

Waratah Public School



Lambton Road Waratah NSW 2298 T 4968 2221

E waratah-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Term 1 - Week 7 RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY LEARNING

Wednesday 11 March 2020

Thank you to Kim and Steve and all the Triple M crew who came to our school and provided a wonderful breakfast for everyone last Friday. Our students were so confident during their interviews and represented our school so well to all the breakfast show listeners. We had an amazing turnout of people for the event with so many students dressing up as a farmer for the day. Thank you also to our staff who joined in the dress up fun, including some very interesting costumes. From this event we have managed to raise over \$500 for a charitable donation to our farmers. Thank you everyone who assisted from the nomination of our school through to the logistics of hosting the event.

Throughout last year, the school worked with a number of stakeholders, including the P&C to review and update the wellbeing procedures and protocols document for our school. The purpose of the document is to guide a positive and inclusive approach to behaviour management, strategies to support respect, responsibility and learning as well as the recognition of student achievement and processes to guide responsibilities of teachers, students and parents. Copies of this draft document are available from the school office. If you would like to provide input into the final review before it becomes the official working document, please provide your written suggestions and comments to the office by Friday 20 March. Thank you!

With so much information bombarding us in the news about COVID-19 (also known as the Corona virus) I thought it was important to provide you with specific information from the Department of Education to support you and your children. I have attached an information sheet that details how you could support your child as well as some practical advice, where to get help if you need it and links to current information about the Department of Education response. Please also keep the Skoolbag app active so that you can receive any of the latest information from the school as it comes to hand.

Mat Freeman
Principal

School Cross Country

On Tuesday 24 March all students 8 years and older will participate in our school Cross Country. Students will walk the course at 9.15 am. The first 3 students to finish in each event will qualify to compete at Zone Cross Country on Friday 1 May at Stevenson Park Mayfield.

8/9year (combined age group) and 10 years 2km
11 and 12 years – 3 km

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER FOR 2020

Friday 13 March	Whole school assembly 5/6M assembly item
Wednesday 18 March	Harmony Day
Wednesday 18 March	School Disco
Tuesday 24 March	School Cross Country
Tuesday 7 April	P&C Meeting Hamilton North Bowling Club 6.00 pm
Thursday 9 April	Easter Hat Parade
Friday 1 May	Zone Cross Country
Monday 4 May	Anzac Ceremony
Thursday 28 May	School Athletics Carnival
Friday 29 May	Regional Cross Country
Wednesday 5 August	Zone Athletics
Monday 17–Wednesday 19	Stage 2 Camp - Point Wolstoncroft Stage 3 Camp - Great Aussie Bush Camp
Friday 28 August	Regional Athletics

Important Information regarding High School 2021 for Year 6 students

ASPIRE Applications Year 7 2021 (High Achievers)

Applications are now available for students attending Callaghan College Waratah Technology Campus (CCWTC) Year 7 2021 for the ASPIRE class (previously called High Achievers). Application forms can be completed online through Callaghan College Waratah's website and selecting High Achiever under the Enrolment tab for the 2021 cohort. Online applications must be submitted by 20 March.

Applications are also available from our school office. Paper applications must be completed and returned to Waratah Public School by Friday 20 March.

Further information is available on the CCWTC website.

Hunter School of the Performing Arts applications for Year 7 2021 close Monday 30 March 2020

Hunter Sports High School have an open night on Tuesday 24 March 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Please see their website or contact the school (49435755) for further information.

Young Healthy Minds

Waratah Public School would like to welcome Young Health Minds to our school. We are looking forward to working with Dana. **Young Healthy Minds** is a free service for children, young people (ages 0-18) and their families. They work with young people to improve their emotional well-being and help them learn skills to manage stressors in their lives. Dana will be joining the school's team starting Thursday 26 March. Dana will aim to assist the young people in a range of different ways, whether it may be to build friendships, manage life stresses or build good health and well-being. As part of the Young Healthy Minds Service, Dana will be available for group work sessions along with one on one work with students for the remainder of Term 1 and Term 2. Families are also encouraged to contact Dana if they require assistance with their young person and can do so via the school or by contacting Dana by email dana.constable@wesleymission.org.au

Reminders

Office Hours - 8.30 am - 3.15 pm

Eftpos payments can be made up until 10.30 am.

* 2020 Voluntary School Contributions \$50.00 per family.

Uniform Shop - The Uniform shop will open on Friday afternoon 2.45 pm - 3.15 pm. **SCHOOL HATS** will now be available for sale in the office, Bucket Hat Stage 3 and Broadbrim K - 4. **CASH SALES ONLY** \$14.00. **NO HAT** play time will be under shelter.

Coronavirus (COVID -19) Information for parents and carers to support children and young people

How you can support your child

It is perfectly normal for children to have questions about events that are covered in the media, such as the information currently being distributed about COVID-19. Children look to the significant adults in their lives for guidance on how to manage their reactions and you can help your child by remaining calm and reassuring them.

There is a common misunderstanding that talking with your child about a topic such as COVID-19 may increase their anxiety. This is not the case. It is important to listen to your child and answer their questions as honestly as possible and correct any misunderstandings. This will help them feel informed and understand what is happening.

Keeping up to date with the facts from reliable sources will help keep conversations calm, considered, and constructive. Provide information in words that are appropriate to the age of your child.

Children can be distressed by hearing repeated stories so monitor how much your child is being exposed to television and social media and encourage them to talk to you about what they are seeing and hearing.

Some practical advice

Some practical advice for your child includes reminding them to cover their nose and mouth when they cough or sneeze (coughing into their elbow is a useful strategy), keep their hands clean by washing them regularly with soap and water, and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth before washing their hands. These are easy habits for children to adopt, and should help them feel as though they're able to exert some control over their circumstances.

If your child must stay at home, it is important for your child to maintain a healthy lifestyle including proper diet, sleep, and social contact at home and by email and phone with family and friends

Communication is important

- read [the department's response to COVID-19](#) for current information

read any information sent home by the school.

- contact the school if your child becomes unwell.

Where to get help

Contact the school if you are concerned about your child's wellbeing to discuss the most appropriate support. Support is also available through a number of agencies and community organisations. Parents and carers can:

- call the National Coronavirus Health Information line (1800 020 080)
- review the [NSW Health COVID-19](#) website for the latest information and advice
- obtain help and information from the local General Practitioner or Community Health Centre

If you would like additional support, the following services are available

- The school counselling service
- Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 – kidshelpline.com.au
- Headspace – 1800 650 890 – eheadspace.org.au
- Parent Helpline – 1300 1300 52
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636

WARATAH PUBLIC SCHOOL DISCO NIGHT Wednesday 18 March 2020

When: Wednesday 18 March 2020

Where: School hall



The *Preschool and Kinder* disco will run between **4.15 pm - 5.00 pm**

The *Years 1, 2 & 3* disco will start at **5.15 pm and finish promptly at 6.15 pm.**

The *Years 4, 5 & 6* disco will start at **6.30 pm & finish promptly at 7.30 pm.**

****Parents please collect children promptly from the hall.****

Admission fee is **\$3.00** per child.

There will be chips, drinks and chocolates available from \$1.00 each

The disco is for Waratah Public School students only.

We look forward to a wonderful night.

Stage 3 Teachers
Rebecca Iliffe

Mat Freeman
Principal



News from the P & C

A big Thank you to Samantha Sutton who as acting treasurer is getting all our financials together for our 2019 audit. Once this audit is complete we will then have our AGM, scheduled for May. We are currently busy with reopening the canteen, including the final stages of recruiting a new canteen manager. We are reopening in Term 2.

We have included our fundraising calendar for 2020. You can see we have a big year ahead, kicking off with our humongous Easter Raffle. We are seeking donations of everything Easter themed, from eggs, bunnies, anything chocolate, crafts, baskets etc. A donation box will be set up on Monday 16 March in the front office. Otherwise donations can be dropped to the uniform shop on a Friday between 2.45 - 3.15 pm. Raffle ticket books will be sent home closer to the Easter Hat Parade. All our fundraisers need physical support by way of volunteers and donations of items.

Uniform shop hours are each Friday afternoon from 2.45 - 3.15pm (Straight after school assembly) Thank you wonderful Mary for helping out Kellee each week. If you can spare some time to help in the uniform shop on a Friday afternoon, please see Kellee

***Easter Egg drive starts next Monday 16th March.
Donation box in front office***



Cool lunchboxes

An insulated lunchbox with an ice brick can keep the lunchbox 12°C cooler and the lunchbox foods safe.



Try adding a frozen:

- Water bottle
- Plain milk popper
- Yoghurt



For more great tips on keeping the lunch box cool, visit:

<http://www.goodforkids.nsw.gov.au/primary-schools/swap-it/tips/tips-to-keep-food-safe/>



Event	Estimated Date	Comments
Easter Raffle	9 th March - 9 th April Requires 1 month lead in time for organising, promoting, collecting donations and making hampers	Reliant on donations Drawn at the Easter Hat Parade
Mother's Day Raffle	12 th April - 8 th May Requires 1 month lead in time for organising, promoting, collecting donations and making hampers	Reliant on Donations from businesses and school community. Drawn at assembly on 8 th May
Mother's Day Stall	5 th - 7 th May	Stock purchased by P&C with some donations from school community Volunteers needed for set up and to run the 2 day event, on gift tables and wrapping gifts
Father's Day Raffle	3 rd August - 4 th September Requires 1 month lead in time for organising, promoting, collecting donations and making hampers	Reliant on Donations from businesses and school community. Drawn at assembly on 4 th September
Father's Day Stall	1 st - 3 rd September	Stock purchased by P&C with some donations from school community Volunteers needed for set up and to run the 2 day event, on gift tables and wrapping gifts
Digital Media Festival	Date, theme and Location to be announced	P&C with teacher and school support run Sweet Temptations, bake stall. All food sold is donated
Christmas Raffle	2 nd Nov - 4 th or 11 th Dec Requires 1 month lead in time for organising, promoting, collecting donations and making hampers	Reliant on Donations from businesses and school community. Drawn at Twilight Christmas Picnic
Twilight Christmas Picnic	4 th or 11 th December	Requires large group of volunteers to run, food service, market stall, photo booth, santa photos, lucky dip, raffle sales, set up/pack up, bbq
Pie Drive	To be decided	
Trivia Night - a night out for the adults	To be decided	Current suggestions include Kavon Theatre as a location.



Harmony Week is 15 -21 March 2020. At WPS we will be celebrating our wonderful rich diversity throughout Week 8 with our special celebration to mark Harmony Day on **Wednesday March 18**. Harmony Week is to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Please share with your children stories to make them proud of their cultural heritage. Our children and their parents and carers come from so many amazing places in the world!

On Wednesday March 18, please send your children to school in national costume, traditional clothing or some orange clothing.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Australians are encouraged to wear orange clothing and/or a distinctive orange ribbon to show their support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia. This could be a t-shirt, shorts, socks or simply an accessory like a hair tie, an orange hat, a bandanna, scarf or socks. Remember although out of uniform, to keep shoulders covered to avoid sunburn and wear covered shoes.

At WPS, children and their parents/carers can speak:

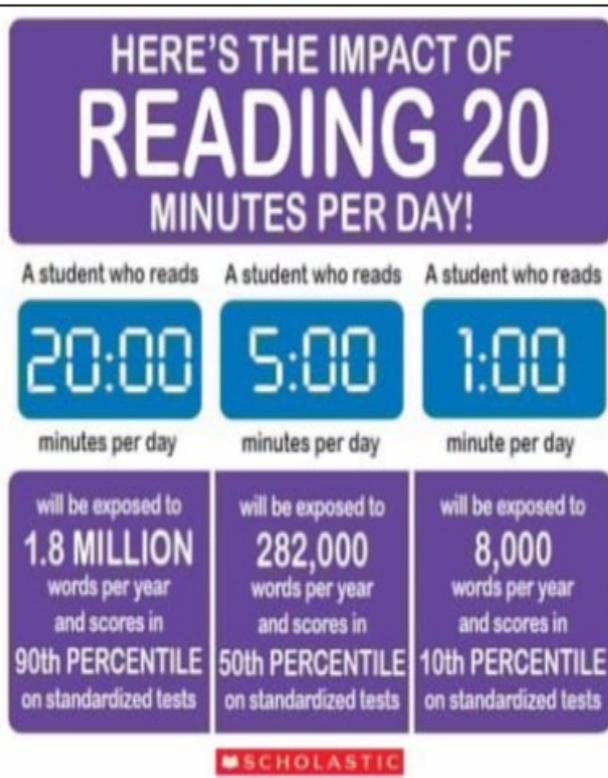
Akan, Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Croatian, Dari, English, Filipino, French, German, Hakka, Hindi, Igbo, Indonesian, Japanese, Kannada, Kirundi, Korean, Kurdish Macedonian, Malayalam, Mandarin, Maori, Marathi, Malaysian, Pidgin, Punjabi, Samoan, Senegalese, Sindhi, Sinhalese, Shona, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, Tamil, Thai, Tibetan, Tongan, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Wolof and Yoruba.

I hope no one has been left out! If they have let the office know and Mrs Cake will add your place of birth or language to the list.

Mrs Vicki Cake EALD (English as an Additional Language or dialect Teacher)

Medication at School

The office is only able to administer 'prescribed medication' to students. This means medication that has been prescribed by a doctor. This medication must be left in the package provided, clearly labelled with the child's name and dosage. If medication is required, a parent will need to come to the office and complete a Medical Deed of Indemnity form. We are not able to administer any medication without this indemnity form being completed. **We are not able to administer Panadol or non-prescription medications.**



EVERY DAY COUNTS....

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!



Triple MMM breakfast with Tanya & Steve



Dear Parents,

The teachers at Waratah Public School would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend a Parent Teacher interview. The interviews are being conducted in Week 9, Term 1. This time will be used as an opportunity for teachers to share student progress and discuss support plans, including adjustments and extensions in place to ensure that we are meeting the individual needs of our students.

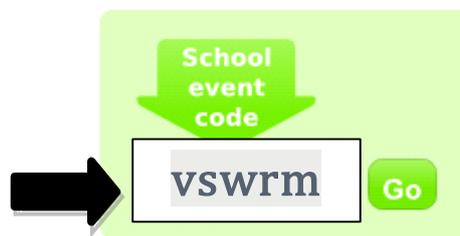
This year we will once again be using an online booking system; this ensures you are able to book times that are best suited to your busy lifestyles. Teachers have nominated specific times that they will be available, both within and outside of school hours.

Follow these steps to book an interview with your child's teacher.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Enter THIS school event code.

Then follow the 3 simple steps.



When you click **finish**, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - **check your junk mail folder** if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to www.schoolinterviews.com.au at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close on Thurs 21 March.

IMPORTANT Information

How long are the interviews?

Interviews are strictly 10 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Where do I meet the teacher?

If your interview is held **outside school hours** (before or after school) then interviews will be held in your child's classroom.

If your interview is held **inside school hours** please arrive 10 minutes prior to your interview time and go to the office. The ladies will let you know your meeting spot.

How do I change my time??

You can change your interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the www.schoolinterviews.com.au website, and using the event code.

Remember to use the same name and email address you used when you made your original booking.

Waratah Public School

2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

I give permission for my childof class
to participate in the following 2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Please return the permission slip and entry fee for selected competitions

by FRIDAY 22nd May 2020

(NO SLIPS OR PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE)

YEAR 2

- Science—Thursday 20 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Spelling—Thursday 3 September 2020 (\$14.50)
- English—Tuesday 25 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Mathematics—Tuesday 1 September 2020 (\$14.50)
- All of the above (\$58.00)
- Payment made online Receipt Number _____ OR**
- Payment enclosed \$ _____ entry fee**

I understand that there are no refunds if my child does not attend school on the specified dates.

Signed: Date:
(Parent / Caregiver)

Waratah Public School

2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

I give permission for my childof class
to participate in the following 2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio.

Please return the permission slip and entry fee for selected competitions

by FRIDAY 22 May 2020

(NO SLIPS OR PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE)

YEAR 3—6

- Digital Technologies—Monday 24 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Science—Thursday 20 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Writing—Friday 21 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Spelling—Thursday 3 September 2020 (\$14.50)
- English—Tuesday 25 August 2020 (\$14.50)
- Mathematics—Tuesday 1 September 2020 (\$14.50)
- All of the above (\$87-00)
- Payment made online Receipt Number _____ OR**
- Payment enclosed \$ _____ entry fee**

I understand that there are no refunds if my child does not attend school on the specified dates.

Signed: Date:

Waratah Public School
STAGE 2 EXCURSION
POINT WOLSTONCROFT SPORT & RECREATION CAMP

17 February 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver

The planning of our Stage 2 camp at Point Wolstoncroft has now been finalised.

The excursion will take place from Monday to Wednesday - 17, 18 and 19 August 2020 — students will be away for 3 days, 2 nights. It will include coach travel, accommodation, food, activities and equipment used.

A timetable of activities will be available closer to the camp.

The cost of the camp will be \$270-00.

If your child is able to participate in the excursion, please complete the form below and return it with a deposit of \$50.00 to the school office by Monday 6 April 2020

THIS EXCURSION HAS LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE.

**A deposit of \$50.00 must be paid by 6 April 2020 to secure your child's place on the excursion.
The balance can be paid off in regular payments to the school office and must be finalised by 2 July 2020, otherwise the place will be offered to the next student on the reserve list.**

This excursion is an excellent opportunity for students to participate in a range of outdoor experiences and to develop greater maturity and independence. Students will be expected to demonstrate positive behaviour and attitude in the lead up to camp as spaces are limited to students who can meet the behaviour expectations.

Stage 2 Teachers

Mat Freeman
Principal

X

Waratah Public School - Point Wolstoncroft Sport & Recreation Camp
Return to the office by 6 April 2020

I give permission for my child _____ of class _____ to participate in the Stage 2 Camp to Point Wolstoncroft on the 17, 18 & 19 August 2020.

I understand travel is by coach to and from the camp.

I include \$50.00 as deposit for my child to attend the 2020 camp.

I enclose \$50.00 payment OR
Payment made online - Receipt Number _____

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent / Guardian

Waratah Public School
STAGE 3 EXCURSION
GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP

17 February 2020

Dear Parent/Caregiver

The planning for our Stage 3 Camp at Tea Gardens has now been finalised.

The excursion will take place from Monday to Wednesday - 17, 18 and 19 August 2020 — students will be away for 3 days, 2 nights.

The cost of the camp will be \$290-00.

The price includes coach travel, accommodation, food and activities which may include rock climbing, archery, canoeing and flying fox.

A timetable of activities will be available closer to the camp.

If your child is able to participate in the excursion, please complete the form below and return it with a deposit of \$50-00 to the school office by Monday 6 April 2020.

**THIS EXCURSION IS LIMITED TO 80 STUDENTS.
A deposit of \$50.00 must be paid by 6 April 2020 to secure your child's place on the excursion.
The balance can be paid off in regular payments to the school office and must be finalised by 2 July 2020, otherwise the place will be offered to the next student on the reserve list.**

This excursion is an excellent opportunity for students to participate in a range of outdoor experiences and to develop greater maturity and independence. Students will be expected to demonstrate positive behaviour and attitude prior to camp to ensure participation in this experience.

Parents/Carers will be given information re packing and receive medical forms to complete early in Term 2.

Stage 3 Teachers

Mat Freeman
Principal

X

Waratah Public School - Great Aussie Bush Camp
Return to the office by Monday 6 April 2020

I give permission for my child _____ of class _____ to participate in the Stage 3 Camp - Great Aussie Bush Camp 17, 18 and 19 August 2020.

I understand travel is by coach to and from the camp.

I include \$50.00 as deposit for my child to attend the 2020 camp.

I enclose \$50.00 payment OR
Payment made online - Receipt Number _____

Signed _____ Date _____
Parent / Guardian