Dear Parents/Carers,

Well without even trying we have reached week 4, the term is flying by. The involvement of students and staff in varied activities both in the school environment and beyond continues with zest and it’s wonderful to see.

Last Wednesday the school leaders and Kinders had their photos taken for the Lithgow Mercury. Keep an eye out for the edition in coming weeks.

Best Start has almost been completed for our 52 new Kindergartens. Teaching staff will use this information to assist teaching programs. Parents will receive a feedback sheet once all the data is entered. Should you have any further questions once you receive these please make an appointment with classroom teachers. I thank Miss Reid for leading this process and to Mrs Dogger and Mrs Brown who have engaged in further training in order to undertake the Best Start assessments with students.

Early Stage 1 and Stage1 held their information sessions last Thursday night, this was an informative evening where staff presented items of interest including teaching programs, behaviour management system and general information. This is a great way to find out what is happening in classrooms, meet the teaching staff and ask questions. Thank you to the teaching staff and parents for your attendance.

On Friday I had the pleasure of welcoming 52 gorgeous little Kindergartens to Wallerawang School along with the whole school community – including parents and grandparents. It was fantastic to see them all on stage for the first time singing and receiving their certificates. We welcome you all to our supportive school community and look forward to working with you and your families over the next 7 years.

The district PSSA carnival was held at Portland Pool on Friday. The carnival was organised by Cooerwull. I always enjoy attending these events and watching the children compete. As always the Wang crowd stretched the longest and cheered the loudest – encouraging all children regardless of their swimming ability. I always feel a sense of pride at these events when you see the Wang spirit rise to the occasion.

Congratulations to all children who participated and special mention to Bailey Brown – 11 years boys champion and Wade Fraser senior boy runner up. Also the following children; Bailey Brown, Macy Brown, Wade Fraser and Bailey Neil who will represent their school and the Lithgow District at the Western Region carnival on the 4th March. I would also like to acknowledge and say a special thank you to two lovely year 5 students Sophie Lane & Keelee Fraser who ensured our new student was looked after during the day and to our parent committee for welcoming her with open arms – what a great community we are a part of.
At the end of last year we purchased some new guided readers for L3 lessons in across Early Stage 1 & Stage 1 and for guided reading groups in stage 2. These readers need to be covered in contact before use and we are seeking members of our school community to do this so they can be put into classrooms for students use. Please leave your name at the front office and this will be passed on to Miss Reid. Thank you to Kim Graham, Leanne Abbas and Cindy Bird who have already offered their assistance!

A reminder to keep contact details up to date at the school office, along with emergency contacts. If you are changing pick up arrangements for your child and it is not someone stated on your child’s card please notify your child’s classroom teacher via a note or phone the front office and leave a message.

Thank you to everyone for working with us when dropping your children off at the drop off zone of a morning. It has been less congested. Please remember that when the school zone is operational cars are not permitted in the bus bay. This does attract a fine and police have been vigilant around school zones.

Yesterday we ensured our evacuation and lockdown procedures were in place with practice drills. Thank you to Mrs Nancarrow and Mrs Auld for their work with WHS regulations in the school.

Each week I am going to showcase a team across the school in different aspects of school life. This week it’s the Stage 2 team of Ms Foster, Miss Gurney, Miss Mitchell and Mrs Clark. Ms Foster leads this team of supportive and dedicated staff in the middle years of the school. Ms Foster joined us in 2012 through the merit selection process with a wealth of knowledge and skills. Her expertise in Mathematics has supported the growth and development of staff through a mentoring process and the planning, programming, implementation across the school. Miss Gurney has been working on stage 2 over several years and feels right at home in this part of the school. Miss Mitchell joined the team last year as an Intern from Charles Sturt University where she quickly settled into the friendly Wang team, she demonstrated her capabilities and has been offered at temporary position at Wallerawang during 2016. Mrs Clark is the SLSO working across stage 2 supporting students with a variety of programs and initiatives, with the teachers and the students appreciating the way she works with all. They all love working in a team with varied skills to be able to provide wonderful educational and creative experiences to stage 2 children.

It is always great to hear good news stories of ex students who have succeeded in their chosen career or sporting path. This week I wish to make mention of Astin Nunan. Astin attended Wallerawang Public School and is a part of a well-known Wallerawang family. Astin has been visiting his mum Briony Blyth and brothers Dylan and Cody before he heads off this week to continue his Rugby League dream. Astin has been living in Queensland playing for the Clermont Bears and has been scouted through Central Highlands football to move to Cooma to play first grade with the Cooma Stallions. Also through this process they have found him employment. Congratulations Astin!

Astin was the first student when Rugby League started up again at Wallerawang PS as a school sport to receive the players player jersey at the Peachey Shield finals in Dubbo.

It always great to be a part of community activities when people are working hard to support others and provide opportunities. Over the weekend I was involved in both the Wallerawang Rugby League muster day and the Portland Pool Duo-Athlon both showed extreme community support and pride. Well done to all involved.

Continue to enjoy this great weather. Have a good week.

*Jenny Lamborn*
Expressions of Interest (EOI) for 2016 Football Coaches

Parent/carer helpers are invited to submit an EOI to assist with the coaching of the Russell Richardson (Years 3 and 4) and David Peachey (Years 5 and 6) football teams. If you are interested, please submit your name and details to Mrs Fraser by the COB Friday 26th February.

Year 6 Fundraising Committee

We will hold our first Year 6 fundraising committee meeting on Tuesday 23rd February at 3:15pm in the library. All Year 6 parents are invited and encouraged to attend as we begin to plan our fundraisers for the year.

Thanks,
Mrs Fraser

Rydal Show Success

At the recent Rydal Show, Ben and Summer Mason were very successful with their novelty vegetable and flower entries. What a fabulous effort—Well done!

Ben Mason proudly shows his Championship ribbon from Rydal Show.
Special Assembly
On Friday 26th February a special assembly will be held at school to congratulate and farewell Principal Mr Auld who is now Director of Public Schools NSW in Orange. The assembly will commence at 9:10 and parents, carers, friends and community are warmly invited to attend and be a part of this occasion to acknowledge Mr Auld’s 20 years of service to the Wallerawang school and community.

Morning tea will be served in the library following the assembly.

School Contributions
General school contributions are now due and may be paid up until the end of this term. The contribution supplements costs of essential equipment, books and resources for students.

The individual fee is $30 per child with a maximum of $60 per family.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

News from the Library
We are having an old Library book Give-away. These are books are no longer required in our school library. If your child comes home with a book that has the Barcode crossed out and a cancelled stamp in the title page then this is a book to keep. Have fun with the "free to new home" books.

Donations required: Mrs Brown is asking for donations of pre-loved dress-up clothes. You can kindly leave these at the front office.

Thank you

P&C Chocolate Fundraiser
Thank you to all the families who ordered chocolate boxes to sell. They will be sent home at the end of the week with the youngest child in the family.

For those who ordered more than 1 box the extra boxes will go home once the first box has been returned.

Thank you

Can you help? We have beautiful new Home Readers and Guided Readers which need to be covered with Contact. If this sounds like a job you could help us with, please leave your name and number at the front office and Mrs Brown or Ms Reid will be in touch with you! Thank you in anticipation.

Lost Property & Clothing Pool Information
At the end of last year an enormous amount of school wear was left at school. It has been washed and packaged up and will be available over this term for pick up if you call at the office. After the end of term items will be added to the clothing pool and available for purchase at very minimal cost. Only 4 items were marked with children’s names and could be returned day 1 this year.

The Clothing Pool is very well stocked with items of school clothing in very good condition and range in price from $3 to $10 and in size from 4 to 16. These items can be purchased from the school office.

UNIFORM SHOP - PLEASE NOTE
Due to other commitments the uniform shop will be

**CLOSED MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY**

**OPEN THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY**
2:00 - 3:00pm

**CLOSED MONDAY 29 FEBRUARY**

**OPEN THURSDAY 3 MARCH**
2:00 - 3:00pm

Apologies for any inconvenience.

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Canteen Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 18</td>
<td><strong>CANTENEEN CLOSED</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday February 19</td>
<td>Katena Taylor, Kelly Cafe, Amanda Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday February 22</td>
<td>Kim Graham Alison Jackson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 23</td>
<td><strong>CANTENEEN CLOSED</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday February 24</td>
<td>Carol Chew Cheryl Mason</td>
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District Swimming Carnival
Lithgow Early Learners Playgroup.
Cooerwull Primary School Hall
Every Tuesday 10am to 11.30 during School Term
The group’s purpose is to assist families with children who have speech, language or motor development delays that require additional support.

The group is FREE to attend
Please bring a piece of fruit and water bottle for a small morning tea.
The group is run by Communities and Kids in partnership with, NSW Health Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist from Lithgow Hospital.

Please call Communities and Kids Office at LINC 6354 5906 to make a booking as spaces are limited.

Lithgow City Rangers Soccer Club -
Muster Days
2016 Registration / Muster Days will be at the Marjorie Jackson Soccer Complex on Thursday 18 and 25 February from 4:00pm - 5:30pm. Also every Tuesday of February at Rangers Football complex Lidsdale (Castlereagh Hwy next to Wang Power Station) from 5:30pm - 6:30pm.

Contact Nigal Lloyd on 0409 676 019 or 6351 2697 for further information.

Junior Netball
Any girls wishing to play netball aged between 7-9 contact Jess Turner 0447 255 925
10-12yrs contact Leanne Houlison 0400 312 197

Lithgow Netball
Muster Days
Lithgow Netball will be holding a muster days for the 2016 season.
Saturday 20 February at Lithgow Valley Plaza from 10am - 1pm. Please come and say hello and register as a player or a team. For further information please email us at lithgownetball@gmail.com

Lithgow Physical Culture Club
Get fit, get active, get involved!
Poise, posture, flexibility—and so much more. Physi is an inexpensive alternative to dance and offers a fun, encouraging environment.

Come and try a lesson for free!
Classes are held at Lithgow Public School Hall on Tuesdays. Just call for class times. 0417 288 143
VOLUNTEER AWARD – YOUTH & OPEN CATEGORIES

Sport and Recreation are again holding the Central West Summer Sport Volunteer Award. It’s getting close to the end of the Summer sporting season, but it’s not too late to recognise the efforts of the outstanding volunteers who keep sport going in our communities.

The Award has separate categories for Open and Youth (25 years and under) to recognise the importance of all aged volunteers in grassroots sport.

In 150 words or less tell us how your volunteer is worthy of being nominated.

All nominees will receive a certificate, with the winner and runner up being awarded $250 & $100 (respectively) to spend on approved sports development programs.

It’s a great way to say thank you to a coach, committee member, official or manager. It’s a simple process that won’t take long, but will make the nominee feel valued as a volunteer.

Nominations can be made online via the Sport and Recreation website sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/volunteer award or call 6362 6623.

Nominations close Friday 1st April 2016

Communities and Kids

**MONDAY**

**Babies Sensory play 0-2yrs 9:30-10:30**

Portland Pre School Play session 11am-1pm

Portland Resource Library and referral service 1-4pm

Portland Central School, Vale street Portland

**TUESDAY**

Early Learners Group 10:00-11.30

Cooerwull School Hall, Main Street Lithgow

**WEDNESDAY**

Supported playgroup 10:00-12:00

Cnr GWH & Tweed Rd, Bowenfels

**THURSDAY**

Supported Playgroup 9:30-11:30

Cooerwull School Hall, Lithgow

*Each play group is FREE and has a range of children’s activities.
Come along and meet some new friends in a fun filled environment.
For more information please call 6354 5906.*
Are you a parent of a 3 year olds in the Wallerawang/Lithgow/Portland area?

This magic little preschool is a hidden gem... and the good news is... it has a few places left for ages 3, 4 and 5 year olds on any day. Sound like what you need? Call today or call in to visit.

Big discounts for health care card holders!

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

Want to give your child a successful start at school?

(Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters - HIPPY)

HIPPY is a free, government funded program, for Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland designed to help parents prepare their children for school.

Materials, guidance and home tutor support are all provided. The focus is on parents spending about 10 minutes a day doing the interactive activities with their children, to build pre-literacy and numeracy skills. HIPPY aims to further develop parents’ skills and confidence to better help their children prepare for a successful start at school.

Employment opportunities are also available to parents. Centacare requires part time Home Tutors to assist with delivering the HIPPY program.

Centacare is accepting enrolments for 2016 from families living in the Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland areas with children in the year prior to starting school, usually around 4 years of age (Note: Children must turn 4 years on or before the 31st July 2016).

Interested parents / caregivers can contact Hippy Bowenfels on telephone: 6352 4868 or mobile 0409 362 663 or email
hippy@centacarebathurst.com.au

HIPPY Bowenfels is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters.