Principal’s Report

It is great to back at Nords Wharf PS this week! It is lovely to see all of the smiling faces and happy children in our playground. Our Kinders have grown so much!

It has also been Kelly Wright’s first week back from an amazing European vacation. Miss Wright is busy working her way through the finances this week. If you have had any issues with your account then this will be resolved shortly. Please contact the office later next week if you haven’t heard anything and you have a concern. We apologise for any confusion caused. Organisation for our Canberra excursion will be finalised by the end of next week.

Science Fair

Year 6 students plus Keeley presented their experiments at the inaugural Galgabba Science Fair last week. This is an opportunity for students to develop their skills as a scientist through writing a hypothesis, testing it, analysing the results and creating a display of their findings. Students from each of the Galgabba schools were involved so it was also a chance to see and learn from the work being done in other classrooms. Photos from the night are available for viewing at http://galgabba.weebly.com/2014.html. If you have additional photos that could be added then please share them with me and I will see that they are added. Please feel free to leave a comment in the blog as well. There is also a link to an article that has been published in The Star about the event.

Kindergarten 2015 Enrolment and Parent Information Evening

We will be holding our Kinder 2015 parent information evening in the school Library on Monday, 8 September from 6.00 pm. All students who are 4 ½ to 6 years of age are entitled to start school in 2015 in our Kindergarten class. If you have children who are in this age group, or know of families of children in this age group, or any neighbours who currently attend other schools and would like to attend Nords Wharf PS in Kinder to Year 6 in 2015, could you (and tell them to) please contact the school office. The new enrolment forms are now available. Please let families know that they are welcome to come and visit and see what we have to offer. Thank you everyone.

Future School Planning

Consultation is a key component of our 2015 - 2017 strategic planning and it is time to commence our data collection. This data will form the basis of decisions for the next three years as we set the directions we want NWPS to head. The Melbourne Declaration acknowledges major changes in the world that are placing new demands on Australian Education:
- Global integration and international mobility;
- The increasing need for Australia to become ‘Asia literate’;
- Globalisation and technological change;
- Complex environmental, social and environmental pressures; and,
- Rapid and continual advances in information and communication technologies;

As such the two goals set for Australian Schools as a result of this declaration are:
Goal 1 - Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence; and,
Goal 2 - All young Australians become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens.

On this basis we would like you to consider what we are doing well and need to continue; what we need to do better; and, are there any practices that we presently have that we need to stop? As well as reviewing existing practices it is timely to gather any new ideas to make NWPS a better place for all students. Attached to this newsletter is a one page response sheet where you can list your ideas. These will be collated and combined with staff and student responses.

Ethics Classes

We now have a fully trained Ethics teacher, Donna Black, who is able to teach Ethics to our Stage 3 students. Ethics lessons will be offered to students who have opted out of scripture. Ethics will cover a variety of topics including; A Fair Society? Human Rights: Do other animals have them? Fatalism.

We will have a guest speaker explaining the program further on Monday at 3:15 pm in the 4/5/6 room. All parents are welcome to attend.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent / Teacher interviews have been held each afternoon this week. If you were unable to see your child’s teacher but would still like an interview then please contact them to make alternative arrangements.

Karin Hird
Principal
Class News

Kindergarten

We say farewell to our 15 chicks this afternoon as they are adopted by our school families. It has been an amazing experience to see them hatch and grow. The students have enjoyed holding the chicks and observing them eating, sleeping and running around. Yesterday, Kindergarten sat in a circle watching the chicks interact and drew pictures of them.

Our Science unit ‘Do all animals make good pets?’ is well under way. We have brainstormed many animals and classified them into their natural habitats. Students have begun watching video clips of different animals and talking about what we would need to keep them as a pet. With our interactive whiteboard working again we have been able to look at the Green Sheep’s adventures through Europe and connect some of the places he visited with a picture book we have just read called ‘Mr Chicken goes to Paris’.

Miss Farrugia will be teaching Kindergarten this Friday while I am attending a conference and also next Monday.

Ms Hook

1/2

The star of the week this week is Joe! Well done Isabelle, Aliyah, Torhi, Alby, Brooklin, Jace, Daniel, Ben, Jaden, Alyssa, and Cooper who correctly spelt all their words in their spelling test last week.

Thank you so much to the parents who were able to come and meet us this week at parent-teacher interviews. It was great to have the opportunity to discuss our child’s progress and achievements. If you would like an interview, please come and see us, we are both available on Monday and Tuesday or Mr Derbyshire on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

We have been discussing students’ families during news and ask that each child bring in a photo or drawing of their family to put in their ‘Me Box’. 1/2 have also been identifying objects that are special to them that they could put in their ‘Me box’. Next week during news we are asking students to talk about an item that is special to them. This could be a toy, book, article of clothing or a picture of this item (if it is not appropriate to bring it to school). This item can then also go in the student’s ‘Me box’.

Thank you to the parents who have said they are happy to help with Mr D’s Multi Lit program, I am still looking for any other parents that are able to provide an hour anytime through the week so please let me know.

Mrs Halligan and Mr Derbyshire

4/5/6

Great to be back with my class this week! We have a student teacher with us for four weeks. Her name is Dana Dyson-Smith. We have been working on the topic ‘belonging’ in English. The text for this week is called “Dancing the Boom Cha-Cha Boogie” and is an analogy for refugees coming to a new land. We have been looking closely at the use of language and pictures to tell a story. We have also started to learn about how democracy works in Australia in preparation for our trip to Canberra. This is a very fact based unit of work. We do not get in to the pros and cons or political opinion about the current government. The only homework this week was to find out the names of our current East Ward Lake Macquarie Councillors. Spelling and times tables will resume next week.

Callum, Ethan, Beatie, Keeley and Jack will be debating Floraville on Monday. We wish them well as they argue for the negative on the topic, “That we are not alone”.

Mrs Hird

Office News

It is wonderful to be back and see everyone’s smiling faces. We are currently working on an information pack for our Canberra excursion with Pelican Flat Public School. This booklet will be sent home soon. All accounts are being revised. New accounts will be posted home when this has been completed. We have information regarding a direct debit system through our school website to make paying your school fees a lot easier. Stay tuned, this will be a work in progress between the School’s Finance Department and the school.

Kelly and Sue

Happy Birthday To:

Madi 3 August

Coming Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11 Aug</td>
<td>Public Speaking Stg 3 - Floraville PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12 Aug</td>
<td>Public Speaking Stg 2</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting—6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 13 Aug</td>
<td>Zone Athletics</td>
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<td>Thurs 14 Aug</td>
<td>Zone Athletics</td>
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Canteen Roster:
Friday 8 August  Ebony Knight
Monday 11 August  Volunteers Needed
Wed 13 August  Sidone Lambert

Term 3 Week 5

Book Week Dress Up Day

Book Week is in Week 6 this term. On Tuesday 19 August we will be holding a dress-up day to celebrate reading and our love of stories. The book week theme this year is ‘Connect to Reading’. Mrs Stoppini has discussed the theme with the students and they can dress up as a character from a story they connect to or they can dress up according to a genre e.g. science fiction-spaceman; fantasy- fairy. Start planning your fantastic costumes now!

Ms Hook

Term 5 Week 6

UNIFORM SHOP

FROM TERM 3—THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPENING ON THURSDAYS 9.00 AM—9.30 AM

Our Size 6, 8 & 10 Microfibre Jackets arrive in stock in 2 weeks time (just in time for those August winds). Sorry for the delay everyone!

Thanks Kylie

Merit Awards

Class Awards
K
Kamea
Evie
1/2
Sophie S
Isabelle
Dylan
Torhi
Jace
Alby
3/4
Tiahna
Evan
4/5/6
Jesse K
Montanna

Reading Awards
Dylan

Green Awards
Taj M

PBL Awards
Dylan
Nathan

Times Tables Awards
Keely

Nords Wharf Public School
Kindergarten 2015 Enrolments taken now!

Our School Values Positive Behaviour Learning: Be Safe, Be Respectful & Be a Learner
NORDS WHARF PUBLIC SCHOOL
"Forever Onward"

ABSENCE NOTE

Student Surname: ____________________________________________

First Name: ____________________________________________

Class: ________________

Date/s of Absence: _______________________________________

Reason for Absence: _______________________________________

________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________

Parent / Guardian Signature: _________________________________

Date: ________________________________

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NWPS EVALUATION IN PREPARATION FOR FUTURE PLANNING

Consultation is an important part of our evaluation process. We value your opinions and your thoughts will be an important component of our final plan.

When responding to each section please consider all aspects of schooling at NWPS. Please refer to things such as activities, programs, technology, welfare and discipline, communication, links to other schools, support programs, extension, collaboration with the P&C, assessment and reporting, atmosphere ...

1. What we are doing well and need to continue?

2. What do we need to do better?

3. Are there any practices that we presently have that we need to stop?

4. Do you have any new ideas that would make NWPS an even better place to educate your child?

If you would be interested in being a member of a school planning committee to work on the development of the 2015 - 2017 school plan then please contact the office or come and see me.

Thanks for your thoughts. Mrs Hird.