From the Principal’s Desk

The school P & C Association will hold its annual general meeting in two weeks’ time on Monday 16th March from 6:30pm in the school library. Parents are urged to come along and consider joining the P & C as a general member which means working with other parents to assist with fundraising, planning special events, running the canteen and many other special activities that help make our school the great place that it is for the kids in our local area. A note was distributed yesterday detailing an overview of the operations of the P & C along with key positions that volunteers are needed to fill.

Yesterday during second lunch I had the opportunity to attend the first Student Representative Council (SRC) meeting. This group of student leaders is committed to working with teachers, parents and support staff to coordinate special activities that enhance school pride, improve facilities, engage other students in special events and work as a team from start to finish whilst coordinating such occasions. Mrs Fraser works with the SRC and acts as an excellent role model in guiding the SRC team.

Yesterday afternoon several staff and a couple of their children attended the second pottery workshop, run by Mrs Pauline Welfare, which aims to upskill teachers in the craft of pottery. The end gain in mind being that children across the school will benefit from these newly acquired skills in months and years to come. Mrs Welfare has been our resident potter for over 20 years now and has welcomed the opportunity this year to share her expertise with school staff.

In recent weeks Mrs Lamborn and Ms Reid have been busy assessing our kindergarten students in the state wide program known as Best Start. Assessing the learning of Kindergarten students takes many forms and is essential to the planning and delivery of quality teaching and learning programs for all students. The purpose of the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment process is to provide information for Kindergarten teachers to build on each student’s current knowledge and experiences in literacy and numeracy; and to develop quality teaching and learning programs that support students in achieving Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) syllabus outcomes.

This assessment process is now completed and reports have been prepared for parents which will be distributed via children on Thursday 5 March. Special thanks is extended to Ms Reid and Mrs Lamborn for the time, commitment and energy expended on ensuring this program is accurately completed. See page 3 for further details.
This week we have extended the short term appointment of Mrs Carr to class 1/2C until the end of term one. Mrs Pangas (whose position Mrs Carr has been filling) has now officially retired and the school staffing unit will decide later in the term as to the filling of the position in 2015. We thank Mrs Carr for the commitment and care she has provided the children of class 1/2 during this interim period.

Last week we had our two rugby league teams finalised for the Russell Richardson Cup (Yr3/4) and the David Peachey Shield (Yr5/6). Mrs Lamborn and Mrs Fraser are central to the success of our school teams along with parent coaches that have taken time off work and from other commitments to coach and help manage our teams. Congratulations to our boys that have been selected and we look forward to seeing them play later in the term.

Also during last week the Western basket trials were held at the school stadium. Mr Campling’s full report appears on page 4. Best wishes to the school Swimming Squad competing in Dubbo this Friday. We look forward hearing their results. A full report will appear in next week’s newsletter.

A reminder that the school canteen will be closed tomorrow and every Thursday for the remainder of term one. Please ensure children bring along fresh fruit for their morning break, their own recess and lunch. Volunteers are still being sought for term 2 to hopefully allow the canteen to operate 5 days per week. Contact the school office for an expression of interest form if you can help out.

Bike and scooter riders need reminding from parents about their own safety and of road rules when travelling to and from school. Staff have received several phone calls this week and last week from home owners near the intersections of Barton Avenue with James Parade, Lyon Parade and Cripps Avenue. Children are darting out in front of cars (expecting they will stop) and racing between traffic and putting themselves at serious risk. The James Parade / Barton Avenue intersection seems to be where most offending is occurring. Please speak with your children if they ride or scoot to school as they may well be unaware of the dangers that are present.

Sad news – last Saturday morning Mr Anthony Gilchrist, husband of our school counsellor Marjanna Gilchrist, passed away. Mr Gilchrist was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease approx. 16 months ago and has progressively declined in health since then. Condolences have been passed on to Marjanna and her family from school staff and the parent body. Mrs Gilchrist will be on leave for the remainder of this term and unfortunately we are unable to provide the counselling service during this time.

Duncan Auld
Principal—Wallerawang Public School

Chocolate Fundraiser
Chocolate Box money is due back this Friday 6 March. Thank you to those who have already returned their money. The P&C will be doing class draws again this year. Each child (youngest in the family) that returns the money for a fully sold box will have their name put into the class draw to win:
- 1st Prize—$10 iTunes card + family chocolate block
- 2nd Prize—Family Chocolate Block
- 3rd Prize—Family Chocolate Block
So, make sure your family name goes into your class draw, good luck!!

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CANTEEN HELPERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED!

The canteen will have to remain closed Thursdays in Term 2 unless we have a few more parent/grandparent/friends come forward to fill the void. Please contact the office on 63551210 to leave your name.

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday March 5</th>
<th>CANTEEN CLOSED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 6</td>
<td>Sheree Scanlan,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Debbie Stack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday March 9</td>
<td>Anne Reeve,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kylie Armstrong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 10</td>
<td>Alison Jackson,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Melinda Hughes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed March 11</td>
<td>Alana Café, Kate Seton</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Best Start

Miss Reid and Mrs Lamborn have completed the Early Literacy and Numeracy assessment for Kindergarten. These reports will be sent home with your child tomorrow Thursday. Should you require any further information or wish to discuss the contents of your child’s report please make an appointment with the your child’s classroom teacher.

Mrs Lamborn

L3 – Language Learning and Literacy in the Early Years.

L3 in KR and KL commenced this week. Miss Reid and Mrs Lamborn have spent the last 5 weeks in Kindergarten getting to know the children, teaching early reading conventions, pre-reading and pre-writing activities and beginning the sound and sight word program. Programs have been set up to meet the individual learning needs of the students in the classes. The teachers have an ‘L’ set up in the room where each group of 3 are learning to read through a very systematic and explicit program. While the groups are in place the students rotate around the room undertaking a variety of engaging learning experiences. These include sound matching, sight word twister, concentration, sequencing, focus book activities and much more. Miss Reid, Mrs Clark, Mrs Lamborn and Mrs Walsh are as excited as the Kindergarten children about the program and the opportunities it offers for our students. Both Miss Reid and Mrs Lamborn have been fully trained in L3. Thank you to Mrs Clark for assisting us with laminating our large game sheets.

Students in Stage 1 have had a very exciting start to the year. The children have been immersed in a literacy program called L3 (language, learning and literacy). The children are placed in activity groups and rotate around the room to complete their work independently. This allows the classroom teacher the opportunity to work with very small groups in the ‘L’ reading station. Here each child has a very explicit ability based lesson that targets and teaches good reading habits based on previously identified areas that need development. This is the second year the program has been run in Stage 1 and the children really enjoy the opportunity to develop independence and leadership skills. Some of the work stations may include making spelling words with play dough, sight word sentences, puzzles, ‘free writing’, quiet reading, using magnetic letters to form spelling words, handwriting, and literacy based games.

Mrs Brown and Ms Fahey will now commence in the maintenance stage of L3 with their first training session next Wednesday, with Mrs Warner and Mrs Carr commencing their training next Tuesday. Mrs Warner is already fully accredited in Kindergarten L3.

Have your children share some L3 experiences with you at home.

Mrs Lamborn and Mrs Brown

District Basketball

Last week on Wednesday, 25th of February the Lithgow District Basketball Trials were held at the Wallerawang Indoor Stadium. A small squad of boys and girls from Wallerawang were selected to participate. The boys and girls were put through a number of skill based scenarios and then placed into teams to play some games. Successful students from the trials that will participate at the Western Trials include: Connor Marshall, Billy Rushworth, Eamyn Quinn, Ryan Neale, Sophie Clark and Lisa Su. Dayne Houlison and Kye Cameron also played extremely well on the day and only missed out by the narrowest of margins. Congratulations and best wishes in competing at the next level.

The Western trials will be held tomorrow for boys at Cowra PCYC and for the girls it will be at the Bathurst Indoor Stadium. We look forward to hearing about their success on their return to school.

Mr Campling
National Ride2School Day

It is National Ride2School Day next week on Friday 13th March.

National Ride2School Day is Australia’s largest celebration of walking and riding to school. It is also a chance for new riders and parents to experience riding and walking to school for the first time. Even if you don’t live close to the school, you may be able to organise to walk or ride part of the way.

National Ride2School Day helps to promote the benefits of physical activity and active transport to the health and wellbeing of our children.

Students who participate will receive a National Ride2School Day sticker upon arrival at school and will get a taste of the benefits and fun involved in choosing active transport.

For their safety, Stage 1 students should always be accompanied by a parent or carer if they ride or walk to school.

All students who ride a bike or scooter to school are reminded that they must wear a helmet and that they have to dismount and walk across the crossing under the direction of the crossing supervisor.

What’s happening in 1/2B?

1/2B have been very busy over the last few weeks. We have been reading ‘Where the wild things are’ and writing character descriptions about Max and the wild things. For news this week we are sharing our special ‘Me Boxes’ and the children are enjoying learning more about each other. We are currently completing our colouring in competitions for the Lithgow Show and they look really beautiful. We’ve made some lovely artworks using crayons and coloured paper and we’ll be sharing some of these at our assembly on Friday. Last week we started rotating around learning different fundamental movement skills with the Stage 1 teachers. It has been a busy few weeks but Mrs Brown is very impressed with how hard 1/2B are working. Come along to our assembly on Friday to see a snapshot of our great work!

P&C Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The P&C is an integral part of the successful functioning of Wallerawang school. It links children, parents and staff during the formative schooling years.

The AGM will be on Monday 16 March 2015 at 6:30pm in the school library.

All positions will be declared vacant. A separate note went home yesterday detailing these positions. Please seriously consider coming along and taking an active part in your child’s education.

Uniform Shop News

Reminder: All lay-by’s require regular payments to ensure your lay-by is paid off within the 10 week period. Payments can be left at the office outside of uniform shop hours.

Stage 3 Scenic World Excursion

On Friday March 20 Stage 3 will be visiting Scenic World in Katoomba to consolidate this term’s unit of study on rainforests. The cost per student is $35. Permission notes went home last week.
The 2015 Environmental Crew

Billy Rushworth, Hayden Berry, Khye Kattau, Macayla Lamb, Abigail Trestairl & Piper Woolsey.

Last Friday the crew had the opportunity to pick tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchinis strawberries and blue berries. Over the next couple of weeks all students will have the chance to work in the garden to prepare for our winter crops.
Why Your Child Can’t Skip Their 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight

James
reads 20 minutes per night, 5 times per week
100 minutes of reading

Travis
reads only 4 minutes per night ...or not at all
20 minutes of reading

In one week:

In one month:

400 minutes of reading

In one school year (9 months):

3600 minutes of reading

By the end of sixth grade:

21,600 minutes of reading

720 minutes of reading

4320 minutes of reading

Which student would you expect to read better?
Which student would you expect to know more?
Which student would you expect to write better?
Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and life?
How do you think each student will feel about himself as a learner?
Lithgow District Football

Expressions of interest are being called for Coaches, Managers and Players for the 2015 District season. Age groups are from U10-U16. Boys and girls competitions.

A Muster Day will be held at Marjorie Jackson Sporting Fields on Saturday 7 March 2015 from 11am to 1pm.

Applications for Coaches/Managers are to be forwarded in writing, stating previous experience/qualifications to:

Steve & Lia Jennings
District Co-ordinators
Lithgow District Football
PO Box 381
Lithgow 2790
Or emailed to: ldfadistrict@gmail.com
Other queries please call Steve or Lia Jennings 63512912

Workies Junior Hockey Registration

Registrations for the 2015 hockey season have now commenced.

All new and previous players welcome.

Juniors is a mixed competition- boys and girls from U7’s to U15/17’s.

If you require further information contact Kylie Holmes 0429003646 or Robyn Millar 0439418177 or email rob.mill07@gmail.com

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Wallerawang Public School

Uniform Shop News

Sale items

PLEATED SKIRTS—$5.00 EACH
3 x size 12
3 x size 14
3 x size 18

SKORTS—$5.00 EACH
5 x size 18

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AROUND OUR SCHOOL
Family Day Care
Kelly Cafe family day care has limited vacancies available for 2015. This service is approved and registered with the Bathurst Family Day Care—CCBCCR and also offers before and after school care. Please phone 0408 795 580 for more information.

Black Gold Crib Room Restaurant
Open for a Café Style Breakfast & Morning Tea
Or just a Cup of Tea or Coffee
Weekdays from 6:00am – 11:00am
Weekends from 8:00am -11:00am

Dinner Monday – Saturday 6:00pm

Mu Yeh Taekwondo
Do you want to improve your self-esteem, self-confidence, self discipline and general fitness? Learn the exciting Martial Art and Self-Defence system of Taekwondo! We cater for juniors, seniors, or the whole family! Mu Yeh Taekwondo specialises in street-wise, women’s and children’s self-defence. Enquire about our Little Dragons class for 4-6 year olds! Also, check out our Kick-fit fitness Class for adults. (no martial arts experience necessary)
After 15 years at Wallerawang, we have now moved to our fully equipped studio at Portland.
For more information phone Master Instructor Steve Ashbridge, 6th Dan Black Belt, on 0409 305 327. You can also visit our website at: www.muyehtaekwondo.com
Key points to remember around schools

1. In and out of the car

To comply with national child restraint laws, your child should be restrained in the car as follows:

- **0 – 6 months**
  Approved rearward-facing child car seat

- **6 months – 4 years**
  Approved rearward-facing or forward-facing child car seat

- **4 – 7+ years**
  Approved forward-facing child car seat or booster seat.

Make a rule that every child passenger must be securely buckled into a seatbelt or child car seat before you start the car.

A sleeping child must remain firmly buckled up while the car is in motion.

Reward your child with lots of praise for good road safety behaviour.

Assist your young child to buckle up – always check the buckle and make sure the belt is not twisted.

Ensure your children always get in and out of the car through the ‘safety door’. This is the rear kerb side door of the car.

Never allow children to get out of the car on the traffic side.

When possible, children should remain in the car until an adult opens the ‘safety door’. This helps ensure that children get out of the car safely.

Children aged between four and seven years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows, unless all other back seats are occupied by children younger than seven years in a child car seat.

A child that is properly secured in an approved child car seat is less likely to be killed or injured in a car crash than one who is not.

NEVER leave a child of any age in a vehicle without supervision. A small child may rapidly suffer from dehydration, heat exhaustion and consequent organ failure. Older children could play games that may lead to danger.
2 Driving near school buses

There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is setting down or picking up school children.

This speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

The 40km/h speed limit must be obeyed when the rear wag wag lights on the bus flash.

Flashing headlights on these buses also alert oncoming motorists that children are close by.

As a driver, remember: When the lights on the bus are flashing, you must slow down to 40 km/h.

Never park in or near a bus stop or bus zone.

For information about fines and demerit points, visit rms.nsw.gov.au

3 On and off the bus safely

Your child is most at risk in the minutes after getting off the bus. You can reduce this risk.

Meet your child (or arrange for another trusted adult to meet your child) AT the bus stop, NEVER on the opposite side of the road.

Wait until the bus has been driven away before choosing the safest place to cross the road, then follow the usual road crossing procedures with your children.

STOP! One step back from the kerb.

LOOK! For traffic to your right, left and right again.

LISTEN! For the sounds of approaching traffic.

THINK! Whether it is safe to cross.

Teach your children to keep turning their head in both directions to look and listen for traffic as they cross the road.

While waiting at the bus stop, stand well away from the passing traffic. Never wait right at the kerb.

Remind your children that when a bus is fitted with seatbelts, they must buckle up.

Until they turn ten, hold hands with your child as you cross the road.