The Wheeler Word

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Term 4 Week 9

Thursday 10 Dec 2020

Acknowledgement of Country

Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal land under all the buildings and concrete of our school. It is still Gai-maraigal and Garigal land that was respected and looked after by Aboriginal people for thousands of years. We need to respect them and the land. Maya R – Year 6

This will be the final full newsletter for the year. Next week we will just email a very brief newsletter on Wednesday.

It was lovely to have breakfast with Jasper, Preston, Sebastian and Toby at Scotty's Bakery on Wednesday morning. This was part of an auction prize generously won by the Stott family at the last Trivia Night.

PRESENTATION DAY TODAY

The K-6 Presentation Day was held today and recorded. The recording link, photos and prize winner list will be sent to all school families by the close of business tomorrow.

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2021

Congratulations to our newly elected leadership team for 2021. An official induction ceremony for all Year 6 Leadership positions will be held early next year.

School Captains - Kyah S & Aiden N School Vice Captains - Mikaylah W & Archie H Prefects – Annie B-H, Addie P, Zali S, Harry H, Hayden L and Cody R.

STAFFING

Staffing plans are almost complete for 2021. Sadly, we are farewelling a number of staff this year.

Mrs Nadine Young has been appointed as Assistant Principal at Newport PS.

Mrs Young has been a wonderful classroom teacher at our school for over 10 years. Mrs Young has expertly taught Kindergarten, Years 3/4 and Year 6 and been acting Assistant Principal on many occasions. She has coordinated our PSSA program at a school and district level and coached Netball, Cricket, Tag, other PSSA sports and organised and managed at countless school and district swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals. Mrs Young has established very strong friendships and connections with thousands of children, teachers and parents at Wheeler Hts. Nadine will be greatly missed by the entire school community.

After four years at Wheeler Hts Ms Amie Hammond will be returning to Willoughby PS in 2021 where she is a permanent teacher. Ms Hammond has done a superb job working in the Library and teaching ICT, science, chess and numerous other key learning areas, mainly to the senior classes. Amie is an outstanding educator and has made a significant contribution to our school in the short time she has been here.

Miss Elizabeth Wilson has been teaching Year 2 and Mrs Adele Sullivan has been teaching Year 5. Both teachers have been actively involved in school initiatives. Miss Wilson has been our fabulous and hard-working Eco Warriors organiser and has coordinated a large number of students who are doing incredible sustainability activities throughout the school. Mrs Sullivan has been our Dancesports (Ballroom Dancing) supremo organising the incredible event held at Homebush last year and online this year.

Mrs Helen Braund (School Admin Officer) has worked in our front office for the past three years, expertly dealing with many sick children, parent phone calls, enquiries and the countless other tasks which occur each and every day.

Each of these staff members will be greatly missed and we wish them every success in the future.

We congratulate Miss Skye Migan and Miss Sarah Higgs who have recently been appointed as permanent teachers at our school. We are very fortunate to welcome them on board permanently!

Next year we also welcome back Mrs Belinda Alexander and Mrs Kate Falcone from maternity leave.

We hope that the new Principal position will be finalised very shortly. We expect the lucky candidate will be ready to commence at the start of the 2021 school year.

Thurs 10 Dec Yrs K-6 Presentation

Assemblies - no parents to attend. The event will be recorded and a link made available after the event.

2020 DATES

Mon 14 Dec Yr 3 Picnic Day Yr 6 Farewell Dinner

Wed 16 Dec Yr 6 Graduation & Clap Out

Last school day of 2020

2021 DATES

Wed 27 & Thurs 28 Jan School **Development Days - Staff only**

Fri 29 Jan Years 1-6 start school & Kindergarten Best Start

Thurs 4 Feb Kindergarten start school

Thurs 1 April Last Day of Term 1

Term 2 Tues 20 April - Fri 25 Jun

Term 3 Tues 13 July - Fri 17 Sept

Term 4 Tues 5 Oct - Thurs 16 Dec





SCHOOL BAND FEES

There are a number of outstanding fees for band this year. We appreciate that 2020 has been a very difficult year but do hope that all band accounts can be paid asap as many of our band Directors and music staff are awaiting payments for tuition already provided. I thank you for your support.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL - Monday 14 December 5:50pm-8pm

Details are being finalised for the Year 6 Farewell and Graduation. It is very pleasing that the evening farewell for the students will be able to go ahead with suitable COVID-19 regulations and guidelines. Unfortunately, parents will only be able to drop off and collect their children from the event.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION - Wednesday 16 December at 2:35pm

Year 6 will have their Graduation assembly in the school hall on Wednesday. Only Year 6 students and up to two parent/carers will be able to attend. Specific details have been sent to all Year 6 families.

YEAR 6 CLAP OUT - Wednesday 16 December 3pm

All classes from Years K-5 will gather safely around the school grounds ready for the Year 6 students. Year 6 will pass by each class and then proceed to the Rose Avenue school driveway (near the Vegie gardens) to be met by their parents as they depart from the Rose Avenue gate.

REPORTS

Once again, this semester the reports will be emailed to all parents. Please ensure you inform the school office if your email address has changed.

CHRISTMAS TREATS

As has been the regular school practice for this year due to COVID-19, we do request that families do not bring in any food products to share or give as a birthday or Christmas gift; especially candy canes.

PARENT VISITORS AT SCHOOL

A number of parents have asked about parents visiting classes to present a gift to their teacher. We are still following the department guidelines that still clearly restrict any non-essential visitors entering the school. Consequently, we do ask that parents continue to follow this guideline. In some cases, it may be possible for the designated class parent to visit after discussion with the school office. Once again, we apologise for these restrictions but ask for your understanding and support.

SUPER HOOT GET-TOGETHERS

Next week Mrs Wright and I will have a quick chat and meeting with all the fabulous children who have received their special Principal's awards this year. Congratulations boys and girls!!

TEXT BOOKS, WORK BOOKS AND STATIONERY LISTS

Details regarding stationery needs will be sent shortly and a link will be on the school website. Information regarding textbooks and workbooks will be emailed early next week. We hope that all families will be able to purchase all necessary books online and organise all stationery requirements ready for the new school year.

KINDERGARTEN 2021

Parents will soon receive an email with specific information regarding next year's Kindergarten Best Start assessment arrangements.

2021 START OF SCHOOL DATES

The Department of Education has released the official school dates for 2021. Please be advised that from next year there will be two Staff Development Days at the start of Term 1 and only one at the end of Term 4. Please see the amended dates on the calendar on the previous page.

CLASS ORGANISATION 2021

We are currently beginning to form draft classes for 2021 now that our Kindy enrolments have been confirmed. If you will not be returning to Wheeler Hts PS next year, please inform your class teacher or the office so that we can plan accordingly. At this stage we hope to have 19 classes for 2021.

David Scotter Principal

Mrs Wright's Wrap Up

BEAUTIFUL AND BLISSFUL BREAKFAST

What a treat Mr Scotter had on Wednesday morning! He was lucky enough to have breakfast with four of our wonderful students. Jasper S, Sebastian G, Toby M and Preston W had a lovely breakfast with Mr Scotter at Scotty's Bakery. This was because Jasper's parents very generously bought the 'Breakfast with the Principal' package in the auction at last year's P&C Trivia Night. All four boys were wonderful representatives of our school and Mr Scotter was so impressed by the good manners and quality conversation. We hope you had a great breakfast Jasper, Sebastian, Toby and Preston!





SUCCESSFUL, SENSATIONAL AND SELF-EFFACING SAILOR

We are lucky that we often hear from parents of our students achievements outside of school and we are always excited to hear their news. We have had a very humble student at our school who has been achieving amazing success in his chosen sport but we hadn't heard about it. Whilst Mr Scotter and I were adjudicating the Stage 3 Public Speaking Competition final earlier this term we heard of Charlie B's love of sailing. After discussing this with his mum we learnt he is actually an extremely accomplished sailor and has received many accolades and awards. Charlie has been very unassuming and not mentioned any of this. Well we know now! Here is a run down of what Charlie has been awarded over the last few years.

- 2020 Selected for the Optimist Australian Development Team due to compete in Noumea in October 20 (cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2018/19 1st in RPAYC Centreboard, Optimist Open fleet Club Championships and Second in the point score
- 2019 5th Place in the 2019 Gill Australian Optimist National Championships (Hobart), Intermediate Fleet.
- 2019 2nd place in Optimist Intermediate Fleet Travellers Trophy
- 2019 Hamilton Island Race Week, Crewed on Jeanneau 469 yacht
- 2018 3rd place in Georges River 16ft Sailing Club, Summer Optimist Regatta, Intermediate Fleet
- 2018 3rd place in RPAYC Seldon Ice Breaker Series, Intermediate Optimist
- 2018 RPAYC Centreboard, Hornblower perpetual trophy most improved

Congratulations on all your achievements Charlie. We look forward to hearing about how your sailing career progresses in the future.





IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO REMEMBER IN THE LEAD UP TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON

We are aware the holiday season is often a time of giving and that many of our students like to gift cards and treats to their friends, at this time. As has been the case with birthdays this year, the sharing of food cannot take place due to COVID-19 restrictions. So, although we realise this may be disappointing to students and their parents and at the risk of soundling Grinchy: please <u>DO NOT</u> bring <u>candy canes</u>, <u>chocolate or lolly treats</u>, <u>cakes or any other food items to school to give to</u> <u>friends</u>. We ask that parents support us in this and assist by explaining the reasoning to their children to avoid uncomfortable conversations at school.

Mrs Priscilla Wright Assistant Principal Instructional Leader

YEAR 4 CAMP

Year 4's Milson Island Adventures

From Monday to Wednesday of last week our Year 4's headed off to Milson Island for their first camp. Some students' stories of their trip are included below. The children were challenged through exciting activities and responsibilities. Year 4 are to be congratulated on their incredible behaviour and manners. Most especially, in this year like no other, students demonstrated resilience, maturity and positive thinking when faced with disappointments and challenges. The staff of Milson Island were extremely impressed by our students who were wonderful representatives of our school. A massive thank you to Mrs Radom, Miss Earl and Mrs Young for making the camp such a sensational experience for the children and for taking time out of their own lives to attend.

4E Reflections on Camp

- I enjoyed orienteering the most because you got to find letters and make a word out of the letters you got. I also enjoyed initiatives because you got to do all different courses. At camp I was surprised by myself when I worked better in a group with people that I normally don't work with. Bella
- I enjoyed archery and raft building. I enjoyed this because it was a new experience and really fun. Annie
- At Camp I was proud of myself when I worked together to build a raft because I wasn't with my friends. I enjoyed the canoeing the most because it was extremely fun and I had never done it before. Ben
- What I enjoyed the most about camp was making damper. I enjoyed this because it was really yummy to eat and very fun to make.
 Charlee
- At camp I was proud of myself because it was my first time sleeping over somewhere. I enjoyed orienteering the most because you had to use teamwork, be resilient and have good communication across where the letter was. **Max**
- I am proud of myself because I tried every meal and ate as much as I could, I am proud of this because at home I'm usually a fussy eater and I don't eat big meals like that. What surprised me was that I fell asleep pretty quickly. Kaitlin
- At Milson Island Camp I was proud of my teamwork on the initiatives course because with our teamwork we were the only group to nail the lava plank activity. Erin
- During camp one of the things I was proud of was Orienteering and Initiatives. I enjoyed and was proud of it because during the whole process we had communication and teamwork. Luka

4RO Quotes from Milson Island

- Camp was the best. It was nice to spend time with friends and teachers too. It was a bit scary when the lights went out and I also missed my family, but I did it! Tessa
- At camp I learned to cope by myself. Now I can work with other people a whole lot better. I really enjoyed all the different activities.
 Beau
- I had a great time at camp. In the recreation room the theme was games. I got to play with new and old friends. Savannah
- I loved my time at camp with all the different activities that could develop our skills and strength. My favourite activity was archery and canoeing. Archery, at first was a bit tricky but then when I got used to it, I got the hang of it. I liked canoeing as well because it was challenging. Harper
- I liked doing archery a lot but it took me a long time to get in on the target. I also loved going on the bushwalk and cooking damper. It was so yummy. I really found building the rafts exciting and also a bit frustrating. I was so disappointed when our pool party was called off but I wouldn't have wanted to be in there in the pouring rain and lightning. Amber
- I loved going to Milson Island. There was a pool, tennis court, basketball hoops and really nice cabins. One of my favourite
 activities was archery. I wasn't very good but then Jimmy, the instructor gave me some advice and I got a lot better. I found it really
 tricky doing the initiatives course. You have to use teamwork to get through it. We were going to have a pool party but it started to
 storm so it got cancelled. Ryan
- Milson Island Camp was a wonderful experience. It teaches you things like, life isn't just about you. It is about teamwork and inclusiveness. We got to learn lifelong skills like, how to build a fire and about the importance of friendship and hard work. Alexis





- At Milson Island, I liked doing archery and raft building. When we had the pool party we made a giant whirlpool. For me the thunder storm was scary because it was my first time without my Mum. Although I was scared and wanted to go home, I was fine in the morning and I was excited to see my family again. Zandar
- ♥ I had a great time with all my friends and the teachers at camp. Archery was very tricky but then I got it and it was fun. I did the bush walk on the last day and it was very interesting and I also loved making the damper. The games at night were so much fun and there was a game called wasps and ants which was my favourite. The storm at night was a bit sad because we couldn't finish the pool party, which would have been so much fun. With the raft building, my team worked really well together and we got everyone across the pool. Ruby





SPORTS NEWS



MODIFIED ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all students in Years 3-6 who competed in our modified athletics carnival over the past few weeks. Teachers and students had a great time participating in 4 events – we have run, thrown and jumped our hearts out. The events for our carnival were: Standing Broad Jump, Shot Put, 50m and 200m races. For the field events, students had 3 attempts and their best attempt was recorded. For the races, all students ran in heats and then the finals determined our winners. Here are the results:

AGE GROUP	EVENT	PLACE	GIRLS	TIME /DIST	PLACE	BOYS	TIME /DIST
YEAR 3	Standing	1st	Saraiya EL	1.50	1st	Alex B & Zion D	1.68
	Broad	2nd	Adeline R	1.48	2nd		
	Jump	3rd	Lily N	1.36	3rd	Zane K	1.58
	Shot Put	1st	Aurora H	4.41	1st	Bodhi K	6.40
		2nd	Adeline R	4.11	2nd	Zion D	5.90
		3rd	Charlotte H	3.92	3rd	Alex K	4.70
	50m	1st	Hailey T	10.05	1st	Alex K	9.27
		2nd	Elodie B	10.28	2nd	Alex B	9.58
		3rd	Emily R	10.61	3rd	Cale D	9.87
	200m	1st	Hailey T	35.42	1st	Alex K	31.92
		2nd	Elodie B	35.92	2nd	Alex B	32.69
		3rd	Sienna R	37.72	3rd	Bodhi K	33.37
	Standing	1st	Annika L	1.56	1st	Ethan T	1.70
	Broad Jump	2nd	Willow C	1.53	2nd	Harper H,	4 50
		3rd	Coco F	1.52		Beau O & Dominic P	1.59
		1st	Alexis D	6.60	1st	Ethan T	6.07
	Shot Put	2nd	Ruby L	5.07	2nd	Mason K	5.76
YEAR 4		3rd	Tess S	4.81	3rd	Max C	5.69
		1st	Alexis D	8.62	1st	Bobby W	8.80
	50m	2nd	Amber P	8.89	2nd	Beau O	9.38
		3rd	Annika L	9.27	3rd	Ethan T & Phoenix T	9.45
		1st	Alexis D	31.66	1st	Bobby W	29.75
	200m	2nd	Amber P	32.22	2nd	Beau O	30.61
		3rd	Annika L	33.23	3rd	Ethan T	31.77
	Standing	1st	Macy M	1.88	1st	Knox M	2.05
	Broad Jump	2nd	Kyah S	1.76	2nd	Jack C	1.93
		3rd	Mikaylah W	1.69	3rd	Sylas CR	1.89
	Shot Put	1st	Lily Z	5.49	1st	Morgan P	7.05
		2nd	Natalia T	5.39	2nd	Archie H	7.04
YEAR 5		3rd	Addison P	4.79	3rd	Will W	6.75
	50m	1st	Willow P	8.01	1st	Sterling N	8.25
		2nd	Mikaylah W	8.63	2nd	Thomas ME	8.41
		3rd	Evie D	8.74	3rd	Jai S	8.56
	200m	1st	Willow P	31.45	1st	Sterling N	29.18
		2nd	Mali K	33.45	2nd	Jack C	30.35
		3rd	Evie D	33.65	3rd	Knox M	31.92
YEAR 6	Standing	1st	Emily G	1.89	1st	Hayden W	2.39
	Broad Jump	2nd	Willow A	1.86	2nd	Max K	2.17
		3rd	Grace F	1.80	3rd	Lewis G	2.06
	Shot Put	1st	Natasha H	6.15	1st	Hayden W	8.27
		2nd	Willow A	5.61	2nd	Jake B	8.15
		3rd	Emily G	5.49	3rd	Max K	7.79
	50m	1st	Willow A	8.08	1st	Hayden W	7.77
		2nd	Chloe B	8.24	2nd	Matthew M	7.97
		3rd	Isla A	8.58	3rd	Lennox C	8.07
	200m	1st	Emily G	30.76	1st	Jake B	28.76
		2nd	Willow A	31.64	2nd	Matthew M	29.14
		3rd	Erin H	32.98	3rd		30.15

Congratulations to all our winners and place getters. All ribbons were presented to students at Stage Assemblies on Wednesday. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 restrictions parents were unable to attend our ribbon presentation this year.

Congratulations to the following Athletics Grade Champions:

	GIRLS	BOYS
YEAR 3	Hailey T	Alex K
YEAR 4	Alexis D	Ethan T
YEAR 5	Willow P	Sterling N
YEAR 6	Willow A	Hayden W

AND THE WINNING TEAM WAS.... Jenkins who won the carnival on 154 points. The runners up were Wheeler and Ramsay on 120 points. Congratulations to all students who participated in every event and tried their personal best.



NEW HOUSE TEAM



Guma Kuma

It is with great excitement that I can announce the winners of our new House Emblem Competition. Two of our house teams will now have the names of birds which are very special to Gai-maraigal beliefs.

Green House – Guma Kuma (pronounced Gooma Kooma) – Musk Lorikeet

Blue House – Dyaramak (pronounced Deer-a-muk) – Kingfisher

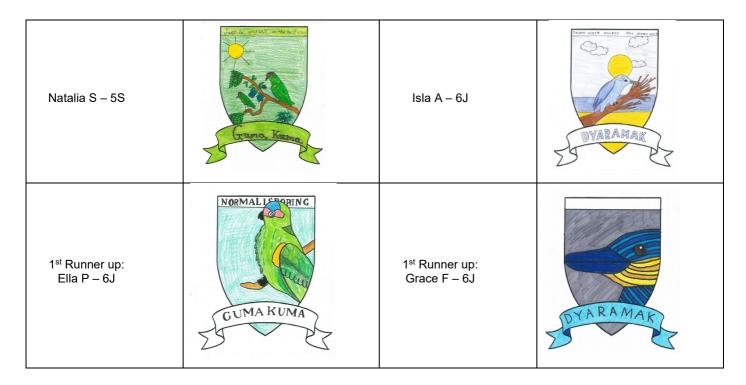


Dyaramak

Thank you to Gai-maraigal Elder, Uncle Dennis Foley, who has kindly shared Gai-maraigal language and cultural significance with our school.

6 finalists for each house team were selected. The voting was very close but we have two winners.

Guma Kum	na Finalists:	Dyaramak Finalists:		
Lucy K – 5A	CUMA RUMA	Addison P – 5S	Brave and Strong	
Eva D – 6T	IF POLICIA DELEVE IL ANTINA S POGRE	Sienna R – 5/6B	TF for fail get back uppr DYARAMAK	
Sophia S – 5S	SHINE OUT . STAND OUT	Emily G – 6J	Ore four . Care good , 100's detensioned	



Gemma M – 3J



Lucy K – 5A

SPORT 2020... THAT'S A WRAP!

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the passionate coaches and teachers who deliver amazing sporting programs and lessons each week for our all students at WHPS. Their dedication and commitment to sport is second to none. Thanks for all your support this year, it has certainly been an interesting year but we have managed to work together to provide fun and meaningful sporting activities and competitions.

Secondly, I would like to acknowledge the achievement of Mr Scotter who has been selected as one of the first **Pittwater PSSA Life Members**. He is being recognised for his outstanding contributions to our zone and to school sport. For many years, he has been an advocate and supporter of sport in our school, zone and region. As a teacher and Assistant Principal, Mr Scotter ran whole school sport programs, organised carnivals and coached PSSA teams. As a Principal, he has attended numerous zone and regional carnivals, Knockout Games and Gala Days. He is a passionate advocate for sport and has always supported the decisions made by the Pittwater PSSA Executive. This achievement demonstrates how much school sport has meant to Mr Scotter in his career, across all levels and it is a clear demonstration of his dedication to Pittwater PSSA.

Finally, I would like to thank all the students and parents who have demonstrated great resilience, compassion and understanding during a frustrating year in sport. Everyone should be proud of how they have demonstrated the Wheeler Way and wonderful sportsmanship in the face of adversity. Good luck in 2021, I hope that it is a year of successes for all students and teams at WHPS. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Yours in Sport,

Mrs N Young Sport Coordinator

SRC NEWS Thank You to Our Amazing 2020 SRC Team

As another year ends I wanted to acknowledge the fantastic SRC members that represented their classes this year. Students attended weekly meetings to share ideas to improve the school. We have just received a new bike rack as a result of a request from Charles and Campbell from 6J. The SRC have been an enthusiastic cheer squad championing events such as Ride2School Day, Bullying No Way Day and our various mufti day fundraisers which support important charities. I am already excited about some new playground initiatives that will happen next year as a result of our 2020 playground survey. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday.



Miss Earl SRC Coordinator

SUSTAINABILITY NEWS

A big thank you this week goes out to Mrs Wu, Mrs Lonsdale, Mrs Armstrong and Ms van De Wall Perne for their **INCREDIBLE** efforts taking the soft plastic each week to one of the supermarket red stations. This has been no easy job and they are incredibly valued for helping us and the environment out!

Miss Wilson

Eco Warriors and Sustainability Leaders co-ordinator







JOIN OUR BAND IN 2021

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN!

Are you interested in joining the school's fun & successful band program next year? We welcome any child in Years 3-6 in 2021 to join our band program STARTING TERM 1 2021. More Info <u>CLICK HERE</u> Register your interest HERE



LAST CHANCE for Tea Towels for 2020!!

Thank you to everyone who has ordered our personalised tea towels throughout the year - especially to those who have purchased more than their fair share!

We still have plenty left for each year group so PLEASE order at the below link if you're wanting a lovely keepsake of your child's school year for 2020 or a gift for family or friends this Christmas.

As you are aware, we haven't been able to hold many of our usual school fundraisers this year and it would be great to be able to ensure we at least cover the costs of these beautiful tea towels instead of having them go to waste.

We will be offering Buy One Get One Free for the last week of term - order online via trybooking and you will automatically get two sent home with your child.

https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=622247&

Thanks again for your support - wishing you all a lovely Christmas and New Year break!

WHPS Fundraising team (Outgoing!)





GIANT BOOK FAIR

Brookvale St Augustine's College

Federal Parade

December 10-13

Thursday 11-7, Friday 9-7, Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-3

