

TALLONG

Official Newsletter

Wallsend South Public School

Monday Week 2 Term 1 2014

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 2 Term 1 commencing Monday February 3	Next week is Week 3 Term 1 commencing Monday February 10
Monday		
Tuesday	15 Parent Information Meeting 4.00pm	
Wednesday		Demonstration French Lesson Instrument allocation for New Band members at 3.10 in the hall
Thursday		
Friday		Year 2-6 Swimming Carnival-Forum

Dear Parents

Welcome to Week 2. Children have settled in well and learning programs are underway. Could I acknowledge your support in assisting in getting the children settled so quickly. As we know not always do things go the way we would plan them but still turn out to be a positive experience. To those children who demonstrated resilience this past week, well done! Lots of information in this week's Tallong, happy reading and have a great week, Ian Hamilton

Canteen

Tuesday

Kim Harrison Maxine Robinson

Wednesday

Irene Stanners Kylie Robinson

Thursday

Kim Terry Caran Playtong Leasa Gray Joy Gee

Friday

Helen Honnery Leanne Sendjirdjian
Natasha Ryan Elizar Mytka

Monday

Sandy Curry Hayley Carroll

Uniform Shop

Tuesday 8.45-9.15

Renee Slingo Kylie Robinson
(Kristine Morgan)

Wednesday 2.30-3.00

Vicki Odgers Kerrily McMurtrie
(Jennifer Westoby)

Friday 8.45-9.15

Fiona Symes Maxine Robinson
(Helen Honnery)

Procedures for WSPS

- If parents have a concern or seek information from school personnel the attached flowchart is utilised as a guide
- If staff have a concern or seek information from parents it is done sensitively and acknowledges that a mutually agreed time is vital for successful resolution of issues

Concern	Appropriate Action
The academic process of own child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly contact the child's teacher either by note, phone, email or in person to arrange a suitable time to discuss any issues
The welfare of own child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For minor issues directly contact your child's teacher for clarification • For more serious concerns (including health issues), make contact as above and arrange for a suitable time to talk with class teacher or appropriate staff member • To convey information about change of address, telephone, emergency contacts please contact the front office and this information will be made available to the class teacher • To convey information re custody issues please contact the Principal.
Actions of other students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially contact the classroom teacher for a classroom problem • Contact the classroom teacher or Principal for a playground problem. <i>At no time should a parent approach another child other than their own to address an issue at school.</i>
School Policy or Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please contact the Principal via the front office, stating the nature of the concern and request a mutually suitable time to discuss the issue.

Garden Club

Bunnings Glendale will be conducting a working bee at our school with our Garden Club on Thursday 20 February at 10 a.m.

Allergies

I have been asked by parents of children with severe allergies, what position the school takes in regard to each party's responsibility. I can understand their concern as we all want our children as safe as possible when not in our care.

WSPS deals well with children with special needs across a very broad spectrum. Numbers of children at risk of an anaphylactic reaction appear however to be on the increase and it is vital we support their well-being as a whole school community.

As a school we have medical action plans for each child at risk, anaphylactic children have the option of wearing the bright green wrist bands as a way of identifying their possible need for closer supervision, staff are trained in anaphylactic response, the canteen has elected to remove nut products from its menu and parents are encouraged to maintain communication with the school about developments in their children's health. To make the school allergen free is not possible, in fact to claim that we were would create a false sense of security. Children with any form of serious medical condition must be eternally vigilant, as must we who care for these children. As a community we can assist by considering the foods we send to school. If there is an alternative to products causing reactions, I would request that we use it, but even more important is the need to discuss with each of our children the correct procedures for eating at school. These include not sharing food, washing hands before and after eating and notifying staff of potential risks. I appreciate your efforts to support each and every one of the wonderful children at WSPS.

Drop Off Zone

The morning drop-off zones are designed to get as many children safely dropped to school as possible. Please consider others when using these zones. As you approach the zone ask your children to prepare for exit, once stopped undo seatbelts, have children get their bags, kiss driver, exit on the kerbside, wave goodbye and the child then moves quickly to enter the school gate. It is not a parking zone, and by moving efficiently more children can access this area.

Children going to the toilets

Children are permitted to use the toilet during lesson time at WSPS, but we do encourage using the toilet at the end of breaks and before school. Any child that needs to go to the toilet is expected to take a partner with them. If we believe your child is using the toilet to the point their class work is suffering I have asked Classroom teachers to mention this to you for your guidance and the most appropriate action.

BAND NEWS!

Thank you to the parents who caught up with me regarding band practice times. We have decided that mornings suit most parents best so the Senior Band (i.e. all members who were attending practices at the end of 2013) will meet **MONDAY AND THURSDAY MORNINGS at 8am** for weeks 2-5 and will change to Wednesday and Thursday Mornings from week 6 onwards due to our conductor's University commitments. Please note:

- Any students who received instruments later in the year and feel that they are ready to join in are more than welcome to come along and join in. If you have not picked up your band folders yet it is probably a good time to do so.
- Any red Xmas folders should have been returned to school already. If you have not returned yours, please do so ASAP.
- **FEES are now due.** Please make a payment of \$50 for your instrument hire (percussionists also), and \$120 for conductors fees (a total of \$170 for the year if you are using a school instrument). If you break this cost down you are paying \$4.25 a week to receive 2 additional tuition sessions and a maintained instrument - super cheap!
- If your child has taken an instrument and no longer intends on playing with the band, please return the instrument and folders to Mrs Moloney ASAP.
- If you're not yet in the band and are interested in joining, see the other note in this week's Tallong.

Again, if there are ever any concerns regarding band, please contact your band teachers, Mrs Moloney, Mrs Lennard or Miss Kuranty at school or Mrs Moloney via email on tracey.holbert@det.nsw.edu.au. Practices started this morning and our next practice will be Thursday 8am. Please try to be there, set up and ready to start by 8.10am.
Tracey Moloney, Alison Lennard & Erinne Kuranty.

Congratulations Girls!

Makenzie Porter from Yr5 represented the Wallsend Wolves U12 girls and Madelyn Stevens and Georgia Brown from Y4 represented the U10 girls in the Regional Touch Football Championships at Nelson Bay on the weekend in very hot conditions. Both teams were defeated in their semi-finals. The girls all travel to Port Macquarie in 2 weeks for State Cup

School Banking

Welcome back for 2014! I would like to welcome all the new Kindergarten students to the School banking program. School banking will resume on Thursday 6th Feb and will be processed each Friday morning. Please keep these points in mind:

1. Banking day is every Thursday. Please ensure your new class is written on your yellow folder and drop your banking into your class bag. If you forget you have until 9am Friday morning to hand it into the front office. After that you will have to wait until the following week.
2. Please ensure you fill out your deposit slip with your name and student number together with the amount you are banking. We need an amount to check against when we are counting the money.
3. We do not work for the CBA. We are volunteers. Our children also attend the school. We are human and we may make mistakes or forget to put your tokens in. If this happens please write a note and slip it into your child's banking folder. We will endeavour to get back to you ASAP. Please take this into consideration when sending in any correspondence.
4. If your child's bank book is not returned by Tuesday please talk to your teacher first.
5. If you have any further questions please contact me at kirrilymc@hotmail.com. Last year was a fantastic year for the school commission. WSPS received a total of \$1307 for the year. There was \$18,159.50 deposited with 83 new accounts for the year. That is massive!! We certainly have some eager savers. Let's see what this year will bring us!

For sale

*Size 8 jacket, 3X 8 shirts, 1 X 8 skort, skirt, & shorts
\$ 45*

2X size 10 skorts & 2 X shorts \$20

3X16Y shirts \$20 Ph 0418428042

Parent Teacher Meeting 1S

Mrs Serjeant needs to go into hospital urgently and will be absent for 2 weeks. Prior to being away Mrs Serjeant would like to have a meeting with her parents tomorrow afternoon (Tuesday Feb 4) at 4.00pm in her classroom.

Custody Orders and AVOs

If your child is subject to Custody Orders that impact on school could you please ensure a copy of these orders are lodged with the front office. This needs to be done annually to ensure the best care for your child.

Term Costs

These will be attached to the Tallong next week.

Personal Details

If you have changed personal details eg address, phone numbers including work or mobile please contact the front office to update our records. Also if there has been a change in emergency contact details please speak to one of the ladies in the front office, or email changes to school.

Parent Teacher Evening

Teachers will be offering you the chance to come into your child's classroom next Tuesday evening, February 11, to hear about how the class works. We hope to see you there. School Council will be running a free sausage sizzle from 5.00pm-7.00pm, so you might like to stop by and have a bite to eat to save cooking!

The times are as follows;

Kindergarten at 4.00pm

Year 1 at 4.30pm

Year 2 at 5.00pm

Year 3 at 5.30pm plus 2/3N

Year 4 at 6.00pm

Year 5 at 6.30pm plus 4/5S and 5/6O

Year 6 at 7.00pm

Locked Gates

Our GA will be locking Smith Rd (except for front gate) and Grandview Rd gates at 9.30 in the mornings and unlocking at 2.30 in the afternoon from the beginning of term. This is a further security measure for our students.

Active After Schools

The "Active after Schools Program" will commence in week 3 on a Monday and Thursday afternoon for years 3, 4, 5 and 6 students. The sports offered in Term One are dance and Golf. The program is run by professional coaches and free to participating students. A note will be sent home on Monday with an EOI section to be completed if your child would like to participate in either of these sports.

Unfortunately, there is a limit as to how many students can be involved so if you are interested the note would need to be returned ASAP to secure a place.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Joanne Preedy and Michelle Jackson.

What happens in the mornings?

All children who arrive prior to 8.40am are to take their bags and sit down under the sunshelter. At 8.40 normal supervision commences and children can take their bags straight to their classroom and return to the main areas. If you are coming to school with your children, please remind them that as much as you are able to be elsewhere, they are expected to be in the main quad area prior to the start of school.

A message from the Library

Library lessons have commenced this week with children being issued with a borrowing code. They are now able to borrow books to bring home and enjoy each week. Books may be borrowed for a period of 2 weeks, after which they should be returned or re-borrowed. If the children wish to return or borrow more often than once a week, they may do so at lunchtimes as long as they have their library bags with them. The following limits apply for borrowing:

K = 1 book Yrs 1 & 2 = 2 books Yrs 3 & 4 = 3 books Yrs 5 & 6 = 4 books

It is important for all students to have a library bag in order to borrow books. A pillow case or calico shopping bag is a good alternative. A library bag helps students transport the borrowed books safely to and from home and also allows students to have a defined location for storing the books when at home, to avoid them getting mixed up in family books.

In keeping with our school values of respect, responsibility and caring, we do ask that books are well looked after when at home and that they are returned to us. We do recognise that sometimes accidents occur or books are misplaced. In order to assist us in maintaining the books, we would appreciate it if you could draw our attention to any damage or loss that occurs so that we can continue to stock our library with great resources.

Overdue notices will be sent home intermittently. These notes help us in locating missing items. If you receive one of these notices, we ask that you first look for the missing item at home. Please advise us if you cannot locate the book so we can have a look at school. If the item is still not located we can make a decision then about how to proceed. Many thanks from the Library Teachers

A New School Song... "LEARN FOR LIFE"

This year Mr Hamilton would like an official WSPS song to be written & performed at school.

Any student from Years 4, 5 or 6 who would like to write and submit some appropriate words (ie verse/chorus/bridge) that could be used in the song please follow the following instructions...

1. Please write the song in groups of 4 lines each ie; 4x lines for verse, 4x lines for chorus- use simple words and make it rhyme.

2. You may like to try & include WSPS values such as respect, responsibility, resilience, integrity, fairness, care & acceptance.

3. or feel free to be creative & write about your experiences in the school environment

4. Place your **typed printed** words with name / class in envelope at the school office.

Thanks C McDonald