School dates to remember!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell Meeting Mr Dyer’s room at 3:30pm</td>
<td>Friday 5th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blacktown Music Festival</td>
<td>Tuesday 9th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doing Things Together Day</td>
<td>Friday 12th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Performance Night</td>
<td>Wednesday 17th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grandparents Day</td>
<td>Friday 19th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day of Term 3</td>
<td>Friday 19th September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Day of Term 4 for Teachers &amp; Students</td>
<td>Tuesday 7th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Wednesday 8th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gold Assembly</td>
<td>Thursday 9th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation Session 1</td>
<td>Wednesday 15th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage 2 Camp to Cockatoo Island</td>
<td>Tuesday 21st to Wednesday 22nd October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation Session 2</td>
<td>Wednesday 29th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten 2015 Orientation Session 3</td>
<td>Wednesday 12th November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6 Farewell</td>
<td>Thursday 11th December</td>
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From The Principal

Hello Everyone,

Term 3 is flying by! Stage 3 enjoyed a wonderful week at Narrabeen Sports Camp – our students were frequently complimented on their great behaviour and consideration of others. Back at school students were challenged by creative, educational activities and teachers have now added to their knowledge bank of students they cared for. Other stages are working well with reading and responding to texts being a great focus for teaching across all our Key Learning Areas. It was my pleasure to see “Potato People” made by students from KV – congratulations to Mrs McHardy for developing literacy skills in a creative, fun way.

Also our Focus on Reading professional development for teachers has resulted in many other new, engaging strategies being used in classrooms from Kindergarten to Year 6. Reading is a pivotal skill that parents can support at home – reading for many purposes at home can help our students enhance their academic progress while at the same time develop their love of learning. At home students can read instructions, recipes, cartoons, TV programs, letters, shopping lists, website pages and many other texts. Have fun encouraging your children to read – the more they read the better they will become at reading!

School attendance is slowly improving – this week Year 1 and Year 3 had great attendance data with very few whole day absences. Please help us support your children’s learning by keeping absences to a minimum, and providing notes explaining their absences as soon as they return to school. If absences remain unexplained or the attendance rate does not improve for students, the Home School Liaison Officer may be required to take action.

Our PBL expectations are being displayed by the majority of students at school. At school we always celebrate the fact that our students know the school PBL expectations and execute them well. Recently a teacher let me know of two Year 2 students who could explain with great clarity why they were given PBL tokens. Here are the quotes:

“I always bring my notes back to my teacher because they contain important information that my school needs to know about me.”
Andrew, 2N, on receiving a Responsible token

“I was doing my work and enjoying learning about something new. It is fun to learn.”
Dhanush, 2N, on receiving a Learner token

Walters Road PS is great place to be!

Happy Fathers’ Day to all our school families and friends.

Mrs D Walker
Principal - Relieving
**From The Deputy**

I will be in the office until Thursday the 9th of October. During that time, Mr Patterson will be on KT with Mrs Cook, who will be continuing her 10 week practicum until the end of the term. Mr McNamara will be Relieving Assistant Principal for Early Stage One during this time.

It has been a busy week. Firstly, I would like to thank Mr Wood and Miss Andrews for taking students to the Zone Athletics Carnival. Our students showed exemplary behaviour and did a first-rate job representing our school.

The Mathematics Committee organised this week’s Mini-fête and all the teachers have worked cooperatively over many weeks to make this day a success. A big thanks to the Rogers’ family who organised the donation of some of the food on the day. I’d also like to thank the families who have donated cakes and items for the white elephant stall; without full community support this day would not have been such a success. All proceeds made on the day, will be going to buy hands-on maths equipment that will be used by students in their classrooms.

All Creative Arts groups have been very busy rehearsing for Performance Night on the 17th of September. In advance, I would like to thank Mrs Baines, Miss Grennard, Ms Laundry, Mr McNamara, Miss Andrews, Mrs Howells, Mrs Clinch, Mrs Lebens, Mrs Harris and all the students for all the time and effort they are putting in together for this event. I cannot wait to see all the performances.

The teachers have been doing their own learning this week. They have been learning about the new Mathematics syllabus that will be implemented in all NSW schools next year. Behind the scenes, our teachers work very hard. They have been doing lots of follow up work after our professional learning sessions.

Finally, I would like to wish all the Dads and Granddads a great Fathers’ Day this weekend and thanks to everyone who supported the P&C Fathers’ Day stall.

*Mrs Y. Theodorou*

Deputy Principal – Relieving

**Grandparents Day**

**When:** Friday 19th of September

**Time/Where:** 1:40pm to 2:20pm- An afternoon tea/picnic on Douglas and Evans Grass. On this day, if students are accompanied by an adult, they are able to move between playgrounds. 2:20pm to 3:20pm- Class visits

**Stage Reports**

**Early Stage 1 News**

Kindergarten students enjoyed visiting the P&C Fathers’ Day stall this week and purchasing a gift for Dad or Grandpa. I’m sure there will be a lot of smiling Dads and Grandfathers come Fathers’ Day.

Kindergarten teachers are busily preparing for Kindergarten Orientation, which is set to occur in Weeks 2, 4 and 6 next term. If you have a child starting school in 2015 please visit the Office as soon as possible to begin the enrolment process. Also, if you know of any local families who may have children ready to begin school next year, please encourage them to do the same.

To make an amendment to the previous newsletter, the next K-2 Assembly will be in Week 9 (11th September) and will be hosted by KM. The first K-2 Assembly of Term 4 will be hosted by KV in Week 3. We look forward to seeing you there!

*Mr D. McNamara*

Assistant Principal Relieving – Early Stage 1

**Stage 1 News**

In the course of my current work on Focus on Reading, I have recently come across some information on the importance of reading for enjoyment. Research has repeatedly shown that motivation to read decreases with age, especially if pupils’ attitudes towards reading become less positive. (McKenna, Ellsworth and Kear, 1995) Home reading is an essential component of student learning as it gives them a chance to practise skills learnt at school and develop a love of reading that will hopefully last a lifetime. The earlier students start on this path, the greater the benefits. Something else to keep in mind is that “…the gift of reading can best be given by another reader who models what it is like to get pleasure from reading…” (Sheldrick-Ross, McKechnie and Rothbauer, 2005) Reading for enjoyment these days goes beyond reading just paperback novels, to include digital formats of different types of texts.

As a stage, we have noticed a decline in Home Reading this year and so are asking for your support in encouraging and supporting your child to participate each day. We are aware that students’ and parents’ home lives are very busy and that interest may be a factor as some of our books are not in pristine condition, but the school has recently ordered over $3000 worth of home readers to supplement our current stock.

Let’s continue to work together for the benefit of our students.

*Mrs T. Harris*

Assistant Principal – Stage 1
**Stage 2 News**
A reminder that Stage 2 Camp is approaching very quickly. Stage 2 teachers would like to remind those students going to the Cockatoo Island Overnight Camp that they need to ensure their Medical and Consent Form is returned to their class teacher by Thursday 4th September and final payment is due to the office by Friday 12th September.

A camp information sheet will be sent home shortly to confirm departure times and outline the necessary equipment that needs to be taken.

Thank you to all those students and parents and carers that supported our Mini-fete today. All money raised from the Mini-fete will go towards the purchase of valuable resources for Mathematics.

*Mrs S. Maack*
Assistant Principal - Stage 2

**Stage 3 News**

**Stage 3 Camp**
What a great week we had at Sydney Academy! Despite the poor weather, we still managed to participate in a wide range of activities such as bushwalking, abseiling, high and low ropes courses, rock climbing, kayaking/canoeing and archery, just to name a few.

Our students, as expected, behaved brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for Walters Road. The teachers even managed to get to sleep each night (a fact that we all greatly appreciated!). I did not hear a single student complain about the rain. In typical Walters Road fashion, our students just accepted the wet weather and gave their all in each and every activity.

Thank you to Miss Grennard, Mr Harris, Mrs Knox, Mrs Lebens, Mrs Walker, Mr Wood and Mrs Mansell for giving up time with their families to support our camp. I am sure we all have fond (and some humorous) memories that we will cherish over the years to come.

**Year 6 Parent Meeting**
The next Year 6 parent meeting for the Year 6 Farewell will take place on Friday 5th September in Mr Dyer’s room starting at 3.30pm. Thank you to all the parents who attended the last meeting.

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

Office News:

Students Information Update
A Permission to Publish note was sent home to every child. Thank you to the many parents who have returned this important information. If your child still has their note at home please return it to the school as soon as possible.

Students with Asthma
Students who suffer from asthma are encouraged to bring their puffers to school with them each day.

Mrs K. Wright
School Administrative Manager

Performance Night - Wednesday September 17th
Performance Night is nearly upon us. Posters are up, the program is printed and performance groups are fine-tuning their acts.
Performers and teachers are getting very excited and can’t wait to showcase the groups’ talents.
Most permission notes were returned but if you have not yet sent the note back, please do so immediately.
Tickets are on sale during Week 8 & 9, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, between 8.50 & 9.20 only. They may be purchased in the foyer outside KM for $5.
So families and friends, don’t miss the opportunity to purchase your tickets before they are all sold out. You will enjoy a great night of entertainment and support the school at the same time.

See you there!
The Performance Night Committee

Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)

Our PBL Winners for Week 6, Term 3 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>Charif 1H</td>
<td>Monique 2S</td>
<td>Sam KV</td>
<td>Mario 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian KV</td>
<td>Shanae K/1C</td>
<td>Grishma KT</td>
<td>Aiden 1H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethan 2N</td>
<td>Hannah K/1C</td>
<td>Katrina 2G</td>
<td>Destiny KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhanush 2N</td>
<td>Evania 1H</td>
<td>Salaah KM</td>
<td>Nelson 2S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandira 3A</td>
<td>Fatema 3A</td>
<td>Neha 3A</td>
<td>Ameerah 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah 3H</td>
<td>Ayesha 4L</td>
<td>Denika 4L</td>
<td>Arshad 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iznuna 3H</td>
<td>Natasha 4L</td>
<td>Thai 4L</td>
<td>Cohen 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiran 3A</td>
<td>Angelynne 4/5K</td>
<td>Ignasis 3A</td>
<td>Hayley 4L</td>
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Our PBL Winners for Week 7, Term 3 were:

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<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sienna 1J</td>
<td>Shabneez 1J</td>
<td>Dristi K/1C</td>
<td>Sarah KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison 2S</td>
<td>Hannah K/1C</td>
<td>James 2N</td>
<td>Lachian KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahma 1H</td>
<td>Evania 1H</td>
<td>Gypsy 2N</td>
<td>James KM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raj K/1C</td>
<td>Annabelle 1J</td>
<td>Andrew 2N</td>
<td>Dhanush 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiana 4L</td>
<td>Malika 3/4C</td>
<td>Brittney 5L</td>
<td>Jade 5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayesha 4L</td>
<td>Shantel 4J</td>
<td>Raven 3/4C</td>
<td>Timilehin 5M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayley 4L</td>
<td>Reem 5M</td>
<td>Martin 3/4C</td>
<td>Maddison 6G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoebe 4L</td>
<td>Christoffer 5M</td>
<td>Segun 4L</td>
<td>Tahlia 5M</td>
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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. By enrolling your child now you are able to ensure that they are included in our Kindergarten Orientation sessions. Our sessions this year are on:

- Wednesday 15th of October
- 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.