

The Wheeler Word



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Term 4 Wk 9

Thurs 7 December 2017

We've certainly had a very busy time of late.....presentation days, band concerts, drama concerts, carol night, Yr 6 Wheeler Wonderland, Super Hoot morning teas, Yr 2 swimming scheme and lots more!

Thank you to the many school families who have generously donated to the Salvation Army appeal organised by Miss Mavromatis and the SRC. Please note that tomorrow is the last day for donations.

Presentation Days

Today was the K-2 Presentation Day and tomorrow will be the Year 3-6 Presentation Day. At the Year 3-6 Presentation Day we also announce the new school captains, vice captains and prefects.

Presentation Day awards and letters

Letters were sent home to inform parents of the children who will be receiving a special award at the K-2 or Year 3-6 Presentation Days and also for the Year 3-6 Sports Assembly. We do try to keep some element of surprise in this process so if possible please try to maintain some suspense.

Please remember to wear FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM for the Year 3-6 Presentation Day tomorrow, Friday 8 December.

School Reports

Please be advised that school reports will be distributed on Monday 11 December. Reports will be sent home with each child. 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.

School Text Books, Exercise Books and Stationery Lists

The text book and exercise book requirements will be emailed to parents soon, so that parents can purchase their exercise and text books online ready for 2018. A list of stationery requirements will also be emailed so that all necessary school resources can be purchased over the Christmas period for next year. All of the above lists will be available on the school website.

Carol Night

What a wonderful evening it was last Thursday. Our school choirs and Jazz band entertained us and each grade sang a Christmas carol. Our wonderful P&C cooked over 650 free sausages for the largest attendance I think we've seen.

Band Concert

Congratulations to our four school bands who all played so professionally on Monday evening to a packed audience of school families and friends. Congratulations to band directors Anthony MacDermott and Shauna Tyson and the amazing, hardworking band committee for another outstanding year of band events.

Congratulations to Josh D

Josh was awarded the Arts Alive Combined Schools Primary Band Musician of the Year Award at their end of year concert on Saturday. The conductor, Mr James Hill, presenting the award said, "He is the heart & soul of the band. He holds us all together & drives us forward." Congratulations Josh on this very special award.

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.

COMING EVENTS

Thurs 7 Dec 9.30am Presentation Day K-2

Fri 8 Dec 9.30am Presentation Day Yrs 3-6

2pm Talent Quest final

Mon 11 Dec 2pm Yrs 3-6 Sports Assembly

School Reports handed out today

Tues 12 Dec 5.45pm Yr 6 Farewell Dinner

Wed 13 Dec Kindergarten Drama performance 2.15pm

WHPS Short Film Festival viewing at recess 11.15am-11.40am in the hall

Thurs 14 Dec Yrs 3-6 Class Picnics

Fri 15 Dec K-2 Picnics

2pm Year 6 Graduation Assembly & 2.45pm 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

School Security

Ph. 1300 880 021

to report any security incident or suspicious activity over the holiday period.

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.

Staffing 2018 (repeated from last newsletter)

Each year there are a number of staff changes and this year is no exception. Unfortunately we say farewell from Wheeler Hts to a number of outstanding staff.

Liz Armstrong has been successful at merit selection for the Deputy Principal position at Seaforth PS. Mrs Armstrong has been at Wheeler Hts for five years and has done a wonderful job coordinating the day to day running of the school. She has led Staff Professional Development, Gifted and Talented programs and the Learning Support program. Mrs Armstrong has made an amazing contribution to our school and helped to raise the Literacy and Numeracy levels throughout the school.

Jessica Richards

Mrs Richards has been at Wheeler Hts PS for four years and has been a wonderful teacher of Stage 2, encouraging all her students to strive for their personal best. Mrs Richards has also coordinated many school events and activities including school athletic, swimming and cross country carnivals, PSSA T Ball (winning the competition), dance and environmental activities. Mrs Richards has accepted a position at SCEGGS Redlands and will commence there in 2018.

Tyson Blanshard

Mr Blanshard has accepted an Assistant Principal position at Coffs Harbour PS for 2018. Mr Blanshard has been an outstanding teacher of Stage 3 and a leader in the field of Sport, Technology and Student Welfare. Mr Blanshard has recently married and had a young daughter and is moving closer to family up north. Mr Blanshard's friendly and caring manner both in and out of the classroom and school will be greatly missed by all.

Recently one of our long serving teachers of our school retired. **Mrs Alfreda White** worked at Wheeler Hts for over 12 years and is an outstanding classroom teacher, mainly of the senior grades. Mrs White is a very talented and dedicated educator who made a significant impact on the lives of many students. When ex-students visit our school they regularly ask about Mrs White and reminisce about when they were in her class.

These teachers will be greatly missed by the entire school community at Wheeler Hts and we wish them well in their future retirement, careers or endeavours. On the positive side we are very pleased to report the following.

Deanne Earl

We have recently been advised that Miss Earl has been appointed as a permanent teacher at our school. Miss Earl has worked at Wheeler Hts for four years as a temporary teacher and done an incredible job teaching Year 2 and being thoroughly involved in the life of our school. Congratulations Miss Earl.

Holly Miller

We can also announce that Mrs Miller will return in 2018 after her maternity leave. Mrs Miller is an outstanding classroom teacher and an expert sports coach who is excited to be returning to Wheeler Hts.

We will certainly broadcast any other staff changes and appointments as they become known.

Vacation Security

Please see the Department of Education Security Hotline number 1300 880 021 listed in the school calendar dates above. If you are a local neighbour of the school or often pass the school during the summer break please keep this number handy.

David Scotter
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

The office has a collection of miscellaneous lost property items (not including uniform or lunch boxes). The lost property drawer in the front office will be cleared out on the last day of term.

TALENT SHOW

Wheeler Heights Has Got Talent Final Show!

The final show will be performed in Week 9, Friday 8 December at 2pm in the Hall. Parents are welcome to attend.

Year 1 and 2 Drama Performance

This semester Year 1 and 2 students enjoyed drama lessons with Ms Macpherson. The skills they developed during these lessons were clearly on show when each class joined together to perform a play about Christmas. The performance explained 'the puzzle of Christmas' and what Christmas may mean to different people. There were over 120 students involved in the performance and each student had a speaking role and every class performed a song. It was a magical performance and the students looked spectacular in their costumes. Thank you to the Year 6 students who assisted with the lighting and the make-up.

Congratulations to all Y1 and Y2 students who did an outstanding job presenting their lines. **Special thanks to the extremely talented Ms Macpherson who did a remarkable job organising the performance and developing and encouraging our talented actors.**



YEARS 3&4 (STAGE 2) PICNIC DAY

A reminder that the Stage 2 end of year picnic will be held on Thursday 14 December 2017. Students will enjoy the G rated movie 'Ferdinand' at United Cinema Warriewood followed by a barbeque and fun activities back at school. **Students must be at school at 9am** to be on the buses at 9:15am sharp.

Please do not be late!

Students can wear appropriate play clothes. All tops must have sleeves (no singlets or strappy tops please). All students must wear covered shoes (no thongs or sandals). Please ensure your child has: a water bottle, sunscreen, a hat and some recess (lunch will be provided).

Thank you kindly,

Mrs Alexander and the Years 3&4 teachers

KNITTING NEWS

This year, several students in Year 4 and 5 have committed to weekly knitting sessions with Mrs Richards. We started by learning how to cast on and then how to knit a square. Some students even took their knitting home with them and got the help of grandmothers! Well done to all the students who made the effort to come each week and persevered through the frustrations that often come from learning a new skill.

The squares knitted by the students and grandmothers will be sent to *Wrap With Love* this week. *Wrap With Love* is a non-denominational and non-political organisation who sew the squares together to make blankets for people in need in over 75 countries, including Australia. The squares provided by Wheeler Heights Public School will help people around the world to stay warm this Christmas.

A big thank you to the students for their hard work, parents for providing materials and the grandmothers for donating several squares.



ECO WARRIORS NEWS

Check out our veggie patch flourishing with spinach, lettuce, mint, tomatoes and now capsicums! The canteen has been making use of our beautiful produce so far. Unfortunately some of our other vegetables are yet to harvest and may not be ready to pick until during the holidays. Visits will be made during the holidays and the Warriors will replant again next year. I'd like to thank and congratulate all of our Eco Warriors on a wonderful year of hard work, learning and fun!

Stay tuned for some exciting announcements next year!

Mrs Alexander and the Eco Warrior Team



SRC NEWS

Merry Christmas from Gedete!

As previously mentioned, the SRC sent a little Christmas gift to our sponsor child, Gedete in Ethiopia recently. We received a lovely card from her yesterday. It seems she enjoys playing games and eating lots of special food at Christmas – just like us!!



Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our *Christmas Collection for the Salvation Army*. If you would still like to donate, you will need to hurry as it *finishes tomorrow (Friday 8 Dec)*. Each class teacher has a list of suggested items suitable for donation. (Please see list below). Any toys need to be new and unwrapped. Please place any items under the Christmas tree in the office foyer. We believe it is important to think of others during the festive season and hope you can support the Salvation Army give families in need, a Merry Christmas.

Salvation Army Christmas Appeal – Donation Ideas...

Tinned foods (Ring-pull tins preferred)

Fruits in juice
Vegetables
Soups
Meats or fish
Meals (e.g. baked beans, spaghetti)

Meal bases

Pasta and pasta sauces
Rice
Curry and stir-fry sauces
Meal kits (e.g. Mexican)

Other

Cereals
Spreads
Savoury biscuits
Sugar
Tea, coffee, hot chocolate
Long-life milk or juices

Christmas extras

Puddings, cakes, mince pies
Long-life cream, custard
Snacks (e.g. biscuits, chips, chocolates, lollies)
Table décor (e.g. bonbons, decorations, table cloths, napkins, disposable plates, disposable cutlery)

Additional grocery items

Personal toiletries (e.g. soap, shampoo, toothpaste, hairbrushes, toilet paper)
Cleaning products (e.g. multipurpose cleaner, dish detergent, washing powder)
Baby care products (e.g. nappies, baby wipes)

Activities

Books
Puzzles and board games
Lego, Meccano, Mega Bloks
Art and craft packs or items, stationery, photo albums
Science kits
Toy cars
Nursery toys
Dolls and action figures



PSSA SUMMER/SPRING COMPETITION

Well that is a wrap for all our PSSA competitions this year. Wheeler Heights has had a very successful summer competition. Congratulations to our Senior boys cricket and Junior girls T-ball who were both runners up in their competitions. Also a huge congratulations to our Junior boys T-ball who were undefeated all season and were crowned 2017 Premiers. These teams will be recognised at the Sports Assembly on Monday at 2pm along with all our MVP's and Age Champions.

Once again I would like to thank all our coaches, parents and support staff who give up many hours of their time helping our students achieve great things in sport. We look forward to another fantastic year in sport in 2018.

SCHOOLS: WHPS V NARRABEEN LAKES			Week 8 Term 4
SPORT	SCORE	WIN/DRAW/LOSS	
Jnr Boys Cricket	192-98	WIN	
Snr Boys Cricket	88-44	WIN	
Jnr Girls Cricket	94-24	WIN	
Snr Girls Cricket	137-88	WIN	
Snr Boys Softball	14-0	WIN	
Snr Girls Softball	10-5	WIN	
Jnr Boys TBall	13-1	WIN	
Jnr Girls TBall	7-1	WIN	
Jnr Boys Tag	4-5	LOSS	
Snr Boys Tag	6-6	DRAW	
Jnr Girls Tag	1-6	LOSS	
Snr Girls Tag	4-0	WIN	

Yours in Sport,

Mrs Nadine Young
Sports Coordinator

LIBRARY NEWS

Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to the following students who also received Gold Certificates in recognition of completing the Premier's Reading Challenge consistently over a 4 year period:

Jett K, Matilda M and Zahra M.

It's great to see so many wonderful readers at Wheeler! Remember when you open a book you can "Escape to Everywhere!"

Outstanding Books

Thank you to everybody who has returned books to the library from long, long ago...! If you still have any books at home, please return to the library tomorrow.

Thank you

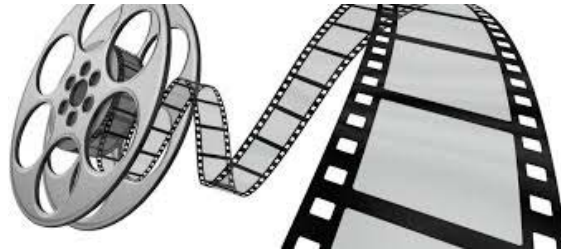
Tracey Mavromatis
Librarian



LOST PROPERTY

The lost property box is over flowing 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!



Wheeler Heights SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

THE WHEELER HEIGHTS SHORT FILM FESTIVAL IS COMING YOUR WAY!!!!

This term, our 2-6 GATS Drama group and a group of Year 3 students
have produced short films using iPads.
We would love for you to come along and watch what they have created.

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2017

Time: Recess - 11.15 - 11.40

Where: Hall

This is a casual affair... please BYO recess.
We hope you can join us.

DECEMBER DATES

**December
@ WHPS**

**What's
on...**

Week 9:

- Wed 6 Dec @ 2.15 Yr 1 & 2 Drama performance
- Thurs 7 Dec @ 9.30am Presentation Day K-2
- Fri 8 Dec @ 9.30am Presentation Day Yrs 3-6 & 2pm Talent Quest Final

Week 10:

- Mon 11 Dec @ 2pm Yrs 3-6 Sports Assembly
- Tues 12 Dec @ 5.45pm Yr 6 Farewell Dinner
- Wed 13 Dec @ 2.15 Kindergarten Drama performance, WHPS Short Film Festival viewing
- Thurs 14 Dec Yrs 3-6 Class Pionics
- Fri 15 Dec K-2 Pionics & 2pm Year 6 Graduation Assembly & 2.45pm Clap Out— Last day for all Students

**Enjoy
the
ride!**