PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Term 3 Week 5

SCHOOL SPELLING BEE
Next Tuesday we will hold our annual School Spelling Bee for students from Kindergarten-Year 6. All students are encouraged to get in and have a go at our Spelling Bee regardless of their age or spelling ability. For the students in Year 3-6, the spell-off is a little more competitive, as students are vying for a place in the Premier’s Spelling Bee Regional Final where they will represent our school against students from all throughout the area. Word Lists were sent home a number of weeks ago and I hope students have been practising their spelling for the big day. Parents/visitors are welcome to attend on the day if they would like to come along and support the students. The Spelling Bee will take place on Tuesday 19 August starting at 2pm, straight after Mrs Ramage’s farewell lunch party.

THANK YOU – DONATION FROM AMPS COMMERCIAL
Today Mrs Jenny Potter visited our school to present a donation to the P&C committee. The donation is part of the rebate system that AMPS commercial use to give back to the schools within the community. Farmers who purchase through AMPS Commercial can nominate Willow Tree Public School to receive a rebate from goods purchased through the company. Captains, Zara and Sam accepted the donation from Mrs Potter on behalf of the P&C Committee. We wish to thank AMPS Commercial for their ongoing support of our school and the families who use AMPS Commercial and nominate our school to receive the rebate.

BOOK WEEK PARADE
As part of 2014 book week celebrations students can come to school dressed as their favourite book character on Thursday 28th August. Students are encouraged to start thinking about which character they might like to come dressed as. A short parade will be held at 1pm before a BBQ lunch will be cooked and served by year six students. Parents and friends are welcome to come along and watch the parade and join in the BBQ lunch. Please indicate on the back of the newsletter if your child will be ordering lunch on this day for catering purposes.

Calendar

AUGUST
13th – P&C Meeting 6pm
19th – Mrs Ramage – Farewell
19th – School Spelling Bee
20th – 22nd – Aussie Bush Camp
22nd – Mrs Ramages last day
26th – K/1/2 Excursion
28th – Book Week Parade
29th – Regional Athletic Carnival, Tamworth
ZONE ATHLETICS
Congratulations to all students who attended and participated at the Quirindi Zone PSSA Athletics carnival last Friday. The weather made for an enjoyable day of friendly competition. We were very proud of the way our students participated and had a go at the events and displayed outstanding sportsmanship. Well done to Giulia Duddy who broke the 11yr girls Discus record, an outstanding effort. Congratulations to the following students who were successful in being selected to represent the Quirindi Zone at the North West Carnival in Tamworth later this month. Emily Wamsley – 8yr girls 100m. Giulia Duddy – 11yr Girls 100m, 11yr Girls Discus and 11yr Girls High Jump Sam Avard – Senior Boys Discus, Senior Boy Relay Watch Prime 7 Tamworth tonight for a story on our students who are heading to regional athletics.

K/1/2 EXCURSION
A reminder to families that permission notes together with medical forms and payment for the K/1/2 excursion to the Australian Reptile Park are due next Wednesday. Students are very excited for this excursion and are looking forward to meeting all the reptiles.

AUSSIE BUSH CAMP
Next Wednesday students from years 3-6 will be attending The Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. This is always a very enjoyable excursion and students are extremely excited. Mr Ireland and Mrs McCarthy will be accompanying the students on the excursion. For those students who are not attending the excursion school will be as normal. Further information regarding the excursion and departure times have been sent home with students today.

MERRIWA HORSE SPORTS
Congratulations to Emily Wamsley who competed at the Merrqua Central School Horse Sports Day on Monday. Emily had a fantastic day winning lots of ribbons and being awarded the 8yr girls Champion! Well Done Emily.

TECHNOLOGY ROOM PROGRESS
Over the past couple of days, more progress has been made on finalising the upgrade of our Technology Room. Electricians have been busy installing power and data outlets in the classroom and upgrading networking capabilities within the school. Very soon our students, staff, parents and the wider community will be able to access this wonderful facility on a daily basis.

CANTEEN
Mon 11th August – Jacinda Moore
Wed 13th August – Sarah Thomas
For all canteen related enquiries, please contact Jacinda Moore – 0438 138065 Or jak_bug83@yahoo.com.au

MRS RAMAGE FAREWELL
Baby Ramage will soon be making an appearance! Mrs Ramage will commence maternity leave from 22nd August. Students will be having a small “farewell & good luck” party with Mrs Ramage from 1pm on Tuesday 19th August 2014. Each family is being asked to supply a plate to share at the party. Parents are more than welcome to attend. Please note: our school spelling bee will take place from 2pm

WILLOW TREE PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C MEETING
Due to unforeseen circumstances the P&C meeting that was scheduled for Wednesday 13th August has been postponed till Wednesday 3rd September 2014 at 6pm at the school. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to come along and support the P&C.
KIDS MATTER

With the passing of one of the world's most famous comedians, Robin Williams, it highlighted the importance of students keeping a healthy mind which is what the “Kids Matter” launch was all about. What a fantastic day our staff, parents and students had interacting with Wallabadah, Blackville and Walthallow schools in a day of team building activities. The day commenced with students enjoying a healthy morning tea kindly donated by Carlos IGA in Quirindi before heading off into their groups to complete different activities. Years 2&3 listened to the story “Pearl Barley & Charlie Paisley” which is a beautiful story about friends before making a “friendship crown”. They discussed what’s important about being a good friend and how it makes you feel when you are nice to each other. Years 3/4/5/6 talked and completed activities about bullying, especially with the added pressures of social media these days. Kinder & Year 1 heard the story “The Courageous Cow”, they learnt that it’s “ok” to be different to others, they then made a cow using paper plates. Students participated in some team building activities using the giant ball and the parachute before enjoying a lovely BBQ by the year six students of Wallabadah Public School. Prime News attended the day with some of our students being lucky enough to feature on the news that night. The link to the story can be found on the Prime 7 Tamworth site. The aim of the “Kids Matter” program is to promote healthy minds in children and the community. Research has shown that healthy minds help with positive learning within the classroom.

The day concluded with the “Puppet Tricksters”, a puppet show which taught the children the history of puppets and touched on bullying. Students enjoyed the puppets and really enjoyed mixing with all the other schools. A massive thank you to parents who helped transport students to and from Wallabadah and who stayed to join in and helped with all the different activities throughout the day. Thank you to the staff and students of Wallabadah Public School who hosted this fantastic day. We look forward to implementing this program and working with everybody in continuing to make Willow Tree Public School a happy place.
BOOK WEEK PARADE – BBQ

Please order me: Name ____________________________

_____ sausage sandwich pack @ $3 ea – (including a drink) extra sausage $2 ea
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Please do not send money in until the day of the BBQ

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