Welcome back to Wheeler Heights Public School. 2015 will be another busy and exciting year, full of many opportunities and challenges. We have now formed 21 classes with an enrolment of 534, made up of 267 boys and 267 girls!

A special welcome to new students Lily & Campbell Polden, Grace Sutherland, Finny Wright and returning families Lillie & Rex Lea, Charlie, Asha & Rocky Nicholson and Zara Brennan.

Classes 2015

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.

Composite classes are often formed when the numbers in the particular grade dictate that we combine grades together to satisfy government enrolment numbers policy. This year we have formed two composite or multi age classes, 1/2T with Miss Tekampe and 3/4C with Mr Cox. We certainly feel that these students will be catered for, extended and enriched exactly the same as any other class in the school. Some schools in fact choose to have a number of grades comprised totally of composite classes. As I have mentioned above, we do take great care in choosing our class groupings and staff each year. We are very pleased that all students have settled in very smoothly to their new classes, especially our new Kindergarten.

Staffing 2015

Last week’s newsletter included a detailed list of all staff for 2015. I would also like to congratulate Cindy Waldock who has been seconded to the DEC School Sports Unit for Terms 1 and 2. Ms Waldock will be a great loss to our school but a great asset to the Department in her new role.

Year 3-6 Swimming Carnival & K-2 Water Day

Congratulations to all primary students who competed so enthusiastically at the carnival on Tuesday at Manly Pool. It was a very successful event. Place getters will shortly be published on the school website and ribbons will be distributed at the assembly on Thursday 12th February at 2.30pm. Special thanks to Mr Blanshard and all teacher and parent helpers on the day.

What a wonderful time our K-2 students had on Tuesday at school. Thank you to all the K-2 staff for organising such an enjoyable afternoon under the direction of Ms McCombie …. I hear Mr Williams also had a very enjoyable afternoon!!

Student Leaders 2015

Congratulations to our recently elected House captains and vice captains, who did such a great job at Tuesday’s carnival.

**House Captains**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>House</th>
<th>Captains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jenkins</td>
<td>Lani Olivey &amp; Mac La Torraca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheeler</td>
<td>Jess Cleary &amp; Harrison Marsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramsay</td>
<td>Erin Gaw &amp; Tyson Numa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Vice Captains**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hannah Gilmartin &amp; Jed Regan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia Thomas &amp; Will Green</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Mather &amp; Jaylen Lyndon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Permission and Medical Note

All students received a very important medical and permission information note today (back to back note on yellow paper). Could you please read the note carefully to ensure that all sections are completed, signed and return to your teacher as soon as possible. Whilst much of the information may not have changed from last year, we ask all parents to complete a new form each year. Please see the office if you did not receive this note.

Meet the Teacher Night – next week!!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10 February</td>
<td>Kindy</td>
<td>6-7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 February</td>
<td>Yr 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>6-7pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These nights are general information talks about plans for the grade and year ahead. Teachers will be providing some details about activities for the year and expectations of each class teacher. Please be advised that these evenings are not parent teacher interviews and for any specific individual concerns with your particular child it would be best to arrange a suitable interview time to meet with the teacher.

COMING EVENTS

**Thurs 5 Feb**

Welcome Back To Band afternoon 3:30 – 5:30

**Fri 6 Feb**

Summer PSSA Trials
Junior Dance Begins 8am

**Week 3 (starting Mon 9)**

Band Rehearsals begin – all bands

**Monday 9 Feb**

Band Committee Meeting
7pm

**Tues 10 Feb**

Meet the Teacher Night – 6-7pm Kindergarten
7-8pm Stage 1 (Yrs 1&2)
Reading with your child sessions for parents. 6.15-7pm- Yrs 1&2
7-7.30pm- Kindy

**Wed 11 Feb**

Meet the Teacher Night – 6-7pm Stage 2 (Yrs 3&4)
7-8pm Stage 3 (Yrs 5&6)

**Thurs 12 Feb**

School Captains & Vice Captains to PCS
Leadership Training at Gibberagong

**Fri 13 Feb**

PSSA Begins

**Tues 17 Feb**

Year 6 Excursion to Narrabeen Academy

**Fri 27 Feb**

PSSA Gala Day TBC

**Thurs 5 March**

Welcome to Kindergarten & new families TBC

**Fri 6 March**

Clean Up Australia (WHPS) Day

**Thurs 12 March**

March Selective High School Test (Yr 6)

**Mon 16 March**

Pittwater PSSA District swimming carnival
Reading with Your Child - Parent Session
On Tuesday evening our Learning & Support Teacher, Mrs Alina Loneck, will be running parent sessions with ideas on how to help your child with reading at home. Please come along to one of the sessions held in the Library, before or after the teacher information talks, to ensure you make the most of the time spent on home reading each week.

Tuesday 10 Feb
6.15-7pm for Years 1&2 parents and any parents of Yr 3-6 children
7-7.30pm for Kindergarten parents

Dance 2 Be Fit
All classes from Years K-4 began their Dance 2 Be Fit sessions yesterday, and all children were enthusiastically and actively involved!! Each class will now be allocated a weekly time period and students should wear sports uniform on the appropriate day (Tuesday or Wednesday). The other exciting news is that this year Years 5 and 6 will not be doing Dance 2 Be Fit but will be doing Ballroom Dancing. More details soon!

Chess News and Coaching
Our wonderful Chess coach Lev began classes this week. Chess is a wonderful opportunity for boys and girls of all ages and we have a very successful program operating at Wheeler Heights. Research has consistently proven the benefits of learning chess. Classes are on at lunchtime on Mondays (Juniors) and Tuesdays (Seniors). Please see Ms Zillhardt, Mr Williams or the website for more details.

Welcome BBQ for all Kindergarten and new families – Thursday 5 March
Please keep this date free….more details to come!!!!!!

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.

Holiday Helpers
Thank you to the fabulous school uniform shop committee who opened during the school holidays on a Saturday and outfitted many of our new Kindergarten students. Thank you also to the many Wheeler Heights families who looked after our chickens so well during the long Christmas break. We are very fortunate to have such a supportive Wheeler Heights community.

Wassell Family
Thank you again to the Wassell family for repainting the lovely Indigenous artwork in the Kindergarten deck area during the holidays. It looks beautiful!!

Congratulations to Erin Gaw
Well done to Erin (6L) who has been selected in the Sydney North Dance Ensemble. Erin’s group will perform at the Dance festival at Glen Street Theatre and in the Schools Spectacular later in the year! A wonderful achievement, Erin!!

Spanish Classes
You may have seen the recent advertisements for Spanish classes. Classes commence this afternoon (Thursday) from 3.20pm.
Classes take place in the RFF room in B Block (Mrs Butler’s room from 2014).

We are a NUT FREE School- Anaphylaxis—What is it?
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 will be more detailed information available at the office and we will regularly publish updates in the newsletter.

School Program Fees
A note outlining whole school program fees and expenses will be distributed very shortly. Prompt payment would be very much appreciated, with a special prize draw for payment made by the due date.

School Bell Times
Please be advised that the lunch bell now goes at 1pm and the end of lunch is now at 1.50pm. School still begins at 9.15am and finishes at 3.15pm.

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 and until 6pm each evening.

Absentee Notes
If your child is going to be absent from school or is away for any reason could you please send in a written note to the office as soon as possible after the absence. Alternatively you may call the school office or e-mail a note to the school and this will be forwarded on to the appropriate teacher.

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 your teacher or the school office. We appreciate your cooperation in these matters.

Newsletter by email and school website
If you would like to receive a hard copy of the newsletter please let the school office know. Again this year most notes will only be available on the school website for easy access at anytime. www.wheelerheights-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Primary Parent Planner App – Parent Communication
We will again be using the communication app that was successfully introduced during Term 4 last year. We will send more information once the app is up and running with correct classes and groups available.

David Scotter
Principal

From The Office:
Stewart House Clothing Appeal 2015
Please be advised that Stewart House clothing bags are now available at the school office for the annual clothing appeal. Could filled bags please be returned to the school office by Monday 2 March. Thank you for your support Stewart House.

Student Banking
Student Banking starts on Monday (9th February). Any Enquiries, please see Mrs Galati in the front office (Mondays)

SPORTS NEWS
WHPS Swimming Carnival
The annual Wheeler Heights carnival was a supper slick success thanks to the teachers, pool officials and the parents who volunteered and supported this event. The students were equally impressive in both their Wheeler Way behaviour and Thorpedo-like swimming abilities. While we are not disclosing the winning house as yet, all will be revealed at next Thursday's primary assembly (Thursday 12th February) along with the ribbons for place getters. The results from the carnival will be published on the school website by next Monday (9th February). Expect district notes and information to be distributed within the next few weeks.

We have received some feedback from parents and teachers in regards to the carnival time allocated and we are certainly discussing options for next year.

PSSA – SUMMER COMPETITION TERM 1
PSSA trials were held last Friday and will continue in Eagle Tag, Cricket, T-Ball and Softball. Trials for AFL will also be held for Year 3 and 4 shortly. We always have a large number of participants trialing in all sports, indicative of the positive attitude of our students in terms of attempting to do their personal best. Unfortunately not all trialists will be selected in a PSSA team, but all students will participate in the home sport program with a range of activities and skills aimed at developing and improving their capabilities.

The summer PSSA competition will commence on Friday 13th February. Coaches will distribute permission notes and draws asap.

Mr Tyson Blanshard – Sport Coordinator 2015

Wheeler Heights Dance Programme
Senior Dance Group has started back at their new day and lesson time of Wednesday 8-9am.
Juniors will be commencing tomorrow from 8-9am.
Costume measurements are also being done this week.
The children and Miss Tahlia are looking forward to completing their dances for the upcoming eisteddfod season and school performances.

Our email address is whps.dance@gamil.com
Kind regards, Deneille Gigg (Dance Parent Liaison)
2015 HERE WE COME!
As the serene scents of the summer holidays slowly waft off into the realm of misty memory, the beckoning drums of the school bands once again waken us from our cozy slumber!

We've had a magic start to the 2015 year. With almost 100 children in years 3 - 6 now enrolled in our bands, we have the largest band program in our School's living memory. This continues the healthy tradition of maintaining and developing a good proportion of our school's students learning music.

WELCOME CASSIE WHITE
The WHPS band community warmly welcomes Cassie White the new conductor of our Senior and Intermediate Bands and our Band Program’s musical director. Cassie has accrued a list of music teaching and conducting credentials longer than your arm. She also is determined to foster and develop our kids' musical abilities (and our bands) in a fun and friendly environment. We wish her every success.

THANK YOU ...
Thank you to all the committee members and parents who have helped behind the scenes to prepare for the busy year ahead. Over the holidays we've been ordering shirts, buying books, drafting contracts, preparing timetables, copying music, repairing instruments, making lists and counting money - all for a wonderful cause. Keep up the good work guys.

Special thanks to Mako Turner who contributed significantly over the holidays, even though her band children have both left the School. Wow – thanks Mako – we'll really miss you!

BAND FEES
Semester 1 fees and annual instrument hire are due to be paid at (or before) the Welcome (Back) to Band Afternoon. There is no facility to pay by credit card or eftpos, it is cash or cheque only. You can pre-pay by direct deposit or Flexischools (these are the preferred option). Cash will ONLY be accepted in person, not in the Band Box. Please check your invoices for banking and payment details.

FIRST BAND COMMITTEE MEETING FOR 2015 ...
The first Band Committee meeting for 2015 will be on Monday, 9th February at 7.00pm in the school staffroom. New and returning parents are all invited to attend. Helpers are always needed, no contribution is too small. Please come along and see how you might be able to contribute. The Band program is run by volunteer parents so every little bit helps.
Spanish for Kids

The FUN way to become bilingual

Wheeler Heights Public School

FREE TRIAL LESSON - ENROLLING NOW!

Thursday Afternoons 3.20-4.20 pm

Lots of fun activities, drama, music & games

Qualified, experienced and enthusiastic teachers

Students will also have access to an online Interactive website to reinforce learning

Classes are open to K-6

For further information or to Book your child

Phone: 0427 038 050
teresa.ferrer@lcfclubs.com.au
www.lcfclubs.com.au
Pittwater Tigers Junior AFL

Play AFL with your mates in 2015!

Boys and Girls
Auskick 5-8s, Juniors U9s-U17s

Registration days:

Saturday 7th February, 10 am – 2 pm
Saturday 14th February, 10 am – 2 pm

North Narrabeen Reserve
Walsh Street, North Narrabeen

Or online today at:
www.pittwater afl.com.au
pittwatertigers@gmail.com
President: 0407 699 811
COME AND PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE
IN 2015 WITH THE
MIGHTY CROMER KINGFISHERS

All players welcome

Registration Days:
St Matthews Farm, Cromer

Sunday 8 Feb - 10:00am to 1pm
Wednesday 11 Feb - 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Sunday 15 Feb - 10:00am to 1pm
Wednesday 18 Feb - 4.30pm to 6.30pm

UNDER 6’s – U17’S

Contact: cromerkingfishersregistrar@gmail.com

For more information on how you can play for the
Cromer Kingfishers visit our website
www.kingfishers.com.au
Warringah Council presents
RAISING RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL CITIZENS
With Leonie Smith the Cyber Safety Lady

Leonie Smith is one of Australia’s leading cyber safety educators and a mother of four.
Learn how to keep your kids safe online.

- Screen time balance
- Safe social media
- Cyber bullying
- Smart phone safety
- Avoiding adult content

Wed 11 Feb
7 - 9pm
Mackellar Girls Campus, Campbell Pde, Manly Vale
FREE but bookings essential on youthbookings@warringah.nsw.gov.au
For more information call 9942 2681.