

The Wheeler Word



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Term 4 Wk 8

Thurs 6 December

Please see the flyer later in the newsletter about **Lex CR from 60** and his fundraising drive. Lex will be cutting 35cms off his hair in December in support of Variety, the Children's Charity and cancer. Please support Lex in this very worthwhile initiative.

Carol Night - Tuesday 11 December 5-7pm

Please see the flyer later in the newsletter. This is always a very enjoyable school event. Free BBQ supplied by the wonderful P&C from 5-5.45pm. Please bring your own refreshments - water and soft drinks only.

Stationery Lists for 2019

The exercise book list, the text book list and the grade/stage stationery lists will soon be in the newsletter and on the school website so that parents can purchase and organise their school resources for the new year.

Summer PSSA

Congratulations to all Summer PSSA teams for a very successful season. Three of our teams were named Premiers!! Well done to the boys and girls, staff coaches and the parent supporters.

School APP

You will probably have heard that the Primary Parent Planner App (PPP) will no longer operate next year. We are currently investigating a new APP for the school.

Milson Island

73 Year 4 students returned yesterday from three days on Milson Island. A huge thank you to the three staff (Priscilla Wright, Rosemary Radom & Nicholas Jones) who accompanied the students.

Taking away a large group of students for such a long period of time is a huge responsibility for the staff who leave their own lives, families and homes to care for your children. We all know how much stress and worry a simple birthday party or sleepover for 10 friends can be...imagine over 60 children for 60 hours with multiple meals, nights, activities, boat trips etc! Overnight excursions are always one of the highlights of the school year and I know that the children and staff have had a memorable time at camp.



Super Hoot Morning Teas – Mon 10 Dec (Yrs 3-6) and Mon 17 Dec (Yrs K-2)

The special Super Hoot morning teas with the principal will be held later this term. Students who have received five principal stickers (that is 25 Super Hoot awards) are eligible to attend and a special invitation has been sent out this week.

Staffing News 2019

Congratulations to **Mrs Louise Seagar** who was recently appointed as our Learning and Support Teacher (3 days per week). Mrs Seagar is a highly experienced and expert practitioner who has been doing the L&ST job so well in 2018. We are absolutely delighted that she is now a permanent member of staff.

We also welcome **Laura Bamford** to our school for 2019. Ms Bamford was recently appointed to our school as a targeted graduate. Ms Bamford has been teaching in the north coast area and visited the school on Monday. We look forward to Laura joining the team.

I'd also like to congratulate **Mrs Amanda Downs** who was recently successful for a permanent SASS (School Admin & Support Staff) position in the office. Mrs Downs is a highly proficient, efficient and friendly front office staff member who completes a multitude of jobs and tasks each and every day, both in and out of the classroom, supporting the special needs of our students and the everyday needs of the staff, parents and community.

We also congratulate **Mr Tyson Blanshard** who was recently appointed as Assistant Principal in the Coffs Harbour area. Tyson has been on leave from our school in 2018, moving to the north coast area. We wish Tyson & his young family all the very best for the future.

COMING EVENTS

Fri 7 Dec Sports Presentation 9.30am

Mon 10 Dec Band Concert

Tues 11 Dec Carol Night

Wed 12 Dec Yr 1 Drama 12.15pm
Yr 2 Drama 2.15pm

Thurs 13 Dec Yr 3-6 Presentation Day 9.30am

Fri 14 Dec Yr K-2 Presentation Day 9.30am

Mon 17 Dec Yr 6 Farewell Dinner

Tues 18 Dec Yr 3-6 Picnics

Wed 19 Dec K-2 Picnics @ school
Yr 6 Graduation & Clap Out

Last day for students

Please note that all dates are subject to change

2019 Dates

Tues 29 Jan Staff return

Wed 30 Jan Years 1-6 return to school

Wed 30 Jan- Friday 1 Feb Kindy Best Start assessments

Tues 5 Feb Kindy begin school

Thurs 28 Feb School Swimming carnival

Wed 6 March Pittwater Zone swimming carnival

Thurs 14 March Selective HS test

Fri 15 March PCS High School Extension Test

Term 1 ends on Fri 12 April

Term 2 Tues 30 April – Fri 5 Jul

Term 3 Tues 22 July – Fri 27 Sept

Term 4 Mon 14 Oct – Wed 18 Dec

Sadly we also have a number of staff departures.

Mrs Diana Galati (SASS staff) has been successful in obtaining a permanent SASS position at a closer to home school, Hampton Park P.S. Diana has been an outstanding staff member for a couple of years in the front office and also as a Learning Support Officer assisting in and out of the classroom.

Miss Emily Bowden will be moving to New Zealand. Miss Bowden is an outstanding young teacher who has been an integral part of the Kindergarten team this year. She has created an excellent rapport with her class and made their first year at school very special. Emily has also been the choir teacher, leading the choir at the Opera House concert, the War Vets Remembrance Day service and many other school events.

Mr Alex Bennett will be moving to the Central Coast. Mr Bennett is an outstanding teacher and role model who has contributed greatly to many student welfare and leadership programs and initiatives within the school. Alex has also been a passionate and expert sports coach, with a true sense of sportsmanship which he has definitely instilled in our students.

I'd also like to thank **Mr Tim Scarlett** and **Ms Linda Williamson** who stepped into the Year 6 class teaching role when Mrs Owens went on maternity leave in Term 3. These teachers have done a wonderful job on Year 6 to ensure that the boys and girls are ready and prepared for high school.

We will certainly greatly miss our departing staff. We wish them all the best for the next chapter in their lives and careers, but we do hope that they may return to Wheeler Heights in the future.

Drama

Congratulations to all Kindy students for the fabulous Drama performances on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Special thanks to the amazing music & drama teacher **Miss Lemin Luu** who coordinated the shows. The children acted & sang beautifully and looked delightful in their colourful costumes. Next week Year 1 and 2 will present their performance.

NAPLAN 2018

Please see the information regarding NAPLAN later in the newsletter. Thank you to Mrs Seagar for this analysis of the Year 3 and 5 results this year.

Best Start 2019

Information regarding the Kindergarten 2019 Best Start assessments will soon be emailed to parents. Please look out for the times that bookings will be open.

Presentation Days

The final preparations are being made for the three upcoming Presentation Days. The Sports Assembly is on tomorrow, Friday 7 December, Years 3-6 Presentation Day is on Thursday 13 December and K-2 Presentation Day on Friday 14 December. All three events start at 9.30am and will finish by approximately 11am. This year the school has contacted parents by phone or in person to inform them that their child will be receiving an award at one of the assemblies. We do try to keep an element of surprise for these occasions.

Class Organisation 2019

Planning is well underway for our 2019 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 will again have 19 classes in 2019. 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.

End of Year Dates

Please note the Term 4 dates and 2019 dates which are on the school calendar on the previous page. These dates will regularly be updated if changes occur.

School Reports Semester 2

Semester Two school reports will be distributed during the last week of term.

Please be sure to keep your school reports, NAPLAN results, certificates and school information in a safe place. Each year we are often asked for another copy of the school reports and other school documents.

David Scotter
Principal

FROM THE OFFICE

School Banking – the last day for student Commonwealth banking for 2018 is this Monday 10 December. Deposit books and money received after this day will be returned to the student.

Jodie Sly
School Administration Manager

NAPLAN RESULTS 2018

Congratulations to all of our Year 3 and Year 5 students who participated in this year's NAPLAN tests. It was fabulous to see the children perform these tests with such maturity and composure. Before sharing information about our NAPLAN tests, it is important to acknowledge that the results are a snapshot of our students' academic ability. Like all of us, the student's might be having a bad day when they sit a test or they could be feeling slightly anxious, especially if the test is on a particular area that they don't feel as confident. *We are very fortunate at Wheeler Heights Public School to have teachers with such extensive experience. They know what the students are truly capable of and if your child did not perform as well as expected they will know that their result was not a true reflection of their ability.*

We have analysed Wheeler Heights Public School results to determine our areas of strength and areas to focus on for continued growth. It was pleasing to find that both year groups outperformed the state average scores in all areas. The areas that students are tested on are Numeracy, Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation.

YEAR 3 Results Overview

In Year 3, reading and writing were the areas that student's performed best when comparing to the state average. Although our spelling scores were above the state average, the difference was only marginal. Therefore, we have identified spelling as a target area for our school to focus on.

% of students performing above national minimum standard – Year 3

Numeracy	94%
Reading	96%
Writing	99%
Spelling	96%
Grammar and Punctuation	92%

YEAR 5 Results Overview

In Year 5, reading and writing were once again the areas that students performed best when comparing to the state average results. Similarly to Year 3, spelling was identified as an area to focus on, along with grammar and punctuation. The Year 5 students still out performed the state average score for spelling and grammar and punctuation but the difference was not as significant as the other areas.

% of students performing above national minimum standard – Year 5

Numeracy	94%
Reading	93%
Writing	95%
Spelling	90%
Grammar and Punctuation	89%

We are extremely proud of our students and our dedicated staff. Well done for all your hard work and successful results.

Louise Seagar
Learning and Support Teacher

SPORT NEWS

PSSA Spring / Summer Competition

Unfortunately, the wet weather meant that our teams who had made finals could not participate last week. On a positive note, due to three of those teams finishing top of the standings in the regular season they will receive a coveted Pittwater patch. Huge congratulations to the Senior Boys' and Girls' Softball teams and the Junior Boys' T-ball team: a fantastic effort! All team members will receive their certificates at Friday's Sports Awards Assembly at 9.30am in the hall.

PSSA Sports Coach
Mr Alex Bennett

TALENT SHOW

Talent Show Final

The finalists from the four Stage Talent Shows held during Semester 2, will perform for the whole school on Tuesday 11 December. All finalists have been notified. The performances can be seen from 11.50 am next Tuesday. Parents are welcome.

Linda Williamson
Classroom Teacher

wheeler Wonderland



Last Thursday Year 6 hosted another amazing Wheeler Wonderland!!! We were fortunate that the weather cleared up and the sun made an appearance. The day went off without a hitch and was extremely successful! B deck was where all the action was with many fun games to play, from foamy sponge throwing, slimy lucky dips, footy passes, pool tosses, Nerf gun target, lolly throwing and remote control car racing. C Deck was the home for all the creative kids, with a guess the baby teacher and lucky dip stall, henna tattoos, hair spray and don't forget the photo booth and face painting. After all the action and fun, D deck was the place to go to cool down with a refreshing milk shake, smoothie and sponge throwing snow cone stall. You could also fuel up with the delightful cake stall, sausage sizzle or the abundance of hot food: pies, sausage rolls, nuggets and chips. To top it all off, some very lucky children at WHPS won prizes from the jelly bean and lolly guessing competitions, best photos and the baby teacher stalls. All in all everyone had a great time. Year 6 should be very proud of their efforts as each stall was run demonstrating the Wheeler Way. Thank you to all the parents who supported this event by helping their children with their stalls. Congratulations Year 6, for an epic Wheeler Wonderland for 2018!



Cheers,
Year 6 Teachers ~ Mr Scarlett, Ms Williamson and Mrs Young

WHEELER HEIGHTS DANCE PROGRAM



Rehearsals for the 2018/2019 dance season have begun. Please be prompt for all rehearsal times.

Junior Dance Group – Friday mornings 8 - 9am in the hall

Senior Dance Group – Wednesday mornings 8 - 9am in the hall

Final rehearsals for 2018 will be in Week 9.

We will advise the groups when rehearsals will start up again in the New Year.

We are delighted to once again have Mrs Tahlia Lupton as the dance teacher for both groups.

For absences please email the school or the dance committee - whps.dance@gmail.com

Sarah Higgs and Belinda Alexander
Dance Coordinators

BALLROOM DANCING

Congratulations to the Year 5 Wheeler Heights after school ballroom dancers who went to the Dancesport Challenge last Saturday at Sydney Olympic Park.

It was a great event and experience with Eduardo and Lily coming 4th in Cha Cha, 7th in Jive and 9th in Tango. Ruby came 9th in Jive with a partner from another school. Eduardo and Chloe made quarter finals for Cha Cha and Waltz.

Their dance teacher Josh did a wonderful job teaching them.

Zita Briones – Proud Parent



Bring the family and come along to the...

Wheeler Heights Public School

Carol Picnic

Tuesday
11 December
5pm – 7pm

Special performances
by every
Grade
& both
Choirs!

Complimentary
P&C
Sausage
Sizzle
5pm - 5:45pm

BYO
Water &
Soft Drinks

Thank you for remembering that Dept. of Education policy states; all school events where children attend are alcohol free.

The poster features a green and white checkered background with snowflake patterns. At the top, there is a string of colorful Christmas lights. The text is arranged in a central, eye-catching layout. On the left, there is a purple Christmas ornament with a gold top. On the right, there are two gingerbread stars. At the bottom, there are several ants and a picnic basket.

K-2 NEWS



Friendly Friday

Each Friday K-2 students are participating in 'Friendly Friday' during lunch time. The purpose of 'Friendly Friday' is to encourage students to play with different people in preparation for their new classes next year. It also develops students' confidence and skills so they can approach new people and highlights the qualities of positive friendships.

In the classroom students are participating in various activities, such as role plays and discussions, to support the development of their social skills. These activities also assist students to reflect on their own personal qualities and their actions in the playground. For example; playing fairly in games and compromising during playground activities.



Bee Hive Split

Last week 1/2E and 2J enjoyed a special visit from Tim from the Coastal Environment Centre. The visit was to split the school's native stingless bee hive. Australian native bees are black and at only 3-5 mm in size they are much smaller than the European honey bee. That means there are around 20,000 bees in the school hive!

Splitting the hive provided students with a close look at the beeswax cells and the resin that is inside a hive. The favourite part for many students was getting to taste the super sweet honey. Look closely at the photos below, can you see the eggs that the larva will hatch from?

A very special thank you to Dominic, Isaac P and their dad Damian who kindly built the school a new bee hive to be used in the bee hive split.

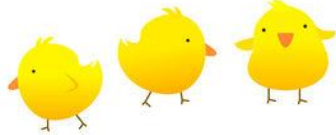
Miss Earl
Organising Teacher




HELP NEEDED!

Calling all animal lovers. We have 6 gorgeous ladies who need a home/homes for the holidays. Our chickens will be 8 weeks old and need some volunteers to take them home and care for them in the holidays. If you can help out for 1 week, 2 weeks, 3 weeks or the whole holidays, we would love your help. Please contact the school office with dates that you are available and we can work out a roster for our precious pets.

Julia Smith
Assistant Principal





December @ WHPS

Week 9:

- Mon 10 Dec** Yrs 3-6 Super Hoot Morning Tea & Band Concert Evening
- Tues 11 Dec** Talent Quest finals
Carol Night 5-7pm
- Wed 12 Dec @ 12.15** Yr 1 Drama performance
2.15pm Yr 2 Drama performance
- Thurs 13 Dec @ 9.30am** Yr 3-6 Presentation Day

Week 8:

- Tues 4 Dec** KH & KT Drama 2.15pm
Yr 6 HS Open Day
- Wed 5 Dec** KG & KB Drama 2.15pm
- Thurs 6 Dec** Helpers Breakfast 8.30-9.15am
- Fri 7 Dec** Sports Presentation 9.30am

Week 10:

- Mon 17 Dec** K-2 Super Hoot Morning Tea 5.45pm Yr 6 Farewell Dinner
- Tues 18 Dec** Yrs 3-6 Class Picnics
- Wed 19 Dec** K-2 Picnics & 2pm Year 6 Graduation Assembly & 2.45pm Clap Out
- Last day for all Students**

P&C NOTICES

CANTEEN NEWS

END OF SCHOOL
ICE CREAM SUNDAES
FRIDAY DECEMBER 14th
\$2.00
OVER THE COUNTER AT
LUNCH



CANTEEN ROSTER 2018		CANTEEN ROSTER 2018	
TERM 4 2018		CLASS VOLUNTEER	
WEEK 9	10/12 -14/12	4R & 5B	
WEEK 10	17/12 - 19/12	5S & 5M	

If you can't help during the week your class has been given, you can volunteer for any other time throughout the year. Each parent will receive a super hoot for volunteering Grab a friend and sign up!



BAND NEWS

THANK YOUSE ALL!

To all those beautiful people who have appeared from the shadows to help keep our band program alive, we say THANK YOU. We're gonna get there!

We have quite a few of you to get through, so bear with us as we form a plan as to how best to use your respective talents. But rest assured, we'll find something for everyone to do.

An email will be circulated shortly to those who have offered help. We will try to organise a get together for those who can make it. At this stage we're planning to meet on 19 December. For those who can't make it, we'll call you and talk to each of you about what role you can fill.

In all we've had about 12-15 people put their hand up for heavy lifting. Stay tuned.

In the meantime, we're pleased to announce:

- We now have a new treasurer – THANKS CLAUDINE!!
- We also now have a new Events coordinator – THANKS KATE!!

Watch this space.

END OF YEAR BAND CONCERT

Monday 10 December from 5.30pm: All Bands

This is the WHPS Bands' "red carpet affair", at which all bands will perform in a concert to family members, friends, relatives and anyone else who is interested in coming along. Entry is free. This production is the celebration and acknowledgement of a hard year's work of the volunteers, conductors and band children. Fun is compulsory!

There will be some fun and unusual twists at our concert this year, so come prepared for a dose of unexpected excitement!

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLIES

On Thursday 13 December our Senior Band will be performing at the 3-6 Presentation Assembly. The event starts at 9.30am.

On Friday 14 December our Training Band will be performing at the K-2 Presentation Assembly (also at 9.30am).

These are both wonderfully dignified occasions and provide a great chance for our bands to perform in front of the wider school community as an integral part of these important formal ceremonies. Parents are welcome to attend either or both events.

WOW! YET ANOTHER JAZZ BAND GIG...

The Jazz Band is also performing at the school's Carol Night, expected to be held on the school oval on 11 December. All families are invited along to lend their support not only to our incredible jazz ensemble but also to the event generally.

HIRED INSTRUMENT RETURNS

Over the Christmas period we will be collecting some selected hired instruments to get a service over Christmas, so you might get a tap on the shoulder. We will be focusing on saxophones and a couple of older trumpets, but we'll approach those affected on an individual basis over the next few weeks.

Obviously, it's in your interest that the instrument be kept in good nick so bear with us as we organise its service.

URGENT NOTE CONTINUING WITH BAND IN 2019...

Just a quick reminder to complete the Return to Band 2019 form **ASAP** so we can update our database and plan for 2019. Deadline is **Friday 7 December 2018** (This Friday!!!)

- Please complete if you are returning
- Please let us know if you are NOT returning as well
- Let us know on the form if you're interested in joining the Jazz Band for 2019.

Quick access for the form is here: <http://www.whpsband.com.au/forms/view.php?id=22121>

Please help us get organised for next year by completing the form as soon as possible – it should only take you 30 seconds!

EXAM CRUNCHERS

Multi-instrumentalist Monique W was happy to receive an A in 2nd Grade Piano for Leisure last week. Well done Mon, you are an absolute legend!

Emily G sat her Grade 3 Saxophone exam recently and she got an 'A'. Great work Emily!! Keep practicing girl!!

Alannah R received a high credit in her Grade 2 trombone exam. Great stuff Alannah!! You're a champion.

Not to be outdone by his older sister Cliff R blitzed his Grade 1 Trumpet exam obtaining a distinction. Good job Cliffy!

Estella B rocked in her Grade 3 French horn exam. She got honors! What a Stella effort!

WHPS Band Upcoming Events:

- **6 December** – Parent Helper Breakfast Concert - Jazz Band (across usual morning rehearsal time)
- **10 December** – Christmas Concert – all bands
- **11 December** – Carol Night – Jazz Band
- **13 December** – 3-6 Presentation Assembly – Senior/Intermediate band
- **14 December** – K-2 Presentation Assembly – Training Band
- **14 December** – end of year band social afternoon – all bands; Collaroy Rock Pool

For more info on the WHPS Band go to: <http://www.whpsband.com.au/>

Warning: Please check your e-mail before all performances. The "Band Event Reminder" will provide updates on all band event details. As circumstances change, dates and times may also change.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE DANCE SHOWCASE 2018

The Narrabeen Sports High School Academy Dance Ensemble will perform winning routines from 2018 along with student choreographed works developed with Sydney Dance Company and the accelerated HSC Dance class.

When: Wednesday 12th December 2018

Where: Narrabeen Sports High School Hall

Tickets: Free

Time: 7pm





\$1,500.81

LEXS CHOP FOR CHARITY

Hair with Heart, Variety - the Children's Charity

MY STORY

Lex made the decision to grow his hair 2.5 years ago not long after turning 9 and almost immediately after his Grandpa was diagnosed with cancer.

Lex will be chopping off 35.5 cms of his hair during December.

Along with donating his hair, he'd like to fundraise to help other kids who have to deal with so many different (and often grown up) medical conditions.

Please consider donating to Variety, no matter how big or small... Wigs cost families up to \$6,000, lasting 1-2 years, meaning families can spend tens of thousands of dollars on the purchase of wigs throughout a child's youth. By making a donation to Variety - the Children's Charity, you can help provide a wig or other vital equipment to a child in need. Thank you for helping kids in need.

Lots of Love,
Lex

[Click here for Lex's fundraising page](#)

or go straight to the following link:

<https://hairwithheart.everydayhero.com/au/lexs-chop-for-charity>

HAIR WITH HEART
© 17 DEC 2019

Live Life Well @ School

FRUIT, VEGETABLE & WATER BREAK

Crunch&Sip® Pack ideas

Stuck for ideas to make your kids Crunch&Sip packs more interesting? Try these ideas:



1

Use texture
Make a pack that includes vegetables or fruits with varying textures.



3

Go for colour
Use a variety of colours in your packs to make them appealing.



4

Is it in season?
Vegetables or fruit in season will taste better.



2

Make it tasty
Pack chopped vegetables or fruits that taste great together.



5

Add a fun fact
Include a post it note with an interesting fact about the vegetable or fruit in the pack.

More information? Download the parent brochure from the Crunch&Sip webpage: www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/campaigns-programs/crunch-sip.aspx.

Search 'Crunch and Sip' at www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District