Message from the Principal

At Westlawn PS we believe that shared communication between the school and the family is imperative to a child’s successful engagement with school. At Westlawn we strongly support the values of respect and responsibility so that our students learn to treat others in a respectful way, and that they are responsible for the choices they make. These values are reflected in our broader school community’s expectations as well, so that we can live in a civil, safe and productive society. We have high expectations of our students and aim for high standards across the school.

The policies of the NSW Department of Education state that:
1. schools have an obligation to inform parents of concerns about student behaviour, and
2. parents are encouraged to work with the school to ‘share responsibility about shaping their child’s understanding about acceptable behaviour’.

Our school’s Achievement and Behaviour Policy is provided to all parents upon enrolment of each of their children, and copies are provided each year in the school newsletter. To appropriately implement these policies, schools and families have obligations to work together to ensure each student behaves in a safe, responsible and respectful manner. It is imperative that schools have a consistent approach in implementing policies.

Communication slips are to communicate behaviours to parents so parents can have a useful conversation with their child about more appropriate choices. They are not a punishment. If more than four are issued in a five week period, or if a child shows more serious inappropriate behaviours, the child can be placed directly on a Level.

At Westlawn PS we regularly conduct surveys of our school community to ensure our Behaviour and Achievement Policy reflects the values and attitudes our community upholds, and meets the needs of our students and families. At Westlawn PS, parents and carers have strongly supported our Achievement and Behaviour Policy and the way in which it is implemented, and parents are pleased to be informed of their child’s behaviour at school. Survey results indicate parents strongly support the role they play in working with the school to share responsibility for shaping their child’s behaviour. Parents have strongly appreciated the clear and timely communication, by way of ‘Communication slips’, of any concerns held by the school. Parents strongly appreciate that this information gives them the opportunity to discuss the inappropriate behaviours with their child in order to prevent further problems. Therefore our school community strongly endorses our policy and the practices applied in its implementation.

Infants and Primary Concerts
Both evening performances for the Infants Concert are completely sold out. Tickets will not be available at the door on the concert nights. Due to safety laws we cannot crowd the hall with extra people. Numbers are strictly limited to seating allocation. The only tickets available are for the Matinee performance at 12:00 on Wednesday 27 August at a cost of $4 for adults, $2 for children, family tickets for $10. If anyone has purchased tickets for the evening performances which they no longer need, please contact the office so we can refund the money and re-sell the tickets.

Primary Concert tickets will be sold from 28 August.
Regional Multicultural Public Speaking Competition
Eden Annesley will be representing the Coffs/Clarence area at the Regional Multicultural Public Speaking Competition on Tuesday 26th August in Coffs Harbour. We wish her all the best and know that she will be a great ambassador for Westlawn and the whole area.

Our Fabulous Dads
To celebrate Fathers Day we have organised a Fathers Visit for Wednesday 3 September. We would like our Dads and grandfathers to visit classrooms to read to the students then join the children for lunch. Dads and grandfathers might like to bring along a book they enjoyed as a child or otherwise there will be a selection of books in the classrooms. The classroom visiting time is from 12:50pm. Lunch begins at 1:30pm. You can bring a picnic lunch to share with your children or you might like to order a sausage sandwich. A note will be sent home for ordering. Please come along and celebrate Fathers Day with your children on Wednesday 3 September. Those children who do not have a Dad or grandfather who can visit, might like to invite an uncle or other significant male, or Mum.

You are also invited to visit our Book Fair which is held from Monday 1st September to Wednesday 3rd September. Books can be purchased from 12:00 midday until 2pm on this special Dads’ Day.

Fathers Day Stall
Our P&C will be holding a Fathers Day Stall on Thursday 4th September for students to purchase gifts for Dad or a significant male in their life. Thanks to Mrs Tanya Cone for organising and preparing the gifts.

P&C Trivia Night
Our P&C Trivia Night raised $1357. Thanks again to those who supported this fun night for our school community.

Canteen Meetings
Due to working and other commitments of members of our Canteen Committee, it has been decided to hold Canteen Meetings at 5:30pm just prior to our P&C meeting. We hope that it will be more convenient for parents to attend.

Narelle Twigg
Principal

Diary Dates
TERM 3
Week 7
Tues 26 Aug   Infants Concert: evening performance
Wed 27 Aug   Infants Concert: matinee and evening performance
Fri 29 Aug   NC Athletics Carnival
Week 8
Mon 1 Sep to Wed 3 Sep: Book Fair
Wed 3 Sep   Fathers Visit and Book Fair
Thurs 4 Sep   Fathers Day Stall
Week 9
Mon 8 Sep   Canteen Meeting at 2pm
Wed 10 Sep   P&C Meeting at 6pm
Wed 10 Sep   Grafton Community of Schools Choir singing with James Hill Band at the Saraton Theatre
Week 10
Tues 16 Sep   Primary Concert: evening performance
Wed 17 Sep   Primary Concert: matinee and evening performance
Thurs 18 Sep   Award Assembly at 1pm
Fri 19 Sep   Last day of Term and Infants Disco
TERM 4
Week 1
Tues 7 Oct   School begins for Term 4
Lost Property
There are a considerable number of items, mainly jumpers in lost property. If your child has lost a jumper, please ask them to come to the office for assistance.

Library News

NSW Premiers Reading Challenge!

Have you entered your books? All books need to be entered by this Friday 22nd August. Congratulations to all those students have completed the challenge.

Colouring in Competition

This year we are having a colouring in competition as a part of our book fair. All entries need to be handed in to the library by 3pm Friday 22nd August. Winners will be announced next week in the newsletter for each stage.

Volunteer to become a team member at our Book Fair Garden and help create a buzz around reading! We need your help to make this a Book Fair that our students will really dig into!

We appreciate your support in whatever form it takes. If you are available to help out on any of the days especially Wednesday, please come and see or ring Mrs Palmer in the library.
Come to our
BOOK FAIR
GARDEN
Catch the reading bug!

Dear Parents,

Reading takes children further by engaging their imaginations. Our Book Fair will be a great way for you to:

- View the best selection of affordable picture and board books.
- Encourage your child to explore new books.

The more children know about reading, writing, listening and speaking before they arrive at school, the better prepared they are to become successful readers.

Date: Friday 29/6 - 2.30pm Parents only
Monday 1/9 to 3/9 - 8.15am - 8.50am,
Time: 1st break and 3.00pm - 3.30pm
Place: Special Fathers Day opening 3/9 12pm - 2pm

Did you know?

Every purchase you make from our Fair earns Rewards from Scholastic to help us obtain more learning and literacy resources!

LET'S GROW READERS!
Sporting News

2014 MNC Athletics Carnival Results
Our athletes travelled to Coffs Harbour last Friday to compete in the MNC Athletics Carnival. Competitors had to finish in the first four in track events, the first three in field events and in the first three relay teams to progress to the North Coast Athletics Carnival to be held at Lismore on Friday 29th of August.

Congratulations to:

Joshua Weatherstone - 1st snr boys long jump, 2nd snr boys discus, 3rd snr boys high jump
Jimmy Ford – 2nd 8yrs boys 100m
Myles Hartman – 3rd 10yrs boys 100m
Andrei Labao – 3rd 12yrs boys 100m
Jason Durrington – 3rd snr boys long jump
Joseph Lynch – 4th 13yrs boys 100m
Georgia Runge – 1st 11yrs girls shot put
Paige Ellem – 2nd 11yrs girls shot put
Josh Weatherstone, Jason Durrington, Andrei Labao, Harry Ashenden – 2nd snr boys 4x100m relay
Myles Hartmann, Mason Beadman, Daniel Lavender, Byron Maddock – 3rd jnr boys 4 x 100m relay

Permission notes for the NC carnival need to be returned to the office please.

The PSSA Girls Hockey team will be playing their next round on Tuesday, 26th August, against Ben Venue Public School. The girls are looking forward to their game and encourage family, friends and supporters to come down to the Grafton Hockey Centre and cheer them on. Robyn Anderson

Free Come and Try BMX
Due to wet weather, last Saturday’s “Free Come and Try BMX Day” was cancelled. We are now holding another day this Saturday the 23rd of August – 1.00pm to 3.00pm at the Clarence Valley BMX Club’s race track at the corner of Abbott and Vere Streets in South Grafton. Visit Clarence Valley BMX Club on Facebook for the latest updates.

Call out for focus group participants

Are you a parent of children 12 years and under?
Are you the main person responsible for shopping, planning and cooking meals in your family?

If you answered YES to both questions – then join us for a focus group discussion being conducted as part of a joint Council education program on:

DATE: Tuesday 2nd September
TIME: 11.30am – 1.30pm (with light lunch provided)
LOCATION: Grafton Library, 126 – 144 Pound Street, Grafton

TO BOOK*: Linda Tohver 0427 770 198 or linda@newaste.org.au

Each participant will receive $50 for attending the focus group.
*Bookings essential

You must register your interest to attend, as numbers are limited: please contact Linda Tohver on 0427 770 198.
I finally had the chance to volunteer in the school canteen. It was the first time in the 7 years my kids have been at the school that I have worked in the canteen. I have been unable to volunteer due to having children at home and work commitments. Last Friday the regular ladies were watching their kids at the sports carnival which left Davina rostered on her own. Luckily our wonderful Sue Ulrick was available to step in but Fridays are a busy day so another volunteer was required. I was having Friday off as I was moving house that day so I said I could pop in for a couple of hours and help.

I am so glad I did, I had the most wonderful time.

I was in charge of sticking the drink tags to the drinks, moosies, ice creams etc, then helped finish off putting the hot food into the pie warmer, did some washing up, before I knew it was time to make the orders up and get them ready for collection. The bell rang and one by one, well two by two, the children came with their big smiles to collect their class's orders. Then the biggest smile of all on the face of my child, full of pride, seeing his mum in the canteen, then he stings me for a bag of sunfruits.

It really wasn't as daunting as I thought it would be. No gossip or negativity just some friends hanging out having few laughs. I was only there from 9:30-11:00 so it shows you don't need to put aside your whole day to help out, any time you can spare is appreciated. You also don't need to commit on a regular basis.

Thank you Davina and Sue for an enjoyable morning. Thank you to the kids for their lovely manners and big smiles. Thank you to the parents that support our canteen by either volunteering or ordering for their kids. I will most certainly be helping out again when I can.

Renee Nilon

IMPORTANT CANTEEN INFORMATION

Please fill in a drink tag or write the drink order on a separate piece of paper. It is very time consuming for the volunteers to write them out. Only a small piece is necessary.

There are still people ordering off the old menu. Prices have gone up and some items are no longer available. Please check the new menu.

CANTEEN NEWS

The past few months the Canteen Committee have not been able to hold meetings due to not having enough people in attendance. It was decided at last week's P&C meeting that Canteen Committee Meetings will be held half an hour prior to the P&C General Meetings on the second Wednesday of each month.

The school concerts are coming up and we need helpers on the refreshment stand. Matinee performance on Wednesday 27 August at 12:00 midday and the night performances on Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 August at 6:30pm.

If you would like to volunteer in the canteen or at the concerts please contact Davina Green on 0423 741 820.

FATHER'S DAY STALL

The Father's Day stall will be held on Thursday, 4 September. There will be a variety of gifts for the kids to purchase from 50c to $5 with $10 gift packs available.

Tanya Cone is holding a working bee to put gift packs together tomorrow (Wednesday 20 August).

If you can help please contact Tanya on 0437 710 713, also your help at the stall on the day would be appreciated.
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
Infants Night Concert
Tuesday, 26 August 6:30pm
Infants Matinee Concert
Wednesday, 27 August 12:00pm
Infants Night Concert
Wednesday, 27 August 6:30pm
Father's Day Stall
Thursday, 4 September 2014

Canteen Meeting
Wednesday, 10 September 2014 – 5:30pm Old Hall
P&C General Meeting
Wednesday, 10 September 2014 – 6:00pm Old Hall

Canteen Roster:
Wednesday 20th August        Sue Ulrick, Davina Green
Thursday 21st August         Sue Ulrick, Davina Green
Friday 22nd August           Shelley Thompson, Vanessa Waterhouse, Nicole Turnbull, Sonya Wall
Monday 25th August           Cindy Mitchell, Di Luxton, Melissa Johnston
Tuesday 26th August          Carly Rigoni, Nicole Turnbull
Wednesday 27th August       Sue Ulrick, Davina Green

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.