



# Wallaby Whisper

The newsletter for Wallabadah Public School and its community.

## “Excellence in Learning”

*Term 2, Week 4 ~ 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2014*

### MR JACKSON’S SPEECH HE DELIVERED ON WEDNESDAY

A number of years ago I printed a transcript of a talk Mem Fox presented called “If I Were Queen Of The World” It was basically for Parents On Teaching Children How To Read Before School.

I thought I would use parts of it today given that we are gathered here to find out about the Reading programs at Wallabadah, listen to parents read their favourite books, and thank you to John, Dawn, Mandy, Natasha, Jenny, Helen, Nicole, David, Vicki and Faye for reading this morning, but it is also National Family Reading Month. How appropriate!

I know when my boys were growing up I would go into their bedroom at night, sit on the floor and read them a story before they went to sleep. It continued until they were in High School.... then it just became “too daggy Dad!”

As Mem Fox said,

*We as parents and carers must play a key role in the development of literacy. After all, we have the great advantage of having fewer children in our families than teachers have in their classes and are therefore able to have valuable one-to-one fun with our offspring, through the medium of books.*

*Having fun with books, means absolutely loving books and all they have to offer, it’s an essential pre-requisite to learning to read.*

*So please, I beg you all to read superb books aloud to your children! Begin on the day they are born.*

I hear the word “time” being bandied about. “I can’t find the time”, or “I’m just too busy”. It doesn’t take long to read a nursery rhyme to a young child..... Surely you can spend 5 or 10 minutes before they go to bed.

For older children a continuing novel is another way to spend reading time. You can stop at a crucial part so they wait with anticipation for the next instalment in Mum or Dads story. There were times when I made up stories for my boys.

You learn so much from reading. For a small school our library has an extensive array of books, thanks to Mrs Rosebys tireless efforts in buying new resources and money from the school and P&C budgets.

I invite everyone to visit our Library and pop into the Reader Store with Mrs Kemble and see our range of levelled Readers the children take home every night. Not every school allows their students to take home their readers each night.

Even in this day and age of technology we need to read. Looking things up on Google, interacting with family and friends by email or on a social media all require reading skills. Watching television has certainly curbed these skills.

I read once that Groucho Marx was heard once to say.

*“I find television to be very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go in the other room and read a book”.*

As parents, family and friends we need to set examples of how important reading is. Read yourself in front of your children, as well as Reading out loud to them, they are wonderful ways to immerse your child in Literature.

I'd like to finish with a poem my Grandmother wrote about books. I often use in the classroom.

*Come closer child! Come close and look!  
I am that mystery you call a book.  
What is inside me? Open and see,  
Someone has given meaning to me.  
I tell of place and I tell of time-  
Of learning, adventure, make-believe, rhyme.  
Old worlds and new worlds lie in my pages,  
I am a storehouse of words through the ages.  
Turn back my cover child! And you will see  
All of the things that lie hidden in me.  
Take me, and hold me, and read what I say  
And keep me, for I will be history one day.*

I trust everyone has had a great morning reminiscing with family and friends.

**Christopher Jackson**  
**Principal**

**Small school "BIG" opportunities!**

## Coming Events

### TERM 2

<b>May</b>	General assembly/Red Cross	30 <sup>th</sup>
<b>June</b>	School photos	10 <sup>th</sup>
	School Athletics @ Willow Tree	20 <sup>th</sup>

### Lunch Orders

Thank you to Megan Hall who made lunches on Monday. Vicki Hawthorne is rostered on for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May.



### Birthdays

Happy birthday to Kyiah Holland who celebrated her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday on Wednesday.

### Wallaby Awards

Well done to Lochlan Cronin and Eve Porter for receiving their first Wallaby Award. Congratulations!

### Thank you

We would like to thank all the parents and community members who showed their support for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. Your kind and generous donations raised over \$270 for the Cancer Council.



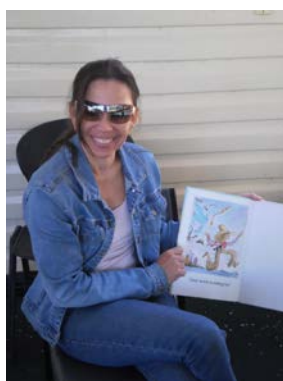


## Australia's Biggest Morning Tea By Emily Cronin

On Wednesday we had Australia's Biggest morning Tea. Many people donated money towards the cancer council which is why this day was held. We all enjoyed yummy morning tea. Then we had simultaneous reading which is a national book reading on the smartboard. Most schools take part in it. This years book was "Too Many Elephants in this House" by Ursula Dubosarsky. It was a good book. Then we had tabloid reading where parents and grandparents of students volunteered to read their favourite book to a small group of students. We were lucky enough to listen to get to listen to 4 stories. We all had a great day.



Australia's  
Biggest  
Morning  
Tea



Thank You

No assembly was held this week.

## Awards



### K-1-2 Class

**Breanna Young** for excellent progress in writing activities!

**Zane Smith** for a great attitude towards reading!

**Dempsey Smith** for being settled in "Familiar Reading", enjoying lots of books.

### Mrs Roseby

**Joey Reedy** for writing fantastic "Spelling Word" sentences.

### Mrs Kemble

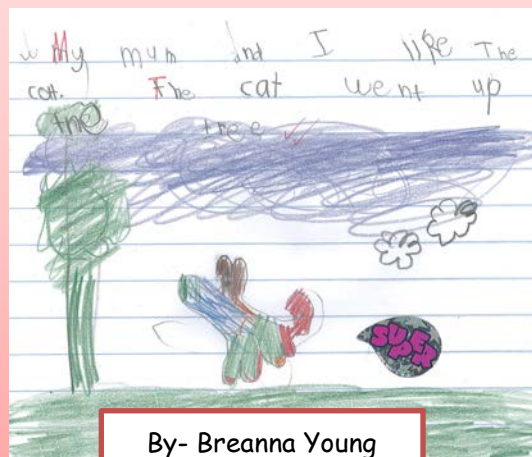
**Emily Dent** for a cheerful approach towards school work.

### 3-5-6 Class

**Sophie Hawthorne** for working well with problem solving.

**Eve Porter** for excellent work in spelling activities this week.

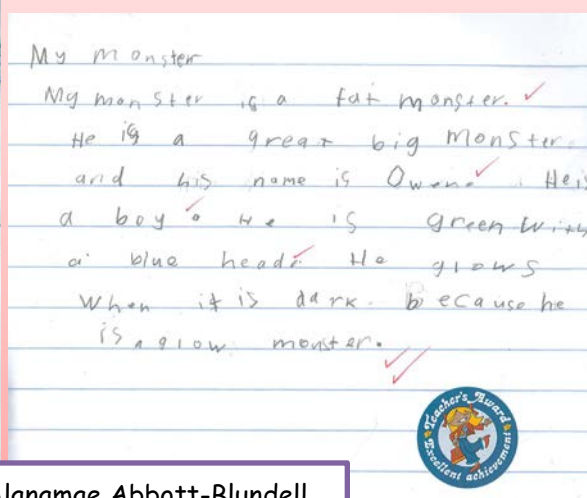
## Work Samples from K-2



By- Breanna Young



By-Alanamae Abbott-Blundell



## Wallaby Week Ahead Term 2, 2014

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>WEEK 5</u>				General assembly/ Red Cross Visit