

The Wheeler Word



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Term 4 Wk 10

Thurs 14 December 2017



A very happy, safe and peaceful Christmas to all our Wheeler Heights students, parents and friends. We look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Presentation Days

Congratulations to all students for their wonderful behaviour at the recent Presentation Days. Thank you to our special guests who assisted in the presentations, especially Tom Trbojevic who spoke at the Sports Assembly on Monday afternoon.

School Leaders 2018

On Thursday we announced our leaders for 2018.
Captains - Lulu R & Gethan H Vice Captains - Polly H & Ale B
Prefects - Maddie K, Lily Mc C, Tiana S, Jett D, Cory G and Elliott P.
Congratulations boys and girls, we know you will be fine role models for our school.

Year 6 Farewell & Graduation

On Tuesday evening the Year 6 students looked very grown up at their Year 6 farewell. Congratulations to the parent organising committee led by Danielle Gigg who organised a wonderful evening. The hall looked fabulous and the students danced to the disco and then put on a Ballroom dancing display culminating in student and parent dances. Special thanks to our Year 6 staff Mrs Owens, Mrs Young, Ms Rolfe and Mr Blanshard for their tremendous teaching of our Year 6 this year.

Drama Performances

Congratulations to Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 for their creative and entertaining Drama concerts over the past two weeks. Special thanks to drama teacher Ginny Macpherson who produced the Year 1 and 2 production and Ms Kate Thompson who coordinated the Kindergarten performance. Every child was dressed in beautiful costumes, had at least one speaking line and sang many memorable Christmas tunes. A definite highlight of the year!!



COMING EVENTS

Thurs 14 Dec Yrs 3-6 Class Picnics

Fri 15 Dec K-2 Picnics

2pm Year 6 Graduation Assembly &
3pm Year 6 Clap Out

Last day for all Students

2018 Dates

Sat 27 Jan Uniform Shop
open 9 -11am

Mon 29 Jan Staff return

Tues 30 Jan Yrs 1-6 start and Kindy
Best Start assessments begin

Wed Jan 31 & Thurs 1 Dec
Best Start continues for Kindy

Fri 2 Feb Kindergarten students
commence.

Mon 12 Feb P&C Meeting 7pm

Tues 27 Feb School Swimming
Carnival at Manly Pool

Tues 6 March Pittwater Zone
Swimming Carnival

Thurs 15 March Selective HS test

Thurs 29 March Sydney Nth
swimming carnival

Fri 30 March Mon 2 April EASTER

Fri 13 April Term 1 ends

Mon 30 April Staff return

Tues 1 May Term 2 begins for
students

*****Please note that all dates are subject to change.******

**School Security
Ph. 1300 880 021
to report any security
incident or suspicious
activity over the holiday
period.**

Short Film Festival

On Wednesday morning we saw the short films produced by our Year 3 GATS groups. There were four short films filmed on the iPads, the students very professionally directed and produced the masterpieces. Special thanks to teachers Amie Hammond and Liz Armstrong who coordinated this group.

School Reports

School reports were distributed on Monday. We endeavour to send reports to both parents (if family arrangements dictate this) and we certainly ask for your assistance in this area if addresses or arrangements have recently changed. From next year we intend to email all school reports to parents.

School Text Books, Exercise Books and Stationery Lists

The text books, exercise books and stationery requirements are all now available on the school website, under the Parent Information tab.

Class Organisation 2018

Planning has been well underway for our 2018 classes. During Term 4 the teachers spend a great amount of time carefully planning the structure of classes for next year. It is imperative that we know who will not be returning to our school as our final number of classes can be dependent on an extra child. At this stage we believe we will again have 19 classes in 2018. Many factors are considered when grouping children into classes; number of boys and girls, relationships and friendships that should continue or be split, special needs (assistance or extension), NESB, composite classes and other factors. Please be assured that we always carefully endeavour to form the best combination of classes for the school.

Traffic Submission

Recently a traffic proposal was sent to the Northern Beaches Council, with letters of support from both the P&C and myself as Principal. The submission was put together by parent Derek Mascarenhas and has been discussed at recent P&C meetings. The proposal has many sensible and practical suggestions about how we can improve the road and traffic safety around our school and the local shops. Please see the school website for a copy of the proposal.

Vacation Security

Please see the Department of Education Security Hotline number 1300 880 021 listed in the school calendar dates on the previous page. If you are a local neighbour of the school or often pass the school during the summer break please keep this number handy if you happen to see anything unusual.

Have a safe and happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in 2018.

David Scotter
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

MEDICATIONS – If your child is not returning in 2018, please come to the office on Friday 15 December to collect medications held at the school.

Jodie Sly
School Administration Manager

LOST PROPERTY

The lost property box is overflowing with uniforms, drink bottles and lunch boxes. We would love if these items were claimed by the end of the year. We ask that parents and care givers follow up on any lost items and please remind your children to check lost property for their belongings.

Thank you!

AUTHOR TALK WITH DAVID WALLIAMS

On Friday of Week 9, Year 4 joined 40 other schools from around the state for an author talk by David Walliams at the Sydney Opera House via connected classrooms. WHPS were even chosen to ask a question to the man himself! Lily P. from 3/4R did a great job asking him about his writing process. David discussed several writing devices that he uses in his books that we studied this year, such as alliteration and onomatopoeia. He also explained that writing isn't always easy and is something that only gets better with practice. One of the highlights was when he read to us from his book *Billionaire Boy*. It was definitely an entertaining learning experience!



Mrs Richards and Stage 2 Teachers

PROJECT AWARE

Last Thursday, Stage 2 was very lucky to have a special visitor to further develop our learning of the Geography unit *Earth's Environment*. Hannah, from Project Aware, spoke to us about some of our environment's biggest issues and how we can help do our part. She also shared a snippet from Project Aware's newest film. Students were shocked to learn that we have used more plastic in the last decade than in the last century worldwide and that every piece of plastic ever made is still on our planet in one form or another. Students are more conscious of these issues and are now actively making positive decisions to help change it. The biggest help is to say NO to single use plastic! A very big thank you to Mr and Mrs Hill for organising the event and to Hannah for presenting.

Mrs Belinda Alexander
Classroom Teacher



SRC NEWS

Thank you for the generous response to our Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. There was an amazing number of toys, goodies & games that will ensure many families have a brighter Christmas.

Unfortunately, I won't be here next year, and I just want to say Bye and Thank You. It has been an honour and a privilege to be part of the Wheeler community for five years. I will treasure the relationships formed with students; parents and staff. I have enjoyed teaching all my beautiful Kinders and see them blossom. Thank you for your support of the SRC over the years. Whilst it has been great to buy bike racks; play handball tournaments & dress up, it has really been about community; working together and helping others. My favourite fundraisers would have to be PJ Day for Love Your Sister & Rainbow Day for Chloe! I have been so proud of all the SRC students and know the future is in good hands. *Thank you to the admin staff & Lionel Radom for all the behind scenes work for all SRC initiatives. Thank you to Teresa Murace for all her help in the Library this semester.*

To all the wonderful Wheeler students: be kind; do your best; be true to yourself and never give up. I may see you around the local area but until then...happy holidays!

Thank you & Best Wishes

Tracey Mavromatis



P&C NEWS

I'd like to thank the many volunteers that support the P&C and their various activities throughout the year. It certainly couldn't be done without the regular committed parents that can be relied upon to help out. Last week's BBQ was a huge success, we hope you all had a great time. Looking forward to seeing more faces next year helping out so that the regular volunteers get to see their child perform at the carols too.

Thank you also to the P&C members and position holders. None of this could be done without your efforts. Also the P&C staff - Marina, Tracey and Sherene. We are lucky to have a dedicated team who ensure the canteen and uniform shop runs smoothly.

The P&C will be gifting the teachers, support staff, office staff and grounds keeper a Christmas present this week. Whilst we understand that the teachers receive individual presents from their class, the P&C also like to recognise the hard work of the behind the scenes team that help allow our school to run smoothly.

I personally wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Thank you and kind regards,

Natalie Cook
P&C President



To all our amazing volunteers this year we sincerely appreciate all of you!

Sherene & Tracey



Term 4 volunteer
lucky draw
recipient for
helping in the
canteen is....

Beth Stimpson

\$50.00 voucher for
Barbuto

(could Beth, Jen Hill &
Jane Pollard pick their
prizes up from the office
by Friday please)



**Friday is the last day to enter the
Eat Fresh & Win Campaign.**

**The kids have loved the challenge of eating
more fruit and veg than ever from the canteen!
In the last 2 weeks the kids have eaten 102
apples, 39 other pieces of fruit, 44 cracker
boxes, 21 hummus and vege boxes, 23 salad
sandwiches, 59 fruit salads, 28 fruit cups, and 27
frozen fresh pineapple slices!**

**If you have any tickets at home please fill them
in and bring them to the canteen by this Friday.**

Thank you

Major Prizes include:

1st Prize:

Home entertainment pack including a 32" LED LCD TV and a 3D Blu-ray Player

3 x 2nd Prizes:

iPad mini 16GB

10 x 3rd Prizes:

Fresh for kids gift pack including a backpack, lunch box cooler and a drink bottle

20 x 4th prizes:

Event Cinemas gift card

For more information and terms and conditions please go to
http://www.freshforkids.com.au/canteen_campaign/canteen_campaign.html

BAND NEWS

END OF YEAR BAND CONCERT SOARS!

What an emotional night! Thanks to all involved! We had tears, laughter and music – the perfect combination.

As anticipated, all our bands performed a lively concert to family members, friends and relatives. The music was top class and the outcome was testament to another busy year of hard work by our volunteers, conductors and band children.

We wish our Year 6 graduates best of musical luck. Keep practicing guys!!

What a fantastic occasion to farewell Anthony M and Kim F, who have been the heart and soul of the WHPS band program for so many years. Thank you for your tireless contribution to music at our school. We'll miss you both! Best wishes for the future (although we know Anthony's staying on to help for a little longer).

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY PERFORMANCES

It was fantastic to see our bands participating in last week's Presentation Assemblies.

Last Friday, the combined Senior Band performed at the 3-6 Assembly. They played a rousing version of the National Anthem, followed by two well-selected pieces. After a busy year, these guys are performing like seasoned professional musicians, with dignity, confidence and a warm mature sound. Well done guys – the school was most-impressed.

Not to be outdone, the Training Band performed at the K-2 assembly last Thursday. Their performance of Monster Rock had the audience shivering in their seats. Well done guys, you nailed it!

WELCOME TO BAND IN 2018

Welcome to all those new faces who have appeared in our band network in readiness for 2018. At last count, next year's Training Band looks set to start the New Year with 43 novice members. Bring it on!!

This is a wonderful achievement for all those involved in the labour-intensive process of recruitment. Thank you to everyone for all your hard work!

Looking forward to another year of achievements all round.

Note to new band members – please read all correspondence you receive from band, so you can keep up to date with what is on the musical horizon!

CONGRATULATIONS.....

Elise T and Sophie W both passed their Grade 4 clarinet exams with flying colours. Congratulations, you are both absolute legends! Good luck next year!

ARTS ALIVE AUDITION SUCCESS!

Humungous congratulations to Beau V, Josie J, Alana C, Jonas K and Niklas K who successfully auditioned to participate in Arts Alive Combined Schools Band bands in 2018. They will join Sam C who is already a participant in that band for next year. This is a great testament to our band program and will mean that Wheeler Heights, next year, will provide their largest ever contingent of players to this orchestra. Well done for making the effort above and beyond the call of duty. Good luck in your new bands next year!

SLIP SLIDING AWAY – FUN @ MANLY WATERWORKS

And so it happened, again. On Thursday 7 December, the WHPS Bands held its annual family social event at the Manly Waterworks. This was a great fun opportunity to catch up outside the context of the Band. There were a number of happy faces and lots of squealing (mainly by the parents and Shauna!). Thanks to all who attended.

JAZZ BAND GIGS

The Jazz Band nailed it...again. The band performed at the School's End of Year Christmas Carols on 30 November 2017. Great gig guys! Over the course of this year the personality and spirit of this band have been a pleasure to work with. Congratulations Jazz Band on another very successful year!

PARENTS – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

There are still lots of positions vacant and we'd really like to see more parents getting involved in our band program for 2018. Please contact Louise or Anthony if you're interested to find out how you can help out!

Please let us know if you have a couple of hours a month to spare to help. It's an invaluable tool for all our Band family!

HIRED INSTRUMENTS OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

This year, the Committee have agreed that, if you hired an instrument, you can keep that instrument over the summer holidays so you can get some extra practice in! Please remember to continue to maintain and look after the instrument, and don't take it on holidays with you as to avoid the risk of damage or unnecessary wear and tear.

LAST BAND NEWS FOR 2017

This being the final band news for 2017, we would like to say a big thank you to our wonderful Band Committee and dedicated team of parent helpers...you all know who you are! Congratulations on another very successful year. Thanks for all your hard work – it is worth all the effort!

All hail the hardest working Primary School Band Committee (and supporters). See you next year!

COMMUNITY NEWS



Healthy Harold has a new online store for all your Christmas shopping! To celebrate, we're giving away 5 prize packs which include:

- 1x \$250 gift card and;
- 1x Healthy Harold Value Pack (valued at \$44.95)

All you have to do is purchase any item from our Healthy Harold online store and you go into a draw to WIN this amazing prize - it's that simple!

Head on over to the online store and stuff your Christmas stocking with a range of great Healthy Harold products including drink bottles, hats and more. 100% of proceeds from our Healthy Harold merchandise sales go towards providing Australian children with Life Education's vital health and safety programs.

Buy the gift of education today! >>



T&Cs apply. Please note: purchases must be made between 24th Nov 2017 – 24th Dec 2017 to be eligible.

NSW Permit No. LTPS/17/19915