From the Principal

Congratulations to our 87 Kindergarten students who have settled in so smoothly to Wheeler Heights. We have now formed 22 classes with a total enrolment of 547. Much time is spent each year on allocating students to classes with a number of factors being considered. The state staffing formula dictates the number of staff allocated to our school and then we must form classes to best accommodate the specific numbers in each grade. We endeavour to ensure that each child is placed with appropriate peers and in the class which we believe will be most beneficial for their education, progress and enjoyment this year.

A special welcome to new students Bianca and Ashleigh Green, Eduardo and Alejandro Briones, Madeline and Elliot Keary, George and Archie Saunders, Tiana Sleiman, Hunter Price and Hayley Donaghy.

Staffing 2014
We are very fortunate to have such a fine staff of experienced and dedicated professionals at Wheeler Heights. In 2014 we welcome new teachers to our school Elle Collier, Julia Smith and Lisa Eustace and welcome back Kate Alexander, Nadine Young, Wendy Fairweather and Nicole Marshall. This year Rachael Tekampe and Beth Campbell are currently on leave.

The Adam Cullen Mural
I’m sure everyone has seen the incredible mural on B block. During the holidays Linda Williamson, Dany Coelho and Vacy Vlazna (parent and grandparent of Rafael and Sienna Coelho) were hard at work creating this amazing masterpiece. The Year 6 tiles from 2012 have also been incorporated within the mural. The mural depicts art produced by Adam Cullen, former student at Wheeler Heights PS and winner of the Archibald Prize in 2000. Special thanks also to Stuart Oldfield and apprentice Tom (3C) who provided a wonderful portable scaffold system that was invaluable to the artists. An opening of the art work is planned for next Wednesday 12 February at 3pm.

Holiday Workers
A huge thank you to the many school who were hard at work in the holidays. Thank you to the Uniform Shop led by Min and Fran who opened on a Saturday in January and had a huge morning kitting out many of our new students. Also thanks to Steve Wassell and his daughters for coming in during the holidays and putting together our new chicken coop. Mr Radom and Mr Williams are currently completing the chicken run and soon we will purchase our new school chickens, pets, mascots!!!! A very exciting initiative and thanks to the P&C for providing $1,000 towards this very worthwhile project.

Year 6 Buddies
Well done to all Year 6 students for being such helpful and considerate buddies to the new Kindergarten students. I have had much positive feedback from Kindy parents and students.

Swimming Carnival- Tuesday 11 February…..please arrive at school at 8am!!
Please see the detailed information later in the newsletter about next week’s carnival for all Year 3-6 students and competitive swimmers in Year 2. Primary students received a permission note last week, a copy of which is on the school website.

Student Leaders 2014
House Captains
Congratulations also to our newly elected House Captains and Vice Captains, (see later in this newsletter) who will be hard at work at next week’s swimming carnival. Badges will be presented at Monday’s 9.15am assembly.

Parent Information Evenings…next week!!
Tuesday 11 February ## Kindergarten 6-7pm ## Years 1 and 2 from 7-8pm
Wednesday 12 February ## Years 3 and 4 from 6-7 pm ## Years 5 and 6 from 7-8pm

We do apologise for the short notice but hope that most parents will be able to join us next week for the parent information evenings. On these nights each teacher will outline their plans and class organization for the year ahead. The meetings will be held in your child’s classroom and it is usually easier if other arrangements can be made for your children and their siblings. We appreciate your support in this matter.

School Fees
We are currently finalizing budgets and costs for 2014. This year we again plan to distribute a detailed program and school fee notice with most of the costs and charges for the entire year outlined. In this way the school will save on frequent notes and we hope that parents will be better informed about what is happening throughout the year. While the initial cost may sound rather high there is no doubt that the school program fees are tremendous value. As always if parents are having any financial difficulties please contact the school. Such enquiries will be treated confidentially.

School Calendar
The Term 1 school calendar with many important events listed will soon be distributed. The calendar can also be viewed on the school website and will be updated as changes are made.

Road and Car Park Safety
Please be extra careful in the morning and afternoons around the school and car park areas. We must always follow road rules and be extremely vigilant when young children are present. As parents and teachers we must set the correct example for our children and never compromise when safety is concerned. We request that parents do not walk through the car park but use the appropriate walkways.

Late Arrivers and Early Leavers
The start and finish of every day are extremely important times for all students. Notes are distributed, reminders are given and routines are discussed. Could all parents please ensure that all students are at school on time and ready for the day ahead. Similarly school finishes at 3.15pm and we cannot allow students to leave early unless they have an essential appointment (eg.medical).

Classrooms Before School
Could I please remind you that students and parents/carers should not be in a classroom before school without the teacher present. School bags can be left at the appropriate spot outside the room and the children can then proceed to the K-2 or 3-6 play area. Before school is a very busy time for teachers with meetings, practices and preparation for the day ahead. If you would like to see a teacher for a more formal meeting please arrange an appointment time with the school office. We appreciate your cooperation in these matters.

Morning Supervision
Please be advised that for safety reasons students should not arrive at school before 8.45am. Students must remain seated in the morning until the teacher on duty rings the bell. If a student needs to arrive earlier than 8.45am for band or sports/club practice, then younger siblings should not be left unattended at school. Don’t forget that Before School Care operates from 7.00am each day, serving breakfast!!!

We are a NUT FREE School Anaphylaxis—What is anaphylaxis?
Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen (such as food or insect bites). We currently have a number of Anaphylactic students enrolled at Wheeler Heights. Many schools have students with such allergies. As a community we are requesting the students do not bring nut products to school. Most importantly we remind you that students should never share their food at school or pressure any other child to try something to eat.
There is more detailed information available at the office and we will regularly publish updates in the newsletter.

General Permission and Medical Notes
All students received two very important notes this week. Please read the notes carefully to ensure that all sections are completed and signed and return to the office or your teacher asap. Please see the office if you did not receive these notes.
**Absentee Notes**
If your child is going to be absent from school or is away for any reason could you please be sure to send in a written note to the office as soon as possible after the absence. Alternatively you may call the school office or email a note to the school at wheelerhts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au and this will be forwarded on to the appropriate teacher.

**Newsletter by email and school website**
Each week the school newsletter, The Wheeler Word, will be sent to school families by email. Just for today Kindergarten will receive a hard copy. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter each week please let the school office know. This year we will endeavour to place all permission notes on the school website for easy access at anytime. [www.wheelerhts-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wheelerhts-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

David Scotter
Principal

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**SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2014**

Dear Parents,

As you will now be aware, our swimming carnival this year has been reduced to a two and a half hour timeslot due to an unusually high demand from schools to Manly Swim Centre. Please be advised that students need to arrive at school on Tuesday 11th February at 8am as buses will depart at 8.10am from Berith St. The carnival will be staged between 9am-11.30am, where after students will be returning to school.

If your child is involved in squads/professional training and is interested in competing in the 100m Open Freestyle, 4X50m Medley and Butterfly events, they need to submit their times to me in writing signed by the trainer beforehand as these events WILL NOT be staged at the carnival. All age events in freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke will occur as per normal.

Congratulations to these students below who were elected at house meetings as House Captains & Vice Captains for 2014: The badges will be presented at Monday's 9.15am assembly.

**WHEELER**
Captains: Carly Adams  Reid Forsyth
Vice Captains: Melody Morris  Liam Hazell

**RAMSAY**
Captains: Lulu Blayney  Jarod Thacker
Vice Captains: Chloe Bremner  Danny Dickerson

**JENKINS**
Captains: Mia Glasson  Taylor Manson
Vice Captains: Alyssa Logan  Andrew McNamara

**PSSA – SUMMER COMPETITION TERM 1**

PSSA trials were held last Friday in Pittwater Tag, Cricket, Tee Ball and Softball. On Monday trials in AFL were also held for Year 3 and 4 only. We had a large number of participants trialling in all sports, indicative of the positive attitude of all students in terms of attempting to do their personal best. The summer PSSA competition will commence on Friday 14th February. Coaches will be distributing permission notes and draws asap. Ms C Waldock – Sport Coordinator 2014 & Pittwater PSSA President.
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<td><strong>SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF</strong></td>
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<td>Mrs WENDY CLIFFORD</td>
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<td>Mrs TERESA MURACE</td>
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<td>Mrs GLENDA ALDERTON</td>
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<td>Mrs KIM WORRAD</td>
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<td>Mrs JOY MILNER</td>
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<td>Mr LIONEL RADOM</td>
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<td>JOSEPHINE &amp; MATTHEW</td>
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Collaroy Plateau Physical Culture Club

Physi on the Plateau - fun, affordable, fantastic!

"Physi" is a unique competitive sport combining dance, floor and standing exercises for girls aged 3+ and ladies conducted in a fun and friendly atmosphere and ideal for all fitness levels.

Join us for the start of a new physi year.

**When:** Monday 10th February
**Where:** Community Hall in Blandford St Collaroy Plateau
**Class times & fees:** see contacts below.

*Have fun, make friends and keep fit!*

*Club contacts:*

Email: collplatphysi@gmail.com   Enquiries & Members: Helen 9913 8558
Website: www.physi.com.au       Facebook: Collaroy Plateau Physi Club

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

Please consider donating your old school uniforms and accessories to the Uniform shop for resale. All money raised goes back to the school

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR ITEMS ARE CLEAN AND UNDAMAGED**

We are seeking new parents for volunteer shifts at the uniform shop.

8.30am – 9.45am Friday, 1-2 shifts per term, to suit you!

Enquire whpsuniform@gmail.com or come in and see us

Thank you

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

School Banking day has changed to a Monday and will commence next Monday 10 February.
BAND NEWS

WELCOME TO 2014!
The WHPS Band program is back and pumping for 2014. We’ve had a terrific start to the 2014 year with around 83 children in years 3-6 now enrolled in our bands. This continues our School’s tradition of maintaining a good proportion of students who are learning music at our school.

All band students for 2014 should have received emails with information and contracts for the new year. If you have not received anything, please email us ASAP.

WELCOME KELVIN AND NATALIE
The WHPS band community welcomes Kelvin Anderson and Natalie Mastrioanni who are the new co-conductors of the Training Band. Kelvin is an understated powerhouse of musical talent. He teaches trumpet and low brass as well as conducting bands at other schools in our area. Natalie is a popular saxophone and woodwind professional and has successfully tutored a number of WHPS band children in that role for quite a few years. We wish them both every success.

URGENT REMINDER
On Thursday 6th February from 3.30pm to 5.30pm the Welcome (Back) to Band Afternoon will take place in (or just outside) the School Hall. All Training Band students and others needing to pick up a hire instrument are required to attend sometime during the afternoon. Please bring your signed contracts with you.

If you do not have to pick up an instrument, you may send in your contracts and payments by email or leave them in the Band Box in the school office.

Semester 1 band fees and instrument hire fees are now due. The preferred payment method is direct deposit or flexischools, and we accept cheques. Please note we will no longer accept cash through the Band Box. If you need to make a cash payment, please come to the Welcome (Back) to Band Afternoon and pay in person. Check your emails for banking and payment details.

NSSWE & REGIONAL BAND SUCCESS
Congratulations to the following musicians who have successfully secured a place in one of the Northern Sydney Symphonic Wind Ensembles: Will Green (trombone), Isabella Jacobs (bass clarinet), James Kofoed (percussion), Bianca Henderson-Brooks (French horn) and Kelsey Miles (flute).

Congratulations also to the following musicians who were successful in their auditions to join the Northern Sydney Regional Primary Band: Lucas Brown (saxophone), Maya Turner (clarinet), Alice MacDermott (saxophone) Ashley Johnson (clarinet).

ANTHONY MACDERMOTT
whpsband@gmail.com / 0417 277 893

2014 REHEARSAL TIMES
Rehearsals will start in Week 3 (YES … NEXT WEEK!). They are held in the Hall.

Training Band: Mondays 8.00am-9.00am with Kelvin Anderson AND Wednesdays 3.15pm-4.30pm with Natalie Mastrioanni (starting Mon 10th February)

Intermediate Band: Tuesdays 3.15pm-4.30pm AND Thursdays 8.15am-9.15am with Cheryl Oxley (starting Tues 11th February)

Senior Band: Tuesdays 4.30pm-5.15pm AND Thursdays 7.30am-8.45am with Cheryl Oxley (starting Tues 11th February)

Jazz Band: Tuesdays 8.00am-9.00am (starting Tues 18th February – one week later due to the Swimming Carnival)

Please arrive to morning rehearsals 10 minutes before the start time so you have time to unpack instrument and music and help setup. Children are required to attend both rehearsals each week (unless sick or away) and help setup/pack away equipment. The conductors love having at least one or two parents at rehearsals, so if you are able to attend or assist in any way please let us know.

TUTORS
A music tutor list was sent via email last week to help you arrange private instrument lessons for your child. If you haven’t organised lessons, we recommend you contact a tutor as soon as possible – they all have extremely busy schedules.

Lessons are a private arrangement between yourself and the tutor, so please ensure that the tutors are your first point of contact if your child cannot make the lesson or you are running late. The school has kindly allocated some tutoring areas for our onsite tutors. Please be patient. It may be a week or two before it runs smoothly. We appreciate any feedback or comments you have in relation to the tutors or the process.

MONA JOHNSON
whpsband@gmail.com

www.whpsband.wordpress.com

EVENTS
School zones operate between 8-9.30am and 2.30-4pm on school days. Remember the speed limit is 40km/h in all school zones.

**NO PARKING**

Drivers may stop to **drop off** or **pick up** passengers or goods for a **maximum of 2 minutes.**

The driver MUST remain in or **within 3 metres** of the vehicle.

The vehicle must **not** be left unattended.

No Parking zones can also be used to **drop off** and **pick up** children.

(If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction only applies during those times.)

**Penalty exceeds $147 plus 2 demerit points**

**NO STOPPING**

Stopping is **not** permitted at any time.

Dropping off or picking up passengers is **not** permitted in these areas.

(A continuous yellow edge line also indicates a No Stopping zone.)

**Penalty exceeds $265 plus 2 demerit points**

**BUS ZONE**

Drivers are **not** permitted to stop in a bus zone at any time. (If times of operation are shown on the sign, the restriction only applies during those times)

**Penalty exceeds $265 plus 2 demerit points**

**DOUBLE PARKING**

Vehicles may **not** stop next to legally parked vehicles, even for a short time. It is illegal to park within three metres of double white centre lines.

**Penalty exceeds $265 plus 2 demerit points**

**DRIVEWAYS**

Do **not** park across, or on a driveway or any other vehicle access.

**Penalty exceeds $147 plus 2 demerit points**

warringah.nsw.gov.au