From The Principal

Dear Parents,

The term is progressing fast and the school is busy with so many things.

Our Mini-Fete is on next week and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Our Mini-Fetes are always a huge success and proceeds of this one will support additional lighting in our hall to support our performing arts program and showcase our Performance Nights.

Our K-2 Playground is taking shape and the end result will be fantastic. After that is completed, additional cementing will be done to link up to the pedestrian crossing and replace some of the pathway outside the admin block.

Parent Interview Information Sheets have gone home this week and we urge parents to reply as soon as possible and vacancies are quickly filled. We anticipate 100% attendance with all parents attending to discuss their child’s progress and to collect their Semester One Report.

Change is always present in our lives and over the last 4 –5 years we have made many positive changes to Walters Road which have resulted in additional technology, upgraded rooms, the establishment of Before and After School Care, improved school routines, uniform changes and even increased enrolments at our school.

Change is continuous and ongoing. In saying that, I have been successful via merit selection (promotion) to be the new Principal at a large School in Port Macquarie. I will commence my Principalship up there in Term 3 and my last day here at Walters Road will be in Education Week. My wife and 2 boys are very much looking forward to our seachange and all that it will mean (mind you the thought of packing up a 5 bedroom house is a little daunting). I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and feel that indeed a legacy has been left. Many great experiences and friendships have been formed. The new challenges of a larger school will certainly keep me on my toes!
Mrs Walker will be the Relieving Principal and Mr Dyer will be the Relieving Deputy Principal until the new Principal commences. It is hoped the selection process will start as soon as possible. Once more details are known we will inform you.

Regards

Phil Harris
Principal

From The Deputy

Hi Everyone,

Congratulations to all our students and teachers in Year 3 and Year 5 that participated in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) during Week 4 this term. Students were supported well by teachers and students can be very proud of their efforts during all testing sessions.

All our students here at Walters Road have many opportunities to enrich their individual learning journeys - I have heard about recorders being played, trees have been planted, songs sung, sport played, dances practised and lots of positive play experiences in our school’s Quiet Play which is now available a couple of times a week. All this is in addition to the quality learning programs that our teachers deliver in the normal course of events at Walters Road.

Many thanks to Mrs Higgins, our teacher/librarian, for supporting parents who have accessed our new parent library. Parents are welcome to check out books available and to also suggest areas where future purchases can be made. Our aim is to help parents have access to a range of topics that are relevant to raising children and can promote the wellbeing of both parents and children.

Aboriginal Performances will be held in the next couple of weeks in recognition of our National Reconciliation Week that starts 27 May and finishes 3 June. This time is great to introduce to our younger students Indigenous history and culture and for older students it can affirm their previous learning in this area. The presentations encompass storytelling, face painting, art, didgeridoo performance and dance.

Our next Mini-Fete is also approaching soon with many fun activities for students and some practical life lessons regarding expenditure and budgeting! Please encourage children to be involved in this school fundraising venture and come along and enjoy some time with your children on a hopefully sunny fun-filled day. This Mini-Fete is being hosted by the Creative Arts Committee and they hope to raise much needed funds for some very special lighting in our hall to benefit our many school performances well into the future.

Many thanks to parents who are closely monitoring their children’s attendance at school and are providing doctor’s certificates when their children are unwell. We now have many children who have improved their rate of attendance which will only increase their chance of learning successfully. The department has stated that once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students. It has also been stated that if a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they’ll have missed over a year of school. Students can lose vital blocks of learning when they are absent and this is very noticeable in the first few years of school.

We are looking forward to much more learning at school with excursions to take place and reports now being prepared. Please join us in Week 10 for our parent/teacher interviews where student work can be seen and progress can be discussed. Getting in early with a preferred time period for interviews will ensure that you can attend at a time most convenient to you.

Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal

Stage Reports

Early Stage 1 News

The Kindergarten Farm excursion is on Thursday 11th of June. Any parent that has not had an opportunity to pay yet has received another note. This is a valuable excursion and we encourage all students to participate.

A reminder that on the day of the excursion students need to:
• Come to school by 8:45am – the bus will be leaving at 9:10am.
• Wear their full school uniform.
• Wear comfortable walking shoes - sports shoes recommended.
• Wear a school hat.
• Bring their recess, lunch and drinks in a plastic bag – we will be providing them with an orange WRPS bag to use on the day.

Term 2 Kindergarten events for you to write on your calendar are:
• Aboriginal Show on Monday 1st of June.
• Mini-Fete on 2nd of June.
• The Dance2bFit program every Wednesday until Week 9. All students need to wear their sports uniform.
• Kindergarten farm excursion on Thursday 11th of June.
• Kindergarten Parent/Teacher interviews on Monday 22nd of June. Blue notes have been sent home. We would like them back by the 4th of June please.
Week 6 – Term 2

Another reminder if your child hasn’t brought in tissues or glue sticks, please bring them as soon as possible as our supplies are getting low.

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

**Stage 1 News**

**Parent/Teacher Interviews**
This week a blue note was sent home regarding interviews in Week 10. Stage 1 interviews will be held on Wednesday 24th June. 2C will be having their interviews before this and a separate note has gone home. Please return the slip with your preferred interview times as soon as possible, but before next Thursday 4th June. This date may seem quite early but teachers need time to organise a timetable of interviews for their class and get back to parents with their confirmed time by the end of Week 8, so that you have at least a week’s notice. I encourage all parents to take this opportunity to meet with teachers.

**K-2 Assembly**
Congratulations to 1H on a great assembly last week, including their item involving singing in 4 different languages. Well done to our chosen Assembly Leaders for next week – Fiona in KS and Taylor in KC. Next Thursday’s assembly will be hosted by 1P and will start at 2.30pm.

**What We’ve Been Learning**
Learning is a fun-filled adventure in Stage 1, as it should be for all children, so we thought we would share some of our recent work.

2M have been learning how to measure area. They ‘wrote’ their names using Base 10 blocks and then worked out the area that the names took up, using square centimetres. Can you work out the area of each name?

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1

**Stage 2 News**

Another couple of wonderful weeks for Stage 2. We welcome back Miss O’Brien from her overseas trip to Europe and Gallipoli and give thanks to Miss Gibson for looking after 3O in her absence; we really appreciate the wonderful teaching and learning that continued.

The Year 4 students were busy contributing to sustaining our local environment by participating in the 500 Schools Tree Planting Program. We attended the nearby Western Sydney Parklands at Dean Park and on average, most students planted around 5 plants each. Perhaps some families may like to visit this area. Apparently there is a lovely 28km walkway that would be suitable for bike riding. You could find details on their website.

Reminders about payments that are due:
- **Camp Deposit** Initial Deposit of $40 due 27th May
- **Bicentennial Park** Full Payment of $24 due by 10th June

The Week 8 assembly will be hosted by 3O and we are looking forward to their item and thank them for their efforts. We again are encouraging parents to attend our assemblies which are fortnightly on Thursdays (even weeks) from approximately 2.05pm.

Mrs G. Grant
Assistant Principal - Stage 2

**Stage 3 News**

**Stage 3 Camp**
Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy.
The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion and has been used to reduce the cost for each child attending.

For those students going to Canberra, please ensure that payments are finalised by Friday 5th June.

Details regarding the itinerary and required equipment will be going home soon.

Year 6 Farewell Meeting
The next Year 6 parent meeting for the Year 6 Farewell will take place on Friday 19th June in Mr Dyer’s room starting at 3.30 pm. Thank you to all the parents who attended the last meeting.

500 Schools Planting
On Wednesday 6th and Wednesday 20th May, our Year 5 students participated in the 500 Schools Planting Program. The students represented our school admirably and had a great time planting a range of flora in an effort to improve the local environment.

Odd Shoe Day
Thank you to all the members of our school community who supported our annual Odd Shoe Day fundraiser for this year’s Year 6 Farewell. We managed to raise $334!

McDonald’s Fundraiser
The Year 6 Farewell committee have organised a fundraiser at the Arndell Park McDonald’s on Monday 22nd June from 6pm – 7pm.

We will receive a percentage of the sales that are taken in-store. We look forward to seeing you there. Please note that sales from Drive-thru and McCafe WILL NOT BE INCLUDED.

Taster Lessons – Year 6
On Tuesday 9th June, students from Walters Road PS will be going to Evans High School to participate in a selection of “Taster Lessons”. During the visit, students will experience a variety of short introductory lessons as a preview to high school life.

Mr M. Dyer
Assistant Principal - Stage 3

Walters Road excel at the Zone Cross Country!
What an outstanding effort by our cross country representatives. On the 19th of May, 30 students attended the Blacktown Zone Carnival at Paterson Reserve, Quakers Hill.

As would be expected, the students’ behaviour on the day was fantastic. They are all to be congratulated on doing their best in what is truly one of the most difficult events to participate in. As a school, our Cross Country team finished 6th out of a possible 11 schools in the Zone. Undoubtedly, there would have been some exhausted students heading home on Tuesday afternoon needing a good relaxing bath.

Other Items

Office News

Payments for Excursions, Camps and Other Activities

To ensure money is paid for the correct child please ensure you have both the Christian and surname on your payment envelope and permission note.

Thank you to the parents who are sending in their payments clearly marked with their child’s name, class and the details of what the payment is for. If your child is writing out the envelope can you please check they have written it correctly. We have been receiving envelopes and permission notes with just the child’s first name and we have several children with the same christian names.

We ask all parents who are paying for excursions etc please take particular note of the last day for payment.

While Online Payments are able to be made after the closing date, these cannot be accepted unless prior arrangements have been made with the organising teacher. We do not want to see your child disappointed if a payment has to be refunded.

Please remember that if you make your payment online, a permission slip must still be completed and returned to the office.

Thanking You,

Mrs K. Wright
School Administrative Manager

Please note that sales from Drive-thru and McCafe WILL NOT BE INCLUDED.

Other Items
The Sydney West Cross Country Carnival will be held on Wednesday 10th June and we are ecstatic and super proud to have 5 students heading off to the carnival. Congratulations to the following students who have progressed to the regional level. Good luck!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position at Blacktown Zone Carnival</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bashir Goda</td>
<td>1st Under 11 Boys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marwa Darfour</td>
<td>3rd Under 12/13 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devinas Ofahengaue</td>
<td>2nd Under 8/9 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aditi Bishwa</td>
<td>3rd Under 8/9 Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Riley</td>
<td>4th Under 8/9 Girls</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special mention must also go to the families who assisted with transport of extra students on the day to and from the carnival.

Thank you …
Reilly, Modaffari, Grandemange, McClymont and Ghamraoui families.

Mrs G. Grant and Mrs C. Lebens

Library News
Issue 4 of Book Club has been distributed. Orders need to be given to me on or before June 3.

For over 20 years, NSW government school libraries have used a computer program called OASIS. That program is undergoing replacement, with the new system called Oliver. The changeover requires a great deal of behind the scenes work, and every school is given 12 weeks to make all necessary changes, in time for the update. I was informed on Monday by the relevant government authority that Walters Road Public School is now in that twelve week period. Massive changes are afoot, most of which will not affect, nor ever be realised by anyone other than library administration staff. Hopefully, the new program will add to learning experiences for students, but in the meantime a negative consequence of the new program is the cancellation of the Book Week Parades in August. These were mentioned in an earlier newsletter, with the promise of further details. Unfortunately, a very important training day coincides with the scheduled date of the proposed parades. There is no room for negotiation on the training date, and with a heavily booked calendar in Term 3, I am left with no choice but to cancel this event. My apologies to anyone who might already have invested time in thinking about the parade, but rest assured, we will certainly be celebrating Book Week with other activities during class time in the Library. And fear not – our annual Book Fair, held during Education Week (Week 3, Term 3), will definitely be happening!

Mrs L. Higgins
Teacher Librarian

Our PBL Winners for Week 4, Term 2 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afnan 1J</td>
<td>Liam KL</td>
<td>Chloe 1B</td>
<td>Georgia 2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adil 1B</td>
<td>Caitlin KL</td>
<td>Daksha KL</td>
<td>Fiona KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus 1B</td>
<td>Dylan 1B</td>
<td>Sienna 2M</td>
<td>Billy KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raj 1B</td>
<td>Ashwin 2M</td>
<td>Ali 1B</td>
<td>Tommy KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan 4V</td>
<td>Martin S3K</td>
<td>Medhi S3M</td>
<td>Bianca 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryanne 3H</td>
<td>Adam S3M</td>
<td>Rylee S3M</td>
<td>Kirk S3W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aryan 4V</td>
<td>Sania 3H</td>
<td>Deesha 3H</td>
<td>Mark S3K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aricin 4V</td>
<td>Raven S3M</td>
<td>Shamiah 3H</td>
<td>Naveed S3W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Our PBL Winners for Week 5, Term 2 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William 2B</td>
<td>Yog 2C</td>
<td>William 2B</td>
<td>Kaylan 2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alyssa 2B</td>
<td>Georgia 2M</td>
<td>Benjamin KT</td>
<td>Ashwin 2M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy 2B</td>
<td>Harshita 2B</td>
<td>Harley 2C</td>
<td>Alyssa 2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben 2B</td>
<td>Sienna 2M</td>
<td>Mikayla 2B</td>
<td>Zulaal 2C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No PBL draw</td>
<td>For 3-6</td>
<td>Due to wet weather</td>
<td></td>
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Mini-Fete
Creative Arts Committee
Tuesday, 2nd June 2015
11.20am-1.30pm

Prices start from 20 cents:
* sausage sizzle  * cake stall  * ice creams  * drinks  * lollies
* jumping castle (WRPS students only)  * fitness circuit (hall)
* face painting  * guessing competition  * photos  * craft  * nail polish
* hair spray and extensions  * white elephant stall  * pasta necklaces

Donations for the cake stall would be greatly appreciated. Nut-free products such as cup cakes, muffins, doughnuts, toffees, biscuits, etc. can be brought in on the morning of the mini-fete (Tuesday) and placed in the Reading Recovery room in the Kindergarten block (middle stairs between KL & KC).

Also any unwanted toys, books, videos, DVDs (G rated) etc for the white elephant stall can be taken to Mrs Theodorou's (KT) room at any time.

Parents are welcome and all gates will be opened at 11:20am. Gates will be closed again after 1:30. Learning resumes after recess and students are expected to stay at school for normal classes.

CANTEEN CLOSED ALL DAY DUE TO MINI-FETE