From The Principal

Dear Parents,

My sincere thanks to Mrs Walker, Mrs Theodorou and Mr McNamara who were all in relieving positions whilst I was on Long Service Leave. They did an exceptional job, I thank them all for doing justice to their relieving positions.

2014 has been the year for retirements at Walters Road. As you are aware, we will be welcoming Mr Patterson and Miss Andrews as permanent teachers after replacing Mrs Gawith and Miss Grennard. Mrs Nowland retired officially just prior to the holidays and we welcome Mrs Abigail Cortez to our school at the beginning of 2015.

This will be a busy term with the assessment and reporting cycle commencing. We will be using the SENTRAL reporting program this Semester, so our reports will have the same content but will look a little different.

A reminder about lateness to school, all children should be at school prior to 9.20am. After that time, a parent must sign children into school. A large number of absent notes were issued this week to students to take home to parents to validate absences. Parents, we respectfully ask that notes are always returned to provide reasons for absences. It is a legal requirement that you supply a reason. Providing that note on the student’s return is a good habit to develop.

Our school continues its professional learning with Focus On Reading sessions and will be continuing to implement some new strategies in their classrooms. Our thanks to Mrs Harris, Miss Grennard and Mr McNamara for leading our staff in this.

Our first Kindergarten Orientation session was yesterday and was well received. Over 65 children attended and they had a wonderful time. We are still expecting some enrolments to start 2015 with 4 Kindergarten classes.

If there are any families moving from the area, we ask if you could contact the school so we can commence the monitoring of numbers for next year.

Phil Harris
Principal
From The Deputy

Term 4! How the year has flown! It is lovely to see and hear that all our families are safe and well after our holidays. We are faced with our last term being very busy and extremely productive. Presentation Day will be a highlight this term and teachers will be preparing for the last reporting period of the year.

Teachers at Walters Road Public School are continuing with the Focus on Reading program with research being examined, new strategies being implemented and rich, varied types of assessment being utilised by our teachers. This valuable professional learning has benefits for all our students and this term students will look forward to class discussions, assessing their own literacy learning, keeping records of types of texts they are accessing and sharing their learning with others. We now have students who can talk in some detail about the value of reading in their lives – this would be great to discuss with them at home.

Please encourage your child to maintain the high standard of positive behaviour and appearance in school uniform this term. Students are receiving tokens for being safe, being respectful, being responsible and being a learner. Your children will be able to tell you about what being respectful looks like and sounds like eg; respecting property, respecting everyone (including their thoughts and feelings), showing courtesy and good manners, being an active and respectful listener and wearing full school uniform with pride – lots to talk about!

Students in Year 3 and Year 5 received their NAPLAN results recently. Students demonstrated their knowledge and skills in Literacy including Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Writing and Reading as well as Numeracy including Number, Algebra, Data, Measurement and Space. This report is one useful source of information to have when discussing your child’s progress with their classroom teacher. Please make an appointment to see your child’s teacher if you wish to discuss results.

Lost property needs to be claimed and planning for next year will begin all too soon – remember that a good quality clothing marker pen will be in high demand for new items of clothing next year. Meanwhile in the next few weeks if you have a missing item of clothing, lunchbox, drink bottle, library bag or pencil case please check the lost property room outside the K/1C classroom.

As our last term passes very quickly please enjoy talking to your child about their school experiences and continue to encourage them to be valued friends, active learners and make the most of the quality education that school life at Walters Road Public School offers them.

Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal

Stage Reports

Early Stage 1 News
I would like to thank Mr McNamara for his tremendous and tireless work supervising Early Stage One while I was in the office. I would also like to thank Mrs Cook and Mr Patterson for teaching KT. It is wonderful to come back to class and to see students eagerly wanting to read independently during guided reading sessions.

Yesterday we had our first Kindergarten orientation session. I would like to thank our school captains and vice-captains for being excellent hosts and showing new parents around our school at the start of the day. A big thanks also, to all Year 5 students who were excellent buddies. They showed the pre-kindie students around the school and made them feel comfortable in an unfamiliar setting. Big school can be a little scary at first.

KM is working on the Kindergarten herb garden this term. If you would like to make a donation, please see Mr McNamara.

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

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Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal
Stage 1 News
Welcome back to Term 4! I hope everyone had a lovely, relaxing holiday with family and friends.

Congratulations to those students who received their Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards last week at our special assembly. Students will be working towards the next level of award throughout the term by coming to school regularly and exhibiting positive behaviours. Our first Principal’s Award assembly will be on Thursday of Week 6.

Our first English unit in Stage 1 this term is on making connections, with a particular focus on how texts can be connected in many ways. You can help your child to see connections between their personal lives and other texts they have read or seen while you are doing home reading or sharing their Library book.

Simple questions you could ask include:
• Does this book remind you of another book you have read?
• Do you know anyone with the same name as the character in the book?
• Can you think of another book/movie/TV show with the same character?
• Can you think of another book/movie/TV that has a park/beach/desert/amusement park in it?

Teachers would love to hear from students each day about the connections they have made!

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1

Stage 2 News
We certainly do have a very busy and exciting term ahead and I have the pleasure of acting as the relieving Assistant Principal until the end of the year.

Camp:
Next week we have 96 students heading off to Cockatoo Island for an overnight camping experience. We hope that the children thoroughly enjoy this wonderful opportunity and thank the teachers for giving up their own personal time to attend and in particular Mrs Lihou for the many hours she has spent organising it. We look forward to hearing all about their experiences on their safe return next Wednesday. Supervision, teaching and learning will continue for those 2 days for all of the children who are not attending the camp.

CARES – Community and Road Safety Education Scheme
Later this term, Year 4 students at Walters Road will participate in the road safety program, CARES. This program offers road safety and bike safety training at their facility at Prospect. CARES is run by the NSW Police and will be held for a day during the school week. Further information will be sent home to all Year 4 students shortly.

Assessment and Reporting
Teachers are well underway with assessing the students in preparation for writing of the Semester 2 Reports. To assist your child, please support and encourage them in their homework, nightly reading and perhaps revise any other concepts that you can such as knowledge of the times tables, consolidating their number skills to add, subtract and divide etc.

Mrs G. Grant
Relieving Assistant Principal - Stage 2

Stage 3 News
Year 6 Parent Meeting
Thanks to the parents who attended the last Year 6 Farewell meeting. The support and dedication that these parents have shown so far has been invaluable.

The next meeting for the Year 6 Farewell will take place on Friday 31st October in Mr Dyer’s room starting at 3.30 pm.

Selective High Schools for 2016
Notes have gone home this week for the intention to apply to selective high schools in 2016. Parents are requested to complete applications online if they have internet access. For those families interested in applying for a selective high school that do not have internet access, paper applications will be provided.

The key dates are as follows:
• From 14/10/14 – Online applications open
• 17/11/14 – Applications close (both online and paper)
• 26/2/15 – Parents receive test centre advice
• 12/3/15 – Selective High School Placement Test

Please see Mr Dyer if you have any queries.

Spider/Sundae Fundraiser
The Year 6 Farewell Committee would like to remind all families that our final fundraiser is taking place on Wednesday 5th November 2014. Spider drinks and sundaes will be available for students to purchase during lunchtime under both the K-2 and 3-6 shelters for the price of $1 each.

Mr M. Dyer
Assistant Principal - Stage 3
Other Items

Library News
Issue 7 Book Club brochures have been distributed to students. Orders need to be returned to me on, or before, October 22. Thanks!

Mrs L. Higgins
Teacher-Librarian

Office News
Congratulations!
Congratulations to Hiya in KT who has won the last draw for a $50 Lowes voucher. Thank you Hiya for paying your voluntary school contribution. The funds received from parents paying the school contribution go towards resources in their child’s classroom.

Mrs K. Wright
Administrative Manager

Maths Committee
This year, 60 WRPS students across Years 2-6 participated in the University of New South Wales ICAS Mathematics Competition. These tests are designed to assess students’ academic ability in core learning areas and provide insight into students’ understanding with regards to aspects of Mathematics.

All students are to be congratulated on their efforts, our School received:-
46 Participation Certificates
5 Merit Certificates
5 Credit Certificates
4 Distinction Certificates

Special mention should go to the recipients of Distinctions which were awarded to:-
Connor Petelo (Year 2)
Saniya Kumar (Year 5)
Arnav Hangloo (Year 5)
Rubin Thomas (Year 5)

Thank you to the parents who supported and funded their child to participate in this competition.

Mrs G. Grant
R/Mathematics Committee Co-ordinator

Stewart House Donations
A reminder that all Stewart House clothing donations can be dropped into the 6G bag room each morning up until Tuesday 21st October.

Performance Night 2014
Last term, WRPS held our fourth annual Performance Night. We raised close to $1500 from the night, which will go towards purchasing performance resources for the school. We would like to extend a huge thank you to the following local businesses, who donated goods and services to be used as Lucky Door Prizes on the night:

Coles, Blacktown
Kmart, Blacktown
Napoleon Perdis, Blacktown
Cake Decorating Solutions, Arndell Park
Homer’s, Arndell Park
Platinum Hair and Beauty, Doonside

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the two staff members who donated prizes, but wished to remain anonymous.

Thank you!

Mr D. McNamara
Performance Night Co-ordinator

Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)

Our PBL Winners for Week 10, Term 3 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sam KV</td>
<td>Raj K/1C</td>
<td>Mica KL</td>
<td>Rahma 1H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lana KV</td>
<td>Liam KL</td>
<td>Destiny KM</td>
<td>Aiden 1H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurnoor KT</td>
<td>Tayla KT</td>
<td>Stevie-Lee KM</td>
<td>Lawrence 1J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvi KL</td>
<td>James KM</td>
<td>Abed 1/2B</td>
<td>Monique KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wairingiringi 4/5K</td>
<td>Rowa 3/4C</td>
<td>Jozsef 5M</td>
<td>Jayden 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tan 4/5K</td>
<td>Wairingiringi 4/5K</td>
<td>Trisha 3/4C</td>
<td>Fayz 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neesha 3A</td>
<td>Neveah 4J</td>
<td>Ashley 3/4C</td>
<td>Illyana 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoebe 4L</td>
<td>Christopher 5M</td>
<td>Rowa 3/4C</td>
<td>Riley 3H</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Our PBL Winners for Week 1, Term 4 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mervan 2L</td>
<td>Rhys KT</td>
<td>Monique 2S</td>
<td>Sahel 2S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah KL</td>
<td>Mustapha KT</td>
<td>Jaksyn 2S</td>
<td>Kalinda 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stevie-Lee KM</td>
<td>Madison 2S</td>
<td>Alyssa 2S</td>
<td>Yusuf 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seung Ha 2N</td>
<td>Shamiah 2S</td>
<td>Bianca 2S</td>
<td>Connor 2S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jemma 3A</td>
<td>Arlen 4L</td>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
<td>Nana-Ama 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reem 5M</td>
<td>Montana 3/4C</td>
<td>Paolo 4/5K</td>
<td>Adab 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatema 3A</td>
<td>Aaron 4J</td>
<td>Reem 5M</td>
<td>Yianni 5/6D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jemma 3A</td>
<td>Reem 5M</td>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
<td>Baxter 3H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Will You Be Returning to School Late in 2015?

Please fill in this form and return it to the office if your child will be returning to school after the beginning of the new school year (28th January, 2015).

Name of student/s:
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
Date of return:
__________________________________________
Reason for returning late:
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
Parent/Caregiver Signature: ____________________________

Are You Leaving Walters Road Public School?

Please fill in this form and return it to the office if your child will be going to a different primary school in 2015.

Name of student/s:
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
New School:
__________________________________________
New Home Address:
__________________________________________
Parent/Caregiver Signature: ____________________________

Kindergarten 2015

Will your child be starting Kindergarten in 2015?

Do you know any other families with children starting Kindergarten in 2015?

It is important that you enrol any children who will be starting Kindergarten in 2015 as soon as possible. Orientation sessions have started, our remaining sessions this year are on:

- Wednesday 29th of October
- Wednesday 12th of November

These sessions are incredibly important to both you and your child because they provide an opportunity to:

- Help your child settle into our school as smoothly as possible.
- Make you aware of our school organisation.
- Help you support your child in his/her education.

Kindergarten Orientation sessions also provide our Kindergarten teachers with the opportunity to get to know the new students, as well as to observe your child in the school setting, in order to assist us in planning the best possible Kindergarten experiences for your child.

Your child can start Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year if they turn five on or before 31st July in that year. By law, all children must be enrolled in school by their sixth birthday.

If your child will be starting school in 2015 please visit the front office as soon as possible to complete the necessary forms for enrolment. If you know of families in the area who have children who will be starting school next year please pass on this information.