From The Principal

Dear Parents,

We are fast approaching the end of the year and organisation for 2015 has well and truly commenced.

Staff are in full “assessment and reporting mode” with reports almost completed. Plans for the Presentation Day, Year 6 Farewell, Sports Assembly, Party Day, etc, have all commenced.

It appears that only 89 parents have read our newsletter from last fortnight. I don’t understand this as communication is vital between home and school. As a parent myself, you would naturally want to be aware of what’s going on at school and avoid missing certain payment dates, excursions, assemblies etc. Our office is quite often put under unnecessary stress from parents wanting to know information that is all accessible in the newsletter. A reminder slip is being sent home today to see if this makes any difference.

We are monitoring our numbers at present for 2015 and we will be commencing the year on 22 classes and are only 10 children short of commencing a 23rd. If any families are not returning next year, we ask you to contact the office immediately. If you will be returning to school after the 28th January in 2015 we will also need a formal letter to indicate when you will be returning.

Our commitment to technology has continued with 8 new flat screen interactive monitors being installed into rooms this week. These are similar to the Interactive White Boards but will showcase more current technology. I know some of our teachers are very excited to have these now in their rooms.

We are currently undergoing a merit selection process for an Assistant Principal. The successful applicant will commence in 2015.

Just a reminder that from the beginning of 2015, all children should be wearing our new sport shirt as 2014 was the “phasing in” period. These are available to Lowes. We suggest these are purchased asap to avoid disappointment.

Phil Harris
Principal
From The Deputy

Hi Everyone,

I would like to thank our wonderful staff at Walters Road PS who work together tirelessly for our students and school community. There are so many events to plan, organise and present that are additional to the quality teaching and learning that occurs daily at Walters Road PS. Our teaching staff, office staff and support staff have been steadily working, learning and putting into practice many processes that ensure a caring environment that is educationally outstanding for all our students.

This time of the year is where we can all reflect on how far our students have come both academically and socially. Our Kindergarten students are taller, stronger and have reading, writing and numeracy skills under their belts! Our Year Six students are looking towards high school and have increased maturity and academic skills. Our Year Five students are looking towards leadership roles next year and being role models for our younger students. The speeches that were made for prefect nominations were a sign of very good things to come!

Thank you to parents who have improved the attendance of their children. Term Three proved problematic for many of us with sickness staying with families for extended periods of time. Please keep up the good attendance of our students as their learning opportunities are maximised when they are at school every day. It is a legal requirement that students attend school every day and we need to work together to ensure school life is positive and academically rewarding for all.

Our school is a proud Positive Behaviour for Learning School (PBL) with our four expectations clearly expressed by all staff and by the majority of our students. Can your children tell you what our expectations are? At the moment we are seeing data that suggest that being responsible and being safe are areas where our students need reminding and reteaching. Being responsible can mean being in the right place at the right time, being prepared for lessons and planning to learn or play without disrupting others. Being safe can mean lining up without bumping into other people, going into and out of the classroom in an orderly fashion and playing so no-one is hurt (this can mean keeping our hands and our feet to ourselves!).

Our expectations are:
Be Safe
Be Respectful
Be Responsible
Be a Learner

How did your child go with remembering them? I know these have been discussed and reinforced at home as we have the vast majority of our students living up to these expectations beautifully. In fact our data shows us for the last four weeks that 98.55% of our students from K-6 had one or less referrals for unsatisfactory behaviour – well done everyone!

Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal

Stage Reports

Early Stage 1 News

The last Kindergarten Orientation session finished yesterday. A big thank you to everyone listed below:

- Mr McNamara for organising student badges and setting up for all sessions.
- Mrs McHardy for organising activities in the classrooms and setting up for all sessions.
- Ms Laundry for organising the Year 5 buddies to help pre-kindergarten students with their lunches and playing with them on the Evans Grass. Also for setting up for all sessions.
- Miss Clark, Mrs Lebens, Mrs Lynch, Mrs Southwell, Mrs Mercieca, Mrs Mansell, Mrs DeMarzi, Mrs Smith and Mrs Wallace for helping children in the classrooms.
- Executive Staff who presented in Session One.
- Mrs Harris for presenting sessions on the English and Mathematics syllabuses, Mrs Jenkins for doing a presentation on the role of the counsellor, Mrs Makeleta for explaining the role of the Multicultural Community Liaison Officer. Also to Busways and Healthy Eating representatives who came and presented to parents.

This term in Science students are doing a unit called Move it. I have included some photos of students holding the toys they made from recycled material.
Every week Kindergarten students do independent writing sessions. I have included Ali’s writing from KL.

Thank you to KM and Mr McNamara for continuing with the Kindergarten herb garden. They’ve added some chives and thyme to our collection of herbs.

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

Events coming up:
- First Principal’s Award on Thursday 13th of November, 9:45am at the hall.
- Presentation Day on Thursday 4th of December

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

Stage 1 News
Mrs Grant would like to share some of the learning 1H has been doing in Science and Health.

Last term, 1H investigated where food comes from and this term we are doing further learning with a PDHPE unit of work on Health and Nutrition.

We had some exciting lessons which involved growing plants from seeds and watching them turn into plants and then finally into vegetables and flowers. We harvested some of the lettuce that was grown from our very own school garden and made some delicious, healthy sandwiches.
We also looked at healthy options to drink. We calculated the amount of sugar that is in some of our drinks and were surprised by our findings. The winner of course was water. Please remember to always pack for your child fresh water in a refillable container and to bring in something fresh and healthy for our daily Crunch and Sip program.

A part of these lessons has included building on student’s vocabulary, which is linked to the topics. We have come up with some new and interesting topic words as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>nutrients</th>
<th>fibre</th>
<th>energy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>calcium</td>
<td>fat</td>
<td>protein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fresh</td>
<td>healthy</td>
<td>vitamins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>minerals</td>
<td>muscle strength</td>
<td>helps us grow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carbohydrates</td>
<td>tasty</td>
<td>no artificial flavours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to those children who received their Principal’s Award this week. There is one more special assembly in Week 8 (27th November). Invitations will go home for this next week.

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1

Stage 2 News

Party Day
Notes have been sent home for our end of year celebration day, which will be held at AMF Bowling on Monday 15th December. Please adhere to the payment cut off dates. This will be a very enjoyable day for all students and we would hate for someone to miss out due to late payments.

Principal’s Awards Assembly
Congratulations to all our students in Stage 2 who are receiving recognition at Thursday’s assembly for their excellent behaviour. We have many students who are receiving a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Principal’s Award at this assembly and a further Principal’s Assembly will be held on Thursday in Week 8. Invitations have been sent home for the Week 6 assembly and we look forward to sharing this special day with you.

4K and 4C visit to CARES
Notes went home with students yesterday for the upcoming CARES visit. Could you please return the notes to the teachers as soon as possible and just a reminder that we are in need of assistance from parents with travel to and from the facility, which is just near Wet and Wild.

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 Year 6 parent meeting for the Year 6 Farewell will take place on Monday 24th November in Mr Dyer’s room starting at 3.30 pm.

Selective High Schools for 2016 – APPLICATIONS CLOSE 17/11/14!
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**

Thank you to all the students and teachers who supported the Year 6 Spider & Sundae fundraiser. We managed to raise $591! A big thanks to the teachers and parents who helped set up and then serve. We would also like to thank Arndell Park McDonalds for the donation of cups, straws and spoons, Coca Cola for donating all of the bottles of soft drink and Blacktown Coles for donating a voucher used to purchase some of the tubs of ice-cream.

**Party Day**

Notes have gone home for both the Year 5 and Year 6 Party Days. I would like to remind all families that **Thursday 11th December, 2014** is the last day for payment. No payments after this date will be accepted. Please note that no payments can be made from Thursday 20th November to Wednesday 3rd December, as the payment office is closed. Students can pay before or after those dates.

**Prefect Speeches**

Congratulations to the twenty-four Year 5 students who gave their prefect speeches on Monday 10th November. I was proud of each and every one of these students. They all spoke with confidence and proved why their Year 5 peers nominated them in the first place. Good luck to all of you. I know that next year’s prefect body will be one of the best!

**Year 6 Mini-fFete**

The last mini-fete of the year will be run by the Year 6 students and teachers on Thursday 20th November 2014. A note will go home soon with all the details. The proceeds from this mini fete will go towards purchasing the Year 6 gift.

**Mr M. Dyer**  
**Assistant Principal - Stage 3**

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**Home Reading**

Next Friday, 21st November, will be the last day for students to borrow Home Readers. The school needs to commence its annual stocktake of resources and we ask that all books be returned to school the following week.

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**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 on the notes going home. As it is coming up to the end of the school financial year (the end of November) there is a short period when we cannot process payments. The office will be open for everything else **except** payments between 20th November and 3rd December 2014. Thanking you.

**Mrs K. Wright**  
**Administrative Manager**

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**Our PBL Winners for Week 4, Term 4 were:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kushaj KV</td>
<td>Rebecca KT</td>
<td>Jake KM</td>
<td>Adrian KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roseanne KV</td>
<td>Mujtaba 1H</td>
<td>Paniora KM</td>
<td>Mia KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily KV</td>
<td>Katrina 2G</td>
<td>James 2N</td>
<td>Sam KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan 2N</td>
<td>Yasmine 2G</td>
<td>Riya 2N</td>
<td>Mohamad K/1C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel 3A</td>
<td>Mia 3A</td>
<td>Kortana 5/6D</td>
<td>Amelia 3/4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fajar 4/5K</td>
<td>Harley 3A</td>
<td>Jamie SM</td>
<td>Kortana 5/6D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob.G 3A</td>
<td>Jordan 4J</td>
<td>Bashir 5M</td>
<td>Amelia 3/4C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe 3A</td>
<td>Cohen 3A</td>
<td>Jaiden 4L</td>
<td>Daniel 3A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Our PBL Winners for Week 5, Term 4 were:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily KV</td>
<td>Liam KL</td>
<td>Japleen KL</td>
<td>Emily KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridie KV</td>
<td>Jayda 2G</td>
<td>Ally KL</td>
<td>Kushaj KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mervan 2G</td>
<td>Tasmin 2G</td>
<td>Ali KL</td>
<td>Gurshaan 1J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam KV</td>
<td>Elinah K/1C</td>
<td>Billy KL</td>
<td>Sarah KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janelle 4/5K</td>
<td>Monica 6G</td>
<td>Sharanya 4/5K</td>
<td>Valentina 6G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie 6G</td>
<td>Chloe 3A</td>
<td>Valentina 6G</td>
<td>Andre 6G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron 6G</td>
<td>Devinas 3A</td>
<td>Aaron 6G</td>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 now finished.

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.

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:
__________________________________________

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Wed 9.30am/10.30am/7pm
Fri 9.30am/10.30am

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Blacktown Aquatic Centre
4 Boyd St Blacktown NSW 2148
Ph. 9622 2279