Principal's Report

In this is our final newsletter for 2014, and on behalf of the staff and students, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy Christmas. To all of the students who won’t be returning to us next year, we wish you well at your new school. We hope that you take with you many happy memories from NWPS.

Today is Bec Thomas’s last day with us for a while. She will be leaving us next year to travel Australia with her family. We wish her well. It should be an absolutely amazing experience!

Next week will be the last week for our lovely SAM, Kelly Wright. I know that many of you have been to visit and say your farewells. On behalf of the students and staff I wish her all the best as she heads off to Marks Point PS.

Students will have their last day at school on Wednesday and will return on Wednesday, January 28, 2015.

Presentation Night

Thank you parents for the positive feedback I have received about Presentation Night. We were all so happy that the rain held off! Congratulations to each of our award winners. Teachers agonise over whom to give each of the awards to and they are all well-deserved.

Huge congratulations to Beatie for being named as Dux for 2014. She has worked hard to achieve this award. Beatie performs well in all areas, although her strength is in English. It has been a pleasure teaching her for four of her primary years and to see her development in that time.

Congratulations to our newly elected leaders for 2015! They are:

Captains: Jesse Killeen and Stanley Smith
SRC leaders: Keeley Norton and Jack Black
Sports Captain: Harry Tunney
Library Monitor: Emily White

Carol Night

Gates will open at 6.00 pm on Tuesday for a fun and relaxing evening of a picnic with carols. Don’t forget your blanket and chairs and some loose change for all the little extras. There will be a $2.00 entry charge for everyone over the age of 5, glow sticks, ‘candles’ and assorted paraphernalia for sale; cakes from the cake stall, dinner at the canteen; face painting in the COLA; a coffee van; extra raffle tickets for sale; and a uniform stall selling off the current tunic and other older stock.

Students can wear Christmas colours. Please remember that this is an alcohol and pet free event.

Last Day of Term

We begin the last day of term with a ‘slave auction’. Year 6’s work in teams to complete tasks for each of the classes. Could all students bring in some loose change to add to the class pot for the ‘purchase’ of a team. With 12 students in Year 6 there is sure to be some fierce bidding.

The SRC leaders have begun collecting money and names for the upcoming Talent Quest next Wednesday. The cost is 50c per student per item. These two events begin the fundraising for the 2015 Year 6 student present to the school. In recent years the Talent Quest has started at 11:35 am and finished just before 3.00 pm. We are expecting this to be the case again this year. You are welcome to come and watch all, or some, of the show.

At 2:55 pm the school will line up at the front gate and perform the traditional clap-out for Year 6 and other departing students.

Changes for 2015

Following the parent ‘dots’ feedback and through follow-up conversations with several parents, staff have decided that with our new school plan, this is a good time to make some changes to our programs and ways of running things. We will not be offering tennis or dance next year.

In Terms 1 and 3 we are signed up for Jellybeans Music program K—6. This will cost approximately $4.00 a student and is for every child in the school to be involved in. Trained music teachers will come and teach a fully developed music program incorporating singing, percussion and recorder. Students in 3—6 will receive a recorder as part of the program. There are eight lessons in each of the terms. We are able to use equity funds to support students where financial concerns would prevent involvement.
We are still deciding on a program for Term 2. Possibly a whole school dance / movement program, gymnastics or even yoga. Happy to have your thoughts on this.

Karin Hird  
Principal

Class News

Kindergarten

I would like to say a huge thank you to Miss Brindley for the fantastic job she did teaching Kindergarten for 2 weeks. I have been working on many projects, including the introduction of a new literacy approach called SSP (Speech Sound Pics) we will implement next year in K-4, as well as expanding resources to support K-2 students to develop particular mathematics skills. I am excited to be back with my class to enjoy their final days of Kindergarten!

On Wednesday, I read a new book which had the students almost rolling around on the floor in fits of laughter. It is called 'The Book With No Pictures' by B. J. Novak. I would highly recommend adding it to your home library. Ask you child about it and what the rules of reading a book are (and what Ms Hook had to do because she was following the rules).

Our class end-of-year party will be held on Monday. Food will be supplied. As this is the last newsletter of the year, I'd like to say thank you for all the support you have given your child and the Kindergarten class this year. I have enjoyed watching them grow and learn during their first year of school!

Ms Hook

1/2

The final Stars of the week for 2014 are Keely and Ben. On Monday and Tuesday this week, students have been having fun with Mrs Suciu, while Mrs Halligan and Mrs Hook were planning English and Mathematics programs for next year.

On Friday, Mr Derbyshire and 1/2 will be having an end of year class party as a reward for good behaviour! If students could bring the item indicated on the note, it would be much appreciated. Mr D is quite happy for you to come along also if you wish.

It was lovely to be able to thank parents at the parent helper morning tea on Tuesday. We would like to extend our thanks to all our wonderful parents who have supported us in 1/2 this year. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe start to 2015. We wish our students all the best who are moving on to other schools and look forward to seeing everyone else back in 2015.

See you at carols next Tuesday!

Mrs Halligan and Mr Derbyshire

4/5/6

Thank you to all of the parents who supported the Year 6 Farewell on Monday evening. The room looked fantastic! Although it was unfortunate that a blackout held up the food for a while, the children appeared to have a great time and behaved themselves. Thanks also for joining in the dancing as that adds to the festive spirit; and is a great memory to have. This was Tina’s seventh consecutive, and final, farewell at NWPS. Thanks for your support Tina.

If your child has not yet returned their Semester 1 portfolio, could they come back tomorrow please. It helps if all the work from Semester 1 has been put in to one sleeve at the back.

It has been great teaching 4/5/6 this year. They are a really nice group and have made me smile, or laugh aloud, on many an occasion. Having taught the Year 6 girls for three years now, I am going to miss them. It has been wonderful to see how they have matured and developed in that time. In fact I’ve taught several of the Year 6 boys for three or four years as well, in Years 1 and 2 and then in 5 and 6. This year in particular has seen them mature into really nice boys who are ready for high school. All the best at Swansea HS, Year 6! Please come back and say, ‘hello’.

Mrs Hird

From the Office……

I would like to take this opportunity to say Farewell to my “Partner in Crime” in the office Miss Kelly Wright. I have immensely enjoyed working with you and I’m sure I speak for the whole school community when I say you will be greatly missed.

Sue Selby

Happy Birthday To:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Imogen</td>
<td>18 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron</td>
<td>6 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklin</td>
<td>10 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan</td>
<td>18 Jan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad</td>
<td>19 Jan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taj</td>
<td>20 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montanna</td>
<td>26 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>28 Jan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd</td>
<td>28 Jan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Our School Values: Positive Behaviour Learning: Be Safe, Be Respectful & Be a Learner
Coming Events
Term 4 Week 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 16 Dec</td>
<td>Carols Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Dec</td>
<td>Talent Quest</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 6 ‘Clap Out’</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Last Day for Students</td>
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Term 1 Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 27 Jan</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 28 Jan</td>
<td>Students Return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 1—6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kinder Best Start Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 29 Jan</td>
<td>Kinder Best Start Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 30 Jan</td>
<td>Kinder Students commence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Carols Night !!!

Donations for the Cake Stall are welcome!!!

Please leave your wonderful, tempting donations for the Cake Stall at the office for Carols Night during the day or bring them with you on the night. Please remember to label all cakes, slices, etc with the ingredients.

Donations for the Christmas Hamper !!!

Please bring your donations to the office by Tuesday morning. Thank you to all who have already made donations.

All raffle tickets are to be returned (whether sold or unsold) by Tuesday morning.

The Uniform Shop !!!

Miss Wright, Mrs Selby and Mrs Muir will be selling second hand and superseded uniform articles on Carols Night—ALL MUST GO—for a Gold Coin donation. All proceeds go to the P & C Association.

Stewart House bouncy balls will also be sold for $3.00 each to help fund the great work done to allow underprivileged kids to attend holidays at Stewart House in Sydney.

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop needs someone to run it in 2015. We thank Tracey Harris for her help with this uniforms, but we need a new volunteer!!!

If you are interested in this position please don’t hesitate to contact the school or the P & C President!!! You will need to be available to open the Uniform Shop on Tuesday 27 January (Staff Development Day) for sales.

Canteen Roster:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Canteen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 12 Dec</td>
<td>Sidone Lambert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 15 Dec</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 17 Dec</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And finally..................

It has been a great three years at Nords Wharf Public School. I have met many wonderful families—and have formed many life—long friendships whilst being involved in the school community.

I would particularly like to mention my “bud” Sue Selby, who working alongside and dressing up for Book Parades would only be half the joy it has been. My duties as Office Manager have been made easier having Sue’s valuable assistance over the years and I appreciate all your hard work, Sue.

I have had a busy time here, had oodles of fun, and hopefully have made a positive impact in school procedures, office structure and with parents, students and staff.

I will miss you all..........and don’t be afraid to come over and say G’day when your Athletics Carnival is on—I am only over the road.

Have the merriest of Christmases, the happiest of holidays and I wish good health and happiness for you all in the future.

Love Kelly x
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Bush Skills Adventure
Wednesday 14 January 2015 9.30am – 12.30pm For 9-12 years
Tuesday 20 January 2015 9.30am – 12.30pm For 9-12 years
Have fun making a bush survival shelter, cook damper, learn knotting and other bush skills.
Cost: $20 per child Bookings Essential Ph: 02 4951 6466

Wriggly Wetlanders
Wednesday 14 January 2015 10.00am – 12.30pm For 5 – 8 years
Monday 19th January 2015 10.00am – 12.30pm For 5 – 8 years
Enjoy a wetlands wander, then get creative with craft activities.
Cost: $20 per child Bookings Essential Ph: 02 4951 6466

Bring the Family to the Hunter Wetlands Centre -
a fun, environmentally friendly learning experience!
Opened every day
(Closed 24th, 25th, 26th, 31st December 2014, 1st January 2015)

Access
Car/minibus parking available onsite. Public Transport: Train - easy 15 minute walk from Sandgate Station. Bus – 107 & 106 buses go past the Wetlands. 10 minute walk from stop at Marton St & Sandgate Rd
Cost
$2 per primary-school age child (special school holiday rate). $5 general entry

Activities
Watch the Magpie Goose Feeding at 10.30 am & 2.30pm
Try disnetting from the jetty
Follow the trail and become a “Wetlands Explorer” - go into the weekly draw for a prize.
Playtime at Discovery Playground
Check out the creatures in the tanks in the Visitor Centre
12 noon - Tank Talk (10-45 minutes) – opportunity for children to learn about reptile behaviour and care and actually handle some of the reptiles from the tanks in the Visitor Centre.

Facilities
Toilets available in Visitor Centre
Cafe – meals, chips, icecreams, drinks
Undercover picnic tables and shelter
Shop – gift shop

Santa Claus is coming to Town!!!!

The Wallarah Brigade Fire trucks will again be transporting Santa and the fireman elves around our local area with lolly bags for the children.

21/12/14 Santa will be in Nords Wharf, Cam's Wharf, Rafferty's Resort and Murrays Beach from 12.00 onwards

24/12/14 Santa will be in Catho from 5.30pm onwards.

Keep on the look out for all the Fire Trucks and Listen for the sirens!!

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year to everyone!!
It's holiday time!
The holidays are a great time to be active with friends and family.

Keep active during the holidays by

- Planning ahead and scheduling a regular time for physical activity each day.
- Keeping a football, frisbee, skipping rope, scooters or bat and ball in your car.
- Limiting the amount of time your children are allowed to spend watching TV, using the internet and playing consoles to 2 hours each day.
- Swapping playing inside for playing outside.
- Planning friend and family visits with a view to being active e.g. play cricket in the backyard, go to the park or swimming at the beach or baths. Remember to take bikes, tennis rackets, balls and other active equipment.

Keep active during the holidays by

Walking, Riding, or Scooter-ing

Try these tracks:
- The Fernleigh Track
- Bathers Way
- Blackbutt Reserve
- The Wetlands Centre
- Great North Walk
- Shipwreck Walk
- Red Bluff and Lake Pathway


Keep active during the holidays with

Holiday sport camps

Encourage physical activity with great Christmas gift ideas...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price Range</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $9.99</td>
<td>Frisbee, skipping rope, skipping ball, hand ball, cricket bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10.00 - $19.99</td>
<td>Snorkel, goggles &amp; flipper set, slip n slide, netball, hula hoop, surfing lesson, soccer ball, football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20.00 - $29.99</td>
<td>10 pin bowling set, 7 game sport set, rebound net, baseball set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30.00 - $39.99</td>
<td>Boogie Board, Wahu beach cricket set, bike helmet, tennis racquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40.00 - $49.99</td>
<td>10 pass visit to local swimming pool, backyard soccer goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50.00 - $59.99</td>
<td>Baseball auto pitch, Wahu beach mega pack, volleyball set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60.00 - $69.99</td>
<td>Running shoes, MP3 player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$70.00 - $99.99</td>
<td>Net ball stand, roller blades, table tennis table, basketball system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100.00 - $159.00</td>
<td>Scooter, bike, ripstick, gymstick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Try this at home!

Sock Tails

Equipment: 2 long socks per person
Area: Large open space such as the backyard or the park

How to play:
1. Everyone tucks 2 socks into their pants so that they hang out like tails.
2. Everyone is in, and has to try and steal other’s tails. If you steal a tail, tuck it into your pants and keep trying to steal more. If all your tails have been stolen you are NOT out, just keep trying to steal more.

3. HAVE FUN!
Join us for a

Sing a Long

at Nords Wharf Public School's
Christmas Carols

Tuesday, December 16th 2014
Gates open at 6pm, Admission $2
Alcohol and Pet Free Zone

Face Painting ★ Visit from Santa ★ Sausage Sizzle
Cake Stall ★ Raffle

For more information,
please contact the school on 4976 1257
or e-mail nordswharf-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au