

# Nords Wharf P.S. Newsletter

Forever Onward



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Term 2 Week 4

Thursday 14 May 2015

## *Principal's Message*

### **Kids Matter**

Last term some staff members, together with a parent representative, attended training for the introduction of the Kids Matter program into our school. This week our school Action Team met for the first time and we are now ready to enter the initial phase of introducing Kids Matter into our school.

So, what is Kids Matter? And why are we becoming a Kids Matter school?

Kids Matter is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and has been proven to make a difference in the lives of Australian children. It is currently being implemented in many state, Catholic and independent schools across Australia. There is an Early Childhood component as well and the Nords Wharf Preschool is beginning the process of implementation along with us.

At various times our students can feel anxiety, fear or uncertainty and can find it difficult to bounce back from negative experiences. My aim, supported by our amazing staff, is that through the Kids Matter framework we will be able to give the students some tools to use that will enable them to deal with whatever life throws at them. No one can be happy all of the time and this is not about that. It's about creating resilient students who have a sense of belonging, connectedness and inclusion in the school environment. It's about helping our students be confident, independent and assertive young people who respect themselves and others. Kids Matter complements and supports our work with Positive Behaviour for Learning and our Better Buddies initiative. It will be a vehicle for helping us maintain a school culture that is caring, inclusive, respectful, positive and supportive.

Fully implementing Kids Matter will take between 18 months and three years. It will involve a fair amount of professional learning for our staff and will focus on areas of need as identified through various forms of data including behaviour records, attendance records, anecdotal evidence, and surveys of staff, students and families.

As we progress along the journey we will be asking you to be involved and to have your say. Community is a real strength in our school and this will provide further opportunities for you to be an active participant in your child's education.

I'm very excited about the difference that we can make to our students through this process. Being a Kids Matter school will benefit everyone in our school community. An information brochure with further information is attached to this newsletter.

### **Gymnastics Program**

Sporting Schools is the replacement program to Active After School. We applied for, and were successful in obtaining, funding for a gymnastics program. It will be for all of our students and is starting on Monday. Classes will receive four lessons this term.

Could all students please wear shorts or long pants with the school polo and joggers on Monday.

### **Grip Leadership**

Our Year 6 students will be attending a leadership course together with Mr Westcott on Monday. This will further develop their ability to lead initiatives within the school. I will be teaching the Year 4 & 5 students from 4/5/6 on this day.

**Star Struck Rehearsals**

The first of the Star Struck rehearsals is being held on Wednesday. Mr Derbyshire will be attending. Mr Westcott will be teaching 2/3/4 students and the leftovers from 4/5/6 will be split.

**School Stream**

Have you downloaded our school stream app yet? Get reminders of upcoming events direct to your phone. Add events to your calendar, read the newsletter and complete absence notes. It's a very user-friendly application. If you're not sure about how to download apps to your phone then just come up to the office and we will help you out.

School Stream is very handy if you are a single parent. Both parents will get the reminders. No lost newsletters, or, "I didn't know about it", ever again.

**NAPLAN**

Year 3 & 5 students completed their NAPLAN tasks today. Results will be made available in August.

**Special Religious Education (Scripture)**

The NSW government is currently reviewing the provision of scripture and ethics lessons within NSW schools. There is an opportunity for you to have your say. There is a letter attached to the newsletter with all of the details.

**Karin Hird**

**1/2 News**

The Star of the week is Lyla. The 1/2 students have been presenting their practice speeches this week and it has been a great opportunity for students to stand before the class and speak. Over the next week we will continue to discuss what makes a good speech and watch some past participants in the Hunter/Central Coast Public Speaking Competition.

Thank you so much to Mrs Ditchburn, who has been doing the Multi-lit program with some of the 1/2 students over Term 1 and 2. We really appreciate your help! If there are any parents who are able to help out with this program, please let myself or Mrs Hird know.

This week in Maths, Year 1 and 2 have been measuring area. You could talk about area at home with your child, for example when wrapping presents, to determine if the paper is wide and long enough.

**Kate Halligan**

**2/3/4 News**

All Year 3 and 4 students have been given notes about camp. These need to be returned as soon as possible. A week and a bit till we go! Please make sure you fill these in and send it back quickly. Some parents are able to take students but not bring them back, if you can only bring students back please let me know on your form.

Students from Year 3 have completed the NAPLAN exams over these last 3 days. The students seemed to have coped well and I am very proud of their efforts. I am looking forward to seeing the results later in the year.

Congratulations to Daniel, Darcy and Sunny who all scored 100% in their spelling.

***It would be great if all children had their own whiteboard markers.*** Could you please check their pencil case.

Don't forget to record your child's reading each day that they complete a 10 minute reading session. It would be fantastic if all students achieved their bronze this term. Next week our class will be looking at 2D Space during maths and our news topic is about what they would like to learn if they ever get the chance.

As always please feel free to come and discuss anything that you like, or, if time is making such a conversation difficult please send a note in with your child and I will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you to the parents that have already come in to help our students.

**Carl Derbyshire**

**4/5/6 News**

Well done to Jay, Jack, Sam and Kaitlyn who all scored 100% in their spelling last week.

It has been a very busy time. NAPLAN testing is now over.

On Wednesday the Year Six students went to Swansea High school for some 'taster lessons'. A variety of lessons were tried including PE, Science, HSIE, woodwork, art and cooking. Next Monday, Year Six students will be going to a leadership conference at Newcastle Panthers Club. Students need to be at school, ready to leave by **8am**.

We are starting a new Science topic, 'Light', next week.

**Peter Westcott**

**Lunch Time Fun for All**

Whether it is Pokomon, soccer, playing imaginary ring or just hanging out with friends, our students make the most of the sunshine at lunch time.

games at the fairy  
make the most of

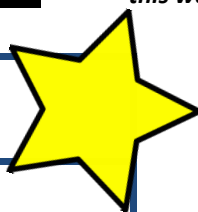


## In the Spotlight



*Some of our students enjoying Band lessons this week. The smiles say it all!*

## Merit Awards Term 2 Week 3



Class	Name
K/1	Tilly, Sophie T
1/2	Sophie S, Charlotte, Taj M, Evie A, Julius, Tommy, Joe
2/3/4	Nina, Darcy, Jaden, Maddie HG, Keely H
4/5/6	Taj R, Lachlan, Tiahna, Kaitly G, Jay T, Madison, Sam
<b>Reading Awards</b>	
Bronze	1/2 Isabelle, Evie A 2/3/4 Dylan
Silver	K/1 Shaniah 2/3/4 Daniel
<b>PBL Awards</b>	
Bronze	4/5/ Sophie I
Silver	Aaron



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