



THE RIVER NEWS

BULLETIN NO 9 MAY 2009

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Office Hours: 9am to 3.15pm Monday to Friday

Tennis Court: 0418 608 665

Before & After School Care: 9521 8170

P&C Meeting 3rd Tuesday of the Month

Important Dates

Term 2

21/05/2009

Zone Cross Country

22/05/2009

Disco

25/05/2009

Mufti for Korum

26/05/2009

Performance at
Menai Market Place

28/05/2009

Grandfriends Day

2/06/2009

Cake Stall

8-10/07/2009

Years 5 & 6 Can-
berra and Snowy
excursion

10/07/2009

Last day Term 2

BIKES & SCOOTERS

A friend of mine who is a police officer reckons the worst part of his job is knocking on a door to inform parents that their child has been injured or worse in an accident.

It is only a matter of time before this will occur in the Woronora Valley if the behaviour by some of our many bike and scooter riders does not improve.

Firstly we have many who arrive at school minus the legally required helmet. The children either leave home with it and hide it on the way or leave home without it. It is a legal requirement and if your child rides a bike or scooter to school then they must, by law, wear a helmet.

Secondly we have a number of students who feel it is their right to ride down Prices Circuit in the middle of the road. This is a serious if not fatal accident waiting to happen. In the last few weeks a number of children have even been playing chicken with the bus by riding in front of it as it heads north on Prices Circuit.

A number of bikes are poorly maintained and a few have inoperative brakes— considering the location of this school that is a catastrophic problem.

I have spoken to the riders as a group but it would appear to have had little impact. As from Week 5 which starts on Monday 25th May any student not wearing a helmet to school will have their bike / scooter impounded that day, will be issued with a formal letter of warning by me and they can pick up their conveyance the next day when they bring in their helmet. Should there be a second occurrence they will be barred from riding to and from school for the remainder of Term 2.

Any student observed riding dangerously will be formally warned and barred if it continues.

Parents I need your help and support to eradicate these dangerous practices.

EXCURSIONS, INCURSIONS & NOTES

Each time we have an excursion, a sports carnival or a visiting presenter there are always students who do not bring in notes. In most cases we send out a second and third note to try to ensure that all students attend.

For the recent Cross Country at Prince Edward Park office staff made 18 phone calls to check whether children were allowed to participate. Where a child has been away in the day or days leading up to the event it is understandable.

On Monday we had a Cartooning Workshop and we had as usual a number of students who had not paid. As we have to pay the presenter the fee per person attending students who had not paid were not able to attend. Unfortunately in the past we have allowed students to attend and tried to recoup moneys owing after the event, whilst most respond quickly and pay the outstanding amount we have some that do not. At the end of 2008 we had around \$1000 outstanding which in the school with a budget as small as ours is way too high.

As with any event at school if there is a problem in meeting any financial payments please contact the principal so that alternate arrangements can be made.

COSBTR PROJECTS

Each year when the Naplan results arrive the staff evaluates not only the progress of each individual student but also the performance of the cohort (all students sitting that test). As part of the staff evaluation we look at student performance in each aspect and then within each test performance in each question.

Our NAPLAN results showed that Years 3 & 5 in 2008 did not perform as well as expected in the area of writing.

To address this two specific programs have been developed to improve teachers knowledge and student performance in this area.

We have a number of teachers involved in Community of Schools between the Rivers (COSBTR) activities. Mrs Simula and Mrs Hudson are involved in a writing project for students in stage 2 (Yrs 3 & 4) The project looks very closely at student performance in writing identifying common errors and deficiencies in students writing.

This project has a direct impact for all students as part of their time in the library they undertake a very structured writing program which is followed up back in the classroom.

Meanwhile Mrs Taylor and Mrs Smith are involved in a writing language project. Every fortnight they will head to one of the COSBTR schools. Here they will meet with Sydney Region Literacy Consultants and complete training activities to assist the presentation of quality learning activities for students in stage 1 (K,1 & 2). Also as part of the day they will observe lessons and then will return to our school and teach these lessons plus lead all staff in workshop sessions highlighting what they have learnt.

EDUCATION WEEK ACTIVITIES

MUFTI DAY for KORUM

The SRC have called Monday 25th a Korum Colours Day. This mufti Day will raise the necessary funds to support Korum who is a 7 year old Ethiopian child. The SRC have had Korum as their foster child for almost 4 years and it is an outstanding project for the school to be supporting.

To signify their support for Korum students are asked to wear mufti clothes that feature red, green and yellow—the three colours on the Ethiopian flag.

As is always students must wear shoes that fully enclose the feet (no thongs or sandal please).

Remember to also bring your gold coin too!

MENAI PERFORMANCES

On Tuesday 26th May students from Woronora will be performing at Menai Market Place.

The Mrs Taylor's dance group, Class 1/2 and the senior choir will be on stage outside of Big W at 11.30am. If you are available come along to support our kids plus it's a perfect chance for a quick cuppa.

GRANDFRIENDS DAY

Well what a day Thursday 28th May promises to be. Separate notes have been sent home regarding Grand Friends activities and also catering. These notes must be returned by due dates as the catering needs to be organised prior to the day. Imagine the chaos if catering is sorted on say 100 meals and on the day 200 turn up. Please make sure you return your notes on time.

A timetable of the day will be sent home soon.

CONTACT DETAILS— STUDENT INFORMATION

A STUDENT INFORMATION sheet will be sent home tomorrow for each family.

In the past we have asked you to fill in a separate form for each child. This year to make it a little easier there is space on the back for multiple children.

This information is vitally important in maintaining accurate up to date information. Mobile phone numbers change, student allergies have changed etc If we do not know of these changes then it can create a problem for us all.

I would ask that these forms be filled in and returned to the office by no later than 29th May.

Thank you for your support.

P & C VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

Today as part of the newsletter a request sheet regarding P & C Voluntary Contribution has been attached. Our school like the majority of public schools relies heavily on the support of the P & C and the parent community to provide for the students of this school. The funds that are received from the DET cover little more than the day to day running costs of the school and go no where in providing funds to meet the resource needs of the 6 KLA's.

Without parental support we would have a library minus many books, Take Home reading schemes without books, little or no sports equipment, etc.

It is important that all families make an effort to support the financial needs of the school.

Recently the P & C donated \$5000 to the library and purchased 3 specialist reading kits to the value of \$2500.

To provide resources, educational opportunities we need parental support.

In the past we have had a response rate to voluntary contributions of around 80% so lets try for 100% in 2009.

PAPER LEVY

Each year we ask all families to contribute to the cost of the paper that we use at school.

Each year we print upwards of 150 000 sheets of paper. There is a split of approximately 50/50 in notes home, newsletters and classroom stencils and homework sheets.

As part of the paper levy each student receives a visual arts diary. The Diary is used as part of our daily Draw 4 ten Minutes Visual Arts program.

This program exposes all students to a wide variety of techniques, media and artworks over the space of the year.

Please do not confuse the Paper levy with the Voluntary contribution— they are two separate items and both need to be addressed.

PHOTOCOPIER

Our current photocopier is nearing the end of its 5 year lease. As this machine has aged it has become more and more unreliable and breakdowns are often and lengthy. This has meant at times delays in getting notes out to parents.

It has also lead to great frustration for staff when they are trying to get lesson stencils printed. Currently we are organising its replacement which should be here in mid June. The cost of a suitable machine is between \$10000 and \$15000.

OC CLASSES

Any parent considering their Year 4 student sitting for the OC Class tests for entry into Year 5, 2010 can collect an information / application pack from the school. The packs should be available on May 11th.

DISCO—PJ PARTY

Just a reminder that this Friday's PJ Disco will be no time for snoozing.

COLIN BUCHANAN DVD

St Johns Church, Sutherland has made available free to families a DVD featuring well known Christian performer Colin Buchanan. Colin with his mate Nudge take viewers on a fun filled and enjoyable look at church and religion.

If you would like a copy please fill in the tear off at the end of this newsletter.

IVOICES

Later in the week invoices are going to be sent home. There are a number of student invoices for outstanding money from Term 1. Last year over \$1000 was left unpaid by families. Please pay these outstanding amounts ASAP

PEER SUPPORT

Week 4

We are celebrating successes in Peer Support this week. The children identify their strengths and achievements and the role of perseverance in achieving a personal best.

Ask your child to tell you which word they chose to best describe their own strengths and qualities so you can affirm them in this area.

Week 5

This week in Peer Support, we introduce students to the recurring theme in *Taking Opportunities*; the Jack in the Box. Children discuss the different ways of responding to difficult situations and learn that they can cope by having a go, being positive and not giving up. We have called this being resilient. The construction of their own jack in the box serves as a reminder to the children that they can spring back when they feel under pressure from circumstances.

Encourage your child to discuss their understanding of resilience and the need to practise resilience whenever they get the opportunity. You might like to help them find a prominent place in your home for their Jack in the Box as a visual reminder.

MOBILE PHONES

From time to time and for a variety of reasons students have mobile phones at school. If a student brings a phone to school they are asked to bring the phone to the Principal's office where they remain until the end of the day when the students can collect them.

AWARDS

Congratulations to these children who recently received their Achievement Certificate:

Kindy: Cooper Weaver

K_1 : Christopher Meyer

Yr 1_2: Lara Ballantine

Yr 2_3: Caitlin Betts, Reece Blackett, Andrew Locke, Jack Locke, Jeremy McConnell

Yr 3_4: Cristian Fotoulis, Emily Chapman

Yr4_5: Daniel Back

NEWSLETTER via EMAIL

If you would like to receive the school newsletter via email please send your email address to the office.

PHOTOS

Whole school and leader photos are available to view in the school office. If you would like to purchase these they are \$15.00 each.

PSSA Sport

Netball

Senior B's

Two weeks ago on Friday the 1st of May the Wonnie Senior B's played their first game of 2009. We versed Sutherland. The score was 14-2 our way. We all played our very best. In the 1st half Emma N. Played very well as WA, Nikki played great as WD also and Daene played good as well. It was a hard decision but the girl of the match goes to Madison for shooting 7 great goals as her first time as a shooter. GREAT GAME GIRLS.

By Sara Hubbard and Nikki Stewart

Senior A's

On Friday 8/5/09 the Wonnie Senior A girls played Carriabah. We won 13 to 4. Lucy was GS, Alysse and Georgia played GA, Annalise was C. We played a great game but the girl of the game goes to Zoe P. For great passing. GREAT GAME GIRLS!
Caitlyn & Sara C.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Need a Night Out? Need a babysitter in the valley?

Hi my name is Jamie Lambert, I'm 14 (15 in August 2009) and I live in Woronora. I'm in Year 9 at St Patricks at Sutherland. I am a current holder of a CPR and Advanced Resuscitation Certificate. I have been minding children who are aged 12mths to 10yrs and I can supply references if required. I charge \$10 per hour, so if you need an experienced, reliable babysitter give me a call on 9521 6996 or 0433 070 622.

COLIN BUCHANAN DVD

Yes, I would like to receive the free Colin

Buchanan DVD.

Child's Name:

Class:.....

TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday 3rd July 7pm

The Jannali High School hall

This event is to raise funds for the 2009/2010 Sutherland-Lakewood Sister City Student Exchange Program
– Kaleidoscope Group

Come and enjoy a FUN night!

Theme: Red, White & Blue

Prizes Raffles, Games, Silent Auction and more...

\$15 – Adults \$10 – Students

Tables of 10 (individuals can be accommodated)

BYO Drinks and snacks for your table

Tea, coffee and cake will be served

To Book phone Beth on
9589 0141(AH) or 0422 681 778

A Night at the Museum 2

Special screening

Book now to confirm a seat.

Sunday 31st May at 4.30pm

Miranda Greater Union

Tickets: Adults \$15, Students \$11

For bookings call Beth 9589 0141(AH)
or 0422 681 778

Menai Animal Hospital **Open Day**

When: Saturday 20th June 2009
12.30 pm -3.30 pm

Where: Cnr Billa & Menai Rd Bangor



Petting Zoo, Hospital tours, stalls, face painting, games, prizes, peak behind the scenes, animals galore, free sausage sizzle & lots more.

Come have lunch with us!

WORONORA RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOL

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Voluntary Contributions 2009

Each year the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association at Woronora River Public School raises funds to help the school provide better education and improved facilities for your children.

Last year we provided nearly \$30 000 to the school community. This year we anticipate we will spend another \$30 000. The projects we have supported over the last two years are shown below

2007	Amount
P.A Upgrade	\$ 4000
Bell System	
Stage	\$ 5000
Store rooms	\$12000
Fencing	\$ 3000
Library	\$ 1000
Resources - readers	\$ 2000

2008	
Retainer walls	\$6000
Resource Readers	\$2000
Funds held for re-turfing	\$30000

Whilst governments provide for most of the substantial costs of your children's education, the budget never covers everything we would like. Occasionally we get a little extra for special projects, but generally the funds cover 'the bare essentials'. It is thanks to the blood, sweat and tears of the P&C, past and present teachers, parents and students, who help make up the difference. In doing so, they assist the school to improve the facilities (for all children) at Woronora River Public School. Of course, the list of things to do is always bigger than our bank balance!

To pay for these facilities the P&C conduct a number of fundraising activities. The P&C also administers the uniform shop and canteen – largely on a not for profit basis and also the tennis court and Before & After School Care Centre. The other main source of fund raising is the voluntary contribution that we ask all parents to make. It is a modest once a year payment that allows us all to avoid weekly raffles or selling boxes of chocolates.

There are now two options to make your donation:

Option 1:

Minimum contributions are \$35.00 for one child or \$60.00 for a family. Donations of other amounts can also be made. If you can help make Woronora River Public School a better place for your children, please complete the Voluntary Contribution envelope attached and hand the envelope (marked 'P&C Voluntary Contribution') in at the office. Cheques are made payable to WRPS. A receipt will be provided in the next few weeks.

Option 2:

Alternatively you can make your cheque payable to Woronora River Public School P & C. It will be deposited in the P & C Building fund. The donations above \$2 to the Building Fund are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided. These funds will then be used to pay for maintenance items within the school, freeing up funds from the schools budget to purchase resources.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or comments, please call Ron Pallas on 9521 3582 or your P&C Secretary Lisa Monaghan on 0400 029 543.



Wonnie Warriors

**Friends..Fun
& Fitness**

Small Group Training for ALL FITNESS LEVELS

Outdoor circuits
Boxing

Shuttle runs

Stair climbs

Trail adventures

Sessions & Times:

Monday 6:00 - 6:45am, Prince Edward Park (New Session)

Wednesday Evenings 6:30pm -7:30pm, Woronora RSL Auditorium

Saturday 7am - 8am, Prince Edward Park

Cost: \$10 per person

Phone to reserve your place as numbers are limited!

Christie 0416 350 214
christieanndavies@hotmail.com