Dear Parents

Well done to all the students who participated in yesterday’s swimming carnival. Teachers reported a high level of participation and cooperation. Congratulations to all finals’ winners, especially those whose times qualified them to represent the school at the zone swimming carnival on 27 February. Thank you to all teachers for their efforts and in particular to Mrs Butler and Mr Metcalfe for their organisation of this event.

Parent Information sessions
Next week we will hold Parent Teacher Information meetings for K-4 classes. These meetings are held so that parents can hear firsthand about what is planned this year. It is a very good opportunity to meet the teacher and ask general questions about classroom routines and procedures. Please note that it is not a time for discussing individual needs or concerns. That is best done at an individual interview so if you need to speak about your child please make an appointment.

Parent Information sessions are next Tuesday 19 February at the following times
3.15 pm classes KP, KM, K/1S, 1B and 1D
3.45 pm classes 1/2L, 2C, 2/3S, 3/4B 4/C 4/5S
5.00 pm classes 5/6P, 5/6M, 5/6P

Unless you have been informed otherwise these parent talks will take place in your child’s classroom. (Please see map following)
For parents who will be attending there will be tea, coffee, or a cold drink and biscuits available in the multipurpose room.

Preschool information sessions will be held when Mrs Maher returns.

Regular Attendance
Why is regular attendance at school important?
Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps build and maintain friendships with other children. If students miss the basic skills in the early years of school, they may have problems later on.
Regular attendance at school will help your child to succeed in later life.
Please do not keep your child away from school for
• Birthdays
• Pension day
• Minding other children
• Hair cuts
• Interpreting for other family members

Always try to make children’s appointments with people like dentists or doctors before or after school.

If you have a regular appointment that causes your child to miss out on school, remember that before and after school care is available. Please see the office for details.

Being Punctual
Lateness for some students is a continuing concern. Students who continually arrive late are at a severe disadvantage to those that are on time each day. A 10 minute lateness means that by the time a student has gone to the office reaches the classroom and is ready to learn they have actually missed about 20 minutes. There is
a great deal of learning taking place in this time and it is when students are at their most receptive for learning. Mornings are a busy time in most households. Having bags packed the night before, uniform ready, and even having lunch organised as much as possible will help reduce stress in the mornings. Also keep in mind that breakfast club is operating and is enjoyed very much by the students. This is great way to ensure students are at school on time. Please remember to let someone know if you are having constant trouble getting your child to school. This is no fun for anyone and the school has a number of strategies that may assist with this.

Regards
Maria Williams

Future Olympian in the Making.
Harrison in (2/3S) has become the under 12 (under 30kg) state champion in Judo. This is made all the more impressive considering he is only 8 years old! Harrison competed at the Sydney Olympic Centre last weekend. He remained undefeated over 5 bouts to claim the title. Harrison is now a hopeful selection for the State team to compete at the national titles which will be held later this year in Wollongong. There is no time to relax and savour his recent achievements as he will be competing in the Canberra International this weekend in the nation’s capital. Everyone at Waratah Public would like to congratulate Harrison for his outstanding achievements.

2013 homework planner
Kids and families run more smoothly when there’s a plan. The 2013 homework and study calendar includes key dates and school holidays. You can print it out month by month, or by the whole year.

Doing well in class
Our expert panel shares tips about how parents can help their younger and older kids reach their full potential at school and motivate them for learning. Watch the video.

Primary school
Eight ways to get your kids organised
Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday's half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.

Smart foods to boost learning
Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory?

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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My child ............................................
In class .......................... would like to join a
guitar group. We would prefer classes at
(please circle)
Lunch time
After school on Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday
Signed: ................................................

**Student Environmental Committee**
Congratulations to the following students. We will meet Thursdays at 12.40 pm for our meetings to discuss plans for our gardens, recycling, saving water and electricity. They will help their class to understand how to reduce, recycle and reuse in the school.

Student Environment Committee Members 2013
5/6C  Jake
5/6P  James
5/6M  Carl
4/5S  Samuel
4C  Caleb and Breanna
3/4B  Drew
2C  Olivia
1/2L  Jessica
1D  Deacon
1B  Isabella
K1/S  Tristan
KP  Janae

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**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

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**Newcastle Junior Baseball League**
‘Come and try’ Baseball
Introductory clinic for boys and girls aged 5 to 12 years
How to enrol
Call 131302
Fax 4929 4397 (enrolment form)
Mail enrolment form to
Sport and Recreation
State Government Offices
117 Bull St, Newcastle West 2302
For more information
Phone 4926 1633 or visit
www.dsr.nsw.gov.au

**Fundraising BBQ**
Saturday 23 February at Woolworths Mayfield. If you can spare 1/2 hour it would be very much appreciated.
Please fill out the form in the bulletin and return it to the P&C Box.

Thank you
Ann Campbell
EASTER LUNCH TUESDAY 26 MARCH

A special Easter Day lunch will be held on Tuesday 26 March. If you would like to order please fill in the form and send back no later than Friday 22 March.

COST $6.00

Lunch will consist of
- Cocktail fish □
- Salad tub (carrot sticks, cherry tomatoes, celery sticks, orange wedge) □
- Potato nuggets □ Easter eggs □
- Tartare sauce □ or tomato sauce □
- apple juice □ orange juice □ water □

Name:-------------------------------------Class:-------
Name:-------------------------------------Class:-------
Name:-------------------------------------Class:-------
Name:-------------------------------------Class:-------

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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| **6** | 4 March P&C Meeting | 5 March *Captains and Prefects Induction 11.30 am* | 6 March | 7 March | 8 March *11.20 School Cross country*
| **7** | 11 March | 12 March | 13 March *Year 6 expo CCWTH 4.00-5.30* | 14 March | 15 March *Back up cross country date 12.20 whole school assembly*
| **8** | 18 March | 19 March | 20 March | 21 March *Harmony Day Fundraising Meeting* | 22 March |
| **9** | 25 March | 26 March | 27 March *Scripture service in the hall* | 28 March | 29 March *Good Friday*
| **10** | 1 April *Easter Monday* | 2 April *State swimming carnival* | 3 April *State swimming carnival* | 4 April | 5 April |
| **11** | 8 April P&C Annual General Meeting | 9 April *Zone Cross country* | 10 April | 11 April *12.20pm-1pm ANZAC Service* | 12 April *Last Day Term 1*
| **Hols** | 15 April | 16 April | 17 April | 18 April | 19 April |
| **Hols** | 22 April | 23 April | 24 April | 25 April ANZAC DAY | 26 April |