Dear Parents,

Wamberal Public School along with all schools across Australia is undergoing professional learning in preparation for a new curriculum. Over the course of this year articles in the newsletter will feature information regarding aspects of the new syllabuses and what your child will be learning. This week is an introduction to the new syllabuses.

What is the Australian Curriculum?
The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA), in collaboration with all Australian states and territories, has developed agreed Australian curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History. Each of these learning areas includes content statements that represent essential learning for all Australian students.

How is the Australian Curriculum being implemented in NSW?
In NSW, the Board of Studies has worked with teachers and key education stakeholders to develop syllabuses that include Australian curriculum content and further detail that clarifies learning. As a result of this work, Kindergarten to Year 10 syllabuses provides direction to ensure consistency between NSW schools. NSW schools are implementing the Australian Curriculum through the advisory authority of the NSW Board of Studies.

When will the new syllabuses incorporating the Australian Curriculum be taught in NSW?

- 2013 - Learning about the new English & Maths Syllabus
- 2014 - All schools implement the new English syllabus.
- 2015 - All schools implement the new Mathematics and Science syllabuses.
- 2016 - All schools implement the new History syllabus.
Save the Date!!!! Easter Hat Parade...........

This outstanding cultural school event will be held on Thursday, 28th March at 1.00pm on the lower playground (weather permitting) for all K-2 children. Parents and family members welcome.

Shave Hair for Leukaemia
Jonty Tipton-Akers from 5/6S is going to shave his hair to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation’s “World’s Greatest Shave”. He hopes to raise at least $500 (and keep his ears!). To support Jonty in this worthwhile cause go to: http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/Jonty Tipton-Akers or pass a beanie his way! Thank you for your support.

Year 6 2013 Farewell Meeting
There will be a meeting in the staffroom on March 22nd at 2.30pm. All welcome.

Head Lice
The dreaded head lice is doing the rounds again. Please regularly check your children’s hair and treat them before returning to school.

Term 2 School Development Day.
Schools have been granted an additional School Development Day to plan for the implementation of the new Australian syllabus. WPS will have 2 consecutive development days at the commencement for Term 2. Please note the following dates (pupil free)

- Monday 29th April
- Tuesday 30th April

Please plan accordingly for the safe care and supervision of your child/ren.

I Can’t Stop Coughing!.............Croup
We have had several cases of croup/chronic coughs over the last few weeks. If your child has a constant, distressing cough, please keep them at home until it has eased.

Going home with the newsletter is a list of some infectious diseases put out by the NSW Health Department.

- Croup is often a mild illness but can get worse quickly.
- Croup is often worse at night.
- Steam does not help and may lead to accidental burns.
- If there is severe breathing difficulty, or, if your child is distressed, contact your doctor or local hospital.
- Croup can quickly become serious, so do not hesitate to get medical help.

Tuggerah Zone Swimming Carnival
Last Tuesday, 5th March, the Wamberal Swim Team consisting of 40 swimmers attended the Tuggerah Lakes Zone Swimming Carnival at Mingara. Wamberal came equal 4th from a total of 14 schools.

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in gaining a place in their event, qualifying them to be part of the Tuggerah Lakes team. They will now compete at the Sydney North Swimming Carnival at Homebush next Monday 18th March.

- Zach Tasker: 1st Junior Breaststroke and 2nd Junior 200m Medley
- Jesse Warton: 2nd Junior Backstroke, 3rd 9 yrs Freestyle, 2nd Junior boys relay
- Noah Lyons: 2nd 12/13 yrs Backstroke, 2nd Senior boys relay
- Eligh Noel: 3rd 10 yrs Freestyle, 2nd Junior boys relay
- Logan Moy: 3rd 12/13 yrs Breaststroke, 2nd Senior boys relay
- Lewis Alvarez: 2nd Junior Boys relay
- Noah Reed: 2nd Junior Boys relay
- Samara Watson: 2nd Senior girls relay
Kate Robertson: 2nd Senior girls relay
Isobel Walshaw: 2nd Senior girls relay
Niamh Erich: 2nd Senior girls relay
Jim Ellison: 2nd Senior boys relay
Adam Tarasenko: 2nd Senior boys relay

We wish them all the best for next week.

Schools With Fitter Children Perform Better.

Schools with fitter children achieve better literacy and numeracy results, according to Australian research.

The study by physiologist Dr Dick Telford, of the Australian National University, and colleagues, was published in a recent issue of the journal Paediatric Exercise Science.

"A school that has, on average, high fitness levels will have, on average, higher literacy and numeracy levels," says Telford.

Previous research in animals and humans has suggested greater fitness and physical activity leads to changes in the brain activity and better performance in cognitive tests and concentration.

"It took scientists by surprise to a certain degree that there was a consistent relationship," says Telford.

Telford and colleagues followed 800 children from age 8 to age 12 in 29 schools to see if physical fitness and activity affected academic performance.

The randomised cluster study measured physical activity (using pedometers), physical fitness (using a multistage running test), and body fat percentage of each child.

This was then compared to the children’s academic performance in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test.

The study found a relationship between academic performance and the fitness of the child, confirming findings from other studies.

But, uniquely, this study found that the relationship between fitness and academic performance was particularly strong at the school level.

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Easter is on its way!
Wamberal P.S. is having an Easter Guessing Competition and we need your help.

We would appreciate each family to donate an Easter Egg, Chocolates or a gold coin towards the prizes.

Big, Medium or Small we will collect them all.
Collection started Monday 11th March (thank you)

Parent Helpers will visit classrooms each morning to collect donations. Tickets will be sent home soon.

Winners will be drawn Easter week.

Baskets are also needed to for displaying prizes.

HAPPY EASTER!

Thank you for your support.

School Beautification

We are in need of some more external paint, to finish the restoration of the current ground art work. If a parent can help or put us in contact with a paint company, we would be most appreciative.

paul@beechhome.com

Weekend garden bee’s - if you are able to donate some of your time on a weekend, let me know as we will be planning a few in the next few months and over the school holidays. paul@beechhome.com

Check out P&C website wamberalpandc.org.au

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Monday March 18th
@ 7:00 pm
Staffroom.
All welcome.
Home Wanted for our 1yr female guinea pig

We love her very much but her mate just recently died and she is very lost. She is looking for a loving home with other small animals. Please call if you can give her a lovely home 0402139585 Amber

Out of School Hours Care is available at your school!

YMCA Wamberal P: 0400 813 789 E: oshc.wamberal@ymca.org.au

Before School Care 7 - 9am/After School Care 3.30 - 6.00pm
Vacation Care 7am till 6pm