School Exemptions and Holidays

The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) has now changed the procedures for registering Exemption from school requests. From the beginning of 2015, family holidays and travel are no longer considered under the Exemption from School Procedures. Travel outside of school holiday periods needs a **Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel** available from the school. A principal should accept a reason for travel during school term if it is in the best interests of the student, such as educational, social and participation reasons; this also includes family business, bereavement or other reasons, which should be specified on the application.

On accepting a parent’s Application a **Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel** must be issued. The certificate is provided to the parent. A principal may decline to accept a parent’s Application of a **Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel**, the parent will be advised in writing.

Travel outside of the vacation period is now counted as an absence for statistical purposes by DEC and will be recorded as L – Leave and will count as an absence on your child’s school report.

Any attendance related enquiries can be directed to our admin staff on 4392 5000.

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**Dates to Remember:**

20th May - Cake Day (Yr 5 & Yr 2 to provide cakes)
20th May - Cuppa & Cake afternoon 1:30-2:30
20th May - Netball Comp
21st May - Soccer Comp
22nd May - Horse Sport
25th May - Assembly - Yr 1
26th May - Debate Comp
27th May - Biggest Morning Tea
29th May - Central Coast Dance Festival Dress rehearsal
29th May - Zone Cross Country
1st June - Assembly - Yr 5
2nd June - Debate Comp
3rd June - UNSW Science Competition
4th June - Susan Berron Author Visit
5th June - Yrs 5&6 - World of maths
8th June - Public Holiday
10th June - P&C Meeting 6pm
15th June - Assembly - Yr 2
17th June - Stage 1 CCDF
22nd June - Stage 2 CCDF
22nd June - Assembly - Yr 4
23rd June - Pet Program - K-2

**Facebook Page**

Don’t forget to like our Facebook page so you can get instant updates!

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**Awards**

**Bronze Awards:**
Jayden Maddrell - Yr 1

**Silver Awards:**
Kane Gibb-Dodkin - Yr 5

**Wadalba Winner Draw:**
Thorpe: Levi Barrientos
Bradman: Rhiannon Kendall
Hall: Ryan Miller
Freeman: Lachlan Wearne

**Assembly Class of the Week:** 2G
**Homework**
All students will have now started using our new homework system. Some parents have mentioned they are concerned about the level of the maths mentals book that their child is trialling. This can be easily fixed by speaking to your child’s teacher who can give you another level to trial before purchasing the book for $10.

We want to ensure all children are working at the level best suited to them so please don’t be shy in either speaking to your child’s teacher, sending in a note or calling to speak to the teacher.

**Public Speaking Competition**
The public speaking competition is coming up in the next few weeks. The time limits are below:

- Kindergarten to Year 2 = 1 to 2 minutes
- Years 3 & 4 = 3 minutes
- Years 5 & 6 = 3 minutes

The topic is free choice. Teachers will ask for speeches to be completed in class in the next few weeks. Contact your class teacher for exact weeks.

If you have any questions, come and speak to Mrs Snell.

**Donations Needed!!!!**
With the wet weather season upon us we are calling for donations of BOARD GAMES and construction sets, especially LEGO, for our kids to play with when it's too cold and wet outside.

If you have any unwanted board games or construction sets that you would like to donate to our kids, please bring them to Mrs MacDonald's room.

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**Community Board:**

**Parents Not Partners Program**

for separated parents in conflict over parenting issues

A six-session program for separated parents in conflict over the children – where they should live, how much time with each parent, what school they should attend, or anything else concerning the children. It may be conducted one-on-one or in a group and for some it will be the next step after having participated in the half-day seminar, Building Connections.

**What will I gain?**
- Parents who are separated will learn:
  - About the effects on the children of ongoing parental conflict
  - How to shift the focus from the conflict to child’s needs
  - The skills to reduce conflict
  - About parenting after separation
  - How to transform the relationship into a business-like partnership
  - To better understand the emotional needs of each child in the family

**Topics covered:**
- Negotiating a business-like relationship as joint parents and recognising the needs of children
- Through the eyes of my/our child
- Understanding change – separation and loss – with effective solutions for parents
- Positive communication and helpful hints on becoming a more effective parent
- The cycle of conflict: avoiding the escalation of conflict with ideas and solutions for individual situations
- A way forward – positive role model and building self-esteem in children

**Contact:**
- Call Family Relationship Centre at Erina
- 4363 8050 for more info

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**Congratulations to our Library Monitors**

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as our first ever library monitors:
- Tayla Bott
- Jessie-Lee Lynch
- Ciara Milson
- Annie Robertson
- Kanak Datar
- Troy Pearson
- Asenaca Leweniqila
- Rebecca O'Toole
- Rebecca Flatt
- Claudia Wheat
- Emily Spiken
Aboriginal Fibre Sculpture Workshop
Miss Painter and Miss Smee from the High School arranged for a local artist to come and work with our Aboriginal Students on creating their own masterpieces.

Reconciliation Artwork Competition
Our students are entering a competition at the Gosford Regional Art Gallery. Our K-6 Indigenous students created an artwork called ‘Pieces of the Puzzle’ which represents family, love, peace and what makes ‘me’. This can be viewed on May 23rd until July 12th in the main gallery.

In the Spotlight:
A High School Science Teacher
(who comes to teach science in Primary!)

Mrs Emma Downey

I started teaching at Wadalba in: 2011
This year I teach: Year 5 & 6 Science, Year 9sc2 & 9sc8, Year 11 Biology, Year 11 Senior Science and HSC Biology
My favourite colour is: Blue
My favourite food is: Royal gala apples & frozen coke
My favourite book is: Harry Potter series
My favourite subject when I was at school was: Science and mathematics
My favourite subject to teach is: Junior chemistry
In my free time I love: Spending time with my family, playing with my pets & going for walks with my husband.
My family is: Big, important, crazy, special & one of a kind
If I could travel anywhere in the world it would be: All around Australia and Asia, oh and Europe. Let’s just say everywhere!
My advice to primary students getting ready for high school: Do your very best at everything you do and always ask questions if you are unsure.
Mother’s Day Morning Tea
Thank you to all of the special ladies in our lives that were able to make it to the Mother’s Day morning tea. It was such a lovely day and it was wonderful to see so many families coming together. (more photos are available on our Facebook page)
K-2 had a ball celebrating and dressing up for the Letterland parade and the subsequent activities on Thursday 7th May. We certainly looked the part in a wide variety of costumes from Annie Apple all the way to Zig Zag Zebra. K-2 enjoyed moving between classrooms completing a range of Letterland activities and craft items. Thankyou to the parents and families who were able to attend and to our 3-6 friends who enjoyed seeing us having so much fun!
Cross Country Carnival

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<td>Thomas Porter</td>
<td>Indie Belle Cassin</td>
<td>Declan Loxton</td>
<td>Mackenzie Ellis</td>
<td>Levi Barrintos</td>
<td>Rhiannon Kendall</td>
<td>Semi Lewinqila</td>
<td>Imogen Wells</td>
<td>Bailey Herder</td>
<td>Anneka Holland</td>
<td>Ben Baker</td>
<td>Brian Grech</td>
<td>BJ Panjer</td>
<td>Charlotte Robertson</td>
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<td>Anthony Diles</td>
<td>Tamzen Maddrell</td>
<td>Jayden Maddrell</td>
<td>Mackenzie Linfanti</td>
<td>Aadan Herder</td>
<td>Gabby Sonter</td>
<td>William Bryant</td>
<td>Ellie Snell</td>
<td>Tyler Dunn</td>
<td>Netania Barrientos</td>
<td>Jake Lee</td>
<td>Paige Wells</td>
<td>Kane Gibbs-Dodkin</td>
<td>Jorja Boyden</td>
<td>Kaylen Maddrell</td>
<td>Sienna Davis</td>
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Year 5 have had a busy start to Term 2. We had the lovely Mrs Rachel Corbett join us for the first 2 weeks. She worked with small groups of students and observed lessons. She was on her very first prac and enjoyed working in our classroom. We are also very lucky to have some wonderful parent helpers who come in and work with us each week.

In week 1 we had a special ANZAC assembly where we remembered the ANZAC’s and what they did for our country. Following on from this we have been learning about the history of Gallipoli and ANZAC day in class.

In Maths we have been learning about Time. A lot of us struggled to read an analog clock and thought we would just stick to reading digital times – we have surprised ourselves at how good we have become at this.

Due to the wet weather a lot of us have been doing Dance for sport. This has been in the hall with some of Mrs Snell’s class. We have so much fun and are enjoying learning the dance moves to some old school songs like the Nutbush, Boot Scootin Baby, Heel Toe Polka and many more.

We have another busy week ahead as we prepare to sit our NAPLAN tests. Mrs MacDonald assures us that she already knows how wonderful we all are and we all should be super proud of what we have achieved so far this year. NAPLAN provides important information about our areas of strength and weakness, but with the hard work we have all been putting in this term we know we are getting brighter every day.

In Science we have been learning about Different States of Matter – looking at liquids, solids and gasses and how certain materials can change forms from solids to liquids and gasses and vice versa. We have conducted some exciting experiments that have demonstrated this; these included making ice-cream, making slime and Making Magic which involved blowing a candle out with gasses produced by a liquid and solid being mixed.

Many teachers this year have commented on what a great class we are and how committed and inspired we are to learn. This is evident in the number of students that have been recognised for the wonderful things they have done and achieved. So far this year our class has received 15 Bronze awards and 6 Silver awards, this in itself demonstrates the great achievements of Year 5.
Cake Day

Our Term 2 cake day will take place on: **Wednesday, May 20th**.

Students will be able to purchase a small cake for morning tea. Prices will start at 10 cents.

Classes to bring the cakes this term are **2G and 5M**.

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Central Coast Dance Festival

Congratulations to our Stage 1 and Stage 2 Dance Groups who have successfully auditioned to perform in the Central Coast Dance Festival later this term. The students have been working hard during their recess and lunch breaks and their efforts have paid off, being invited to perform on various nights of the festival.

The Stage 3 dance group also put in a lot of effort, but had a much bigger competition and were unsuccessful this year. They will be able to help the younger dancers to practise.

Thank you to Mrs Kinsela, Ms Goldie, Mrs Ryder, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Snell and Miss Stirton for their commitment to the dance groups. Well done team!

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We would like to invite all of the families of our Primary Wandalba students to come and join us for **Cuppa & Cake**

This time we will be having a casual chat about:

**Cyber Safety and our Kids**

**Wednesday May 20th**

1:30-2:30pm

Year 5 and 6 Classrooms

We hope to see you there!

Mr McGrath & Ms Sanday