



Wallaby Whisper

The newsletter for Wallabadah Public School and its community.

“Excellence in Learning”

Term 1, Week 10 ~ 4th April, 2014

I am very proud of this years school leaders. Jock Barnett and Emily Cronin have shown maturity, compassion and are respected by not only their peers but the staff as well. This week they both attended the Young Leaders forum at Sydney Entertainment Centre and came away excited and enthused about their own leadership skills and abilities. I remember when I attended the day with my son William, when he was Captain and I was amazed at the excellent presenters and the quality of the day. I could see what previous Captains and their parents meant when they came back stating what a great day they had.

Every year our school Captains return to school full of stories and anecdotes about what they learnt at the Young leaders Day and this years Captains were no exception. Their report is on the inside of the Whisper.

At Wallabadah our senior students are given much responsibility and our “Stop Think Do” program is a wonderful way to provide our senior students with the skills in leadership. This program involves our students in leadership activities in a most practical way. It gives them helpful strategies for gaining the co-operation of other students and increases the value that they and their families place on education.

Children who may have a “tiff” in the playground can go to a mediator for them to assist them. It is by no means a way of taking over the teachers supervisory role in the playground as they still deal with playground issues, but often a little word by a fellow peer can be more powerful than teacher intervention.

All children have the potential to develop leadership skills. As children grow, teachers give children opportunities to serve in leadership roles. As adults, we teach our children the skills necessary to take on leadership roles now and in the future.

As children learn from seeing what others do, it is important to model leadership behaviour to children. We also need to teach children how to see things from another's point of view.

Having good communication is a key component to being an effective leader and listening is a part of good communication. We need to teach children how to listen carefully and how to respond to others in a calm and respectful way.

Having these qualities will not only enable them to build on their leadership but also give them self-confidence. “You’re doing a great job” and “I am so proud of you that you volunteered to be the leader of the group. It is a big job to make sure everyone is doing their part.”

Having your child work with others in team situations such as group projects or sports activities is another way to develop leadership skills. Often, children as well as adults shy away from leadership tasks because they feel overwhelmed, but by showing them how to break tasks into workable ways to get the job done or address a problem situation is a quick and easy way to overcome these obstacles.

[“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”](#)

John Maxwell

Christopher Jackson
Principal

Small school “BIG” opportunities!

Coming Events

TERM 1

April

Easter Service	10 th
Cross Country/Easter activities	11 th
Last day of Term 1	11 th
Anzac Day	25 th
Working Bee	27 th
Students return	29 th

Lunch Orders

Thank you to Helen Smith for making lunches on Monday. Cheryl Bray is rostered on for Monday 7th, April.



Birthdays

Happy birthday to Joshua Hall who turned 10 on the 27th March.

Working Bee

A working bee will be held Sunday the 27th April from 9am. Please contact Brendyn Hawthorne who is organising this event on 0428 285 111.

Halogen Young Leaders- By Jock Barnett and Emily Cronin

On Monday 31st March, we went down to Sydney for a course on leadership and how we can make a difference as leaders. There were five speakers. The first speaker was Mike Martin who told us that good leaders need to make sure everything is fair, safe and awesome. He told us to make sure hard work is recognised and rewarded, ideas are welcomed and to focus on the positives not negatives. The most important thing in being a good leader is to have empathy. The second speaker was the Hon. Bob Carr. He told us it is natural to have self doubt. His main message was you can do it! The third speaker was 16 year old Coen Ashton. He had Cystic Fibrosis and since having a lung transplant he is much happier and healthier and is enjoying every

moment. He raised awareness for organ donation and taught us that your weakness can make you stronger. The fourth speaker was Andy Griffiths, the author. He talked to us about story writing. Andy taught us how simple it is to make an interesting and enjoyable story. He told us that everyone needs a rubber duck as a best friend and how important reading is. The last speaker was Ita Buttrose. She talked to us about making the most of where you land and to listen to your heart and follow



your dreams. We both really enjoyed the day.

“Nobody else dreams your dreams, so don’t hesitate to follow them.” Ita Buttrose



Wallaby Awards

Congratulations Logan Hall and Emily Dent who received a Wallaby Award. Well done!

Easter Scripture Service

An Easter service will be held at the Wallabadah Public School on Thursday 10th April at 12 noon. Everyone is welcome.

First fleet memorial garden visit

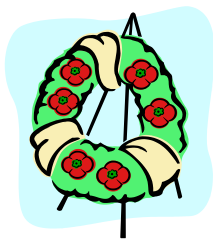
On Monday the 7th, 3-6J will be visiting the First Fleet Memorial Gardens for an educational tour and picnic in the grounds. Mrs Robertson will be conducting a lesson after we eat lunch in the park.



Buy a Bale

On Wednesday the whole school visited Willow Tree Public School to help raise funds for the 'Buy a Bale' organisation helping Australian farmers. It was a very enjoyable and successful day with over \$1600.00 raised. Students enjoyed listening to stories, art and crafts, bush dancing and lots of fun games. Thank you to Willow Tree and thank you to the generosity and support of everyone.





Anzac Day

On the Friday 25th April students are invited to participate in the Anzac Day March and Service. Students are to meet a staff member at 10.45am in front of the Quirindi Post Office. The Anzac Day March will start at 10.55am. Students are to wear full winter school uniform.

P & C News

Next Friday 11th, the P & C will be selling fish fingers on a bread roll with mayonnaise for lunch for \$2.50 each.



A K-2 assembly was held this week. Host were Zane Smith and Joey Reedy.

Awards



K-1-2 Class

Brian Stocks for improvement in Maths-Addition and Subtraction to 10.

Sophie Tacon for working hard to improve handwriting.

Joey Reedy for terrific independent working skills.

Mrs Roseby

Natalie Payne for being a very good listener.

Alanamae Abbott- Blundell for excellent Library borrowing.

Mrs Kemble

Alanamae Abbott-Blundell for improved focus in classwork.

3-5-6 Class

Sophie Hawthorne for improvement and becoming more focussed in classwork.

Joshua Hall for completing all his spelling and mental activities.

Managing screen-time

Helping kids find the right balance between activities, homework and screentime is a challenge that only gets harder as they grow older. Commonsense Media has lots of useful resources to help – from movie and game ratings to articles like this one on setting screentime limits that are realistic enough that your children will actually follow them. Read the article here:

<http://bit.ly/1pBlfmk>



Wallaby Week Ahead Term 1, 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 11 3-6 first fleet memorial garden visit			Easter scripture service	Cross country Easter hat parade Easter hunt/activities Last day of Term 1