From The Principal

Dear Parent and Caregivers,

The term is progressing fast with reports all but completed and teachers busily coordinating parent interviews at the end of the term. The school is expecting 100% attendance of all parents to discuss their child’s progress in Semester One. Request forms have been issued, reminders have been in eNewsletters and teachers have been reminding students. I sincerely ask all parents to make this a priority and attend. You may not think it, but all children want to know that parents have shown an interest and what a wonderful way to showcase the link with home and school.

Our K-2 assembly area is all but completed and the COLA area looks very modern. Additional pathways are being added and will now link the pedestrian crossing to the K-2 area. It is hoped that these improvements will streamline the movement of children between both sides of the school.

Despite goodwill being shown to parents using our Walters Road driveway for the OOSH services we have decided that all access will now return to the Vella Crescent entrance. The speed limit in the driveway is only 10 kph and parents have been noted driving in third gear down it. We have also had staff been spoken to in a less than professional manner when parents have been asked to slow down. The OOSH has notified all parents that as of this week no cars should be on site and still, cars have been in the school premises. With the driveway being cemented this week and no access, we had parents caught out and in turn block the school driveway. This is unfortunate but the safety of the children is paramount. Parents we ask you to act on all communication.

Our mini-fete was a huge success with over $2200 raised. Congratulations to the committee and organisers for their excellent coordination of the day and for our community in supporting the school.

Regards

Phil Harris
Principal
From The Deputy
Hi Everyone,

Well done to all our students who have supported our Creative Arts Mini-fete, the Aboriginal Performance led by Mr Fred Reid and his son Toby for our K-2 students, and our student fundraising activities for the NSW Cancer Council. These opportunities have seen students enrich their learning and also give back to the community. Students at Walters Road Public School can be proud of their community spirit and knowledge gained from real-life experiences.

Many families face challenges today as they send their children to school and seek to nurture their children at school and at home. School plays an important role in the well-being of all our students and we have had the great pleasure and privilege to offer parents access to our new parent library as well as the ‘Triple P’ parenting program led by Mrs Makeleta Felila. It has been wonderful to hear that parents have enjoyed this program and that they now have a contact person at school in Mrs Felila who can support and encourage them in all the complexities that parenting today holds for us all. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Felila here at Walters Road Public school.

One area that seems to be very prevalent in these times is what educators and medical professionals often refer to as resilience. Does your child have it? Does your family have it? Did your parents have it? Fortunately we have parenting experts that have looked closely at this area and studied families with the intent to investigate this area deeply. We have the work of Mr Michael Grose who can answer some of these questions for us.

Michael Grose is the author of eight parenting books. Michael writes for newspapers and magazines in Australia and he also speaks on ABC Radio Victoria. Michael appears on Channel 10’s ‘The Circle’ program as well.

The following responses are based on Michael’s research and according to Michael are “10 Phrases You Hear in Resilient Families”.

1. Come on, laugh it off.
2. Don’t let this spoil everything.
3. Let’s take a break.
4. Who have you spoken to about this?
5. I know it looks bad now but you will get through this.
6. What can you learn from this so it doesn’t happen next time?
7. Don’t worry, relax and see what happens.
8. This isn’t the end of the world.
9. You could be right but have you thought about…
10. What can we do about this?

Michael stated the 3 top strategies which could be seen in families that were resilient were

- empathy
- humour and
- acceptance.

Did you hear any phrases you are familiar with? I know my mum was very fond of saying number 8!

Rejoice if you have resilient children or that you came from a resilient family – try out some phrases you haven’t heard that much but you think may help your children at home. Don’t be surprised if you hear your children say some of the above phrases as they support each other at school and learn to be more resilient as they continue their journey of learning at school and at home.

We have our 3-6 Aboriginal Performance to look forward to this week on Friday afternoon, the ICAS Spelling test this Thursday and next week we have 2C interviews with Mrs Cassar on Wednesday and all other teacher interviews in Week 10. We look forward to many parents coming to school to discuss the progress of their children.

Mrs D. Walker
Deputy Principal

Stage Reports

Early Stage 1 News
Today was our farm excursion. All the students were eager and excited to go. I am sure you will have some tired children at home tonight.

Term 2 and 3 Kindergarten events for you to write on your calendar are:

- The Dance2bFit program every Wednesday until Week 9. All students need to wear their sports uniform.
- Kindergarten Parent Interviews on Monday 22nd of June.
- Silver Assembly on Thursday 16th of July. It starts at 9:45am in the school hall.
- KT host assembly on Thursday 30th of July. Starts 2:30pm in the school hall.
Another reminder if your child hasn’t brought in tissues or glue sticks, please bring them in as our supplies are getting low.

Mrs Y. Theodorou
Assistant Principal - Early Stage 1

Stage 1 News

K-2 Assembly
Congratulations to 1P on their assembly last week. It was lovely to hear their song about being strong. Well done to our chosen Assembly Leaders for next week – Jayda in 2B and Baxter in 1J. Next Thursday’s assembly will be hosted by 2B and will start at 2.30pm.

What We’ve Been Learning
It has been another fortnight of interesting learning in Stage 1. The collage below shows 1B students doing some hands-on Mathematics task to do with time. They made a class clock where the students were the hands and went on a classroom search to locate examples of digital and analog time on the hour and half-hour.

Mrs T. Harris
Assistant Principal – Stage 1

Stage 2 News

Teachers are all very busy this fortnight finalising student assessments, reports and preparing for the upcoming Parent Interviews. The Stage 2 interviews will be conducted on Thursday 25th June. Please ensure that you arrive at your scheduled time. Prior to meeting with the teacher, the student’s books and the Semester One Report will be available for you to look at and then discuss with your child’s teacher. We look forward to meeting with you in Week 10 on the 25th of June.

Recently, we sent home extra notes and reminders about payments that were due for our Term 3 excursion to Bicentennial Park and the Term 4 camp to Morisset. Thank you to the families who have made their payments by the due dates and returned the permission notes. We are encouraging as many students as possible to attend both of these activities, therefore, please contact your child’s teacher immediately should you need an extension of time for payment or if you need to seek financial assistance.

Thank you to 3O for hosting the 3-6 Assembly this fortnight. We appreciate the time and effort you put in to preparations and thoroughly enjoyed your performance.

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.

I would like to remind all the students attending the camp that they need to meet inside the Douglas Road gates at 6.00am so that we can leave at 6.30am. Students must be dressed in full school uniform (comfortable walking shoes are allowed) in order to be able to get on the bus. All other details are in the note that went home last week. Spare copies are available from the office.

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 3.30pm. Thank you to all the parents who attended the last meeting.
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.

Mr M. Dyer
Assistant Principal - Stage 3

Other Items

Positive Behaviour Learning (P.B.L)

Our PBL Winners for Week 6, Term 2 were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFE</th>
<th>RESPECTFUL</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
<th>LEARNER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taylor 1J</td>
<td>Lilly 2M</td>
<td>Mustafa 1P</td>
<td>Ali 1P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harshil KC</td>
<td>Corey 2M</td>
<td>Vishant KS</td>
<td>Liam KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob KC</td>
<td>Mason 2M</td>
<td>Ben 2B</td>
<td>Akur KL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikola 1B</td>
<td>Macoi KT</td>
<td>Saber 1P</td>
<td>Jay KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanisha 3A</td>
<td>Aiden 3H</td>
<td>Lawdies 4/5G</td>
<td>Shamiah 3H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony S3M</td>
<td>Cody S3M</td>
<td>Bianca 3A</td>
<td>James 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohen 4V</td>
<td>Ashpreet 3A</td>
<td>Natasha S3L</td>
<td>Koby 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitara 3A</td>
<td>Aanvi 3H</td>
<td>Briearna S3M</td>
<td>Caroline 3H</td>
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Our PBL Winners for Week 7, Term 2 were:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dante KC</td>
<td>Sandra 2C</td>
<td>Zac 2M</td>
<td>Harkirat 1J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Younis 1J</td>
<td>Kaylee 2C</td>
<td>Anesa 2M</td>
<td>Brooke 2C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annica 1J</td>
<td>Fadlin 2C</td>
<td>Caitlin KL</td>
<td>Dania KC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaitlyn 1J</td>
<td>Chantelle KC</td>
<td>Ba KL</td>
<td>Florenz 1J</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nandika S3L</td>
<td>Koby 3A</td>
<td>Chena 3O</td>
<td>Abed 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex S3L</td>
<td>Bashir S3W</td>
<td>Nana-Ama 4V</td>
<td>Baxter 4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mervan 3O</td>
<td>Tahlia S3L</td>
<td>Fajar S3L</td>
<td>Tanisha 3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adab S3L</td>
<td>Marwa S3W</td>
<td>Divyanka S3W</td>
<td>Santana 3A</td>
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Office News

Online Payments:  Don’t forget to send your permission note back.

Please ensure the permission note, with the receipt number recorded, is sent in to the office once the payment has been made. Students are not permitted to attend any excursion or leave the school unless a permission note has been received.

Thanking You,

Mrs K. Wright
School Administrative Manager

Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea

Walters Road – you are to be congratulated!
What a wonderful school community we are. This term, we put in a tremendous effort and raised a total of $1493.80. This money will go directly to the NSW Cancer Council and be targeted towards medical research, support groups and medical equipment. Thank you to all the families who contributed to the success of the day by bringing in cakes to be sold, giving their child money to spend at the stalls and the coin trail, or by generously making a donation. Thank you also to the staff that assisted by raising funds or assisting at the cake stalls.

Altogether the Coin Trail raised $241.95 for the Cancer Council.

3O had the longest trail with 2m 61cm. 1B was a close second with 2m 60cm.

S3K raised the most as class with $38.10
3H was second with a total of $25.50

The colouring/decorating competition winners will be announced next newsletter.

Thank you very much

Mrs G. Grant
Cancer Council Fundraising Co-ordinator
Creative Arts Mini-fete
Last week the Creative Arts committee held our Term Two Mini-fete to raise funds for the committee. The Mini-fete was a tremendous success, raising a total of $2266.70. This money will be used to improve the quality of the stage lights used in the hall, which will benefit performance groups and the whole school. We hope to have these lights installed in the coming weeks, ready to put them to use at Performance Night in September (more information about that coming soon – stay tuned!)

On behalf of the committee I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mr Hutchens (grandfather of Harrison in S3K and Cooper in 1H), of Primo Smallgoods, who donated several boxes of delicious beef sausages. Thank you to Mrs Rogers (mother of Harrison and Cooper) for delivering the sausages to the school.

Tremendous thanks also to Mrs Barakat (mother of Benjamin in KT), whose face painting was certainly a creative and colourful hit!

Thank you to teachers, students, parents, visitors and the Creative Arts committee for a spectacular mini-fete. Well done, everyone!

Debating News
Congratulations Again!!!
On Monday, the 18th of May, we hosted a debate at our school against the debating team from Hassell Grove Public School at Mt. Druitt. The topic of the debate was “Junk food should be banned from schools”. As affirmative team we presented a very strong case and won the debate.

We would like to congratulate Saniya Kumar, Nandika Prasad, Timilehin Kayode and Andrew Dommett for their great effort. Kate Supan and Yianni Mamouzelos were our Chairperson and Timekeeper. Well done guys!

A special thanks to Patrick Supan, Noel Taktak, Arnav Hangloo, Willow Ponini, Briearna Whata, Mehdi Anwary, Nevaeh Fe’ao, Tahlia Gazzola, Segun Kayode, Aryan Sarwary, Chelsea Ball and Mark Marquez. These people have worked behind the scenes tirelessly to get our debates ready.

Mrs J. Knox and Mrs M. Jain
Debating Co-ordinators

Mr D. McNamara
Creative Arts Committee
2015 information for parents and carers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection will count students who have been identified as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT FOR MY CHILD?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect better information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When implementing the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and report data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to better target support and resources to benefit students with disability. The data will help schools to better support students with disability so that they have the same opportunities for a high quality education as students without disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings). In the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COLLECTED?

Every year your child’s school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student’s level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student’s level of adjustment
- the student’s broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and
programme improvement for students with disability.

WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

WHO WILL COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?
Teachers and school staff will identify the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team’s observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

HOW WILL MY CHILD’S PRIVACY BE PROTECTED?
Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.


IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?
All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and report information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child’s school principal and the relevant education authority or association of impendent schools.

Even if your child’s information is not included in the national data collection, the school is still required to provide support to your child with education needs.

FURTHER INFORMATION
Contact your child’s school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability and how it may involve your child.


An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/.