Important Dates

These are our upcoming events for the next few weeks. Be sure to check out our website calendar for many more events.

<table>
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<td>13th Mar</td>
<td>Stage 2 Bike Day</td>
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<td>14th Mar</td>
<td>Dance 2B Fit</td>
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<td>18th Mar</td>
<td>District Netball Trials</td>
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<td>19th Mar</td>
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<td>20th Mar</td>
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<td>24th Mar</td>
<td>Grandparents Day/Harmony Day</td>
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<td>25th Mar</td>
<td>Year 6 Discovery Day at Bulli HS</td>
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<td>28th Mar</td>
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<td>31st Mar</td>
<td>Bulli HS 2015 Enrichment Class test</td>
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<td>28th Mar</td>
<td>Dance 2B Fit</td>
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<td>9am K-6 Assembly (1/2B hosting)</td>
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<td>10th Apr</td>
<td>School Disco Night</td>
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<td>11th Apr</td>
<td>Advance notice for NAPLAN</td>
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IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU WILL SEE ARTICLES ABOUT:

What's Been Happening........
- District Sport Trials
- Regional Swimming
- SRC Elections
- Premier Reading Challenge
- Book Club
- Garden Animals
- Voluntary Contributions

Coming Events.........
- Grandparents/Harmony Day
- NAPLAN
- Working Bee - Friday 21st

General Notices............
- P & C
- Parent Change in Occupations
- Newsletter snippets from DEC

Principal's Report

This week we have been preparing for our visitors next week. The excitement is building with the students’ arranging their visitors ready for our Grandparent’s Day. Remember students may invite neighbours or aunts/uncles if they have no Grandparents able to attend. Thankyou to the number of parents that volunteered to assist with the lunch/ drink orders. Our key message for the day is the Harmony Day message - Everyone Belongs.

Warm regards

Tanya Potter
What's Been Happening……..

Over the past few weeks we have had many students in Years 5 and 6 attend trials for District Sporting teams. Congratulations to the following students who have made District Sporting Teams and will now represent our school.

Basketball
Lilly Sellers, Max Sellers and Eamonn Dunning.

Soccer
Lily Ashburner and Charlotte Park

Trials for Rugby League, Netball and Touch football will be held over the coming weeks and we wish the boys and girls the best of luck.

Regional Swimming
Last week at the Regional Swimming Carnival Amelie did very well coming in 10th position in the 50m Butterfly. Well done Amelie for flying the Coledale flag!

SRC (Student Representative Council) Elections
This week the classes have been holding elections to determine their SRC representatives. The students elected will be presented with their badges at the next formal K-6 Assembly which is on Thursday 3rd April.

The following are the elected reps:
Captains- Alex, Dacey, Mikaela and Sid,
KP - Max M. & Lily (we have Year 6 reps.)
K/1G - Euan and Amber,
1/2B - Flynn and Ivy,
3/4M Wilkie and Lily S.
4/5G - Milla and Charlie R. and
5/6S - Amelie and Maya.

Premier Reading Challenge
The challenge commenced at the beginning of March. All our students are registered but the students in Years 3-6 will need to read and record their books on the website. The K-2 children have their records completed by their class teachers. Please visit https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html for more information.

Book Club
Book club brochures were distributed last week. By purchasing books you actually support the school. For each monthly order we get points, which we accumulate to purchase resources, usually books for the library. Please keep in mind if you wish to purchase books as a gift, we are happy to hold the order at the office for collection. Please mark the order clearly with a contact number and we will call you when it arrives. Otherwise the orders are distributed to the students to take home once they have arrived. Orders for this month must be returned by 14th March 2014.

Garden Animals
Unfortunately we are having many students bitten by ticks. We have been forced to close off the Frog Pond area as well as part of the garden. Please be aware of this and have a close look at your children if they complain of being itchy.

Thank you to the many parents that completed the head check and treatments after the head lice request last week. Unfortunately the weather and environmental conditions are usually at optimum for these little creatures to hang around and annoy us all. It does take the whole school to check and eradicate to try and eliminate them. It is not much fun having to wash cushion covers, bedding and hats but it is necessary, as well as the hair if we have any chance of being my dream, ‘a nit free school’.

Voluntary Contributions / Donations
Many thanks to the many families that have made contributions so far. We have collected $1700 from just over one third of our families. Already some of this money has been spent on purchasing some new maths resources for all the classes K-6. It is very much appreciated by students and staff. It is not too late to make a contribution - $70 per family or $40 for an individual.

We have also received some very kind donations from some thoughtful parents who have had access to some resources or noticed there was a need. I would like to thank Graham Ashburner for donating a shade shelter for groups to use when they are representing our school. Todd Maher for arranging some more cricket gear for the students and Peta Yew for donating some books to our library.
We would like to have some more digital cameras for the students to use. We could go out and purchase some but I thought I would ask the school community first. Do you have an old digital camera laying around in a draw that you no longer need? If it still works and the battery is fine why not donate it to the school.

**Coming Events.............**

**Grandparent's Day/Harmony Day- Thursday 20th March**

We are combining these two days and holding them next Thursday. We will be having activities from 9.05 - 11am. These will be conducted in our newly formed Peer Support Groups. The groups have K-6 students in them. The children will complete three activities.

At 11am we will head out for our lunch. Sausage and steak sandwiches will be available but only by pre-ordering. Orders must be in by Tuesday 18th. This includes the lunch orders for our special guests. Parents are requested to ensure that this information is communicated to the guests please. Please note the canteen will not be operating on this day. We will also have a cake stall on the day and we ask parents to consider baking a cake/scones/biscuits for this day. Students will also need some coins if they wish to purchase some. Please remember we strive to be a nut free school so consider our allergy students when baking.

After lunch we will hold some sporting activities on the oval from 11.40-12.15. The students will then farewell their visitors and head back to class.

Just a note on Harmony Day - since 1999 Harmony Day has been an Australian Government initiative. It is managed by the Department of Social Services.

Harmony Day is celebrated on 21 March each year and allows schools to celebrate the cohesive and inclusive nature of our nation and promote the benefits of cultural diversity. Harmony Day coincides with the United Nation’s International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

The continuing message of Harmony Day is **Everyone Belongs**. It is about dealing with cultural, racial and religious intolerance by promoting respect, fairness and a sense of belonging for everyone. Schools have the opportunity to share with others the importance of diversity in school and community through action, performance, fashion and food.

**NAPLAN**

The test dates for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be as follows:

- **Language Conventions – 13th May 2014**
  Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.

- **Writing – 13th May 2014**
  Writing task.

- **Reading – 14th May 2014**
  Reading.

- **Numeracy – 15th May 2014**
  Number, Algebra, Function and Pattern, Measurement, Chance and Data, and Space. There is one numeracy test for Years 3 and 5 (No calculator allowed)

- **Catch-up Day – 16th May 2014**
  For students who missed a section of the test or were absent on a particular day.

**Working Bee**

There are a number of areas in our school that are in need of some cleaning up to make the school safe. I know many families are very busy on weekends so we are going to hold a working bee on Friday 21st March. There are trees to prune, gardens to mulch and areas that generally need tidying up. If you can help please come along and give us a hand during school hours or if the jobs are not completed we will still be going after school.

**General Notices.............**

**P&C**

The next meeting to be held for the P&C is this coming Tuesday 18th March at 7pm. The meeting will be held in the 5/6 classroom. It is the Annual General Meeting and all positions will be declared open. Please consider coming along and supporting your child’s school. The P&C is a vital link in our school and it is the forum where we discuss and make decisions for the school community. It is extremely important that we maintain this group in the school. I look forward to seeing many parents
attending this meeting. If you are unable to attend but would like to stand for a position please be sure to let either the office or Annie McNamara our current President know your intentions.

2014 Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI) Parent Occupations
From this year all public schools are funded differently. It is now important that parents notify us if their occupation changes from what was stated at the time of enrolment. By noting any changes to parental occupation it may benefit our school. This will also ensure that resource allocation is fair and best meets the needs of all students in NSW public schools.

Some tips from the Department that you may find of interest.

Developing resilience
We often hear complaints of "That's not fair!" from our kids when things don’t go their way. Teachers talk about how you can help your child develop the skills to bounce back from everyday disappointments.

When older kids struggle with reading
If your child is struggling with reading, it’s important to act on it immediately. Find out what you can do to help. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/when-older-kids-struggle-with-reading

2014 homework planner
The best homework help you can give your child is to teach them to be organised. Print out the 2014 homework and study calendar, which includes key dates and school holidays. Stick them on the fridge and above their desk. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/2013-homework-planner

Maths A to Z
Brush up on some of the maths terms your child uses in the classroom. The Maths A to Z glossary provides straightforward explanations and illustrated examples. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/maths/maths-a-to-z

Great books for tweens to read
Favourite books from the Premier’s Reading Challenge team that will inspire kids aged between nine and 13 to read read read! Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/hu/homework-and-study/english/my-book-club/helping-tweens-to-love-reading/ideal-books-for-tweens-to-read

Science assignment starters
Not sure where to go to help your child find out about electricity, natural disasters, the solar system or other science projects? Have a look at our project starters. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/other-subjects-and-projects/science/science-project-starters

INAUGURAL MULTICULTURAL CHILDREN’S FESTIVAL 2014
The Children's Festival, an annual free event that promotes cultural diversity and living in harmony will for the first time be brought to the City of Sydney.

WHEN: Sunday, 30 March 2014 at 11am – 5pm
WHERE: Belmore Park, Sydney (opposite Central Railway Station)
WHAT: Children's parade, games, activities, arts and craft, live cultural entertainment, poster competition, animal farm, multicultural food stalls and display stalls etc
COST: FREE ENTRY

Please visit www.childrensfestival.com.au for more information.

NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST?
Try some of these quick breakfasts children will enjoy on the go.
* Reduced-fat yoghurt * Reduced-fat milkshake
* Fruit smoothie * Hot or cold Milo with low fat milk
* Wholemeal toast with cheese * Slice of banana or fruit bread

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District
ART CLASSES: Come along and enjoy creative activity with fun! Learn various forms of art forms and techniques using watercolor pencils, acrylic paints, inks, pencil and charcoal mediums. Flexible programme. Join and progress at your own pace. Tuesdays and Fridays 4.00 pm - 5.30pm, 7-12 yrs. Coledale studio, 52 Squires Crescent, Coledale. Enquiries: Pam Mckinlay (0418 201 587).
Yoga for Kids
for 5 - 10 year olds

Wednesdays 4-5pm, Moore Street Yoga Room, 62 Moore St, Austinmer
8 Week Terms aligned with school terms

Yoga for Kids classes introduce children to yoga through play, creativity and
togetherness. We have fun, while improving strength and flexibility, posture, and body
awareness. Breathing and relaxation techniques assist calming, concentrating and
concentration. These yoga classes are inclusive of all children,
and are a great way to build self-esteem whilst having lots of fun!

-8 Week Terms $100 (or $60 for siblings). Casual $15/child/class ($10 for siblings).
Bookings required.

Erika Stiller is a Dru Registered Teacher, member of the DPN (Dru Professional Network)
and certified for kids yoga teaching by Rainbow Kids Yoga

Contact Erika for term dates, to book your child's place, and for enquiries
0427 131 701 erika.stiller@noble.com www.lightbeingyoga.wordpress.com

WOONONA EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL

50th Anniversary Celebrations

WEPS is turning 50 this year and we will be celebrating
with an Open Day at the school on
Saturday 2nd August.

If you are willing to share photos, memorabilia or
memories (for our history book about the school) we'd love to
hear from you.

Contact the school on 02 4284 1472 or
email at woononaest-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

for further information.

Talented Sports and Development Program

Year 6 Trials - Tuesday March 25th

ILLAWARRA SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

699 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Coledale NSW 2515
P: (02) 4267 1885 F: (02) 4268 1438
Email: coledale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.coledale-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Let’s Play on Grandparents’ Day @ Coledale PS!

Join us on 20th March from 9-11am in classrooms for Harmony Day activities! This year’s theme is “Everybody Belongs”. We will be creating Zentangle Hands together, playing olden day games and discovering stories using augmented reality! If you have an iPad or iPhone you may like to download the free app called Harmony Day to use on the day. Remember to order your sausage sizzle!
NIDA AT WOLLONGONG ART GALLERY

ACTING BOOT CAMP

AN INTENSIVE COURSE FOR ACTING RECRUITS: BUILD SKILLS IN IMPROVISATION, CHARACTER AND SCENES.

8-11 years, 12-15 years and 15-18 years

Date: Monday 14 to Wednesday 16 April

Time: 10am-4pm

Cost: $340 (Earlybird $315)

(Earlybird prices apply for bookings received before 12 March)

Book online at www.open.nida.edu.au or call NIDA Open on 02 9697 7626

Image: Autumn in NIDA, Photographer: Maja Basko

Wollongong Art Gallery is a service of Wollongong City Council and receives assistance from the NSW Government through Trade & Investment Arts NSW. Wollongong Art Gallery is a member of Regional and Public Galleries of NSW.