Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Community,

2016 School Contribution

The students of Mount Warrigal Public School directly benefit from the financial contributions made by parents during the beginning of each school year. Every dollar received is used to provide additional resources for our student learning programs – in classrooms, during out of school experiences and throughout the school. Your contribution is a very important component of our annual funds. We are encouraging parents to support learning programs during 2016 by sending a single or family contribution. We have again kept the price low - $20 per student, with a maximum of $40 per family. This equates to 10 cents a day – What great Value!! We use school contribution funds to support existing programs in the school including playground equipment, additional school learning support officers and technology. Please send all contributions to the school office, labelled with your child’s name and class.

Volunteers – Working With Children Check (WWCC)

The DoE have policies and procedures in place to minimise risk of harm to our students, staff and community when at school. In accordance to the WWCC policy we require all parent and community volunteers to complete a Working with Children Check Declaration form and provide 100 point Identification. To complete the WWCC procedures, or for further information, please contact the office staff.

As a school, we are committed to working in partnership with families and our community.

Emergency Response

Emergency planning is a requirement under the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011. The welfare of staff, students and visitors is the key focus of emergency planning in the Department of Education. The extent of the response required will depend on the nature of the emergency and its impact on the workplace as a whole and on individual members of staff and students. Whatever their scale, emergencies often occur suddenly and unexpectedly. Effective planning and preparation will ensure that the workplace is able to respond appropriately to events. We often practice drills including lock down and evacuation, so that staff and students are familiar with routines and know what to do in a real emergency. All students are debriefed after the event to help them understand these processes. In the next few weeks, we will again practice some of these drills.

If a real evacuation occurs during school hours, we understand it may cause anxiety for many but we ask for your patience. Your child’s safety will always take first priority in any decision we make. A number of schools in Sydney have recently needed to conduct evacuation procedures due to bomb threats. If you have any questions or concerns about this, please make an appointment to speak with me as soon as possible.

Family and Student Information Update

Forms are being sent home today for every family to complete and return on or before next Monday 7th March. The information required is essential for updating our records, ease of contacting families and accurate school funding from the Department of Education. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Permission to Publish

Upon enrolment, information was required in relation to Permission to Publish, however this does not allow for parents/carers to be specific about the various ways in which your child can be published, e.g. School notice board, newsletter, website or social media. A form has been sent home to allow parents/carers to provide greater detail in relation to the various ways a school may publish information. This form will replace information provided at enrolment and will remain effective until parents/carers advise us otherwise.

Kind regards,
Jodi Niedermayer
### Dates for Your Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Mufti Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting @ 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd March</td>
<td>Easter Raffle Tickets due to Canteen</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd March</td>
<td>Easter Hat Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th – 28th March</td>
<td>Easter Holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st March</td>
<td>Last day to register for ICAS Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st April</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th April</td>
<td>Last day Term 1</td>
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### Mufti Day Friday 4th March

This Friday, the 4th of March, our school will participate in Clean Up Australia activities. We will also be having an Australian-themed mufti day to help raise money for our Easter raffle and Easter hat parade. Students are encouraged to wear Australian colours (green/yellow, or red/blue/white, or red/black/yellow) and help clean up our beautiful country, community and school. Please remember students must wear appropriate clothing and shoes, no singlets or thongs are to be worn. Please bring in a gold coin and support our school!

Please send in a set of gloves for your child to use for the clean-up. If you do not want your child to participate, please inform your child’s teacher or the office prior to Friday 4th March.

### ICAS 2016

The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) is an independent, quality skills-based assessment program. If your child is in Years 2-6 and would like to participate in one or more of the ICAS assessments, please complete the registration form and return payment to school by 31st March 2016. Registration forms have been sent home with each student in Years 2-6. ICAS is voluntary. If you require further information please contact Mrs Borilovic.

### P & C News

Our next P & C meeting, AGM, will be Monday 21st March at 9.30am in the Community Rooms.

This week children received the Easter bunny to colour-in, please return to the canteen with your child’s lunch order to be in running for a prize.

Soon the Easter raffle tickets will go out to all children, please return these even if they are not sold to the canteen by Tuesday the 22nd March.

Dani & Kym

### Library Opening Times

The Library is open at Lunchtime on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at Lunch times. Children may come up to the Library at 1.25 until 1.45 for Quiet play.

- Return or Borrow a Book
- Play on the computers (K/1)Monday (2/3) Tuesday and (4-6) Thursday
- Play board games (any child interested in starting up a checkers club let Mrs Marold know)
- Play with the puppets in the Puppet theatre and the Fairy Tent
- Read a story to a younger child (I would love some volunteers from yrs5 and 6)
- Paper crafts Draw, make, colour in.
- Play with Lego.
- Watch ABC kids/play on the Interactive Whiteboard
- Knitting loom Bands and wool Craft with Mrs O’Leary

### The Premiers Reading Challenge

The Premiers Reading Challenge shall be starting again soon and notes will be sent home. All children at Mt Warriag Public School are encouraged to take part in the challenge. Why not get a certificate from the Premier for reading 20 books in 7 months? A very achievable goal for all our students; children in K-2 shall be reading books with their classroom teacher but if you’d like your child to do this from home just log on and register with Premiers Reading Challenge and I will verify the record if it has registered books and is in to me by the end of August 2016.
PaTCH
Parent as teachers - Community Helpers

Parents and community members are invited to participate in a project developing the skills and attributes of an effective classroom helper.

Jayne Emms (Literacy Numeracy Trainer) and Kristen Pomery (Instructional Leader) will lead a training package that will equip the classroom helpers with strategies and experiences to support teaching in the classroom.

The training will involve commitment to learning sessions and practical class experiences to apply and reflect upon these skills.

Practical in Class Sessions:
- Community helpers will have the opportunity each week to implement and monitor their new learning with children in classrooms.
- Helpers are asked to journal their thoughts and experiences in the classroom and collect samples of their work for their journal.
- Helpers will be coached by one of the program leaders who will visit them working in the classroom.

Program Graduation:
- Sharing of experiences and discussion of the program
- Celebration Afternoon Tea

Expression of interest
If you are interested in being involved in the PaTCH course please fill out the following and return it to the school/pre school office by the 10th of March.

Name: __________________________ Contact Number: __________________________
Child’s Name: __________________________ Child’s Class: __________________________

Session times will probably be run in the afternoons - 12:30 – 2:30pm.
Please circle days you would be able to attend.

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

AQUA AEROBICS
at Oak Flats Pool

TUESDAY
11am
12pm

THURSDAY
6pm
7pm

All ages/fitness level welcome

Adults $12
10 Pass $90

Concession $9
10 Pass $66

Please enquire at Oak Flats Pool on 4256 0752
Email: learntoswim@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

THE WATERFRONT
SHELL COVE
4th - 6th March 2016
3 DAYS
OF SPORT, FUN & FESTIVITIES

For further information phone
Shellharbour Visitors Centre on (02) 4221 6169

www.shellharbourcityfestivalofsport.com.au
SAVE THE DATE
National Walk Safely to School Day
Now in its 17th year, National Walk Safely to School Day (WSTSD) is when all Primary School children will be encouraged to walk and commute safely to school. It is a Community Event seeking to promote Road Safety, Health, Public Transport and the Environment.
All information can be found at: www.walk.com.au
The event will be held throughout Australia on Friday 20 May 2016.

WRITTEN BY US
3/4W has started to learn how to write persuasive texts.
All of the students in the class agreed with this topic but I wonder if they have convinced others?

Children should be Given Pocket Money

I believe children deserve pocket money because then they’re able to help others, it teaches them responsibility and they deserve it.

Firstly, some children in the world do lots of jobs for for people and never get pocket money and some times it’s just not fair!!

Secondly, when children get pocket money it teaches them to save up money and to buy some things when they are older, like saving for a house or a car.

Thirdly, I think children should be given pocket money because if they want to donate money to others, it’s good, because maybe it might give poor people a little bit of food.

In conclusion, if you give children pocket money they will keep saving up and keep doing their jobs. That’s why I think children should be given pocket money.

Lexi Williams