Message from the Principal
Congratulations to Mr Dixon and our wonderful Westlawn PS film makers for being successful in becoming finalists in the Clarence Valley Regional Film Festival with their film ‘The Long Lost Weekend’! Special mention to the main contributors to the project: Grace Spies, Luci Youman, Rianna Foley, Jossy Hargans, Chloe Winkler, Ella Tooth, Hollie Winkler, Benny Luxton and Eden Annesley! You should all be very proud of yourselves. The films which were finalists will be shown at the Saraton Theatre on Sunday October 27th from around 2pm. Seven of the students get to be delivered to the front door of the Saraton in a stretch limo to walk the red carpet! Friends, family and the public are welcome to attend the showing. Thank you to Mr Dixon for his time and enthusiasm in making this film making possible.

Managing Change in Education
In previous newsletters, at P&C meetings and in speeches on Presentation Days and Education Week, I have informed our school community that we have been at the forefront of State and Federal Government initiatives to improve and streamline management practices in schools. Westlawn is one of the 229 schools trialling new systems for financial management, student welfare and managing student information. Mrs Taylor (School Administration Manager) and I have been undergoing training in these new processes as a trial school, and have had to provide feedback to the system developers to ensure that when the other 2000+ schools come on board, the systems have been significantly tested. I would like to thank Mrs Taylor for her willingness to take on these extra tasks and responsibilities, and appreciate her time in preparing our school for the changes as they unfold. Over the next week I will be attending the NSW Primary Principals Conference, visiting Canley Vale Public School and attending a professional learning day with a world leading academic on change management in educational settings, Michael Fullan. It is my intention to have Westlawn PS very well positioned to manage a changing educational environment to provide the best for our students.

Jacaranda Flower Girl
Congratulations to Keira Rasborsek in Year 1 who has been named as this year’s Jacaranda Flower Girl! Well done Keira and enjoy your moments in the spotlight!

Jacaranda Events
Saturday 26 October: Jacaranda Parade of Youth
Our school will be participating in the Grafton Jacaranda Parade of Youth on Saturday 26th October. This is a wonderful opportunity for your children to experience the community spirit of the Jacaranda Festival which is so important to the Grafton community. We hope to have a great turnout of our students, in full school uniform, parading behind our school banner. Also, our school band will be combining with some other schools to play music to accompany us on the march. We invite you to cheer on Westlawn in the parade. Students are asked to assemble at the river end of Prince Street adjacent to the Civic Centre at 9am. Just look for our banner and students in uniform. The parade begins at 9:30am. We ask that students wear full school uniform including school hat and bring a water bottle.

Thursday 31 October: Jacaranda Concert
Our Year 1 choir will perform in a morning concert with other schools from the Grafton Community of Schools at Market Square on Thursday 31 October (Jaca Thursday). The concert will be from 10am to 11am. Thanks to Mrs Lewis for her work with the choir.
Friday 1 November: Venetian Carnival
The Westlawn Guitar Group will be performing at the Venetian Carnival on Friday November 1, 2013 at approximately 6:30pm. Thanks to Mr Luke Gough (from the Clarence Conservatorium) and Ms Ellem for arranging the performance.

As stated in the previous Newsletter, due to changes in the way in which local holidays and events are gazetted by the state government and after public consultation conducted through Clarence Valley Council, ‘Jacaranda Thursday’ has been made a half-day local event this year. This means that Westlawn PS will be open for the day on the Thursday of the Jacaranda week. We acknowledge that many students and their families will want to participate in the day’s events. Normal lessons might not operate depending on student numbers in attendance on Jacaranda Thursday, however all students attending school will be fully supervised. School buses will run to their normal school timetables on the day.

To assist our planning for Jacaranda Thursday could parents please complete the tear-off and return it to school to indicate whether or not your child/ren will be attending school on Jacaranda Thursday.

Connecting To Country
Three of our teachers Mrs Ward, Mr Ogilvy and Mrs Casserly have recently taken part in five days of professional learning conducted by the local Grafton AEGC (Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group) which was a cultural immersion into the history and culture of the Bundjalung and Gumbaingirr peoples. Mrs Twigg, Mr Alford and Mr Jones took part in this educational program in 2012. It is very valuable for staff to have this level of knowledge and understanding of our local Aboriginal community and families.

Leaving Westlawn this year?
We are confirming student numbers and staffing needs for 2014. If your child/ren will be leaving this Term or over the holidays could you please phone the school office or complete the tear-off in this Newsletter and return it to the school office? Thank you.

Narelle Twigg
Principal

DIARY DATES
TERM 4
Week 3
23 Oct Year 6 Hot Dog Day
24 Oct Visiting CSIRO Science Show for K-6
26 Oct Saturday: Jacaranda March of Youth
Week 4
29-30 Oct Y3 Coffs Beach School excursion
30 Oct Kindergarten excursion to Jacaranda Park
31 Oct Jacaranda Thursday: Y1 choir performing at Market Square
Week 6
11 Nov 2pm Canteen Meeting
11 Nov Intensive Swimming Scheme for Wk 6 and 7 for Y2
13 Nov 6pm P&C meeting
14 Nov SRC Mufti Day for Grafton Hospital, gold coin donation
15 Nov Kinder Orientation & Parent meeting
Week 7
18-22 Nov Y5 to Lake Ainsworth
22 Nov Kinder Orientation
Week 8
25-29 Nov Y6 to Canberra
29 Nov Kinder Orientation
Week 9
4-6 Dec Y4 to Yarrahappinni
4 Dec Y6 Orientation Day at Grafton High School

Week 10
9 Dec 2pm Canteen meeting
10 Dec Presentation Day
11 Dec Award Assembly
11 Dec 6pm P&C meeting
12 Dec Parent Helper Afternoon
13 Dec Tea
13 Dec Primary Ten Pin Bowling
13 Dec Reports go home
Week 11
16 Dec Infants Ten Pin Bowling
16 Dec Year 6 Farewell
17 Dec Carols Night
**BAND**
There will be a combined schools band marching in the March of Youth on Saturday 26th October 2013. Band children participating will need to wear full school uniform including hat and bring their instruments and a bottle of water. Meet outside Bailey & Gough First National Real Estate (corner of Prince and Victoria Streets) at 9am for a 9.30 start.

**Student Banking**
Recent Zooper Dooper winners are: Violet Herbert 1P and Kira Boulton 1P.

**Student of the Week – Week 2** Taleah Wright 2T and Arabela Labao 3D.

**Aspirations Project Update**
Thank you to those parents /carers of our Year 4 and Year 6 students who responded to the survey sent out regarding the research project. There is still time to complete the survey by either filling out the paper version that was sent to parents of students in these grades last term or by completing the electronic version using the following link:  Parent survey link: [http://goo.gl/BHe4q](http://goo.gl/BHe4q)

If you fill out the paper version please return it to [school](http://www.graftonhighschool.com) in the sealed envelope provided. Please do not return your survey directly to Newcastle University. Students in Years 4 and 6 have completed the electronic version at school. Remember this project is to try and help identify the influences on young peoples’ education and job goals. Understanding these influences will help schools to support students to reach those goals.

**CSIRO Science Show “Seeing the Light”**
The lights will be off in our hall for a special light show this Thursday. Limited spots left. Please send in note and money before Thursday. Thank you, J. Pereira

**K-2 Assembly**
It has been decided that there will be no class items performed at the K-2 assemblies this term. The class will still host the assembly and Student of the Week will be handed out along with commendations. Week 3 assembly class is 1W.

**Grafton High School Year 7 2014**
Dates to be aware of if your child intends attending Grafton High School next year:
5 November – Parent Information evening 6pm at Grafton High School
4 December – Year 6 to Year 7 Orientation day at Grafton High School

**South Grafton High School Year 7 2014**
Dates to be aware of if your child intends attending South Grafton High School next year:-
19 November – 9am until 3pm. Students are to stay for the entire day. Parents to attend from 9am to 11am for an information session, a guided tour and morning tea (which will be provided to the parents.

**State Athletics**
Congratulations to Joshua Weatherstone who competed at the NSW PSSA State Athletics Championships last week in Sydney. Josh finished 8th in his 200m heat with a time of 29.82. Although Hayley Fischer no longer attends our school we can report that she came 2nd in her 100m heat with a time of 14.63 and narrowly missed out of a berth in the semi finals. Well done to both athletes!
HOT DOG DAY HELPERS
Tomorrow is year 6's fundraiser Hot Dog Day and we're after a few helpers. Please come into the canteen in the morning if you have some spare time.

MARQUEE PROMOTION
The Daily Examiner marquee promotion has ended. Please send in all coupons by this Friday, 25th October.

BOOKCLUB
The next Bookclub orders and money will need to be in by this Friday, 25th October.

CLOTHING POOL NEWS
The Clothing Pool is looking for volunteers to help out on the three Kindy Orientation days. It will be open 9:00am to 11:00am on Fridays 15th, 22nd and 29th of November. If you can help out please contact Sharyn Ellem on 0400 699 617.

The Clothing Pool will be CLOSED Jacaranda Thursday, 7th November.

CANTEEN NEWS
The position of Canteen Deputy Manager still remains vacant. If you are interested in this role please come along to the P&C General Meeting Wednesday, 11 November at 6pm in the old hall.

If you are interested in helping out in the canteen please contact Davina Green – 0423 741 820.

The Canteen will be CLOSED Jacaranda Thursday, 7th November.

Clothing Pool Hours 2013
Mondays & Thursdays – 8:30am to 9:00am
Wednesdays – 2:30pm to 3:00pm
Sharyn Ellem – Clothing Pool Co-Ordinator

Dates for the Calendar
Return Marquee Coupons
Friday, 25 October 2013
Bookclub Orders Due
Friday, 25 October 2013
Canteen & Clothing Pool Closed
Thursday, 7 November 2013
Canteen Meeting
Monday, 11 November 2013 - 2pm Mrs Twigg office
P&C General Meeting
Wednesday, 13 November 2013 – 6pm Old Hall

Canteen Roster
Wednesday 23/10 Nikita Looker, Mavren Predo
Thursday 24/10 Kristina Huxley, Mel Kingsley
              Sharon McLaughlan,
Friday 25/10  Denise Oriel, Vanessa
              Waterhouse, Lisa Hebblewhite
Monday 28/10 Karla Bursle, Taree Brearley
Tuesday 29/10 Rebecca Ashenden, Lana Elward
Wednesday 30/10 Sharyn Ellem, Kylie Lavender
2014

My child/ren will not be attending Westlawn Public School in 2014.

Name: ________________________________  Signed: ________________________________

Name of Child: ________________________________ Class: _____________

Name of Child: ________________________________ Class: _____________

Name of Child: ________________________________ Class: _____________

CSIRO Touring Science Education Program – Seeing the Light Show

I give permission for my child _______________________________ in Class ______ to attend the
CSIRO Touring Science Education Program on Thursday 24th October 2013.

The cost is $4.50 and is enclosed.

Signed: ______________________________  Date: ____________

(Parent/Guardian)

Westlawn PS

Explanation of Student Absence – Thursday 31 October 2013

My child(ren)

_________________________________________ of class ___________

_________________________________________ of class ___________

_________________________________________ of class ___________

Will NOT be attending school on Thursday 31 October 2013 as they will be participating in the Jacaranda Festival. I understand that I am responsible for the care and supervision of my child(ren) on this day.

Parent name: ______________________________ Signature: ______________________________