

The Endeavour

West Ryde Public School Newsletter
Term 3 Issue No. 4 – 4th September 2013



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Upcoming events

Sep

- 5th SPORTSPRO
- 6th Assembly – Leaders
- 7th ELECTION DAY
- 10th Concert Rehearsal (All day)
- 11th SPORTSPRO
Uniform shop open
Stage 3 at Myuna Bay Camp
P & C
- 12th SPORTSPRO
Stage 3 at Myuna Bay Camp
- 13th Assembly – KS
Stage 3 at Myuna Bay Camp
- 17th Concert Dress Rehearsal
- 18th Concert 12.30pm & 7pm
- 19th Chess & Recorder finishes
SPORTSPRO (make-up day
from Wed 31st July)
- 20th Concert for students
Last day of term 3

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Friendly Reminders

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Canteen & Uniform Shop News
P & C News

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P & C Questionnaire

NOTES/MONEY

Principal's message

The past fortnight has been a hive of activity for the school.

Last Friday our sporting teams played their last games for the season and what an afternoon it turned out to be.

The Junior A and Senior Netball teams both played in the finals and after two nail-biting games (which in my opinion were better than watching the Bledisloe Cup) the Junior A's were triumphant in winning their game to become the Premiers in their division for the season. Well done to all the Netball teams and a special thanks to Melinda, Dennice and Ms Farthing for their training and support. Well done to all the soccer boys and girls and thank you to Messrs. Bramley, Logan and Wilke for their training of the teams, and to all the parents who go to Meadowbank on a Friday to watch and cheer on our sporting teams. See report on page 2.

Father's Day Breakfast

I hope that all fathers, grandfathers and caregivers enjoyed their breakfast on Thursday morning and went off to work suitably fed. Huge thanks to the wonderful Mrs Wishart and her helpers from the church and our tireless teachers who worked hard to ensure that the food was plentiful and on time.

Canteen volunteers

In term 4 we are hoping to introduce a new menu and in 2014 hope to extend the canteen opening days to 4 days a week. None of this will be possible unless we find volunteers to assist in the daily running of the canteen. At present we have only 2 regular volunteers to assist us. You might not be aware that the canteen runs as a goodwill gesture to the school community and as such any profits go back into the school to assist your child's education. If you could volunteer a small amount of time from your busy schedule it would be very much appreciated.

Alert – Whooping Cough

Would all parents be aware that there have been two diagnosed cases of whooping cough at the school. If you are concerned please contact please contact your GP or look at the information published on the NSW Public Health website.

Sportspro	Week 2 – 8	\$40.00



Round the World in 80 minutes” - **SOLD OUT !!**

No more tickets available

Staff Changes

Mrs Maier on KM will not be returning to school this year as she has been ordered to take total bed rest while she and her husband await the birth of their twins. The class is being capably taught by Miss Mikayla Black. We wish Mrs Maier and her husband Serge all the very best in the coming months.

Waste Free Friday

Due to the huge success of our waste-free Friday we have planned another one for this coming Friday. Students are encouraged to bring food that requires no wrappers.

Sydney Tower Stair Challenge

On Sunday 18th August 2013, our Year 6 students, William, Andrea, Christine and Mr Hayllar took some time out of their weekend to climb Sydney's Centrepont Tower to raise money for Giant Steps – a school that supports children with autism.

The team climbed all 1504 steps and rose 260 vertical metres from Pitt St Mall to the top of Sydney Tower and made it to the top in just less than 20 minutes. Congratulations!

Our goal is to raise \$500.00 for this very worthy cause. If you would like to donate to the cause please follow this link to our everyday hero page. <https://give.everydayhero.com/au/peter-17>. or access the site through the link on our school website.

Thank you to all our support crew on the day, we couldn't have done it without you. – The West Ryde Warrior

Netball

Congratulations to all our netballers for a fantastic season. Last week two of our three netball teams played a gruelling 40 minutes of top netball! Our seniors got off to a slow start, but came back with a vengeance in the second half, only to miss out by the narrowest of margins. Our Junior A's, however, got off to a flying start and with stiff competition from Eastwood, were up by 1 point on the final whistle. The camaraderie and team spirit displayed on the day was admirable and highlighted West Ryde as deserving winners. Of course, none of this could be possible if it weren't for our amazing coaches, parents Dennice and Melinda, whose hard work and commitment to the girls is very much appreciated by all.

Thank you to all those parents who came down to support the girls each Friday, I know they loved having you there. See you next year!

Library News



...what a GREAT response to our Book Fair. Approximately \$3500 was spent on the day, resulting in the school earning \$1600. This money will go towards buying new resources for the Library.

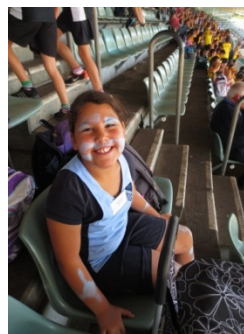
I would like to THANK the Library Monitors (Caitlin, Anthea & Yerin) and parent helpers (Mrs Mirzaei, Mrs Kwan & Mrs Dean) who assisted on the day. I look forward to

hosting another fair next year.

Ms Armstrong – Teacher Librarian

PSSA Zone Athletics Carnival

This year, West Ryde P.S. sent a 43 strong squad to the Ryde Zone Athletics carnival at Homebush Olympic Park. Our athletes represented the school in 8 events with some students competing in all 8! It was an uncharacteristically hot day on the track, the long jump sand was drying quicker than normal and the air was thick, making the discus' harder to throw; the students tried their very best under such harsh conditions but alas missed out on a spot in the finals, and ultimately a chance to compete at Area. The students must be commended for such brave efforts. Every West Ryde athlete had a smile glued to their lips and was exceptionally gracious in the face of defeat. Better luck next year!



Class Narrative

2/3 W have been learning how to write narratives in Term 3, paying close attention to characterisation and the inclusion of descriptive and interesting information. Owen, year 2, has composed a very interesting and inventive narrative that should be shared with the West Ryde Community. Well done Owen.

Fred's Problem

One fine, sunny day, Fred was playing with a tomato. "Fred lunch time!" called Fred's mum. Fred came inside. They had sultanas for lunch. After lunch, Fred tuned his ukulele and started playing it. PING! Fred heard something. ARHHH! It was a BUG! But Fred wasn't scared. So he kept it in a container.

One day, Fred decided to go sailing on a boat. While he was walking he saw a frog cornered by a bird. Fred came rushing up and wacked the bird with his boat. The bird flew away. Fred took the frog with him too.

As they walked to the river, Fred realized the boat was a bit small. Next, Fred started thinking. If he took his tomato first, then the frog would eat the bug. If he took the frog first, then the bug would eat the tomato. Finally he had a solution. He took the bug across first, then he took the frog across. After that, he took the bug back across. Next he took the tomato across. Finally he took the bug back across. Fred was very tired when he got back but was thrilled that he could solve his problem.

Reminders

School Swimming Scheme

If you would like your child to attend our school swimming scheme in Term 4 (4th – 15th November) the expression of interest note which was sent home on 22nd August needs to be returned to the school by **Friday, 13th September**. Extra notes are available from the school office.

Please note the following important information: Given the rules on child protection the teaching staff is unable to assist children with dressing and undressing. With this in mind we cannot offer places to Kindergarten and only children from Years 1-6 will be able to attend. The lessons will cost \$7.80 per day plus the cost of the bus. An approximate price will be in the vicinity of \$150.00 inclusive. The exact price will be given closer to the date.

Speech Therapist

The school is at present, organising to have a speech therapist come to the school once a week to provide therapy for children who are experiencing difficulty with expressive and receptive language.

The service will operate one day a week and can be paid for through your health fund or Medicare.

This service has been organised as many parents find it difficult to get appointments for their children due to their work commitments.

If you are interested in accessing this service please let your child's teacher know.

Wanted! – Clean Jars

Jars are needed to make jams, condiments etc. for the Christmas Craft Market. All shapes and sizes (with lids) are required by Mrs Boyd by the end of this term.

CANTEEN NEWS

Please do not bring \$100 and \$50 notes to the canteen as we cannot give you change.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

The opening days for the Uniform Shop for Term 3 will be Wednesday (from 8.45am – 9.15am)
11th September 2013 (*amended date)

P & C NEWS

This weekend is a busy weekend. Every election day, the school is turned into an election centre and provides us with a unique fund raising opportunity. For those who are not aware, in Australia, all citizens must vote and are fined if they don't. So there's a captive market for schools to raise much needed funds.

So thank you if you have volunteered for the weekend. A public school cannot work without the army of volunteers. So as the kids would say, it is awesome. We show our kids that we care, and they get a buzz seeing us at school helping out. This is in spite of the heavy workload for a lot of the parents in the school. However, I would like to especially thank the parents who have stepped forward to manage the Election Day barbeque (Mr James Cleland, Mrs Alison Chan, Mrs Jo Chang) and also recent events (Christine) in school. On top of that, the teachers who lead and take up the slack in organising the events, a big thank you. By the way, I know many parents are itching to help out. So I invite you to come to the P&C meetings and step forward to help, even if you don't know where you can help. And please don't think language is an unsurpassable barrier.

With the recent election coming up, public education is shaping up as an important factor in the outcome of the election. However it is not the only one. Despite that, I am certain that public education has won, no matter which side is voted in. As I expected, the Coalition will offer lower additional funding (\$2.8b over 4 years) than the Labour Party (\$10b over 6 years), so public education in some sense did win as a result of the Gonski recommendation and campaign. Any money that we get will probably go to the school programs/teachers and not for capital works.

With the election, one more area of focus has been leadership. This focus on leadership is important, as the leader will lead his/her team to define the outcome for the greater good. Leadership comes in many ways and is difficult to teach to our young kids. The school is making a great effort to try to nurture leadership talent within our children, which is broader in context than the focus on numeracy and literacy. As parents this is an important area of development of our kids and we should support the teachers' efforts.

On Tuesday, the SRC collected \$289 for the Catherine Sullivan Centre (CSC), a small charity who does great work with Children who have Hearing Impairment. I would like to commend the SRC for the fund raisings as small charities such as CSC cannot afford to employ fundraisers and sometimes struggle against the bigger organisations.

Also please fill out the questionnaire on the next page of the newsletter to help us plan for the future. All those who complete this questionnaire and return it to me will be put into a draw to win a prize.

Alan Khaw
P & C President

The NEXT WRPS P&C MEETING DATE

SEPTEMBER: Wed 11th September 7:00 pm – 8:00pm
At the school library.

Planning questionnaire

As the elections pass us after Saturday, the P&C would like to get your feedback in our planning process. There have been items already identified for future inclusion as and when more funds are provided to schools as a result of the Federal Election, such as new classrooms required, new roof to the hall, upgrade to the hall multimedia system, a new canteen kitchen, new cricket nets, expansion of a drama/arts program and a swimming pool (!). Some of these items are capital (one-off build + smaller annual maintenance cost) in nature and some are on-going programs (annual costs).

How are we using the result of this questionnaire?

- 1. It provides a list of items not thought up by members of the committee.
- 2. It gives us a priority list when opportunities come up for funding.

As a result there are 3 questions we would like you to answer so we can work together as a school community towards these goals. In addition, if you return this questionnaire by Friday 21st September, you go into a draw for a \$20 Woolies Wish Card.

1.	<p>Capital improvements are additional buildings, improvements to buildings and infrastructure work in the school. Please list your top 3 priorities for capital improvements. Among those suggested are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• new classrooms• new roof to the hall• upgrade to the hall multimedia system• a new canteen kitchen• new cricket nets• swimming pool <p>If what you think is not listed please list it anyway.</p>
	<div data-bbox="204 1417 1297 1592"></div> <div data-bbox="204 1626 1297 1800"></div> <div data-bbox="204 1834 1297 2009"></div>

2.	<p>Optional programs, events or services that you think you would like to see at the school. At the moment the list include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama and performing arts program • Art program (painting, sculpting) • Additional musical instruments for the orchestra • West Ryde Public School's 100th anniversary celebration (2017) <p>In the past the P&C has funded replacement of the basketball nets with the netball nets.</p> <p>If what you think is not listed please list it anyway.</p>
	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
3.	<p>What other suggestions should the P&C consider in making the school a better place for your child?</p>
	<div></div> <div></div> <div></div>

Parent Name:

Student Name:

Christmas Craft Market

On December 6th, West Ryde Public School will be hosting its 2013 Christmas Market and Carols.

It cannot happen without the help of the school community, so please consider where you could help out.



Use Your Contacts

At this year's Market we will be selling gift hampers. For these we are looking for parents, extended family and community members with businesses or contacts to provide contributions. If you own or work at a business with samples, discount vouchers or merchandise, we'd love to hear from you. It could be a great marketing opportunity.

We will accept all items that are new, including preserved food items, wrapping paper/plastic, baskets, Christmas decorative pieces, toys, coupons, free samples, giftcards, greeting cards and the list goes on. As long as they are not used (new or near new) and can be packed into a hamper, we'd love to have them.

Please put the items in a small box with your name and contact details and place them in the box by the school office.

Volunteer Some Time

Do you have some marketing or promotions skills? We need someone to help organise sponsors and promote the markets. Please lend us some of your time to make this a great event.

We also still need parents to run some of the school stalls. If you can help please contact Alison Chan (parent 1D) at aslugger_colyer@hotmail.com, or 0410 636 538. You can sell items or run children's activities, and help is available to organise merchandise, etc.

Thank you to the people that have stepped up already and offered their assistance. We'd love to see some new names on the list, so please consider pitching in yourself or with a group of friends.

Income from these stalls will be part of the money put aside for school programs that require additional funding.

Hold Your Own Stall

We have a small number of spaces available for parents to hire a stall at a discounted price. As a member of the school community the cost is \$50. If you are interested in making some money for yourself, please contact us ASAP as the stalls are quickly being filled. Registration forms are available at the front office.

If you're able to lend a hand or want to know more, please call or email Alison Chan, at aslugger_colyer@hotmail.com, 0410 636 538 (mother of Kaylee Chan, 1D), or Alan Khaw at WRPS@ehsai.com.au. For more information about the Christmas Market Day, please go to www.hiddenspark.com/wrps.