



Welcome Back

It is so wonderful to see all our students return bright and happy and ready to learn, and be the best that they can be in 2017. Today we also welcome all our kindergarten and preschool students and their families to our school family. A big welcome back to Leoni Butler, one of our assistant principals (library). Also joining our dedicated staff team are Mr Elsley (1/2E), Miss Morgan (1/2G), Miss Katen (5/6K), Mrs Metcalfe (2/3M), Miss Treacy (SLSO) and Mrs Thompson (SLSO). We feel very privileged to have these staff members join our school family. It has been such a settled and happy start to the school year, despite the extreme in weather conditions, a great indication of what's to come. Happy Term 1 everyone.

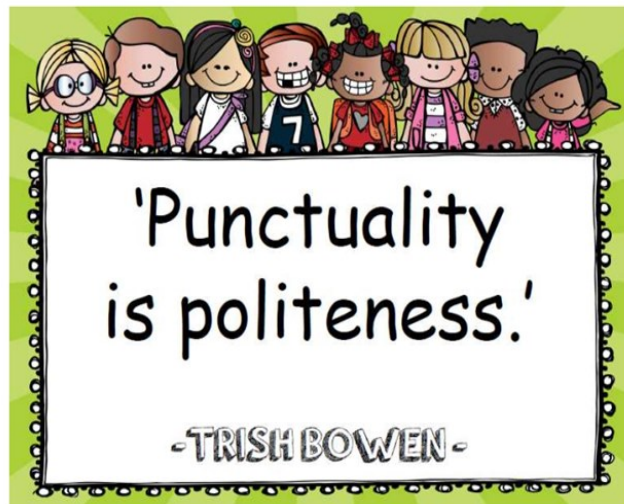
Wellbeing News!

This year we are introducing a new initiative in Wellbeing called Characteristics. It aims at teaching our children the personal characteristics that are important to leading a successful, happy life in an ever changing society.

The characteristics that have been nominated are aligned under our current school values. They are seen as the skills needed to ensure children can achieve the overall values of RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and LEARNING.

A new characteristic will be introduced each fortnight. Children will be discussing the meaning and quote surrounding the chosen characteristic in class.

This fortnight we are learning about the personal characteristic of **Punctuality**. Please take an opportunity over the next fortnight to talk with your children about this important life skill.



DATES TO REMEMBER TERM 1 2017

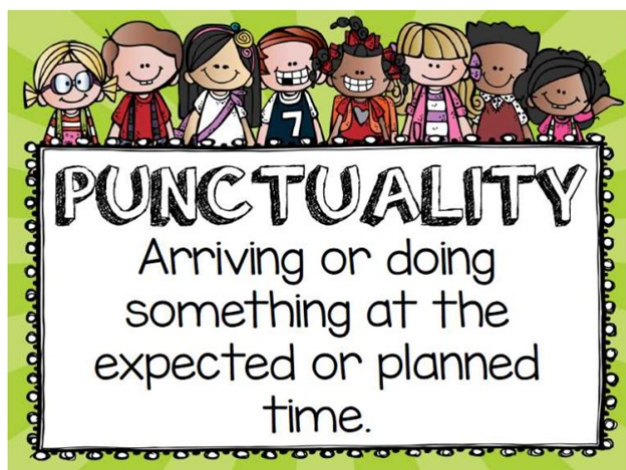
Monday 6 February 2017	Preschool Possums start
Tuesday 14 February 2017	Swimming Carnival
Wednesday 8 February	Meet the Teachers Afternoon Early Stage 1 3.15—3.45 Stage 1 3.50—4.20
Friday 10 February	2.15 pm Assembly 5/6F

P&C News

Welcome back everyone! It's been wonderful to see smiling teachers, refreshed children and happy parents after the Christmas break. A big welcome to our new teachers and of course our new Kindergarten children and their families. I've met quite a few excited and happy little faces at the Uniform Shop, even some happy big faces!

The Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open Mondays 8.30am—9.15 am and Fridays 2.30 pm—3.15 pm. The new price list came out last term 2016 and is available on Skoolbag. We are selling homework bags for \$8 which are made from a waterproof fabric and great for protecting homework and home-readers.



Waratah Public School

Student Activity 2017

	Calendar	Approximate Costing
Voluntary School Contributions	February	\$45-00 per family
Mathletics Package Years K-6	February	\$10-00 per student
Annual Swimming Carnival	14 February	\$7-00 per student
Year 6 Grade Shirt	February-March	To be advised
Crossfit Sports Program T1,2,3,4	Term 1, Term 2 Term 3, Term 4	\$50-00 per student per term
Dance Semester 1 (Term 1 & 2)	February	\$50/\$60 Per Semester
Dance Semester 2 (Term 3 & 4)	July	\$50/\$60 Per Semester
School Photos	8 March	Prices will be advised by Photographers
External ICAS Competitions	May-June	To be advised
Year 3-4 Camp Myuna Bay	Term 3 (To be confirmed)	Costings will be advised Feb/March to allow parents/caregivers adequate time for payments.
Year 5-6 Canberra/Snowy Excursion	23 August – 25 August	Costings will be advised Feb/March to allow parents/caregivers adequate time for payments
Learn to Swim School Y2-Y6	November	\$80-00 approx.
Year 6 Farewell Dinner	December	\$25-00 approx.
End of Year Christmas Party	December	
K-2		To be advised
3-4		To be advised
5-6		To be advised

Parents please ensure your child's school clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with their name.

There is increased chance of lost items being returned to their owner if a name can be found. The lost property bin is located in the canteen area, and is already overflowing from last year.

Canteen

Lunch orders can be placed from 8.15 am with our Canteen Supervisor Donna or written on a brown lunch bag and handed to Donna. The summer canteen menu is available on the "Skoolbag" app.

School Banking

School Banking, through the CBA Dollarmite program, **will commence in Week 3**. See next week's bulletin for further details.

Volunteering

Waratah PS P&C supports our school in many ways but its core services include a fulltime Canteen, Uniform Shop, School Banking and Fundraising. These services operate only with the help of volunteers and this year particularly, due to very low volunteer numbers, we really need help in these areas.

Without the support of volunteers, the P&C simply would not be able to provide these important services for our school. It's also a great way to get to know the school community, meet other parents and help our school for our children. It's certainly rewarding when your children see you involved at school.

If you are able to help out in the Canteen (a couple of hours or a day once a week, fortnightly, monthly), the Uniform Shop (Monday & Friday 1 hour weekly, fortnightly, monthly) or school banking (Tuesday 2.00 pm—3.00 pm) or any P&C activities please contact Richelle (0419210273) or Donna (Canteen Supervisor) at the canteen.

Regards
Richelle Ervine

Canteen News

Welcome back to all students and staff for another great year.

The canteen roster is in need of volunteers on Monday and Tuesday.

If any parent, grandparent or carer could spare an hour or two in the morning please come into the canteen and see me.

Thank you

Donna McKenzie (canteen supervisor)

CANTEEN ROSTER

Thursday	2 February	J Sparks
Friday	3 February	J Kennett M Keegan
Monday	6 February	HELP NEEDED
Tuesday	7 February	V Buchanan
Wednesday	8 February	J Beveridge



Information for parents, guardians and students

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for you to submit school travel applications.

This means we will be able to process your applications online, making it easier and faster for parents, guardians and students to apply for school travel.

Applications for school travel in 2017 are now open, including for travel to Mascot and Green Square station and for private ferries. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to apply as soon as they are able via:

Applications for 2017 school travel are now open via
www.transportnsw.info/school-students

A new application is required when:

- applying for a School Opal card or travel pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten, or
- requesting an additional entitlement as a result of a shared parental responsibility situation.

You will need to do an update application if the student has a current school travel pass and:

- is progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- is progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

Already have a School Opal card or travel pass?

- When you've updated, and you are eligible for free school travel next year, Transport for NSW will send you an email confirmation once your application has been processed. For travel in rural or regional NSW, we'll also inform your nominated transport operator(s).
- If you already have a School Opal card that does not need updating, or you've successfully re-applied, the Opal card will automatically be updated for travel next year. Do not throw it out as you'll be able to use it when the school year starts in 2017.
- If you currently have a printed travel pass provided by your transport operator, a new pass will be ready at the beginning of the new school year.

