Hello again everyone,
The year is progressing quickly and the children are gathering their WEPSI awards and working towards an invitation to the Principal’s Morning Tea at the end of term. This is how the system works at WEPS.

Along with stamps and stickers, each teacher passes out 5 WEPSIs (small certificates) every week. WEPSIs are given for listening, being polite, trying hard, improvement, helping others, bookwork and so on. Students will be informed orally or in writing the reason for receiving a WEPSI.

Once they have collected 5 WEPSIs, students receive a Merit Certificate from their class teacher. The WEPSIs will be stapled to this and returned to your child.

The collection of five Merit Certificates will lead to the presentation of a Principal’s Award at assembly.

An Assembly Award also counts as one Merit Certificate. Two Assembly Awards per class are presented at K-6 assemblies.

In short,

5 WEPSIs = 1 Merit Certificate
5 Merit Certificates/ Assembly Awards = Principal’s Award

The accumulation of awards is ongoing and does not finish at the end of a term or calendar year. It is the student’s responsibility to collect and save their awards and to present them at the office for validation.

If you have any questions about our award system your child’s teacher will be happy to explain.

Have a great week!

Sharyn Liddle (Principal)
Swimming Congratulations
A huge effort was put in by all our swimmers who attended last Monday’s District Carnival. Special congratulations to the students who will be going on to compete in the regional carnival on the 5th of March. Overall Thirroul PS was the champion school and we also did extremely well in bringing home the Percentage Trophy for Woonona East. Thanks to all our wonderful swimmers and also to the parents who supported our team on the day.

Boardies Day Thank You.
Many thanks from Woonona Surf Lifesaving Club to all the students who came along in their boardies to support the fundraising day last Friday. Students raised $280 on the day. A commendable effort.

Uniform
It is wonderful to see the students making that extra little effort in remembering their hats and especially in wearing their black shoes. Thank you parents for your support of our uniform policy.

P&C News
Thank you to the parents who have returned their P&C surveys. A copy is attached to this week’s email if you missed last week’s form. Completed surveys can be returned to the box in the office.
If you would like to receive the P&C minutes by email please contact the P&C at mtbad1@internode.on.net. The AGM will be held on Tuesday 12th March at 7pm. All welcome.

Ethics in Stages 2 & 3 in 2013
Thanks to having successfully recruited one more teacher over the holidays, Leigh Owen, we now have three teachers available for both Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6). Ann Burbrook, an accredited ethics teacher, has returned to the school and will form part of the team.
We are currently working with the school on the practical aspects of setting up classes. We expect that they will start in the second half of Term 1 so if you have not already completed your student information form please ensure that you do that as soon as possible so that we can appropriately plan for the classes.
We expect that the curriculum for Stage 1 will be available some time in 2013. We then expect the ethics program at Woonona East to expand further. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.
The basic aim of ethics classes is for children to learn how to think about ethical matters via the give-and-take of reasoned argument. By considering a wide range of ethical issues appropriate to their particular level of development, children learn skills such as collaborative inquiry, logical reasoning, critical thinking and the capacity to evaluate good and bad moral reasoning. For further information, you can go to http://www.primaryethics.com.au/index.html. You might also be interested in a recent article published in Sydney Morning Herald about ethics: http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/no-places-for-children-in-ethics-classes-20130212-2eb3o.html If you have any questions in relation to the ethics program at Woonona East, please contact Ingrid Rylander, ethics coordinator Woonona East, via rylander@bigpond.com.

Year 6 Farewell Committee Meeting
We are having another meeting on Monday, 4 March, 2013 at 7.30pm at Woonona Bowling Club, Greta Street, Woonona. We have had several meetings and at this stage the committee is thinking of asking parents to contribute towards their child’s Yr 6 Farewell, rather than fundraising. Please come along to the next meeting and be a part of the committee.
Hope to see you there.
If you are unable to make the meeting and would like to be a part of the committee, please do not hesitate to contact me on wepsyr62013@live.com.au to pass on your ideas and if you have any questions. I would like to be able to correspond with all parents with a child in Year 6, to keep you updated on what directions the committee is taking, what decisions have been made in regards to the farewell and the money that is required to have the farewell. For me to be able to do this, I ask that you send an email to wepsyr62013@live.com.au, so that I am able to get your contact details.
Being a part of this committee will be fun for parents and you are invited to make the Yr 6 Farewell the best it can be for the children.
Regards, Lara Demito

Mind Quest 2013 Gifted and Talented Student Workshops
Mind Quest will be held at St George Girls HS on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 April 9.30-3.30. Lots of great workshops are on offer to stimulate and fascinate talented students from Years 1-6.
Information forms can be picked up in the school foyer.

Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts EXPo Evening
WHSPA will be holding their annual Expo evening targeted at students who intend applying for entry as performing or visual arts students in 2014. The evening will be held on Thursday 28th February 5.30-7:00pm. Audition application forms for enrolment at Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts in
2014 as a Performing or Visual Arts student are now available from Mrs Liddle.

**Bulli High School Expo**
This will be held on 5th March for parents and students in Years 5 and 6. Please contact Bulli High School for details.

**Bulli High School 2014 Enrichment Class**
The Enrichment Placement Test for students interested in attending Bulli HS in 2014 will be held at 9:30 on Thursday 21st March at the school. Please contact Bulli High School for an application form.

**Illawarra Sports High School Information Sessions for Parents**
Illawarra Sports High School will be holding an Expo night in the near future. For further information please contact the school on 42711099.

**Interrelate - Sexuality and Relationship Education for Families.**
On Wednesday 20th March Interrelate Family Centres will be running two evening information sessions for parents and their children in the hall. A flyer is enclosed explaining all the details. Please finalise payments by Friday 15th March.

**Friday 22nd March is Ride, Scoot or Walk to School Day**
Put this date on your calendar. All students who walk, ride or scoot to school receive a special sticker. Look out for more info in coming newsletters.

**Kids’ Café**
Volunteers are needed to keep the canteen open this term. If you can help out please contact Sharon Clements.

**Canteen Roster**
The canteen is open on Friday between 1-2pm for OVER THE COUNTER SALES ONLY.
- **Mon 25/2** – CLOSED
- **Tues 26/2** – Angela Marrott, Michelle Hamill, Christie McLeish
- **Wed 27/2** – Amanda Gripton, Corey Castle
- **Thurs 28/2** – Kylie B, Simone Bruckner
- **Fri 1/3** – Kylie B
- **Mon 4/3** – CLOSED
- **Tues 5/3** – Kristy Barney, Lindi Jones
- **Wed 6/3** – Peta Dignam, Natarlie McDougal
- **Thurs 7/3** – Nicole Allen, Allaine Corrigan
- **Fri 8/3** – Michelle Bergamini, Carmen Van Duin

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**Community News**

**Drum Lessons**
Want to try something new? Drumming is a great way to get creative AND relieve stress.
Students are taught according to their needs and goals, focusing on rudiments, co-ordination, control, reading and application to live playing situations. **First lesson is free!**
Competitive prices
Limited spaces available (Mon/Wed)
Call Nigel Hilton
0412 049 048

**POINT TO POINT OCEAN SWIM 2013**

**Sunday 17th March 2013 @ 10am**

**Prizes for Age Categories**
Come and join our ocean swim from Waniora Point to Sandon Point Surf Club.

Online registrations at www.oceanswims.com.au

All enquiries:- oceanswim@sandonpointsurfclub.org.au or Scott Lunney 0438 531 020
Northern District Tigers Junior AFL

Registration is underway for the 2013 Season.
AFL caters for boys and girls from 5 to 16 years.

For further information
Contact Evie (Club Registrar) on
northerndistrictjuniortigers@gmail.com

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- Re-Finance
- Debts Consolidation
- Credit Impaired
- Bridging Loans
- Income Protection
- Life Insurance
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Fee free service – that’s right, our services come at no cost to you. JEM Loan Services is paid by the financial institution that you choose, without any additional cost to you!!

Independent, objective advice that may enable you to find a better, cheaper and more effective home loan package to suit you and your own individual circumstances. Most types of finance available. Conditions apply.

Let us take the stress out of organising a loan that best suits you. Make your life easier and support your school. Simply mention that your enquiry is a result of the WEPS Newsletter.

Every settled loan from a friend of WEPS will generate a donation back to the school in appreciation and support.