**Book Fair**

A big thank you to all of those families that purchased books from our book fair this year. The total purchases earnt us $907 in rewards points that can be used to buy new books for the library. Scholastic also gave us $110 worth of books off the shelf. The book fair was a great success!

**Leaving in 2016?**

If you know your child who is currently in Kindergarten to Year 5 will not be returning to Wadalba in 2016, please let the school know as soon as possible.

**Ethics Classes**

Ethics classes are now available in NSW public primary schools as an option for children who do not attend Special Religious Education (SRE) / Scripture. The NSW government has authorised the charity, Primary Ethics, to create curriculum and deliver these classes. Curriculum is available for children from Years K-6.

Classes are inquiry-based where children use dialogue and discussion to learn how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument. Trained and vetted volunteer Ethics Teachers lead discussions.

To enable classes to commence at Wadalba Community School we require volunteer Ethics Teachers. Ethics Teachers must attend two days of training through Primary Ethics and commit to teaching their weekly ethics class for a minimum of one year.

We will commence ethics classes at Wadalba if there is enough demand and suitable volunteers.

Schools in the Wyong Shire that currently offer ethics classes are: Bateau Bay PS, Budgewoi PS, Jilliby PS, Kanwal PS, Killarney Vale PS, Tuggerah PS, Warnervale PS and Woongarrah PS.

If you would like more information, please visit the website at [www.primaryethics.com.au](http://www.primaryethics.com.au) or contact the Primary Ethics Regional Manager, Julie Bell, on 0415697109 or wyong-region@primaryethics.com.au.

**Father’s Day Breakfast**

Please join us for our Father’s Day breakfast to celebrate all the special men in our lives.

**When:** Friday 4th September 7:30-8:30am

**Where:** In front of Primary hall

**Who:** Fathers, grandfathers, carers with accompanying WCS student(s)

**Dates to Remember:**

- 24th August: Assembly - K
- 26th August: Disco
- 26th August: Newcastle Permanent Maths Competition - Yrs 5-6
- 27th August: Book Week Parade
- 28th August: Zone athletics carnival
- 31st August: Assembly - 1/2
- 2nd Sept: Father’s Day Stall
- 4th Sept: Father’s Day Breakfast
- 7th Sept: Sydney North Athletics
- 7th Sept: Assembly - Yr 2
- 8th Sept: From Farm to Plate K-2
- 10th Sept: Spelling Bee Finals
- 14th Sept: Assembly - Yr 4
- 15th-17th Sept: Life Education
- 16th Sept: Cake Day (Yr 4 and 1/2 to bring cakes)

**Awards**

**Bronze Awards**

- Aadan Herder- K/1
- Gabrielle Sonter- 1/2
- Ruby Sutter- 1/2
- Zachary Morris- 1/2
- Mae Couch- 2
- Semi Leweniqila- 2
- Aurora Gorton- 4
- Asenaca Leweniqila- 4
- Jorja Boyden- 5
- Annalie Brown- 5
- Trent Ellis- 5/6
- Hannah Stewart- MCAT

**Silver Awards**

- Aadan Herder- K/1
- Asenaca Leweniqila- 4
- Charlotte Robertson- 5
- Hannah Stewart- MCAT

**Wadalba Winner Draw**

Thorpe= Riley Cooper & Tyler Dunn

Bradman= Jye Fitzpatrick & Tahlia Bennett

Hall= Montanna Moffat & Ciara Oxley

Freeman= Aidan Van Meeteran & Bryce Wells

**Assembly Classes of the Week:**

Yr 5 & 5/6
**In the Spotlight:**
University Intern in Year 5

**Mr Josh Liddle**

**Name:** Mr Josh Liddle

**I am currently:** on my internship for primary school teaching Natalie MacDonald’s fantastic Year 5 class. This semester I have helped by starting a lunch sport program that gives students structured sport on Tuesday and Thursday lunch times.

**My favourite colour is:** Green

**My favourite food is:** Seafood and my favourite seafood is fish.

**My favourite book:** is actually a series called the Hunger Games and out of those three books the second one is by far my favourite as it was the most exciting.

**My favourite movie is:** a tricky one because I love a couple. I’m a sucker for a good war movie so movies like Saving Private Ryan, Platoon and We Were Soldiers have me enthralled every time I watch them. In saying that, I also like fantasy like Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter due to the amazing adventure that they take you on. But if I had to choose, I would actually say that my favourite movie is in fact Brave Heart starring Mel Gibson as it holds a special place in my heart because it is also my dad’s favourite movie.

**My favourite subject when I was at school was:** Surprisingly Marine Studies. For those who know me this wouldn’t come as a surprise as I really enjoy my surfing, snorkelling and fishing.

**My favourite subject to teach:** is a tie between PE and literacy because I enjoy my sport and get a real thrill in seeing students really engaging as a team to achieve and objective. On the other hand our class has been watching a show “Australia: the story of us” which is a fantastic series about how Australians have developed through the generations. Also the rich learning that takes place when students participate in literacy groups based on this series confirms why I’ve strived to become a teacher.

**My family is:** the most important thing I have. I have a beautiful mum and an amazing dad. Both of my little brothers are my best friends and we are all extremely close.

**I want to travel to:** Europe and America one day and see the world and what amazing experiences it has to offer as I have never been out of this country or on a plane.

Finally to all those primary students out there excited to go to high school the best piece of information I can give you is that it is a new and fun experience and you are all going to be amazing!!!!
Debating Team Wins Again!

Today our debating team travelled all the way to Maitland public school to participate in the second round of the knockouts to find the regional champion. Our topic against another very strong team was "that we should ban spelling bees". We were the negative team. Due to what the adjudicator said were strong and very mature arguments, we yet again came away with a win. I am so proud of this team. They keep improving and impressing me with their ability to think on their feet and come up with some great ideas. We are now two rounds off competing at state levels so we are very excited. Good luck Wadalba Possums.

Father’s Day Stall!
The Father’s Day Stall will be held on Wednesday 2nd September from 8:45am

All children will be able to purchase a gift from the stall for $5.

Thank you for your continued support.
Wadalba Community School P&C

Our Road Safety Focus for Term 3 is BUS PASSENGER SAFETY

Be respectful to other bus passengers as they have a right to travel in safety.

Community Board:
Resilience is an essential skill for life

It’s natural for parents to want to protect their children from adversity. From birth, we try to do the best for our kids, love them and nurture them. Sometimes, this may be intensified as some modern parents have been labelled ‘helicopter parents’, constantly hovering over their children, trying to solve their problems for them in an effort to protect them and keep them happy. Ironically, a recent study by clinical psychologist and researcher, Judith Locke found that children who were over-parented were no more satisfied with their lives than children whose parents were less involved. And, in the long run, this can leave children ill-equipped to cope with life’s curve balls.

Positive parenting is a delicate balance between protecting children from adversity and letting them experience hardship so they can develop resilience and positive mental health and wellbeing. Resilience is the ability to cope with life’s ups and downs, and bounce back from adversity. Children need to develop coping skills to help them respond to challenging times and maintain a positive outlook on life. Challenges can also be viewed as opportunities to learn about oneself and to grow as a person.

Someone who is resilient and has positive mental health and wellbeing shows the following characteristics:

- The ability to learn from their experiences and grow
- Good relationships with others
- A capability to manage their own emotions and express empathy for others
- Good communication skills
- Good problem solving skills
- The ability to set realistic but rewarding goals and actively work towards them

These characteristics mean that a child is better able to make sense of the world around them, connect with people, and even seek out support when they experience difficulties. Good problem solving skills and the ability to work towards realistic goals also gives children a feeling of control over their lives and a sense of positive self-worth.

All of these resilience characteristics contribute to positive mental health and wellbeing, and reduce the risk of social or emotional problems later in childhood. There is also emerging evidence to suggest that resilient children are more likely to achieve academic success.

So where does resilience come from? An individual’s resilience is a combination of both pre-set characteristics a person is born with and the environment a person grows up in, including the support networks around him or her.

If we think of a set of scales, someone’s genetic sensitivity is the fulcrum in the middle, and their life experiences, both positive and negative, sit on each end.

The fulcrum might start in the middle if a person has an average sensitivity to life’s experiences, or it might be off-centre if a person is naturally more sensitive.

If that is the case, they might have a tendency to be less resilient than another person with an average level of sensitivity who is exposed to similar life experiences. Research has shown that someone’s natural response to stress can be altered through their experiences, and so the fulcrum can be moved. When positive experiences, like nurturing relationships and a sense of belonging, are added to one end of the see-saw, and children start to develop coping skills, like the ability to solve problems or manage behaviour, the fulcrum can slide and the see-saw will tilt towards a more positive outcome.

Key to developing a child’s resilience is the relationship they have with at least one adult in their lives.

Parents and carers are vital supports in shaping a child’s resilience as they can teach a child to develop a sense of optimism and a set of coping skills to help them bounce back from life’s challenges.
Congratulations to all students for your participation and enthusiasm in Friday’s field events. Thank you to the parents who attended the day and also to the wonderful teachers for all your efforts. A special thank you to Mr Barraclough for all his efforts in line marking and event organisation and to the high school students who assisted on both days.

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**NB: New School Record**

The Zone Carnival will be on Friday 28th August at Mingara. Students who qualify will receive permission notes. Only 1st & 2nd place progress to the zone carnival. Please also note that 8/9/10 Years are classified as Juniors in field events, 200m and 800m. There was also a qualifying height for high jump events.

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**Come to our Fluoro Disco!**

**Wednesday, 26th August**

Cost: $5 (pay at the door)
Includes a drink and a treat

**Dress in your favourite fluoro outfit!**

We will be having a Junior and Senior disco. Students can be dropped off and picked up at the Primary hall at the following times.

- K-2: 3:00pm to 5:15pm
- 3-6: 5:15pm to 7:30pm

**See you there!**
What an experience! Kindergarten have had such an exciting 2 weeks sharing our classroom with 12 baby chickens. We are an inquisitive bunch always asking questions. Here are some of our questions we are currently researching...

Why do they make a lot of noise? - Tallen  Why are they soft and black? - Khloe  
What do they like to eat? - Kadence  What do they feel like? - Tanisha  
Why do chickens come from an egg? - Lolah  How do they get food? - Samuel  
What colours will our chickens be? - Summer  How does the beak feel when you put your finger inside it? - Cooper  
What does their little legs feel like? - Yooralla  
Why do they have orange beaks? - Tamzen  
Why are they yellow like ducks? - Noah  How do they hatch? - Jake  
How do they hatch out of their egg? - Oliver  
How do they grow up? - Catie  
How do they lay eggs? - Koopa  
How long do they live for? - Thomas  
What do they eat? - Riley  Will they be boys or girls? - Anthony  
How do they run? - Kaylee  
Why are they sometimes black and sometimes yellow? - Logan
**Paper Plane Competition**

All of our students took part in class paper plane competitions during the week, and on Friday, the 2 winners from each class took part in the Wadalba Primary Paper Plane Final. These finalists from K-6 had 5 minutes to make their plane, line up then throw. **Lachlan Bryant** came first with a throw of 28.70m, **Reeve Middleton** came second with 21.48m and **James Short** threw 14.72m!

These boys have the opportunity to go to Sydney next weekend and participate in the State Final Teachers also joined in the fun, and although the throws were nowhere near the length of our Final winners, **Miss Stirton** took out the teacher competition. Special thanks to **Mr Harris** and his high school Science students who came down and assisted with their expertise.

**Year Six Science Day**

Last week our year six students were joined by students from neighbouring schools to participate in a science day in the high school. Activities ranged from dissection (Wadalba students missed this but will do it at a later stage) to rocket launching. Students had the chance to meet new teachers, see new classrooms and make new friends. Stay tuned for more transition days later in the year. Thanks to all of the hard working high school teachers for a well organised day of fun.