The Endeavour

West Ryde Public School Newsletter Term 4 Issue No. 3 – 12th November 2014

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Upcoming events

Nov

3rd to 14th – Swim school 14th Assembly – 4J

- **Book Swap**
- 17th Footsteps Dance
- 19th P & C
- 21st Assembly KH
- 24th Footsteps Dance
- 26th Uniform shop open
- 28th Assembly KS

Dec

- $\mathbf{1}^{st}$ **Footsteps Dance**
- 2nd Stg 3 Korean Excursion
- 3rd Uniform shop open **Parent Helper Luncheon**
- 5th **Christmas Market & Carols**
- 8th K-Yr 2 Dance Concert
- 9th **Christmas Scripture Service**
- 10th Presentation Day (2 sessions)
- 11th Year 6 Farewell
- 12th Assembly Leaders
- 15th Picnic Day
- 17th Talent Quest Students' last day for Term 4

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Friendly Reminders

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Canteen News Uniform Shop News P & C News

NOTES/MONEY

Principal's Message

World Teachers' Day Recognition

As you know our teachers at West Ryde work very hard to ensure that your children have a myriad of opportunities not only in the classroom, but, with the many varied extra-curricular activities on offer. In recognition of their dedication to education our P&C President, Alan Khaw and our fantastic ladies in the canteen organised a sumptuous morning tea for the staff last Friday.

Our sincere thanks to all involved and your recognition was very much appreciated.

Leaders' Presentation

Congratulations to Joanna and Tiarne who received a Young Leader's Award at the recent Eastwood Rotary Evening.

Joanna and Tiarne have been proactive in organizing many activities at lunch time to give children structured activities to join in if they were feeling lonely. Joanna has been very involved in our orchestra and Tiarne has been active in our dance group, drama and soccer as well as instigating many social activities for new students.

Our sincere thanks to the Rotary Club of Eastwood for their kind donation of \$200 towards our leadership programs. See photo on page 2

Bring Your Own Device(BYOD)

Thank you to all our parents who took the time to either respond to the Survey Monkey, attend our meeting or reply to the paper questionnaire. The responses have been vastly positive and as a result we have decided to instigate our BYOD program only for Stage 3 in 2015. A note will be sent home shortly giving you more information about the program.

Presentation Dav

This is advanced notice that Presentation Day will be split into two sessions this year (please note that we have already sent a note home regarding this to all students in the school). Presentation Day for Years 3-6 will take place from 9:30 until 11:00 approx. and Years K-2 will take place from 11:30 until 12:30 approx. This change is to accommodate our growing student population.

Christmas Carols and Markets

Again we draw your attention to the information in our Term Planner on our website. The Carols by Candlelight evening and Christmas Market will be on Friday 5th December starting at 5pm.

P&C Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers

All parents are reminded that the Annual General Meeting is on 19th November and is one of the most important meetings of the year where we will elect our new Office Bearers.

We are in need of more parents to assist with the great work that our P&C does. Please come to this meeting and show your support.



Friendly Reminders

Sick Children

We are still experiencing problems of not being able to contact parents when their child is sick. Please inform the school **when you update your mobile phone number**, home phone number or change your address. When you have been contacted and advised that your child is in sick bay <u>PLEASE COME TO THE OFFICE</u> <u>FIRST</u> (even after 3pm) before collecting your child from sick bay.

Kindy Orientation - Thank you

Thank you to all the parents from Kindergarten who helped provide a delicious morning tea for our new 2015 parents. It was a warm welcome to our school. We appreciate the time you gave on the three days recently. Mrs Thompson – KT

Speech Therapist

We are fortunate enough to have a Speech Therapist visit the school once a week. If you are interested in your child seeing the speech therapist, please see Mrs. Lloyd Jones.

Book Club

Book Club started this week for Years 5 and 6. Book Club is a chance for students to read an interesting novel and discuss their ideas with their friends in a supportive environment. As in past years, students may bring a plate of food and avoid the summer heat by eating their lunch with their friends in the comfort of the air-conditioned classroom whilst discussing any ideas and issues they may have about the book. Term 4 we will be reading the book 'The Giver' by Lois Lowry.

Miss Farthing

New Chaplains

We welcome our new Chaplains, Rosie Kempe and Heather Gorton to our school. Please make them feel welcome when you see them around the school.

Leaders' Presentation



"No Plastic November" Campaign

In Term 1 students from years 5 and 6 took part in a Take 3 education program learning about plastic pollution and its impact on marine life. As part of the workshop the students devised actions that they wished to implement at our school in order to help reduce plastic waste. One of the key ideas was more than just a "Waste Free Friday" but to target a whole month of reduced plastic usage. At morning assembly years 5 and 6 have been promoting their direct action plan named "No Plastic November" and have labelled the waste bins and displayed messages around the school. Please help us make a difference by following the reduced waste ideas in the attached poster.



Tim Silverwood accompanied by Mayor Maggio at the Take 3 workshop for students of years 5 and 6.

You can learn more about this issue by visiting www.take3.org.au

Take 3

Did you know every piece of litter we leave on the ground can make its way to the ocean through our storm-water drains, creeks and rivers?

Were you aware that once in our oceans plastic may persist for hundreds of years and is responsible for the deaths of over a million innocent creatures every year?

In some parts of the sea the rubbish gathers on ocean currents to form such places as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch that is said to be bigger than the state of South Australia.

Take 3 are a non-profit organisation that asks everyone to simply take three pieces of rubbish with them when they leave the beach, waterway or...anywhere. By educating young people and the community about the issue of plastic pollution the group hopes to drastically reduce the amount of plastic going into the sea.







Waste Free Lunch

A waste free lunch is a great way to reduce the amount of packaging we use and therefore the amount going to landfill. Cutting out plastic wrap and using reusable containers all help you to have a waste free lunch.

Waste Free Lunches and snacks have:

- Lunch boxes and containers that are reusable.
- Drink bottles that are refillable and reusable.
- Food packaging that is <u>reusable</u>, compostable, or recyclable.









We seek your help in supporting and extending your child's understanding of this important issue.

EnviroMentors proudly partnered with:



Keep NSW Beautiful

Phone: (02) 8594 4000

Email: education@kabnsw.edu.au

web: www.knswb.edu.au



School Banking – Every Thursday at 8.45am

CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen is **CLOSED MONDAYS** and only open **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

Please write your child's lunch order on the bag provided and put the correct money inside the bag. Put the bag into the box which is located outside the library in the hallway.

Please note there is a **new <u>Canteen Menu for Term 4</u>**. There are new menu items and some items have been deleted e.g. noodle cups, pizzas. Check out the new menu on the school website.

SPECIAL JELLY CUPS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN TERM 4 @ 50cents each. Ice creams will now be available on Tuesday and Thursday.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

A new uniform price list and order form will be published on the website. Please note this order form will be utilised from the beginning of Term 4.

The uniform shop opening days for Term 4 will be Wednesday, 26th November and 3rd December.

P & C NEWS

This would be my last article as President of the West Ryde Public School P&C. My time has been fruitful and I believe successful in creating a community at the school as it grows to 450 students from 302 students when my son started in 2007. However, I am not leaving yet, as Immediate Past President I will be working with the new President.

Hosting of the West Ryde Business Chambers

I hosted the West Ryde Business Chamber in the library for a nice informal After Hours get together, as part of the Yellow Brick Road ethos. This session was also for our school parents who are in small business to connect with the chamber as well as to engage the business community in our school.

I provided a session on the range of financial services including residential mortgages, commercial lending, financial planning, insurance and superannuation which was well received. If you are interested the next Chamber After Hours event is in February.

Christmas Carols

DON'T FORGET! Friday 5th December is the Christmas Carols! There'll be rides and many food stalls. If you would like to get involve, please send me an email (<u>wrps@ehsai.com.au</u>) or contact Mrs Robyn Boyd.

Annual General Meeting

Next month we will be organising the AGM at 6:30pm for the P&C Association and 3 members will be retiring after many years in the committee. We will have a get together before settling down for the AGM and last meeting of the year.

For 2015, there will be a new executive. There will also be the need for new Committee Members. Being on the committee is always a great example for your children and for the school. I urge parents, especially of students in Stage 2 to get involved as a great school requires active participation from its parents.

P&C Executive and Committee Members

Many people ask me to sugar coat the office bearer positions to entice parents to get involved. But I find this defeating the purpose. I would like to highlight these roles as a challenge as they are and the difference it makes to the school. Many parents think that the P&C is just to raise money. Yes that is a critical function of a vibrant school, but it is only one of its many functions.

Office bearers are often asked to perform official duties, including sitting on the panel to select the school teachers and senior staff such as the Principal and Assistant Principals. This is an immensely sensitive yet important role as we will select the teachers that may teach our children from Kindy to Year 6. The Treasurer's role to manage the finances of the P&C is critical, given the reporting requirements and coordination of the various P&C businesses. What P& C businesses you might think? Well, the uniform shop, the Canteen and of course the various Fundraising events. And for monies that are raised, we will need to find ways to spend it appropriately as well.

In addition to that, the committee will play an important role to help define how the school community work and live together ie. The importance of a volunteer run Canteen, now ably managed by the Canteen Manager and the canteen committee, providing meals 3 times a week to the children. It is also a place for parents to meet and work together. The Uniform Shop has supplier contracts and are responsible to source how our kids' uniforms are purchased, new uniforms such as sports uniforms, ensure good quality clothing so as to last a few years or as hand-me-downs to our younger children, appropriate badging is used and to keep it reasonably affordable. Thanks Uniform Shop managers. The fundraising committee is important in providing regular stalls to keep children's spirit strong, such as the Father's and Mother's Day stalls. Thanks Fundraising Committee.

We have challenges as such asking parents to stand up and be counted, for example when parents organise the Working Bee, or engage with senior members of the community including Federal and State MPs to increase the profile of the school.

These are challenges to a successful school especially where parents may come from a society where a volunteering culture is not strong. I urge parents to use this short time that you have when your children are still young to get involved and make it a greater school. Your children will be here for quite a while anyway. If you have ambitious plans for your children, remember that charity begins at home in this school, and eventually if they do go to a private or selective school, demand for your involvement will be even greater. This is a good place to start.

If are you not as ambitious, getting involved will also ensure you are close to your children as they grow up in the school, ensuring the space where they are educated is a nurturing and happy place. This is important given the growth that the school is currently experiencing.

You can speak to us if you would like to be more active in the P&C, or even to speak to our active volunteers, who have been putting their time and effort without taking on a position. There are many parents who do this, you know who you are, and I would like to acknowledge and thank you for doing so.

Challenges beyond 2014

As I look forward to the future, the next committee will have a few challenges, such as the massive increase in enrolment impacting on school crowding, maintaining a small school culture, parking and traffic safety and managing the vast demands of a parent group who are well-informed.

In 2017 the school will also celebrate 100 years. That's a celebration to be organised! And we need parents to utilise their skills to help push the P&C into the 21st century and to show the kids what is possible, and parents are not the old fogies that they think.

Finally...

I hope the attendance at the AGM is strong to lend support to the next group of Executives. I hope you will attend despite perceived language barriers or time limitations. I have a family of five with a child with a severe disability. If I can spend time for the school, you should too.

Regards Alan Khaw (6H/3L)

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KANG'S TAEKWONDO

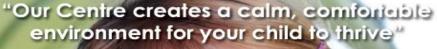


WEST RYDE

West Ryde Public School Endeavour Street, West Ryde Mon & Thur 4:30 – 5:30pm

Contact us at: 0411 150 305 | www.kangstaekwondo.com.au | Facebook.com/kangstkd.au







A: 87-89 Parkes Street, West Ryde P: 9809 3388

Early Learning Services

Committed to Child Care

E: westryde@earlylearningservices.com.au LTP5/14/06901 Conditions apply. Visit www.earlylearningservices.com.au/enrol-2015 for full terms and conditions.

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