WHAT A WEEK

After a great holiday in Canada it is nice to be back!

Thank you very much to Mrs. Erwin for filling in for me during my Long Service Leave. It is a demanding job and I appreciate the hard work and dedication that Mrs. Erwin has put into it.

Thank you also to Mrs. Smith who supports the principal by managing the administration and finance aspects of the school.

It has been a big week with lots of exciting events. Thank you to parents who have been well organised with notes, money, travel arrangements and different start times.

Mrs. Connell and I attended a meeting this week to organise the implementation of the Mathematics syllabus. This is a new document which is mandatory for teachers to implement.

Teachers will be involved in sessions with teachers from other local schools as well as some professional development.

I have also had to follow up our roll check by the Home School Liaison Officer.

Legislation in this area has been strengthened over the last few years because there have been instances where children have been hurt or abused when they were not at school.

Children MUST attend school, be ON TIME and remain UNTIL 3PM. unless there is a legitimate reason.

ALL absences MUST be explained within 2 days. If the reason is not accepted (see list in the newsletter), then it will be recorded as unjustified. Too many unjustified absences, including lateness and early pick-ups, will be referred to the Home School Liaison Officer for further action.

When children are sick for more than one day or if they attend a medical appointment in school time a medical certificate or proof of the appointment is required.

Please note that Athletic Carnival ribbons will be handed out at next week’s assembly starting at 2pm.

Hopefully lots of families will be able to support our Christmas in July event!

Dorothy Cass

UPCOMING EVENTS

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<tr>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Education Week</th>
<th>Term 3</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>28 July</td>
<td>Active After School Sport</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>29 July</td>
<td>Christmas in July</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 July</td>
<td>Assembly 2pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 August</td>
<td>Active After School Sport</td>
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<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Book Week</th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>19 August</td>
<td>Warrawong Library K-2</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Public Speaking Class Final</td>
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Assembly 30th July 2pm

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS
Tuesday morning - 8.30 – 9am.
Orders with payment can be placed in the letterbox outside the office at any time and will be processed asap.

School Banking – Tuesdays
Please put bankbooks in the tub at the office.
These will be handed back to the children as soon as they are processed.

We are now taking Kindergarten Enrolments for 2015.
If you have a sibling enrolling please pick up your enrolment form from the office and return ASAP.

**Healthy Eating**

We have noticed that many children are starting to bring in a lot more junk food for recess and lunch.

This is of great concern to us as we are required to promote healthy eating habits.

We will be offering tokens over the next few weeks for children who are maintaining our healthy eating focus.

Parents are tremendously important in helping children to do this.

We want our children to have lifelong healthy eating habits.

**Safety Alert**

Concern has been expressed by parents and staff members about road safety before and after school.

Part of our curriculum is to teach children about road safety and it is important that parents support this by being good role models in this area.

Modelling by parents and carers is very powerful in teaching children these important life lessons. As you know, the street at the front of the school can be hazardous at times.

Please help us by:

- Making sure that children cross at the crossing
- Stopping your car at the crossing if there is someone on it.
- Observing the speed limit and parking regulations
- Not doing a “u” turn over double lines

Thank you to everyone for keeping our children safe!

**Education Week**

We do have a family event to celebrate this week together – Christmas in July - and yes, it is also a fundraiser for the school and Year 6.

This event will be held at school on Tuesday 29th July. **It will include our First ever Santa Run!**

If you can put together a family team (anyone you know who doesn’t have to work) then please come up and have a great time as well as helping the school.

- 9:30a.m. Relays start (family teams need to be ready)
- 11:00a.m. Recess – buy a yummy Christmas treat from the stall.
- 11:30a.m. Christmas Family relay
- 1:00p.m. Lunch – Have you ordered your Christmas in July meal ($5)
- The final event is a SANTA RUN and the RAFFLE DRAW!

Raffle tickets will be available for sale throughout the day. Tickets that are already sold need to be returned before the raffle draw.

This event is brought to you by Mrs Connell, Mrs Erwin and stage 3 with the support of the rest of the staff. Special thanks to Mrs. Smith for managing the money and notes.

To make it a fun day we would like the children dressed in Santa clothes. We want to see lots of red, white and green.

**Raffle Prizes**

- **1st prize** – boys or girls bike
- **2nd prize** – remaining bike
- **3rd prize** – DIY baked dinner ingredients
- **4th prize** – Gingerbread house

**Excursion to Wollongong Art Gallery**

![Excursion to Wollongong Art Gallery](image-url)
On Wednesday all of our school went to the Wollongong Art Gallery, Council Chambers and the Wollongong Library. In the Art Gallery we saw old Aboriginal art and also got the chance to see some old Aboriginal tools. After that we saw the Council Chambers and Stage 3 met the Lord Mayor, Gordan Bradbury. We also had a pretend Council meeting. We went to the Library as well which was fun. By Shaylee

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Thank you to all our parents who helped on Monday. Without your help our carnival could not go ahead.

We always need your support and help so it was very much appreciated by the children and staff that you were prepared to help out on the day. Thanks also to parents who came on the day to support the children.

Congratulations to Kody Cropley and Nikeisha Croker who will be going to the Regional Athletics Carnival for junior shot put.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL—THE FUTURE

This is a great opportunity for our children but it is a huge amount of work before or after the event.

Permission notes must be in well before the event so that correct student rolls, transport and medical information, first aid kits and event lists can be prepared.

The office staff cannot do all this at the last minute.

Supervision regulations have been tightened over the last few years so that supervision and transport arrangements have strict guidelines.

As a consequence the school has to outlay money for additional personnel.

We can use parent helpers for some tasks but all volunteers must have completed the volunteer orientation program. ALL parents transporting other people’s children MUST have signed the working with children check list.

There will be discussions at the staff level about the viability of these large school events continuing.

There will be an opportunity for parents to also voice their opinion as part of this year’s school evaluation.

Even though we send out lots of reminders, parents do need to make sure they are aware of the details and well organised so that these events are properly and safely done.

We do need everyone’s support for these events if they are to continue.

WHITE RIBBON NIGHT

Our school, this year, is supporting White Ribbon Day (November 25), later in the year but there are awareness raising/fundraising events in the community on Friday July 25.

We wanted to bring this to your attention because it is such an important cause.

We all like to think that our family, friends, neighbours and ourselves are safe at home. Sadly, for many, this is not always the case. On average, one woman is killed every week by a current or former partner in Australia.

And one in four young Australians are exposed to domestic violence.

If you get the opportunity to participate in a White ribbon Night then donations will support White Ribbon’s work to prevent violence against women before it occurs.

P&C REPORT

Dear Parents/Carers,

Don’t forget to download our skoolbag app which we have on free trial for a month. This is available for ipad and iphone users. This is a great way for the school to be able to send out reminders, notes and messages instantly.

There is also a link on the website. Instructions on how to download the app are at the end of the newsletter.

Thanks, Renee Stewart

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEW FEEDBACK SHEET

If anyone has one please still send it in. If you did not receive it or have lost it, another one is attached to the newsletter.

I don’t have many at the moment and your comments will help us to improve this important part of school business.
ATTENDANCE

Legitimate reasons for being off school are;

- Your child is too sick to go to school
- There is an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- Your child has been injured
- Your child has to go to a special religious ceremony
- Your child has an infectious illness

Unacceptable reasons which will be marked as unjustified are;

- Birthdays
- Sleeping in
- Missed the bus
- Shopping
- Waiting for a lift
- Haircuts
- Minding younger siblings or other children
- Traffic/walking
- Working around the house

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and MUST be explained by the parents/carers.

Medical certificates are required for more than 2 days and proof of medical appointment must be produced if made in school time.

All children must attend school sport and compulsory excursions.

It is important to realise that parents/carers may be prosecuted if children have recurring unjustified absences from school.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL SPORT

This starts next Monday. **Monday is ONLY Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2.** Thursday is only for Years 3 to 6.

All notes should be back by now and if your child hasn’t handed in their note for Monday it is too late.

Please note that teaching staff do not have a legal obligation to supervise preschool children.

Therefore we ask parents whose children are participating in this activity to support us by ensuring that:

- preschoolers do not go near the enrolled children during their games
- preschoolers are not using the school fixed play equipment or other equipment
- parents do not arrive to pick up their children before 4:10 p.m.

CAPTAINS REPORT

Thank you to everyone who has taken home a Christmas Box. Don’t forget there are still more available for your family to fill up that don’t get much.

Christmas in July is happening on Tuesday so make sure you ask your family to come along and don’t forget your raffle tickets. Lunch orders must be in for your yummy pork roll on Monday. Tahni & Billie

UNIFORM

We need to order our polo’s for next year.

We will extend the cut off until Wednesday.

You do not have to pay the full amount, just a $5 deposit to hold your uniform for next year. This is available for packs, single polo’s and jackets. If you do not put in a pre-order we cannot guarantee that we will have your size available until mid way through term 1, 2015.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Can Saver Plus assist you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Lindi Jamieson-Brown, your local Saver Plus Worker: (02) 4254 4505 / 0427 439 224 or lindi.jamieson-brown@thesmithfamily.com.au

Saver Plus is a approved provider of the Government’s Free Pink Card and is delivered in favour of and on behalf of the Pink Card Program by the Smith Family and is delivered on favour of and Welsby by the Smith Family. This program is funded by the Government of Australia.
School Banking

The swim bag and moneybox is now available.

Don’t forget once you have 10 tokens you can claim your prize. Just write down what you would like from the noticeboard and put it in your bank folder. It usually takes 2-3 weeks for your prize to arrive.

For Parents

If you are a Parent and your school has Skoolbag, you can install the app on your phone or tablet device by following these instructions.

For iPhone and iPad users:

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click "Free" then "install".
4. If iPad, change the drop list to "iPhone Apps", your school will then be visible, click "Free" then "install".
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

Single Mothers Support Group

This is a new group in the Illawarra community which advocates for and supports single women and their children, in a non-formal way. This community inspired group brings single mothers together to share ideas, provide social support and create community that goes beyond that of a 9-5pm service.

There will be tea and coffee provided.

Children welcome and an activity will be provided.

Where: Berkeley Neighbourhood Centre
Winnima Way, Berkeley

When: Monday's 10am - 12pm

Contact: Denika Thomas 0431095530

Did you know...?

6 to 12 chips (100g) contains around 3 teaspoons of fat and 1000kj. Compare this to a small baked potato (100g) with a light spray of oil having less than ¼ teaspoon of fat and 400kj.

Why not make healthy hot chips at home? Just cut 2 large potatoes into chip-sized pieces, spray with canola oil and bake in a hot oven until golden brown.