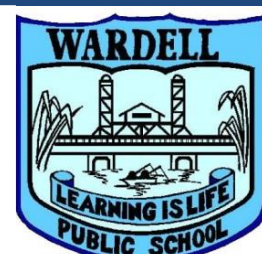


# Newsletter

Wardell Public School

20 Richmond Street Wardell NSW 2477

T: 6683 4196 F: 6683 4563 E wardell-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Issue 9 Term 1 Week 9

Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 30 - Apr 2

Easter Break

Apr 6

Purple Day (Epilepsy)

Apr 12

Rugby Union BCHC

## ATTACHMENTS TO THIS NEWSLETTER:

1. Absent Note (where applicable)
2. Rugby Union Visit at BCHC (Permission Note)
3. Canteen Menu

## Master "Water Dragon's" Words of Wisdom

### Easter Break

The Easter Holidays are being held earlier than normal this year. Usually the Easter break is during the Term 1 school holidays. This means we will have a long weekend followed by two more weeks of school before the term ends on Friday afternoon, 13<sup>th</sup> April. Good Friday (the 30<sup>th</sup> of March) and Easter Monday (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April) are Public Holidays and therefore there will be no school on those days.

### Daylight Saving

Daylight Saving time finishes on Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Turn your clocks back an hour before bed on Saturday night, and treat yourself with an hour of sleeping in, while still getting up at the regular time.

### Ballina Coast High Rugby Day

Students in the 3/4/5/6 class have been invited by Ballina Coast High School to join them on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April, for a day of learning Rugby Skills and meeting the Waratahs.

### 3-6 Canberra and Snow Excursion

The 3/4/5/6 Excursion will take place in Week 2, Term 3 the 29<sup>th</sup> of July to the Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> August. The excursion will be to Canberra visiting such places as Parliament House, The War Memorial, Discovery Zone, Questacon and skiing for two days plus lots more. For some students it may be the first and only time to see

snow. It will be a trip of a lifetime for some. The cost of the excursion is \$927 but with subsidies from the school and P&C, the maximum expected cost for students is \$711. This can be paid in a lump sum, or paid throughout Terms 1, 2 and 3. A payment plan is available to parents but it is a guide only, sit down and work out what will work for you, starting now. An expression of interest form has been sent home.

### Last Day of Term

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, we will be holding a tabloid sports afternoon as part of our end of term activities. Parents are quite welcome to come and help us run a tabloid event on the day. The SRC will also be holding a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Mufti-Day. Students who bring along a gold coin donation will be able to be out of uniform and come to school in their favourite ghoulish costume.

School will resume in Term 2 on the Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of May for students as the Monday is a Staff Development Day.

### What are Staff Development Days?

Schools provide opportunities for staff and school leaders to improve their skills and professional capacity to deliver key curriculum priorities and school strategic directions. School development days are used by schools to improve the skills of our teachers, school leaders and school administrative support staff.

Purpose of school development days:

They improve the learning outcomes of students by:

- providing targeted professional learning activities aligned to school strategic directions and Department of Education and Communities priorities
- enabling whole school planning and enhancing teacher quality, school leadership and management practices
- implementing legislative and policy requirements.

The content of school development days is determined by the Principal, in consultation with the school community. Activities are based on the principles within the Australian Professional Learning Charter for Teachers and School Leaders (2012), which recommends that professional learning experiences:

- equip teachers and leaders to deal with both current and future contexts and challenges
- promote action research
- provide opportunity to explore and challenge own thinking and understandings
- promote innovative practice

Examples of school development day programs include:

- analysing student and school data to identify student needs and provide a focus for teaching
- induction and mentoring programs to support teachers new to their school
- identifying interagency support that is available to implement case management programs
- analysing school welfare support initiatives to meet student welfare needs
- using quality school learning models to enhance teaching and learning programs, assessments and classroom practice
- quality teaching in the digital age and incorporating digital components into teaching and learning programs
- developing programs to help students with special learning needs.

### Skoolbo

Skoolbo is an online computer program, that reinforces literacy and numeracy skills and is used as part of our school teaching programs. The kids and teachers love it.

Skoolbo have informed they are strengthening their privacy and consent policies and are changing our terms and conditions for children using Skoolbo via school created accounts. From April 22, 2018, all children will need to have parental permission in order to continue using the program.

### Parental Permission for use of Skoolbo:

How is this obtained?

Parent Permission letters are sent home with each child. Parents provide the consent online.

What happens if parents do not provide permission?

Students without parental or legal guardian consent will not be able to use Skoolbo after April 22, 2018.

Can parents provide permission at a later stage?

Yes, the moment parents or legal guardians provide consent then children may use Skoolbo.

Does a teacher need to manage parental permission?

No, teachers can only print the parental permission letters and send home to parents who then complete the process online.

### Volunteers

If you think you could assist the school helping with different activities, please let us know we would love the help.

### Bundjalung Language Program



We have been fortunate to be able access the Goonellabah Public School Language Nest resources, which has enabled us to run a Bundjalung Language Program at our school. This program will run on Wednesday afternoons in both classes. Uncle Ricky Cook will be our language tutor who will assist teachers to incorporate Bundjalung Language into their regular teaching program. Ricky will also be supported by Glen Rhodes, the Goonellabah Public School Language coordinator.

### Breakfast Club



***Just a reminder to all parents that our Breakfast club operates on Tue, Wed & Fri mornings in the Library from 8.30 – 9am. This is a chance for kids to get a good start to the day with cereal & fruit. There is no cost to students and it is a boost to the students before a busy day at school.***

### Connecting Country Schools (CCS) project

Our school has been included in the Connecting Country Schools (CCS) project, which is delivering upgraded wireless connectivity and internet access to more than 900 schools around the state. Planning for installations at our school has commenced with our assigned Technical Officer from the Department's IT Directorate, who are managing this project. CCS will deliver upgraded and reliable wireless access in all our learning spaces, assisting teachers to deliver future focused learning to prepare our students for digital age jobs. Improved wireless and internet services will also give students more chances to connect and collaborate and greater access to online knowledge databases, streaming media, educational institutions and experts. We are working with our Technical Officer to ensure that disruptions during the installation are kept to a minimum. External contractors who will visit the school to undertake work are required to have a Working With Children Check.

### P&C

**P & C have now set the Voluntary Contribution for School Fees for students for this year. The cost will be \$40 for 1 child \$80 for 2 children and any more than 2 in the one family and they will be FREE.**

### Purple Day



**Purple Day** is a global initiative dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness. Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in an effort to get people talking about the condition and to let those impacted by seizures know that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognised colour for epilepsy, lavender. We are holding our Purple Day on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. Students bring in a gold coin donation to be out of uniform and wear purple for the day to help raise awareness for epilepsy. The Student Representative Council hosts the fundraising event.

### Easter Egg Guessing Competition

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mrs Becquet and Kaylee Millar who both guessed the lucky number of eggs in the jar.

There were 120 Easter eggs. The money raised will go to the SRC to put towards 'Purple Day'.

### Skoolbag App

Our School has our own Skoolbag iPhone and Android App to help us communicate more effectively with our Parent/Student community.

You may wish to install our Skoolbag School App.

To install it, just search for our school name Wardell Public School in either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

For Windows users search for Skoolbag in the Windows Store and install the app and then find your school. Please note it must be a Windows 8.1 or 10 device.

You can also access a web browser version at <http://skoolbag.com.au/web/index.php?schoolid=9490>

Using the web browser version, you can sign up to receive email notifications and have documents emailed directly to you such as the school newsletter. You can also choose which category of email notifications you wish to receive.

If you sign up to skoolbag through the link on the school website, you are able to receive emails of events and notifications.

### Yr 7 Transition

Wardell Yr 6,

Thanks for having us out last week. Reflecting on last year, we have decided to run the excursion process differently. In 2018, we will provide each of our feeder schools with the excursion information for the three transition days. Can you please complete a Variation to Routine for each excursion? This will allow each feeder school to have accurate records regarding contact and medical details. Last year it proved difficult to ensure we had accurate records of students on each of the transition days when the excursions were organised by Ballina Coast High School.

### The details for the first excursion are:

**Date: 17th May 2018**

**Venue: Lennox Head Community Centre**

**Time: 10am - 2pm**

**Transport: Make your own way to the venue**

**Uniform: No**

**Recess and Lunch: Provided**

**Cost: N/A**



**K-2 School Shirt Missing**

Could all parents of students in the K-2 classes please check at home that you have the correct school shirts for your children. It appears that a K-2 student has had a shirt missing since attending the swimming program recently. Thank you.

## Birthday Corner

### Felix Davies 29.3.2018

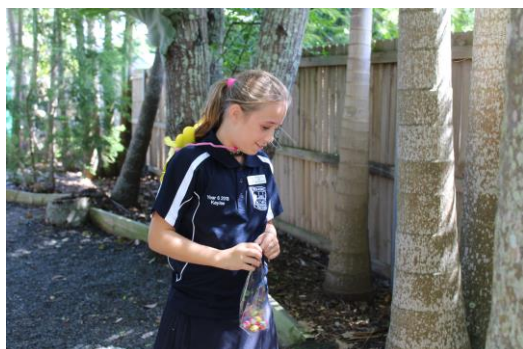
*A Big Happy Birthday from all your friends at  
Wardell Public School*



*Some photos from our Easter Hat Parade and Easter Egg Hunt this Wednesday.*







*Wishing all of our students and their families a very safe and happy Easter.*

