Message from the Principal

WESTLAWN WHEELATHON

It’s Wheelathon time again at Westlawn. We want to raise funds for iPads and ‘tablet’ technologies to extend our students’ access to the latest learning opportunities. Children have taken home a sponsorship sheet today to seek sponsors over the coming weeks. If more sponsorship sheets are needed, they will be available at the office. The sponsorship sheets and sponsorship money need to be returned by Friday 7 November, even if no sponsorship was received. Each card is numbered for audit purposes.

On Wednesday 29 October we will hold the ‘Wheelathon’ at school. On that day students will be asked to bring something with wheels to participate in the event. It can be a bike, skateboard, ripstick, pram, scooter, pullalong or other suitable wheeled toy. If a child can’t bring something we will help out so they can all participate. Children will be informed of the safety equipment they must have for their toy e.g. kneepads, elbow pads, helmet to ensure safe riding. Areas in the school grounds or grounds in close proximity to the school will be set up with tracks and safety ‘road signs’. Children will have a period of time to complete the track taking note of ‘road signs’. It will not be a race nor will it be a lap count that determines their completion, rather it will be a 30 minute time frame to keep active and complete the track safely. Classes will have a set time period throughout the day to be involved.

More details of the Wheelathon Day will be provided at a later date. There will be incentive prizes for children who raise particular amounts of money such as a basketball, soccer ball or football for those who raise more than $100, an iPod Nano for the child who raises the most money in Infants and in Primary, and a BBQ for the class that raises the most money. We ask our community to get behind this event to raise money for our school. Parents will be welcome to attend on the day and we might need volunteers to help hold signs or fulfil other tasks. We hope you are able to get behind our Wheelathon!

Jacaranda Thursday

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 we have been advised that “Jacaranda Thursday” will be a half-day public holiday day this year. This means that Westlawn Public School will be open until 1:00 pm on the Thursday of the Jacaranda week (Thursday 30th October). However, we have been informed that all organised activities on the day occur in the first half of the day and so acknowledge that many students and their families will still want to participate in those events. Last year most students were absent from school on this day. As such, whilst the school will be open for the morning, it is unlikely that normal lessons and routine will operate. Any students who attend school in the morning will be required to stay at school until 1:00 pm, unless parents sign them out of school, as per normal school procedure. Our main bus company has informed us that school buses will run to their normal school timetables in the morning BUT NO BUSES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TRANSPORT STUDENTS HOME WHEN THE SCHOOL CLOSES AT 1:00 PM. ALSO, THE NORMAL AFTERNOON BUS RUNS WILL NOT OPERATE.

To assist with our planning and organisation we are asking parents/carers to return the note that is being sent home today to inform us if their child will not be attending school on Jacaranda Thursday (Thursday 30th October). This note will be sufficient to explain any student absence on the day. Obviously, parents are responsible for the care and supervision of their children once they have left school at 1:00 pm or if absent from school for the day.
School Contributions
Thank you to the families that have paid the School Contributions of $60 per child for the year. Earlier in the year we said there would be a lucky draw for a chance to win one of two Grafton Athlete’s Foot vouchers worth $100 each, drawn from the names of those who had paid The lucky winners are Maya Wall in 4W and Oneil Brown in 1L.

Kinder Orientation Dates
The dates for the Kinder Orientation morning visits for students beginning Kinder at Westlawn in 2014 are Friday 14th, 21st and 28th November. The Parent Information Meeting is on 14th November while the children are at Orientation.

Changes to Calendar Dates
Please note that we have had to swap the dates for the Infants and Primary Ten Pin Bowling days at the end of the year. See revised dates below.

Narelle Twigg
Principal

Diary Dates
TERM 4
Week 1
Tues 7 Oct School begins for Term 4
Life Education Van will be here for a few weeks, all classes will visit for Life Education lessons
Wed 8 Oct Canteen Meeting at 5:30pm
P&C Meeting at 6pm
Week 2
Wed 15 Oct Y6 excursion to SCU ‘Kids on Campus’
Week 3
Fri 24 Oct Visiting Science Show from CSIRO
Sat 25 Oct Jacaranda Parade of Youth
Week 4
Wed 29 Oct Wheelathon
Thurs 30 Oct Half Day Public Holiday from 1pm
Week 5
Thurs 6 - Fri 7 Nov Yr 3 Excursion to Coffs Beach School
Fri 7 Nov Last day for Wheelathon Sponsorship cards and money to be returned
Week 6
Wed 12 Nov Canteen Meeting at 5:30pm
P&C Meeting at 6pm
Fri 14 Nov Kinder Orientation and Parent Information Meeting
Week 7
17- 28 Nov Intensive Swimming
Fri 21 Nov Kinder Orientation
Week 8
Intensive Swimming continued
24-28 Nov Yr 5 Excursion to Lake Ainsworth
24-28 Nov Yr 6 Excursion to Canberra
Fri 28 Nov Kinder Orientation
Week 9
Wed 3 – Fri 5 Dec Yr 4 to Yarrahappinni
Week 10
Tues 9 Dec Presentation Day
Wed 10 Dec Award Assembly
Wed 10 Dec Canteen Meeting at 5:30pm
P&C Meeting at 6pm
Thurs 11 Dec Talent Quest
Thurs 11 Dec Parent Helper Afternoon Tea at 1:30 pm
Fri 12 Dec Reports go home
Fri 12 Dec Infants Ten Pin
Week 11
Mon 15 Dec Primary Ten Pin
Mon 15 Dec Yr 6 Farewell
Tues 16 Dec Carols Night and raffle draw
Week 17
Students’ last day
Wed 17 Dec
Thurs 18 Dec and Fri 19 Dec
Staff Development Days

Card Making
This term a weekly lunchtime card making activity will be held for the children. We need recycled Christmas and birthday cards. Thanking you. Gwenda Lewis

Unclaimed Jumpers
We have a large amount of unclaimed school jumpers in various sizes and styles with no name. This week, there will be a table at the infants with the jumpers on it near the bag area for anybody to take. Any jumpers leftover will be given to charity.
Term 3 Awards
Congratulations to the following students on their awards.

**BRONZE**

**SILVER**

**GOLD**

**DIAMOND**

**PRINCIPAL**
Jessica Walters and Eden Annesley.
Sporting News

NSW PSSA Athletics Championships
We wish Josh Weatherstone the best of luck as he travels to Sydney to compete in the snr boys long jump event at the NSW PSSA Athletics Carnival. I will report on Josh’s achievements next week.

Tahlia Marsh
If you haven’t already heard, Tahlia recently won the NSW BMX Championship for 11 year old girls in the 20 inch class and finished 2nd in the 11/12 years girls 24 inch cruiser category. Tahlia will now travel to New Zealand with the Australian Mighty 11’s BMX Team to do battle with the Kiwis. Have a look at the back page of today’s Advocate for a great read about her achievements.

Scott Ogilvy

Harold Merchandise
This Thursday is the last day that merchandise will be available for sale. Merchandise will be available in the second half of break 1 this week until Thursday.

Please provide the correct money in an envelope with the item written on the face of the envelope along with your child’s name and class. This allows the educator to process orders efficiently and accurately. Orders will be returned by the conclusion of the visit.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Product description</th>
<th>Price Incl. GST</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tattoo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harold Sticky Note Pad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harold Activity Bag</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harold Hand Ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large Harold Soft Toy</td>
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</table>

NB Harold Products are subject to availability
Life Education NSW thanks you for your support.

Aussie Hoops Basketball Program
Program: Term 4 2014
Monday 13th October – 15th December 2014
Monday 3:30-4:15pm Year K-2 Competition
4:15-5:00pm Year 3/4 & 5/6 Competition
For further information or to register your child please call or email Hamish or Dylan on: Ph: (02) 6643 1188
Email: gsc@clarence.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.grafton.basketball.net.au

Play Milo in2 Cricket for girls and boys aged 4 – 8 years. Tuesday afternoons from 4pm at JJ Lawrence Fields starting 14th October or Saturday mornings from 9am at Rushforth Park starting 18th October. Contact Brendan Palmer on 6642 8898 or brendan_palmer@hotmail.com for more information.

GDSC Easts Cricket Club is looking for junior players in the CRJCA weekly competition. Days of play have changed to Wednesday for Under 10’s, Thursday for Under 14’s, and Friday for Under 12’s and 16’s. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested please contact Bret on 0412621326 or eastscricketclub@gmail.com.
School Canteen - a tool for learning

As part of the school environment the school canteen is an education opportunity. The children are learning about the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating:

The children are learning in class about having every day foods most of the time and sometimes foods (chips, confectionary, muesli bars, pies etc) only sometimes. Buying lunch from the canteen is a chance to reinforce this message by choosing salad rolls and wraps, or other every day foods.
WHAT'S IN A NAME?
The Canteen Committee have decided the canteen needs a name. We are opening suggestions to all students of the school. So kids, put your thinking caps on and next week a form will go out put your suggestion on. Return it to school for your chance to name the school canteen. The winning entry will receive the honour of naming the canteen and a $10 voucher for the canteen.

KINDY ORIENTATION
We are looking for volunteers to help with refreshments on the three Kindy Orientation days, 14, 21 & 28 November. If you can help please let Davina know.

Canteen Info
Ice cups are now 60c and fruit salad needs to be ordered.

OH&S ISSUES
We would like to reiterate a few important OH&S regulations for working in the canteen.
Volunteers must:
1. Wear closed shoes
2. Have hair pulled back or wear a hair net
3. Wash hands regularly
Please follow the rules & regulations set out for our canteen to ensure a safe environment for everyone.

CAROLS NIGHT
The carols will be Tuesday 16th December. If you have any suggestions for the night or would like to help, please contact Renee Nilon 0400095816

Clothing Pool Hours 2014
Mondays & Thursdays – 8:30am to 9:00am
Wednesdays – 2:30pm to 3:00pm
Sharyn Ellem – Clothing Pool Co-Ordinator

Dates for the Calendar
Return Book Club Orders
Friday, 24 October 2014
Canteen Meeting
Wednesday, 12 November 2014 – 5:30pm Old Hall
P&C General Meeting
Wednesday, 12 November 2014 – 6:00pm Old Hall

I would like to volunteer to help in the canteen. I can do the following days:

□ Monday □ Tuesday □ Wednesday □ Thursday □ Friday

□ Weekly □ Fortnightly □ Monthly □ Other – indicate below

□ I would prefer to volunteer for a half day
Date I am available: ________________________________________________________________

I would volunteer if: ________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Your feedback is very important to us. Thank you
WESTLAWN PS

2014 Jacaranda Letter to Parents

Dear Parent/Caregiver

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 we have been advised that “Jacaranda Thursday” will be a half-day public holiday day this year.

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To assist with our planning and organisation we are asking parents/carers to complete, detach and return the note below if their child will not be attending school on Jacaranda Thursday (Thursday 30th October). This note will be sufficient to explain any student absence on the day.

Unfortunately, as we have been informed that there are no organised activities running for the period of the public holiday (i.e. from 1:00 pm onwards), there will be little to keep students occupied. Obviously, parents are responsible for the care and supervision of their children once they have left school at 1:00 pm or if absent from school for the day.

We look forward to a safe and enjoyable Jacaranda festival and thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Narelle Twigg
Principal

X

Explanation of Student Absence -- Thursday 30th October, 2014

My child(ren) ___________________________________ (name) of class ________
_______________________________________ (name) of class ________
_______________________________________ (name) of class ________

will not be attending school on Thursday 30th October as they will be participating in the Jacaranda Festival. I understand that I am responsible for the care and supervision of my child on this day.

Parent Name: ____________________________ Parent Signature: ____________________________