Welcome to 2015 School Year!

Welcome back!!! It is wonderful to be back and hearing all the fabulous things our students and their families have been up to over the holidays. Staff are excited to be commencing the new school year and again having the opportunity to provide a wide and varied range of learning experiences for your children. We welcome the opportunity to work together with families to ensure that all students’ time at Wyrrallah Public School is fun and rewarding and prepares them to be lifelong learners.

Changes to staffing this year: Ms Kelly Scurr will be teaching our K-2 class on Monday to Thursdays. Ms Scurr has replaced Mrs Robinson who was offered a position at another school. In addition, a warm welcome to Mrs Jane Hewetson. Jane will be working on Friday to support our students.

Welcome Kindergarten and new families

We saw Charlee-Rose, Liam and Jasmine’s enthusiastic faces begin their educational journey at Wyrrallah Public School today. We look forward to working with them and their families as they continue to learn and grow during their primary school education.

We also welcome Augustus, Ruby V, Sophia (Year 1) and Ava (Year 2) and their families to our school. All have settled in to their new classrooms and we are sure they will enjoy their new experience at Wyrrallah.
School Voluntary Contribution
The School Voluntary Contribution, commonly referred to as School Fees, is used at our school to provide students with textbooks and workbooks for the year. It also provides class consumables which many other schools require students to purchase, such as pencils, paints, rubbers, glue and rulers.

$30 per child, $20 for second child, and $10 for third child
If you are having financial difficulties in paying these fees please feel free to contact the school. All information will be treated confidentially.

House Keeping
Sent home with today’s newsletter are the following:
* Contact Information
* Parent Driver Declaration
* K-6 General Permission Note
* Absent Notes
* Payment Envelopes
Could these forms please be completed, and where necessary, returned as soon as possible. For Parents / Carers volunteering to provide transport to various activities / events throughout the year, a photocopy of your Driver Licence and Registration will need to be held on file at school. Unfortunately without this documentation on record we are not able to let students travel in other vehicles.

Attached to this newsletter are absent notes. When a child is absent from school we are legally required to ask for a written explanation of the absence. If you have phoned the school to let your child’s teacher know that they will not be attending you must still follow this up with a note when your child returns to school. Parents / Carers who are dropping students off after 9:15am or are departing early please see Rebecca at the office to sign your child in or out.

It is a legal requirement that all visitors and parents (unless picking and dropping off children) who are entering the school must sign in at the office, eg if you are helping in the classroom. This is necessary in case there is a fire or an evacuation.

Student Banking
2015 Back to School packs will be available next week at the office. These packs will contain everything you need to know about School Banking for the upcoming school year, including samples of the new rewards. For those students who will continue to do their banking, this will continue to take place on a Tuesday.

Book Club
Issue # 1 of the Scholastic Book Club will be issued today. Orders are due back to the office by Tuesday 17th February.

Community News
Lismore Thistles Soccer Sign-on – each Saturday in February from 9.00 am – 1.00 pm at Thistles Park, Military Road, East Lismore. For more information contact Wayne 0401 069 242 or www.lismorethistles.com.au

Go4Fun – Free Healthy Lifestyle Program for kids 6 ½ to 13 years. A program presented by NSW Health Northern NSW Local Health District. Call 1800 780 900 for more details.

Alstonville Plateau Physie Club
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW FOR YOUR DAUGHTER?
Registration day:
3rd of February, 4-6pm
Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre
Classes Commence:
10th of February
Come along and check out our friendly club.
Contact Jenna on 0406 774 992
or check out
www.physicalculture.com.au

MARIST BROTHERS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
SIGN ON Saturday 7/2/2015 and 14/2/2015 10.00am – 1.00pm and Thursday 19/2/2015 4.00pm – 6.00pm
At Crozier Oval Lismore – next to Oakes Oval
New players please bring original birth certificate.
Online re-registration for existing players.
Fees $115 includes shorts, socks and a polo shirt
Contact Jason Drew 0401 321 289
**Syllabus Changes**

A syllabus is a document that outlines what is to be studied in a particular subject. Each subject has its own syllabus. Every so many years all syllabuses are reviewed to ensure their relevance. Last year a new English syllabus was introduced. This year the new Maths syllabus will be introduced. Neither English nor Maths had major adjustments to their content however they were updated, streamlined and more effectively incorporated new technologies, such as digital media. A major change was the recognition of the continuum of learning from Kinder right through to High School, in that student learning doesn’t stop at the end of Year 6 and start somehow differently at the beginning of Year 7 in High School. Students learn and grow in different ways and at different rates. Instead of ‘Primary School K-Year 6’ and ‘High School Years 7-12’ separate syllabuses we now have ‘Kinder to Year 10’ and then HSC syllabuses.

Another subject, Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) was reviewed. It was decided to evolve HSIE into a more specific content area: History. This change is optional to introduce this year however it will be mandatory from next year. At Wyrallah Public School our plan for 2015 is to introduce the new syllabus of History, which also incorporates Geography. We will be focussing on a specific area for two terms: History in Terms 1 and 3, Geography in Terms 2 and 4. Ongoing evaluation throughout 2015 will guide future planning to ensure our students gain the greatest benefit for their learning.

Should you have any questions about these changes or any of the syllabuses, or would like to look at any of the documents, please feel most welcome to speak with me.

(*Just in case anyone is wondering about the plural of syllabus...it is syllabusES. It has become accepted use to write syllabi however, to be technically correct the word syllabus comes from a Greek background whose plural is –es; words from Latin use the plural –i. On that basis, also the correct plural of octopus is octopuses. HOWEVER...no-one will lose sleep about it!*)

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**School A to Z**

**School A to Z** is a free website which aims to provide parents and students with everything you need to know about what happens in schools and some ideas on how to most the best of everything. Subjects covered include help with homework, staying healthy, safe use of technology and a wide range of both fun and useful activities, resources and relevant links to other websites and organisations.

The address is www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au.
ABSENCE NOTE

My child: _______________________________  Class: _________________
was absent on: _______________ Message letter / verbal / phone: ______________________

Reason for Absence:
☐ Sick       ☐ Medical Appointment   ☐ Family Reasons   ☐ Other

Details: _________________________________________________________________

Signed _______________________________  Date: ______________________
(Parent/Guardian)

ABSENCE NOTE

My child: _______________________________  Class: _________________
was absent on: _______________ Message letter / verbal / phone: ______________________

Reason for Absence:
☐ Sick       ☐ Medical Appointment   ☐ Family Reasons   ☐ Other

Details: _________________________________________________________________

Signed _______________________________  Date: ______________________
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Details: _________________________________________________________________

Signed _______________________________  Date: ______________________
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Reason for Absence:
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Details: _________________________________________________________________

Signed _______________________________  Date: ______________________
(Parent/Guardian)