From the Principal
Well done to our District swimmers who performed so well at Warringah on Monday. Special congratulations to Jarod Thacker, Mac & West LaTorraca, Ethan McCullum, Carly Adams, Mia Glasson, Jed Ragan, Kahli Johnson and Sophia Thomas who swam in finals and Mac and Sophia who are off to the regional carnival representing Pittwater PSSA. Special thanks to organisers Cindy Waldock & Tyson Blanshard and the many parents for their support on the day.

Well done to all students for a wonderful clean up day last Friday. 3Z and 2W were the lucky classes to receive the environmental trophies and an ice cream for having the tidiest areas!! Thanks to Mrs Radom for co-ordinating this initiative. Each term we will have a similar day and each class has a designated area in the school to keep tidy.

Welcome BBQ for New Families
It was very pleasing to see the great attendance last week at the welcome BBQ. The P&C cooked delicious sausages, with tasty salads, drinks, rolls and dessert...all for free!! Thank you to president Kylie & her team of wonderful helpers. Special thanks also to the Jazz band & band president Anthony for providing some lovely entertainment.

The Chickens
On Thursday evening we also had a lovely petting area with Mr Williams showcasing our six ‘new students’. The chickens have settled in extremely well and the students enjoy providing scraps and looking after our new additions. We will soon have a competition to name the chickens. Special thanks to Daniel from New Leaf Nursery at Ingleside for their generous support of our chicken project.

Interrelate Program at Wheeler Heights PS Monday 17 March- Last chance to enroll!!!!!
Interrelate will presenting in the school library on Monday 17 March. Two sessions are offered for families: 6-7pm Yr3 – 4 ‘Where do I come from?’; 7.15 – 8.15pm Yr5- 6 ‘Preparing for Puberty’. A note was sent home last week to make a booking, they are also on the school website. Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years experience teaching sexuality education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skilful presenters. The topic of sexuality will be handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The programs offer an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussion and games. A range of books on sexuality education and parenting will also be for sale. Numbers are limited so please send in the forms asap.

School Program Fees
Thank you to the many parents who have already paid their school fees. As always if parents are having any financial difficulties please contact the school. Such enquiries will be treated confidentially. A special early bird draw (for free dinners!!) for fees paid by March 17 will again be on offer. A copy of the note was sent home with all families and is also available on the school website. It is also very pleasing to see the number of voluntary donations to the school library fund, such donations are tax deductible.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Please be advised that parent teacher interviews will be conducted over the final weeks of this term. Each teacher has allocated time slots depending on their availability and school events. We are again using an on line booking system, so parents are asked to log on to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and book online using the event code R99YM. The site will open for bookings on Tuesday 25 March at 2pm. Parents who cannot access a computer may visit the school office when bookings are open.

Ticks at School
Please be advised that a number of students and parents have reported grass ticks found at school. Please be sure to thoroughly check if you have an itch.
University of NSW Competitions
Earlier this term students in Years 3-6 received a note outlining the University of NSW competitions for 2014. Students can sit tests in English, Writing, Spelling, Mathematics, Science and Computer Skills. Please note that these forms must be returned to school asap. A copy of the note is on the school website.

David Scotter
Principal

Mufti - Harmony Day - Wednesday 19 March
Harmony Day is to be celebrated on Wednesday 19 March. It is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

The SRC will be holding a fundraiser for Harmony Day on Wednesday the 19 March. A gold coin donation is required from all students. Students will participate by choosing one of the options below.

1) Culturally appropriate mufti/heritage outfit. Kids can wear a garment or outfit significant to their cultural heritage.
2) Wear a colour found on a flag that has significance to their cultural background.
3) Bring in a symbol or artefact of cultural significance and share with the class on Harmony day.

A Principals award will be given to the best examples from each class in assembly. The “National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence” is the 21 March and throughout the term students will learn about bullying and building positive friendships at school. So next Wednesday please join in to celebrate Harmony Day and remember

EVERYONE BELONGS!

Dan Cox - Relieving Assistant Principal

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

SCHOOL BANKING IS NOW ON MONDAYS

UTS Whizz Kids Enrichment Workshops
Following the success of their 2013 program, the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Broadway campus are again hosting a series of innovative workshops for Year 3-6 students, beginning with the weekend of the 22 and 23 March, then June 7 & 8, August 9 & 10, or October 25 & 26. Workshop presenters are fully qualified and passionate Gifted and Talented teachers who are presenting workshops across literacy, numeracy, science, HSIE and creative arts. If you are interested in enrolling your child, the workshops are run as either single days $90 or $165 for the weekend 9.30 – 3.30pm, visit the website: www.inspirationeducation.com.au or collect a flyer from the school office.

Northern Beaches – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

Anxiety Seminar
This single-session seminar is designed for parents of children aged 3 - 12 years old. It is designed to educate parents about childhood anxiety and to introduce parents to a variety of strategies that can be used to manage anxiety.

Contact     Ursula Perry and Alison Wallace
Cost        $15 per family
Number of sessions    1
In the first instance please speak with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service - Intake Worker on 9466 2500 for a discussion regarding the family concerns and suitability for the program.

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION AT CROMER CAMPUS

Cromer Campus has embraced a major paradigm shift in our approach to teaching and learning. Research demonstrates clearly that students who engage in student centred learning delivered in flexible learning environments achieve improved learning outcomes compared to those in traditional 20th Century classrooms. Recognising the importance of this change in approach, the Cromer Campus P&C have funded the re-development of the school library which has become our new flexible learning space known as the ‘Hub’.

Colour, comfort and the ability for staff and students to reconfigure spaces according to their learning needs are key features of the Hub’s furniture and its layout. Student centred learning is facilitated by teams of teachers representing all key learning areas. Currently, students from Years 7 to 10 are engaged in student centred learning projects. Learn more about this innovative approach to education and the opportunities for your child at our information evening on Monday 17 March at 6pm to 7pm in the Hub.