

# Nords Wharf PS



Term 1 Week 8

Thursday 17 March 2016

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## School Calendar 2016 Term 1 Events

Term 4	
Mon 21	Harmony Day
Thurs 24	Easter Hat Parade Book Fair
Fri 25/3 - Mon 28/3	Easter Long Weekend
Thurs 31/3— Fri 1/4	Band Camp
Monday 4 April	Premiers Sporting Leadership Challenge 5/6
Tues 5 April	P&C Meeting 6:30 pm
Wed 6 April	ANZAC Service
Fri 8	Band Performance Caves Beach Last Day of Term
Wed 27	Students Return
10 May— 12 May	NAPLAN Years 3 & 5
18 May— 20 May	Year 5 & 6 Camp Canberra

*The community  
acknowledges The  
Awabakal people as the  
traditional custodians of  
the land on which the  
school is located.*

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS—Karin Hird

#### New School Finance System ~ LMBR

We are currently preparing to switch to a new finance system LMBR (Learning Management Business Reform) which is being rolled out across all NSW Department of Education schools. We will be transitioning to a new bank account on 14 June 2016. To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept parent or carer payments. Between 8 June 2016 and 15 June 2016, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash, cheque or online as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding payments before 8 June 2016. From 14 June 2016, online payments will be accepted as before and from 15 June 2016 cash, cheque and online payments will be accepted as before. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. More updates will be provided as Mrs Hamilton attends further training sessions.

#### National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence

Tomorrow is the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. This annual day is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools, and encourages all students to 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence in schools, the classroom and beyond. Students will take part in a variety of lessons at their stage of learning emphasising this important ideal.

At Nords Wharf we have a policy of zero tolerance towards bullying. Any students who feel that they are the victim of bullying are encouraged to talk about it with their teacher so that any inappropriate behaviour is dealt with straight away.

It is important that students have an accurate understanding of what bullying is; and what it isn't. Quite often students will say that they have been bullied when it is more accurate to say that they have had a disagreement with a peer.

The following is the official definition as provided to Years 3 & 4.

*What is bullying?*

*Bullying is when someone:*

- keeps picking on you again and again and tries to make you feel bad
- says or does lots of mean things that upset you
- makes fun of you a lot
- tries to stop you from joining in or make others not like you
- keeps hurting you such as hitting or punching you.

*Bullying feels awful. You feel like you can't stop it. Bullying can happen in person or online.*

*It might be something people can see or it might be hidden.*

*Sometimes you might have a fight or argument with someone. If it happens once, it is not bullying even though it can be upsetting.*

*It is also not bullying if you sometimes fight with a friend and you can sort it out.*

*Bullying is not OK. You have the right to feel safe.*

**Harmony Day**

*We are Safe. Respectful Learners*

## P&C President

Vacant

## Canteen

Open Wednesday,  
Thursday and Friday

Coordinator

Anna Ditchburn

## Uniform Shop

Open Thursdays

9:00 am—9:30am

Coordinator

Leanne Munro

## Guitar

Tuesday



## Student Banking

Tuesday



## Library

Tuesday



## Scripture

Wednesday

## Band

Wednesday



School Security  
Number

1300 880 021

Harmony Day is held each year on 21 March. It's a day to celebrate our cultural diversity. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. The message of Harmony Day is "everyone belongs". (A theme that fits in perfectly with our Kids Matter campaign "Every Face Has a Place".) Harmony Day coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. This year marks 50 years since the declaration of the Day. The signature colour for Harmony Day is orange. Students are invited to dress in orange or add an orange accessory such as a wristband or ribbons.

## The 'Tell Them From Me' Student Feedback Survey

I am delighted that this term, students in Years 4–6 from our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school. I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 and 24 March. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. An information sheet for parents was sent home last week. The form is only returned if you **do not** want your child to participate.

## Cross Country Photos

The talented Mrs Hook took many outstanding photos of the students as they were running the cross country course last week. You can see these photos on our Facebook page. This is also an opportune time to remind parents that **if commenting on a photo on a facebook page please do not mention a child's name.**

## 7 Steps to Writing Success

Classes have been focusing on developing strategies for improved writing. One of the strategies is to develop 'sizzling starts'. Students are given an idea and then focus on creating just a few lines where boring is banned!

Karin Hird

## Kindergarten News

We have continued to look at making groups in Maths this week, using the terms 'equal' and 'unequal'.

Students planted some seeds last week in mini pots. The peas have started to sprout which is exciting. They will be transferred to the big garden when they are a bit bigger.

During English this term, we are discovering how authors and illustrators convey emotion in a story. This includes the words they use, the colours and movement in a picture and the progression from one feeling to another for the same character. This week's book was Olga the Brolga. We will also be watching some videos of the Brolga Dance performed by Aboriginal dancers and then experimenting with moving our own bodies like a brolga in dance and drama.

Thank you to all the families who came to help make the Easter hats. They are going to look fabulous in the Parade next Thursday.

Trinity Hook

## Class 1/2 News

*We are Safe. Respectful Learners*

The Star of the week is Baxter. Thank you to parents and relatives who were able to come and help us make our Easter hats this afternoon! We had a fun afternoon and really appreciate all your assistance with our hat making. We look forward to parading them for your next Thursday afternoon.

This week we have read the book 'Lessons of a Lac' which is about Lopy the Lac, a nervous character who says "I don't think I can" and "I'm never going to be able to" and Curly Calmster who says "It's ok", "I might try it" and "I can do it". We discussed how important it is to speak like Curly!

In Science over the past week we have been conducting an experiment about what plants need to grow. We looked at what happened when alfalfa seeds did not have soil, sun or water or there were no seeds at all! The students were excited to see the results and will be happy to tell you what we found out.

**Kate Halligan**

#### **Class 2/3 News**

Congratulations to the students who achieved 100% in their spelling last week: Kyan, Bonnie, Hallie, Kamea, Chase, Talia and Sari. This week in Maths we have been revising fractions – in particular, halves, quarters and eighths. We have been using concrete materials to demonstrate that fractions are parts of a whole.

The students have been working hard this week during reading groups. If any parents/carers are available any mornings (Monday-Thursday) to come in and listen to students read, that would be greatly appreciated.

2/3 made some fantastic Easter hats this afternoon. Thank you to the parents who were able to come in and lend a hand. Next Thursday is our Easter Hat Parade. There will be some great books for sale on the day at the Book Fair and the Easter Raffles will also be drawn after the parade, so get your tickets in!

**Donna Black and Karin Hird**

#### **Class 3/4 News**

Congratulations to the students who scored 100% in their spelling over the last 2 weeks: Alex, Issy, Kayden, Dylan, Lyla, Torhi, Maggie, Daniel, Annie, Darcy and Lachlan. The students have also impressed me with their effort with reading and their times tables practice. Sadly there were no *Times Table Wizards* however there are a few Year 3 students who are getting closer by earning their individual times table cards. Hopefully we will have some new Wizards soon!

Next week our class will be looking at Position during maths.

Thank you to the parents that helped 3/4 create some awesome Easter hats this afternoon.

Except for Thursday morning when Maths starts at 9:15am Maths groups are every day after lunch starting at 12 pm with Reading groups following at 1pm. If you are able to help at any time during class please come and see me as it would be very much appreciated. Home work now includes a request for 2 Mathematics activities each night.

**Carl Derbyshire**

#### **5/6 Class News**

In Mathematics this week, our class has been focusing on number patterns and long multiplication. Many children are also earning their times-tables awards. Check with your child if there are any tables they need to focus on.

In literacy, we have been learning to begin sentences with *ing* words. Our goal is for at least one of these sentences to be included in each piece of writing. Our writing has shown pleasing improvement this term with most students beginning with an interesting introduction and using better vocabulary and more complex sentences.

In art, the students are completing a Picasso inspired pastel artwork. Some students may need to take their painting home over the weekend to complete.

There are also some students who have not completed their recent writing task and this also will need to be completed over the weekend.

**Peter Westcott**

## **TERM DATES**

**2016**

### **Term 2**

**26 April—**

**1 July**

*(Students return 27 April)*

### **Term 3**

**18 July—**

**23 September**

*(Students return 19 July)*

### **Term 4**

**10 October—**

**20 December**

*(Students finish*

*16 December)*

## **Quote of the Week**

**There is nothing better than a good friend, except a good friend with chocolate.**

**Linda Grayson  
The Pickworth  
Papers**



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### Cross Country

Last week we enjoyed our Cross Country Carnival. We were lucky to avoid this week's terrible and stormy weather. Congratulations to all the students who participated and looked like they were running their best. It was also very encouraging to see so many parents and grandparents there to watch, cheer and even direct some of the runners throughout the event. I would like to thank the teachers and the volunteer parents who helped to ensure the carnival ran so smoothly. The canteen did a wonderful job with the sausage sizzle and refreshments which helped make the day a great experience for everyone.

The zone cross country will be held early in Term 2 and the first 4 place getters will be asked to run in this hard, long yet fantastic event. Notes to parents will come out next term. Thank you once again to everyone involved for making the day a great one, I am already looking forward to next year's carnival.

**Carl Derbyshire**

### Band News

We have a lot of band activities over the next few weeks! I have listed these below to help with organisation. Many thanks for your help and support, it is very much appreciated.

**Kate Halligan**

Date	Activity
Wednesday, 23 March	Band parents are invited to come and listen to your child perform at 3:20pm.
Thursday, 24 March	Band Committee Meeting 3pm. All parents of band students are invited to this meeting.
Wednesday, 30 March	We will be packing for Band Camp from 3pm onwards. If any parents are available to assist with packing for camp we would be very grateful.
Thursday, 31 March - Friday, 1 April	Band Camp
Friday, 8 April	Band Performance at Caves Beach P.S.



### Merit Awards—Week 7

Class	Name
K	Ellie, Evie, Jude, Sharlee
1/2	Taj B, Ossian, Aamon, Delilah, Billy W
2/3	Talia, Billy C, Chase, Wil,
3/4	Daniel, James, Annie, Kayden, Dylan
5/6	Elloise, Bella, Elas, Mary-Jane, Nath LW, Rose, Luca, James S, Sam



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**NWPS thanks  
Daracon Group  
for their generous donation**



*Last Friday's assembly saw two very important visitors to NWPS. Lisa and Phil from Daracon Group who presented Mrs Hird and the school with a cheque for \$800. This generous donation has allowed the school to purchase two much needed laptops for the new 3/4 classroom.*

*Daracon Group are the builders behind the wonderful new estate at Catherine Hill Bay. It is great to see a local business helping their local school.*

*Thank you Daracon.*



# Easter Raffle

Once again our wonderful P&C will be holding an Easter Raffle.

Raffle tickets will be sent home this week.

\$2 each or 3 for \$5.

The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade, Thursday, 24 March 2016.

Donations of Easter items such as soft toys, craft sets, or of course Easter Eggs, would be greatly appreciated.



Please leave your donations at the school office.



*We are Safe. Respectful Learners*