School App – now with 299 subscribers!

Message from the Principal,
Welcome to our last newsletter for 2014 and it has certainly been a year we can be proud of. On Wednesday and Thursday this week, Awards assemblies are being held to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of many of our pupils. Teachers are finding it very difficult to single out individual children in a year that has seen many students achieving and improving in many different areas. Academic achievement is one area of schooling and congratulations must also go to all those pupils who have done their very best over 2014 and worked hard to make the gains that are significant for them as individuals. For some of our students, the growth they have shown in attitude and application is significant; for others, improved behaviour or self confidence has been their major achievement for 2014 and for others still, improving their own academic skills has been realised. At Woy Woy South, we share with you in celebrating the achievements of your child as an individual.

Personally, I would like to thank all our families for their support in 2014, whether that has been in improving our gardens, volunteering as reading or Canteen helpers, completing surveys to give us future directions or by supporting your child's learning and development. Our parent /helpers' morning tea on Friday at 11.00am is one way we show our appreciation.

I look forward to working with you again in 2015.

Mayoral Reception
I had the pleasure of attending Gosford City Council offices last Thursday to represent Woy Woy South PS at the Mayoral reception held to acknowledge the parents, staff and students in the annual Walgett Cultural Exchange which is organised each year by our own Mr Steven Collins and Mr Keith Hall from Gosford City Council. The students were delighted to receive trophies and medals from our Mayor, Mr Laurie McKenna and enjoyed a morning tea supplied by Council. Once again, our students represented us very well, rising to the occasion with impeccable manners.

Council for the year
Having attended a Mayoral reception held to acknowledge the parents, staff and students in the annual Walgett Cultural Exchange, the students were delighted to receive trophies and medals from our Mayor, Mr Laurie McKenna. This event provided an opportunity for our students to showcase their achievements and talents.

WIPEOUT
What a terrific day we all had at WIPEOUT last Friday! Thanks to the organisation of the P&C, particularly Karen Connaughton. Children enjoyed water slides, slippery dips, hill slide's, snow cones and fairy floss with a sausage sizzle for lunch as well. It was a fantastic day and the total funds raised for school programs are now being finalised. On Friday, the highest fundraising boy and girl will receive a prize and all students who raised over $10 will be placed into a draw for additional prizes as well. We would also like to thank Umina Fire Brigade for joining in on the day.

Chicken Pox
Please be advised we have a confirmed case of Chicken Pox. The following information is supplied:
Chickenpox is a common viral infection that can reappear later in life as shingles.

What is chickenpox and shingles?
Chickenpox and shingles (varicella- zoster) are a highly contagious virus and a member of the herpes family. The disease is usually mild in children but can be more severe in adults and can cause serious illness. The adult form which most commonly occurs is shingles. Complications can include meningitis and pneumonia. In rare cases it can involve the joints and other organs.

For chickenpox:
Mild fever
Runny nose
Fatigue
General rash.

For shingles:
Painful skin eruptions that generally appear on 1 side of the body

How is the virus spread?
Shingles is spread by direct contact with an infected person. Chickenpox is spread by coughing and direct contact with an infected person. Children are usually infectious 2 days before the rash appears.

What is the risk of transmission?
People rarely get chickenpox twice, whilst shingles occurs more commonly in aged people and individuals that are immunosuppressed.

Shingles is a reactivation of a previous chickenpox infection. Most people have had chickenpox as children and are therefore at greater risk of contracting shingles as adults.

What precautions can you take to avoid the virus?
Practice good personal hygiene by covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
Disposing of soiled tissues
Washing hands carefully
Not sharing eating utensils, food or drinking cups
Pregnant women should avoid contact with anyone with chickenpox.

How is chickenpox and shingles prevented?
Childhood vaccination programs
People with chickenpox should avoid contact with others and not attend work, school or childcare until 5 days after the onset of the rash when all blisters have crusted.

Exemptions For Absences.
The DEC has made all schools aware that, from the beginning of 2015, family holidays will no longer be used as an acceptable reason for granting an "exemption from school" and will need to be recorded as "Leave" instead. We pass this information on in case you were considering applying for exemption.

Mrs K. Whealey
PRINCIPAL.

P & C NEWS.

Wipeout Results
What a great day. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers, Mr Collins and friends on the BBQ, our teachers and especially Mrs Whealey - who didn't stop! We also need and wish to thank for their support, Edwards Family Butchery, Anaconda, BCF, Campbell's Hardware, Coles and the "Firies". This year, everyone's efforts managed to raise just over $7000 for our School.

Who raised the most money? Madeline from 6S raised $310.25 and Alexander from 3W raised $202.00. The class prize narrowly goes to 5/6L – they raised just over $660.00.

Each student was allocated a raffle ticket for every $10 in sponsorship he/she collected. The raffle draws including prize awards for Madeline and Alexander will take place on Friday 12 December.

Uniform Shop
Parents/carers of students heading into year 6 in 2015 may like to think about purchasing their uniform. Girls wear a skirt with white polo and boys wear a red polo. Also, children heading into year 3 may like to think about ordering/purchasing their sports uniform consisting of red shorts and a Tshirt in their house colour. House colours however won't be announced until 2015 so the Tshirt will have to wait until after school returns.

Please note, due to unexpected demand (on us and our uniform supplier) we are running low on some stock items – particularly white polo shirts. We appreciate your patience and understanding and anticipate stock will be ready and available in the New Year.

The Uniform shop will be open on Tuesday 27 January (the pupil free day) from 9:30am to 1:30pm. The shop will then be open each morning for the rest of the first week. Ordinarily, the uniform shop is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8:30 – 9:30am. Please note; we do not have EFTPOS facilities. Payment options are cash or cheque. Layby is available.

Student School Banking is going weekly
Our School Banking coordinators are trialling banking on a weekly basis. The last banking day for 2014 is Friday 12 December. Hand your banking to the class teacher first thing each Friday morning. School Banking will resume Friday 6 February 2015.

If you would like your child to participate in school banking, please visit your nearest Commonwealth Bank branch or its website www.commbank.com.au for guidance.

A couple of farewells!
We would like to thank Nadine Lawler for her invaluable contribution over many years - Vice President, School Banking Coordinator and regular Canteen volunteer to name a few. Nadine will not continue to be a part of Woy Woy South School from 2015 as her youngest child Stevie is moving on to Year 7. Nadine your support and sense of humour will be sorely missed and we send best wishes to you and your family.

Our P & C President
Karen Symington has been president of WWSPS P&C pretty much since her daughter Ainsley started Kindergarten in 2008. Ainsley starts high school in 2015 and so Karen "moves on" also.

The position of P&C President can be a challenging but overall rewarding role. Karen always conducted herself with integrity and class, representing our School with respect and pride. So thank you Karen for all you have done for Woy Woy South and we wish you, Brian and Ainsley all the best for the future.

The P&C would also like to take this opportunity to thank the WWS community for your support throughout the year and wish everyone a safe, happy festive season.

P & C COMMITTEE

.CANTEEN ROSTER AND NEWS.

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END OF TERM SPECIAL
(While Stock Lasts)
Homemade Penne Bolognaise - $3.00

WIN A GIANT GINGERBREAD MAN !!
Go in the draw when you order your lunch – Drawn this Friday.

FOUND – A pink wallet has been left at the canteen. Please come and collect it if it is yours.

WE WILL BE CLOSED – LAST WEEK OF TERM (Being Monday 15th, Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th Dec). NO LUNCH ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN.

© We wish everyone a joyous & safe Christmas & New Year
Amanda and Jacqui – Canteen – Ph: 4341 7798

FROM OUR STAFF

Helpers’ Morning Tea
We are holding our annual Helper Morning Tea this Friday to show our appreciation to those people who give up their time to make our school a wonderful place.
You should have received an invitation already, if you haven’t please feel free to come along.
We hope you can all make it.
When: Friday the 12th December 2014
Where: School Hall
Time: 11am
Thank you Miss King

K – 2 LOST PROPERTY.
The K-2 lost property box is overflowing mainly with jumpers. If you have lost any please look through the box. Whatever is still there on Monday 15th December will be donated to the school clothing bin or given to a charity.

SPECIAL AWARDS FOR SPECIAL STUDENTS.
TERM 4 – WEEK 9
Year 6 – Ava
Year 4 – Tahlia, Cora
Year 3 – Abbey, Brock
Year 2 – Emily, Linda
Year 1 – Kimberley, Tyler, Billy

Kindy - Ellie, Piper

Congratulations to our Silver Medal Winners –

Superstar Awards –
Liam, Milly, Brooke, Isaak, Breanna.


PBL (POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR & LEARNING).
This week we look at ‘special assemblies’. When we have special assemblies such as combined Scripture services and the Presentation Days, we must show Respect, be Responsible and continue our positive Relationships.
Please discuss with your child the importance of showing these values.

IMPORTANT ROAD SAFETY REMINDER
FOR THESE HOLIDAYS
As the school holidays approach, it is important to remember when walking near roads, on footpaths, near driveways and in car parks always:
• hold your child’s hand. Until they are at least 8 years old children need to hold an adult’s hand. Until they at least 10, children should be closely supervised by an adult and hold hands when crossing the road.
• talk to your child about road safety. Talk about how to be safe when near roads. Be a good role model.
• point out road safety dangers and differences in new environments. This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths and pedestrian facilities may look different in holiday areas.

The best way to keep your child safe on or near the road is to hold their hand. You can find out more at Transport for NSW, http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/children/pedestriansafety.html
Last week’s photos......

BEST WIPEOUT EVER 2014!