From The Principal:

Anzac Day Activities
The school will be conducting an Anzac Day assembly today, Thursday 23 April at 2.00pm, run by the student leaders and Year 6. Last Sunday six of our senior leaders joined Mr Williams and myself marching along Pittwater Road to Rat Park for a special Anzac service. Over 120 Peninsula Community of Schools children and 20 staff attended, as did the Prime Minister, the Premier, the Governor and an estimated 5,000 community members. This Saturday our leaders will be presenting a wreath at Collaroy Beach which will then be scattered at sea by various local surf boats. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend this event with details in the local papers or from Mr Scotter and Mr Williams.

Extreme Weather
It has certainly been a tumultuous start to the term. I would like to congratulate the children for being so sensible during such extreme weather. As always we are dedicated to ensuring the safety of your children. Consequently we have minimised any movement around the school and kept a very close eye on the weather, trees and any other possible hazards.

On Wednesday morning we did send a message out to parents by the Primary Parent Planner and email, which confirmed that school was open but that some parents may decide to keep their children home due to the extreme conditions. Just a little reminder that if your child does arrive at school and then you decide to take them home, you must complete a leave form from the school office or inform your teacher. Obviously we do this to ensure that our school runs safely and smoothly.

The school cross country carnival is scheduled for next Tuesday 28 April. Obviously the oval is rather waterlogged and we may need to reschedule this event. The alternate date will be Friday 1 May. When a decision is made we will convey this information by email and Primary Parent Planner.

Peninsula Community of Schools News (PCS)
Next week we welcome our colleagues from the PCS who visit to rehearse for the PCS Music Festival held early in Term 3. Children from the 10 local primary schools will practice with our Year 2 Wheeler Wailers children under the baton of Ms McCombie, the combined choir conductor. Next Wednesday Mr Williams is taking a group of Prefects and Year 5 and 6 SRC representatives to Taronga Zoo as part of the PCS Green Sea Turtle project. Both projects are tremendous initiatives and opportunities organised by the PCS.

Yoga and Athletic Skills starting next week.
This term we are very excited to be starting two new programs. Kindy and Year 1 will be having a Yoga lesson each week from the Life Skills group. Years 2-4 will be having a term of athletic skills, presented by Fit Futures. This program is in response to feedback from parents in regard to preparing our students for the school athletics carnival to be held in Term 3.

Staff Development Day
On Monday this week all staff participated in the Staff Development Day. We began at Pittwater High School with over 600 staff from the PCS schools. Simon Breakspear, a highly respected education consultant gave a very informative and motivating address. He spoke about preparing our students for 21st century education and how best to create a learning environment which will make great schools even better! We then came to school and worked on our new school plan 2015-17 and also talked about teacher professional development activities for this year. Some of our School Administration Staff (SASS) also attended a training day at Hornsby with SASS from other local schools.

Year 5 2016 Opportunity Class Applications
If you would like your child to sit the Opportunity Class test for 2016, please complete the Expression of Interest form and return to your class teacher or the office. The form will be emailed to Year 4 parents and will be available on the school website (click here). Opportunity classes operate at Mona Vale and Balgowlah Heights Public schools.
NAPLAN Years 3 and 5
All students in Years 3 and 5 received a note last term outlining procedures for the National Assessment Program- Literacy and Numeracy to be held in Week 4 this term, May 12, 13 and 14.

The Chicken Holiday Roster
Thank you to the Oldfield, Nicholson, Bebb, White and Barker families who looked after our six chickens so well over the holiday break. Next school holidays we will again be looking for volunteers to feed & tend to our feathered friends.

Dance Group News
A sincere thank you to Deneille Gigg and Bec O'Hara for all your time and hard work in sourcing and organising the Dance group costumes and bags. They look fabulous!! We are all very excited about the upcoming performances for our two talented groups.

Holiday Jobs at school
Over the holidays we were fortunate to be able to complete a few important jobs while the weather was somewhat calmer. You may have noticed the new retaining wall in the primary play equipment, the new Year 6 seats and the Rose Avenue trees which were trimmed. Thank you also to Steve Wassell who expertly assisted with a building project in the administration office.

Dogs in Schools
Whilst many of us have dogs and love them, schools are not places to bring your dog for a walk. Unfortunately some of our school population (and often younger siblings) do have an aversion to dogs and that is why dogs are not allowed on any school premises. Could I please ask that you refrain from bringing your dogs to school at any time.

Winter School Uniform
Please be advised that from the start of this term we ask that students wear winter school uniform.

David Scotter
Principal

From The Office:

Unidentified Direct Deposits
We have two unidentified deposits in the school bank account. Dates of deposits are 30/3/15 and 20/4/15. If you deposited into our account on one of these dates, and have not received a receipt for your payment, please contact me to establish where the funds should be directed.

Stewart House envelopes
Today all students have been provided with a Stewart House envelope. We hope that many of you will send in a $2 donation which also gives you an opportunity to win a $4,000 family holiday. The money raised is to support Stewart House, a wonderful home away from home at Curl Curl which provides unique opportunities for 1,800 students each year from our public schools all over NSW.

Help, Sports Shorts needed urgently
Please donate any spare sports shorts to the office, we need all sizes.

Jodie Sly
School Administration Manager

Library News:

Volunteers
The library is in need of volunteers to help with the covering of the many new books which have been purchased. It would involve collecting a pack of 6 - 10 books to take home and cover and return within a week. Mrs Westwood is available to demonstrate how to cover the books in the mornings before school with the exception of Tuesdays. Please let the office know if you are available to assist us. The books are now available.
A big thank you to those parents who have already begun covering books.

Premier’s Reading Challenge Update
All students have been borrowing books from the Premier’s Reading Challenge since early March. Students in Years 3-6 are filling out their own reading logs as part of their library sessions. Parents of students in K-2 are asked to keep a record of the books the children have read by logging on to the Premier’s Reading Challenge website and typing the titles of the books. The user name and password are those used by students to log on to the computers at school.

We are strongly encouraging all students to be involved. All those who successfully complete the challenge before the closing date in August will be awarded a free book of their choice.
Happy reading!

Fiona Bevan and Kathy Westwood
Library
SCIENCE NEWS:
Any students in Years 3 -6 who absolutely LOVE science are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to participate in EXTRA science activities in preparation for this year's PCS Science Fair (see details later on in the Newsletter – also available in the Permission Notes page of the school website).
These submissions need to be completed (over the holidays) and handed in to Ms Zillhardt by Friday 1st May – a 1 week extension on previously published date! Email submissions to heike.zillhardt@det.nsw.edu.au would also be gladly accepted.

URGENTLY SEEKING SCIENCE RESOURCES
• For our PCS Science Fair project, we need an old bicycle or exercise bike (that can still be pedalled) – so, instead of throwing out your old ones in the next council clean-up, please contact Ms Zillhardt to arrange to deliver them to the science room …
• Our empty toilet-roll collection needs replenishing – please send any empties (also from paper towels, Gladwrap etc) to Ms Zillhardt.
• Do you have any flexible pipe/hose with a wide enough diameter for marbles to run through? Or conversely, smaller than usual marbles (ball-bearings?) which could run through standard hose?
Can you help?? Any contributions gratefully accepted …. please contact Ms Zillhardt if you need clarification.

Heike Zillhardt
Science Co-ordinator

Chess News
Term 2 coaching started for the Seniors this week and will begin for the Juniors next Monday. Lev has very kindly offered to come next Wednesday, so that the Seniors don't miss out due to the cross-country carnival. Fee notices will be sent home at next week's lesson (and will also be available on the website).

The eagerly awaited draw for the NSWJCL Friday after-school competition is due to come out any day now, and I will keep you all informed. We have had a last-minute reorganisation of teams owing to the very welcome arrival of a new chess playing student.

Many thanks,
Heike Zillhardt
Chess Co-ordinator

Wheeler Heights Dance Program
Wednesday 29th both junior and senior dance will be auditioning for Glen Street at Newport Public School. Permission note is coming home this week from the school.

Senior & Junior Eisteddfod & performance season is here!
Eisteddfod 1 information: Saturday May 30th senior and junior dance groups will be performing in the "I'd rather be dancing" Eisteddfod located at Pittwater House School.
Juniors arrive at 8am for 9am start. Seniors arrive at 8:30am for 9:30am start.

Eisteddfod 2 information: We still have not been advised of the day of the weekend however please have the Saturday/ Sunday free 20-21st June.

Glen Street information: Glen Street matinee and evening performances usually run mid or late June for a 2 week period. We will be advised of actual dates if our auditions are successful.

Costumes and dance bags: both groups will receive their dance bags and costumes during dance class this week. Here is a picture of the fabulous dance bags provided to all dancers.

It is also very important as performances are approaching that children attend all classes and be on time, thank you.
Our email address is whps.dance@gmail.com
Sports News

Winter PSSA Trials
Trials began last term for both Senior and Junior teams in the following sports:
Boys Rugby League - Mr Blanshard
Girls Netball - Mrs Young and Mrs Smith
Girls Soccer - Miss Tekampe
Boys Soccer - Mr Cox

Trials will continue this Friday, weather permitting.

Tyson Blanshard
Sports Co-ordinator

School Cross Country – Tuesday 28 March from 12.30pm (Back up Date – Friday 1 May)

Cross Country training will continue during this week in preparation for our carnival on Tuesday 28th April. Training will occur for all WHPS students from years 2-6 on a course leading through the school grounds. Training will begin at 1:55pm each afternoon (weather permitting) and finish by 2:15pm, so please be mindful of this if are you making your way around the school during these times.

Greg Webster and Holly Miller
Cross Country Coordinators

WHPS P&C Mother’s Day Stall

Mother’s Day Stall / Friday May 8th / All Gifts Only $10.00
Hosted by Year 2
PCS Science Fair - September 2015
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

To: Students in Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6

To celebrate Science Week which takes place in August, the PCS is again holding a Science Fair and this year we are celebrating the International Year of Light and Light-Based Technologies.

Wheeler Heights students will be concentrating on the theme “Photons to Photosynthesis”, based around the 100th anniversary Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity and the role that sunlight plays in sustaining ALL life on Earth.

The Science Fair will provide an opportunity for up and coming young Australian Scientists to showcase their ideas and passion for Science. The Fair is being held at Narrabeen Sports High School in Term 3. The day will include students demonstrating and viewing science experiments. Other students from PCS schools will also visit and view the Science Fair. The afternoon will conclude with a visit to the fair by parents where they will also view a presentation.

Eight Wheeler Heights students from Years 3 - 6 will be invited to attend the PCS Science Fair as presenters. Students who are interested in or who have a passion for science are invited to submit an expression of interest (EOI - below) detailing why they feel they would like to attend this event. Students submitting an EOI will need to have demonstrated an interest in science, must be effective communicators willing to talk to an audience about their experiments and be prepared to attend (at least) weekly experiment/preparation sessions during lunch times throughout Term 2 and leading up to the Fair.
Student EOI form

My name is ______________________________ and I am in class ____.

I would like to be considered as a candidate for the 2015 PCS Science Fair because:

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Kind regards

Student Signature..............................................................

I acknowledge my child.......................................................is submitting an EOI for the 2015 PCS Science Fair and has my approval to do so.

Parent Signature..............................................................

Please return to Ms Zillhardt by Friday 24 April
FIRST AID for KIDS

An interactive First Aid presentation tailored for parents, grandparents and carers, by yours truly—
- Jenna — Registered Nurse
- Anna — Intern Pharmacist
- Rebecca — 2nd Year Paramedic Student

Covering a range of topics, including:
- Essential Emergency Action Plan
- Treating Shock
- Choking
- Asthma
- Allergy and Anaphylaxis
- Treating Common Bites and Stings

Learn how to stay calm, take control of the situation and respond in the critical moments before help arrives.

Be prepared and have that peace of mind knowing you can handle the most common emergencies kids are faced with.

Tuesday 5th May, 10 – 11:30am, $15pp
W Health and Fitness (693a Pittwater Road, Dee Why)

Save your spot now! Limited availability
Call 9982 1091
or speak to one of our friendly team members

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
- Smartphone safety
- Avoiding adult content

Tue 26 May
7 - 9pm
Covenant Christian School, 212 Forest Way, Belrose
FREE but bookings essential on youthbookings@warringah.nsw.gov.au
For more information call 9942 2681.