Message from the Principal

Year 5 students had a wonderful time at Lake Ainsworth and this week Year 6 students are in Canberra. Our students are great ambassadors for the school. Thank to Ms McKenna and Mr Pereira for giving their time to accompany Year 5 and thanks to Mrs Anderson and Mr Alford for accompanying Year 6. These excursions are exhausting for the accompanying teachers who are responsible day and night for such a large group of students. My thanks to them.

I would like to congratulate Taya Johnson for her honesty in handing in $50 which she found in the playground in a small plastic bag. It was for an excursion payment and was greatly appreciated by the parent of the child who lost it. Thank you Taya! Honesty is a wonderful virtue and one which we admire in our students.

Two Westlawn students have been successful in being awarded a Clarence Valley Conservatorium scholarship. Congratulations to Eden Annesley who won the Junior Music Scholarship worth $600 and Rogan McGuire who won the Junior Group Drama Scholarship worth $400. Well done on your fine achievements.

Year 6 students enjoyed a great show last Thursday by Indigenous Hip Hop Project performers who entertained the students with dance and gave the important message about healthy life choices. The show was seen as high quality and engaging, and taught the children to make their own choices based on what they know is right to do rather than be influenced by others.

Yesterday students in Year 3, 4 and Year 5 had a chance to meet Gold Coast Titans players and were taught by them about anti-bullying. Again, this important message was well delivered to an interested audience. One of the players, Anthony Don, attended Westlawn PS as a youngster. Mrs Lewis was thrilled to share her memories of him at Westlawn and point out to the students that with a lot of effort and a healthy lifestyle, our students can achieve all sorts of things.

Swimming School finishes this week. Thank you to all the teachers who have been involved in teaching our students to swim.

Parent Helper Afternoon Tea

With today’s Newsletter we have included an invitation to the Parent Helper afternoon tea on Thursday 12 December at 1:30pm in the hall. We hope all those parents who have helped in any way in 2013 can come along so that we can show our appreciation for your support of our school.

Major P&C Raffle

Please support our P&C raffle by selling as many tickets as possible; it is a good time to see if friends, relatives and work associates might buy some. There are great prizes to be won in the raffle:

- 1st prize: $1000 voucher from Cummings Retravision
- 2nd prize: Mini eReader
- 3rd prize: Portable Barbecue
- 4th prize: $50 book voucher

Each child has taken home a raffle ticket book. There will be incentive prizes for the students who sell the most tickets or significant amounts of tickets. There will be a sausage sizzle for the class that sells the most tickets. If your child is not able to sell the tickets, please return the book to the school so it can be reissued. All tickets need to be accounted for, so all books must be returned whether sold or not. Any child needing extra ticket books can get them from the school office. All tickets need to be returned by Friday 13th December. The raffle will be drawn at Carols by Candlelight on Tuesday 17th December.
Speech and Presentation Day
Speech and Presentation Day will be held on Tuesday 10th December at 11:45am. Our parents and community members are most welcome. It will be held in the Infants COLA area as usual, as our hall is unable to hold our school group of almost 500 students plus the hundreds of family members who attend. This important annual event on our school calendar recognises the outstanding achievements of many of our students.

Christmas Gifts
When parents are considering Christmas gift ideas it is worthwhile to consider things which children are likely to need for school next year such as stationery items like pens, pencils, textas, or an eraser. Buying black school shoes or joggers will help with getting ready for next year. Books are always worth considering, especially quality picture books, novels or factual texts about things which interest your child. Encouraging children to read by having lots of books at home brings many benefits to their education. The simplest toys such as a ball or skipping rope, which get children active and outside, are always beneficial.

Uniform Shop
If you have any good quality second hand uniform items that could be donated to our uniform shop, Sharyn Ellem would be most appreciative. We are in short supply.

Narelle Twigg
Principal

DIARY DATES
TERM 4
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 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

Student Banking
This week’s zooper dooper winners are: Arnez Kearns and Isabelle Brown.

IT’S TIME TO TRADE IN YOUR DOLLARMITES TOKENS FOR A REWARD.
**Direct Deposits**
There is a new accounting system about to come on line in schools. During the change-over we will be handwriting receipts and cannot accept any direct deposits. Please do not make any direct deposits after 1 November until further notice.

**Grafton High School Year 7 2014**
If your child intends attending Grafton High School next year please note that 4 December is the Year 6 to Year 7 Orientation day at Grafton High School.

**Student of the Week – Week 6** Blake Norrie KL and Jessica Wallings 6B.

**Week 7** Zane Farrell K1B and Emma Firth 4O.
INVITATION

Parent Helper
Afternoon Tea

The staff at Westlawn PS would like to show our appreciation for the fabulous contribution made by our parents and community members by supporting us in so many ways within the school. So to all of you who help out with P&C fundraising, in the canteen, with class reading programs, on excursions, with Book Club, in the clothing pool, with school banking, on special occasions, or in any other of the multitude of ways, please join us for afternoon tea.

Date: Wednesday 12th December
Time: 1:25pm – 2:00pm
Venue: School hall

RSVP: 11/12/13 Please phone the office to let us know if you are attending.
CANTEEN NEWS
Next year the canteen will be looking for more volunteers. If we can't get enough helpers we will be forced to close some days. If you are interested in helping out in the canteen please contact Davina Green – 0423 741 820.
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 December at 6pm in the old hall.

MAJOR RAFFLE
Please return all tickets, sold or not, by Friday 13th December and will be drawn at the Carols Night, Tuesday 17th December.

CLOTHING POOL NEWS
The Clothing Pool is running low on second hand uniforms. If you have any please bring them in when possible.
Don't forget year 2 students will require a sports uniform for year 3 next year.
The Clothing Pool will be open on the remaining Kindy Orientation day 9:00am to 11:00am Friday, 9th of November.
First week back to school in 2014 the clothing pool will be open the following:

Tuesday 28 January - 9:00am - 2:00pm
Wednesday 29 January - 8:30am - 11:00am
- 2:00pm - 3:00pm
Thursday 30 January - 8:30am - 10:30am
Friday 31 January - 8:30am - 9:30am
Clothing Pool opening hours back to normal from Monday 3 February, 2014.

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
Kindy Orientation
Friday, 29th November 2013
Return Book Club Orders
Friday, 29 November 2013
Canteen Meeting
Monday, 9 December 2013 - 2pm Mrs Twigg’s office
P&C General Meeting
Wednesday, 11 December 2013 – 6pm Old Hall
Return Raffle Tickets
Friday, 13 December 2013
Carols Night
Tuesday, 17 December 2013 – 6pm

CANTEEN ROSTER
Wednesday 27/11  Sharyn Ellem, Kylie Lavender
Thursday 28/11 Mel Kingsley, Sharron Robertson
Friday 29/11  Crystal Grant, Shayna Delaforce, Shelley Thompson
Monday 2/12  Sandra Martin, Vanessa Berrick
Tuesday 3/12  Sue Tobin, Skye King, Sue Olrick
Wednesday 4/12  Ann Finn, Angie Miller