18th December 2013

OUR SCHOOL VISION: Encouraging all members of the school community to work together to create a positive and motivating environment, allowing all students to maximise their educational opportunities in an ever changing world.

PARENT PAYMENTS RECEIVED

163 families at WPS.
Completed payments = 65%

Congratulations to our “Students of the Week.”

Prep G: Nikayla Harrison—(Attempting all learning tasks with a smile)
1/2 H: Hugh Drofenik—(Persisting with his learning)
1/2 M: Elijah Hazeldine—(Being a kind and considerate class member)
3/4 B: Nathan Duffy—(Displaying excellent effort at writing his memories for 2013)
3/4 L: Ryan Barnes—(Persisting with learning his Indonesian numbers 1-12)
Quinn Hughes—(Being a caring and helpful friend)
3/4 Y: Grace Hannemann—(Consistently being a bright and cheerful student)

Christmas Concert tonight. Meet your child’s 2014 teacher from 6:30—7:00pm. Concert starts at 7:00pm
Book pickup day 23rd January from 9:00am onwards.
No early callers please.
A Message from the Principal….

As the year draws to a close, and the holidays approach very quickly, I enjoy reflecting on the year and the many things our students have achieved. It has once again been a delight to work in an environment where the students are the focus of our work, and the adults work closely as a team to ensure we all do the best possible job we can on a day to day basis.

Thank you to our families who continue to support us in our role. The home and family is the biggest influence on a child’s life, however at this primary school age, the school has the next major influence on how students develop academically and socially. By ensuring we have close, open and honest communication with families, together we can support students to achieve their potential.

The last week has been huge, with grade 5/6 camp, transition visits, grade six Graduation and tonight the school Christmas concert.

To our departing grade six students, we wish you all the very best. Aim high, commit and treat others as you would like to be treated.

I would like to wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas break—stay safe, and enjoy each other’s company.

Principals for the Day: Last week I was assisted in my role by Alesha and Claire. They were certainly kept busy—sorting, filing, cleaning and selecting our Posture Police award recipients. Thank you girls for you hard work—it was really helpful at this time of the year.

Community Carols: On Sunday evening, Mr Potesta and I attended the Wandong and Heathcote Junction Community Carols at the Wandong Memorial Stadium. A group of our students performed Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, We Wish you a Merry Christmas and Frosty the Snowman. Congratulations to all of the students who did a marvellous job, and to their parents for supporting our school choir. Well done!

Graduation: On Monday evening, our grade six students participated in their graduation ceremony. The evening is a highlight of the school year and is certainly an amazing and memorable event. The students met together to share a meal, with our current staff acting as waiters. They then headed down to the hall for the formal part of the evening. Many thanks to all of our students on their outstanding year, the grade five/six staff, Anthony for organising their DVD, Annie, Ros and Donna who have worked tirelessly to ensure Monday night was a huge success, and to the many other staff that assisted prior to, or on, the evening. Thank you to Megan for a delicious meal. I truly believe this is the nicest and most personal graduation ceremony I have witnessed in over 30 years in education. Well done Wandong Team!!

(Please refer to the photo montage later in the newsletter.)

Transition Visits: Now we are all done and dusted for 2014. All students have visited their new classrooms, met with their classmates and even met their teacher. The transition visits went very smoothly. Thank you to the parents who provided me with written information that I considered. I am pleased to say that nearly all requests were met. All of the students are positively looking forward to 2014 and are certainly now well prepared.
**Student Reports:** Student reports were sent home with students yesterday. Staff have done a comprehensive job of ensuring they are specific to every child, outlining their strengths and areas for further improvement. Enclosed with the report was a transition slip for parents, listing the 2014 classroom’s name, teacher’s name and a list of friends.

**Christmas Raffle:** Our Christmas Raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Concert tonight. As there is no newsletter after this event, I would like to thank everyone for their donations and share with you a FEW of the prizes up for grabs. Thanks to Parents and Friends Association for wrapping all of the prizes. They look fabulous!

**Mr McCracken:** Two weeks ago, I spoke with Mr Rod McCracken. Rod’s wife was featured on television recently as she had contracted a disease that resulted in portions of her arms and legs being removed. Earlier this term, Blake and Joelie organised an out of uniform day to raise funds for the family for their 150 night of home reading wish. Rod was planning to attend our school for a special assembly last week so that Blake and Joelie could present him with the cheque. Unfortunately, he had to cancel at the last minute. As a result we have posted him the cheque for $540 that was raised by the school. Below is a letter of thanks that we have received from Rod and his family. He hopes to pop in next year to speak to our students. Times like this are a reminder that you never really know what is around the corner, so live every day to the fullest.

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Dear Blake, Joelia and the Wandong Primary School community,

I was recently contacted by your Principal to let me know of the amazing effort that you have made in raising funds for my family. Unfortunately, I am unable to make it to the school to meet you all in person and express my deepest thanks.

I was amazed that you both used your wish to have a plain-clothes day in order to raise these funds. The fact that you chose to do this speaks volumes about the thoughtful and generous young people that you are.

I was further touched that the whole school community got behind your wish and went to the extraordinary lengths to donate the amount of money that they did.

The whole of Wandong Primary School, and in particular you Blake and Joelia, should be incredibly proud of this effort. I am sure that this kind of selfless and community minded act is the sort of thing that your school promotes and in doing this you have all done yourselves and your school proud.

Again, I would like to personally thank you all for the support and apologise that I am unable to meet you in person. Mandy has also asked me to send her warmest thanks and let you know that when she returns home she hopes to come and speak with you.

Have a wonderful Christmas.

- Rod McCracken

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Thank you Joelia and Blake for your kind wish and to the school community for their support.

*Finally, best wishes for the coming break ~ Rhonda Cole*
## STAFFING FOR 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Principal)</th>
<th>(Assistant Principal)</th>
<th>(Leading Teacher)</th>
<th>(Business Manager)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Cole</td>
<td>Anthony Potesta</td>
<td>Julie Smith</td>
<td>Ros Hulett</td>
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### FOUNDATION TEAM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>H-F</td>
<td>Hannah Giacomini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>B-F</td>
<td>Bree Chisholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>K-F</td>
<td>Kira Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1/2 Z</td>
<td>Melanie McClure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1/2 H</td>
<td>Heather Chisholm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>3/4 C</td>
<td>Jessica Christie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1/2 G</td>
<td>Simone Gallinaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3/4 B</td>
<td>Robyn Beer</td>
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*Note: Rooms 1 to 12 are not mentioned in the text.*
STAFFING FOR 2014 Continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE 5/6 TEAM:</th>
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<th>OFFICE SUPPORT:</th>
<th>STUDENT WELFARE:</th>
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**GRADE 5/6 TEAM:**

**SPECIALIST TEAM:**

**OFFICE SUPPORT:**

**STUDENT WELFARE:**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jaclyn Adams</td>
<td>5/6 A</td>
<td>P.E. / Human</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cal Fearn</td>
<td></td>
<td>Relationships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Drury</td>
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<td>Toni Vicary</td>
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**INTEGRATION TEAM:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emma Castle</td>
<td>5/6 C</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cathrine Yaneff</td>
<td></td>
<td>Integration Aide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annie Beaman</td>
<td></td>
<td>Integration Aide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracey Trenfield</td>
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<td>Integration Aide</td>
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**P.E. / Human:**

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And the sad news........ The following staff will not be returning to Wandong Primary School in 2014. We sincerely thank them for all of their hard work and dedication, ensuring a safe and supportive learning environment for our students.

Rita will be spending time with her family; Cassie will be having a baby in February; Carol will be enjoying one year’s leave; Andrea will be teaching Art at Beveridge Primary School.

All ladies have made significant contributions to our school and we wish them all the very best for the future.

We will certainly miss them!!
Good Luck
2013
Grade Six
Graduates
Support your local grower

Thank you Anita.

Anita Barbour’s wish was to be Ros for the day. Anita was very busy with preparing the newsletter, folders for new students and clearing out the tubs. Anita was a very big help at this time of the year.

Posture Police Award

Congratulations to this week’s winners, Ella Hall and Cameron Selvaggio. Both have demonstrated the correct posture when completing their school work. They will receive their certificate this Friday.

WANDONG PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUPER READER’S CLUB:

Congratulations 150 nights reading:
Jarvis Sleep.

Congratulations 200 nights reading:
Vaughan Joslyn,
Alex Green,
Thomas Allsop,
Xavier Hemphill,
Mathew Robinson,
Alicia-Rae McCrum,
Ellie Brown,
Tali Kean

Congratulations 250 nights reading:
Justine Nastevski,
Hugh Drofenik.

WOW! WHAT’S ON @WANDONG

December

Wednesday 18th - School Christmas concert 7.00pm
Thursday 19th - Grade 1/2 end of year excursion / party
Friday 20th - Last day of the school term 1 finish

January 2014

Thursday 23rd - Book pickup day 9:00 until 12:00pm
Wednesday 29th - Grades One—Six begin term one
Thursday 30th - Foundation students (prep) begin term one

It’s Christmas Time!

Blaccara Reality Group invite you to decorate your homes this Christmas.

You could have a chance to win a prize for the best Christmas theme decorated home in the area.

All you have to do is register your address by calling 5787 2008.

Judging will be between 16th Dec and 20th Dec

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Congratulations to the following students who completed the Premier's Reading Challenge.


The 2013 Swimming Program came to spectacular conclusion last week. After 7 weeks of swimming lessons – the swimmers were rewarded with a session on the inflatable obstacle course!

Thank you to the families that supported the program and the students that participated – we hope to see you next year!

A HUGE thanks to Ash Christensen and Brett Stebbing who helped out our swimmers each week!

Wandong Outside School Hours Care

Term 4, Week 9

Hi Everybody,

It’s the last week of term and our kids have been very busy creating Christmas decorations for our Christmas tree at WOSHC and for their Christmas trees at home. Last week I brought along a puppet, Felix thought Jingles was a good name for her and we all agreed. Jingles will come along to our weekly activities and will interact with the children. I hope everyone has a very happy and safe Christmas and I will see you during the holiday program in January or in first term next year. Our Holiday program is going to be super fun with excursions to places like the beach and KidsTown, and lots of cool activities at the school. Go to ssoshc.com.au to see all of the great experiences.

Kind regards,
Julie Tennant

Childcare rebate and benefit available for all before school, after school and holiday programs; saving you more than 50%!

For information and bookings
visit www.ssoshc.com.au or Ph: 5781 1300
SSOSHc blog: ssoshc.blogspot.com.au

Wandong Holiday Program
Summer 2014
13th January to 29th January
Program available at Kilmore from 19th December

For information and bookings
visit www.ssoshc.com.au or Ph: 5781 1300

Highlights Include:
Beach excursion, Australian Open, Billy cart incursion, iPod games, Kids Space, KidsTown, pool and monster, Galactic Circus, Build it-Cook it-Play it, and stacks more!!

20% DISCOUNT FOR ONLINE
BOOKINGS MADE BEFORE 20TH DECEMBER*
BOOK IN NOW AT WWW.SSOSH.COM.AU
Government rebates and subsidies available, save 50-100%
Program located at Wandong Primary School