



Wallaby Whisper

The newsletter for Wallabadah Public School and its community.

“Excellence in Learning”

Term 2, Week 2 ~ 9th May, 2014

"Mum! I want a LEGO kit!" demands a five-year-old boy when accompanying his long-suffering mother on a shopping trip.

"No! You have one at home," says the mother. "I have a pirate LEGO kit, I want a space one!" the boy persists. The mother relents when the boy bursts into tears. She's gone to the supermarket to buy groceries for the family, but instead ends up buying the space LEGO kit for the boy. I'm sure we have all seen this scenario (or been involved in it ourselves). Let's face it even the most "iron willed" parent will not want the stress in public and in the end give in.

Learning to say "no" to our children is one of the first things we learn as parents. Maybe the mother in that scene had given in too easily, as the boy should have been taught that he can't have everything he wants, and that he should have behaved more respectfully to his mother in public. Also by giving in to her son's persistent demands she was in effect teaching him that tears and tantrums will always get him what he wants.

Although the theory is always easier than the practice, we need to know the proper time to say 'no' to our children. "Don't give in but choose your battles" they say. There are a number of strategies we can use as parents to deal with situations like this, and it does take effort and having to make the hard decisions. Being a parent is not always easy.

First let's look at how to say "no". We've all heard the expression "it's not what you say, it's how you say it". Never is this more aptly shown than when we try to find ways to say "no" to our children. Part of the best advice ever about saying "no" to children is to realise that children will react to the word "no" but also to what accompanies it. If every time they hear "no" it is said loudly, with anger or meanness or the word is surrounded by other harsh language they will react negatively. It needs to be said in a caring but firm way so that your child knows you mean it.

In fact, children who repeatedly hear gentleness and concern in a parent's voice learn to accept and respect the "no" as something parents say to keep children well or safe. Their willingness to respond without a fuss to a parental "no" will likely be increased.

Another way is to introduce an alternative. For example, instead of saying to a child "No, you can't play the Playstation" and ending up in a possible screaming match where everyone is a loser, it's smarter to say "I'd rather you didn't play it now, so how about taking a walk to the park, or help to get supper ready instead."

Alternative suggestions can also be offered with your "no" when you can also say a backhanded "yes" simply by changing the time frame. The child hears the "no", but before they can get too upset they also hear the fact that at another time they might get their choice. For example "No, I'm afraid you can't have cake right now, but I will cut you a special piece that you can have after dinner."

Keep tabs on how often you say "no". This is when you need to choose which battle needs to be won and the ones that don't really matter. Ask yourself if you are saying "no" simply out of habit. Your child won't be able to determine which is the habitual "no" and which is "I really mean no".

Teaching a child to say "No, No" to a sibling about to do something dangerous is a good thing and should be encouraged. Encouraging a child to kindly, but firmly, say "no" to their dog when it jumps up is also a good thing. Parents can also teach children to say "no" to choices when they are offered, for example selecting things to eat, shows to watch on television and games to play can all receive a "no" from a child in an appropriate manner. When children are taught how to politely say "no" to some options they not only learn the power of the word but also the right way to use it.

Our children will grow up into a world where the word "no" will be important to their own well being. That's why the best parental advice ever about saying "no" to children is to teach them at an early age, through your own example, how important the word "no" can be in their lives and how to say it appropriately.

Small school “BIG” opportunities!

Coming Events

TERM 2

May

NAPLAN-Yr 3

P & C Meeting

ABMT

Zone Cross Country

Musica Viva

13th – 15th

19th

21st

23rd

23rd

Lunch Orders

Thank you to Cheryl Bray who made lunches on Monday. Helen Smith is rostered on for Monday 12th May.

School Ties

It is important that students wear their full winter school uniform which includes a tie. You can purchase new ties from Lowes in Tamworth or we have second hand ties available at the school for \$5.00.

ASCA-By Emily Cronin

On Saturday 3rd May I went down to Sydney for the ASCA awards ceremony. Last year I did ASCA and so did Lia, Henry, Sasha, Joey, Sienna and Joshua. Lia, Henry, Sasha, Joey and I got selected to go to Sydney to receive a medal. Joey got a studio medal. Sasha, Lia and I got a studio medal. Henry got a centre medal and was asked to perform his poem, "The Porcupine" by Roald Dahl. He got lots of laughs. Amelia Burgess was the guest speaker as she did ASCA through Primary and High School. She spoke to us about how important ASCA training has been and helped her in her life. She was awarded an Excellence in Communication award. It was an amazing day.



Grip Leadership Conference-By Brock Abrahams

On Tuesday 6th May, Brodie, Jock, Emily and I went to the Grip Leadership Conference in Tamworth. We got to sit in the front seats. There were 400 people 17 there. We watched two movie clips. One was from Madagascar 2. We had to write down who was the leader in the clip. It was the big penguin because he



was in charge of the other animals. I got asked to go on stage and read out what I wrote. They taught us how to be good leaders and to be the same person both inside and out like a strawberry not a watermelon!

Thank you to Mrs Cronin for taking us and looking after us on the day.





Thank you

Thank you to Mrs Daphne Caine for her very informative talk on the ANZAC's at last weeks general assembly.

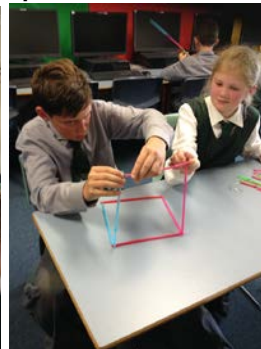
Save the Date

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 21st May, 2014
10:30am-1pm



3-6 Science

This term 3-6J are learning about Built Environments for Science. In these photos students were building the tallest tower only using 30 pins and 30 straws.



P & C News

Reminder: P & C Meeting Monday 19/5 at The Marshall McMahon Hotel: 7pm.
All welcome to attend.

A 3-6 assembly was held this week. The hosts were Zack Sweeney and Brock Abrahams

Awards



K-1-2 Class

Dylan Stocks for improvement in sentence writing.

Logan Hall for listening and working hard in Number.

Kallee Lobsey for setting a good example of how to work quietly in class!

Mrs Roseby

Lochlan Cronin for excellent attitude to reading.

Brock Abrahams for excellent work building a tower in Science.

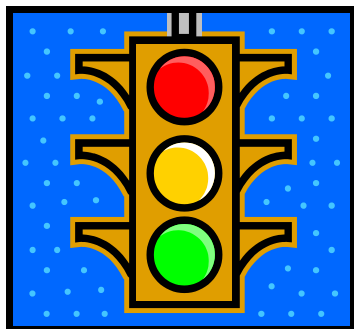
Mrs Kemble

Zane Smith for consistent effort in reading.

3-5-6 Class

Eve Porter for presenting her work neatly and creatively.

Emily Cronin for working diligently on the weekly spelling activities.



STOP, THINK, DO

Rule of the Week

Always play around the back of the school.

Awards

Natalie Payne for being a cheerful friend.

Joey Reedy for having fun at playtime.



Wallaby Week Ahead Term 2, 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>WEEK 3</u>	NAPLAN - Year 3			K-2 Assembly

Basketball

On Thursday 3-6J had a visit from Sport and Rec for a Basketball training session. Students were taught a wide variety of basketball skills from passing and dribbling to shooting.



Too sick for school?

As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work. For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice.

School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

I would love to read my favourite book to a small group of students on Thursday 21st May, 2014.

Name _____

Date _____

Favourite Book _____