Dear Parents

Guitar Lessons to Continue
Mrs Williams has been running guitar lessons each Thursday. As she will not be here to run this program a lovely parent, (Mrs Campbell) has offered to continue the lessons at 1.00 pm each Thursday. If you wish your child to have the lessons please send their guitar in on Thursdays. If you decide not to continue, please send a note to the office or phone to let us know.

Grandparents Week
As part of the celebration of Grandparents Week, Waratah Public School invite all grandparents to our special assembly on Friday 25 October at 9.00 am in the hall. This will be followed by a shared reading session at 10.00 am and then morning tea at 10.30 am. All students from Years 3—6 may join their grandparents at 10.00 am for the shared reading session, under the COLA.

Kindergarten Orientation
We presented a parent session on Literacy this week. Thank you, to the wonderful teachers for putting that together. Kindergarten orientation continues each Tuesday over the next few weeks with the final session being 5 November.

Presentation Day 2013
At the end of the year we are holding two presentation day ceremonies on

**Wednesday 11 December**, 
The Years 3—6 ceremony is at 10.00 am and the K—2 ceremony is at 11.40 am, approx. For those parents who would like to attend both presentations, there will be morning tea between the ceremonies.
Please mark the date on your calendar...

10 Things You Didn’t Know About …Mr Metcalfe
- I have a wife who is also a teacher and a one year old son named Alexander.
- I think Dr Seuss books are the best!
- Vietnam was the best travel destination I have been on holiday.
- If I wasn’t a teacher, I’d be a brain surgeon.
- I played football in England for 3 years.
- The knights are my favourite sporting team.
- Some of my talents include; singing, shuffling (dancing) and doing cartwheels.
- I love watching the darts on TV. Onnnnne huuuuuundred and eighty!
- Some of my friends call me 'Kid' because I'm shorter than them.
- Going to the beach or park with my family is my favourite thing to do.

**Concert Photos and DVD.**
Orders have now closed and will be filled as soon as possible. We will let you know when to collect them from the office. Thank you for your support.

**School Evaluation**
Thank you to all the parents who provided feedback in the General Survey. The aim of the survey is to gauge what you value, what you appreciate and what you want to see happen in the future.
Survey responses have an impact. Your encouragements, as well as your suggestions, make a real difference.
I look forward to sharing this year’s General Survey responses with the P&C at the next meeting on Monday 4 November. I encourage everyone to attend this meeting.

Regards
Mrs Butler

**SCHOOL SWIMMING SCHEME 2013**
School Swimming Scheme consent forms and payments are due by Wednesday 6 November 2013. Total cost for the 10 day program is $80.00
There are only 60 positions available for the swimming scheme, so it is on a first in basis.

Thank you
Emily Palmer

**Stage 3 Fundraiser**
This term we will be hosting a variety of fundraising events. The money raised from these events will be going back into the school with the purchasing of resources for our classrooms and gardens. There will be 2 fundraisers in the next couple of weeks.

**Motivational Posters**—Almond Tree Designs has provided a range of colorful motivational prints for families to purchase. A booklet will be sent out on Thursday with a variety of motivational prints, have a look at the designs and if you would like to purchase posters fill in the order form and return to the office. All orders are due by Thursday 31 October. Please note that 50% of the sales will go directly back into our school.

**Ice Cream Day**—This Friday 5/6P will be coordinating an ice cream day – The cost of an ice cream is $1.
Parents thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts.
Emily Palmer

**2014 BUS PASSES**
If you have a child in **Year 2 this year** who has a bus pass and you would like them to have a pass next year (Year 3 2014), you will need to complete a new application form. Passes do not carry over from infants to primary. Any student who has changed address or will change address before the 2014 school year commences should also complete a new application form. Please ensure you tick the box for travel next year.
Remember, your child is eligible for a bus pass if:
they are an infant student (K-2) **OR**
they are in primary (3-6) and live outside the 1.6 km radius from the school.

**Congratulations**
Well done to Fletcher (4/5S) who competed in the PSSA Athletics Championships in Sydney. Fletcher came 10th in the state in the 200m sprints.

**Multilit Literacy Program**
Parent helpers are urgently needed for our Stage 2 Multilit literacy program. Please see Mrs Butler for more information.
Selecting high schools application
15 Oct 2013
Online applications open

Entry to Government Selective High Schools for Year 7 in 2015
Application is required by mid November 2013 for parents or carers of Year 5 students who wish their children to be considered for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2015. Parents with internet access are requested to apply online. Online applications will be available from 15 October to 18 November 2013. Application information is available on the Department’s internet at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement
For parents without internet access a limited number of paper application forms will be available from the school. Paper applications must be submitted to the student’s school principal by 18 November 2013. All students seeking Year 7 entry to a selective high school in 2015 will be required to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of Thursday 13 March 2014.

Tribute
John Hipwell (ex student of WPS—1950’s) passed away suddenly last month. John was an excellent rugby player winning 3 Newcastle premierships with the Waratahs and played 36 tests for the Wallabies (9 as captain).

Uniform Shop News
New Stock
With warm temperatures already upon us see the Uniform Shop for your summer uniform options. New stock has arrived with boys grey cargo shorts:- soft finish gaberdine fabric, hard wearing with Teflon treatment to repel stains, crease resistant finish, elastic waist with draw cord, 2 side pockets and 3 patch pockets with Velcro flap, available in sizes 4-16 and selling for $16.
Also new in stock is girls maroon skorts (tailored looking shorts with a skirt flap front):- soft finish gaberdine fabric, hard wearing with Teflon treatment to repel stains, crease resistant finish, elastic waist at back, side zip for easy fit, right side zip pocket, available in sizes 4-16 and selling for $16.
Maroon Homework Bag – A4 or 38x27cm, waterproof 100% polyester, reinforced carry handle, opening flap with Velcro fastening, and ID tag on outside. Great for homework, notes, homereaders and other documents to be carried safely to and from school.

Summer in The Uniform Shop
For Sale
Boys grey cargo shorts (4-16) $16
Girls maroon skorts (4-16) $16
Gold polo shirts with logo $22
Maroon Homework bag $8
Cash, cheque or lay-by only.
Monday: 8.30-9.15am
Friday: 2.30-3.15pm

P&C News
The next meeting will be on Monday 4 November in the Library at 6.00 pm.
Anne Campbell

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Employees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24 October</td>
<td>J Sparks, K Baldwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>25 October</td>
<td>S Niblett, R Baird</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>28 October</td>
<td>A Benton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>29 October</td>
<td>K Ellis, S Corrigan, A Campbell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>30 October</td>
<td>K Carr, J Gee</td>
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INSIGHTS by Michael Grose—Australia’s leading parenting educator

Getting kids to school ON TIME!

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

“Come on Jack! Get a move on. School starts in ten minutes and you’re not even dressed yet!”

If this scenario sounds familiar then you are not alone. Anecdotal evidence suggests that getting children to school or pre school on time can be one of the most difficult tasks for parents.

Missing a few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day with 10.00am the peak period for productivity. When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do precious minutes are lost. A child who is fifteen minutes late to school each day misses one week of school every year. How can you get your dawdling kids out the door without yelling yourself hoarse? Here are a few techniques and ideas for you to try to get your punctually-challenged children to school on time:

✓ Establish a morning routine.
  Make sure your children know what is expected of them in the morning, and also what you will do. Resist nagging but be willing to take them to school even if they haven’t fully prepared for the day.

✓ Identify and remove distractions such as television.
  If the children are regular watchers before school change the routine and keep the TV off. It should only be turned on when children are completely ready for school.

✓ Teach some of the basics of time management.
  The average adult underestimates by about 25 per cent the time it takes to do various jobs. Make sure you have realistic time estimates and stop packing so much into the time you allocate. Encourage older children to estimate how long it takes to do activities such as getting ready in the morning. Then they can measure the time taken to do these tasks and compare their estimates with real time.

✓ Arrive at school ten minutes early.
  Plan to arrive at school early rather than be there on time. This idea works well for perpetual latecomers, whether young or old.

✓ Model a good routine.
  It’s pointless expecting children to be organised in the morning if you are in a muddle yourself. Set a good example by being as methodical as possible and avoid sleeping in unless your children are so organised that they get you breakfast in bed. And pigs might fly as well!
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>21 October</td>
<td>Life Education K-6 9.45-11.15 3/4B + 3S 11.30-12.30 1/2L + 2C, 2S 12.45-2.15 4C + 4S Grandparents week</td>
<td>22 October Life Education 9.45-11.15 5/6P + 5/6M Life Ed Preschool 2014 Kindergarten Orientation 9.30 - 10.30 Parents – literacy information session for parents</td>
<td>23 October</td>
<td>24 October</td>
<td>25 October Grandparents Day 9.00 Main School Hall—Kindergarten—Year 2 students Assembly 10.00 Cola—Years 3—6 students will meet their grandparents 10.30 Multipurpose Room—Morning Tea Life Education Pre</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>28 October</td>
<td>2014 Kinder Orientation 9.30 - 10.30</td>
<td>29 October 2014 Kinder Orientation 9.30 - 10.30</td>
<td>30 October</td>
<td>31 October Belinda Muriel author talk 9-10 K-6 classes</td>
<td>1 November Pre-school Orientation morning 10.00—11.00</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>4 November</td>
<td>Preschool Vision Screening P&amp;C Meeting 6.00 pm Library</td>
<td>5 November Preschool Vision Screening 2014 Kinder Orientation 9.30 - 10.30</td>
<td>6 November</td>
<td>7 November Preschool Vision Screening</td>
<td>8 November Preschool Vision Screening</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>11 November</td>
<td>Prospective leaders Speeches Intensive Swimming</td>
<td>12 November Intensive Swimming</td>
<td>13 November Intensive Swimming</td>
<td>14 November Intensive Swimming</td>
<td>15 November Intensive Swimming</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>25 November</td>
<td>26 November</td>
<td>27 November</td>
<td>28 November</td>
<td>29 November Thank you afternoon tea 2.00—3.00</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>2 December</td>
<td>P&amp;C Dinner</td>
<td>3 December Canteen student Christmas dinner Preschool Christmas Concert</td>
<td>4 December Scripture service In the hall 9.15 Orientation Day at WTH for Year 6</td>
<td>5 December Pre-school Christmas Concert</td>
<td>6 December</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>9 December</td>
<td>10 December Rehearsals for presentation Day</td>
<td>11 December Presentation Day Reports Go Home! Year 6 farewell</td>
<td>12 December</td>
<td>13 December Last Canteen Day St 2 Party Day</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>16 December</td>
<td>K-2 Party day</td>
<td>17 December St 3 Party Day</td>
<td>18 December Students Last Day 2.30 Year 6 clap out</td>
<td>19 December SDD</td>
<td>20 December SDD</td>
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KINDERGARTEN AND PRESCHOOL ENROLMENTS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN FOR 2014

Please contact the school office for an application form

Children must turn 5 before 31 July the year they are attending Kindergarten
Children must turn 4 before 31 July the year they are attending Preschool