Year 4 Excursion
We waved goodbye to two buses filled with very excited children yesterday. They are currently having the time of their lives at Yarrahapinni. I noticed all the parents were very brave saying goodbye and sneaking last minute cuddles. I know you are missing them but I can assure you they are having fun. Overnight excursions are hugely important for a child’s development especially with confidence and social skills. I’m just lucky I have so many staff who are willing to put their lives on hold, in many cases, leaving young families so we can provide these brilliant opportunities for your children. Thank you Mrs Wheatley, Mr Baker (he no longer has young children but he did celebrate his birthday while on the excursion. Imagine having your birthday dinner with 70 nine and ten year olds), Mrs Rock, Mr Nicholson and Mrs Taylor. We look forward to hearing of their adventures on their return, they should be back by 3pm on Friday afternoon.
Special thanks to Mrs Wheatley for organising the excursion. It is a huge task.

School Evaluation and School Plan
Surveys will be emailed to students (Years 5 and 6), parents and staff in the near future. We appreciate you spending a few minutes completing these. These surveys will be used for our annual school evaluation and will be reported on in the Annual School Report which is published each April.
This year is a little different as we are preparing our next three year school plan. I’m particularly interested in our communities comments on what you feel we do well, and what we need to focus on. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Leadership Speeches
Good luck to the Year 5 students who will/are presenting their speeches today/tomorrow. The staff are looking forward to hearing why these children believe they are the best people to be elected as student leaders at WPS in 2015. It is a great honour to be a prefect at a school. Congratulations to all candidates for taking the risk or chance to put themselves forward for this role.

Aboriginal Awards
Congratulations to Chloe JM, Zazzi C and Ken G who will receive North Coast Aboriginal awards
today in Taree. Aunty Helen and I will be in the audience and will be very proud.

**Timbertown Excursion**
Good luck to the students in classes 3/4TR and 5/6JP who will enjoy the sights and activities at Timbertown on Monday. The boys and girls in these classes have had a great year. Thank you Mrs Pounds and Mrs Taylor for coordinating this experience.

A State Memorial Service for the Honourable Gough Whitlam AC QC, former Prime Minister of Australia, was held yesterday.

Mr Whitlam was the Prime Minister of Australia from 1972-1975. He was the Foreign Minister from 1972-1973. He was the Leader of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party from 1967-1977 and the Deputy Leader from 1960-1967. Mr Whitlam was the Federal Member for Werriwa from 1952-1978.

Mr Whitlam completed a law degree at University of Sydney, was admitted to the New South Wales Bar in 1947 and was appointed Queens Counsel in 1962. In 1978, he was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia for service to politics and government and to the Commonwealth Parliament. He was also awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001.

**3pm Pick Up**
We have had reports of parents parking over driveways. This is not fair for our neighbours, Thankyou in advance for your cooperation.

**School Magazine**
The 2014 edition of Timber Tales was sent to the printers this week. Those families who have ordered a copy should receive their copy within three weeks.

**Swimming Scheme**
If your child can’t swim 25m I would recommend you enrol your child in this program. As parents living in a coastal area I believe we owe it to our kids to ensure they are competent swimmers.

**Sailing**
How great is it that our Special Education children now go sailing every week. Thank you to Port Macquarie Rotary.

**Selective High School**
Applications to attend a selective high school for 2016 can be completed by 17 November - www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement

Our closest selective High School is in Tamworth.

*Cameron Osborne*

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**Dates to Remember**

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<td>Year 4 Yarrahapinni Excursion</td>
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<td>Thursday 6 November</td>
<td>Girls Year 5 leadership speeches - 9.10am</td>
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<td>Friday 7 November</td>
<td>Boys Year 5 leadership speeches - 9.10am</td>
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<td>Wednesday 12 November</td>
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<td>Scripture finishes</td>
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<td>16 – 28 November</td>
<td>Intensive Swimming Scheme</td>
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**Intensive Swimming Scheme**
Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Our Intensive swimming program commences on Monday 17 November 2014 and runs for a period of ten days.

The last day for swimming will be Friday 28 November.
This program caters for students from Year 2 – Year 6 who are non-swimmers or cannot swim a distance of 25 metres (half the Olympic sized pool). Competent swimmers will not be allowed to attend.

The cost for the program is $27.50. This payment needs to be sent to the school office in an envelope with your child’s name and class on the front.
Students will not need to pay on a daily basis. You can also use the pool tickets for entry into the pool. Ten tickets need to be placed in an envelope and forwarded to the school office. Please write your child’s name on the back of each ticket. If you would like your child to participate in the program please complete the form below and return the form with the money to the school office by Wednesday 12 November, 2014.

Please detach and return to the Front Office by Wednesday 12 November, 2014.

I do / do not consent to ______________________ of class ____________ participating in the Intensive Swimming Program. Please find the amount of $27.50/ten pool tickets enclosed.

My son / daughter has the following special needs (please provide full details and include any relevant medical details)

________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

I give / do not give permission for my child to receive medical treatment in case of emergency.
Signed Parent/Guardian/Carer

Another great opportunity for our BOYS!!!

On Thursday last week Mrs Brassey and Mrs Dignum had the pleasure of accompanying 10 boys from Yrs 4, 5 and 6 to a Boys Vocal Workshop organised by and held at Tacking Point PS. Mrs Brassey and I quickly realised what a special day the boys were about to have, how much they were going to learn and what a professional and talented presenter Simon Masterton was. Many thanks to the Bermingham and Lawrie families, for their assistance with transport. The consensus of all those who attended was, ‘we hope there will be more opportunities like this in the future because we all had a great time’.

The following is part of a message we received on our return. “Thank you very much for coming along today - and for bringing so many fabulous young singers! I hope that the boys enjoyed themselves and gained new skills from their experience. They were a credit to your school.” Dayna Moritz Assistant Principal Tacking Point Public School

Participants were:
Brock B, Dean C, David D, Tom F, Colby G, Ethan N, Thomas O, Brock R, Sam S, Dylan W.

Keep an eye out for Creative and Performing Arts opportunities in the future...

We were so lucky to have been invited to participate in two different Boys Workshops this year. We urge all boys and girls to take up these ‘extra’ opportunities if and when they are offered in the future. Sometimes students may be a bit nervous or unsure if their other friends are not interested - but the best thing is that the other kids who are going are usually just as keen as you and you will be surprised how much fun you have and how many new friends you will make.

50cent Tuckshop

Year 6 students will be holding a 50c tuckshop on Friday 14 November. The tuckshop will be outside the canteen at recess only. All money raised will be put towards the Year 6 gift to the school. We thank you for your support in this endeavour.

- Year 6 Teachers -
LIBRARY NEWS
Dear Parents/Caregivers,
As the end of the year is approaching there will be no more borrowing from Week 6 onwards. We endeavour to have all books back by the end of term. As you can imagine this is a massive task. All shelves will be sorted and overdue notices will not be sent home until all books have been looked for in the Library. Please have your children return their books as soon as possible.
Robyn Secombe

P & C News

P & C Canteen News
Canteen Roster Term 4 Week 6
Monday 10  R Cook
Tuesday 11  Lisa M
Wednesday 12  S Reynolds & M Costello
Thursday 13  Margi
Friday 14  L Wagner & A-M Campbell

Thank you for all your support.
In case you are unable to work on your allocated day please contact the Canteen Manager, Mrs Nicole O’Hagan prior to the day you are working, to enable her to organise a replacement.

Thank You P&C Association
REMEMBER TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO OUR SCHOOL

Canteen - Term 4 Specials
Kings fried rice with bottle of water $4.00
Lasagne with bottle of water $4.00
Smoked salmon wrap with salad of choice $4.00
Bacon roll with flavoured milk $3.00

Until stock runs out - ENJOY

WOOSH News
Term 4 Pupil Free days, January Vacation Care, Term 1 Pupil Free day and After School Care Term 1 2015 dates are as follows:
• Term 4 Pupil Free Days- Thursday 18 and Friday 19 December 2014
• After School Care 2015
• January Vacation Care - Monday 5 January to Friday 23 January.
• Pupil Free Day – Tuesday January 27

These are up on the board in the Woosh room now. Please come into the centre and place your child’s name on the list with the required days clearly ticked or alternately give Alex a ring at the centre. The closing date for registration is Monday 1 December 2014, except the After School care 2015 & Pupil free day 27 January has a closing date 5 January 2015. As we have to undergo a priority procedure, please phone Miss Alex on 0412 852 441 at the centre for availability after Tuesday 2 December 2014.
Thank you, the Woosh Committee