Monday 1st February 2016

Well here we are at the beginning of another exciting school year. Welcome back and I hope that everyone has had a great holiday and the students are ready to focus in class and work hard throughout the year. There will be many exciting events and activities taking place throughout 2016. Just some of these are excursions, camps and school performances.

2016 is shaping up to be a year of change at Westport Public School where we will be updating and reviewing procedures to make our school the best it can possibly be. Some of our major focus areas will be around Positive Behaviour for Learning and the way in which we support our students in the classrooms. At times we will be seeking support and suggestions from our parent body and we would really appreciate your input.

Classes have been organised and students allocated to their teachers. Please be aware that there may be some changes necessary over the course of the year depending on the numbers we have at the school.

I hope that 2016 is a great year for our school and I am very excited to be here to share the journey with you all.

Tony Johnston
Principal

****COMING EVENTS TERM 4****

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 4th Feb</td>
<td>Kindy’s First Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 24th Feb</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 6pm – School Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 29th Feb</td>
<td>Kindy’s finish at 3.05pm</td>
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Our Student Leaders for 2016

School Leaders
Bill Butlin  Heath Gardner  Holly Hunt  Beth Sinclair

House Captains

Banks
Zara Byron  Justin Cooper

Solander
Tia Elford  Lachlan Gough

Endeavour
Grace Ann Pegler  Regan Paget  Emily Sheather  Kane Woodall

Cook
School Start Times
Please remember that supervision of students begins at 8:35am each morning. Please do not send your child to school before 8:30am. Any students who arrive early must sit down quietly under the COLA until the first bell goes at 8:35am. School consequences will be implemented for unsafe behaviours during this time. We want students to start the day fresh and safe.

Thank you
Pip Riordan (Assistant Principal)

Scripture Lessons
Each year NSW Public Schools are required to provide Christian education for students. At Westport we have volunteers from various local churches who come and teach students from a Departmental approved Bible Story workbook. Lessons go for 30 minutes each week usually with a musical concert at Easter and Christmas. Students are encouraged to look upon the lessons as an opportunity to learn about the Christian religion. Volunteers are not allowed to indoctrinate students. Because of the variations in enrolment forms over the past few years there is some confusion about which students are attending scripture lessons.

In 2016 we are assuming that ALL students K-6 are participating in these lessons. If you do not wish your child to attend, please send a note to your child’s teacher and they will be given other activities to do in another area. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Pip Riordan (Assistant Principal)

Canteen
Welcome back to a new school year. The Canteen has had a change in Co-ordinators. We would like to thank Richelle for her contribution in managing the Canteen last year. This year we welcome Cathy Hayes who will be taking on this role.

There is a new Menu with this newsletter, if you did not receive one there are some at the Office and also at the Canteen.

We welcome back our returning volunteers and look forward to meeting any new volunteers. A roster will be done and printed in the newsletter each week once we get into a routine in the next couple of weeks.

Canteen Lunch Orders
The correct procedure for ordering lunches is:
1. Order from the Canteen prior to the 9am bell.
2. Students place lunch orders in the lunch baskets in their classrooms.

Lunch orders will not be taken after 9am morning lines at the Canteen.

If students forget to order their lunch there will be sandwiches available to purchase at lunch time.

P&C Meeting
The next P&C Meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th February 2016 at 6pm. This meeting will be held in the School Staff room rather than our normal location at Westport Club, as they are undergoing renovations.

Donna Edenborough
P&C President

Student Details
Please remember to notify the school office of any change in details that may have occurred over the holidays. It is important we have up to date contact details for our students in case of emergencies.

Thank you
Office

2016 Kindergarten
Our new Kinder classes will start this Thursday 4th February. School commences at 9.05am and the students are to go to the Kinder classrooms on arrival. Up until the 26th of February all Kinder students will finish at 2.30pm so as to allow time to settle in and be able to leave the premises without the confusion of all the school students leaving at once.

Fruit & Veg Program
Volunteers needed for our Fruit & Veg Day!
We are hoping to get our wonderful Fruit & Veg program up and running but we need your help.

Thursday 1-2:30 pm (starting in Week 3 with volunteer support)
Please leave your details at the office. Thank you for your support!

Electronic Devices
Any electronic devices are to be kept at home. The school takes no responsibility if they are lost or stolen. Please encourage students not to bring their devices to school. If your child needs to bring their phone they must sign them into the office in the morning and pick them up from the office before going home.

Westport’s Skoolbag App
Did you know if your child has been away from school you can send in an Absentee Note using your mobile phone? First you need to have our school Skoolbag app on your phone. You can access this by going to your app downloader. Type in ‘Westport Public School’ and install to your phone.

Then if you wish to send in an Absentee Note, all you need to do is find our school app on your phone. Click on it to open.

Scroll down to select Parent eForms.
Select Absentee Note and add details like, child’s name, class, reason for absentee.
Press Submit. This will be emailed to the school and passed onto your child’s teacher.
If you need any help in downloading or using our school app, please don’t hesitate to ask.

School Uniform
It is great to see our students ready for the school year in full school uniform. We have a Uniform Shop on site, run by our P&C Committee, which is open every Thursday mornings between 8.45am – 9.30am. They offer a layby service, which is handy for getting jackets/jumpers for colder weather.
**Guitar Lessons**

Guitar lessons will commence this Friday. Students from last year and new budding guitar players from Yrs3 to 6 are welcome. You can get application forms from the Office or Ben on Fridays. The cost is $25.00 per term payable at the beginning of each term. Some guitars are available to loan.

**Band**

Band lessons will commence this week every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm & 3pm this is for existing band students until further notice. Fees are $50 per term payable to Mr Rugers prior to commencing lessons.

**Community News**

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**Port Macquarie Junior AFL**

2016 Registration information
Junior competition commences Sunday 3rd April

**Junior**
- age groups: Under 15, Under 13, Under 11
- Cost: $85 includes training shorts & socks

**Auskick**
- age groups Under 7 & Under 9 (Auskick Friday afternoon)
- Cost: $75 includes official Auskick bag & kit

**How to register:** Come along to one of our registration days at Wayne Richards Oval on:
- Thursday 11/2/16 from 5-6pm
- Wednesday 17/2/16 from 5-6pm – watch Swan Academy training 5-7pm
- Sunday 6/3/2016 from 10.30am-11.30am

**Contact:**
- Email: pmafl@gmail.com
- Web: www.pmafl.com.au
- Find us on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PMJuniorFL

**Port Macquarie Tennis Club Junior Comps**

**Free Grading** for Friday Juniors (4-5pm) & Friday Night Comp (5-7pm) to be held Friday 29th Jan & 5th Feb. For **Saturdays Junior Train & Match Play** (3-5pm)- **free session** on Saturday 7 Feb. **Friday Hotshots** (4-5pm) starts back Friday 29th Jan. Phone Greg on 65 849940 for more information.

**Port Macquarie Tennis Clubs Junior Group Coaching**

Lessons start back from Saturday 30th March. Times Mondays 4-5pm, Tuesdays 4-5pm & 5-6pm, Wednesdays 4.15-5.15pm & Saturdays 9-10am. **New Students** – come and try tennis and get your first lesson free. **Existing students**, bring a friend and you and your friend play free. Phone Greg on 65 849940 or email pmtc@bestit.net.au

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**Go4Fun**

FREE fun program for kids to become fitter healthier happier. Do you have children aged 7 to 13 years and worry they may be above healthy weight range?

Go4Fun provides a fun approach to learning skills for life. Each week involves fun games including free sessions at the local pool.

Mid North Coast families who participated in the program last term highly recommend the program, describing improvements in their children’s fitness, physical activity levels, nutrition and self-esteem.

A parent or carer must attend with their child. Parents receive $15 fresh fruit and vegetable vouchers for each session attended.

**REGISTER NOW FOR TERM 1, 2016!**

**Venue:** Port Macquarie Public School
- Wednesdays 3.30pm – 5.30pm

**Starting:** February 3rd

**Register:** Contact Go4Fun on 1800 780 900 or text 0400 745 645 for a callback. Register online at: www.go4fun.com.au

**Local contact:** Margo Johnston P: 0427 929 313

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**The Great Host Family Hunt is on again!**

World Education Program (WEP) Australia, a registered, non-profit student exchange organisation is looking for volunteer families who would like to host a 15 to 18-year-old girl or boy.

Our students come from countries such as Italy, France, Belgium, Finland and Chile and are arriving in July 2016. They are looking forward to living and learning about Australia and enjoying our famous Australian hospitality and lifestyle.

Without the generosity of families around the world, student exchange could not exist. Experiencing a foreign language and culture in your own home is the next best thing to living overseas.

To request a free information pack for your family, contact us today!

1300 884 733 info@wep.org.au www.wep.org.au

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Fernvalley Studio offers tuition in voice, piano and flute at reasonable rates.

We specialise in beginners, young and old, and are committed to getting the very best out of your learning experience.

Sheriden is an established local teacher specialising in piano, flute and singing. She has many years of experience actively promoting music education in the local community. She is passionate about providing opportunities for learning and playing, and was the founder of the Friday Lunchtime Concerts at the Glasshouse, Port Macquarie.

Sheriden Sommerley is the founder, director and conductor of Blakes’ Notes (all male choir), Quintessence (all female choir), Hibiscus (flute choir) and The Melodic Fortunies (all female barbershop chorus).

Ring today to start your journey into the world of music-making!

Sheriden Sommerley BA Dip Ed
Ph: 6581 2021
Email: sheridos23@gmail.com
Mob: 0429 331 889

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