



POSSUM POST

Waterfall Public School

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Term 3 Week 2 2017

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term three, I hope you all had a relaxing break and re-charged for the new term. You will notice from the "Dates for your diary" this term is already looking very busy. Please take note of the dates listed, further information on particular events will be sent home as a separate note where required, closer to the event.

Congratulations to Mrs Joanna Holmewood who was successfully selected by merit selection for the permanent position of School Administrator Manager at the end of term 2. She is now permanently employed at Waterfall PS seven days per fortnight.

Possum Post - This term the staff decided to send the *Possum Post* home once a month from August – on the second Wednesday of every month. This is to help alleviate workloads in the office. However, a calendar of upcoming events will be included in each issue and items that have occurred during the month prior will continue to be reported on. The newsletter can be easily accessed via the school's website www.waterfall-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/ or through the school office. The school will continue to provide the most up to date information for families to ensure the smooth running and organisation of events.

Enrolments for the 2018 school year are now open, please notify any friends or family who may be considering enrolling children at Waterfall PS. Enrolment forms are available online or at the office and school tours can be arranged by appointment with the Principal. Hopefully you read the July issue of the Engadine Pictorial newspaper which had an article in it about our fabulous school.

Small schools athletics carnival - It was great to see a large number of parents at the annual Small Schools Athletics Carnival. Student participation was really high in all events and as always, students were very supportive of each other with lots of cheering from the stand. Thank you to all staff and parents from Waterfall PS who assisted on the day and also a big thank you to the staff from Taren Point PS for organising the carnival. Students will be informed shortly if they have qualified to go to the next level of the competition - Engadine Zone Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 16 August at Sylvania Waters Athletics Track.

Public speaking finalists – Congratulations to all the students who wrote and presented their speeches in class at the end of last term, the effort and enthusiasm displayed was excellent. Best of luck to the following students who were the winners of their stage competitions and will now represent Waterfall PS at the District public speaking final on Wednesday 14 September at Engadine West PS.



Grace Stojanovic – Stage one



Rachel Cairncross – Stage two
Jonathan Antony – Stage three

They will be presenting their prepared speech at the assembly this week

Staff Professional Learning – On staff development day last week all teaching staff attended professional learning on Student and Staff Wellbeing. This event was attended by over 250 other teachers from across the southern Sydney area. I wish to congratulate Ms Porter who has been instrumental in implementing the wellbeing project at WPS. She completed a tremendous amount of work on the seven dispositions of learning and presented this to other teachers in three workshops on the day.

Ms Porter and Mrs Gilmore will be completing NAPLAN Online training on Wednesday at Lucas Hts. Community School. In 2018 all schools will be implementing the NAPLAN testing online and need to ensure the appropriate training and resources are available.

NAPLAN online

Information is included in this newsletter regarding changes to NAPLAN. The factsheet provides information about NAPLAN Online and the school readiness test. See below.

Dancefever – began last Friday and was well received by all students. This will continue every Friday this term, culminating in a small performance for the Grandfriends and visitors on Wednesday 13 September. The dance instructors delivering the program are highly trained educators, dancers and performers. Thank you to Ms Maddocks for organising this valuable activity that is a mandatory part of the PDHPE curriculum each year for all students K-6. If you are yet to finalise payment please speak to Mrs Holmewood or Mrs Gilmore.

Open day & Jeans for genes – Wednesday 2 August is Open Day at Waterfall PS where we invite parents, carers and friends into the classrooms to look at their child's work. This year we will be combining the day with the P&C *Jeans for Genes* fundraising event. All students are encouraged to wear jeans and or denim attire on the day. Open classrooms will start at 9.30am till 10.30am. Then the P&C will involve the students in a coin collecting activity on the playground, followed by morning tea. All visitors are invited to stay for morning tea and mingle with their child on the playground. Open day will conclude at 11.30am and the students will return to class.

National Consistent Collection of Data 2017

It is a requirement for all schools in Australia to participate in a national data collection for students who have educational adjustments.

All students who have adjustments to their learning or are supported at school are included in the data collection. The primary areas include physical, cognitive, sensory and social/emotional support.

The level of adjustment for each area can be:

- Support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice
- Supplementary adjustments
- Substantial adjustments
- Extensive adjustments

Information regarding the area and level of adjustment for students is required to be collected by the school. For the purposes of the national data collection students are identified as requiring an adjustment under the Disability Discrimination ACT 1992 (DDA) using the Disability standards.

Looking forward to seeing you at Open Day on Wednesday 2 August.

Kind regards,
Nicole Gilmore
Relieving Principal

Fact sheet for parents and carers

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Planning has begun to move NAPLAN from a pen and paper assessment to an online assessment.

What are the benefits of NAPLAN Online?

Results will be faster and more precise

- Your child's individual results will be returned to you within just a few weeks of the NAPLAN testing.
- Online assessment will reduce the time it takes to mark and provide feedback to schools, teachers and parents.
- Improved precision and timing of results will help teachers to tailor their teaching more specifically to address students' learning needs.

Tailored tests will provide better assessment

- The online format allows for 'tailored testing', where the test adapts to a student's performance and asks questions that match their achievement level.
- Students in each year level start with the same set of questions which can then branch into a different set of questions based on their responses to the first set of questions.
- This means that students will be directed to questions that may be easier or more challenging depending on their responses.
- This test design will allow students to better demonstrate their literacy and numeracy skills.
- Students find online assessment is more engaging*, which means they are encouraged to persist longer and try harder.

* Research by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) into online assessment has shown that students have engaged well with electronic tests.

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NAPLAN Online School Readiness Test

NSW schools will participate in a school readiness test between 14 August and 22 September 2017.

The school readiness test is a 'practice run' for schools to assess their technology ahead of NAPLAN Online. The readiness test is not an assessment of student ability. The readiness test allows schools to:

- become familiar with the NAPLAN Online test format and processes
- check whether they have the technical capacity, rooms and devices to administer NAPLAN Online
- provide students in NAPLAN years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with the opportunity to experience the online test question types and format by completing a practice NAPLAN online test.

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For more information

Parents, students and schools interested in familiarising themselves with the NAPLAN Online format can access the NAPLAN Online demonstration site that includes sample tests for each NAPLAN year. Use the following link:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online/naplan-online-public-demonstration-site>

Further information about NAPLAN Online is available on the national ACARA website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/naplan-online>

Contact your school principal or visit the ACARA NAP website for more detailed information:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/online-assessment.html>

NAPLAN Online – Fact sheet for parents and carers

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School News

Small Schools Athletic Carnival



Dancefever Hits Waterfall!

On Friday 21st June Dance Fever came to Waterfall Public School. All the students thoroughly enjoyed the first dance lesson. Today we practiced some hip hop moves!



P & C News

Message from the P&C

Welcome to Term 3. We have a **general meeting** coming up on Monday 31st July at 7:00pm to be held in school library.

I am hoping someone can put their hand up to take the minutes on the night as the position of Secretary is still vacant. So, if you are able to attend the meeting, I appreciate if you are able to assist.

Uniforms - Please see Belinda for second hand clothing.

Jeans for Genes Day - 2nd August. This event is to raise money to support genetic research through the Children's Medical Research Institute. Again, this year we are helping this cause by doing the 5cent line. Could you please start collecting 5c pieces? Other denominations are also welcome.

Chocolate Drive - Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. All monies and unsold chocolates are due back by this Friday 28th July. There are still some chocolates available, if you can sell more, please see Michelle Antony.

Working Bee - To be held on Sunday 27th August from 9am til 12noon. More details to follow, but if you could please keep the date free, it would be greatly appreciated. It is an opportunity to help clean up the school grounds and gardens. A note will be sent home in the coming week, for families to advise if and what time they will be able to assist on the day.

That's all for now, until next time.

Sarah



We are excited to be taking part in the 2017 Woolworths Earn & Learn program. During the previous campaign, we were able to purchase some great resources with the points we earned, thanks to you. From now until September 19th 2017, you can collect stickers at Woolworths that go towards Earn & Learn points. For every \$10 you spend at Woolworths (excluding the purchase of tobacco, liquor and gift cards), you will receive a sticker. These stickers can then be given to your children to collect on a special sticker card. Once it is completed, they can simply bring it back here to school or you can drop them into your local Woolworths collection box. The more points we earn, the more we can redeem from a choice of over 10,000 educational resources including mathematics and English resources, art & crafts materials and much, much more! We are grateful for your support and look forward to a successful program. If you have any questions, please ask at School.

Dates for your Diary

July	August	September
<p>Thursday 27 July 9.00am - 3-6 UOW Science Fair K-6 Assembly 2.30pm</p> <p>Monday 31 August P&C meeting 7.00 – 8.30pm school Library</p>	<p>Tuesday 1 August ICAS English test</p> <p>Wednesday 2 August 9.30 - Open day & parent morning tea Jeans for Genes Day</p> <p>Thursday 10 August K-6 Assembly 2.30pm</p> <p>Wednesday 16 August Zone Athletics carnival Sylvania Waters</p> <p>Thursday 17 August Interrelate Heathcote PS 6.45pm</p> <p>Monday 21 August Book week author and librarian visits for K-6</p> <p>Wednesday 23 August Book character parade – students dress up</p> <p>Sunday 27 August Proposed P&C working bee at WPS 9.00am -12.00pm</p> <p>Tuesday 29 August Premier's reading challenge closes</p> <p>Thursday 31 August SLIPS – nominated year 5 students to attend at HHS</p>	<p>Thursday 7 September K-6 Assembly 2.30pm</p> <p>Wednesday 13 September Grandfriends Day, Book Fair</p> <p>Thursday 14 September Public Speaking District Final at Engadine West PS – Stage winners to compete</p> <p>Wednesday 20 September School photographs K-6</p> <p>Friday 22 September Last day of term 3</p>

Community News



Caringbah High School Open Day

For Year 5 Students & Parents
Thursday 24th August
9:30 – 11:30am
85 Willarong Road, Caringbah

Become a Part of Our Learning Community Today

www.caringbah-h.schools.nsw.edu.au



OTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL Presents

RAINBOW RUN 2508

TOUCH THE RAINBOW. JOIN THE FUN.

REGO 7AM
10K @ 8AM
5K @ 9AM
1.5K @ 10AM

09 SEPT 2017
REX JACKSON OVAL
HELENSBURGH

FOOD STALLS • DJ • KIDS RIDES • 8AM TIL MIDDAY
EARLY BIRD AND FAMILY DISCOUNTS • More info: www.facebook.com/OtfordParents

Garie Nippers in the NASHO! S.L.S.C



Do you love having fun at the beach?
Are you 5-13 years old?

Garie Nippers offers a friendly, safe and welcoming environment. It is on every second Sunday from 10am.

Cost: Nipper rego \$50 + cap \$15.00 + hi-vis rash vest \$20
Parent/Carer registration \$50 as a general member.

Register online at

<https://sls.com.au/join/>

Or come to a rego day

- Sun 6th Aug 11am-2pm Engadine Tavern (Station St)
- Sun 13th Aug 11am-2pm Bundeena Bowling Club
- Sun 20th & 27 Aug 1pm-3pm Garie Surf Life Saving Club, Garie Beach

FOR NOTING

If joining for the first time, please bring child's birth certificate or passport.
On registration days No EFTPOS facilities, only cash or cheques accepted.

For more information email

jac@garieslsc.com



DO YOU KNOW A YOUNG MUSIC STUDENT
READY TO TAKE THEIR MUSIC TO THE NEXT LEVEL?

Sydney Youth Orchestras offers a range of training programs for musicians aged 6-25 at every level of their musical journey.

In 2018 SYO will provide weekly orchestra training for musicians across 12 ensembles in the City and Western Sydney.

Registrations for 2018 Auditions close on Friday 22 September.

REGISTER AT SYO.COM.AU

MAJOR PARTNER: GOVERNMENT PARTNER



Create NSW
Arts, Screen & Culture



SYDNEY
YOUTH
ORCHESTRAS

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Entertainment Centre
 30 Eton St, Sutherland
www.suthentcent.com.au
 9521 8888
suthentcent@ssc.nsw.gov.au
tickets@ssc.nsw.gov.au

A Tale of Identity & Friendship

Sunday 20 August 11.30am

In August the Sutherland Entertainment Centre will be presenting *Horrible Harriet*, a play based on the book by Australian Children's Laureate, Leigh Hobbs. This play is ideally suited to stages 2 and 3 as it explores the themes of bullying, isolation, friendship and personal development.

Horrible Harriet will be presented by the team behind the hit stage productions *The 13, 26 and 52-Storey Treehouses*, *The Gruffalo*, and *Mr Stink*.

Quick Bites

Did you know almost half of Australian kids aged between 2 and 16 consume at least one sugar sweetened beverage every day?

Not only can this lead to unwanted weight gain in children it also significantly contributes to tooth decay.

What is a sugar sweetened beverage?

- ❖ Non-diet soft drinks
- ❖ Energy drinks
- ❖ Fruit drinks
- ❖ Sports drinks
- ❖ Cordial



1-7 August is Dental Health Week – check out tips for keeping your child's teeth healthy here <https://www.ada.org.au/dental-health-week/home>

Quick Bites

Healthy Bones Action Week
 7-13 August 2017

Healthy Bones Action Week encourages people of all ages to protect their bones. Take the following actions to build and maintain healthy bones:

1. Increase daily serves of calcium through milk, cheese or yoghurt
2. Go for a walk or commit to some form of regular exercise
3. Spend time outdoors to get more vitamin D



To find out how much dairy your child should consume each day, click here: <http://www.healthybones.com.au/why-strong-bones/kids>