Dear Parents,

PARENT TEACHER PARTNERSHIPS

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Meet the Teacher Afternoons recently. Research says that children learn best when parents and teachers work together. In Week 11 we will be having our first Parent Teacher Interviews this year. Take advantage of this time to establish goals that we can all work towards achieving for your child this year.

READ, READ AND MORE READING

Our major focus for this year is to improve students reading by increasing their comprehension skills and to get them to read more throughout the year. Teachers are taking part in a year long professional learning program called Focus on Reading – Comprehension that Mrs Manning and Mrs Azzopardi are delivering. It is a very intense and research based course that involves fortnightly after school sessions for 2 hours, professional readings and between session tasks. We are also trying to get students reading more. Many of our activities this year will involve reading. Teachers are reading more to students in classrooms.

We are safe, respectful learners.
You can support this by encouraging your children to borrow from the library and remind them when it is their library day.

BUS ZONE

Now that we are back doing PSSA sport on Fridays, please note that the bus zone comes into effect on Friday afternoons. Do not park in this area on Fridays as it is very dangerous for the bus to double park and for our students to have to walk on the road.

Judy Smith
Principal

TEACHERS’ MESSAGES

CLEAN UP THE SCHOOL DAY

The classes of Wattawa Heights Public School worked hard at cleaning the school up last week. Michael Mhanna and Lily-Jean McNair were the lucky students, who won a prize for their great effort in keeping our school clean. Congratulations and thank you to everyone who helped out.

WHAT TALENTED ATHLETES WE HAVE AT WATTAWA HEIGHTS!

Congratulations to:

Lily-Jean McNair has qualified for the Little Athletics State Championships in the 700m Walk. Elana Topalidis won a Bronze medal at the Little Athletics State Multi’s, (a series of 7 events) at Orange last weekend.

We are safe, respectful learners.
Elana Topalidis won the 8 years Girls’ 50m Freestyle event at the Bankstown District Swimming Carnival on Monday, 4th March. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement.

CLASS NEWS

2/3 NEPEAN RIVER

2/3 Nepean has had a very busy start to 2013 being the new class in the school. We have settled in to the demountable classroom and have been enjoying many activities.

We have been keeping fit with aerobic exercises and the gymnastics program.

We are learning about significant natural features in Australia during HSIE lessons and then drawing some in Art.

*We are safe, respectful learners.*
We are also working hard in Numeracy, learning about fractions and shapes, and in Literacy, exploring different types of books and writing persuasive texts.

3/4 Pacific Ocean

Over the past few weeks, 3/4 Pacific Ocean has been developing their comprehension skills. The students have been reading texts and making connections with themselves, with other texts and with the greater world.

3/4 Pacific Ocean are now experts on making connections.

We are safe, respectful learners.
4/5 Bass Strait’s Focus on Reading

This week, 4/5 Bass Strait have been using the reading strategy ‘Making Connections’ to help them to comprehend a variety of texts. They have enjoyed discussing their personal connections with the texts, called ‘Wow Moments’, with their ‘Thinking Partners’.

3/4 Tasman Sea

This term, 3-4 Tasman Sea have been very busy. We have been working well in the classroom during numeracy lessons, using concrete items to help understand multiplication.
We have been writing responses to books read during literacy lessons.

We have enjoyed using the Interactive Smart board to practise our maths skills.

LIBRARY NEWS

Thank you to the students who have begun borrowing from the library. It looks like we have a great group of enthusiastic readers this year.

OVERDUE BOOKS

There are still a number of books overdue from last year. Please look through your home for any books that may be hiding under beds or in your own book shelves. Overdue notices for books due in 2012 will be sent home in week 9 with a request to pay money towards the replacement costs. Please be aware that if the book is found after you have paid for its replacement, you will be reimbursed.

We are safe, respectful learners.
SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Scholastic book club catalogues were sent home last week and we have received many orders. We will order the books this Wednesday so that books should be back in time for the school holidays. Our school benefits by receiving 20% of the order in free books which are placed in the library for students.

LIBRARY LESSONS

The classes are settling into their library lessons very well this year. Kindergarten students receive a 30 minute lesson on a Tuesday and listen to a story plus have the opportunity to borrow one book for the week, provided that they have their library bag with them. Years 1 - 6 also borrow, listen to a story or short lesson and then participate in activities focusing on literature, technology and cooperative learning.

Mrs Steinfurth
Teacher Librarian

P & C NEWS

Wow! We had a great kick start to 2013 with a very successful cake stall, raising $285.00 A very big thank you to all the families who donated cakes and the wonderful helpers. The children sure did seem to love the cakes.

CLOTHING SALE

We will be holding a clearance sale of discontinued stock (limited sizes available). We also have available some very good quality second hand clothing (in varying sizes) from our Uniform Shop, so come along to the Sale on Wednesday 20 March 2013 from 8.45am to 9.30am under the big COLA. First in best dressed! Please see the community board below the verandah for a sample of some of the winter rain jackets available at the sale.

EASTER RAFFLE DONATIONS

Families, we are seeking donations of chocolate eggs and baskets to be made up as prizes towards this year’s Easter Raffle. Donations collected 18-27 March 2013 by the P & C mothers on the verandah outside Mr Hunt’s classroom.
EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets cost $0.30 each and will be drawn after the Easter Hat Parade on 28 March 2013. Tickets collected 18-27 March 2013 by the P & C mothers on the verandah outside Mr Hunt’s classroom.

EASTER BBQ

A BBQ will be held at lunchtime for students and parents on Thursday 28 March 2013, following the Easter Hat Parade. Please see the separate order form.

Note all Students; Parents’ and siblings will need orders to be placed on separate form. Additional forms will be available from the office. Thank you, orders will be collected 18-27 March 2013 by the P & C mothers on the verandah outside Mr Hunt’s classroom.

P & C MEETING

Please join us for our next P & C meeting to be held Monday 18th March at 9.15am in the big hall. New faces with new ideas are always welcome!

Sheree Ingram
President

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STUDENT AWARDS

CLASS AWARDS

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We are safe, respectful learners.
OFFICE NEWS

SCHOOL FEES
A reminder that all school fees and all other payments including book club orders should go to the classroom teacher in an envelope with the child’s name with the correct money. The front office does not give out any change.

LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND PROPERTY
Please label all of your child’s clothing, hats, lunch boxes and drink bottles.

LOST PROPERTY
Two wallets were found on the school grounds please come to the office to identify them.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

FAMILIES NSW
Mothers, fathers and grandparents to a Triple P Seminar (Positive Parenting Program). Triple P is a parenting program for all families that provides practical answers to everyday parenting concerns. All parents with children aged up to 12 years can attend. However this program is most effective with children ages 3-8 years. NO COST.

Seminar topics include:

- Creating a safe, interesting and positive learning environment
- Using assertive discipline
- Having realistic expectations
- Taking care of yourself as a parent

Bookings are essential and places are limited please call 0407 708 626 to book your place.
Date: Friday 15th March 2013, Time: 10am-12noon Place: Whitlam Library Railway Pde, Cabramatta.

We are safe, respectful learners.
Also South West Sydney Triple P Support and in partnership with Arab Council Australia invites you to attend a seminar presented by Hala Alduleimi on the above topics. Date: Wednesday 27th March 2013 Time: 10am – 12noon, Place: Level 1- 194 Stacey St Bankstown. Bookings are essential 0407 708 626 NO COST

HARMONY DAY – Monday 18th March 2013

We will be celebrating Harmony Day next Monday. Children are asked to come to school wearing something orange and bring in a gold coin donation which will be going to charity. After recess students will be in mixed groups and will be participating in a book reading session. They will be listening to stories about getting along, friendship and belonging.

At 1.30 the African Dance performance will be in the hall. The school will cover the cost for this performance. Parents are welcome to come and watch the show.

We are safe, respectful learners.
CONDELL PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Are holding free Mathematics and Computer Classes for Parents and Community Members in Term 1.

Mathematics classes will be held on Tuesday 19th March and Tuesday 2nd April 2013 between 10am - 11.00am.

Computer Classes will be held on Thursday 21st March and Thursday 4th April 2013 between 10am – 11.00am. Please call Community Liaison Office at CPHS on 9709- 4522 to reserve your seating.

FAMILIES TOGETHER

The Stages of Parenting after Separation. Parenting after separation is emotionally challenging for you and the way you communicate with your ex-partner can impact on your children. This seminar will help you to understand the process and effect of separation on your whole family and how to make positive choices. Bookings are essential please call 0407 708 626 to book your place.

Date: Wednesday 20th March 2013, Time: 7.00- 9.00pm
Place: The Uniting Church 219 the River Road, Revesby. NO COST