Dear Parents
Thank you for your patience with our classes. I have been impressed with the encouragement of so many parents. We have been on the knife edge of student numbers and because of the amount of unexpected students coming out and coming into the school since the holidays, we have had to re organise our previously arranged class groupings. Despite coming very close to last year’s 15 K-6 classes we have had to reorganise to 14. Although it is quite possible that we could enrol the 5 more students before the cut-off date of 13 February, our present enrolment numbers enable us to form 14 classes and we expect to stay in these classes for 2013. Because we were able to start students in last year’s groupings, our students in Years 1 to 6 were able to move into their new classes fairly smoothly on Monday morning.
Please remember the school bell goes at 8.55 am.

Who is who at Waratah Public School?
Class arrangements

Preschool teachers
Miss Dodds
Mrs Maher
Mrs Pirini

Early Intervention teachers
Mrs Wright
Mrs Ward

Class Teachers
KP  Mrs Reeves
KM  Miss McGregor
K/1S Mr Swain
1D  Miss Deer
1B  Mrs Butler-Cramer and Mrs Jane Robinson (each Friday)
1/2L Mrs Curtis
2C  Miss Casey
2/3S Mrs Sanderson and Mrs Anderson (each Friday)
3/4B Mrs Butler
4C  Mrs Cromie
4/5S Miss Sammons
5/6P Miss Palmer
5/6M Mr Metcalf
5/6C Mrs Christie

Supporting teachers
Mr Lynch—computer and Stage 2 and 3 maths groups
Mrs Rigney—library and support on KP
Mrs Cake—Learning Assistance and Support Teacher and support on 4/5S
Mrs Haddow—English as a Second Language Teacher and support on KM, and release from face to face and Learning Assistance teacher on 3/4B
Mrs Wolfenden—Release from face to face Stage 1 maths groups and support for 3/4B
Mrs Riley who is our School Counsellor and is at school on Thursday and Friday and on Tuesday afternoons on even weeks of this term
Our School Learning Support officers are
Mrs Leedham - Preschool
Mrs Woods – Preschool
Mrs Rufo – Preschool and K-6
Mrs Connors – K-6
Mrs Limn – K-6
Mrs Gina Greenwood-Early Intervention

Our office people are
Mrs Erina Robertson
Mrs Sue Gorgievski
Mrs Vicki Iredale

Our General Assistant is
Mr John Henry

Our Canteen Supervisor is
Mrs Donna Mackenzie

Our Cleaners are
Mr Greg Mears
Mrs Emma Manev

Our Crossing supervisors are
Mrs Julie Worker
Mr John Dawson
Mrs Helen Lloyd

Principal—Mrs Williams

Parent information sessions
Parent information sessions will be held on Tuesday 19 February between 3.15 pm and 6.00 pm. Next week I will send out a schedule of meeting times and locations. For parents who will need to attend a few meetings there will be tea, coffee, cold drinks and a light afternoon tea in the Multipurpose room.

Maths Teaching at Waratah Public School
This year we are implementing stage maths groups across the school. We are utilizing extra teacher support to reduce the size of maths groups to help all students receive optimum support in this important subject. Maths groups will involve hands on work with concrete material, pen and paper work, work with technology and also text book work. A note regarding text books will come home this week.

In order to provide extra support for students we are also operating the Quick Smart Maths program for a small group of students. We will commence with a small group of Year 5 students and then move to a group of Year 4 students. Quicksmart is an intensive program involving 3 x 30 minute sessions per week.

Collecting children from School Procedure
Should you be changing your normal picking up procedure would you please notify the office staff? Quite often we have confused students come to the office at the end of the day because they have forgotten the arrangements for that day. The best course of action is a note to the teacher and a phone call to the office.

When collecting your child from school please:
- Practise safe road crossing
- Park in a suitable place
- Be mindful of other people’s driveways

Extra-Curricular activities at Waratah Public School
At Waratah Public School we offer a number of performing arts activities outside of normal class. These include specialist dance classes, ukulele and guitar.

We hope to commence classes soon and notes regarding dance classes and ukulele will be sent home within the week.

Guitar Groups
Last year at the Year 3 to 6 Presentation Ceremony our guitar group impressed everyone with their very fancy playing. I will be offering guitar classes again this year and am prepared to have both advanced and beginner classes.

Group guitar lessons are available for students in Years 3 to 6. **Lessons are free but students will need to own their own guitar, attend guitar lessons regularly and make an effort to practise each week.** Students must also supply a display folder.

I am sending out expressions of interest for guitar groups in this bulletin.

I will ask parents to indicate which lesson time best suits their child. In the past I have had the lessons during lunchtime. Generally speaking lunch time groups, although
convenient for parents, often do not suit students who wish to be playing or socialising. Before nominating lunch time please confirm that this is a time to which your child will commit.

Regards
Maria Williams

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**Swimming Carnival**

Our annual swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 12 February at Mayfield Pool from 9.30 am to 2.00 pm. It is for students in Years 3—6 and for students turning 8 in Year 2 who can swim 50m. Notes were distributed last FRIDAY.

Thank you
Mrs Butler

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**Zone Swimming Carnival**

There have been a number of enquiries in regard to how children qualify for the Zone Swimming Carnival.

At school level, children may have come first, second or third. **This does not automatically qualify them** for the Zone Carnival. Zone qualifying times are sent to the school. If your child swims within 10 seconds of this time, we send children to the Zone Carnival.

At school level we have the choice to make a decision in favour of children to allow them the experience of being successful. This leeway is not given at Zone.

For any further enquiries please speak with Mrs Butler.

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**House Captains**

Congratulations to our elected House Captains for 2013

**Turton (Yellow)**
- Girl Captain—Ruby
- Boy Captain—Jacob
- Girl Vice Captain—Brianna
- Boy Vice Captain—Jamison

**Platt (Red)**
- Girl Captain—Samara
- Boy Captain—Bailey
- Boy Vice Captain—Byron

**Parkes (Green)**
- Girl Captain—Taylah
- Boy Captain—Mahlek
- Girl Vice Captain—Angel
- Boy Vice Captain—Riley

**Matthews (Blue)**
- Girl Captain—Summa
- Boy Captain—James
- Girl Vice Captain—Heimoana
- Boy Vice Captain—Hayden

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**Maths**

The **TOWN** intervention program for Stage 2 students has started and we would like to invite parents to be trained in its implementation. The daily activities are based on number facts and they take about 15-20 minutes to complete one-on-one with a child. If you would like to volunteer please see Mrs Butler for more details.

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**Lost Glasses**

We have a large selection of lost glasses at the office. If you have lost a pair please see the office staff.

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**Parents**

Please remember to pack a spare change of clothes for your children. Accidents do happen and our sick back has limited clothing available. If your child is supplied with a clean set of clothes please wash and return them to the school office.

Thank you
P&C NEWS

SCHOOL BANKING
Welcome back in 2013!

Don’t forget that TUESDAY is School Banking day and students should bring in their weekly deposit.
For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. The first token will be received upon the first deposit at school. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can then be redeemed for a range of great, exclusive reward items in recognition of their continued savings behaviour.

School banking will begin next week on Tuesday, 12 February 2013.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Waratah Public School.

Angela Rodgers

The Uniform Shop
Welcome back to school 2013!!! The Uniform Shop supplies Waratah Public School students with all their uniform needs – both new & second hand. We are open Mondays 8.30 – 9.15 am and Friday 2.30 - 3.15 pm. The Uniform Shop is part of the P&C and relies solely on volunteer help to offer this service to the school community.

Volunteers are urgently needed this year, so if you can help out for 45 mins on a Monday and /or Friday – weekly, fortnightly, or even monthly, please fill in the attached slip and return to the P&C postbox (located in the office foyer), leave your details at the uniform shop or contact Richelle on 0419210273.
School Badges are now selling at the Uniform Shop - $3 each.

Cheers Richelle
P&C Vice President

The Uniform Shop
The Uniform shop is located next to the canteen and open on
Monday: 8.30-9.15 am
Friday: 2.30-3.15 pm

For Sale
School Pin Badges $3
‘St Marks’ Boys grey cargo shorts $12
(size 14 only & 1x size 10)
Maroon Sports Short (old supplier stock)
2x size 14
& 2x size 16
Cash, cheque or lay-by only.
Volunteers are Urgently Needed

CANTEEN ROSTER

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Are you caring for a grandchild?
NEWCASTLE CITY GAPS
Grandparents as Parents (GAPS)
Is a support group for grandparent carers in the Newcastle city and suburban areas working in partnership with Samaritans Foundation.
Meets in School Terms on Mondays
11.00 am—12.30 pm
St Andrews Anglican hall
Church St Mayfield
You are welcome to join us
Please phone 4963 3616 or 0429 914 553 for further details.
Fundraising BBQ Saturday 23 February at Woolworths Mayfield
If you can spare half an hour it would be very much appreciated.
WPS P&C Volunteer Slip Please fill in and place into the P&C Post Box

Name _______________________________________________
Phone ______________________ or ______________________
Event _______________________________________________

Thank you. For any questions call Anne Campbell on 49688817 or 0448688817

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

Student Name: _________________________________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________
Mum: H: _____________________  Mob: _______________________  Wk: _______________
Dad : H: _____________________  Mob: ________________________ Wk:_______________
Emergency contact:    ___________________________________________________ 
(Name and phone) ____________________________________________________________
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*Term 1 Calendar 2013*

1. **Three day preschool commences**: 4 Feb
2. **First Day Kindy Photos**: 5 Feb
3. **Two day preschool commences**: 7 Feb
4. **Swimming carnival Mayfield Pool Yrs 3-6 More details to follow**: 8 Feb
5. **Kids at Sea Commence auditions**: 18 Feb
6. **Parent Information sessions 3.15—6.00**: 19 Feb
7. **Zone swimming carnival - Lambton Pool**: 27 Feb
8. **Captains and Prefects Induction 11.30 am**: 5 March
9. **Year 6 expo CCWTH 4.00-5.30**: 13 March
10. **Harmony Day Fundraising Meeting**: 21 March
11. **Easter Monday**: 1 April
12. **State swimming carnival**: 2 April
13. **State swimming carnival**: 3 April
14. **12.20pm-1pm ANZAC Service**: 11 April
15. **Back up cross country date**: 14 March
16. **Last Day Term 1**: 12 April
17. **Good Friday**: 29 March
18. **ANZAC Day**: 26 April

*Note: Hols = Holidays*