

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents

Thankfully we were spared the full force of the storms last week. As you know, several other schools weren't so lucky. The only problem we faced was some mud washed into the pool change rooms. We did get 225 mm of rain though and it was very damp under foot out in the playground. It has been very good for our fields which now have a lush green colour rather than the brown look they've had for most of the earlier part of the year. Part of the reason we had few problems is that over the last two years we gradually removed, lopped or pruned many of the larger trees that were close to our buildings. There are still some more to be trimmed and this will occur over the next few months.

Right now in our Year 6 classrooms, the initial process of School Captain selection for 2009 is taking place. Any student who has a Senior Leader badge is eligible to be in the running for the position. Step one is to write a short speech about why they believe they would make a good captain and deliver it to the Year 6s. After this, the classes will vote on who they think would be the best applicants. Once we have a short list from the students, a panel will interview them and pick the captains. The panel will have members from Admin, the teaching staff, the P&C and our current captains. This process is different to last year which was a straightforward popular vote. The new system will have a vote and an interview and thus we hope, will deliver the best students for the job.



As I wrote in last week's newsletter, both our swimming carnivals are on this week. Thursday is our big House carnival for the Years 4-7 swimmers and I encourage all parents to come along and support their children in the event. We would like to see plenty of colour and plenty of enthusiasm. This is the one swimming day when our swimmers do not need to wear sun shirts whilst in the water, however it is a very good idea to have shirts and shorts on when not swimming as the sun's rays are intense and the water reflection makes it twice as likely that sunburn will occur on unprotected areas of skin. Sunscreen is also a must. Friday is the Junior's carnival and it's for fun and participation. We have split it so that Years 2 and 3 swim in the first session from 9 till 11am and the Preps and 1s swim after morning tea from 11:30 to 1pm. Once again, all parents are invited to come and enjoy the fun. A reminder that we would like every student in Prep to Year 7 to swim at least one event. The carnivals are not holidays and all students will be in the stands while their carnival is occurring. As we cater for all ability levels, the only students who wouldn't be swimming would be those who have a note from their parents explaining the valid reason for their

non-participation (eg medical condition, unhealed sores, etc).

Notes go out today for our Year 7 Graduation Ceremony to be held in the Community Hall at Kedron-Wavell RSL on Thursday 4 December. The night will begin at 7pm with our formal ceremony and awards presentation that all Year 7s and their parents are invited to attend. This will run for approximately 45 minutes and we then ask the parents to leave and the Year 7s and their teachers eat dinner together, cut the graduation cake and dance the night away. At about 9:15pm we invite parents back to have a last dance with their sons and daughters and take them home around 9:30pm. This night is one of the highlights of the year and I encourage all parents, grandparents, other relatives and friends to attend the ceremonial part as it is great for our departing students to have their families with them to help celebrate the culmination of their primary school years.

Mark Fisher
Principal

FROM THE LIBRARY

Book Fair Thank You – Many thanks to all parents, students and staff for your generous support of our Christmas Book Fair. We sold just over \$2500 worth of books and other items which gave us approximately \$850 worth of free books for our library as commission. This is a great boost for our library so again, thank you for your support. Final totals will be published in next week's Newsletter.

Christmas Dress Up Day – Our dress up day last Tuesday raised \$122.20 from the gold coin donation. This money will be used to buy Christmas presents which the Salvation Army will distribute. Thank you for your support.

Book Club – Issue 8 was ordered last week. Scholastic has advised us that due to the high demand for Issue 8, ordered items will take one to two weeks to arrive.

Library Books – This is the last week for library sessions. All students are welcome to borrow books as per usual; however, ALL books will be due back **next** week. Reminder notices for students with existing overdue books will be issued this week. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Kind regards

Theresa McArdle
Librarian

P&C NEWS

Greetings Newsreaders

First of all to mention this week, the P&C would like to send out a big thankyou to all our Parents and Carers who placed orders for our fundraiser

"Prep Art on Plates". We raised a grand total of \$340.00. What a fantastic effort!

We, the P&C, will be in the classrooms early this week, with all the necessary equipment to help our children create their works of art. All orders will hopefully be handed out by the end of this week.

Raffle tickets for our 'Monster Christmas Raffle' were sent out last week. The prizes are fabulous:

- 1st Prize – Large Glass Top Slider Chest Freezer (640 ltr reconditioned)
- 2nd Prize – 4 Burner Gas BBQ, courtesy of Bunnings Carseldine
- 3rd Prize – Exotic Thai Pack, including a Dinner Voucher, courtesy of Lanna Thai Restaurant Taigum

All prizes will be drawn at the "Carols by Candlelight" on Tuesday 9 Dec so don't forget to include your name and phone number on the tickets.

Carols by Candlelight will be held at the Salvation Army Hall on 9 December from 6.30pm. The P&C will be selling Glo candles, Santa hats, and we will also be holding another raffle, at the door, with some more tremendous prizes:

- 1st Prize – Alma Park Zoo Voucher
- 2nd Prize – Geebung Zillmere RSL Dinner Voucher
- 3rd Prize – Geebung Zillmere RSL Dinner Voucher

So do come along for a great night out with the kids.

Also, don't forget to keep your donations coming in for our "Christmas Stall" which will be held in front of the tuckshop on 4 & 5 Dec from 8.00am. We have some fabulous pressies to purchase for that very special "Xmas Gift". All items will be priced from 50c - \$5.00 so look no further for that special something for your gran, grandad, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, mum, dad, neighbour or even your teacher.

This Friday 28th is the last day for all Tuckshop orders this year. We are in desperate need of a Tuckshop Convenor and many volunteers for our Tuckshop to be able to continue in 2009. If you think you could lend just a few hours a week, please call into the Tuckshop, the Uniform Shop or see any of our P&C Members in and around the school.

Hope you all have a great week

From your friendly P&C Committee

FROM THE TUCKSHOP

On Sports Day, if parents would like to order something from the Tuckshop, please drop over and place your request before 9:30am. Also, there will be snack foods, drinks and icy poles for sale at the pool on Thursday.

Please be advised that as of Friday 28 November 2008 the Tuckshop will close for the remainder of the year. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who have been willing to give up their time to help out in our Tuckshop. We will re-open during the first term in 2009.

Have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the holidays.

The Tuckshop Committee

Student Council News

This Term, the Student Council are working on gathering donations for the Salvation Army Christmas appeal. Each week, we are asking for a donation in one of the following categories:

Canned food,
Drinks, pet food
Lollies, biscuits, packet foods
Christmas decorations

This week's category is
Drinks

P.S. We would also appreciate any new Christmas paper or ribbon that you may have left from last year.

Thanks

Taigum State School Student Council

WAVELL STATE HIGH SCHOOL Orientation Day for Students In Year 8 2009

**Monday 8 December 2008
Assembly Hall
Telopia Avenue, Wavell Heights
8.30am for 8.45am start
3.00pm finish**

(Morning Tea provided for parents at 10.00am)

Students to bring/wear:

Primary School Uniform

Notepad & pens

Morning Tea & Lunch

Shop Hours – Monday 8 December

Stationery 2.00pm – 7.00pm

Clothing 3.00pm – 7.00pm

Used Clothing (D Block) 3.00pm – 7.00pm

Applications still welcome.

Enrolment Enquiries:

Contact Jane Bedewi, Enrolment Officer on
3350 0328