



# WELLERS HILL STATE SCHOOL

*Strive to Succeed*



Queensland Government

## WHAT'S ON AT WELLERS

|  |
|--|
| Dec 5 <sup>th</sup> - Whole School Parade on Friday 9am      |
| Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup> - Sports Award Afternoon 2pm            |
| Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Graduation                     |
| Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup> - Year 7 Graduation                    |
| Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup> – Years 6&7 Excursion to Wet and Wild. |
| Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup> – Uniform Shop is closed.              |
| Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> – Tuckshop Closed   |

Principal: Mrs Louise Hart  
Deputy Principal: Mr Jack White  
Yr 7 School Captains : Connor Helmore, Alice Herley  
Yr 7 Vice Captains: Ethan Tunstall, Maddison Scott  
Yr 6 School Captains: William Ellerton, Charlotte Cooper  
Yr 6 Vice Captains: Angus Fedrick, Lauren Neillie

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Wednesday 3 December, 2014

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Community Members welcome to another week at Wellers Hill.

As the year draws to a close we seem to continue to be busy with various activities being held at school, including; our Bilingual drama presentation, Prep Christmas play, Prep Dance Fever presentation, our Religious Education presentation, Crazy Hair and Sock Day and our Annual Sports Awards Afternoon.

### Years 4-7 Swimming Carnival

A big thank you to Miss Fenwick, the staff and parents who helped run our Year 4-7 swimming carnival last Thursday. The buzz around the pool was high, the children were very engaged and had a great day. An individual thank you must go to Mrs Lexia Willmington and Tim who operated the electronic database and timing equipment for the day, Mrs Willmington works on our school office and Holland Park SS swimming club co-ordinator and Tim is a Holland Park SS parent, your time and support of Wellers Hill State School is greatly appreciated.

### Bilingual Drama Presentation



Our first bilingual drama presentation took place today. A big thank you to all the staff, parents and volunteers who helped with the presentation this morning. The children performed beautifully and were a credit to their teachers and parents. Congratulations and well done to all.

### Senior Badges

Just a reminder to our graduating seniors of 2014 if you haven't already purchased a senior badge they are on sale from the tuckshop everyday for \$5.00.

### Parade this week

On Parade this week we will be acknowledging the following achievements:

- Swimming Carnival results.
- Japan Foundation's Video Matsuri
- P-2 Certificates
- Performances by our three Choirs.

### Report Cards

Next week your children will bring their end of semester report card home to you. Please take the time to read this report with your child and discuss their effort and results.

Over recent years, parents, students and teachers across Queensland have been gradually becoming more familiar with a more uniform process for reporting in all schools. The use of a more consistent 5-point scale:

- Prep – Year 2 Applying, Making Connections, Working With, Exploring, Becoming Aware
- Years 3 to 7 – A, B, C, D, E

has been one of the significant developments.

Most of us who were schooled in generations past are familiar with the A-E scale and for many it offers a great deal more comfort and better understanding of achievement.

An important point that deserves clarification though is that the 5 point scale has some subtle differences these days and that when we see a **“Working With or C”** on our child's report card it means something a little different to what it used to on our own report cards, many years ago.

In the past the achievement scale used a “Bell Curve” distribution which means that a small group of top students in the class got an “A”, the next group got a “B”, the majority of the class were given a “C” and so on until the whole class represented a distribution from A-E. This means that it was harder to get an “A” in a school filled with academic students and easier to get one in a school with less academic students.

The new system works on “benchmarks of achievement” or “criteria” such that, what constitutes an “A”, “B”, “C” etc is predetermined. Any student who shows evidence of meeting that level deserves that grade.

This is where we consider the difference in what a **“Working With or C”** really means:

- A **“Working With or C”** no longer means that the student is simply in the middle of the class, it means that the student has met the criteria for a learner at the appropriate age level.
- A **“Working With or C”** means that the student is doing everything required at their Year Level.
- The best description is that a **“Working With or C”** means a student's academic development is exactly where it needs to be – A **“Working With or C”** is ON TARGET or AT YEAR LEVEL STANDARD.

With all of this in mind, we must accept that it may be harder to get an “A” or a “B” than it used to be. These grades are no longer awarded simply to the top students in the class; they are only given to students who show that they are independently capable of working beyond the criteria for their year level.

So what does all this mean?

- Many parents are likely to see more **“Working With or C”** grades on their child's report cards.

- The “**Effort**” grades are a really important reflection of whether your child is achieving the best they can
- An “A” for effort and a “C” for achievement indicates that your child is “On Target” for their age and “applying their best effort”. This grade should be celebrated with students because they have worked hard to be where they need to be.

### **How to Read your child’s Report Card**

Many parents on receiving their child’s report card for the first time are unsure of how to read it. All parents of children enrolled in a Queensland State School receive the same formatted report card twice a year.

These written reports are a culmination of how your child has achieved in their academic studies over a school semester. The report cards contain the following information:

- An overall academic achievement for each subject
- An effort achievement and
- A comment

When reading your child’s report card it is suggested that parents read the comment first, to know what the class has studied, then read the academic grade your child received, this indicates your child’s level of achievement measured against what was studied, followed by their effort, how your child worked throughout the semester.

As mentioned previously the end of semester report card is a culmination of your child’s results over the semester. With parent teacher interviews being offered to all parents at the end of Term Three or the beginning of Term Four parents will already be well informed of their child’s academic progress.

As always if you have any concerns about your child’s progress please see your child’s teacher as soon as possible.

### **2015 Classes**

Class lists are now finalised for 2015, teachers and the administration have received many requests from parents around classes for 2015. As we have always said we will take your requests on board but unfortunately are not always able to meet these requests for a variety of reasons. Teachers are asked to construct classes that are balanced in a variety of ways including academics, children’s individual needs, behaviour and girl/boy balance. This is a very long and at times very stressful process for the teachers.

## **SUPPORTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**

### **Rule Of The Week:**

Be Respectful:

- Surprise others by performing random acts of kindness.
- Go out of your way to do something kind and generous for someone at least once a week.
- Be positive and Choose to be happy. Some things just aren’t worth getting upset over. Focus on the good things in your life.

### **Student advantage — free Microsoft Office software for students' personal computers**

All Queensland state school students are now able to download multiple copies of the Microsoft Office 2013 Suite onto their [personal devices](#). This suite provides students with the latest full versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote and more.

**For further information:**

<https://mishelp.eq.edu.au/studentadvantage/Pages/default.aspx>

**Keep a watch on our school these holidays**

Parents and students can help take care of our school by reporting any suspicious after-hours activity to School Watch on **13 17 88**. By keeping an eye out we can work together to create a safer school community and help to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in our school.

If you see something suspicious, please don't intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.

### **Crazy Hair and Socks Day**

When: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

What: Wear your craziest socks and craziest hair style to school  
*(BUT you must wear your school uniform)*

How much: Gold coin donation

Which class has the craziest children?



### **FROM THE P&C PRESIDENT**

#### **Thanks to our wonderful volunteers!**

The final P & C meeting for 2014 was held last Wednesday night. This was an opportunity to 'wind-up' business for the year and most importantly to say thanks to 2 wonderful members of the executive and the Year 6 & 7 parent volunteers who are leaving the school. We celebrated with cake and the school gave both Rob and Kim plaques in recognition of their service to the school.

Rob Beaumont has been the secretary for the past 5 years and in that time he has done a great job. In his role as secretary he organised all our minutes and correspondence. In addition, he spent many hours at working bees, assisting with events such as Harmonies, Discos and the Art Show. We appreciate all Rob has done. Best wishes to Rob and his family as they move on to high school.

Kim McDermott has been involved at WHSS for the past 10 years. She has also been involved baking for cake stalls and after the fire last year made the new capes and banners for each of the Houses. In 2011 she became one of the P & C Vice Presidents and retires from that role at the end of the year when her daughter leaves the school. WHSS is grateful for the many hours Kim has volunteered over the past 10 years.







William Ellerton and Charlotte Cooper  
Year 6 School Captains

This week is the second last week of school for 2014, and to all our graduating students it is the last two weeks of their time at Wellers Hill. So make the most of it! Only 7 days left from tomorrow, so let's make our last memories of Wellers some good ones. Hang in there, everybody, and have a great week.  
From Charlotte and William

## MUSIC NEWS

### Choirs

Due to the cancellation of last week's parade **ALL CHOIRS – Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Vocal Group will perform on parade on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December.**

There will be a final rehearsal for **Junior Choir on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of December at 8am**

**Vocal Group and Senior Choir please arrive at 8.20am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

Yes it is crazy hair and sock day and crazy hair and socks will be allowed this performance only – enjoy!

### Instrumental lessons :

Years 4 and 5 strings lessons will continue up until the end of week 9 (this week)

### Chamber Strings Auditions

Interested students can audition for Chamber strings during lessons in week 9. (this week)

### Sheet Music and Instruments

Please return all instrumental and choral sheet music to your teacher ASAP.

All instruments should be handed in this week during instrumental lessons.

### Instrumental Program for 2015

Offers for the String and Band programs have been sent home. If your child is selected there will be an instrumental program information night tonight **Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December at 6.30pm** and your attendance on this evening is strongly advised.

Happy Music Making!

Mrs Kristensen

Classroom Music/Choir Conductor

## SPORT NEWS

### Swimming Carnival

Thank you to all students who participated in the recent swimming carnival and all the parents who came to support the students. Both carnivals were a great success! The ribbons and announcement of age champion and winning house will be awarded on parade this Friday.

### Sports Awards

The Wellers Hill sports awards afternoon is coming up this Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2pm-3pm in the school hall. Many students will be receiving an award; it would be great to see parents coming along to support the achievements of the students.

If any parents have photos from interschool sport this year, can I please get a copy of them on a USB. Please make sure the USB is clearly named so I can return it once I have copied over the files. Thank you!

### PE Swimming Classes

With swimming classes drawing to a close there is still a large number of lost items left behind after classes. If your child has misplaced some of their belongings please come down to the pool to see if the item is there.

# *WELLERS HILL STATE SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION Sub-Committees*

President: Narelle Cooley ([narelle@cooleyfamily.com.au](mailto:narelle@cooleyfamily.com.au))

Secretary: Rob Beaumont 3161 7909

Email: [wellershillpandc@gmail.com](mailto:wellershillpandc@gmail.com)

## SCHOOL BANKING



It has been a fabulous year for School Banking at Wellers Hill State School in 2014 and we now have **428** bankers at our school. We have seen lots of new and existing Super Savers bring in their deposits each week and they have been earning some great rewards. There will be new and exciting reward items coming in 2015 so don't forget to keep your tokens in a safe place over the school holidays. Your token tally will carry over to 2015.

Our lucky last gold certificate bankers for the year are:-

Declan L PK Cormac P PK, Abby H 4/5JH, Liam C 1F, Sean K 1H, Jeremy M PK.

Congratulations to all of our gold certificate bankers for the year, we have certainly exceeded all expectations and our all of our school bankers should be congratulated for their consistent and regular saving.

To our Year 6 and 7 Bankers, our very best wishes to you all as you head off to high school next year. Remember to continue your regular saving! To all who are returning in 2015, please write your new class name on the front of your deposit book next year. This will be a huge help to us at the beginning of the year.

**School Banking for 2015 will begin in the 2nd week of term 1.**

There will be an account opening morning on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> Feb from 8-9am. More details will follow next year.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at our school. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday break!

Kind Regards,  
Kym and Caroline  
School Banking Co-ordinators

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS



Please ensure the school has up-to-date information regarding emergency contacts so that you can be contacted promptly if required.

## TUCKSHOP

### Last Day for Tuckshop This Year

Our last day for tuckshop this year is **Wednesday 10 December**. We are **NOT OPEN** for the last 2 days of the school year.

### Volunteers for 2015

Please contact us via email or drop in and see us if you would like to volunteer in the tuckshop next year

### Thank You

Thanks so much to Tracy N, Vanessa C, Kimberley L and Caroline S for their help last Friday. After Thursday's storm many Wellers Hill families had no power and needed tuckshop on the Friday. To say the day was crazy was an understatement – we set new records for hotdogs, muffins and toasted sandwiches!! However, despite the craziness and some manic moments for Ros and Carolyn, we had nearly 200 hundred lunches ready by 11am. We couldn't have done it without our 4 very generous and good-natured volunteers – you ladies were champions!!!

### Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

As this will be our last newsletter item for the year, Ros and I want to say a huge "thank you" to our wonderful volunteers who have worked tirelessly with us throughout 2014. It has been a hectic year – as of last Friday we had made 14,333 lunches for the students and staff of Wellers Hill. Each and every one of our parent and grandparent volunteers are fantastic and we simply couldn't run the tuckshop without you. THANK YOU!!

## Farewell

Finally we say goodbye to our Year 6 and 7 students. We have seen these kids grow from tiny Prep and Year 1 students into terrific young people. It has been a privilege getting to know you and we wish you all the best at high school. And finally, thanks and farewell to Mandy B, a volunteer parent who leaves us this year and who has been with us for 7 years. You are a ray of sunshine when you come to the tuckshop with a laugh we will never forget! Thank you, Mother!

| DAY                 | 9am to 11.30am      | 1pm to 2pm  |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Thursday<br>4 Dec   | Linda C             | HELP NEEDED |
| Friday<br>5 Dec     | Susan R<br>Louise C | Jenny O     |
| Monday<br>8 Dec     | Louise C            | Heather     |
| Tuesday<br>9 Dec    | Nicole R            | HELP NEEDED |
| Wednesday<br>10 Dec | Mandy B             | HELP NEEDED |
| Thursday<br>11 Dec  | CLOSED              | CLOSED      |
| Friday<br>12 Dec    | CLOSED              | CLOSED      |

If you are unable to do your tuckshop roster please contact us as soon as possible. If you would like to volunteer in the tuckshop, our phone number is 3249 1318 or you can call Carolyn (0409 053 742). You can also email [whsstuckshop@gmail.com](mailto:whsstuckshop@gmail.com).

## SAACS

### *Do not miss our great Christmas Vacation Care*

**Christmas Vacation Care 2014** –The Early Birds closing date was on Friday, **28<sup>th</sup> November 2014**. There are days when we are fully booked **however there are still places** available should you need Vacation Care. Please contact **SACCS on 3892 6344** as soon as possible to secure a spot.

*With so many great activities, visitors and excursions we are sure that there would be something for every taste and interest. Some of our highlights include: ice skating, pony rides, magic show, animal show, crazy candle making, carnival days, going to the cinemas and parks, theatre performance and lots of swimming.*

**For the convenience of our community, SACCS will be open on Monday, 22 December and Tuesday, 23 December. (Enjoy your last minute shopping while your children are safely in our care!)**

## UNIFORM SHOP

Wednesday 1:30 to 3.30 p.m.  
Friday 8.00 to 10.00 a.m.  
Deb Love Telephone 3249 1361 School  
[uniformshopwhss@gmail.com](mailto:uniformshopwhss@gmail.com)

### UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES - JANUARY 2015

Parents – Below are the dates and times the Uniform Shop will be open in January 2015.

THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY 12th DEC - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 2014.

OPENING TIMES DURING JANUARY 2015 –

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 8am to 11am

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 8am to 11am

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 8am to 11am

First Day of School – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 9am to 11am & 2pm to 4pm

A reminder that the Uniform Shop sells 100% cotton polo shirts in the royal blue school colour, and we also still have some stock left in the 100% cotton house polo shirts.

## SWIM CLUB



- What a fantastic 50<sup>th</sup> celebration night we had at the pool on Friday night. The kids got personal coaching by Keryn McMaster, a gold medalist for the individual medley & some kids got to race against her with one of our past members Zac touching first!
- Sign-On day for Term 1 2015 is this Saturday, 6th December from 8am -10am in the **school hall**. If you intend to register your children for Learn to Swim lessons, Beginner Squad (which will be re-named Transition Squad) & Mini Squad enrolment needs to be performed at Sign-On day.
- Learn to Swim and Squad holiday block lessons will be available for 2 weeks during the holidays- Monday to Friday on 15-19 Dec and 19-23 January.

### Learn to Swim

15-19 December 2014 & 19 - 23 January 2015

| Days    | Times            | Session        |
|---------|------------------|----------------|
| Mon-Fri | 8:30am - 9:00am  | Beginner Squad |
| Mon-Fri | 9:00am - 9:30am  | Level 3        |
| Mon-Fri | 9:30am - 10:00am | Level 2        |
| Mon-Fri | 10:00am-10:30am  | Level 1        |

### Squad

15-19 December 2014, 12 - 16 January & 19 - 23 January 2015

| Days           | Times           | Session                |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Mon, Wed & Fri | 6:00am - 7:30am | Junior, Senior & Youth |
| Mon, Wed & Fri | 7:15am - 8:00am | Mini                   |
| Tues & Thurs   | 3:15pm - 4:00pm | Mini                   |
| Tues & Thurs   | 4:00pm - 5:30pm | Junior, Senior & Youth |

- To attend the holiday sessions, you must register and pay in advance either at sign-on day on 6 December or send us an email at [admin@wellersratz.com](mailto:admin@wellersratz.com). Registrations will close on Saturday 6 December. ALL SWIMMERS MUST HAVE REGISTERED AND PAID BY 7 DECEMBER TO ATTEND HOLIDAY SQUAD
- We have a vacancy for a Learn to Swim Instructor in Term 1 2015. The hours are approximately 10-12 hours per week after school. If you or someone you know is interested in such a role, contact us via email ([admin@wellersratz.com](mailto:admin@wellersratz.com))
- Good luck to all the swimmers competing in the Southside Friendly this Saturday.

# Crazy HAIR & SOCK Day

Friday 5th December

Gold coin donation for  
crazy socks

**and**

Gold coin donation for  
crazy hair

**School uniform**  
must be worn.

If students wish to  
spray their hair, this  
must be done at  
home with parent  
supervision.



We are raising money for the Year 6 & 7 gift to the school.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

\*\*\*LAST DANCE FOR 2014\*\*\*

### ANNERLEY & DISTRICTS BLUE LIGHT DANCE PARTY

Next Dance: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014

AGES : 7yrs. – 15yrs

TIME: 7pm-9.30pm

COST: \$10.00

PLACE: Marymac Community Centre (616 Ipswich Rd, Annerley)

CONTACT: Senior Constable Lisa VOYSEY or Constable Rachel CUCKSON

Annerley Police Station Ph: 3892 8222

Supervised by Police & Community members  
No smoking, no alcohol, no drugs, no objectionable behaviour.

Thank you for your continued support for Blue Light in your area.  
Annerley Blue Light Branch.

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

7PM

at WELLERS HILL SCHOOL HALL

Sing your heart out and enjoy a great family night as you watch the Christmas story unfold through the pageant, music, singing, dancing, fun and audience participation. This is a great opportunity to invite neighbors, friends and family.

Free refreshments afterwards and guaranteed to be an occasion of which lovely memories are made!

A freewill offering will be taken up to support the work of Youth Care (which aims to provide appropriate accommodation for young people who are in care.)

This event is supported by our local churches as a gift to our community.

Come along and enjoy a night to remember!

### COMMUNITY CHOIR for CAROLS (volunteers welcome)

Anyone who would like to sing in the choir for our Community Carols Celebration on December 7<sup>th</sup>, is most welcome to come to rehearsals. They will be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November from 2-4pm at Pope St Uniting Church, and then a final dress rehearsal on Saturday December 6<sup>th</sup> at WHSS Hall at 3 – 4.30pm. If you are interested, please contact Lesley Richardson ([richfam@dovenetq.net.au](mailto:richfam@dovenetq.net.au)) or ring 0417 721 008. All welcome!





InnaZone Yoga - All levels welcome!

Fridays 9.15am – 10.15am

St Lukes Theatre Hall, 193 Ekibin Rd, Tarragindi  
\*parking is available onsite behind the church\*

For any questions email [innazoneyoga@hotmail.com](mailto:innazoneyoga@hotmail.com) or just turn up!

BYO Mat if you have one or contact me in advance to bring one along for you! \$12 per class.

# *Merry Threads Christmas Fair*



**ATASDA**

Australian Textile Arts &  
Surface Design Association Inc.

**Inaugural ATASDA market fair**

**Handmade | Unique Gifts | Textile Treasures**

**Saturday 6 December, 10am-2pm**

**Weller's Hill Hub, 140 Weller Rd, Tarragindi**

**FREE parking, FREE entry and light refreshments available for purchase**

**Children's activities for a gold coin donation to raise funds for Days for Girls**

**[www.atasda.org.au](http://www.atasda.org.au) [www.facebook.com/atasdaqld](https://www.facebook.com/atasdaqld)**