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## From the Principal Term 4 Week 6, 2014

Here we are in Week 6 of Term 4 already. Your children's teachers have been busy with students doing end of year assessments as part of the preparation to begin to write student reports. Student reports will be sent home in Week 10. We have 11 weeks in this term but please remember students only come to school for the first 3 days of Week 11 and finish the school year on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Teachers will have the next two days doing professional development.

### Kindergarten transition to school starts

A very successful morning was held for our new Kindergarten parents and children last Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Children experienced their first morning in the big school classrooms while their parents caught up on valuable information about how to support their child beginning school. You could tell by the smiles on their little faces that the children had lots of fun at school. The transition program will continue over the next three Wednesdays with the final visit including a Teddy Bears picnic. Woy Woy Public School is looking forward to being part of these new children's educational journey. A big thank you to **Mrs Kate Lord** for her organisation and expert running of the entire Kindergarten transition program.

### Swimming Scheme

The annual swim school offered to Year 2 children and other children who cannot swim or who are not confident in water from Years 3 and 4, is in progress for 2014. Our students have been walking down to the Peninsula Leisure Centre to take part in water confidence and water safety lessons. In our island country Australia, a big part of most people's leisure time is spent around water and/or doing water activities. It is so important that our children know how to keep themselves safe around water. The swim school is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn these very necessary skills. The swim school will continue until the end of this week.

### Disabilities Program classes go to camp

For 3 days of last week, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday our Disabilities Program classes enjoyed the excitement of going on a sport and recreation camp at Mangrove Mountain. When I rang Mr Andrew Kinniburgh to see how everyone was going I could hear beautiful, excited and happy students having the time of their lives. I have heard many of them attempted and experienced things they had never done before. What a wonderful opportunity for our students with special needs. They spent two nights and three days away from school and family supported by their teachers and learning support officers as well as the staff at the camp. So many thanks to our support class teachers and learning support officers for the extra duties you did to support these students, feeding, showering, dressing, encouraging, and

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## School structure 2015

Thank you to the parents who have made appointments to see me personally or have written in regarding their concerns around student placement next year in 2015. All considerations are confidential. We will be looking at class structure and placement in a couple of weeks so please if you would like the opportunity to express concerns about your child's placement do it as soon as possible.

## Staffing for 2015

Presently we have an open advertisement running for the position of Assistant Principal to fill Mr Kevin Lane's position at our school. This closes on Wednesday 12 November. The merit selection panel will then meet to go through all the applications to decide on who should progress to interview where a successful candidate will be chosen. We will know who our new Assistant Principal will be in about two weeks from Wednesday. Also, an open advertisement for a teacher position will go live online this week and, as with the Assistant Principal position, we will know in a few weeks who our new teacher will be. Another teacher position is being looked at with a third to be allocated by staffing. These are positions previously held by Mrs Karen Keenan, Ms Rae Campbell and Mr Evan Long. Given these arrangements, it is hard to put teachers to classes for 2015 at this stage. Also some of our permanent staff have opted to work part time next year. Some 3 days a week, some 4 days a week. This is within staffing guidelines and does give the opportunity for our wonderful casual teacher staff to still be part of our school.

## Thank you for your valued input

It was fantastic to see you all come for our parent forum and add your view. We have gained a wealth of information to help us plan future directions for our school. We are now tabulating the information gathered and will soon have it ready for you to have a look at. The information so far is guiding us in 3 directions - innovative teaching and learning, positive community and quality systems in which to operate. Once we have all the information tabulated we will be asking you to help by suggesting ways and means of achieving what we all want for our children. Thank you for your much appreciated support.

## Consideration of some new uniform items

We had an extremely positive response for our consideration to change some of our uniform items. There are now many more things to consider before we can execute these changes. We would like to start the discussion on where to go now at the next P&C meeting on this Thursday night. The P&C meeting week starts with the Annual General Meeting to vote in the new positions for 2015. It will be held in the staffroom starting at 7:00pm. If you would like to be part of our wonderful P&C now is your chance to be considered for one of the P&C positions. The P&C do a fantastic job by raising funds to support all children at the school by providing extra opportunities and things for them to enhance their education and by supporting the school with advice and community support. After the AGM a general meeting will be held where we can discuss how to proceed with the uniform changes. See you there.

## Our value this fortnight is Trustworthiness

Teachers will be talking to their students about being trustworthy and what this means. You can help us with this important value by talking to your children about it as well. Trustworthiness involves four major qualities: integrity, honesty, promise-keeping, and loyalty. When we are trustworthy people can rely on us. We can be counted on to do what we say we will do. If we make commitments, we follow through on them.

Being trustworthy also means that our words are aligned with our intentions. We seek to maintain a level of transparency that lets other people feel clear about who we are and what they can expect from us. We treat the trust of others as a sacred gift, knowing that in trusting us they make themselves vulnerable.

Being trustworthy doesn't mean we will never let others down. Rather, it is an attitude and a pattern of behaviour that honours the trust placed in us. Thank you for your support with this very important life value.

## Handy tips for parents

### Future Leaders Program

An ideal development opportunity for school Student Representative Council (SRC) or any student who shows leadership potential. To make a booking or find out more, contact Sport and Recreation on 13 13 02 or visit <http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/futureleadersprimary/> for primary school programs and <http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/futureleaderssecondary/> for secondary schools.

### Understanding climate change

Is your child learning about climate change at school? CSIRO's scientists are learning how the earth's climate system works through observation, measurement and modelling. Find out more: <http://www.csiro.au/Outcomes/Climate/Understanding.aspx>



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### Little Aussie Songsters competition

An Australia Day competition where primary students can video their singing of our national anthem. For further details, visit

<http://www.aussievault.com.au/vault/136/detail/little-aussie-songster>

The competition is now open and will close on Saturday 14 February 2015.

### Ready for high school

Just to let you know that the Transition to high school, Ready for High School Checklist is now available in 36 languages.

Search by language: [http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/start\\_ss/rfhsc.php](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/start_ss/rfhsc.php)

Have a happy and productive week everyone.

Ona Buckley

Principal

## Preschool News

Our students have been very eagerly watching our wonderful General Assistant, Macca, busy at work in our Preschool grounds. They have been busily discussing between themselves what they think he is doing and they have decided he might be building a new house for 'Bluey' the resident blue tongue lizard! (Wow, Bluey would be very lucky.) They are enjoying watching Macca hard at work and then enjoy getting out their own work tools and hard hats too!



## An Invitation from BWSC for Year 6 Parents

You are invited to attend the 2015 Year 7 Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm in the BWSC Umina Campus Gym.

Prior to the commencement of the Information Evening, a brief tour of the school will be conducted. If you would like to join this tour, please meet outside the Gym at 6.25pm. We look forward to meeting with you and welcoming you into our school.

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# Library News

Week 6 is the last week for borrowing this term due to stocktake preparations. Overdue notices will be sent home during Weeks 7 and 8 with the cost price of the book/s attached. The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge certificates will be arriving at the end of this term and given to students who have completed the challenge this year.

Mrs Walker Teacher Librarian

# St Vincent De Paul Christmas Toy Collection

For a number of years, the Woy Woy Public School community has supported local families in need at Christmas time by donating toys that are distributed by the St Vincent de Paul Society. Your donations of new, unwrapped toys can be left in the bin in the foyer of the school office from this week. Each year the Society and their clients are very appreciative of our community's generous support. Thank you.

# Aspire Home Reading Awards

- 25 Nights: Izabella- May Peter K/1D
- 50 Nights: Gabriella Potestas K/1D
- 75 Nights: Brock Wiegold K/1D, Katrina Haskova 3G, Ava Ayres KMD, Hokin Lam KMD
- 100 Nights: Katrina Haskova 3G
- 125 Nights : Katrina Haskova 3G, Jessica Drury K/1D, Lucia Yevmenkin KMD, Chloe Gavin KMD, Layla Graham KL
- 150 Nights: Jezie Zodins K/1D
- 175 Nights: Amy Newcombe 3G, Joshua Durrand K/1D
- 225 Nights: Lief Quennelle 3G, Jaden Introna K/1D, Lara Butler KMD
- 250 Nights: Nate Armstrong K/1D, Laura Huber K/1D, Anwar El-Kurdi KL

# P & C News

## Annual General Meeting

All are welcome to attend the AGM this Thursday evening, November 13 in the staffroom, commencing at 7pm.

## Uniform News

School Uniform Shop will be open on the following Kindergarten Transition to School Days in addition to our normal days. We accept cheque or cash payment only.

Wednesday 12th November 9.15am - 9.45am

Wednesday 19th November 9.15am - 9.45am

Wednesday 26th November 9.15am - 9.45am

General opening times are each Monday and Thursday morning 8.30 – 9.00am. Donations of uniforms in good, clean condition are required please bring them into the shop. We have Eco bags, Printed calico Library bags and School backpacks with the school logo. Uniform pricelist is attached, also available on the school website [www.woywoy-ps.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.woywoy-ps.schools.nsw.edu.au) and a the school office.

Tanya Watson Uniform Co-ordinator



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[WWPS Uniform Order Form](#)

[The Croft Christmas Twilight Market](#)



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