



# WIRREANDA WHISPER

GROWING IN HARMONY

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TERM 3 WEEK 4 2016

[www.facebook.com/WirreandaPS](https://www.facebook.com/WirreandaPS)  
[www.wirreanda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wirreanda-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

## Principal's Message

Congratulations to our Education Week award winners. The successful nominees received their awards on at a Port Stephens Schools' awards ceremony at Irrawang High School last night. As many of our recipients are currently in Canberra, their awards will be presented next Monday.

- **Selman Hassan** - excellence in school leadership and commitment to learning
- **Jade Bowden** - Excellence in school leadership and commitment to learning
- **Mrs Johnson** – Excellence in teaching and contribution to quality teaching across the school
- **Mrs Tolhurst** - excellence in reading recovery
- **Mrs Grant** - outstanding Canteen management and coordination
- **Mr Davis** – overall contribution to the school community
- **School Program: Ms Hubbard** – Outstanding coordination of the Wirreanda Student leadership programs
- **Mrs Wendy Humphrey** - support of the school book club program
- **Mrs Leisl Kennedy** – continued outstanding leadership of the Wirreanda P&C.

Thank you to all parents who were able to come to our ceremony and Open Day last Monday, celebrating Public Education with us.

### Meet the Teacher Evening

Parents of 2/3B 2E 6P and the Triple S program students can meet their child's new teacher during the Disco. Please see the next column for more details.

## PARENT INVITATION

### Student Recognition Scheme Consultation

The Well-Being team have finalised a draft version of our new merit and Principal's Gold award scheme commencing in 2017.

The team would like to hear parent feedback on the draft policy.

Please have your say:

**When:** 18<sup>th</sup> August 4:30pm - 7:30pm

(While the Disco is on). Drop your child at the disco, come up to the hall for a tea or coffee and look at the draft award system.

**Where:** School Hall

### 2/3B 2E Meet the Teacher Night

**When** 18<sup>th</sup> August 4:45pm - 5:15pm

**Where:** Classrooms

### 6P Meet the Teacher Night

**When** 18<sup>th</sup> August 5:45pm - 6:15pm

**Where:** Classroom

### Triple S program information

**When** 18<sup>th</sup> August 5:45pm - 6:15pm

**Where:** Demountable Classroom

*Kind Regards, Philippa and staff*

## Deputy Principal's Message

### Cup of the Week

Congratulations to 3G, winners of the Gold Medal, or the Cup of the Week, for Week 4 Term 3. It has been really noticeable that 3G are persisting with their schoolwork and showing improved organisational skills in their classroom. Well done 3G.



Education  
Public Schools

## Bike and Scooter Riders

Thank you to the students who ride bicycles or scooters to school who have completed and brought in their Bicycle and Scooter Contracts. One of the agreed procedures is that bikes/scooters will be wheeled within the school boundaries and over the crosswalks. As there are many students, parents and carers leaving the school at the same time it is very important that bike/scooter riders are considerate of others walking along the pathways and that they are mindful of their own safety and the safety of others.

The Bicycle Inspector will be out and about this week to ensure that students are complying with the principles of the bike/scooter contract.

## Leaders' Lunch

On Friday of week 5 there will be a Leader's Lunch for the leaders who have received 3 or more commendations this year.

The students who will be attending the lunch will receive an invitation from Mrs Wilson and Miss Young early next week.

## Parent/Caregiver Parking

It has been reported to the school that when parents/carers are dropping off and picking up their children from school, some cars are parking in the driveways of houses close to the school.

As these residences are 'neighbours' of our beautiful school we are happy to pass on the requests from these households to leave their driveways free at all times.

Thank you

Have a wonderful fortnight.

## Regards

Sue Wilson

Deputy Principal

## Merit Awards

Congratulations to all of our Merit Award winners

### Bronze

Isabella Moore, Thomas Bassett, Toby Ruhl, Elise Gray, Isabella Hall, Brooke Lawson, Ashlie Stapleton, Braydon Bennett

### Silver

Caitlin Smith-Gow, Dominic Da Encarnacao

## Gold

Joshua Hogan, Zachary Christie, Alice Threadgate, Jade Deacon

## The new and improved Student Recognition System (merit awards)

|       |        |        |       |
|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 15    | 30     | 50     | 70    |
| Blue  | Bronze | Silver | Gold  |
| Award | Award  | Award  | Award |

- Gold award achievable in one year for K-6.
- Fortnightly "You Can Do It" focus to receive merit cards.
- Learn about the tracking of merit cards.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August**

from 4:30pm in the school hall.

While your kids are at the disco,  
come and have a tea/coffee,  
chat with other parents and have your say!

## Sports News

### Girls Touch Footy

On Wednesday 3rd August, the girls walked to Boyd Oval to take on the Tanilba Bay Public School team for the PSSA Knockout. It rained all morning but the skies were clear for the game. It was a very close match with Tanilba Bay scoring first before Elizabeth O'Donnell scored, evening up the match. The score was 1-all at full-time so it went into overtime - 5 players a side, then 4 players a side until Tanilba Bay scored which gave them the win. It was a great game and the girls all played well and had fun. Thank you to all the supporters who came to watch. Well done girls!

## School Photos

School photos will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August and photo envelopes were sent home last Wednesday. Payments can be sent to the office before photo day or bought in on the day. Please be aware that the office will not make phone calls on photo day if envelopes are forgotten.

- Parents can pay for all of their children's orders in one envelope. **Each child requires their own envelope on photo day** to ensure their order is placed and processed (even if the payment is in a sibling's envelope).
- Payments can be made by cash, cheque (made out to MSP Photography) or money order. The correct amount needs to be put into the envelopes, as the photographers do not carry change.
- Online payments can be made through our website [www.msp.com.au](http://www.msp.com.au) using Credit or Debit cards from Mastercard or Visa. The website will display an order reference code, which should be noted on the back of the envelope in the box provided. Each child will require their empty envelope on photo day. Orders can be placed online up to one week after photo day.
- Family Photo envelopes are available from the school office on request. These photographs are for school aged students attending Wirreanda only (i.e. no babies or parents can be accommodated in these photographs)
- The products on the envelopes come as is and are the only packages that are available. Unfortunately the packages cannot be altered in any way.
- Photographs are delivered approximately 4 weeks after photo day.
- Parents can place multiple orders for children by either:
  - placing all the orders on the one envelope
  - or handing in multiple order envelopes (spare envelopes can be collected from the school office). If this is the chosen method, it may be worth having them labelled "Mum's copy" or "Dad's copy" so that the correct photo order is returned to the correct parent.
- MSP contact details are Phone 4966 8292, Fax 4966 8293 or email [admin.hcc@msp.com.au](mailto:admin.hcc@msp.com.au) for any queries.

**No matter your team**      **No matter your code**





**Wirreanda Public School**  
invites

**students and their dads, grandads or uncles**  
to the MPC,  
on Friday, 2nd September,  
for a **Fathers' Day Breakfast.**

**Come dressed in your favourite footy colours.**  
**We hope to see you there.**  
**Breakfast will be served from 8am.**



**NB: Please RSVP on the note**  
**that will be sent home in week 5**  
**to assist with catering.**



## The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 1 this year. Asking students to complete the survey twice in one year allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across the school year.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on

what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 22 August and 21 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016.

### **The *Partners in Learning* parent feedback survey**

This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online at home or on public computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted between 22 August and 21 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, however, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at:

<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

### **Notice for parents/carers of Catholic children**

If you have a child in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, and that child has been baptized, that child is eligible to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the past this Sacrament was called Confession) towards the end of this year, in preparation for receiving the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion next year.

On Wednesday 19th October at 7pm in St Brigid's School Hall (cnr William & Irrawang Streets Raymond Terrace) there will be an information and enrolment night for PARENTS/CARERS who would like their eligible children to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

NB: It is essential that at least one parent or carer attends this meeting to enrol their child/children.

Please contact St Brigid's parish office on 4987 1888 (email: [rtparish@mn.catholic.org.au](mailto:rtparish@mn.catholic.org.au)) if needing further information.

The Parish Office is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am – 3pm.

### **Canteen News**

#### **Canteen Roster:**

#### **Week 4**

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> | L Jewell             |
| Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>  | N Jarvis, L Matthews |

#### **Week 5**

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>   | S O'Keefe            |
| Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>   | J Donohue, K Bennett |
| Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>   | K Hill               |
| Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> | J Donohue, L Jewell  |
| Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>   | L Matthews           |

#### **Week 6**

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>  | S O'Keefe, L Webster |
| Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> | J Donohue            |
| Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>  | K Hill               |
| Thur 25 <sup>th</sup> | J Donohue            |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>  | L Matthews, L Brooks |



## 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 or Wirreanda Public School.

# COUNT AND SAVE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$100!\*



Open a Kids Club account at Defence Bank Williamtown between 25 July and 10 October to receive one entry into our Guess the Beans Jelly Bean Competition, with the winner to receive a \$100 deposit into their Kids Club account!\*



02 4034 7628



Defence Bank

\* An eligible entry comprises opening a Kids Club account at Defence Bank Williamtown between 25 July 2016 and 10 October 2016. An eligible entry is defined as the combination of a Kids Club account being opened and the entrant completing the competition form with full name, member number, contact phone number and number of jelly beans. Each entrant has obtained the permission of their parent / guardian (i.e. a signatory to the account) prior to entering. Full terms and conditions available in branch at Defence Bank Williamtown.  
Defence Bank Limited ABN 57 087 651 385. AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 234582

**AIA Vitality  
MINI  
ROOS  
FOR GIRLS**

**REGISTER  
NOW**

AIA Vitality MiniRoos Kick-Off for Girls is an introductory football program for girls aged 5-11 starting October 2016.

Visit the website to find a location nearest you.



[www.northernnswfootball.com.au/miniroosforgirls](http://www.northernnswfootball.com.au/miniroosforgirls)



Triple P  
Seminar Series



## FREE Triple P Group The Power of Positive Parenting

For parents/carers with children aged 3-8 years.

There's no such thing as 'one size fits all' when it comes to parenting. Triple P is an approach to parenting that emphasises the positive.

We can help you -

- Encourage behaviour you would like from your child
- Deal consistently and decisively with problem behaviour
- Take the stress out of parenting



**When:** Weekly for 4 weeks from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September

**Where:** Gan Gan Family Centre, Anna Bay Public School, Anna Bay

**When:** 12.15pm for a 12.30 start, finishing at 2.30pm

**Cost:** FREE – afternoon tea provided

**Bookings:** Please call Family InSight on 49610700

Limited child minding is available for these sessions – registrations are essential to reserve a space



[www.familyinsight.org.au](http://www.familyinsight.org.au)

Unit 19-20/54 Clyde Street Hamilton North NSW 2302  
P 02 4961 0700 F 02 4961 0722 E [info@familyinsight.org.au](mailto:info@familyinsight.org.au)



**familiesnsw**  
supporting families to raise children

# CENTRAL HEALTH ALLIANCE NOW OPEN!

- \* Family Medicine \* Chronic Disease Management
- \* Men's & Women's Health \* Immunisations
- \* Mental Health Services \* Aviation Medicine
- \* Travel Medicine \* Skin Cancer Medicine
- \* **Appointments on the day**
- \* **Children Bulk Billed**
- \* **Bulk Bill Concession/Healthcare card holders**

Building C, 1 Technology Place, Williamtown  
For Bookings Ph: 02 4965 0533

Would you like to do athletics but  
aren't able to compete at  
Medowie Athletics Centre on Friday  
nights?

## *Raymond Terrace Athletics Centre*

**Registrations will be taken for the 2016 /  
2017 season**

at Raymond Terrace Athletics Centre,  
Kangaroo Street, Raymond Terrace

**On Saturday August 13, 20 and 27**  
from 10am to 1pm.

Registrations are also accepted through the  
season.

**Registrations fully paid by August 27 will  
receive a discount.**

A "Come & Try" morning will be held on  
**Saturday Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 9am  
for anyone interested in trying athletics.

*Competition begins Saturday*

*September 10<sup>th</sup>*

Enquiries: Deidre 0418 962 185

Thank you to Woolworths Medowie for their  
wonderful support to our staff last week to help us  
celebrate Education Week with all these lovely  
goodies.



# IRRAWANG HIGH SCHOOL

## SPRING FAIR!

**Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**10am-3pm**

Come along and join in  
All the fun of the fair!

**All in a good cause...**

**TO RAISE MONEY TO  
AIR CONDITION**





| Term 3 WIRREANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL 2016 |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
|                                     | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  |
| 4                                   | 8 August<br>K-6 Assembly<br>St1 Public Speaking<br>Finals – Medowie | 9 August<br>S3 Canberra Excursion<br>St 3 Public Speaking<br>Finals – Shortland | 10 August<br><br>ES1 Public Speaking<br>Finals - Mayfield | 11 August<br><br>ES1 – Reptile Park<br>Excursion<br>St 2 Public Speaking<br>Finals – Anna Bay | 12 August<br><br>No 3-6 Assembly<br>Zone Athletics – Track<br>Events  |
| 5                                   | 15 August<br>K-6 Assembly<br>NATIONAL SCIENCE<br>WEEK               | 16 August<br>ICAS Mathematics<br>Zone Athletics – Field<br>Events               | 17 August<br>School Photos<br>Yr 5/6 Enrichment IHS       | 18 August<br>School Photos<br>Science Lab Visit Yr4<br>Medowie RSL Vietnam<br>Veterans Day    | 19 August<br>K-2 Assembly 2.30pm<br>– 1J<br>Zone Athletics – Track<br>Events Backup                             |
| 6                                   | 22 August<br>K-6 Assembly<br>BOOK WEEK                              | 23 August<br>Book Week Parade<br>Book Fair Opened                               | 24 August   | 25 August<br>Rug 'n Read 10:30am  | 26 August<br>IHS Science Lab Visit<br>3-6 Assembly 2.50pm<br>– 4B<br>7E Interviews at WPS                       |
| 7                                   | 29 August<br>K-6 Assembly<br>Kinder 2017<br>Interviews              | 30 August<br>P&C Meeting<br>Kinder 2017<br>Interviews                           | 31 August   | 1 September<br>Aboriginal Cultural<br>Workshops   | 2 September<br>Footy Colours Day<br>Fathers' Day Breakfast<br>Fathers' Day Stall<br>K-2 Assembly 2.30pm<br>– KR |
| 8                                   | 5 September<br>K-6 Assembly   | 6 September<br>ATSI Parent Breakfast  | 7 September   | 8 September<br>Kinder 2017<br>Interviews  | 9 September<br>3-6 Assembly 2.50pm<br>– TBA<br>Bularr Wangga<br>Festival  |
| 9                                   | 12 September<br>K-6 Assembly  | 13 September  | 14 September  | 15 September<br>Enhanced Kinder<br>Transition   | 16 September<br>K-2 Assembly 2.30pm<br>– KH   |
| 10                                  | 19 September<br>K-6 Assembly  | 20 September  | 21 September  | 22 September<br>Enhanced Kinder<br>Transition   | 23 September<br>Sports Presentation<br>Assembly   |



Education Week Award recipients

## **Tell Them From Me student survey: Information and consent form for parents and carers**

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation



AUGUST 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

This term, your school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar**, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will **not** be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

This survey will help your school better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will help the school identify what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child does not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next question. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you **do not want your child to take part** in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by **22 August 2016**.

More information about the survey and the research is available in English on the CESE website:  
<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

Philippa Young  
Principal  
Wirreanda Public School

Dr Jenny Donovan  
General Manager  
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## ***Tell Them From Me* Student Feedback Survey non-consent form**

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school by **22 August 2016**

**I DO NOT** give consent for my child/children to participate in the ***Tell Them From Me*** student feedback survey.

Name of student/s .....

Roll class/es .....

Name of parent/carers .....

Signature of parent/carers .....

Date .....

**CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS AND EVALUATION**

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[www.cese.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cese.nsw.gov.au)