From The Principal

Dear Parents,

This will be our last newsletter for the term and I wish you all a lovely holiday and a well earned rest. I know the staff are very much looking forward to the holidays, as this has been an incredibly busy term.

Our Mini-Fete was held yesterday and was a great success. $2038.50 was raised which will be used for English resources for all the children at our school. Our Cross Country was held today and the decision to have this at our school was a wise one. My thanks to Mrs Lihou for her co-ordination of this. As usual, superbly organised and well executed.

Mrs Gawith is busy packing up 17 years of teaching at our school and the staff are looking forward to celebrating her career at Walters Road later next week. At this stage, I am unable to announce the replacement on her class but I will inform the community and 2G as soon as possible.

My thanks to Mrs Sharon Carrick (P and C President) and Miss Julie Grennard for being on the panel for Mrs Gawith’s class.

I look forward to our Easter Hat Parade next week and a reminder that correct money needs to be placed in school photograph envelopes for our school photographs which are being taken next Wednesday.

Our Gymnastics Program starts in on Monday 5th May 2014. This program will run until the end of Term 2. Thank you to Mrs Grant for organising this program for our students.

My thanks for the response with The Family Occupation and Education Information. If you haven’t sent this information in we ask you to complete this and send this in asap. Additional copies can be requested via the office if needed.

Regards,

Phil Harris
Principal

Music Keyboard Lessons

At Walters Road Public School

New Enrolments now taken!

Thursday 8:00-8:30am and & 8:30 -9:00am

In the Music Room

Instruments used in class are free!

Cost $13.50 for 30 minutes

Email to: je-music@live.com.au
Enrol online: www.jekeyboardmusic.com.au
Fax: 9651 4892

No refund for missed lessons, 2 weeks notice to stop lessons.
From The Deputy

Hello Everyone,

Our school weeks are very busy and many students are reaping the benefits of quality teaching and learning at Walters Road Public School. Our students have been building in literacy and numeracy skills and computer skills in many different key learning areas. Also I’ve been fortunate enough to see stunning artworks, enthusiastic singing and sporting teams going through their paces.

Parents may like to try out some of the following ideas to support the learning of their children at home. Children can:

• when out shopping look at signs and read them
• make a shopping list before going shopping
• check the docket for goods and correct prices
• practise counting in your home language as well as in English
• visit websites of family interest (it’s important to have parental supervision when using the computer)
• research on the computer interesting people from your home culture
• use your computer for reading, research a favourite author in your culture and read about different books he or she has written
• access the local library for books, videos, dvds and other resources that can add to their literary experiences visually, orally and in print.

Enjoy the learning journey your child is on and give plenty of praise for information gained, creative ideas and original thoughts and opinions they will most certainly express!

Mrs D.Walker
Deputy Principal

Stage Reports

Early Stage 1 News
Quick reminders for events next week:

• Wednesday 9th of April - School Photos. Students in full school uniform.
• Thursday 10th of April- K-2 Easter Hat Parade in the hall starting at 9:45am. Students bring in their Easter Hat creations.
• Friday 11th of April- Anzac Day Ceremony. Students in full school uniform. Please bring in flowers for class teachers to make wreaths.

All the Kindergarten teachers would like to thank parents and caregivers for their support with school programs.

Throughout this term, KT has successfully grown mint and rosemary in the Kindergarten garden bed. Students enjoyed planting, watering and watching their herbs grow. They were very thrilled to take their herbs home to share with their families. Next term, KV will have the exciting job of planting herbs. We will have to stay tuned to see what they will be planting. If you have any herb donations, please see Ms Laundry.

This term, students have learnt about Road Safety, so in the holidays keep reinforcing with your child/children aspects of being safe as a pedestrian, in the car and when riding bikes, scooters or skateboards.

During the school holidays keep practising sight words and do counting with your child. Read lots of books for enjoyment. The Kindergarten teachers would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe, happy and restful holiday.

Reminder of up-coming events in Kindergarten this year:

• Term 2 - Taronga Zoo Excursion- Friday 13th of June
• Gymnastic Sessions – Mondays Term 2
• Term 3 - Parramatta Riverside Theatre Excursion to see Mr McGee and the Biting Flea- Thursday 7th of August.
• Term 4 - End of Year Excursion

Mrs Y.Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

A very big thank you to Primo Smallgoods & Jeff Hutchen for their very generous donation of over 400 beef sausages for our English Mini-fete. Thank you also to Mrs Rogers for delivering them.

Thank you also to Coles Blacktown for their donation of bread & to Mr Jones, one of our 1/2B parents for his donation of a large amount of amazing cupcakes for our Mini-Fete.

Thank you from the staff & students of Walters Road Public School.
**Stage 1 News**
Hi everyone! It is great to be back at Walters Road again. I had a busy time while I was on Long Service Leave – I went on a cruise, my sister got married and my son turned 21! But now I’m back and happy to be teaching again. I’d like to say a big thank you to Miss Williams for teaching 1H and Mrs Grant for relieving me as Assistant Principal. Both of these ladies are great teachers and are very efficient at their job.

The holidays are nearly upon us and you will have read elsewhere in the newsletter about all of the upcoming events we need to take note of. Please double check the dates and anything you might need to bring in.

As you know, we have been implementing the new English Syllabus this year. Throughout the term, Stage 1 students have been looking at stories from other cultures and telling and retelling. We have looked at many different types of texts including digital and multimedia and responded in various ways. As part of these lessons students have been encouraged to discuss their understanding of ideas and build on this knowledge. 1/2B had a wonderful time researching ideas at the beginning of the Stories from other cultures unit. They used dictionaries as well as the internet to find definitions and examples. It was wonderful to see the students supporting each other and discussing the best way to conduct a Google search. The ideas suggested varied from using voice prompt rather than typing and using a question rather than a statement to narrow their search.

We have had an excellent response to the camp excursion in Term 4. Please be advised that places are going fast and you will need to pay a deposit to secure a place for your child as soon as possible. If further information is required, please speak to Mrs Lihou. We would hate for anyone to miss out.

Gymnastics is being offered for Term 2 as part of the school curriculum. There are limited places on offer and they are going fast. Extra permission notes are available at the office.

From all the teachers in Stage 1, have a happy Easter and a safe holiday.

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

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**Stage 2 News**
This is the final newsletter for Term 1. Students in Stage 2 have been working really hard and participating in numerous extra curricular activities.

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**Stage 3 News**
Well I have finally returned from Long Service Leave, well-rested and raring to go!

I would like to thank Miss O’Brien for doing such a fantastic job teaching 5/6D in my absence. Miss Grennard also needs to be congratulated for her efficiency as Relieving Assistant Principal. Term 1 is such a hectic time as Stage 3 Supervisor and she has fulfilled the role with excellence.

**High School Applications**
Any outstanding high school applications must be returned immediately as there are dates that our school must adhere to in this process. Please contact Mr Dyer if there are any problems.

**Year 6 Shirts**
Orders have closed for the 2014 Year 6 shirts. I would like to thank all those families who have purchased one (or two) for their support. We anticipate that they should arrive at the beginning of Term 2.

**Stage 3 Camp**
Time has flown this term and we are fast approaching the cut-off for the deposit for the Stage 3 camp to Sydney Academy at Narrabeen. This is a truly wonderful opportunity for all the Stage 3 students and I hope we can get as many attending as possible.

The deposit of $100 is due to the Office by this Friday 4th April. Please contact myself or Mrs Wright as soon as possible if you need an extension. The full amount is $320, which is actually less than the cost the last time we went to Sydney Academy two years ago!

**Mr M.Dyer**
Assistant Principal – Stage 3
**Other Items**

### Office News

**SCHOOL CONTRIBUTION:**
Thank you to all those parents who have paid the $40 voluntary school contribution. The school contribution funds are put towards purchasing resources for your child’s class. Part payments of $10 can be made per term. All students who have paid during Term 1 will be in the draw for Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3. The next draw will take place at the beginning of Term 2 and the child will receive a $50 voucher to Lowes. Your support with this helps in all classrooms.

**FAMILY OCCUPATION AND EDUCATION INFORMATION (FOEI)**
A thank you also to the parents who have returned the green form requesting an update on the family occupation and education levels so promptly. The information is required before the end of term which is next week. If you still have not sent the green note in we would appreciate receiving it as soon as possible.

Thanking you.

*Mrs K.Wright*
School Administrative Manager

### Library News

A reminder for parents and carers of Kindergarten students - borrowing will commence from their first time in the Library in Term 2. In order to borrow, each student requires a bag to help protect the book. From Term 2 also, Kindergarten students will begin to receive Book Club brochures. Attached to their first brochure will be an explanatory note. As usual, please feel free to contact me with any queries.

*Mrs L.Higgins*
Teacher-Librarian

### P & C News

Easter Raffle tickets are due back by Wednesday 9th April 2014 and the raffle will be drawn the same day.

Next term the P & C will be holding our annual Mother’s Day Stall on Wednesday 7th May & Thursday 8th May.

There will be a variety of gifts available for children to purchase for Mum, Grandma, Nanna, Aunty & other special people in your child’s lives. Children can bring their money to school on the day and each class will have an opportunity to visit the stall.

### Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)

**Our PBL Winners for Week 8, Term 1 were:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Froil KM</td>
<td>Mahek KM</td>
<td>Paniora KM</td>
<td>James KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack KM</td>
<td>Carson 1J</td>
<td>Georgia 1H</td>
<td>Aiden 1H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shafina K/1C</td>
<td>Gurshan 1J</td>
<td>Bobby 1/2B</td>
<td>William 2N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoab K/1C</td>
<td>Mona 1J</td>
<td>Caroline 2N</td>
<td>Israa 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domenico 3A</td>
<td>Tahlia 5M</td>
<td>Brandon 5/6D</td>
<td>Brayden 3H</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jayden 4/5K</td>
<td>Naveed 5M</td>
<td>Jemma 3A</td>
<td>Noel 5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Younessse 5/6D</td>
<td>Diana 5M</td>
<td>Riley 3H</td>
<td>Chelsea 5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhvani 4/5K</td>
<td>Parveen 5M</td>
<td>Tahlia 5M</td>
<td>Chasidy 5/6D</td>
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</table>

**Our PBL Winners for Week 9, Term 1 were:**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ali KL</td>
<td>Matthew K/1C</td>
<td>Malakai 2G</td>
<td>Alissa 2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liam 2N</td>
<td>Bianca 2S</td>
<td>Meshkah 2N</td>
<td>Caroline 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbie KV</td>
<td>Uini KL</td>
<td>Mackenzie 1/2B</td>
<td>Dylan KV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ally KL</td>
<td>Lucy 1/2B</td>
<td>Aiden 2G</td>
<td>Parvana 2G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elise 3H</td>
<td>Zoe 3H</td>
<td>Mairelin 4J</td>
<td>Brandon 5/6D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe 3A</td>
<td>Christoffer 5M</td>
<td>Bashir 5M</td>
<td>Brandon 5/6D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennet 4L</td>
<td>Lawdies 3H</td>
<td>Tyson 3/4C</td>
<td>Nayema 4J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brody 6W</td>
<td>Shahla 3H</td>
<td>Riley 3H</td>
<td>Tyrone 6G</td>
</tr>
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### Stage 2 Cockatoo Island Overnight Camp

Just a reminder that the $50 deposit to secure your child’s place for the Stage 2 Overnight Camp to Cockatoo Island is due by Thursday 10th April.

For this worthwhile camp to go ahead we need a minimum of 86 students to attend. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this camp please contact me or take a look on their website [http://www.cockatooisland.gov.au/](http://www.cockatooisland.gov.au/)

Kind Regards,

*Mrs G.Lihou*
Stage 2 Camp Organiser
Free Parent Workshop in Blacktown LGA

Understanding Bullying

Dear Parents and Carers,

Learning Links is running a free parent workshop on bullying at Blacktown North Public School. The workshop is suitable for parents and carers of children in primary school who reside in the Blacktown LGA. Workshop has now been funded by Seven Hills-Toongabbie RSL Club.

Understanding Bullying

Bullying in Australian schools is a huge concern for teachers, parents and students. While schools are promoted as a safe place for children and bullying policies are in place, there is a gap in linking parents and school professionals to work together in understanding and providing early intervention.

This workshop will assist parents in identifying bullying, the different forms of bullying and what proactive strategies can be implemented. With appropriate support and intervention, the impact of bullying can be lessened and children can feel safe at school.

FREE WORKSHOP for parents and carers

Date: Tuesday 5th May, 2014
Time: 11:30am – 2:30pm
Location: Blacktown North Public School
1, Verrierd Street, Blacktown NSW 2148

or: (02) 8868 8200

* This workshop is proudly supported by Seven Hills-Toongabbie RSL Club.

Your Presenter

Les Moore is a registered Psychologist who has worked with children from birth to 15 years since 2003.

She has worked in private practice and provided counseling in schools across Sydney. Les supports her clients and their families with issues including anxiety, depression, behaviour management and bullying.

In addition to this, Les is a trainer with Learning Links delivering programs to parents and professionals in the areas of bullying, resilience building and other topics.