



Waratah West Public School – Moving Forward Together

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Dear families,

Term 3 is progressing swiftly with many more exciting events to come before we break for the holidays.

Throughout the last fortnight...

Dads, Pops and other significant male family members joined us for a delicious **Father's Day Breakfast**. It was fabulous to have so many 'Top Blokes' join us! Students really get a thrill from having their special people visit them at school. We thank all who attended, as well as Mrs Virginia Murdoch and our friends from Jesmond Lions Club for providing a yummy breakfast.



We had a visit from our **Adopted Newcastle Knights**

Tamika Upton and Tyson Frizell. Tyson and Tamika spent time supporting students in the classroom with Literacy activities. We look forward to another visit in Term 4.



Our students had a successful time at the **Under 10 NRL Gala Day** in Week 6. We are very proud of their efforts representing our school with pride, skill and outstanding sportspersonship.



Each Wednesday morning Tyler, Mahe, and Henry are enjoying their participation in **Fit for Life**, a partnership program with Newcastle PCYC. The boys engage in a

robust fitness session with PCYC officers, followed by a nutritious breakfast. Through physical fitness, nutrition and social engagement, Fit For Life aims to improve overall wellbeing.

Our Monday **KU supported playgroup** is a highlight of our week! In our sessions, educators discuss with families their child's interests and development, and offer individual support and referrals to a range of local community and health services. Topics such as children's play, health, wellbeing and safety are regularly included in our playgroup delivery and families are always welcome to suggest topics of interest. Playgroup is for children 0-5 years of age and operates each Monday 9am-11am. Please pass this information on to friends or neighbours with children in this age range.

Transition to school continues every Monday and Friday mornings 9am-11am. Our 'Aqua Juniors' have settled in seamlessly to our school family, and often don't want to leave at 11am! In Term 4, you are welcome to pack lunch and Juniors can stay for the first lunch session. Children will bring a note home with them today with information about scheduling a meeting time with Ms McCabe and Ms Thompson.



NAPLAN Congratulations to Year 3 and Year 5 students for impressive NAPLAN performances. We had some outstanding individual results, as well as our school average for Year 3 Reading being significantly above the State average. We have also had some pleasing results from the **Student Tell Them From Me Survey**. Tell Them From Me is a suite of surveys for measuring student engagement and wellbeing. Our **Student Engagement Survey** results have recently been released.

Student engagement is "a disposition towards learning, working with others, and functioning in a social institution". It includes students' sense of belonging at school, the extent to which they value schooling outcomes, and their psychological investment in learning. Engagement and learning go together. This dynamic and interactive process begins early - during the primary years or even earlier - and continues through to adulthood. Student engagement needs to be considered an important schooling outcome, sitting alongside academic achievement as a key measure of student success.

From our **Student Engagement Survey**, students report:

86% of students have a positive sense of belonging and positive teacher-student relationships at school; 97% value schooling outcomes; 97% believe they receive quality instruction at our school; 90% of students are interested and motivated to learn. All of these scores are significantly above the NSW Government norm.

Please contact the school if you would like a copy of the full report.

Attendance Award this fortnight has been earned by Kindergarten with an attendance Rate of 96%!



Coming up this term...

SASS Recognition Week! Our School Administrative and Support Staff are essential to our school community operations. This week we are giving them well deserved thanks and recognition for the vital tasks they perform on a daily basis to look after the education, health, safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. Many thanks to our brilliant SASS: Mrs Bunny and Mrs Van Hees are the face of our school. They support students, families and staff by making sure communication is clear, sick/injured students are cared for and the administration of the school is always completed. Our wonderful School Learning Support Officers support our students and staff in many ways - thank you Mrs Murdoch, Mrs Pola, Mrs Nightingale, Mrs Roberts, Mrs Trowbridge and Mrs McGuire. Miss Tara works hard in the library looking after our fantastic



collection of books. Mr Anschau works hard to keep the school buildings, playgrounds and gardens safe and looking spectacular. He has been assisted this term by Mr McCormack, Ms Jones and Mr Larsen. Thank you all for everything you do each and every day!

Check-in Assessments will take place for Years 4, 5 and 6 in the coming weeks. Check-in assessments are online assessment for students in Years 3 to 9. They are mapped to the NSW Syllabuses and National Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions. There are two assessments: Reading and Numeracy. The assessment supplements existing school practices to identify how students are performing in literacy and numeracy and to help teachers tailor their teaching more specifically to student needs.

Tomorrow Year 6 students will attend Callaghan Jesmond Senior Campus for a **specialised sport coaching opportunity**. Students will need to be at WWPS by 8:20am.

Lime students will participate in a Ten Pin Bowling Tournament on Friday. They have been practicing diligently and will have a ball!

Ms McCabe's return!

440km's, blisters, shin splints, sandstorms, torrential rain, soft sand and hundreds of sand hills - Ms McCabe has finally reached Birdsville! We spoke to her on the phone at assembly this morning and can't wait to hear more about her epic adventure. Ms McCabe is due to return to school on Friday.

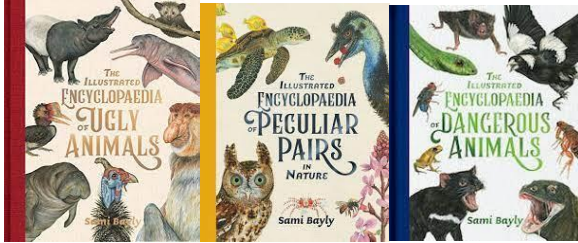


In Week 9 our Year 6 Aboriginal students will attend Callaghan Waratah High School for a day of cultural activities as part of our targeted **Aboriginal Student Transition Yr 6-Yr 7**.

Some of our Years 4, 5 and 6 students are attending **Mini Sparks Workshops** in Week 9. The purpose of these workshops is to establish a link between our students and Callaghan Waratah High staff, as well as to support high potential and gifted education at our school. These workshops offer students a 'taste' of high school learning in fun, interactive 1-hour workshops consisting of challenged-based activities.

Our **Book Week** activities will take place on Wednesday 14th September. Students will have a session throughout the day with talented local author Sami Bayly. At 2:15pm you are invited to join us for the **Book Week Parade and Pre-loved Book Sale**. The theme for our parade costumes is based on Sami Bayly

books (The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of **Ugly Animals**, The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of **Dangerous Animals**, The Illustrated Encyclopaedia **Peculiar Pairs**.) Costumes or masks can be designed and created at home, and/or students will have the opportunity to create them at school.



On Thursday 15th September our school captain, Tyler Chapman, will receive a **Make a Difference MAD Award** for Aboriginal Student Leadership. Tyler demonstrates his outstanding leadership skills every day in his role at school, in his family and in his sporting endeavours outside school. Congratulations, Tyler, on this fantastic honour.



On Friday 16th September The City of Newcastle's **Water Safety Education Program** will visit our school. The program is based around teaching preventative measures and fundamentals of water safety and includes a 25-minute presentation on beach safety, pool safety and open water safety.

In our final week of term, on Wednesday 21st September, we are looking forward to **our K-6 Excursion to the Irukandji Shark and Ray Centre** at Anna Bay. Notes have been sent home with details about this excursion. Please return permission slips and payment asap to assist with planning.

Mrs Van Hees

Sadly, our lovely Mrs Amy Van Hees will leave us at the end of this week. Mrs Van Hees has a young family and has been successful in securing a job much closer to home. I know you will agree that Mrs Van Hees has been a kind, friendly and supportive school staff member. We will all miss her very much. I wish her all the best for her new position and thank her for her service to our school community.

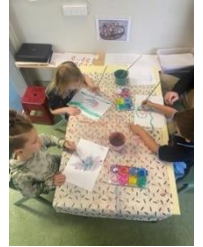
Finally, I am taking leave for Weeks 9 and 10 to attend a family wedding in Darwin. Many thanks to **Ms Chapman** for stepping up as **Relieving Principal** in my

absence. Best wishes for the remainder of Term 3, and for a safe and enjoyable holiday break.

Nicola Moroney

Aqua Class News

Aqua has had an exciting and jam-packed term 3 so far! This term we have been exploring and learning about many new concepts and working extraordinarily hard. In math's we have all learnt about time and are becoming very brilliant mathematicians. During this time, we did a great outdoor learning activity to consolidate our knowledge of what the longhand and shorthand represent on the clock and how they need to be positioned to tell the time on the hour. Aqua's schedule has been busier than ever not only with learning, but with transition this term also! Our Aqua friends are wonderful role models to our junior Aqua friends and very helpful when showing them the Waratah West way. Each Monday and Friday morning we all enjoy learning about the school and how things work in Aqua classroom while creating some wonderful friendships which will last long into the school years to come! We can't wait to see what the rest of term 3 brings for us!



LUKE & CHARLEY

WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS



*Mason, Suey,
Ezzekiah, Noah,
Ava, Altar.*



	Teacher & SLSO Awards	Superstar
LIME	Vincent, Mason	Mason, River
AQUA	Tyjaiya	Lachlan, Finn
TANGERINE	Sienna, Callum	Rezhwan, Ashley
SILVER	Muhammad, Lyric, Ekamjit	Carmel, Sage
PURPLE	Rowan, Lucas, Latanah	Addison, Charley



CALENDAR/UPCOMING EVENTS – TERM 3

Week 8

Friday 9th Sept Lime Inclusive Sports Ten Pin Bowling

Week 9

Monday 12th Sept Year 6 Check-in Assessment
 Wednesday 14th Sept Book Week Parade
 Thursday 15th Sept Aboriginal Student Transition Year 6 to Year 7
 Friday 16th Sept Mini Sparks Workshop
 Water Safety Education

Week 10

Wednesday 21st Sept Whole School Excursion – Shark and Ray Centre
 Friday 23rd Sept Last Day of Term

TERM 4

Week 1

Monday 10th Oct Students return to school