Principal’s Report—Week 7

PARENT PORTAL

Last week you would have received a letter requesting you to sign up to our new Parent Portal. Thank you to those parents who have already done so, to those who haven’t I urge you to do this as quickly as possible, but no later than Friday 13th March. The Parent Portal is part of our new learning and student management software, purchased to support staff in recording and sharing information. At this early stage the portal will be used to disseminate the Newsletter and send information updates to parents and for this term to book Parent/Teacher interviews.

All Parent/Teacher interview bookings must be made through the portal this year (with the exception of 5/6M and 1N). You may logon from this Friday 13th March until Friday 20th March to book your time with your child’s teacher/s. Confirmation of times will be provided through the portal. Interviews will be conducted in Week 10 this term and Weeks 1 and 2 next term.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

There was lots of primping and preening as the excitement of School Photos took over the school today. As always Master School Photographers did an amazing job of taking all our beautiful students photos. For those parents who have not placed their orders or made payment, you still have a few days to either go online and order or deliver orders directly to the photographers.

2015 SCRIPTURE

Non-denominational Scripture commenced today and Catholic Scripture will start next week. This year there will be no Ethics classes as we do not have instructors to run it. Only students who provide a written letter of exemption based on cultural or religious will be excluded from Scripture this year as we do not have the staff available to provide supervision for large numbers of students not wanting to take part. We thank you for your understanding in this matter. If it causes you any concern, please speak to your child’s teacher.

2016 YEAR 7 ENROLMENT FORMS

All Year 6 students would have received their Year 7 enrolment form yesterday. These are to be completed and returned to the school no later than Friday March 20th. All students are required to return the form regardless of whether they will be attending a Public High School or not.

As much as I understand that you may have preferences for the High School your child attends, that unless there are valid reasons for your child to attend an out-of-zone school, the decision rests with the High Schools and their enrolment procedures. I can support the accuracy of information provided but the final decision rests with the High School Principals.

WORKING BEE

On Saturday another very successful working bee was held at the school. There was a terrific turn out of eager parents and students ready to get their hands dirty. As a result of the two working bees held this term we have replenished the soft fall

Continued.................
**Principal’s Report**

under both sets of play equipment, filled the two sandpits with new sand and filled our new landscaped gardens with soil ready for planting.

These jobs would not have been able to be completed in such a timely fashion without the help of some very loyal and dedicated parents and I extend my thanks to you all on behalf of our school community.

The barrowing and shovelling legends from last Saturday were:

Matthew and Kirrily Brassil; Rob, Will, and Amelia Gray; John and Jodie Coles; Neil Wright; Sharee Walker; Danielle Edwards; Aaron Hutcheon; Trevor, Tandy and Gemma Holden (and their much appreciated Bob Cat); Janey and Jeremy Hutchins; Leanne and Aayannah Harvey; John Petts; Steven Anderson; Donna McCready; Andrew Pidgeon; Lee Murrell; Anna and Glen Robinson; Fernando Whittaker, Melanie Evans, Diego and Girri Whittaker-Evans; Kare Maihemuti.

**SOCIAL NIGHT**

I hope to see lots of our families at school this Friday 13th March at our P&C’s relaxing night of fun for all.

**TERM 1 REWARD DAY**

This term’s behaviour reward day will be held on Thursday 2nd April and will be a ‘Festival of Fun’ as we held last year. More information and some requests for prizes will be coming home in the next week or two.

As well as providing a fun reward for all our students who have displayed consistently positive behaviour this term, we will be raising money to assist with the reestablishment of our garden areas. As always your support will be greatly appreciated.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS**

School fees are now due. The cost of contributions remains unchanged again this year at:

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<tr>
<td>1 Child</td>
<td>$45</td>
<td>2 Children</td>
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School Contributions provide valuable funds to assist us in providing quality learning opportunities and resources for our students. As always we appreciate the contributions made by families. Payments can be made at the school office.

Have a great week.

Leanne Harvey
Relieving Principal

*Congratulations to Mr Holloway and Shamra on the safe arrival of their son, Loki. We wish you much happiness.*
5/6EB Do the ‘Daily 5’

5/6EB have been engaging in a new, fresh approach to Literacy learning this year, called the ‘Daily 5’.

The ‘Daily Five’ is a way of structuring the literacy block so every student is independently engaged in meaningful literacy tasks. These research based tasks are ones that will have the biggest impact on student reading and writing achievement, as well as help foster children who love to read and write. Students receive explicit whole group instruction and then are given independent practice time to read and write independently while the teacher provide focused, intense instruction to individuals and small groups of students.

Our ‘Daily 5’ is made up of the following components:

- Read to Self
- Work on Writing
- Read to Someone/Listen to Reading
- Word Work
- Research

Students participate in ‘Daily 5’ sessions several times a week and are enjoying the independence, more 1:1 teacher time and being accountable for their own learning achievements.

I PICK
GOOD FIT BOOKS

I Choose a book.
Purpose- Why do I want to read it?
Interest- Does it interest me?
Comprehend- Do I understand?
Know- I know most of the words.
**SCHOOL FEES**

Fees are collected by the school on behalf of the P&C and are now due. Funds are used to buy much needed resources for the school.

Fees remain unchanged from last year, being set at:

- 1 student: $45
- 2 students: $55
- 3 students: $65

**HEAD LICE**

There have been a few cases of head lice reported in the school this week. Please check your child/rens hair.

Thank you.

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**Important Information**

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**Urgent- Booking Teacher Interviews**

You should have received by now a letter informing you how to log on to the Wagga Public Parent Portal. **So far we have only had 102 families register out of 248.**

The Portal will be an important gateway for you to access information about your child and the school. The first major event to be organised through the Portal are the Parent / Teacher Interviews for Term 1. **If you have not registered, you will not be able to organise an interview time!**

When you initially register the web page will inform you that your application is pending, and when approved, will provide access to the Portal. Approval usually comes within the hour and you will be notified by email.

If you have already registered, thankyou! If you have tried to register and have had problems, please notify the school and we will provide help.

David Wall

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**Important Dates and Information for Year 6 Students Attending Wagga High School**

This Thursday all of Stage 3 will be attending Wagga Wagga High School as part of 2015 transition activities. This day is for all Year 5 and 6 students and is a great opportunity for Stage 3 students to get a ‘taste’ of what High School is all about. Please get your money and permission notes in for this by this Wednesday.

Following are some other important dates we have just received from Wagga Wagga High School for 2015. Please put these dates in your school diary:

- Wednesday March 18 – Year 6 Information Evening (for Parents and Students) from 6:00pm in Curry Hall.
- Wednesday March 18 – Triple E information evening (for Parents and Students) from 7:00pm in Curry Hall.
- Thursday August 20 – Year 6 Testing Day (Currie Hall – from 9:30am)
- Wednesday December 3 – Year 6 Orientation

For any further information please see Mrs Elsley.

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**Science starters**

Did humans live with dinosaurs? Does the moon disappear in the day? Kids love to know the answers to life’s mysteries but there are a few facts they often get wrong in the name of science.

University of NSW International Competitions

Each year, the University of NSW hosts the International Competitions for schools in the following subjects.

- Computer Skills
- Science
- Mathematics
- Writing
- Spelling
- English

Approximately 100 students from Wagga Public School participate each year in this competition, and we consistently receive commendable results. University medals and Certificates of Participation are awarded to all students who take part, as well as offering them the chance to see how they fare against students all over Australasia.

Entry fee for each competition is $8.80, except for Spelling ($12.10) and Writing ($18.70).

If you are interested in having your child participate in one or more of the competitions, please tick the appropriate box(es) below and return to the school.

The competitions closing date is Friday 28th March.

I would like my child to take part in the following competitions. I have enclosed $ ____________ to cover the application cost.

- Computer Skills (Open to Years 3-6)
- Science (Open to Years 2-6)
- Mathematics (Open to Years 2-6)
- Writing (Open to Years 3-6)
- Spelling (Open to Years 3-6)
- English (Open to Years 2-6)
**TERM 1 REWARD DAY**

This term’s behaviour reward day will be held on Thursday 2nd April and will be a “Festival of Fun” as we held last year. More information and some requests for prizes will be coming home in the next week or two.

As well as providing a fun reward for all our students who have displayed consistently positive behaviour this term, we will be raising money to assist with the reestablishment of our garden areas. As always your support will be greatly appreciated.

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**P&C NEWS**

**Meeting this Wednesday**

The second and last meeting of the term will be held this Wednesday, 7.00pm in the library. As always, everyone is welcome; so come along and express any issues on your mind or just come along and listen to what’s in the works. At the last meeting we welcomed new faces to the school and look forward to seeing many more as the year settles down.

The P&C works hard to raise funds and use them to foster our community and contribute equipment and resources for the school. P&C funds are the funds of the whole school community, so your voice is always welcomed.

**Working Bee**

Thank you to those dedicated parents that made it to the 2nd working bee of the year last Saturday. Many hands made a huge job achievable (and the bobcat didn’t hurt either).

**Since the last meeting**

Since the last meeting of the P&C, we have made two contributions to the school; being $1,000 towards the Crow magazine from last year and $5,000 towards the landscaping. We look forward to making additional contributions to the school after this coming meeting, too.

**Social Night**

This Friday evening is our first social event of the year. If you haven’t had a chance to RSVP for catering purposes, it would be greatly appreciated if you could drop your note into the office; however, if you haven’t had the chance, that’s fine, too! It’s an open door and we would love to see you there. It’s a great time of the year to be out and about with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lee Murrell

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**CAKE STALL CONTRIBUTIONS: SOCIAL NIGHT**

**FRIDAY, 13TH MARCH FROM 5PM – 7.30PM**

Hi everyone,

This Friday we are having a cake stall as part of our Social Night. We would love any contributions towards this stall. Suggestions are: cupcakes, slices, biscuits, meringues, honey joys and choccy crackles and cakes. In the past we have found that people do also love to buy whole cakes, slices, bags of biscuits etc. as they’re something they can put in the freezer, use over the weekend or for their kids lunches.

If you are able to make something for the stall, you can bring it in the morning (Friday the 13th) and leave in the canteen or when we’re setting up in the afternoon after school or when you come in for the Social Night.

Please label your goodies for sale with a list of ingredients.

If anyone has some fresh produce from their veggie gardens they’d like to donate, that would be great too!

Thank you so much

P & C
P&C News

**REMINDER for SOCIAL NIGHT**

1. It would be really helpful if people could bring as much small change as they can.
2. Remind the kids to come with crazy hair – wear a wig or spray paint it!
3. We have a Jumping Castle for the evening! Kindly donated by the McCabe Family of Jumping Beans Castle Hire.
   
   Gold coin donation for 5 minutes of jumping!

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**KIDS IN THE BAKERY @ QUINTY BAKEHOUSE**

School Holiday Program

Open to school aged children aged 5-13 years old.

Now at the Calvary Hospital. Cooking with kids in Wagga Wagga during school holidays.

Please see the school office for more information.

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**WWPS Saturday Morning Netball Competition 2015**

Netball competition for years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 will commence in Term 2.

**Fees** – unsure of exact cost for the season—at least $100 per child

Contact person: Mrs Smith

Please complete the following information and return to front office as soon as possible so teams and money can be finalised.

This is a Wagga Netball Association Rule

If you are able to help out or know someone who can, please let me know.

Please note:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
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Name ....................................... Class..............

Address......................................................

Date of Birth .................................

Age as of 31/12/14

Parent/Carer name........................................

Please note: these fees are set by Wagga Netball Association.

I am able to coach: yes / no.
I am able to umpire: yes / no.
I am able to manage: yes / no.

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**Nutrition Snippet**

**The simplest way to make a healthy breakfast.**

We recommend eating two serves of fruit and five serves of vegetable every day.

**Why?** Because fruit and veg are packed full of nutrients and vitamins that give you energy, keep you healthy and help prevent diseases like cancer.

Try to get your family eating fruit and veg with breakfast – it will help all of you have more energy throughout the day.

You might like:

- wholegrain toast with avocado and tomato
- sliced banana on Weetbix
- frozen berries blended with reduced-fat milk and yoghurt for a smoothie
- eggs served with cooked veggies – tomato, mushrooms and spinach.

**Remember: try to eat fruit + veg at every meal!**

For more information visit www.ealittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/ealittobeatit