



# Wirreanda Whisper

**Excellence and opportunity in an innovative and supportive learning environment**

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Term 1 Week 4

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2015

Term 1 WIRREANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL 2016					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4	15 Feb <b>K-6 Assembly</b>	16 Feb Debating Adamstown <b>3:30pm P&amp;C Meeting</b> <b>6pm Meet the Teacher Night</b>	17 Feb Newsletter	18 Feb Interrelate Year 5	19 Feb <b>Zone Swimming Carnival</b> Interrelate Year 5 <b>3-6 Assembly – Host Prefects</b>
5	22 Feb <b>K-6 Assembly</b> Yr 6 Moving Into Teen Years payment due	23 Feb	24 Feb	25 Feb Zone AFL trials <b>Scripture starts</b>	26 Feb Interrelate Year 6 K-2 Assembly – Host 2T
6	29 Feb <b>K-6 Assembly</b>	1 March	2 March Newsletter World Read Aloud Day Zone Rugby trials	3 March	4 March Interrelate Year 6 <b>3-6 Assembly – Host 6H</b> <b>S2/S3 Camp Deposit Due \$50</b>
7	7 March <b>K-6 Assembly</b>	8 March <b>3:30pm P&amp;C AGM Meeting</b>	9 March <b>Cross Country Carnival</b>	10 March	11 March Interrelate Year 6 K-2 Assembly – Host 2D
8	14 March <b>K-6 Assembly</b> <b>3 Way conference &amp; goals setting week</b>	15 March	16 March Newsletter Zone Touch trials	17 March	18 March Interrelate Year 6 <b>3-6 Assembly</b>
9	21 March <b>K-6 Assembly</b> <b>HARMONY DAY</b>	22 March	23 March	24 March <b>Easter Hat Parade</b>	25 March <b>Good Friday</b>
10	28 March <b>Easter Monday</b>	29 March	30 March Newsletter	31 March	1 April <b>Athletics Carnival</b> <b>ICAS \$ Due (Spelling; Writing; Science; Digital)</b>
11	4 April <b>K-6 Assembly</b>	5 April	6 April	7 April	8 April K-2 Assembly - Awards only ANZAC ASSEMBLY

## Principal's Message

We are now into our fourth week of the school term. The children have settled in beautifully to school routines, with most of those nerves disappearing. Our new students have been welcomed to the school and have made connections and friendships with their peers. Year 3 have been very busy exploring the bottom field area and our playground equipment. Our student leaders have taken on their responsibilities setting a very high standard to start the year.

After week 5 we will start asking K-2 parents to drop children in the COLA for the day and depart. We respect and understand that some parents like to remain with their child in the COLA. We encourage you to depart as soon as possible, this helps your child to gain independence and to understand that school is a safe and happy place to be.

We had a very successful swimming carnival last week - my congratulations to Miss Fort for her organisation and running of the carnival. We had many parent volunteers to assist – Thank you, we cannot run these events without you.

Congratulations to Ashlie and Jessica! The girls were selected in the PSSA Hunter Zone Girls' Cricket team.

Thank you to all the parents who made time to meet with teachers at the Parent Information evening last night and last week for Kinder. This really helps ensure open communication between home and school to provide a positive start to the year.

Over the next two weeks our staff will be trained in the new reading benchmark system ready for student assessments of reading in week 5. A parent workshop will be conducted soon for parents interested to see how the system works.

Last week our social media sites and Skoolbag App were instrumental in helping us locate a child who had gone to a friend's place after school when they should have been in a different location. I sincerely thank the mums who called and provided information that led us to the location of the missing child. This is a timely reminder for all families to discuss after school arrangements and the importance of following mum and dad's instructions.

**Philippa Young**  
Principal



## School drop off and pick up routines

### Drop off:

- Students should not be at school prior to 8:50am.
- Only use the pedestrian gates to enter school grounds.
- Parents and toddlers should not stay on the playground for safety reasons. This also allows your child time to settle and find some friends prior to classes starting.

### Pick Up:

- **School grounds are open at 3:15pm for parents to enter**
- Please wait outside the school grounds or on the grassed area at the front of the school if you arrive early.
- **There are two pick up points from 3:15pm:**
  - The grassed area at the front of the school
  - The NOLA
- Please discuss with your child(ren) where your pick up area will be.
- **The COLA and areas outside classrooms are not pick up points.**
- **The COLA will only be used as a pick up zone in wet weather.**

All our gates are closed during the day.

**Car park gates are not to be used to enter and exit the school.**

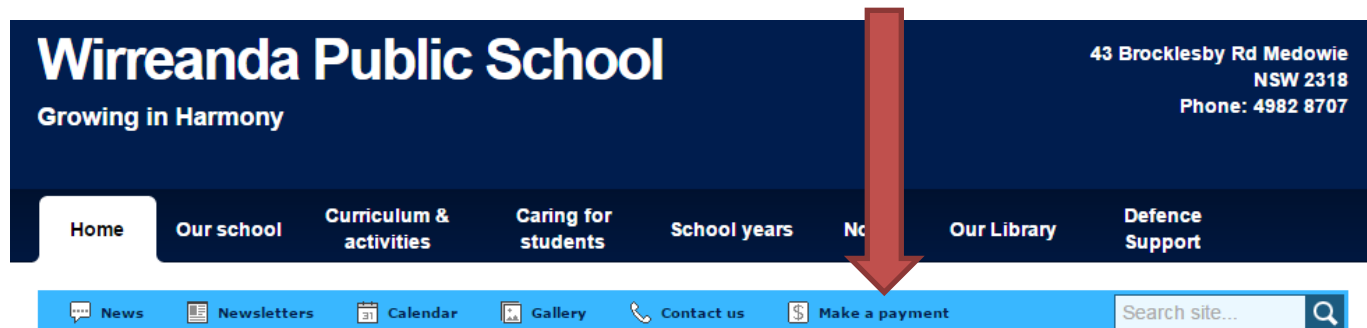
## School Fees

School contributions are now payable. Stages have sent home individual notes with stage pack pricing and requirements.

### School Fees / contributions

- \$30.00 per child/ \$55 per family

Accounts can be paid online via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac using a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card, by visiting the school website [www.wirreanda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wirreanda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)



## 2016 School Hours

The times are as follows:

- 8:50am - Supervision commences
- 9:20am - School Commences
- 11:20am - Recess
- 1:15pm - Lunch
- 3:20pm – Classes dismissed

## 2016 School Office Hours

- Hours: 8:50 am – 3:40pm

## Monday Assembly

A K-6 assembly is held each Monday morning at 9:20 am in the COLA. Parents are invited to attend. Gold awards, birthdays and other special awards are presented at this assembly.

**Parents are asked not to sit or stand on or behind the stage area.**

## Uniforms

Students at Wirreanda wear the school uniform with pride. Ours is a mandatory uniform school.

This includes the wearing of:

- Broad brim school hat. Caps are not to be worn at school or any school event including carnivals and discos.
- **Black shoes, Joggers only on sports day**
- School Colour head band/ties
- Uniform shirts/shorts/skirts/dress

Parents are asked to support us by insisting that their children wear appropriate school uniform each day.

### PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S ITEMS

### Items not permitted at school

- Personal toys
- Ipods/DS or other electronic items
- Jewellery
- Nail polish / makeup
- Black leggings or pants
- Caps of any description at any school event
- **Mobile Phones brought to school must be checked in at the office upon arrival and collected upon departure.**
- Skateboards

## The school song

*Proudly we stand together here at Wirreanda:  
Giving our best to all, our family, school and country,  
With every day we strive to live and grow in harmony,  
With our environment, ourselves and one another.*

## Parent Volunteers/Helpers

Parent helpers and volunteers on site must sign in and out each day in the front office.

Visitor badges and lanyards are to be worn whilst on site. This enables us to identify people who may be on site without approval to keep our students safe. It also assists us in the event of an evacuation in ensuring all people on site are accounted for.

## Nut allergies

We have children in our school community who have severe nut allergies. If students with a nut allergy come in contact with a nut product they can suffer life threatening consequences. A simple handshake or touching of a student's table that may have had some nuts in their food can trigger a reaction.

We ask for your consideration in planning your child's lunch box.



**Skoolbag**  
Smartphone school to parent communication

Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- > School, free push notification alerts
- > School events
- > School newsletters
- > School documents
- > School RSS feeds
- > School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

Skoolbag delivers school notices directly to parents and students



## Have you downloaded our Free School App yet?

Parents and carers who have the app downloaded on their smart phone or tablet receive immediate notification of events or cancellations. The Whisper can be read directly from the app.

You can also notify us of absences or changes of details via two e-forms on the app.

Our school app is now available for download from your app store for all phones - Android, Apple and Windows. Simply search for Wirreanda Public School.

## FACEBOOK

Wirreanda Public School is on Facebook. Facebook allows us to get information out to you quickly and keep you updated about events and news within the school.

Parents may comment on posts, however all comments are expected to be positive and in the interest of the school community. Negative posts will be deleted and further access restricted.

Our Facebook page can be searched for or use this link: <https://www.facebook.com/WirreandaPS>

## School Evacuation and Lock down

Regular evacuation drills are held at school to reinforce the evacuation procedure.

**Evacuation signal = continuous ringing of the school bell**

**Lockdown signal = intermittent ringing of the school bell**

## Dogs

**Dogs or puppies are not permitted on school grounds. Please do not bring your pet into school grounds when dropping off or picking up your child.**

## Deputy Principal's Message

### Cup of the Week

The Cup of the Week aims to:

- promote the school's You Can Do It values
- engender class pride and spirit

Congratulations to the first two classes to have The Cup of the Week in Term 1: 4B and 2D. Well done to both classes for the pride and respect they have demonstrated so early in the year – a great sign of things to come.

### WOW Cards and Leader Commendations

This week was the first week that two School Leader names were selected out of the commendation award box. Well done to the students who were recognised for undertaking their leadership roles in the playground with maturity and efficiency.

Congratulations also to the students whose names were drawn from the WOW card box. Once again the box was overflowing with entries and is representative of all the students doing the right thing in the playground.

### Well Done Message

I would like to congratulate our new students for their resilience, confidence and the way in which they have settled in to Wirreanda. It has been excellent to see, not only the way our new students have adapted to their changes, but also the way our 'old' students have demonstrated outstanding Getting Along skills.

As the You Can Do It whole school focus for Term 1 is Getting Along, it is evident that so many of our students value the importance of 'getting along' with others, accepting differences and being tolerant of these differences.

### Interrelate

The Interrelate program is commencing for Year 5 students on Thursday 18th February and Year 6 students in Weeks 5 – 8. The Year 5 program is titled "Minding Me" and explores the value of good communication within families and relationships, as a way of better understanding each other and reducing conflict. It provides students with a basic knowledge of male and female development at puberty, with an emphasis on developing a positive attitude to change

The Year 6 program, "Moving into the Teen Years" offers a course for students in Year 6 to prepare them for high school. The lessons explore a range of adolescent issues and offer a comprehensive relationship education program designed specifically for this important time in life. Payment for this program is due on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

### Books for Babies

There is a wealth of evidence to show that children and babies benefit from someone reading aloud to them. Research also indicates that children who grow up in a book-rich environment are more likely to associate reading with pleasure and later on become successful readers themselves.

In order to promote the importance of reading and to create a lifelong love of books, a book will be presented to all babies born to Wirreanda families from the beginning of March. The books will be presented to the sibling/s of the new baby at the Monday morning whole school assembly.

We look forward to the arrival of many Wirreanda babies who will be 'born to read'!

### Seasons for Growth

The Seasons for Growth program will be run in the school this term. Seasons for Growth is a program for students who have experienced changes in their family because of a death, separation or divorce. The program is facilitated in small groups and is based on research that highlights the importance of social support and the need to practise new skills to cope effectively with change and loss.

The program runs for 8 weeks and each weekly session is 40-50 minutes.

If you think that your son or daughter would benefit from this program please complete the tear-off section below and return it to the school by Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Have a wonderful week everyone.

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*Please complete the note below and return it to school by 23/2/16. Thank you.*

### Seasons for Growth

I would like more information on the Seasons for Growth program.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Susan Wilson**

**Deputy Principal**

### Notes Sent Home This Fortnight

- Kindergarten Term 1 newsletter
- Meet the teacher night change of date
- Change of class letter
- Yr 6 souvenir shirts
- P&C Garden Express Bulbs catalogue
- Scripture note for Kindergarten & new students
- Term 1 Stage Newsletters
- Canteen Volunteers required



## Deputy Principal Teacher Mentor's Message

### Using Prior Knowledge



Use what you already know  
or have experienced

.What do you already know about this?  
.What have you already learned that you can know to read this text?  
.What connections can you already made before you read the text?  
.This reinforces what I already know about....

### Focus on Reading

This week's information is on using prior knowledge when reading and understanding texts.

### Gifted and Talented Students (GATS)

Parents, if you think your child is a GAT student, a checklist of characteristics to identify your child is available from the school office. If you have completed the gifted and talented checklist in a previous year it will stay current for the duration of your child's schooling at Wirreanda.

Wirreanda Public School's enrichment program operates independently of the GATS nominations. All students have the opportunity to participate in the enrichment program through teacher, self or peer nomination.

Kathie Colley – Deputy Principal – Teacher Mentor

## Leader's News

All Year 6 Leaders are trained in the primary equipment duty. On this duty, leaders are responsible for distributing and collecting equipment. They make sure it is being looked after and is organised in the sports shed.



### Term 1 – Primary Equipment Leaders

Back row (L-R) Ayla Barratt, Lizzy O'Donnell, Hayley Carmody, Macey Edwards, Kiara Jewell , Regan Taylor, Aaron Price, Corey Morgan

Front row (L-R ) Ashlee Nunn , Lauren Mackenzie, Chloe Hendry and Ella MacLucas

The K-2 field training occurred last week. This duty involves coordinating fun games and activities that K-2 students can join in on the top field.

### Term 1 – K-2 field Leaders

Back row (L-R) Holly Kennedy, Jade Bowden, Nicolas Breed, Sam Freer, Josh Bell

Front row (L-R) Ella Curtis, Amali Binns, Otto van de Wijgaart, Taj Latimer, Lani Hibbert, Annabelle Tacon

Leaders have also been collecting Leader's Commendation cards from teachers in the playground when they are spotted doing a great job. These cards are collected at the end of lunch by Miss Hubbard. Starting in week 4, Mrs Wilson will draw out 2 names at the Monday morning assembly for a canteen voucher to congratulate these students.

Congratulations to our Year 6 leaders on an enthusiastic start to 2016. It is wonderful to see red hats and badges being worn with pride.

Miss Hubbard

Leadership coordinator 2016

# 2016 School Leader Profiles



## School Captain – Selman Hassan

**Hobbies:** Soccer, cricket, chess and reading

**Favourite sport:** Soccer

**Favourite food:** Tacos

**What I love about Wirreanda?** Wirreanda is a school where the students and teachers are friendly and I love the opportunities that we have to participate in various programs such as bridge building, public speaking and debating, soccer, cricket and many more.

**Why will I make a great captain?** I will make a great captain because I'm friendly, a good listener, confident, reliable, persistent, respectful and organised. I also know how to have a good time with my fellow students.

## School Captain – Jade Bowden

**Hobbies:** I love to bake and collect baking tools that I can use to create new designs on cakes and cupcakes. I also like story writing and learning more about our history.

**Favourite sport:** I enjoy playing tennis and jumping around in the sprinkler with my sisters.

**Favourite food:** Nachos

**What I love about Wirreanda?** I love Wirreanda and I am proud to be a student here. We have amazing teachers and students that are always so supportive in the learning environment.

**Why will I make a great captain?** I am part of a fantastic team of leaders who will be working hard to make this year a great one. I will lead by example, bring in new ideas and give my all!

## Canteen News

### Term 1 Meal Deal is 'Mini Yon Munchie' \$5.00

3 x Goujon or 3 Chicken Nuggets with a salad box (lettuce, tomato, cucumber, carrot) and sauce plus a flavoured milk and a mini banana muffin available every day that the canteen is operating, Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

Sharon Grant - Canteen Coordinator

## Sports News

Last Friday the swimming carnival was held at Tomaree. All students who attended showed sportsmanship and enthusiasm in all activities and races. A special congratulations to all students who participated in the competitive events, gaining points for their sporting house and showing persistence. Miss Fort would like to thank all the parents who spent the day timekeeping as the event could not run without you. This Friday is the Zone swimming carnival being held at Lakeside Leisure Centre in Raymond Terrace and we wish all students competing the best of luck. The assembly acknowledging swimming champions will be held on Friday of week 6 in the MPC.

In other sporting news we would like to congratulate Jessica DesJardins and Ashlie Stapleton on their selection into the Zone girl's cricket team and we wish them all the best of luck for their Hunter trials later in the month.

### Stage 1 Sports Day

Stage 1 has changed their Sports day to Wednesdays beginning next week. Year 1 will go to sport at 2.05pm and Year 2 will go at 2.45pm

## Instrumental Lessons

Instrumental lessons are not expected to begin until early March, as Michelle Sciberras, our music tutor, is unwell. Students wanting to continue or begin lessons this term may get a permission note from Ms Jones or the office. Instrumental lessons are offered in woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone), brass (trumpet, trombone) or drums. Lessons are conducted on school grounds during school hours, and are either individual or group lessons. Whole

band practice will not resume until after lessons have begun. Thank you for giving your child the opportunity to learn such a wonderful skill.

Emma Jones

## P&C Fundraising

Going home with today's Whisper is a Garden Express Bulb catalogue. Please return orders, with money to the school office by 9<sup>th</sup> March.

## Newsletter Update

This will be the last week that we will be sending out a paper copy to all families; from Week 6 we will only send a paper copy of the Wirreanda Whisper home to families who opt to have a paper copy.

Each fortnight we email the newsletter to families, and upload it to our website, Facebook, twitter and the school app.

Please notify the office if you're unable to receive our newsletter via electronic means and require a printed copy by completing the form below and returning to school by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Please complete the information below if:

- Your email address has changed or you are currently not receiving the newsletter via email **OR**
- You wish to receive a paper copy

### EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR NEWSLETTER

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Names and classes: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I don't have an email address and would like a paper copy of the newsletter ☐

Parent/Caregiver Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



## Paid Advertising

Wirreanda's newsletter contains paid advertisements which assist with the cost of publication. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service by the NSW Department of Education and Communities or Wirreanda Public School.



**BE YOUR OWN BOSS**

**30 DAY NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

Be the fun mom **AND** the hot mom!

**Contact Tania**  
**0422 614 135**

PICCOLLAG



**Dance 'n Dazzle Studio**  
Principal: Corynne Darcy B.Ed. LGTDA. ATOD.

**Professional Tuition In:**

- ★ Jazz (ATOD)
- ★ Tap (LGTDA)
- ★ Classical Ballet (ATOD)
- ★ National Character (ATOD)
- ★ Hip Hop
- ★ Modern/Contemporary
- ★ Acrobatics
- ★ Cheerleading (AASCF)

**FREE Strength and Conditioning class**  
for all enrolled students aged 6/0

**Celebrating 21 Years in Medowie**

★ **FREE GIFT** ★  
For all New Enrolments

**We also Offer:**

Adult Jazz and Tap Classes | Tiny Dazzler Classes (2yrs+)  
Annual Concert | Examinations | Eisteddfods  
Scholarships | Public Performances |  
Mummy and Me Class – New for 2016 – National Character Class

**Studios At:**  
**Medowie**

Ph: 49 829830 or M: 0418 963221  
Email: [info@dancendazzle.com.au](mailto:info@dancendazzle.com.au)



**Kollective CLOTHING**

**ONLINE CLOTHING**

Kollective Clothing is an Australian based company where a love for fashion, customer service and convenience meet. Our mission is to bring our valuable customers the latest fashion at an affordable price without compromising quality.

If you love it, buy it. Otherwise someone else will. As nothing haunts us like the things we didn't buy!

**FACEBOOK- [FACEBOOK.COM/KOLLECTIVE CLOTHING](https://www.facebook.com/kollectiveclothing)**

**WEBSITE- [KOLLECTIVECLOTHING.COM](http://KOLLECTIVECLOTHING.COM)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATE, [INFO@KOLLECTIVECLOTHING.COM](mailto:INFO@KOLLECTIVECLOTHING.COM)**

**Based in Medowie, so you can try before you buy!!!**

**RAYMOND TERRACE JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB**

**WANT TO BECOME A RAYMOND TERRACE ROOSTER**

COME DOWN AND HAVE A TRY OUT AT OUR  
**Open Day Wednesday 17th February**  
Come down to Lakeside fields  
5.30 to 6.30

**ALTERNATIVE—JUMP ONLINE AND REGISTER AT**  
**[www.playnrl.com/register](http://www.playnrl.com/register)**

**Email: [rtjrlfc1@yahoo.com.au](mailto:rtjrlfc1@yahoo.com.au)**  
**Facebook—Raymond Terrace Roosters**