



Weetangera Primary School

Successful Learning Through Caring and Sharing



Weetangera Primary is an ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL
Avoiding eggs and all nuts

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to our P&C for the well-organised and enjoyable disco which was held last Thursday night. Fun was had by all and it was great to see our students dressed up in their future aspirations.

Congratulations Mr Erwin McRae who has been successful in winning an acting SLC role at Weetangera School for the remainder of Term 2 2015. In this role he will be the senior school team leader and coordinating special needs across the school.

Google Groups

Last week, many of you would have received an email to join your child's class google group.

This is a medium we have decided to use as a school, to communicate to parents on a fortnightly basis, about the learning taking place in each of our classrooms. Parents were invited using emails that have been provided to the school.

Earlier in the week we received advice by the Directorate of organising our google groups using the Directorate's domain so that families do not receive Google ads and associated material. This change was one which was unforeseeable and has risen due to the outstanding work, leading others in 21st Century communication at Weetangera School. As a result we have had to recreate our class groups with a slight change to the settings and shut the previous class groups down. This issue has been rectified and parents should have received a new invitation to their child's class group.

Each fortnight, commencing last week, teachers will communicate with families what learning will take place in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy. Also included will be strategies to support the learning at home and any important information. These will arrive as an email.

If you have not received an invitation please contact your child's teacher directly to supply your email or change it.



The correct page is shown with the red tick next to it.

Facebook

Last week, Weetangera School's Facebook page was published. We have many parents who have liked our page already. Facebook will be used as a tool to highlight the learning that is taking place in classrooms as well as the successes of our students. To find us on Facebook, please search for: Weetangera School.

Running Club

Running Club is now being held every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning on the enclosed oval. Mr Erwin McRae will be coordinating the club. Erwin is a former Australian representative runner who brings a vast amount of skills to pass onto our students.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Parent Reps. Rachel Campbell 0402208150; James Badgery 0412552634; Monique Allen 0407595572; **Community Rep. Principal** - James Barnett 62057488; **Teacher Reps.** - Lisa Kingham; Isabel Dunn.

Newsletter No. 13

14 May 2015

Term 2 Week 3

COMMUNITY DIARY

Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.

May

- 15 Walk or ride to school
- 17 P&C BBQ Harvey Norman
- 22 Belconnen Cross Country
- 29 Lap -A-Thon



ASSEMBLIES - 9:15am

Friday 15 May

Junior School Assembly

Hosted by Unit 7

Friday 22 May

Senior School Assembly

Hosted by Unit 4

Attachments

ICAS Maths & English competition enrolment form for Years 3 - 6

SOCs Vouchers

Weetangera Primary School
Southwell Street
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6205 7488
Fax: 6205 7487
Canteen: 6255 2634

Please read our web site:
weetangeraps.act.edu.au

Ride or Walk to School Day

On Friday 15 May Weetangera School is holding Ride or Walk to School Day. The Ride or Walk to School initiative aims to increase walking, cycling and use of public transport among school students in the ACT. On the day, students from Year 6 will investigate the number of students who participated. These results will be compared to data collected earlier this term. The class which has the highest percentage in the number of students who opted to ride, walk or scooter to school will earn morning tea with Mr Barnett.

Danielle Hoogland

Deputy Principal

AWARDS CERTIFICATES

At last week's Whole School Assembly, certificates were awarded for:

French: Erin F, Ashliegh B, Ellen V, Lara E,
Jasmine R, Laura C.

History: Olivia M, Mehmet I, Lachlan McG.

Music: Llewella Y, Thomas L.

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM POOL

The P&C are seeking a new coordinator to take over the role of the Second-hand Uniform Pool. Please contact Linda Baird at baird04@gmail.com if you are interested or for more information. This is a great opportunity to be involved with the school community and meet other parents.

STRANGER DANGER: Educate your children

ACT Policing is reminding parents to enforce the importance of stranger danger messages to their children following an incident in Conder last month (April), but also wants to assure the community that these events are rare and 'not every white van is a concern'.

A student was walking home from Lanyon High School when she was approached by an unknown man on Box Hill Avenue in Conder.

The man approached the student and tried to engage her in conversation. The student became frightened and ran to a nearby oval adjacent to Charles Conder Primary School.

The man followed the student for a short distance before leaving the scene. The student was unharmed.

The man is described as Caucasian, about 5'7" (170cm) tall, around 30 years old with short dark hair. At the time he was wearing a grey and black flannelette shirt with dark track pants.

ACT Policing encourages parents to continue to educate their children in good personal safety practices including 'stranger danger' awareness and where possible, travelling in groups.

"This incident is a timely reminder to people to be mindful of their surroundings and to keep their level of awareness active regardless of what activities they are undertaking," Acting Superintendent Jo Cameron said.

Police however also want the community to be assured that these events are rare.

Over the past two years police have received some reports of children being approached by a man in a white van.

This has led to heightened public concern in regard to white vans around schools. Police encourage parents to talk to their children about this, but to keep things in perspective for their children, who should not become overly anxious when a white vehicle is seen near them or their school grounds.

"It's important that just because a white van is seen around a school that the public does not immediately associate this with a possible abduction," Acting Superintendent Cameron said.

"There are thousands of white vans that are driven around Canberra, many of which are owned by parents or tradespeople who are simply dropping their kids off to school."

For more information on child safety and security, please visit the Constable Kenny Koala website at <http://www.constablekenny.org.au/>

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Family Photos - \$6.

Speciality Photos - \$16.

LSU, school captains, school leaders, choir, band, percussion ... etc.

All photos can be collected and paid for at the front office.

ACT SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Last Thursday five students represented Weetangera at the ACT PSSA Swimming Championships at the AIS. All the students produced personal best times and should be proud of their efforts. There were a number of very impressive performances including:

Eli C- Top 20 in the 9 years 50m freestyle

Sophie C- 9th 11 years 100m breaststroke

Alec M- 10th 11 years 100m breaststroke and 50m butterfly

Madison M- 3rd 100m backstroke and 6th 12 years 50m butterfly, 50m backstroke

Alex C- 1st 8 years 50m freestyle and 7th 10 and under 50m butterfly

Congratulations to all our swimmers and brilliant work Madison and Alex on achieving a top three placing!

Erwin

SAVE THE DATE - Friday 29 May

The P&C are organising an exciting

"Colours of the Rainbow" Lap - A -Thon.

All students will be raising money for the school by completing laps around a set course (400m) within the school grounds, between 11:30am-1:00pm (depending on age).

Start thinking about all the people who might be able to sponsor you.

Lots of fantastic prizes will be on offer for highest fundraisers.

Money raised will go towards 'Outdoor play initiatives'. It's going to be a super fun day!



Spotlighting Weetangera

Proudly Brought to you by Year 5!

Our learning intention was to investigate how birds' beaks have adapted to suit their habitats.

Chirp, chirp, the sound you wake up to outside.
Peck, peck, the sound you hear when you're wandering outside.
Take a closer look at the beak, what is it for?
Well, how does the beak help? What is it for?
Laura



"The chop sticks were easy." *Haydon*

"Beaks help birds adapt."
Lachlan M

"It was difficult and interesting."
Dharma

"A bird's beak can have a big part in the bird's life."
Jamieson

"Only certain beaks work with certain foods, except tea leaves because nothing really worked with them." *Tom*

"If I had more time, I would have thought of a better strategy to pick up food."
Lilly

"Some birds (e.g. pelicans) can adapt to the water because it scoops." *Luke*

"The tools got sticky and all the tea leaves stuck to them. The time wasn't accurate."

"There are different types of beaks."
Caleb

"How long did it take for birds' beaks to evolve to what they are now? Are beaks still adapting?"
Edward

"I am still wondering if it is easy for a bird to eat a nut." *Amber*

"The tea leaves were extremely tricky because they were small but I think that birds, like chickens, adapted to eat small items." *Saskia*



"I have learnt that some animals can't adapt to different environments very well." *Sam*



"I learnt that beaks match different biomes and habitats and that it will be difficult to use different beaks." *Roxana*

"We had to use the utensils to pick the food up and we had to open them like beaks, or chopsticks and put the food into the chopsticks and count them." *Sophie*

"I learnt that not every beak could pick up everything. Some birds pick up things in ways that others can't because of how wide, pointy or deep they are."
Matt M.



"To be honest I didn't know about all the beaks and their environments so everything was very new to me and I was really excited to do this experiment."
Callan



"I'm wondering...
What if a seagull was in a desert?
And if a pelican was in a forest?"
Llewella



"Would different beaks work with this experiment?"
Cameron

"Different birds have different beaks to match their food source and they sometimes correlate to a biome." *Luke P*

"The sharp, thin beak worked really well on the worms and squishy bugs, and the straws, which is the magpie, worked well on the tea leaves, which were like ants and small fish."
Noah S.

"I learnt that different birds have different beaks to suit their needs."
Lillyana

"I learnt that pointy beaks would be very good to use to pick up squishy foods." *Reilly*

"In our experiment we had to move objects simulating birds food from a plate to another plate. All those things were simulating birds beaks."
Lara

