

# TALLONG

Official Newsletter

## Wallsend South Public School

Monday Week 6 Term 4 2012

LEARN FOR LIFE

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*Wallsend South Public School serves a supportive parent community which clearly values high educational standards. It is a school which values positive student behaviours and attitudes.*

### WSPS Calendar

Day	This week is Week 6 Term 4 commencing November 12	Next week is Week 7 Term 4 commencing Monday November 19
Monday	Ms Allen on leave Mrs Mayers on leave	Band Camp- Ms Innes attending
Tuesday	School Council 6.00pm P & C at 7.00pm	Band Camp-Mrs Moloney Attending
Wednesday	Partial Eclipse	Band Camp-Ms Innes attending
Thursday	Student Leaders Project	Ms Allen returns
Friday		

**Staff Changes: Ms Allen on leave-Mrs Ahrens to continue on 1A, Mrs Mayers from the office on leave being covered by Mrs Couper.**

Dear Parents

Ok, Ok, Ok-let's sort this Celebration thing out once and for all. It starts at 6.30 pm at Panthers, corner of Union St and King St Newcastle. Students are asked not to come before 6.00pm. Entry will be by ticket only. Tickets will be allocated 2 per family initially. In the case of split families one ticket per parent and we rely on your integrity to manage this situation appropriately. To secure your tickets please place either \$10 for one ticket or \$20 for two tickets in an envelope with the names of the students from your family that attend WSPS on the front of the envelope. Then send or bring the envelope into school and hand it to the P & C ladies outside the hall on Tuesday 27 November. Tickets will then be distributed - any unused or extra tickets will be advertised for sale following this allocation.

All tickets will then be sent home on Monday Dec 10 with the Tallong. Please find attached to this Tallong our Annual survey that provides us with areas that need to be in our focus for future improvement. I would appreciate if you could take a few minutes and return the sheet to school at your earliest convenience. Have a great week,  
Ian Hamilton

#### Canteen

##### Tuesday

Kim O'Connor Megan Rinkin Kelley Banks

##### Wednesday

Irene Stanners Kylie Robinson

##### Thursday

Kim Terry Joy Gee Caran Playtong

##### Friday

Helen Honnery Liz Beggs Sue Siderovski  
Leanne Gillard

##### Monday

Nicholle O'Donnell Sandy Curry

### Uniform Shop

#### Tuesday

Ann Maree Campbell Phoebe Brooks  
(Jacqui Pitkin)

#### Wednesday

Melynda Bailey Rachael Metcalfe  
(Louise Biles)

#### Friday

Michelle King Melissa O'Brien  
(Jaalah Mallaby)

### Community Chat

We had a lively and informative morning on Tuesday when the topic of homework was discussed. We talked about the current research and approaches to homework that may best suit our community. We were aiming to provide high quality homework but in a framework where parents felt comfortable assisting and the time spent, being positive for all parties. The five recommendations made from the chat were as follows;

- Home reading stays the same
- Spelling - a child's list is brought home on Monday which includes a base list for all children, an extension list and a personal list where applicable
- Maths. It was suggested this comes in the form of a homework text that parents can choose to purchase at the beginning of the year. This text would need to support what is happening at school, have examples to help parents explain processes to children and have answers available so parents and children can get feedback immediately in relation to their success with the exercise. If children have difficulty with their homework they would seek help from the teacher.
- In line with departmental policy children will neither be rewarded nor punished for homework completion or lack thereof.
- Stage 3 students are to complete a written homework assignment at least once per term in readiness for the demands of High School.

**Now, it's up to you! So we have a whole school view to take to School Council tomorrow evening, I would invite you to make comment. Feel free to write me your thoughts, email me on [James.hamilton@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:James.hamilton@det.nsw.edu.au) or come and have a chat.**

### SAFE VIEWING OF THE SOLAR ECLIPSE

*There is a partial solar eclipse about to happen on Wednesday morning before school. A safe way to see what is happening is to make your own pinhole projector.*

#### Materials

- Cardboard box (like a cereal box)
- Aluminium foil
- Sheet of white or light coloured paper
- Sticky tape or masking tape
- glue
- Scissors or a sharp knife to cut through cardboard
- Pin

#### Steps

1. Glue white paper on the inside of the bottom of the box. This will become the screen.
2. Cut a hole in the top face of the box.
3. Sticky tape a piece of aluminium foil over the hole in the top of the box.
4. Pierce a very small hole in the aluminium foil with the pin.
5. Cut a viewing hole in the narrow side of the box, closer to the top end, so you can see the screen on the inside.
6. Point the pinhole towards the sun and look through the viewing hole at the shape of the sun on the screen.

*The school has a small number of eclipse-viewing glasses for sale at \$4 each. Adults purchasing a pair of glasses will be required to sign that they received the glasses in their original packaging and that they will be supervising the safe use of the glasses by children in their care. Glasses can be bought from me in my demountable room on Tuesday morning from 8am. The glasses will not be sold to children.*

*Now we just have to hope for a clear eastern sky on Wednesday morning.*

*Mrs Dixon*

### ROCK Band Concert

*On Saturday, the W.S.P.S Rock Band performed at the New Lambton Uniting church fete. They played about 9 songs, including Proud Mary, Gold on the Ceiling, Yellow, Part of Me, Lonely Girl, We will Rock you, April Sun in Cuba, Battle Scars and The Only Exception.*

*We had lots of fun and the people there really enjoyed the performance.*

*By Holly McDonald*

### Parent Helper Morning Tea

As a way of saying thanks to our many wonderful helpers throughout the year the Staff would like to host a morning Tea on December 4 to be held in the school Library. It will start at 10.30 and we would love to see you whether you have helped in Excursions, Sport, Reading, Canteen, Uniform Shop or any area of school life.

### To Give Away

3 rescued kittens, very social, well fed, friendly, flea treated, wormed-loving home needed. Phone Fiona 0409771671

### Where's Wallys?

Wallys and Jessica McMurtrie were spotted laying a poppy at the Australian War Memorial for Remembrance Day. Unfortunately, Wallys, due to his shyness was unavailable when Jessica was photographed with Julia Gillard.

### OXFAM UNWRAPPED 60S

Dear parents and students,

As an alternative to running a class Secret Santa this year, I suggested that we each donate \$5 towards purchasing an Oxfam Unwrapped gift. Items such as farm animals, farming tools, village wells and food can be purchased online and then distributed by Oxfam to a needy village around the world. The students have studied a lot about global issues and human rights this year and they have come to realise that many people in the world live in poverty.

A family of chooks for a Cambodian village? Some goats for East Timor? Clean water for a school in India? I suggested to the kids that \$5 in a Secret Santa may get them a stocking full of lollies, but \$5 in a developing country would make a difference to more people who need basic supplies.

Those children wishing to contribute towards an Oxfam gift must bring their \$5 in by Thursday 6 December. We will then vote on what items to purchase.

If you wish to find out further information about Oxfam, please visit their website.

<http://www.oxfamunwrapped.com.au>

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Regards,

Thea O'Sullivan

[thea.osullivan@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:thea.osullivan@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **Reusable Canteen Lunch Wallets: Due to high demand, we're placing another order!**

The reusable lunch bags have been distributed to families who ordered last term and there have been a large number of enquiries from students and parents who missed out on the first round of orders. There is good news! We are placing another order for Kindergarten Orientation Days so you have another chance to order yours! You will find a modified order form included in this week's Tallong which will be accepted for the next order with expected delivery being within the next month. These lunch bags will be available for

purchase throughout Term 4 and if you get in fast there are a few of our extras ready to go home straight away. Remember, these bags are super easy to clean, have a zip up window for your money and order and they even stand upright in the class lunch basket, not to mention that they are **ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY!** The lunch wallets are available black with blue/green/pink trim, while the thermal bags come in black only. Never buy another paper bag! Fill in your order form today -gather orders from work colleagues, family and friends. More order forms are available, if needed, from the school office.

Please forward all enquiries to

[tracey.holbert@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tracey.holbert@det.nsw.edu.au) or see Mrs Moloney at school. I will be placing this order in 2 weeks time - **ORDERS DUE BACK TO THE OFFICE BY Friday 23rd November.**

Thanks for your support!

Tracey Moloney

### **REUSABLE LUNCH WALLETS ~ ORDER FORM**

Please select from the product guide below, simply write the quantity of each bag you would like to order then calculate the total amount of money owed. Please fill in the name and class of your eldest child (or contact child at the school if the order is not for yourself) OR add a contact mobile telephone number below. Your bags will be delivered to this child as soon as our orders arrive.

**Order forms due back by Friday 23rd November.**

Eldest Child at WSPS:

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Product	No.	Price	Total for product
Lunch wallet – Black & PINK		\$10	\$
Lunch wallet – Black & BLUE		\$10	\$
Lunch wallet – Black & GREEN		\$10	\$
THERMAL INSULATED All Rounder		\$12	\$
TOTAL # ORDERED:		TOTAL OWING	:

Please return this order form along with your payment in an envelope clearly marked with **"Lunch Wallet Order"** to our school office by Fri 23rd Nov.