From The Principal:

It was lovely to see the many teddy bears who came along to school on Tuesday. I know the Kindergarten students, teachers and Year 6 buddies had a very enjoyable picnic!!

Special thanks to local company Alpen and parent Min Barker for the generous donation of many school stationery resources recently. Much appreciated, Min!

Don’t forget the Clean-Up Wheeler Heights PS tomorrow. You may like to bring a pair of old gloves!

I’m sure you will have seen the petitions which are around the school and at the local shops. Please support our school and P&C in this project to improve the state of our local footpaths and walkways.

Welcome BBQ for Kindergarten and new families: tonight Thursday 5 March 5.30-7pm
We hope to see many of our Kindergarten families and any other new families come along this afternoon. Our wonderful Year 6 buddies and their families are also invited.

Parent Teacher Interviews
Please be advised that parent teacher interviews will be conducted over the final two weeks of this term, from March 23. Each teacher has allocated time slots depending on their availability and school events. We are again using an online booking system, so parents are asked to log on to www.schoolinterviews.com.au and book online using the event code which will be advised. The site will be open for bookings on March 13. Parents who cannot access a computer may visit the school office for internet access.

University of NSW Competitions 2015
Once again students from Years 3-6 are invited to participate in the University of NSW competitions in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling and Digital Technologies. A copy of the entry form was attached to the newsletter, is on the website and is available at the front office. Forms must be returned by 12 March. This year all students in Years 4 and 6 will sit the English and Mathematics tests. The cost for these two tests has been included in the whole school program fees. If you would not like your child to sit these tests please let your teacher know and this amount can be deducted from the whole school program fees (Maths and English tests are $8 each).

Road and Car Park Safety
Please be extra careful in the morning and afternoons around the school and car park areas. 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 where safety is concerned. Also, please do not block residents’ driveways in the morning or afternoon.

Arrive a little earlier, walk a little bit further and remember that safety is the most important thing!!!

Parents are regularly calling the office to complain about a multitude of traffic issues. We continually put notices in the newsletter and are always talking to the children and parents about safe practices. You can also call the council directly and ask for a ranger to again be sent.

School Program Fees
Thank you to the many families who have already paid their school program fees. Don’t forget the special prize draw of an iPad mini and dinner vouchers for payment made by the due date (March 16). As outlined on the note a range of payment methods and payment schedules are available. As always, if any family is experiencing financial difficulties they should contact Mr Scotter or the school office. All correspondence will be strictly confidential.
Newsletter Advertising
Parents and local businesses are often asked to advertise in the school newsletter. After consulting with the P&C and staff we have decided to offer an opportunity to advertise once per term in a special edition, most probably in Week 8. Obviously the school can benefit from additional revenue and also provide a possible service for our parent and local community businesses. Businesses who would like to advertise can email their advertisement to the school, wheelerheights-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Rates will be $50 for approximately 1/4 A4 size ad. The newsletter advertising section will be emailed as an attachment to parents with the normal newsletter for that week. As you can appreciate we are only able to include businesses and advertisements which would be considered appropriate for a primary school community.

Rubbish in the School
The amount of rubbish and recycling in the school is also an issue which causes great interest. Again, our cleaners are very proactive and work hard to minimise playground litter. The P&C and teachers are currently investigating new rubbish bins which will be more ‘bird proof’ and will allow some sorting of plastics and recyclables. Again I thank the P&C for their support as such bins are expensive but will encourage our students to protect the environment and cut down on waste. If any parent has a contact who may be able to assist please see Mr Williams, Mr Scotter or P&C president Claudia Schremmer.

Take 3 for the Sea
At WHPS we are again embracing this worthy and simple initiative. The ‘Take 3’ message is simple: take 3 pieces of rubbish with you when you leave the beach, waterway or... the playground! and you have made a difference. Debris and rubbish, particularly plastic, not only looks unsightly but also has a disastrous impact in our oceans on marine life and, ultimately, us. We can greatly reduce the amount of marine debris in our oceans by preventing it from getting there in the first place! Using this simple phrase and associated environmental education lessons and discussions we encourage students to Refuse disposable plastic, Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle and Respond by picking up rubbish.

Birthday Food and Treats
Children and parents often like to bring in a treat for a birthday or a very special occasion. Obviously such gestures are appreciated and usually embraced in the correct spirit. However, as you are aware, a number of students have very serious allergies, dietary conditions or individual family beliefs. We as teachers and carers of the whole school population have to be totally respectful of each parents’ wishes for their own children. Consequently if you do not wish for your child to partake in a birthday treat please let the teacher and office know in writing. There are many possible alternatives......some children with severe allergy have their own ‘special’ treats which are available whenever an occasion is celebrated. Other parents have suggested alternatives such as jelly or ice-blocks or a non-edible treat for a special occasion.
I do ask for your understanding and support in this matter…..we are certainly not wishing to be over dramatic…but merely hoping to ensure the safety and happiness of all students at Wheeler Heights.

School banking parent volunteers needed!!
Many students currently save with the Commonwealth Bank school banking program, with the school receiving a commission for all deposits made. In most schools a group of parents run this program by completing the deposits each week, usually on a Monday at school. If a group of parents would be interested in helping to administer this program please see Jodie Sly (Admin Manager) or Mr Scotter. No financial or banking expertise is required!!

Term 1 Calendar
A copy of the Term 1 parent calendar was attached to the Week 3 newsletter and has been placed on the school website. As dates are added or updated the calendar will be modified on the website. Additionally, always consult the ‘Coming Events’ section of the front page of the newsletter each week to ensure that planned dates have not changed.
Please note that we had incorrectly marked Monday 27 April as an Anzac Day holiday.
Please be advised that Monday 27 April is a normal school day.

Resources for Parents
The school and I often receive thought-provoking educational resources and parenting information. We plan to have a section on the school website where such articles may be placed for your perusal. Please be advised that such articles are not endorsed by the school or the Department of School Education and Communities. For example, you may find the below link about Reading with your child helpful and interesting: http://creatingalearningenvironment.com/?p=213

David Scotter
Principal

From The Office:

Year 7 High School Enrolment
Booklets will be distributed tomorrow to Year 6 students for applications for high school. These forms need to be completed and returned to the school office no later than Friday 20th March. If you have any enquiries regarding the booklets once you have received them, please contact the office and ask for Mrs Sly.

Book Club
Catalogues were distributed to children yesterday. If paying by credit card, please refer to instructions on reverse of catalogue to pay online, record the receipt no. on the order form. Orders are to be placed down the chute in the front office by 13th March.

Emails
When sending an email to the school email account, please include your child’s class as well as their name, this will make it easier for distribution.

Jodie Sly
School Administration Manager
Harmony Day Mufti Day
Wheeler Heights will be celebrating Harmony Day and the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Thursday the 19th of March. The purpose of this day is to celebrate Australia’s cultural diversity and remind students that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. Our aim is to promote inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. We encourage all students to dress in National dress from a country of their origin or wear the colours of their national flag (eg. Red, white and green for Italy). All students will give a gold coin donation to take part in the day. You can visit http://www.harmony.gov.au/ and http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/national-day/ for more information about both initiatives.

Mrs Julia Smith
Acting Assistant Principal

Sports News:

District Cricket Trials
Well done to Lachlan T and Harry R who were successful at the Pittwater District cricket trials held recently. The boys then trialled at Harbord this week. Unfortunately, neither was selected to progress to the next level. Thank you to Mr Cox for co-ordinating the Pittwater PSSA trials.

Pittwater Zone Swimming
On Tuesday 10th March, the Wheeler Heights Zone Swimming team will be attending the Warringah Aquatic Centre for the Pittwater Zone Competition. Permission notes were handed out recently and money is due back by Tuesday 3rd March. Wheeler Heights PS swimming caps are required to be worn and are available from the office for $5. Any enquiries please see Mrs Smith who is the team manager. A copy of the permission notes can be found on the website if required.

Basketball Trials
Congratulations to Finnley W (6L) who has been selected in the Sydney North basketball team. Finnley will play against teams from all over NSW in the State championships at Berkely in May. A wonderful achievement!! Finnley will be selling raffle tickets at school to assist in cost of the three day competition. She will have the tickets available each day at school at a cost of $2 each. In true Wheeler Way spirit, let’s help Finnley with this great achievement by buying a raffle ticket or two! 1st prize is a Notebook laptop, 2nd prize is an Ipad Mini, 3rd prize Coffee Machine and 4th prize is a TV!

PSSA
Last Friday was the Gala day with our 10 teams playing two or three matches against local schools. Special congratulations to the Yr 3 & 4 AFL squad who played so enthusiastically on the day….

PSSA GALA DAY 27/2/15
Results vs Avalon & Bilgola Plateau

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<th>Boys Cricket</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior A</td>
<td>2 losses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior B</td>
<td>1 loss &amp; 1 win</td>
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<tr>
<th>Boys Softball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Senior A</td>
<td>(1-6) loss</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior B</td>
<td>(3-10) loss</td>
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<th>Girls T Ball</th>
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<tr>
<td>Junior A</td>
<td>(9-11) loss</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior B</td>
<td>(7-7) draw</td>
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<th>Girls Tag</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior A</td>
<td>(3-2) win</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior B</td>
<td>(5-1) win</td>
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Mr Tyson Blanshard
Sport Coordinator

Gifted and Talented Education
G.A.T.E.WAYS are offering day long Eureka programs throughout 2015 focusing on different areas of the curriculum. In Term 1, they are running a program called ‘Curious Science’ (please see dates and locations below). Students need to be registered through a school account by a teacher. If you are interested in one of these programs for your child, or you would like more information, please see the website linked below or contact Miss Tekampe (1/2T). As these programs are offered outside the school, parents will need to make their own arrangements to and from the venues and cover the costs involved in participation.

Oxford Falls Grammar School, 1078 Oxford Falls Road, Oxford Falls
Wednesday 18 March: Years 4,5,6
Thursday 19 March: Years 1,2,3

Miss Rachael Tekampe
Assistant Principal
Wheeler Heights Dance Program

2015 Dance Captains

Congratulations to Maul P, Hollie O’H & Sienna C on their leadership role as our Dance Captains.

Senior & Junior Eisteddfod & performance season is coming – please have the following dates available for the 2 separate Eisteddfods (30th May and the weekend of 19-21st June). Glen Street matinee and evening performances usually run mid or late June for a 2 week period. If you are away for any of these dates please advise us now as stage positioning is extremely important.

It is also very important as performances are approaching that children attend all classes, thank you.

Our email address is whps.dance@gmail.com

Kind regards, Deneille G (Dance Parent Liaison)

Kindergarten and their Year 6 Buddies enjoying The Teddy Bear’s Picnic
Update on our Petition Campaign to Warringah Council.

Walkway Petition to Warringah Council

We, the undersigned, request an investigation into more pathways being provided along:

- Ambleside St
- Kirkstone Rd
- Heather St
- Grevillea St
- Berith St

in Wheeler Heights - all busy feeder streets to Wheeler Heights Public School that are irrefutably unfit for use. We believe it is Warringah Council's responsibility to provide safe walkways for our children to use whilst travelling to and from their local school.

From the staff, friends and families of Wheeler Heights Public School.

During stage one, we have been collecting signatures at the main school gate and at the Collaroy Plateau shops. On last count, we have 483 of them. Not bad at all for a short time span only! Add to this a few clipboards that are still out in canteen, uniform shop, and with students at school, and we are estimating roughly **650 signatures at this stage**. If you haven’t signed our petition yet, please do so at the school office!

Can our community manage to collect 1000 signatures?

Next Action Items:

1. We are calling everyone to grab a clipboard from the school office, and to carry it to your local club (swim club, soccer, netball, rugby, dance, band, nippers,… you name them) and get your club buddies to sign our petition!
2. If you live in one of the streets that would directly benefit from the walkways that we are demanding, please grab a clipboard from the school office and roam your local neighbourhood! Knock on the doors, talk to the other people living in the affected areas, and get them involved by collecting their signatures as well.
3. Take a clipboard to a local tea party or coffee-and-cake get-together, take it along to work to get your colleagues to sign. We need the community involved in this, and you are part of it!

We are also collecting evidence of previous contact with Council about similar issues. If you know of any incidents that happened, or near misses, please let us know, as all this will enter the case that we are preparing.

If you are a professional in this area, or feel that you have a specific expertise that might help strengthen our case, please contact the P&C.

Claudia Schremmer
P&C President
BAND CAPTAINS ANNOUNCED
Congratulations to Chloe R, Bianca H-B and Charlie N who are our newly appointed Band Captains for 2015! We wish them every success as ambassadors and leaders of the WHPS Bands this year. Our Band Captains fulfill a number of important ceremonial duties throughout the year, set behavioural standards for other band members and mentor junior band members both musically and in terms of good behaviour.

Congratulations also to the other year 6 band children who nominated themselves for band captain but missed out. This year we had an over-abundance of very qualified candidates for the role of Band Captain.

TRAINING BAND BLASTS OFF
Last Wednesday afternoon the Training Band held its inaugural BLAST OFF! What a wonderful experience it was! Across the afternoon we combined sectional rehearsals with a full band rehearsal and concluded with a “mini” concert followed by an overdose of sausage sandwiches. This event was a worthwhile exercise in saturating our budding musicians with band music as well as helping them to gain confidence in the band network.

Thanks to the parents who helped out on this afternoon. The many hands that assisted in setting up the hall, cooking, serving sausages and maintaining decorum all helped ensure that this event was a success.

THANK YOU ...
Special thanks go out to Jenna M who has been helping out at Training Band on Monday mornings. Her considerate and selfless contribution to helping others has been invaluable.

WELL DONE DUDES!
Congratulations to Aimee W and Yoon P for their recent Band Awards. What a great start to the year you guys have had!

Further congratulations to George S and Makensie D who also received Band Awards over the last week. Keep up the good work guys.

RESPECT OUR INSTRUMENTS
Please take the time to understand the wonders of your own instrument. It is a precious beast that needs constant loving, care and respect. If you’re not sure what to do, check with your tutor or ask a conductor.

Please remember: IF IT’S NOT YOUR INSTRUMENT – DON’T TOUCH IT. Please don’t flick switches, press keys, hit drums or fiddle with equipment which is not yours. Please note that the WHPS Hall Band storeroom is out of bounds for children without permission.

ANTHONY MACDERMOTT
whpsband@gmail.com / 0417 277 89

BAND EVENTS
whpsband.wordpress.com

SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE BANDS “BLAST OFF”
On Saturday afternoon, 21 March 2015 (between 1.45pm and 5.30pm) we will hold a quick intensive Intermediate and Senior Band Boot Camp. This will comprise a few hours of sectional work (with some special expert musical tutors invited to help) interspersed with some band rehearsals (just like a mini band jam) broken up with afternoon tea. Please make a note in the diary!

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING
Our next band committee meeting is scheduled for Monday 9th March, 7pm in the school staffroom. All parents welcome. Please come along – entry is free and lively discussion is guaranteed. Please attend and contribute to the many simple but rewarding tasks that help build your child's musical development.

ON WITH THE SHOW!
How fantastic it is to see all the children settling into (and remembering) their rehearsal schedules (as well as their instruments!). It is important that your child attends both weekly rehearsals (unless sick or away). In the lead up to performances and competitions, it makes it difficult for the conductor (and the rest of the band) if musicians are absent and cannot help prepare the band. So let us know if you are unable to attend a rehearsal.

PROBLEMS WITH HIRED INSTRUMENTS
Our band instruments cannot be borrowed or swapped without approval from Suse Davey (our Equipment Coordinator) or another Band Committee delegate. If your instrument is broken or damaged, please contact Suse or the Band Committee. Do not leave it in disrepair – your music will suffer as will the listeners' sanity.

BUSKERS WANTED!!!
Remember to start preparing a small repertoire of songs (even just 2 or 3!) as a soloist or small group to help out on Election Day. This is a great opportunity for you to gain experience while also helping out the P&C fundraising drive. Let us know if you are interested so we can put together a roster.

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

Band Committee Meeting
Monday 9th March 7.00pm

Intermediate & Senior Band Blast Off
Saturday 21st March 1.45-5.30pm

Election Day @WHPS
Buskers!!! Saturday 28th March

MONA JOHNSON
whpsband@gmail.com
Uniform Shop

In an effort to Reduce, Reuse & Recycle...

we are asking for your old medium & large paper retail bags, for our over the counter sales.

PLEASE – NO SUPERMARKET CHECK-OUT BAGS!

Thank you for dropping them off at the shop on Friday
Dear all Families,

Here is the latest news, photos and information about what’s going on at Wheeler Heights Before and After School Care. We have been involved in some fantastic and exciting events based on our Term Planner! We aim to acknowledge regular Community Events to broaden children’s experience of cultural, health and environmental issues. Recently we have participated in Clean up Australia Day which the children became involved in on the 27th of February which encouraged the children to care for our environment and the importance of keeping our society clean. They did this by dividing into teams and having a fun and active competition of who could collect the most rubbish! Harmony Day is coming up and we are excited to learn about Cultural Diversity.

This Term the Educators and the children have been focusing on our wonderful “All About Me” Child Profiles. This activity has allowed the children to focus on their hobbies and interests. One of our Centres Goals this year is to utilise our Child Profiles and Emerging Interests when creating our Program so that activities are more personalised and our children are more engaged.

The Children participated in Random Acts of Kindness Week which was held between 9th-15th February where the children created enclosed hand prints with examples of when they have been kind in the past. The theme also continued throughout the week by having children add links to the random acts of kindness paper chain every time an Educator “Caught or Observed” them being Kind to others around the Centre. Our centre is proud announce that we have been selected to be a part of a trial program focused on Health and Wellbeing. As part of the program we participate in Athletics and Oz Tag which is held twice a week by outside delivers. Staff complete regular training related to their work – this includes management of children’s behaviour, WHS, Food handling, Child Protection – all of which further develop the Educator’s Skills in their work.

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<td>Harry Potter Club (BSC)</td>
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<td>Club Cooking Club (BSC)</td>
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<td>Cricket Club (ASC)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Homework Club</td>
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Families can contact staff at the Centre by calling 9972 3895 or 0430 351 734 or by emailing whoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au Centre Managers can be contacted directly by emailing headoffice@primaryoshcare.com.au
Moonlight Cinema at Pittwater High
Friday 20th March

Tickets
$10 each
or $30 for 4

Alcohol-free event
Popcorn
Slushies
Lollies
Candy floss

Gates open 6pm, entry via Flying Fox Carpark
Get your friends & picnic rug for a night under the stars!

For tickets: www.trybooking.com/GZMG
or – www.trybooking.com and search for Pittwater

All pre-purchased tix will go in the draw for a $100 Eftpos gift card
In support of PHS Band Tour to China