Westlawn Public School
A member of the Grafton Community of Schools

Week 6

Tuesday 3rd March 2015

Message from the Principal

Grandparents Day
We are inviting all of our grandparents to visit our school on Thursday 19th March for Seniors Week. At 10:30 grandparents are welcome to visit their grandchildren in their classrooms to read stories and grandparents might like to talk about the books they enjoyed as a child. At 10:55 grandparents are asked to bring a picnic lunch to share with their grandchildren in the playground. Make sure the children have decided on a meeting place if there are a few from the one family. Tea and coffee can be purchased for $2 and a piece of cake for $2 near the Canteen.

School Photos Next Week
School photos will be taken next Wednesday 11th March. All children are photographed regardless of whether or not photos are purchased. It is important that all children are in full school uniform with no extra or out-of-uniform jewellery please. Children are asked to remove jumpers and jackets for the photo. It is a good idea to pack a brush and/or comb so children can tidy their hair before the photo. Dark green and/or yellow ribbons/headbands can be worn but no other coloured hair bands, ribbons etc. please. Black shoes with white socks for girls and grey socks for boys.

Clean Up Australia Day
Our students took part in Clean Up Australia Day last Friday in the spirit of being community minded and in understanding that it is vitally important that we look after our planet by disposing of rubbish in a responsible manner. It is not hard to see when driving along our roads and highways or visiting beaches and waterways that many adults have much to learn from our children.

Sportmanship and Responsible Behaviour
Our students continue to shine when they represent our school at sporting events including the recent District and MNC Swimming Carnivals. They epitomise our motto ‘Strive To Achieve’. Well done, Westlawn students!

Easter Raffle
Our Westlawn P&C organises a variety of fund raising events during the year. This term the P&C is organising the Easter Raffle which is our main fundraising activities. Our families have always been very supportive of our raffles, and this year looks to be just as successful. The P&C is asking for donations of Easter eggs or chocolates for raffle prizes. The eggs do not have to be expensive, just whatever parents can afford. The eggs get bundled up into prize packs. Last year we were able to give over 20 prize packs plus we gave a prize to the student who sold the most tickets. Tickets will be sent home next Tuesday. Any tickets sold or unsold must be returned to school as an audit requirement so if you are unable to sell the tickets please return them immediately so we can re-issue them to someone else. Please send any Easter egg or chocolate donations to the school office. Our thanks to Mrs Kylie Lavender for coordinating the raffle.

School Contributions
Thank you to those families who have paid their School Contributions. If the School Contributions are yet unpaid, it would be appreciated if you could please pay the School Contribution at the school office as soon as possible. If you
are experiencing difficulty paying your School Contribution or have special circumstances, please contact the Principal or Mrs Taylor in the office.

BULLYING
Dealing with bullying is a team effort, the responsibility of students, teachers and parents. At Westlawn PS we do not tolerate bullying. We act upon it and we teach our students to:

- In the first instance say “Stop it, I don’t like it”. It is important for the child to voice their disapproval to the other person. Very often this is enough to make the person stop.
- If the bullying behaviour continues, report it to a teacher.
- If it still continues, report it to the Principal.

Bullying behaviour can be:
- verbal e.g. name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- physical e.g. hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- social e.g. ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- psychological e.g. spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, cyber-bullying (malicious SMS, email messages, social networking), inappropriate use of camera phones.

Bystanders: If students see someone being bullied, they must tell a teacher. The bystander is in a very powerful position to influence the bully: their silence or encouragement allows the bullying to continue, whereas if the bystander speaks up or reports the bully then the bullying can be stopped. Often it is confronting for a victim or bystander to report bullying, however it is very important that as parents and teachers, we give a strong message that reporting a bully is NOT ‘dobbing’. Bullying is wrong.

The Westlawn PS Anti-Bullying Policy and Plan that we have had in place since 2008 which has been regularly revised includes:

Identifying Bullying
Students need to:
- Understand the definition of bullying as intentional, repeated behaviour by an individual or group of individuals that causes distress, hurt or undue pressure. It is not an isolated incident.
- Learn about bullying by participating in learning experiences in class, at assemblies etc.
- Be assertive in saying “Stop it, I don’t like it” to anyone who demonstrates behaviours that are hurtful, offensive or insulting. If it continues, report it to a teacher then the Principal if it still persists.

Parents and Caregivers need to:
- Be aware of all forms of bullying by reading information in newsletters.
- Assist your children in understanding bullying behaviour.
- Build resilience in children to deal with difficult or challenging situations.

Teachers need to:
- Teach students key understandings and skills relating to positive relationships, safety, gender equity, discrimination, bullying and harassment. These experiences will be guided by the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education syllabuses and other Learning Areas.
- Be aware of all forms of bullying.
- Be alert and observant for acts of bullying in class, playground, cyber-bullying etc.
Principal needs to:
- Inform students, teachers, parents and caregivers about strategies to be assertive in preventing bullying, and to identify and report bullying.

**Reporting Bullying**

By students:
- REPORT ACTS OF BULLYING (TOWARDS THEMSELVES OR OTHERS) TO CLASS TEACHER OR DUTY TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL.

By parents and caregivers:
- Notify a teacher or the Principal of acts of bullying that were reported to them or witnessed.

By teachers:
- Notify the Principal of acts of bullying that were reported or witnessed.

**Intervention**

By Students:
- Students who have bullied other students will be dealt with according to the WPS Behaviour Policy.
- Students who have been bullied will be provided with support and reminded of appropriate strategies to protect themselves from bullying. Referral to the School Counsellor will be made if deemed appropriate.

By parents and caregivers:
- Parents of students who have bullied will be informed according to the WPS Behaviour Policy.

By teachers and other school staff:
- Implement the WPS Achievement and Behaviour Policy in response to bullying.
- Regularly discuss with teachers, at Communication Meetings and Learning Support Team Meetings, any student/s of concern, and plans to prevent and deal with particular instances of bullying.

**Accessing Help And Support For Bullying**

By Students:
- Access support of parents, teachers, Principal or School Counsellor. Speak up about concerns, as with protective behaviours.

By parents and caregivers:
- Access support by making an appointment to speak with the teacher, Principal or School Counsellor.

**Children’s Belongings**

Some bags have been accessed by children who do not own them. Fortunately it doesn’t happen very often at our school. We try very hard to avoid situations where children can do this, however even the most careful arrangements can sometimes be circumvented by a determined child. Food items and money can be the main targets. We recommend that children carry any money on them in a zippered pocket rather than leave it in their bag. If your child brings home food wrappers that you did not provide, please ask them how they accessed the food. Children are not allowed (and are frequently reminded) that they are not to share food or have someone buy food for them.

Narelle Twigg

Principal

**Diary Dates**

**Week 6**
- Wed 4 Mar: NC Swimming Carnival

**Week 7**
- Tues 10 Mar: Easter raffle tickets to go home
- Wed 11 Mar: School photos
- Wed 11 Mar: Canteen meeting at 5:15pm in the library
Wed 11 Mar  P&C AGM at 6pm in the library. The P&C General Meeting will follow. Tea, coffee and refreshments from 5:30pm

Thurs 12 Mar  Selective High School placement test at Grafton HS for Y6 students who have applied for Y7 placement in a selective class

Week 8
Thurs 19 Mar  Grandparents Day

Week 9
Parent Teacher Interviews
Mon 23 Mar  Y6 Leadership training day
Wed 25 Mar  School Cross Country
Fri 27 Mar  Closing date for International Digital Technologies and Science Competitions

Week 10
Tues 31 Mar  Easter Raffle tickets to be returned
Tues 31 Mar  Primary Disco 6:30-8pm
Wed 1 Apr  1pm Award Assembly and Y6 Leaders badges
Thurs 2 Apr  Last day of Term 1, Easter Hat Parade, Easter Raffle Draw, K-2 Disco.

TERM 2
Week 1
Mon 20 Apr  Staff Development Day
Tues 21 Apr  Students return to school

**Sporting News**

**Primary Sport**
Finally, our primary students were greeted by sunshine and dry conditions on their way to community sport venues last Friday!!!!!!!

Phil Beckman from the Grafton Tennis Centre sent a special message to our students after their sessions on Friday. He expressed how much fun it was teaching tennis skills to children who were keen to learn and full of enthusiasm. Well done to everyone at tennis!

**All students will need to bring their sport money this Thursday please.**
The final day of Community Sport will be Friday 27th March.

**Clarence Swimming Carnival Results**
Congratulations to the following students have qualified for the North Coast Swimming Carnival to be held at Lismore tomorrow. Below are the events they have qualified in and their finishing position from the Mid North Coast Carnival last Thursday:

**Individual Events**
Boys 8 Year Olds 50m Freestyle Beau Hartmann 1st
Boys 11 Year Olds 50m Freestyle Myles Hartmann
Boys 8-10 50m Breaststroke Junior William Wallace 1st
Boys 11 Year Olds 50m Backstroke Myles Hartmann
Boys 8-10 200m IM Junior William Wallace 4th

**Relay Teams**
Boys 8-10 200m Freestyle Junior Relay Team – William Wallace, Beau Hartmann, Jimmy Ford and Taj O’Mahony - 2nd

Boys 11-13 200m Freestyle Senior Relay Team – Miles Hartmann, Callum Martin, Cody Hinterholzl and Oliver Westman - 2nd

Good luck to all our competitors.

**Carnival Info:**

**Time:** Carnival will start at 9am. First marshalling at 8:45am.

**Venue:** Lismore Memorial Baths, 179 Molesworth St, Lismore.

**Pool Entry Cost:** The entry fee into the pool is $4.00 which is **to be paid at the pool.** Spectator cost is $2.50.

**Nomination Fee:** The nomination fee is $5.00 and is **to be sent to the school** with the permission slip please.
Children who are successful at this NC Carnival will be eligible to represent the NC at the NSW PSSA Swimming Titles to be held in Sydney on 25th and 26th of March.

Children will be responsible for their own belongings at the pool. Please ensure that all articles are clearly labelled. Students who suffer from asthma should follow their asthma management plan on this day.

ALL children must be adequately protected from the sun eg hats, T-shirts, sunscreen and will need lunch and water. The pool’s canteen will be in operation but it is advisable to pack your child’s lunch on this day to avoid long waiting times.

Travel to and from Lismore will be by private transport.

Looking Ahead - Westlawn Cross Country Carnival
Our cross country carnival will be held on Wednesday 25th March (Term 1, Week 9). The junior course is 2km (8, 9 and 10 year olds). The senior course is 3km (11 years and then 12 & 13 year olds). More information about this carnival will filter home later in the term.

Students in years 3 and 4 have begun training for the carnival by running a course here at school during PE lessons every Tuesday. Students may bring a pair of joggers to wear on that day. They can change into the joggers at the end of first break, before our PE lesson commences at 11:45 and change back if they so wish at the end of the run.

The Clarence Cross Country carnival will be held early in term 2.

Scott Ogilvy

PSSA MNC Tennis Trials.

Yesterday, Jacob Woodburry, Jack Baker-Daniels, Charlie Baker-Daniels, Sam Marshall, Narissa Dunston and Krystal McMahon attended the MNC tennis trials at Grafton City tennis courts. This was a great experience for all players. We are still waiting for results to see if anyone was selected.

PSSA MNC Basketball Trials.

Good luck to Bridie White and Isabelle Taylor who are attending trials in Coffs harbour today.

Transition to High School

Thank you to all the Parents/Carers who returned the Expression of Interest form so quickly. These forms need to be completed and returned to your child’s class teacher no later than 20th March 2015. Even if your child is not attending a Government School could you please complete Section E of the Expression of Interest form and return it to school.

This is not an Enrolment Form. The Expression of Interest form enables local High Schools to reserve enough places within their school for local area students. Schools may then accept extra students from outside the designated enrolment area depending on resources.

Please read the information in the booklet carefully before completing the form.

Selective High School Placement Test for entry to Year 7 in 2016

The Selective High School Test for students who applied last year will be held at Grafton High School on Thursday 12th March 2015. Students must arrive at Grafton High School by 9:00am.

Information went home with the students concerned yesterday. Please read the information carefully.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Ellis at Westlawn or Grafton High School.

Library News!!!

Premier’s Reading Challenge

The PRC has started and will continue until the end of August. All students are encouraged to participate in the challenge as it opens a books for children to explore. By entering the Challenge, students may receive a PRC certificate and their name may appear on the PRC Gold and Platinum Honour Roll. Their certificate will have their name and school printed on it and the Honour Roll has names listed by alphabetical order and does not mention our school name. If a parent or carer does not want their child to receive a certificate or to be on the Honour Roll, you must not enter any books in your online Student Reading Record. You can still use the PRC booklists to help you find books to read and you can ask Mrs Palmer about a school-based certificate.
If anyone has any questions please come and see Mrs Palmer in the library.

**Helpers**
Our library is a busy place as new books are arriving all the time. At different times throughout the year we require help. This may be from helping during the Book Fair to helping with the covering and mending of books. Helpers are always welcomed to come and assist in the library. If you are able to assist or interested in helping could you please let me know.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Palmer

**STUDENTS OF THE WEEK**

**Infants**
Georgia Dowd 2C

**Primary**
Molly Wiles 3D

We invite you to participate in the inaugural Concert for the Planet.

**EARTH HOUR 28 March 2015**
7pm-9.30pm Christ Church Cathedral
Global Orchestra Rehearsals: Monday 2, 9, 16, 23 March
6.00-7.00pm Clarence Valley Conservatorium

On the count down to Earth Hour, the Sydney Symphony Orchestra will beam a live stream out from the Sydney Opera House to all forms of media, enabling community and school orchestras within Australia and overseas to synchronise as a global orchestra to perform Holst’s “The Planets”.

Conductor: Mitch McLennan
For more information contact Clarence Valley Conservatorium 6643 3555
www.globalorchestra.com
CANTEEN NEWS
We are looking for helpers on Grandparent's Day on Thursday, March 19, helping with tea & coffee etc. If you can help please contact Davina on 0423741820.

A few reminders:
- Orders are only to be placed in the green box when the canteen is closed
- Write out drink & frozen food tags
- If you don't have the correct money the change will be sticky taped to the front of the lunch bag
- Kids must follow directions from the year 6 monitors
- Kids are not to come to the canteen during first break until the play bell has gone

FAMILY PORTRAITS
It's Family Portrait time again. This year sittings will cost $20 and will take place Saturday, March 28. For bookings you can text your name and preferred time to Justine Pereira on 0407447450. For more information refer to the leaflet.

BOOKCLUB
Bookclub catalogues went home this week and are due back Friday, March 13. No late orders will be taken.

AGM
A reminder the P&C AGM will be held next Wednesday, 11 March in the Old Hall commencing at 6:00pm. All positions will be open for nominations. If you would like to be involved please come along.

CANTEEN ROSTER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday  4TH MARCH</td>
<td>Davina Green, Sue Ulrick, Diane Moran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday  5TH MARCH</td>
<td>Skye King, Sue Ulrick, Davina Green, Campbell Timmins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday    6TH MARCH</td>
<td>Shelley Thompson, Jenny Felsch</td>
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<td>Monday    9TH MARCH</td>
<td>Melissa Johnston, Jo Palmer</td>
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<td>Tuesday   10TH MARCH</td>
<td>Sue Tobin, Tina Green</td>
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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
- Canteen Meeting
  - Wednesday, 11 March 2015 – 5:30pm Old Hall
- P&C AGM
  - Wednesday, 11 March 2015 – 6:00pm Old Hall

Beating Picky Eating
Children with strong food preferences who limit their intake of the needed variety of foods can be a challenge. Some of the following ideas may be helpful:
- Remember: Parents choose “which” foods, children decide “how much”
- Create a positive environment at the table, make meal times pleasant
- Be a good role model
- Stick to a routine
- Provide the same meals for the whole family
- Take children shopping, involve them in planning and preparation
- Limit sweet drinks and juice so children have an appetite

If you are stuck in a constant battle, maybe try a different approach.