



WIRIPAANG PUBLIC SCHOOL

The Bulletin

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Term 4 Week 9

Principal's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Community,

It is hard to believe where time goes as we head towards the last few weeks of our inaugural year. Excitement is in the air as Newcastle hosts the Special Olympic Games and our students from the Unit spent the day travelling around to venues to watch several games in action. They have also recently attended the Special Education Christmas Disco at Merewether High. We are so grateful to Hunter Sports High for allowing us to use their buses and we are also grateful for our bus drivers Ms Fleming and Mrs Donaldson.

Congratulations to our beautiful bride Miss Thompson who was married last Friday. It was very touching to see her class 2/3T turn up at the wedding to watch her walk down the aisle. It was very emotional and shows the lovely community engagement that we have when our lovely parents chose to dress up and bring their students to the wedding. Many wedding party guests commented on how beautiful it was to see a teacher, her class and the community have such a connection. Miss Thompson will return on Monday as Mrs Gilmour!

Currently, the school executive is busy planning for next year. Our enrolments are up and there is a possibility that we will be forming a new class if we hold the numbers. Therefore we will need to plan for two scenarios, 7 mainstream classes (as per 2013) or 8 mainstream classes. Students will be placed in classes in preparation but as our situation is fluid we will need to wait until week one term one to finalise arrangements.

Our positive affirmation this week is **'I learn best when I am listening and following instructions'**. This affirmation is suggesting that as learners we can only do our best when we are listening and applying the instructions we are given. Learning is about taking some new information or skill and using it. You cannot learn the new knowledge or skill well if you are not listening and/or following instructions. So if you want to be a successful learner it is important that you listen carefully and follow instructions exactly as they are given to you.....'Be a Learner'.

For the calendar.....

Tuesday 10th Dec – Year 6 Farewell starting 6pm

Thursday 12th Dec - Presentation Day 10am-11.30am

Wed 18th Dec – Wirifactor and Songroom
Performance at 12 midday

Wed 18th Dec – Students Last Day of School for 2013

Next week we will trial the new 'Lakeside Playground'. Parents will be able to drop their students off in the new drop off zone. Drive into the Lakeside entrance, drop your child/ren under the carport and then continue driving through to the exit near the hospital carpark. The new car park will be for parents and community. There will be no parent/community access to our top staff car park... we will be opening it up to HSHS staff who are in desperate need. Our special needs buses will use the new drop off zone. The new drop off zone will be supervised from 8.40am-9am each morning and 3.00pm-3.15pm each afternoon. All children will play in the new 'Lakeside Playground' in the morning session (8.40am-9am).

On Tuesday night we will celebrate Year 6 Farewell at Windale/Gateshead Bowling Club. This is a very important event in a child's development and there is an expectation that all children will attend. Please contact the school if there is a need to help transport your child. The event starts at 6pm and we are asking parents to return at 8pm to observe the presentation process.

Please don't forget Presentation Day on Thursday 12th December. Parents and carers of students receiving awards will be notified shortly. It will be a proud day for our school.

'It is necessary to be concerned about the importance of educating a really beautiful human spirit'
Shinichi Suzuki

Mrs Lee Saurins

Principal

Wiripaang Last Week.....



Aaron and Blake show their understanding of 'tall' and 'short'



Banjo is writing lots of sentences every day!



Ethyn is reading Level 20 and he's only in Kindergarten....



Our kind and thoughtful students who pick rubbish up to help keep our school clean. We are learning how to not be a tosser!



Congratulations to our beautiful bride Miss Thompson who will return from her honeymoon on Monday as Mrs Gilmore!



Kindergarten 2014 had a great time at their Teddy Bears Picnic.

Office News

School Office Hours 8.30am till 3.15pm

Please try to have the correct money when paying for excursions or activities as we often don't have change available.

Please be aware that even though you may receive an invoice for items such as school fees with a total amount on it, you are welcome to pay the total off in several smaller amounts if that suits the family finances.

Please note school fees are now due. As decided at the P & C meeting 1st child is \$20, 2nd and 3rd children are \$10 each and no fee for the fourth and subsequent children.

School News

Awabakal Playgroup

For the end of term, Awabakal playgroup would like to invite the children and adults who attend playgroup to Blackbutt Reserve Carnley Avenue Park on Wednesday 11th December from 10.00am to 1.00pm for a picnic and the 'Little Critters Presentation'. Morning tea will be served before the show that will start at 11.00am and this will be followed by a sausage sizzle lunch. Please bring with you a hat, water/drink for yourself and children. Parking is at your own cost and is approx \$4.00 per day.

Playgroup will be at normal time on Monday 9th December. The last playgroup for the year will be the 16th December and if you wish you can bring a small plate of party food to share. Awabakal will provide fruit and drink.

Playgroup will resume on Monday the 3rd February 2014.

Sensory Garden News

It's Christmas time.....and it's time to decorate our sensory garden! We now have our beautiful swing and chairs and it's such a lovely place for our children to play and relax. We need your help to make our garden look amazing for Christmas – we have started to put a few decorations up but it's just not enough. If you could spare some tinsel or a Christmas windsock or garden stakes – imagine how magical our garden would look if every family donated one Christmas item.....I'm excited just thinking about it!



Thank you to all the wonderful parents who have helped me with garden throughout the year. Your help and support has been much appreciated. Our garden will be a continued project over the years but we need to get on top of the weeding and mulching before the holidays, so if any parent has a green thumb or a spare half an hour and wants to help out please see Mrs O'Connor – We love helpers!



★ The Reading Recovery All Stars ★

Levi Dunne is one of the Reading Recovery All Stars at Wiripaang Public School. He commenced the program at the end of September. He really enjoys sorting letters quickly and is quite fast.

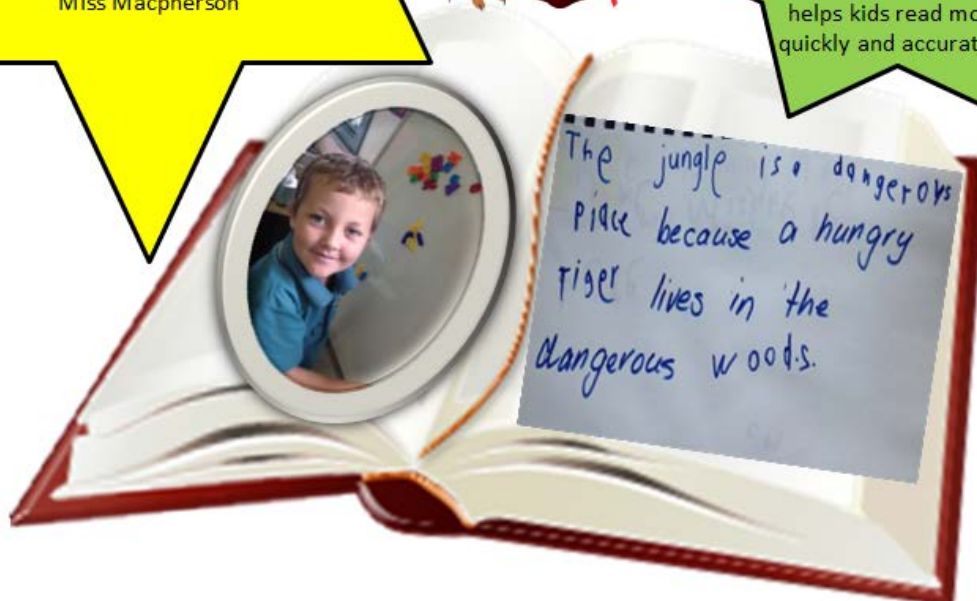
Keep Up the Good Work, Levi
Miss Macpherson



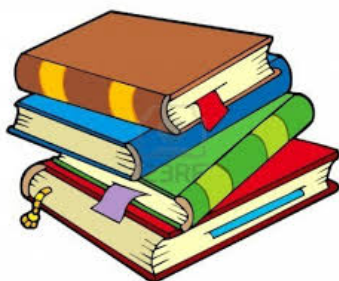
Reading Recovery Star Tip:

Once is Not Enough

Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately.



Library Resources



Thank you to all those students who are remembering to return their books to the library. It's been wonderful to see students borrowing this year but all resources must be returned this week, in time for our annual library stocktake. Please continue searching for misplaced books and don't hesitate to see Mrs Venables or Mrs Ansell if there are any problems regarding this issue.

Wirifactor and Songroom Performance

On Wednesday 18th December we will be holding our Christmas Wirifactor and SongRoom performance in our school hall at 12.00pm. All welcome!



Wiripaang Public School Fundraising Committee would like to invite you to a

Wiri Fun Night

We are holding a Bingo Night to raise money for much needed School play equipment.

With great game prizes and lucky door draws and lots more **FUN!**

This will be held on the 19th of December between 6.00pm and 8.30pm in the Wella Room at the Windale Bowling Club.

Entry is \$10.00. This gives you a book of Bingo Sheets and free access to Tea/Coffee and Nibblies.

Extra books can be purchased on the night for \$4.00 each.

Entry Books can be purchased prior to the night at the School Office or on the night at the door.

Hope to see you all there!!

Tracey Adamson
School Fundraising Coordinator



Tips for Parents

Summer holiday fun

Sport and Recreation is giving away a kids' camp for two. Simply tell them in 25 words or less why you'd love to win a Sport and Recreation holiday, and like their [Facebook page](#). The competition closes on 13 December, 2013.

Enter the competition: dsr.nsw.gov.au/win

Avoiding homework drama

Bell Shakespeare's artistic director, John Bell, discusses Shakespeare and how to make it accessible. He says to tell your teen not to worry about the language; to concentrate on the characters, the dilemmas, and the problems they face, and find out how to identify with the protagonists in the story.

Coping with Shakespeare: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/helping-kids-cope-with-shakespeare>

Pleasures of free play

Allowing free time for children to play on their own, making up games and activities, can help kids to be comfortable in their own company, teach them how to cope with boredom and, importantly, foster their imagination.

Under scheduling your child: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/health/benefits-of-underscheduling-your-child>

For the love of science

Science is a method of engaging with, and trying to understand, the world. Professor Tim Flannery says if a child is interested in pursuing science, encourage them to develop persistence and humility – the idea that they won't always be right.

Listen to the podcast: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/science-tips/for-the-love-of-science>

Skill Building for School Starters (Printed Sunday Telegraph 'body + soul' Sunday 24/11/13)

Here are some suggested tips from KidsMatter for parents and carers to try over the summer break:

Making Decisions: Providing your child with simple choices will give them practice for decisions they may need to make at school. Start with giving them two choices such as the red or the blue top when getting dressed, or an apple or banana for a snack.

Social Rules: Kids will be bombarded with rules and new routines when they start school which they'll need to follow – for example, returning to class when the bell rings and standing quietly at assembly. Talk to your child about how different settings have different rules and expectations.

Following Instructions: Young children can need some help with learning to following instructions. Start by giving your child one instruction to follow, such as "Please get your school bag", and walk with them to do it if necessary. Then build up to giving your child two-step instructions, such as "Put your dish in the sink and get your bag, please." Kids of this age can have difficulty remembering more than two or three instructions at a time.

Coordination-boosting activities: Drawing, using scissors and glue, building with blocks, helping with cooking, and throwing and catching a ball can help children learn and practise hand-eye coordination, which is important as they learn to read and write.

Community Information

Awabakal 2013 Children's Christmas Party will be held Friday 13th December from 10am til 3pm at Camp Shortland, Nobby's Beach, Newcastle East. Great prizes up for grabs with deady music and fun for everyone. For further information please see flyer on noticeboard in office.

Southern Beaches Junior Rugby Union Club is looking to increase junior player numbers for the 2014 season. Boys from age 5 upwards are invited to play. For more information please contact Paul Meagher on 0401 507 849.

Belmont North Netball Club will be holding registrations for the 2014 season on Saturday 15th February from 9am to 1pm at the Belmont North Netball Courts (next to Lenaghan Oval). For more information email belmontnorthnetball@hotmail.com

Cerebral Palsy Alliance (formerly The Spastic Centre) is holding a Showcase of Services and Information Sessions to help interested people find out what's new in disability supports, services and training. There will be interactive sport and fitness demonstrations and individual consultations will be available (by appointment). Anyone interested in a career in disability services is also welcome to attend. The Showcase will take place on Wednesday 4th December from 1pm-6pm at the Newcastle Harness Racing Club. Free Entry – Free Parking – Chill out Space and Child Minding. For further information visit cerebralpalsy.org.au/showcase2013



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oosh@fairplaycafe.com.au

Kindergarten Transition

Transition to School

Term 4 will see the beginning of our official **Transition to School** program for 2013. All students enrolling in Kindergarten 2014 at Wiripaang Public School are invited to attend.

Mrs Cook and Miss East will be running the program from K/1C's classroom. There will be three sessions running that will include important school readiness activities for both children and parents. The transition process allows for children, parents and teachers to start forming important relationships to ensure a smooth transition to school in 2014. **Please note there are minor changes to the order of sessions for parents.**

New Kindergarten students will meet their Year 5 (2014) buddies at their sessions. The buddies will be there to support our new Wonnai (children) in the playground and at times in the classroom.

If you know any children that are not already in the **Wiripaang Wonnai** program and are planning on attending Kindergarten at Wiripaang Public School in 2014 please pass on this information.

Term 4 Orientation		
For Students:		For Parents:
Visit 1	14th November 2013 9:30 - 11am Students working in literacy groups Students need to bring: A piece of fruit for fruit break and a drink of water	School representatives are there to discuss their roles with parents.
Visit 2	28th November 2013 11 - 12:30pm Students will be working on a range of mathematics activities as well as making a healthy lunch Students will need to bring: a drink, hat, their lunch box with some snacks in it.	Ben Thomas our Instructional Leader will talk to parents about - Best Start, Homework and Great Games
Visit 3	12th December 2013 1-3pm Students will be creating crafty artworks. Students will need to bring: a drink, hat and some recess.	Commonwealth bank Eat it to Beat it