Welcome Back

We have had an unusual start to the term with our local area having severe weather over the past few days. There have been many reports of damage to the homes and property of our families however, we are pleased to say to there have been no reports of injury to any members of our school community. Many of our families still remain without power and we appreciate the efforts of families who have been able to get their children to school today.

Our school has sustained damage to some windows in our administration building and very minor water damage to a few of our classrooms (only one in primary). Several trees have fallen but have not caused any damage except to some fence panels. We have also lost the sail that shades our playground. These issues have been dealt with swiftly and the school is fully powered, functional and safe for students to attend.

Parents and carers do not need to send a note for absences on Tuesday and Wednesday as all students will be marked as being on school business.

Homework Changes

Following feedback from our school community there was a need to review our Homework Policy and Procedures within our Primary school. Firstly, we began by reviewing current research and relevant Department of Education documents. Then in order for our new procedures to reflect the needs of our school, a survey was conducted of our families, students and teachers. The results of this survey were then analysed by a focus group consisting of teachers, parents, and students. From this, a new structure for homework was created which was approved by this group and our teachers to be implemented in 2015. We will monitor its implementation in Terms 2 and 3 and then review the new approach in Term 4.

You will notice we now have much greater flexibility for our students and families whilst having more consistent homework across K-6. We would like to thank all of those that have been involved through this process.

There will be no homework for the next two weeks while we get this system up and running. In the meantime, please use this time to work on your child’s speech for the Public Speaking Competition.

Awards

Bronze Awards:
Ellie Snell (1)
Mikayla Taylor (4)
Charlotte Moses x 2 (5)
Shaikya Smith-Healey (5/6)

Silver Awards:
Taylah Johnston (3/4)
Mikayla Taylor (4)

Wadalba Winner Draws:
Thorpe: Kane Gibbs-Dodkin
Bradman: Ella Harris
Hall: Jessie-Lee Lynch
Freeman: James Short

Assembly Class of the Week: 2/3

Dates to Remember:
21st Apr- Pet Program K-2
24th Apr- No assembly
CROSS COUNTRY POSTPONED
4th May- Assembly 1:30pm- K
6th May- Mother’s Day Stall
7th May- Letterland Day
8th May- Mother’s Day morning tea
11th May- Assembly- 5/6
12th-14th May- NAPLAN
16th May- Assembly- Yr 1
18th May- UNSW Digital technologies competition
19th May- GRIP Leadership conference
20th May- Cake Day (Yr 5 & Yr 2 to provide cakes)
20th May- Cuppa & Cake afternoon 1:30-2:30
22nd May- Zone Cross Country
25th May- Assembly- Yr 5
3rd June- UNSW Science Competition
4th June- Susan Berron Author Visit
5th June- Yrs 5&6- World of maths

5th June - Yrs 5&6- World of maths
Assembly Time Change!!

Our assemblies will now be held on Mondays at 1:30pm. Our first assembly for this term will be on Monday 3rd May.

Uniform Shop

Our uniform shop is located between the Gym and the Movement Studio (entry via top car park). If the gate is locked please call the school on 4392 5000.

Our shop hours are:
Monday to Thursday - 8.15am to 9.30am
We also use a great online ordering system called FlexiSchools to make purchasing of uniforms easier for the school community. You can order from home or work and your order will be delivered to your student.
Visit www.flexischools.com.au

Scripture

Scripture will continue this term. At this point we have had no volunteers to teach ethics classes to our non-scripture students so this will not yet be available.

In the Spotlight:

Student Learning Support Officer

Name: Ms Carole Beckley
My job is: SLSO but I teach fine motor groups, peer reading and lots of other fun stuff
I started working at Wadalba in: 2009
What I like best about my job: Helping our kids enjoy learning.
My favourite colour is: Jade or Teal
My favourite food is: Chicken baked dinner! Yum!
The subject I like most in school was: Art and Sport
My favourite movie is: Pretty Woman and all of the Lethal Weapon movies.
My kids are: Daniel and Jarrod
In my free time I love: Doing outside stuff, walks on the beach and visiting friends

Nits

Head lice are one of the most commonly reported health complaint from parents and teachers. We have recently had a larger outbreak than normal at or school. We are currently investigating the ‘Nitbusters’ educational program through NSW Heath.

If you would like more information please go to:

Cross Country- POSTPONED

Our Cross Country Carnival will no longer be held next Friday due to very muddy conditions after the recent storms. We will keep you informed as things progress.
Library Survey
We are currently in the process of updating our library. Please complete this very quick survey to help in our planning to make sure we are catering your family’s needs. Just click on the link below or copy and paste the address into your web browser. We appreciate any input.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1q8ZA3FO9hpjY1ZiJhksUmsTzndcoUYVq4acYYVxJ8r8/viewform?c=0&w=1

Blended or Multiple Families?
If you have a student in a blended or multiple family situation it is now easy for all parents and caregivers to have access to the same information! By providing the school with the email addresses of all parents they will easily have access to updates and newsletters without having to remember to share information. If you have a parent or caregiver that would like to be added to the distribution list for updates and information, please contact the school or send a note in while your child. Also by liking our Wadalba Community School Facebook page you get even MORE information about what is happening at school!

Our Road Safety Focus for Term Two is PASSENGER SAFETY

Children up to 7 years old must sit in an approved booster seat, with the seat belt fastened, in the back seat of the car.

Facebook Page
Don’t forget to like our Facebook page so you can get instant updates of what is happening at our school.

Community Board:
Wyong Shire ANZAC Services

Wyong RSL
Address: Anzac Ave, Wyong, NSW, 2259
Phone: (02) 4359 7444
Email: info@wyongrslsubbranch.com.au
Website: www.wyongrsl.com.au

DAWN SERVICE
• 5.40am - Assemble in Club Wyong RSL Car Park
• 5.45am - Dawn Service commences followed by Breakfast for those attending the Service

MORNING SERVICE
• 9.15am - Assemble at Wyong Town Park (Cenotaph)
• 9.30am - Morning Service commences followed by the March
• 11.30am - return to Club

ROAD CLOSURES
• 11.20am – Down Hely Street (from Rankens Court) left into Anzac Avenue, left into Margaret Street concluding at Wyong RSL Car Park

Toukley RSL
Address: Holmes Ave, Toukley, NSW, 2259
Phone: (02) 4396 4855
Email: admin@toukleyrsl.com.au
Website: www.toukleyrsl.com.au

DAWN SERVICE
• 5:20am - Cenotaph Main Road

MORNING SERVICE
• 10:30am - Cenotaph Main Road

ROAD CLOSURES
• 5:20am – Main Road Toukley between Holmes Avenue and Athol Street
• 9.20am – Main Road Toukley between Fravent St and Yaralla Road

SPECIAL INFORMATION
Members and guest service personnel breakfast will be served upstairs. Public breakfast will be served in the Club.

Two-up from 2pm in Function Room
Building your Child’s Resilience

Recently I have had many parents ask me how they can help their child to become more confident and resilient. Michael Grose is the author of 8 parenting books, including his new release “Thriving!” and the best-selling “Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change it.”

Here is a clip from his interview on Channel Nine as well as an excerpt from his website.

Michael Grose Interview
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n86EHCKDSZI&feature=player_embedded

Excerpt from Michael’s Website: Raising exceptional kids.

“Resilience is a 21st Century parenting concept that every parent needs to understand.

Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn’t faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience.

The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Resilient kids share four basic skill sets- independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.

Building Resilience

From a resilience perspective parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them.

You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your kids by:

1. Having a positive attitude yourself. Your attitude as a parent impacts on their ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a ‘you can do it’ attitude for your child when he meets some of life’s curve balls.

2. Look for teachable moments. Many kids’ learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.

3. Make kids active participants in the family. Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of kids that are necessary for resilience.

4. Build kids coping skills. There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn’t go their way, including acceptance, getting away for awhile, and normalisation.

Promoting resilience in kids is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don’t go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in yourself, and your child’s ability to cope.”

5 Principals for Raising Confident Kids
- Aim to make yourself redundant
- Don’t do for them what they can do themselves
- Put yourself first sometimes
- Kids need leadership from parents
- “No” should be heard routinely
Year 4 has made a fantastic start to 2015. We’ve been busy with many activities this term. We enjoy our music lessons with Mr Walters and our research projects in ‘Genius Hour’. We’re even fortunate to have the lovely Mrs Fabian (Olivia’s grandmother) assist us with our maths groups. We’re looking forward to many more exciting activities throughout the year.

Don’t forget there are LOTS of resources and information about our school, education and much more on our website: http://www.wadalba-c.schools.nsw.edu.au/
For Primary specific information, just click on the Primary Tab
Wadalba Cup Report

Term One saw students at Wadalba Community School take part in some healthy competition to earn Wadalba Cup points for their house. Wadalba Cup Fever is alive and is being supported by both students and staff. The Primary has had a number of different blitzes so far this term including – hats, litter, arriving and lining up for class appropriately and on time.

A student from each house is drawn out at assembly each week for Wadalba Winner Friday. Each student drawn out receives a $1 voucher to spend at the canteen.

Students also have the opportunity to have their name placed into a draw for a $1 Bin It voucher if they are seen randomly picking up rubbish (even when it is not our current blitz focus).

Stage 3 had a House dance off, where all students from each house had to perform the best line dance to Boot Scootin Baby. Hall won this challenge and Thorpe as a close 2nd.

End of Term 1 Leader Board

1st Thorpe
2nd Hall
3rd Bradman
4th Freeman
Our Easter Hat Parade - April 1st
In late March this year the P&C held our Annual General Meeting for 2015 with all committee roles up for nomination. Three new people were elected to the committee and two were re-elected.

Please welcome to our new P&C Executive Committee:

- President – Brendon Bryant
- Vice President (Primary) – Darnell Milford
- Vice President (Secondary) – Rosemarie Miller
- Treasurer – Robyn Mackenzie
- Secretary – Katy Bryant

Thank you to our outgoing executive members Karen Jones (secretary) and Sharryn Brownlee (president), who have made valued contributions to our P&C, our school and our community.

Last term we had some delightful contributions for the Cake Day Stall, including chocolate covered strawberries, tasty muffins, toffees and “tiny teddy at the beach” cupcakes! It was a smashing success. With items from 10 cents every child who purchased was able to pick something yummy.

The Easter Raffle was also a wonderful success, with many excited children (parents and teachers!) winning prizes. We would like to thank our parents and carers for their generous donations, and Rose, Sally and Melissa for beautifully packaging the prizes.

This year, we have assisted several students with contributions towards costs associated with State and National Representation. Thirty iPads are actively being used in our Primary School classrooms, and new Pinboards have also been installed in the Primary Hall, which were purchased by the P&C. In addition, we are making contributions towards curtains for the High School Hall, a school communication system and a modern Library fit-out.

With your kind donations and support we are able to continue to assist the school and children where possible.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday 10th June at 6pm in the High School Staffroom above the administration offices. The meeting is well attended by school staff and provides an excellent opportunity to hear the latest news straight from the top!! There will be light refreshments, tea and coffee. It really is a great way to support your child’s education, get to know other parents, find out what is happening in your child's school and become part of the Wadalba CS community. We would love to see you there!

Brendon Bryant, President
0412 551 678

**Upcoming Fundraising**

6th May [Week 3] - Our annual Mother’s Day stall will be held on Wednesday 6th May. A variety of gifts will be for sale for $5 each, with a limited number of “Grandmother” gifts, or special presents for a primary female carer.

20th May [Week 5] – Cake Day for Term 2 will be held on Wednesday 20th May. It would be wonderful if students from 5M and 2G could bring a contribution to be sold on the day. Cakes and sweets will be for sale at recess for 10c, 20c, 50c and $1. Enjoy the day off from packing recess!

Further in the year we will be running our annual Pie and Lamington Drive.

**Uniforms**

Our Uniform Shop is open Monday to Thursday from 8:15am – 9:30am with cash and EFTPOS both accepted. Please see the staff at the canteen in the morning to assist you. Alternatively, uniforms may also be ordered via flexischools.com.au, and delivered to Primary Students.

**Canteen**

The Primary Canteen is now open 5 days a week thanks to our magnificent volunteers donating their time for the children. If you are able to volunteer any time in the canteen, please phone the school and ask to speak with Vicky, our friendly Canteen Manager.

Please feel free to phone me should there be any matters you would like discussed.