



# Weethalle Public School

Empowering learners for their future

## PRINCIPALS REPORT

Term 1 Week 3

8<sup>th</sup> February, 2010

Phone: 69 756154



### *Miss Mac's first day with the Infants Children!!*

**WELCOME** back everyone and a very special welcome to our new infants teacher Miss Crystal McGuigan (Miss Mac). It is fantastic to return to school refreshed, reinvigorated and enthusiastic about everything 2010 has to offer. What a wonderful reception all staff and students received on their return to school. The beautiful friendly, smiling faces showed genuine enjoyment at seeing each other after such a long holiday break. Weethalle Public School really is a lovely little school.

A special welcome to our new Kindergarten students, Harrison McKinnon, Hayley Jolly and Lily McCarten.

What a lovely little group!!



It is also a great pleasure to welcome Lana and Jasmin Bishop (Year 1 and Year 4) to our school. Everyone has made them feel very welcome as they very quickly settled in at Weethalle Public School.



### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

Tracey Smith the Quality Teaching Consultant from Wagga attended our Staff Development Day on Wednesday and conducted sessions



on Strategic Questioning and Quality Writing. Staff are very motivated to include some of these new strategies in the classroom.

### **VEGIE GARDEN**

Our school vegie garden is thriving, even after the long hot summer months. Thank you to Boyd and Dylan McKenzie, Kaysey and Shai-yane MacKellar, Zachary Richards, Jack Healy and Rhys Studholme whose dedication over the holidays ensured the survival of the vegetable plants. The zucchini's are already being harvested and other fruit and vegies are not far off being ready to pick.



*THANK YOU* to Michelle and Lindsay Stephanie, Vicki and a few students who joined me on the last day of school (pupil free). We spent the day moving everything out of the storerooms, staffroom and admin area

ready for the building upgrade that was to start in mid January. Unfortunately this has not occurred. After speaking with the local contractor, I was informed that the tender had been awarded and SHOULD be starting in the next 3 weeks.

### **GROUND MAINTENANCE**

Extensive ground works did occur last week, with the top oval being laser levelled, contour banks established to capture water and eliminate the stormwater damage that results after rain and an area being ripped ready to plant turf. It is inconvenient to have so much of our playground temporarily out of bounds but we all realise that the short term pain is for the long term gain. Work will be ongoing until the allocated budget runs out. The landscapers will be back for

a couple of days this week to establish the turfed area and start securing the embankment areas. I will keep you fully informed of the progress. It is very exciting to finally see our planned landscaping taking shape.

### **AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS**

Congratulations to our two students who received special Australia Day awards. Shai-yane MacKellar received an award for Weethalle Young Citizen of the Year and Mia McCarten received the Weethalle Achievement in Sport Award. Both girls and their families are very proud to be acknowledged for their achievements. Well done and continue to strive for excellence in the future!!!

### **"MEET AND GREET"**

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, after school, we will be holding a "Meet and Greet" afternoon tea to welcome Miss Mac to our school community. At the same time we will have a Parent Information Session to introduce and explain the new whole school Homework Grid as well as the modified/revamped Home Reading Program. Both these programs will commence next week.



### **TRAINING DAY**

On Wednesday, Miss Mac will be in Griffith attending her first day of training for Best Start comprehensive assessment process for Kindergarten Students. Kinder parents will receive information about Best Start and what is involved. It is a fantastic tool to aid assessment of and assessment for student learning. Parents will also receive comprehensive reports after the testing and analysis have occurred.

## **SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Weethalle Public School swimming carnival will be held at the West Wyalong pool this Thursday 11st February. All students will be involved in a variety of races and events throughout the day. The carnival will commence at 9.30am and will be finished by 2.30pm. This is a fun day with the emphasis on maximum participation. I look forward to seeing you all at the pool. Buses will not run on this day!! Travel is by private vehicle.

## **RIVERINA REGION**

As we are now part of the Riverina Region, students in **Years 3-6** will all be required to attend the Small Schools Swimming Carnival next Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. This will be held at the Griffith Aquatic Centre, commencing at 9.30am sharp. Students may enter either 25m or 50m races, depending on their swimming ability. Points will be awarded for participation in 25m and 50m as well as places, so all students will be encouraged to participate in as many events as possible. There is no entry limit except that students swimming 50m events cannot participate in the 25m events. Competitors will be selected to represent the Small Schools at the District Swimming Carnival if they place 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> for their event **AND** meet set District qualifying times.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Middle School will continue on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb for those Year 5 and 6 students planning to attend West Wyalong High School. Names have been given to the High School. Parents are asked to sign the attached permission note and return to school and contact the bus company to organise transport.

**ASSEMBLY** -An assembly hosted by the Primary Class will be held this Friday afternoon commencing at 2.40pm. We look forward to seeing you all at our first school assembly for 2010.

## **SCRIPTURE**

Scripture Classes will **NOT** be held at Weethalle Public School during 2010 due to a lack of Scripture Teachers. We would like to thank our Scripture teachers for their wonderful support in the past in trying to keep these classes going with such a small group of ladies, but understand that it could not continue with so few.

## **CANTEEN**

Canteen will commence this Friday. A new menu will be sent out asap. Michelle and Tracy will be working on the canteen this Friday. Please ring Michelle or the School if you can spare some time to help out on the roster. It is very important we get plenty of helpers to ensure the canteen can stay open each Friday.

**MELISSA'S SWIM SCHOOL** - Swimming lessons 20/21/27/28 Feb \$50 per person to enrol email to [mjs152@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mjs152@bigpond.net.au)  
Enrolments close 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**BOOKCLUB** - Went home today and needs to be returned to school by next Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns. No matter how large or small you feel they are, all will be treated confidentially and with respect. We need to work together for the benefit of each and every one of the students in our care. We want what is best for your child. I look forward to a productive year of learning during 2010.

*Keep smiling and be happy.....Cheryle*