

Wellington Public School

# Whisper

*Safe, respectful learners.***Week 10 Term 4      Contact us on: 6845 4080**

## **The End Of The 2012 School Year Draws Near.... and we look forward to 2013.**

Wednesday, next week, will mark the last day of the 2012 school year for students and Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> December will be the last day for teaching, administrative and support staff.

Since my arrival this year, it has been an absolute pleasure being part of the staff team bringing a quality education to the students at Wellington Public School.

The staff are very professional in their various roles and responsibilities. Most importantly, our staff care about our students and work together to do the best for every child.

As well as tending to the learning needs of children the staff are about providing experiences that help build essential skills to cope with the rigors of an ever-changing world. We attempt to equip children for the uncertainties and technologies of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and give them experiences that will remain as special memories for the rest of their lives.

Some new initiatives we hope to add to our already comprehensive list of programs and learning tools will be, 'L3', 'Focus on Reading', 'Kidsmatter' and the '8 Ways of Knowing'.

L3 is a quality Literacy program specifically for Kindergarten classes and we are very excited about the possibilities for improved student outcomes.

Focus on Reading is a 3-6 program aimed at improving reading and by reading's very own definition, this means that it is a program focusing heavily on reading comprehension.

The 8 Ways of Knowing belongs to the pedagogy (the science and art) of teaching indigenous students. This will potentially change teaching philosophies where we fit it in with our quality teaching framework and constantly look for models of best classroom practice.

Kidsmatter, is not a program, but rather a strategy, used to promote positive mental wellbeing in students. This strategy is supported nationally and is now very popular in many schools across the country. Testimonials bear witness to the widespread success of incorporating Kidsmatter into the way schools operate. This certainly doesn't take the place of Positive Behaviour for Learning but they will complement each other.

2013 should be an exciting year in our professional learning.

All of this couples with the following mean that we are going to continue to function better than ever.

Our Learning Support team will continue to identify social, emotional, behavioural, welfare and academic needs of students.

Our Learning and Support teachers will work tirelessly to support students and their teachers within the context of the classroom.

Additional support will again be available to close the gap in the performances of our indigenous and non-indigenous students and foster improved outcomes that will push more students up into the competency bands in an array of school and national assessments.

Our instructional leader and our extra coaching role we have created will enhance professional learning and growth in exemplary teaching practice. This well-resourced position will focus on K-2 as prescribed by our guidelines but we will draw changes from this experience that will benefit the whole school. We have established two extra classes again next year through the continuation of National Partnerships funding and Equity funding, so as to effectively reduce class sizes and improve the ratio in teaching to more effectively engage students.

We are also able to continue to release teachers on stages so that they can

continue to have regular discussions around planning, programming, assessment and evaluation and reporting – all integral parts of the learning cycle.

.... and there will be more as the year unfolds for the future holds many unknowns.

## **In Need Of Your Help – PLEASE READ THIS.**

*Next year we must all work together to maximise student attendance.*

*Our attendance record, as it stands in not good enough. We are improving and that is a good thing but unless things have changed dramatically recently we are still below 90%. This is because too many students have very poor attendance which brings down the very good attendance record of other students who attend regularly. We have a number of students with perfect attendance and some that attend less than 50%. Students with less than 85% attendance automatically come under the radar of the Home School Liaison Officers.*

***There is a very strong correlation in high attendance matching high achievement and the opposite applies. The poorer the attendance very often parallels poor levels of achievement.***

*There are a couple of exceptions to this. As an example we have a student who shows signs of brilliance yet her attendance is very poor. Just imagine what would be possible if she attended every day. It would not only serve to maximise engagement but it would also provide opportunities to extend this student and build a positive work ethic and set targets for the future. **What a shame if this can't happen for so many of our students.***

## **The End Of A Chapter In The Life Of The Whisper.**

This is to be the last publication of the Whisper this year and the last edition produced on mass on hard-copy form.

In 2013 we go digital and the whisper will be able to be accessed electronically.

Clear instructions and options will be communicated to coincide with the first publication of the Whisper in the new year. A few hard-copies will continue to be printed for those who cannot access the electronic options. These will be available at the front office.

## **All That Remains ...**

Apart from the last few days of busy times, it is time to say farewell to 2012 and wish everyone a happy and safe holiday period.

Have a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year!

## **School Resumes:**

29<sup>th</sup> January, 2013 for teachers

30<sup>th</sup> January, 2013 for students Year 1-6

31<sup>st</sup> January, 2013 for Kindergarten students

D. N. Anderson

Principal

# Celebrating Great Efforts and Performances

## This Week's Buzzie Winners



**NO BUZZIES THIS WEEK !!!**

### [Come to School and Help Your Class Win!](#)

It is extremely important for all students to be at school every day. During this term we are having a competition between the grades to see which classes have the best attendance. The class from each grade that has the least amount of absences will be rewarded with a pizza party. Make sure you get to school every day you can or bring a note to explain your absence to give your class the best chance of winning a pizza party. The attendance will be worked out as a percentage to ensure equity between classes.

We will do a tally of absences each week to let your class know if they are in the lead or they have to catch up. Come to school every day and help your class win a Pizza Party

In conjunction with the pizza party competition we are awarding 100% Attendance Certificates to students who achieve 100% "reportable attendance". That means if you attend school every day in weeks 1 through to 10 you will receive a special attendance award for that period. If you have a day off but bring a note explaining your absence you may still be eligible to receive a certificate. Get to school for yourself and your class and be a Safe, Respectful Learner at Wellington Public School!

**WHEN TO PHONE THE SCHOOL..** DO NOT PHONE THE OFFICE AFTER 2PM, WITH MESSAGES FOR YOUR CHILD, AS THERE IS NO WAY OF GETTING THE MESSAGE TO THEM ON TIME..

THANK YOU OFFICE STAFF

**YEAR 6 SHIRTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS SIZES AT \$31 EACH,  
PLEASE SEE THE OFFICE STAFF.**

### Kindergarten News

Our final assembly for the year!

Week 10      **Kinder Blue**      Thursday 13th December      **This week!**

Kindergarten will be celebrating their end of year class parties this Friday 14th December. Students can wear casual clothes. We will be having a lunch time sausage sizzle and the leftover chips and lollies from the Transition Party last week. Please send recess as usual.

**CHECK OUT THE NEW CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES IN THE WHISPER THIS  
WEEK !!!!**

## P & C Christmas Raffle



**Prize: Apple iPad 2 16 GB**



Tickets for this raffle are \$1 each and are

*still available at the office*

Please return

tickets and money to the office before

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Raffle will be drawn at the W.P.S Carols Night

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December



### **Class Parties 2012.**

**Year1**—Friday 14th December, Please bring party food to share, your own drink and hat. Students may wear casual clothes, we will be having games and fun activities at school.

**Year 5/6**—Friday 14th December wet play at school, please wear appropriate clothing, sunscreen and hat. Bring a plate of food to share.



Scan this QR code for a

direct link to the

WPS website and Whisper online!!

## Carols Night



See  
You  
There!



Wellington  
Public  
School



*Jingle Bells  
Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer  
Feliz Navidad  
Away in a Manger  
Aussie Jingle Bells  
Deck the Shed  
Here Come the Reindeers  
Twelve days of Christmas  
PLUS\*\*\* Sing-a-Long Carols*

**WPS  
C.O.L.A.  
AREA**

P & C will be selling

- Drinks
- Sausage sandwiches
- Steak sandwiches

*16 GB Apple iPad 2  
raffle will be drawn on  
the night.*

- \* Bring your rugs, folding chairs and a picnic tea.
- \* Children to dress in Red and Green

**Tuesday 11th December 2012 – 6pm to 7pm**

### **W.P.S. EXTRA CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES..**

- Wellington Public Swimming Pool Family Season Pass valued at \$208.00
- Pollets Martial Arts Centre Dubbo have donated a free 2 week VIP Family membership valued at \$201.95
- Woolworths Wellington Christmas Hamper valued at \$150.00
- Target Country Wellington Store Voucher valued at \$40.00

## ***LIBRARY NEWS!!!!***

***THE END OF YEAR IS FAST APPROACHING AND EVERYTHING NEEDS TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR. IF YOU HAVE A LIBRARY BOOK AT HOME OR UNDER YOUR DESK PLEASE RETURN IT TO THE LIBRARY A.S.A.P. THANKS KINDLY MRS CONN.***

### **ST PATRICK'S PARISH – WELLINGTON**

#### **CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE**

##### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**MONDAY 24th December**

Stuart Town  
Wellington

Mass 5.00pm

Mass 7.00pm

##### **CHRISTMAS DAY**


**TUESDAY 25th December**

Yeoval  
Wellington

Mass 8.00am

Mass 9.30am





**CRS Australia**

### Training for parents

CRS Australia can connect you with employment and training programs that meet a diverse range of needs.

Training courses cover a broad range of industries and may include Business Administration, Retail, Hospitality and Aged Care and are locally run in partnership with nationally accredited Registered Training Organisations.

- Face-to-face and self-paced study options
- Enrolment costs covered
- No classes during school holidays

At the completion of your course we can assist you to manage your condition and transition into the workplace.

To be eligible you must be:

- in receipt of Newstart Allowance, Parenting Payment or Youth Allowance, and
- have an injury, disability or health condition, and
- be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident.\*

Limited place are available—ENROL NOW!

Contact Brianna at the CRS Australia Dubbo office on (02) 6841 2500, come in and see us at 188 Macquarie Street or visit [crsaustralia.gov.au](http://crsaustralia.gov.au) to find out more.

\*Eligibility criteria may apply

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