Dear Parents

Diary Dates Term 1, 2016

Thursday 3rd March
• 3/6 Assembly
  12.45pm 4A Item.

Friday 4th March
• PSSA
• Ride2school Day

Monday 7th March
• Clean Up Australia Day

Thursday 10th March
• K/2 Assembly
  12.45pm

Wednesday 16th March
• P & C AGM  7pm

PSSA SPORT/SCHOOL SPORT
The first round of Primary School Sports Association (PSSA) competition commenced Friday 26/2/16 Week 5. We are fielding teams in Newcombe Ball, Girls & Boys Softball/T-Ball, Cricket, Oz-Tag and AFL. Students not involved in PSSA competition participate in paid programs such as Karate and Tennis back at school. The remaining students will participate in an AFL program, thanks to the successful funding that was highlighted in our last newsletter. In this way, we hope to cater to as many student interests as possible, by providing a wide ranging choice of activities. My thanks to all PSSA coaches for their efforts and to school staff conducting activities back at school. The PSSA levy for Term 1 & 4 has been costed at $60 (Summer competition is conducted over terms 1 & 4). Please ensure this cost has been paid as non-payment will create pressure on school budgeting.

Free Clinic
A free ‘Drop in Clinic’ operated by the Sydney South-West Clinic will occur this Saturday 5th March 2016 (9.30-11.30am) at 12C/633-639 Hume Highway Casula (Tel:96023377). Occupational and speech therapists will be in attendance to provide a free consultation. For more information, please contact South West Sydney Clinic.

Disco
Our first Disco for 2016 was a phenomenal success. The extraordinary attendance by so many K/2 students and their family members was a sight to behold. Thank you to the hard working Fundraising Committee, headed by Kristen McCanna and the amazing array of helpers on the night. Thank you to the staff members who attended and thank you to the school community for your support of this event.

Congratulations Liam
Congratulations to Liam 5J on his fantastic sporting achievements of late. Liam has been breaking records in Athletics and representing at Touch Football tournaments as well.
Thanks Blaik Family
Thank you to the Blaik Family who recently contributed to the purchase of the new nets for our PSSA Newcombeball Teams. Both Mrs Dodd and Mrs Russell are very excited about having decent and mobile friendly nets to work with each Friday.

**Bulldogs Blitz Visit**
We had some of the Bulldogs NRL squad join us recently to talk to our students about the importance of good nutrition and ‘fair play’, when playing competitive or social games.

**Scripture**
Our first scripture sessions for 2016, being held on a Wednesday for the first time, ran smoothly last week. Thank you to Mrs Cabrera and our scripture providers for their excellent organisation.

**P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**
Our school conducts Parents & Citizens (P&C) meetings each month on average, on a Wednesday evening commencing at 7pm. The Wattle Grove P&C organisation has an outstanding track record at our school, having raised funds for many and wide-ranging capital works such as our covered outdoor learning area (COLA), air conditioning of the entire school, basketball courts and most recently our state of the art technology centre. The P&C also currently runs a uniform shop. The Fundraising Committee conducts trivia nights, spring fairs, Easter and Christmas raffles, discos and a whole lot more fundraising activities that result in additional and important resourcing of our school. All these people work on a voluntary basis and the school community is indeed indebted for their amazing commitment to our students’ education. Without the support of the P&C, many of the services we take for granted would possibly not run at our school. I would appeal to all new families or established families to become involved in this organisation, no matter what the level of commitment you can afford. Attending meetings provides parents with the opportunity to be informed or simply have a say in the running of our school. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on **Wednesday 16th March 2016 (week 8)** in the staffroom commencing at 7pm. Positions for the P&C Executive or membership of specific committees will be voted upon and it’s a great opportunity for parents to become involved in a friendly and sociable atmosphere. Any parent is able to stand for the vacant positions **BUT ONLY FINANCIAL MEMBERS ARE ABLE TO VOTE**.

**SCHOOL PHOTOS**
Our school photo day this year occurred early in the school year, due to the change in company last year. This meant we only had one available date (18/2/16). We have reserved a more convenient date for next year (Wednesday 22/3/17), so that parents will not encounter the cost of photos interfering with the demands of other school activities, so early in the year.

**UNIVERSITY COMPETITIONS**
**2016 International Competitions and Assessments for School (ICAS)**
This year we are offering students in Years 3-6 an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools. The ICAS is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning; assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. The assessments are voluntary and are completed in 30-60 minute supervised in-school tests. Achievements certificates are awarded to students at a range of levels. A note has been forwarded home with students in Years 3-6 indicating the cost and date of each assessment. The ICAS are run by the University of NSW and the results are not used to inform any school based assessment or reporting grades. All entries **MUST** be returned by the date stated, for the students to participate. If you have any questions regarding the assessments, please contact Mrs Wilson.
Annual Swimming Carnival
The annual swimming carnival was held at Birrong Leisure Centre, on Friday 19th February, 2016. Our House Captains and Vice Captains did a great job mustering team spirit, through ‘war cries’ and in some cases, sheer enthusiasm and example. The great attraction of the Birrong Leisure Centre is the ‘water park’, located adjacent to the pool. Every year this attraction is very popular and this year again was no exception. We were able to give all students a great deal of time to enjoy themselves, outside the competition on offer in the pool. At the end of competition, the winner was Blamey House who were once again crowned champions. Amongst a host of great performers, it would be remiss of me not to mention the performance of Hannah (6P) who established new school records in a number of events including 100m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke and 50m Breastroke. A truly phenomenal effort! Congratulations also to Ryan (6SK) for his record in the 50m Freestyle. A huge vote of thanks to all our parent volunteers who assisted on the day, the parents who attended and supported our students and the staff who worked tirelessly, ensuring such a successful carnival. Well done to all! (an updated list of swimming records can be collected from the Office)

ZONE SWIMMING TEAM:
Congratulations to the following students who represented the Wattle Grove Public at the Zone Carnival yesterday at Macquarie Fields Pool. Thank you also to Mrs. Finn and Mr. King for officiating at the carnival. Thank you to everyone who attended the carnival in support of our school and students. Special thanks to the parents for their wonderful assistance organising the team, assisting with marshalling and positively supporting all students. Results are still being finalised and will be published next newsletter:

ZONE SQUAD

FAMILY EMERGENCY INFORMATION
You would have received contact information (Green form) re your child/children last week. Could you please update any changes and return to school through the chute as soon as possible. Please return whether there is a change in information or no change. Many Thanks

RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
Our annual Ride2School Day will be held on Friday 4th March 2016 (tomorrow). All children on wheels are reminded to wear helmets. (This includes skaters and scooters). To guard the security of bikes/scooters children are asked to leave them in the racks provided. When these fill up the children are allowed to walk their mode of transport down the walkway and leave it in areas set aside for the day, which will remain out of bounds all day. Thank you to Miss Stevens for your organisation.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA
Our students will participate in the annual, ‘Clean Up Australia’ campaign, on Monday 7/3/16. Hopefully it leads to life-long positive habits that become second nature for all of us. A big thank you to Mrs Shiels for coordinating the event.

Sporting News
Congratulations to the following students on their selection in the following zone squads:

**AFL**
- Michael 5/6R, Kodie 5J, Mark 5J

**Tennis**
- Michael 5/6R

Good luck to you all!

Rugby Union Coaching Clinic
We had development officers from NSW Rugby Union attend our school on Monday 29/2/16 to conduct coaching clinics for students in Y3-6. From all accounts the students enjoyed the experience. Our thanks to NSW Rugby for their efforts.
The **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the **Tell Them From Me** student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the **Tell Them From Me** survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between March and April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. A FAQs for parents/carers about the survey has been sent home with students.

---

**Nick Ciraldo**  
Principal

**Sam Wilson**  
Deputy Principal

---

### PRINCIPAL AWARDS

| 5 MERIT AWARDS | Matthew (1/2B), Cameron (1S), Charli (1C), James (1C), Elias (1F), Alana (1F), Ananta (4C), Ash (5/6R). |
| 10 MERIT AWARDS | Sienna (3C), Charlie (3K), Keira (5B), Chloe (3J). |
| 15 MERIT AWARDS | Brayden (4C). |
| 20 MERIT AWARDS | Lily (3K), Zachary (3C). |
| 25 MERIT AWARDS | Charlie (4C), Emma (4D), Sienna (5B). |
| 30 MERIT AWARDS | Kheely (6SK). |
| 35 MERIT AWARDS | Tyler (6P), Peta (6SK). |

### Merit Awards

| KB | Jack, Annabelle, Shyla, Arielle, Jett, Lily. |
| KC | Chloe, Poppy, Emily, Ben, Ruby-May. |
| KG | Cooper, Lily, Annabelle, Rhyme, Mason, Jessica-Leigh. |
| KO | Bonnie, Darian, Safia, Zander, Savannah, William. |
| KP | Emma, Jaime, Allegra, Du, Jack, Zane. |
| KR | Jacinta, Joah, Jackson, William, Jai, Vienna. |
| 1A | Yasmine, Scarlett, Sienna, Levi, Talon, Nuha. |
| 1C | Tiarah, Erika, Madison, Alex, James, Joseph. |
| 1F | Jai, Danica, Adelaida, Divya, Shani. |
| 1S | Lennon, Nirav, Christopher, Belle, Taiya, Ella. |
| 1/2B | Rhianna, Mitchell, Georgia, Preston, Anthony. |
| 2FM | Kanika, Julian, Jeyda, Nash, Leilani, Evan. |
| 2K | Megan, Jack L(e), Dante, Will, Isaac, Grace. |
| 2R | Isabella, Harrison, Zoe-Jane, Bella, Jaxson, William. |
| 3C | Zachary G, Anannya, Xander, Brock, Jarryd, Vivek. |
| 3J | Chloe, Kayla, Bailey, Fairouz, Jim, Ashleigh. |
| 3K | Irene, Charlie, Jonah, Savana, Ryan, Metallyka. |
| 4A | Sheray, Pearly, Felicia, Molly, Jacob, Isaac. |
| 4C | Tora, Brayden, Juan, Ananta, Charlie, Saanvi. |
| 4D | Jessica, Ella, Gareth, Dean, Mia, Caroline. |
| 5B | Takali, Austin, Bailey, Jacob, Sienna, Timothy. |
| 5J | Molly, Rylee, Cynthia, Ryan, Bradley, Liam. |
| 6P | Yesha, Liam, Tyler, Ethan, Reece, Makayla. |
| 6SK | Angel, Stephanie, Ryan, Kaileen, Joshua, Peta. |
Superkids for the month of February
1A- Ailene, Matthew, Valeria. 1F- Tiana, Jai, Adelaide. 1S- Cameron, Lily, Lennon.
1C- Alex, Paige, Max, Annabelle. 1/2B- Shreaya, Stevie, Piper. 2FM- Zaahid, Jade, Jay.
2K- Megan, Will, Nihal. 2R- J’aime, Ethan, Keira.

Student of the month for February
Max (1C)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year/Class</th>
<th>Notes sent home this past fortnight</th>
<th>Permission Note YES/NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22/2</td>
<td>Eldest</td>
<td>Disco</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23/2</td>
<td>Selected</td>
<td>Zone Swimming</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/2</td>
<td>Yr 5 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Stage 3 Bathurst</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25/2</td>
<td>Yr 6</td>
<td>Year 6 T-Shirts</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26/2</td>
<td>Skoolbag</td>
<td>Ride to school day</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>2FM</td>
<td>2FM Class item</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/3</td>
<td>Eldest</td>
<td>Special Lunch order</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 6 Report

Year 6 has had an incredibly busy start to the year! All students who wanted a Leadership role currently have one and are doing a fantastic job. We have run our Year 6 T-shirt design competition, judged it and looking forward to proudly wearing our wonderful shirts. Thank you to our fabulous P & C for supplying us with these shirts and congratulations to Tahlia (6SK) for the winning design. As soon as the students have returned their order forms, we can process our order. We are currently studying “The Australian Colonies” in History. Our related Bathurst trip will be Monday 30 May until Wednesday 1 June 2016 and our deposit for our trip needs to be returned to school by Friday 11 March. During Week 7 we will be taking home our “Expression of Interest” forms for high school in 2017 which the Year 6 teachers explained how to complete on Thursday night at the “Meet the Teacher” evening. All in all it has been a hectic but enormously successful term to date!

Year 6
G’day from the D.S.T.A

Act of Kindness:
Week 6: Byron.F 2k is awarded the Act of Kindness, because even though Byron didn’t make school spec, he was overjoyed that his friend did! He had a beautiful smile and carried on – What a boy!

Resilience Award
Week 5: Olivia S 1S for being a good girl and managing well while her Daddy was away.
We are so proud of you Olivia.
Week 6: Archie Mc G 5J, for transferring into our school with ease and enthusiasm, well done to you Archie, we hope you have great time here!

Poppy Knitting Group
We have had a keen response with our knitting group and some strong needle skills where demonstrated! Lucky we have Mrs Handcock (Nanna) here to guide the way!

Invitation
Dear New Children to Wattle Grove Public School 2016!
I would like to invite you to join me in:
Staying in touch with your old school and friends!
When: On Wednesdays lunch-second bell this term only
Where: DSTA room
Time: Lunch, Second half bell
What to bring: Bring the postal address of your friends or school.
My email address is Petrina.hennessey@det.nsw.edu.au or phone: 97311355
“Your thoughts are the architects of your destiny.” ~David O. Mc Kay

Be Well... Mrs Hennessey DSTA
Welcome to all of the new families at Wattle Grove Public School. We hope you enjoyed our first fundraising event of the year, the school disco that was held on Friday 26th February. It was an amazing turning out with the event raising just under $4000 for the school. Thank you all so much for coming along and making it a wonderful night. A special thank you also to all our volunteers who helped with the planning of the event as well as our helpers on the night at the gate, the novelties table and of course in the canteen and on the BBQ. Special thank you also to DJ Nick who has supported our school for many years now. He does such a great job for the students and makes the event fun for everyone.

We have several plans for fundraising this year and below is a list of the planned events and when we expect to hold them so you can put them in your calendar’s now.
Term 1
Easter Raffle – Thursday 24th March

Term 2
Bunnings BBQ – Saturday 30th April at Bunnings Bankstown Airport
Mother’s Day gift wrapping – Tuesday 3rd May
Mother’s Day stall – Tuesday 10th May
Movie Night – Friday 24th June

Term 3
Winter Disco – Friday 12th August
Father’s Day gift wrapping – Wednesday 24th August
Father’s Day stall – Thursday 1st September
Olymp-a-thon – date to be confirmed

Term 4
End of School Disco – Friday 25th November
Christmas Raffle – Wednesday 14th December

We do have some other events this year currently in the planning and will keep you updated in the coming months. We will also soon have an exciting announcement about the Spring Fair!!

Athletes Foot – we have had a successful partnership with Athletes Foot for a few years now. With any shoe purchase at Athletes Foot, Westfield Liverpool, if you mention Wattle Grove Public School, a $5 donation per pair of shoes purchased will be donated back to the school.

At the first P&C Meeting this year, we were presented with a cheque for $625 for purchased made in 2015. This is a great way to have funds returned to the school so please make sure if any family members need shoes this year, head on up to Athletes Foot Liverpool.

The Fundraising Committee AGM will be held on Monday 21st March from 7pm at the Moorebank Sport Club. Whether you are looking to hold a position on the committee or just want to work as part of a team, please feel free to join us on this night. We are always looking for new members whether you are regular at meetings or someone who can assist at events during the year. This year we are looking for:

2 x Fundraising Coordinators
2 x Spring Fair Coordinators
1 x Treasurer
1 x Secretary

Without everyone working together for our school we wouldn’t otherwise be able to continue to grow the school and give our students everything we can on their school journey. Please don’t hesitate to provide any feedback to us on the email address below. Also, if you would like to volunteer for any of our upcoming events, please also let us know via email.

Kind regards
Wattle Grove Fundraising Committee
wgpsfundraisingcommittee@gmail.com
Executive Committee

President

Implement P&C Policy
Chair P&C Meetings and Executive Committee Meetings
Liaise with the School Principal
Represent the School P&C at the District Council and NSW P&C Association

Vice-President

Chair P&C Meetings and Executive Committee Meetings in the President’s absence
Liaise with all P&C Sub-Committees
Represent the School P&C at the District Council and NSW P&C Association

Secretary

Prepare the Agenda for P&C and Executive Meetings
Attend Meetings and keep a record of all business conducted
Receive and distribute correspondence to members of the P&C
Prepare outgoing correspondence
Maintain the P&C Executive records

Assistant Secretary

Share the duties of the Secretary, as agreed and approved by the Executive

Treasurer

Receive and deposit moneys for the P&C Executive
Maintain financial records
Receive and review accounts and draw cheques as required
Prepare and present a Treasurer’s Report at each P&C Meeting
Organise Auditing of all P&C Financial dealings

Assistant Treasurer

Share the duties of the Treasurer, as agreed and approved by the Executive

Uniforms Sub-Committee

President

Suggest changes, alterations and improvements to the School uniform
Liaise with uniform manufacturers and suppliers
Maintain School uniforms stock as per P&C guidelines
Run School uniform shop
Bank moneys and maintain School uniform Bank Account
Receive and review accounts and draw cheques as required
Liaise with P&C Executive and report on uniform matters and finances at P&C meetings

Sub-Committee Members

Assist the President of the Uniform Sub-Committee performing duties, as agreed or required

Fund Raising Sub-Committee

Coordinator

Coordinate Fund Raising for the School on behalf of the P&C
Plan Fund Raising activities and maintain Diary of coming events
Assist Sub-Committee Members as required
Liaise with the P&C Executive and report to the P&C Meetings on Fund Raising matters

Sub-Committee Members

Organise various Fund Raising activities, as agreed with the Coordinator

Gardening Sub-Committee

Coordinator

Coordinate beautification of school gardens on behalf of the P&C
Plan working bees
Research problem areas and report to P&C Executive
Contact and liaise with appropriate companies for advice and donations
Liaise with Fundraising Sub – Committee and P&C Executive for financial support
Groovers

EGG HUNT

Thursday, March 24
Australis Park, Wattle Grove

3:30 Stage show with

3:45 Easter egg hunt!

LIFEGATE

Join us for an Easter church service!

9 am Good Friday
9 am Easter Sunday

35 Cahors Road, Padstow

lifegate.org.au | admin@lifegate.org.au | 9772 2537

Lifegate Church Padstow | lifegate_padstow