

Woolomin Public School

Newsletter Week 5 Term 1

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Wednesday, 1 March 2017

Assembly Awards



Principal's Award: Sam Meredith for using positive growth mind strategies to meet learning challenges.



K/1/2 Merit Certificate: Indiana Fisher (week 4) for improved writing and letter formation. Glen Meredith for outstanding effort across all KLA's.



3 - 6 Merit Certificate:

James Sampson for Outstanding focus and application of academic skills.



Merit Certificate: Liam Wells for being an enthusiastic learner as part of the kitchen garden program.

Caught you prize: Indiana Fisher



Peel Valley Swimming

The Peel Valley Swimming Carnival will be held this Friday at Nundle Pool. Students who are participating have been given a note by Miss Miles. Please ensure all notes are returned to school by Thursday 2/3/17. Transport is by private vehicle. Mrs McMahon will be at the pool. Running a carnival of this size requires the support of many people to fill the different positions of time keepers, recorders etc. If there are any parents who are attending on the day who can lend a hand for a few hours in any of the above roles, your assistance will be gratefully appreciated. Please see Mrs McMahon before or on the day.

Regional Swimming

It was a lovely surprise when Riley contacted the school that afternoon to share the news that our senior relay team had placed second in the Mixed 8-13 4x50 LC Metre Freestyle Peter Dobson Relay. William, Riley, Luke and Tyler are now off to compete at regional level in Armidale at the North-West Swimming Carnival on Monday 6th March. Congratulations to all students who competed in the Zone Swimming Carnival held at Scully Park Pool last Friday. Competing at this level of competition is commendable and we are very proud of all our swimmers. GO WOOLOMIN!



Swim Coaching

Well done to the swimmers who are participating in the Peel Valley, Zone and Regional carnivals and who have taken advantage of the extra coaching sessions the school has arranged with Mrs Bromfield. We gratefully appreciate Mrs Bromfield's willingness to provide many extra opportunities for students to train and their parents who have provided transport to Nundle Pool on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. This is a great example of schools, parents and community leaders with expertise working together to provide students with the extra experiences to develop their skills to the next level.

SRC Friday special

This Friday 3rd of March the SRC will have a Fruit Salad Cup for \$2.00 available as part of the SRC Special Friday Lunches. Just a reminder that toasties are not available on Fridays.

Art Request

If you have any spare Vegetable/Fruit netting bags, can you please send them into school over the next two weeks. K/1/2 will be using them in an Art Collage about Fish as an Indigenous Food.



Thank you!
Mrs Povea-Roworth

Old Gumboots

If any parents have any old gumboots at home that no longer fit their children we welcome them at school. The students are keen to start one of these in our garden. Please give to Miss Miles



Bottle Lid Request

Can parents please collect bottle lids from home for our kitchen garden program. We are aiming to make one of these. Please give to Miss Miles.



Old Shirts

Please send in some old shirts that your child/ren can change into when the kitchen garden program is running. The clothes will be kept at school. ENSURE YOU LABEL ALL CLOTHES.

Blue Folders

The Blue Folders have been working fantastically in ensuring that all school notes are making it home safely and in one piece and I'd like to thank students for being so diligent in the new system. We are getting it right mostly but as a reminder please encourage students to hand them back into the office at the beginning of the school day to ensure all permission notes are received and the folders are ready to pop back into student pigeon holes with any new notes.

Dates for Your Diary

Week 5

Friday 3 rd March	Peel valley swimming carnival
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Week 6

Monday 6 th March	P&C AGM and March meeting. 3:30pm start
	Regional swimming - Armidale
Wednesday 8 th March	Teddy bear hospital
Friday 10 th March	Special assembly – 2:00pm

Week 8

Wednesday 22 nd March	Tamworth High School taster day. Years 4 and 5
Thursday 23 rd March	SRC disco – Space theme
Friday 24 th March	Tamworth show – Animal nursery
Saturday 25 th March	Tamworth show continues

Week 10

Wednesday 5 th April	Tamworth High School taster day. Years 4 and 5
Thursday 6 th April	Debating & public speaking day. Tamworth High School

Secondary Schools Open Day

Many of the secondary schools are currently offering open days and information nights for students and families transitioning to high school in 2018.

Tamworth High School Information Night is on Wednesday 8 March 2017. All interested parents, teachers and students from Years 4, 5 & 6 are invited to attend. The Peel High School Selective Open Day will be held on the 4th March from 10 am to 12 pm.

After Schools Sports Program

The after-school hockey program is well under way. Students who are participating in this opportunity appear to be enjoying both the skill and social aspect of learning to play hockey and enjoying afternoon tea and play with friends after school. If you would like your child to participate it is not too late to get a permission note. Please ensure if your child is attending that you have sent your permission note back to school.



Premiers Reading Challenge



This year our school is participating in the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC). The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is an initiative of the NSW State government. It aims to encourage in students a love of reading for leisure and pleasure and to enable them to experience quality literature.

It is not a competition but a challenge to each student - to read, to read more and to read more widely. The competition opens on the 6th March. Information on competition rules, book lists and student reading logs will be sent home this Friday.

More information can be found at the PRC website <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

P&C AGM

The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Woolomin Public School Parents and Citizens' Association will be held on Monday 6th March commencing at 3.30pm.

Following acceptance of the minutes from the 2016 AGM and the tabling of the Audit Report for the half-year ended 31 December 2016, all current office bearer roles will be declared vacant and nominations called for the following positions:

- President
- 2 x Vice Presidents
- Secretary
- Treasurer

All current P&C members are encouraged to attend the AGM to vote and/or nominate for vacant positions on the executive and sub-committees.

For more information concerning any aspects of the P&C including the conduct of the AGM, and the roles of executives and sub-committees, please go to the NSW P&C Federation website;

<http://www.pandc.org.au/faq.seo>

The AGM is open to all parents and carers who wish to attend, however only financial members are eligible to vote and/or nominate for vacant positions.

At the completion of the AGM the March general meeting will be held.

Animal Nursery

P&C members have commenced co-ordination of the 2017 Tamworth Show Animal Nursery. This is a major fundraiser for our school community and all families are encouraged to support this initiative in any way they can. Funds raised are directly committed to excursion subsidies and other initiatives to support students and school families. Information regarding rosters and ways families can help will be sent home soon.

SRC Pancake Day

The students enjoyed Pancake Day yesterday. 84 pancakes were devoured!! Thank you to our cooks and the SRC for organising.



Contacting the School

Communication between home and school is valued and appreciated. To assist school families who contact the school between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm the following information has been provided.

Supervision of students commences at 8.30am. At this time there is one teacher on duty and their full attention is directed to playground supervision. The school office is attended by School Administration staff from 9am to 3.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Between these hours is the best time to call. There will be occasions when staff are out of the office collecting mail, assisting teaching staff etc. If you call on these days and your call is unattended, please try again or leave a message.

On Thursdays, there is no administration staff at our school. While teachers keep the portable phone with them throughout the day, there are possible delays to answering the phone when staff are engaged in teaching and supervising students. On these occasions, when your call might not be answered immediately, please leave a message on the answering service. Staff will return your call as soon as possible. The message machine is checked at lunch and afternoon tea breaks and prior to the students being dismissed at the end of the day. This is to ensure any changes to transport home are conveyed. Thank you for your patience on these days, we greatly value your time and your support ensuring effective communication between home and school is upheld.

First Aid Training

Eight members of staff are currently undergoing First Aid training and assessment. Thank you to all staff who are undergoing this training to ensure that we have several first aid qualified persons in the school at all times. As always, your professional commitment to our students is outstanding.

Principal's Conference

This week I have been attending a two-day conference in Tamworth with approximately 70 other principals from schools around the New England Region. The workshops I have been attending have enabled me to collect vital information to effectively manage and lead our school through many areas of curriculum, student wellbeing and business management. It has been wonderful to have Mr Burnett in our school again supporting our amazing teachers and students in my absence. Mr Burnett was the principal of Woolomin Public School for many years, teaching and inspiring some of our current student's older brothers and sisters and even my own children. We will have the pleasure of Mr Burnett teaching at our school again throughout the year so if you see him please introduce yourself and say hello.

Social Skills Program

This term in social skills, students and staff have been learning about growth mind set.

Every class has been looking at and learning about the two types of mindsets that children and adults can have, a 'fixed' mindset and a 'growth' mindset. Below is an overview of the traits of each:

Fixed Mindset

- I like my work to be easy
- I don't like to try a challenge
- I want people to praise me for how clever I am
- I believe I cannot change how clever I am
- I don't like to try new things because I won't be very good at it
- I give up easily

Growth Mindset

- I never give up
- I like my work to be difficult – it means I am learning
- I love challenges
- I want people to praise me for the effort I put into my work
- I believe I can get more intelligent by working hard
- I feel clever when I'm learning something new
- I learn from my mistakes

It has been proven that having a Growth Mindset can improve children's progress and attainment. As a result, we are teaching our children that by having a Growth Mindset they can grow their brains and intelligence and achieve anything they want!

Carol S. Dweck, Ph.D., is one of the world's leading researchers in the field of motivation and is the Lewis and Virginia Eaton Professor of Psychology at Stanford University. Her research has focused on why people succeed and how to foster success.

A quote from Carol Dweck:

"In a fixed mindset, students believe their basic abilities, their intelligence, their talents, are just fixed traits. They have a certain amount and that's that, and then their goal becomes to look smart all the time and never look dumb. In a growth mindset, students understand that their talents and abilities can be developed through effort, good teaching and persistence. They don't necessarily think everyone's the same or anyone can be Einstein, but they believe everyone can get smarter if they work at it."

This is important because (1) individuals with a "growth" theory are more likely to continue working hard despite setbacks and (2) individuals' theories of intelligence can be affected by subtle environmental

cues. For example, children given praise such as "good job, you're very smart" are much more likely to develop a fixed mindset, whereas if given compliments like "good job, you worked very hard" they are likely to develop a growth mindset. In other words, it is possible to encourage students, for example, to persist despite failure by encouraging them to think about learning in a certain way."

How you can help at home

- Praise the amount of effort your child is putting into things rather than how clever they are;
- Talk to your children about their brain being like a muscle - the more they use it, the stronger it gets;
- Encourage your children to not give up if they are finding something difficult;
- Challenge your children to try something new or challenging.

If you would like more information on Growth Mindsets, please speak to your child's class teacher or arrange an appointment with Mrs McMahon. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child about what they are learning at school about their brain and how they learn. Social skills lessons have been brilliant this term with many students demonstrating their understanding of 'neurons' and the power of the word 'yet'. This program is supporting one of our school's strategic directions: Student Empowerment.