School dates to remember!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell Meeting</td>
<td>Friday 31st October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spider/Sundae Fundraiser</td>
<td>Wednesday 5th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 5th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prefect Speeches</td>
<td>Monday 10th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation Session 3</td>
<td>Wednesday 12th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principal’s Assembly 1</td>
<td>Thursday 13th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini-Fete</td>
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<td>Principal’s Assembly 2</td>
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<td>Presentation Day</td>
<td>Thursday 4th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>4L CARES excursion</td>
<td>Tuesday 9th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>4C &amp; 4K CARES excursion</td>
<td>Wednesday 10th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sports Presentation Day</td>
<td>Friday 12th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day 2014 for Students</td>
<td>Wednesday 17th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day 2014 for Staff</td>
<td>Friday 19th December</td>
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From The Principal

Dear Parents,

Firstly, a big congratulations to Stage 2 on a wonderful excursion to Cockatoo Island. The children learnt so much about Australia’s history and had a great life experience sleeping on Cockatoo Island. It was great to be a part of so many firsts and witness firsthand the enthusiasm and amazing powers of learning: children that hadn’t been on a bus, been to Circular Quay, been over the Harbour Bridge, been on a ferry etc. Their faces were priceless. It does though make us realise that our children need to be given these experiences when sadly some don’t have them. I’m sure a large number of parents who chose not to send their children now wish they had attended. As for any excursion, if you are having difficulties, please speak to the office & the school may be able to assist in some way. Let’s hope that when we have our next major excursion in 2015 they can attend. My personal thanks to Mrs Lihou for her wonderful organisation, and to the staff that attended and gave up their family time to allow this excursion to happen.

We are a little alarmed that only 65 families downloaded our newsletter last week. We have over 350 families at this school and our newsletter is a vital tool for information. The front office is continually being asked questions and information that is sent home in notes, spoken at assemblies and is in our newsletter. Parents, we can only do so much and we ask you to read this information. Many children have missed out on excursions because the due date has been overlooked on the note, or it has just been put in a safe place for later.

We also have had a large number of parents going overseas of late and are expecting that leave will be granted. Leave cannot be granted for holidays of any kind and exemptions cannot be given. Information will be supplied to parents about this. We also have had to issue over 170 notes to parents who have failed to inform the office of student absences in the previous week. Again, we kindly ask you to provide us with a valid reason. Please note this is a legal requirement.

We have 70 children starting Kindergarten next year at present and we are expecting 4 full classes. If you know of any families that still haven’t enrolled we urge you to contact the school. We will have an additional class in 2015 and if our numbers continue to grow we could possibly have another one.
What is a homonym?
Let’s face it, English can be a crazy language. Take homonyms, for example. These are words that are identical in pronunciation and spelling but have different meanings. This homonym list will provide some clarity.
Find out more:

Sun safety
This spring has seen temperatures soar. A new information pack with the latest advice on sun safety is available for schools and parents.
Find out more:

Digital citizenship
We’re the first generation of parents responsible for equipping our children with digital citizenship skills – how to use technology safely and responsibly, and how to evaluate, manage and use the information and tools they find online.
Here are some tips to get you started:

### Stage Reports

#### Early Stage 1 News
Thank you to KV and Mrs McHardy for hosting the last Kindergarten assembly. The students need to be commended for their performance. They all did an exceptional job reciting a poem, singing and using their musical instruments. There are two more K-2 Thursday afternoon assemblies left for the year. They will be in Weeks 5 and 7 and will be hosted by some Year 2 SRC members. These assemblies will occur at the usual time of 2:30pm.

Just a reminder, for students to bring bottles of water and their hats, as the weather is now becoming very hot.

#### Events coming up:
- Principal’s Awards on Thursday 13th of November, 9:45am at the hall.
A separate newsletter with information and payment details has been sent home with students.

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

#### Stage 1 News
Our English unit on Making Connections is now well underway and your children are surprising us with the depth of their knowledge.

1H looked at the covers of The Magic Hat and Possum Magic and made a prediction, using the title and illustrations, that the two books would be connected by magic and stars. After reading both books I asked the same question and we found they were connected in 5 ways: magic, stars, animal characters, there was a kangaroo in each book and they were both written by Mem Fox. Well done 1H!

Mrs Solomon was also quite impressed with how much 2S could discuss the concept of Making Connections. Connor wrote the following as a response to their work:

> “Making connections is when the book I am reading reminds me of the things in my past. Making connections is also text-to-self, text-to-text and text-to-world. I learnt that in making connections I have flashbacks. I also learnt that there are differences and similarities between different books.”

Congratulations Connor, I could not have said it better myself!

Stay tuned for more stories of celebration from some other Stage 1 classes next newsletter.

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1
**Stage 2 News**

Yesterday, students from 4J headed off to the CARES facility at Prospect. The day was of great benefit to the students as the program aims to improve basic road safety skills, focussing on traffic rules. The program also includes discussions relating to protective clothing, bike maintenance, identifying road signs and the hazards associated with bike riding.

Children then got to ride on a purpose built track in a secured environment and try to keep all their points on their bike licences.

I think CARES was the best because we saw real police and got to ride bikes that they provided us with. The Police were really nice and cool.

Kirk (4J)

CARES was a great experience which I highly recommend. I enjoyed riding the bikes on the makeshift road with signs, speed humps and real working traffic lights. Maddy (4J)

At CARES we rode bikes all day and we were taught road safety and how to ride bikes safely. The Police told us there was a girl who was going too fast and used one handbrake and flipped her bike. Sequoia (4J)

Special thanks to the parents/grandparents of the following students who assisted with transport on the day

- Sondus, Amanda, Kiana, Nathan, Mehdi, Aaron.

Sessions will also be held for the other students in Year 4 on the dates listed below. Notes will be sent home shortly. Again, we will be requesting parent assistance with travel to and from the School and Prospect.

- 4L will be attending the CARES facility on Tuesday 9th December.
- 4C and 4K will be attending the CARES facility on Wednesday 10th December

Mrs G. Grant
Relieving Assistant Principal - Stage 2

**Stage 3 News**

**Year 6 Parent Meeting**

This is just a friendly reminder that the next Year 6 parent 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 were sent home at the end of Week 2 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 and 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 next 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.

**Year 6 Party Day**

This year, Year 6 will be doing different activities for Party Day than the rest of the primary section of the school. We are looking to establish a new tradition for Year 6 at WRPS, which I am sure both the students and teachers will find extremely enjoyable. More details will come in the next week or so once the Year 6 teachers finalise their planning.
Prefect Speeches
The students from Year 5 voted last week and have nominated 24 students to participate in the Prefect Speeches on Monday 10th November, starting at approximately 9.30am in the hall. Students from Years 2-5, as well as all the teachers, will then vote to finalise our prefect body for 2015. A note will be going home for the 24 Year 5 nominees to invite their family members to watch the speeches.

Mr M. Dyer
Assistant Principal - Stage 3

Then we assembled under the shade sails and had some lunch. We met our tour guides who took us on an extensive tour of the island. We visited soldier and convict barracks, we walked through tunnels and explored the island from top to bottom, dodging feral, vicious seagulls along the way.

After that, we had afternoon tea and played with our friends. We took advantage of some free time to make our beds.

At 6 o’clock we had a delicious BBQ dinner. After dinner we had showers and had supper of chocolate milk and cakes (caramel slice, chocolate and vanilla cakes). YUMMMMM!!!!!

After supper we brushed our teeth and went to our tents to sleep. (Some of us didn’t sleep- the teachers especially!).

In the morning we woke up and packed our bags. We cleaned our teeth and our tents and had breakfast. After breakfast we went on self-directed tours of the island where we had to complete two challenges. They were fun.

After lunch we boarded our ferry back to Circular Quay where our buses were waiting for us. A lot of us fell asleep on the bus trip back to school.

We had a fantastic time at Cockatoo Island.

By 4L campers

Stage 2 Cockatoo Island Camp
Last Tuesday at 8:30am 96 Stage 2 students and 7 staff members left WRPS to go on our overnight camp to Cockatoo Island.

First we went to the Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour. We had our recess and had a guided tour of the museum. Then we got to explore the navy ship the HMAS Vampire.

After that we got back on the bus and drove to Circular Quay to board our ferry to the island. Once on the island, we took our luggage to our tents and settled in.

Other Items

Spider & Sundae Fundraiser

When: Wednesday 5th November 2014 (11.20 – 12.15)
Cost: Spider Drinks (ice cream and soft drink) $1.00
       Sundae (ice cream and topping) $1.00
Where: Under K-2 & 3-6 shelters
Why: This will be our final fundraiser for the Year 6 Farewell.

Thank you for your support this year.
Office News

For Sale
We have some second hand girls dress uniforms in quite good condition for sale. Most sizes are available for $10 each.

Party Day Notes
Parents please take note of the payment dates. It is coming up to the end of the school financial year (the end of November) and there is a short period when we cannot process payments.

Thanking you.

Mrs K. Wright
Administrative Manager

Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)

Our PBL Winners for Week 2, Term 4 were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yasmin 2G</td>
<td>Millie 1H</td>
<td>Ryanne 2G</td>
<td>Manavi K/1C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaycee KL</td>
<td>Lawrence 1J</td>
<td>Shamia 2S</td>
<td>Peter 2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annica KT</td>
<td>Peter 2G</td>
<td>Okith K/1C</td>
<td>Amelia K/1C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ajla KM</td>
<td>Carson 1J</td>
<td>Amelia K/1C</td>
<td>Harley 1H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ayah 6G</td>
<td>Riley 3H</td>
<td>Diana 5M</td>
<td>Ben 3H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nana-Ama 3H</td>
<td>Marwah 4L</td>
<td>Shandy 6W</td>
<td>Nicholas 6G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brodie 4L</td>
<td>Jaiden 4L</td>
<td>Mihiterina 6W</td>
<td>Soraya 6W</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santana 2G</td>
<td>Eamon 2G</td>
<td>Lana KV</td>
<td>Adrian KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alissa 2G</td>
<td>Ethan 2G</td>
<td>Deesha 2S</td>
<td>Ali KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arman KL</td>
<td>Astha KV</td>
<td>Oviya 2S</td>
<td>Nehmat 1J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roseanne KV</td>
<td>Jayda 1H</td>
<td>Emily KV</td>
<td>Hannah K/1C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayah 6G</td>
<td>Tyson 3/4C</td>
<td>Summit 6W</td>
<td>Adab 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diana 5M</td>
<td>Domenico 3A</td>
<td>Sophie 6W</td>
<td>Jillian 6W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayah 6G</td>
<td>Maycie 6W</td>
<td>Shayaz 3A</td>
<td>Moira 4/5K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parveen 5M</td>
<td>Phoebe 4L</td>
<td>Chloe 3A</td>
<td>Emily 6W</td>
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**Milo Cup**

Students from Years 3 and 4 proudly represented Walters Road in the Milo Cup Cricket competition. Our teams played four games throughout the day against various schools throughout the Blacktown region. The students learnt valuable skills in the game of cricket and had an enjoyable day. Mrs Solomon and I would like to formally acknowledge the parents who assisted in transporting the students on the day.

Miss E. Andrews
Milo Cup Coach

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**Aboriginal News**

On the 17th of October 2015, Mr Armstrong accompanied a group of our Aboriginal students to an excursion to Muru Mittigar. Here are the children’s reports of the day.

*Muru Mittigar* is a once in a lifetime opportunity for children and teachers. At Muru Mittigar you learn new things, get to throw boomerangs and do dot painting. The instructors are awesome. **Seth 4/5K**

Last Friday we went to Muru Mittigar. When we were there we got told a lot about our culture and what animals are around there. Then we went inside and the guy that paints told us a lot about the painting and different techniques, then we got to do it ourselves. Then we had a walk around and talked about the different plants, then we got to throw a boomerang and it was AWESOME. **Jade 5M**

On Friday 17th of October we went to Muru Mittigar. When we got there we sat down and ate morning tea and then after that we went and painted an aboriginal story on a small canvas. Then we went and learnt about some leave. There were three different leaves, there was lemon myrtle leaf, there was a sand paper leaf that was used to sand down the rough wood of the tools they were making, then there was a soap leaf which was used to clean themselves. At the end we went and threw boomerangs. We had lots of fun. **Shania 6G**

On Friday the 17th, we went to Muru Mittigar in Penrith. It was a 35 minute drive there from school. When we got there we went and sat down in a circle and ate morning tea. After that we went inside and we painted an aboriginal painting on a small canvas then we took it outside to dry. The guide took us to a tree and its name was lemon myrtle and sandpaper fig tree and at the end of the day we threw boomerangs and I liked it. **Taya 6G**

On the 17th of October I went to a place called Muru Mittigar. We played some games, we painted and talked and also threw boomerangs. We stayed there for a few hours. We had lots of fun. We also talked about plants and different types of animals. We felt some leaves from a special lemon tree and felt a special sand paper leaf. Then we got to have some lunch and talk about all the things we had done. Then we got to see the bees in their hive. We got to do dot painting on a mini canvas. **Madison 6W**

On Friday 17th October, six students and Mr Armstrong went to Muru Mittigar in Penrith. Paul was our guide. First we went painting with Uncle John. Then we went and explored the nature, we got to keep lemon myrtle and sandpaper fig leaves! After that Paul talked to us about the tools and weapons Aboriginal people used before the European settlers arrived. Finally he taught us how to throw a boomerang. Then it was time to come back to school. **Kortana 5/6D**
**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 last remaining session this year is on:

- Wednesday 12th of November

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.