Welcome back to what is already shaping up to be a very exciting and rewarding year of learning and growth at Wagga Wagga Public School. I hope you all had a chance to spend some quality time relaxing and enjoying time with your family and friends. To those families who are new to our school we hope you have settled in well and extend a warm welcome.

This year we have formed 16 classes across K-6. Due to the way our numbers fell we have had to form a Kindergarten / Year 1 class this year. Please know that the students in this class will still get the very best learning opportunities targeted at their level of need and that no child is disadvantaged in any way by placement in this class.

We welcome Mrs Dionie Hodges to our school as the teacher of K/1H. Mrs Hodges is an experienced Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 teacher with a wealth of knowledge and skills to share with our students and staff alike.

We also welcome Mrs Justine Hudson to the role of School Administrative Officer replacing Mrs O’Reilly who retired last year. I am sure that you will all get to know Justine quite quickly in the front office and will extend a generous welcome to her.

Some other exciting news that I can share with the school community:

Pru Francis, our school counsellor, was married (in Hawaii) in the holidays and returns to us as Mrs Pru Gleeson. Congratulations to the new Mr and Mrs Gleeson.

Nada Pokoney (Miss P1 not 2) has announced that she is expecting a baby later in the year. Congratulations to Nada and Matt.

Rhys Holloway and his fiancé Shamra are, at this very moment, anticipating the imminent arrival of their first baby. We wish a safe and speedy arrival of their little one.

A number of staffing changes occurred at the end of 2014.

Most importantly Mr Jim Roworth has retired after 36 years with the Department of Education and leading our school as Principal since 1998. Since July 2013, Jim has been relieving as Director, Public Schools NSW and although sad to be leaving our school permanently is looking forward to this next stage of his life and hopefully a much less hectic pace. On behalf of the students, staff and parents of Wagga Wagga Public School I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude for the pivotal role he has played in building our school to the high standards we are known for today. We wish Jim all the best for a happy, healthy and rewarding retirement.

Miss Kirrilee Post was successful in gaining the Principal position at Collingullie Public School and Mrs Tina Roworth was successful in gaining the position of Curriculum Advisor at Wagga Network Office. Both ladies held Assistant Principal roles at Wagga Wagga Public but have been out of the school for some time in other capacities. We wish them both every success in their new roles and thank them for their contributions to our school.

During this term, these three positions will be filled through DEC Merit Selection processes. I will keep you informed of the outcome and any changes that arise.

Continued...
Principal’s Report

Our staff for the commencement of 2015 is as follows:

KG - Miss Caity Geaghan
KT – Mrs Monique Thorpe
K/1H – Mrs Dionie Hodges
1N – Mrs Ros Navin
1H – Mrs Sara Hamblin
2/3N – Ms Adele Nye (Rel. Assistant Principal)
2/3H – Mr Rhys Holloway
2/3P – Miss Jess Pokoney
2/3S - Mrs Julie Stewart
4O – Mr Mick O’Dea
4B – Miss Tarryn Birthisel
5/6M – Mrs Jan McKenzie
5/6E – Mrs Erin Elsley (Rel. Assistant Principal)
5/6C – Mrs Rochelle Bennett (Fridays)
5/6D – Mrs Emily Dunn
RFF (Computers) – Mr Dave Wall
Library – Mrs Sherrilee Allen
Reading Recovery – Mrs Belinda Cesnik (Assistant Principal)
School Initiatives Program and L3 – Miss Nada Pokoney (Rel. Assistant Principal)
Support Teacher Learning – Mrs Anne Cullen and Mrs Anne Smith
English as an Additional Language – Mrs Regina Tidd
School Learning Support Officers – Mrs Ros Jones, Mrs Justine Moore, Mrs Jemima Hosie and Mrs Tatjana Dowdle
School Counsellor – Mrs Pru Gleeson
School Administration Manager – Mrs Mandy Gillett
School Administration Officers – Mrs Justine Hudson and Mrs Emma Fekeila
General Assistants – Mr Matt Brassil and Mr Brent Hampstead
Canteen – Mrs Elise Heycox and Mrs Melinda Doughty

Please mark your calendars that on Tuesday 17th February we will be holding our parent information evening. This is an excellent chance for you to meet your child’s teacher and to gain information on the learning opportunities that will be provided for your child this year.

LANDSCAPING

If you have been to the school in the past week you will have noticed the fantastic new ‘sandstone’ garden surrounds that were erected over the holidays. This is a joint project between the school and the P&C and we are looking forward to the finished product being a beautiful oasis of green for us all to enjoy. Obviously this is still a work in progress but the impact that has already been made is impressive. Matt Brassil has worked tirelessly during the holidays to build these retaining walls and we cannot thank him enough for his tenacity in getting the job to where it is at today. Thank you also to Emily and Jim Dunn and Brendan and Rochelle Bennett for their assistance with various stages of this project.

We now need your help to get the job finished.

We are looking for 40 cubic metres of soil to fill the gardens. We did obtain a quote from a local supplier but this was quite expensive. If you or someone you know can help please contact the office on 69213398.

Continued....
Principal’s Report

Working bees – once we have the soil organised we will need lots of hands to fill the gardens. We are looking at the next two weekends. If you can help, even for an hour, it would be such a help. During these working bees we will also have jobs such as mowing, weeding, leaf blowing, etc. so there will be plenty for all.

We will send out notes later in the week to let you know if this will still go ahead.

Once again, welcome back and have a great week.

Leanne Harvey
Relieving Principal

Important Information

LIFE EDUCATION VAN

The Life Education Van will be visiting our school in Week 3 and 4. If you have not received a permission note please ask your teacher for one.

Harold merchandise is available. Please send in correct money to your class teacher in a labelled envelope on the day your child visits the van.

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CRICKET TRAINING

All boys and girls from Years 3 and 4 who are interested in cricket, are invited to take part in Thursday afternoon cricket skills training. This takes place in the Primary playground from 3.20pm to 4.30pm each week.

There is no cost and players don’t need to bring anything. Mr O’Dea runs the sessions and all enquires should be directed to him. Cricket skills training begins this Thursday.

Mr O’Dea
School Happenings

Photos of new Kindergarten students

P&C News

CLOTHING POOL & NEW WWPS CLOTHES

Thank you to all of you who bought second hand clothes from the clothing pool stall last term. We made $352.40 which was excellent and certainly reduced the surplus of clothes. We still have many items of un-named WWPS clothing for sale so if you are interested, please see the ladies in the office or contact Jackie on 0428 618 077. We also have new items of clothing for sale in the office. T-shirts, long-sleeved t-shirts, hats, bags, scarves and beanies. These items are cheaper to buy from the school. We will also be ordering WWPS jumpers for the cooler months.

Prices for the items available are:

- T-shirts - $15
- Long-sleeved t-shirts - $18
- Hats $5
- Bags - $35
- Beanies and Scarves - $5 each

Thank you and PLEASE name your child/ren’s school clothing.

P&C GENERAL MEETING THIS WEDNESDAY

The first P&C General Meeting for the year will be held this Wednesday, the 4th of February, at 7.00pm in the school library. Everyone is welcome.

We look forward to welcoming new families to the P&C so if you are interested in finding out a bit more about what we do, please come along (we guarantee that you will not be asked to volunteer for anything (yet)).

If you wish to be added to (or removed from) our email list, please send an email to simonandjack@bigpond.com
Community Announcements

ST MICHAEL’S CATHEDRAL
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

“First Holy Communion classes for Catholic children Year 3 and upwards, will begin at 8.45am on Sunday 8th February at St Michael’s Parish Centre, Johnston Street, (Opposite Cathedral).

For enquiries contact Rev R Micallef on 6921 2164 or Sr Hannahri on 6931 0014.”

“Confirmation Classes for Catholic Children in Year 6 will begin 8.45am on Sunday 8th February at St Michael’s Parish Centre, Johnston St, Wagga, Opposite Cathedral).”

TABLE TENNIS WAGGA—FREE OPEN DAY

Tea and Coffee and a sausage sizzle will be available on the day.

Date: 8th of February, 2015
Time: 2:30 pm until 5:30pm
Where: Wagga PCYC at 228 Gurwood Street Wagga.
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Website: www.waggawagga-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
Email: waggawagga-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au