From the Principal’s desk
This week is Rail Safety Week across NSW. On Friday we will have a special guest attending our assembly to speak with all children about rail safety. Following on after assembly two workshop sessions will run consecutively, Yr 3&4 from approximately 10am for 30min followed by Yr 5&6 from 10:30am. Simon Smitzer and Scott Weir, both from NSW Rail Lithgow have been liaising with the school to coordinate Friday’s visit.

School attendance and student learning: Parents are reminded that any absenteeism from school creates a gap in learning for the child. Regular school attendance is central to improved learning, positive friendships and general happiness and well-being. Please ensure your child/children attend school whenever school operates. Children should never be allowed the privilege of staying home on birthdays, going shopping with grandma, visiting other family and friends, etc. on a school day. Often this type of privilege leads to habitual absences from school and limited growth in student achievement over time. As mid-year has now passed our school attendance and participation rates are being appraised by the Home School Liaison Officer and interviews are being arranged with families to set up structures that require school and parents to work together in lessening absenteeism from school.

School canteen update: Parents and community are aware of the difficulties we continually experience in gaining enough volunteers to operate the canteen five days a week successfully. In summary from Monday night’s P&C meeting it has been decided that commencing in Term 4 the canteen will operate 3 days per week; Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There are also several days between now and the end of term where the canteen will be closed due to the limited availability of volunteers. Keep an eye out for a coloured flyer tomorrow that will outline the closures for term three and has a tear off slip for volunteers to nominate for the Monday, Wednesday and Friday timeslots for Term 4. Please consider putting yourself forward weekly, fortnightly or monthly by ticking the appropriate box on the slip.

Kindergarten 2016
Kindergarten 2016: We are commencing the planning arrangements for next year’s kindergarten intake. On Thursday 20th August from 7pm in the school Library a Parent Information session will be hosted by school staff, led by Assistant Principal Mrs Lamborn and supported by Ms Reid and Ms Lang. On the following Thursday (27th August) we will host an Orientation morning for Kinder 2016 children commencing at 10am and running until 11:10am. Information has been distributed however we ask that all parents advocate for us by encouraging new parents to come along and learn more about the school, the staff and the learning opportunities here at Wallerawang School.
NSW Health have recently acknowledged the all-embracing work carried out at the school in supporting the ‘Live Life Well’ initiative by awarding the school advertising sticker recognising our contribution to the state-wide initiative. The sticker, displayed on the front office window, represents a collective approach in supporting and recognising the importance of healthy eating and physical activity by the school community; parents, carers, staff and students. Mr Campling, one staff member that has proactively involved himself in the program is pictured with the acknowledgement sticker. See photo on page 4.

A special ‘Thanks’ is extended to all the students and staff for supporting the Jeans for Genes fundraiser last Friday. Donations totalled $266 which has been forwarded to the Jeans for Genes day event hosts in Sydney.

Belated ‘Thanks’ is extended to the district athletics carnival canteen helpers for their time and energy last Friday week in providing the carnival canteen. We thank Leanne Houlison for her organisational input and Karen Desch, Sheree Scanlan and Simone Burns for manning the canteen throughout the day. All schools in attendance expressed their appreciation for a well-coordinated and serviced canteen on the day. Great job and thanks!

Last Thursday our school hosted a round of the Western Debating challenge where we competed against Eglinton School in what was a very close debate. The topic of debate was, ‘Should school homework be banned.’ Mrs Nancarrow has provided a full report on page 3.

Also last Thursday our Boys’ Basketball team competed against Cooerwull School in a knock out round of the PSSA competition. Our boys performed with enthusiasm and great sportsmanship however they were unable to hold up against a very strong and well drilled Cooerwull team. See report opposite.

Basketball Knockout
On Thursday, 6 August Wallerawang played Cooerwull in Knockout Boys Basketball. Though Cooerwull have a strong side, our boys played with skill and cunning and were able to match them in many aspects of the game. Our boys had strong defence and continually made Cooerwull work the ball in order to gain advantage. Dayne Houlison, Eaymn Quinn, Connor Marshall and Ryan Neale were our “go to” players but were heavily supported throughout the game by Cooper Giles, Cooper Nunan, Matthew Hopkinson and Dane Hart. These boys new to the game played with great spirit and have promise in this sport. Unfortunately for us, Cooerwull were the better side on the day, but our boys should be proud of their efforts. They played well and deserve to be congratulated.

Mr Campling
Basketball Coordinator
Do you care for someone with a mental illness?  
**EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE**  
What does it mean? What are the benefits of focusing on emotional intelligence? Is it something we can enhance?  


**Location:** Red Cross Hall Lithgow  
**Date:** 18 August 2015  
**Time:** 9:30am to 3:00pm (Registration 9:15am)  
**No cost**  
**Morning Tea and Lunch provided**  

Please register your interest in attending or for further information phone 02 8599 4880 or e-mail david.jackson@ucmh.org.au

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**Canberra Excursion - Stage 3**  
Deposits are due by the end of this week (Friday 14 August) to allow numbers to be finalised. Parents who have indicated they would like to attend will be notified once final numbers are confirmed. Many parents have put their names forward, so names will be drawn out of a hat to determine who is to go. Please start making regular payments to allow for itinerary inclusions to be paid by the school in advance. Any questions can be directed to Stage 3 Assistant Principal Katrena Fraser.

**Expressions of Interest for the next Futsal Competition (Indoor Soccer)**  
We will be running a Senior Mixed Competition on a Wednesday Night. Looking at starting the next competition on Wednesday 2nd September.

**WHERE DO I PLAY?**  
At the Wallerawang Indoor Sports Centre, Barton Avenue, Wallerawang (next to Wallerawang Public School)  

**HOW DO YOU REGISTER OR EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST?**  
Contact Carleen on 0402 205070, or by email cpc_chook@hotmail.com  

Nominations need to be in no later than 19th August  

**REGISTER YOURSELF OR A TEAM**  
Registration and Competition Fees will apply

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**Western Challenge Debating Competition**  
Last Thursday we participated in the final round of the Western Challenge Debating Competition. Thirty six teams from all across the Western Region participated in this competition beginning last term. We hosted the debate in our school library against Eglinton Public. We were the affirmative with the topic “Homework should be banned”. Shelby McCann, Katahna Woolsey, Chloe Petersen and Ben Seymour made up our team of wonderful debaters. Thank you to Ella Zorz for being our chairperson and Brooke Lewis for time-keeping. Our debaters argued and rebutted exceptionally well with a very close debate against a strong experienced team. There was only one point difference in the result with Eglinton being awarded the debate. Congratulations to our team for all their efforts. The competition has provided a wonderful opportunity to grow in their debating skills. I am very proud of them all. Well done!!  
Mrs Nancarrow

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**Wallerawang Warriors Junior Rugby League**  
Could Perpetual trophies from the 2014 Wallerawang Warriors Junior League season be returned to Mrs Lamborn

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**Do you care for someone with a mental illness?**  
**Mental Health**

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Website: www.wallerawan-p.schools.nsw.edu.au  
Email: wallerawan-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Mr Campling with our ‘Live Life Well’ sticker. See page 2 for more details.
We are hosting a CARNIVAL BOOK FAIR. Each class will be invited to preview the books on Monday 24th August. The preview sessions are an ideal opportunity for children to share and discuss the books with their teachers and peers.

The selection of books at our Book Fair will include a wide range of quality books from the best Australian and overseas authors & illustrators.

All books are discounted.

When you or your child buys a book, our school benefits by receiving a commission (up to 35%), which we can use to improve our resources.

Our Book Fair selling times will be:

**Tuesday 25/8/15 and Wednesday 26/8/15**

your family and friends are most welcome to share in the magic of matching children and books.

Credit Card facilities are available. No AMEX please.

Remember ‘READERS ARE ACHIEVERS’
Robogals Python Workshop

Learn how to write computer programs using Python! Presented by Robogals, this workshop will be a thorough introduction in the programming language. Robogals is a group of UNSW students who present sessions in schools and libraries based around programming, robotics, or electronics.

Saturday August 15th
11.30am – 2.30pm
For ages 10+ only.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
PLACES VERY LIMITED
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH

For information call Kollie on 6352 9100
Lithgow Library Learning Centre
157 Main St, Lithgow
Phone: (02) 6352 9100
www.library.lithgow.com

Children, Young People: Mental Health & Wellbeing Forum

When: Wednesday August 19th, 2015
Where: Meeting Room 1, Blue Mountains Theatre & Community Hub, 101-109 Macquarie Rd Springwood
Time: 8.45am – 4pm
Cost: $6 for members of FWTP, $148.50 non-members
Code: NP01CMF
See FWTP website for membership info
Contact: Jane at jane@fwtp.org.au / 9620 6172
Register at www.fwtp.org.au

Keynote presenter: Anthony Hillin
Anthony Hillin, B Soc Stud, M Adol Mh, has over 30 years experience as a clinician, educator, writer and consultant in child, adolescent and adult mental, emotional and social wellbeing. For more info see overleaf

Learning Outcomes overleaf

Website: www.wallerawan-schools.nsw.edu.au
Email: wallerawan-school@det.nsw.edu.au
2015 Maureen Newell Award
Local (Lithgow LGA) music students (instrumental or vocal) are invited to apply for the 2015 Maureen Newell award which provides some assistance towards tuition costs.
Application forms are available from:
- Lithgow Library LINC
- Portland Library Higgins Lawyers
- Wallerawang Library
Applications close on Friday 31 August 2015.
For further information, telephone 63513210 or 63522862 or apply to: The Secretary, Maureen Newell Trust, P O Box 3049, Bowenfels, Lithgow or

Petition for Barton Ave Pathway
If you would like to support the construction of a dual purpose pathway starting from the intersection of Barton Ave and Forest Ridge Drive to the indoor sports stadium, a petition is available until Monday 17 August at the school office for you to sign.

It is envisaged that this pathway will accommodate both pedestrian and cyclists and provide a safe route joining up with existing pathways around Lake Wallace.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Canteen Closed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday August 13</td>
<td>CANTENE CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday August 14</td>
<td>Jenee Taylor, Carina Carter, Casy Anthes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday August 17</td>
<td>Heather Palmer Megan Baxter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday August 18</td>
<td>Kimberley Graham Sonja Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday August 19</td>
<td>Anita Younger Kylie Mason</td>
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</tbody>
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**Now accepting enrolments for 2016**
**Parent Information Evening Thursday 20th August 2015 at 7:00pm**
**Kinder Orientation Morning Thursday 27th August 2015 from 10:00 - 11:10am**

1. Collect Earn & Learn Stickers - 1 for every $10 you spend at Woolies.
2. Stick them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet. You can pick one up from Woolies or at school.
3. Once filled, pop into a Collection Box here at school or at Woolies in store.
4. When the promotion is finalised and tallies are complete, schools get to choose amazing new educational equipment.