C President
Fiona Fry

Community News

Gosford Regional Show

30th April & 1st May 2016

Once again the Gosford Regional Show is having a section for children to enter produce that they have grown either at home or at school. Schools are also encouraged to enter a display. Last year the display put on by the children of the Central Coast was amazing.

The Show committee look forward to another successful year with children from all backgrounds entering produce that they have grown.

This year we are also holding a baking section for those children who love to cook. Other activities are Art, Photography, Junior Showgirl and Young Fruit & Vegetable Judging with the winner proceeding to the Royal Easter Show in 2017

Please check our web site for more information. We also have a Facebook page that you can share.

Jennifer Winslade

Downloads

Kindergarten_Parent_Information_Booklet_2016.pdf
Stage_1_Parent_Info_Semester_1.pdf
Stage_2_parent_info_sheet_2016.pdf
Stage_3_Parent_Info_Booklet_2016.pdf
Schools_Animal_Displays_Gosford_show.pdf
Kids_Produce_Section_1-1-1.pdf
doctor_on_duty.pdf
Looking_for_work_during_school_hours.pdf
School_Banking_Opening_Day_2016.pdf
International_Womans_Day_A5_2016_Hi_Res.pdf
BWSC_Yr7_Info.pdf