Teaching staff met last Monday to look at the best options we can pursue in 2014 to continue building upon the positive successes and pleasing achievements being noticed among students across our school. Many of our current programs were discussed and evaluated to determine the benefits that they bring and our level of commitment to them. I am pleased to note that all staff are committed to our literacy programs that have been developed in recent years, with a similar positive vibe toward the directions being undertaken with Mathematics.

The pleasing results being achieved from Kindergarten classes through the L3 initiative continue to be above expectation, whilst our Synthetic Phonics program is supporting the development of pleasing literacy levels from the earliest years of education.

In 2013 teachers developed and implemented a Quick Fire maths initiative that is helping consolidate and extend basic mathematics concepts and the ‘automaticity’ of students in this area. These very positive initiatives are of high importance to teachers as we progress into the new school year.

One program that was deemed to have limited benefit to students and teachers, that is accessed by only a small number of students and is more difficult to manage than the benefits received, is our schools participation in the ICAS competitions each year (English, Maths, Science, Computers etc). As a result staff will not be in a position to support these activities in 2014 as we would prefer to build upon programs that have a sustainable benefit to students.

New programs and initiatives that were implemented in 2013 and were warmly received and deemed to be beneficial to a number of students included the Chess Club, Tournament of Minds, support for our Public Speaking and Multi-cultural Speaking programs and furthering enrichment opportunities across all grades. Efforts...
to sustain and build upon these initiatives will be carried over into the new school year.

It is exciting to be focussed on what is of most benefit to students. It does mean things may change and not everything will be the same. But as is often said, ‘doing the same thing is likely to get the same results’. I am delighted to be working with, and leading a staff that is forward focussed and prepared to do what is needed to benefit students.

**Bunnings BBQ**

This Saturday our P&C is manning the BBQ at Bunnings as a fundraising event for our school. Sadly, there has only been one offer of assistance from outside the P&C Executive which means the same people will continue to do the hard work that benefits all of our students. The BBQ runs from 8am through to 4pm and assistance is needed throughout the day. Anyone who can give an hour or two is urged to do so.

The benefits of all this hard work is returned to students through texts, goal posts, reading books and subsidising school based activities. The more money raised through fundraising events means the less we have to ask for from families. Please consider this because we may not be in a position to keep holding these events if the workload is not shared.

**P&C Meeting**

I spoke with the parents in attendance at last Monday’s meeting with regard to current initiatives being introduced by the NSW Department of Education and Communities. Changes can bring both opportunities and challenges. The impact of these initiatives is still being devolved to schools and at this point all aspects are not clearly known and understood. I do encourage parents to keep aware of the changes and how these may impact upon our school and other schools across the state. We are certainly living in interesting educational times as I am sure you are seeing in the media of late.

Until next week...

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**Carols In the Park**

The Woodburn Public School Choir will be singing at Carols in the Park at Riverview Park, Woodburn Saturday 14 December 2013 (this includes all children in Kindergarten, year 1 and 2/3). Our choir has been performing at this event for several years now and we have been working hard toward this performance all term. In order for us to perform and to be a success we will need as many of the children in the School Choir to attend. The children are to come dressed in red, green and white clothes. They can also wear anything Christmassy e.g. a Santa hat, tinsel or antlers.

Suzanne Johnston
Choir Co-ordinator

**Swimming Carnival**

Our 2013 Swimming Carnival is on Friday, 6 December for all students Kindy to Year 6. It is expected that the first races will start at 10 am and the carnival will be finished by 2:45 pm. All parents and community members are most welcome on the day to cheer on all swimmers to see who our champions will be for 2013.

Reminders:
- Lunches may be ordered and these orders will be collected in class after the roll is marked at 9:25 and taken to the canteen. Lunch will be at 11:25am at school.
- The will be NO RECESS orders at the canteen on the day so all students must bring their own recess including a drink which they will take with them down to the pool.
- Swimmers, towel, sunscreen and $2 if no season ticket.
- House coloured shirt and a big hat.

Susan Johnston
SPORTS COORDINATOR

**Wild and Wet Big Day Out**

Our Term 4 Big Day Out has been organised for Monday 9 December 2013. All students who are on green level will be travelling by bus to Evans Head and spending the day at Evans Head Aquatic Centre, where we will be
taking part in various water activities. Students will need to bring recess, lunch and drinks. The pool canteen will be open for students to buy treats.

Sun sensible casual clothes can be worn on the day and students need to also pack their swimmers, towel, rash shirt, sunscreen and a hat.

The cost of the excursion will be $8 per student ($5 for students with an EH Aquatic Centre pass - we will need your number) and is due back at school NO LATER than Friday 6 December.

Parents are welcome to attend our final Big Day out for 2013.

Susan Johnston/Tracey Tebbutt
Co-ordinators

Thanks Kate!
4/5/6D would like to say a big thank-you to Kate Geering who came in last week to share her knowledge on Australia's mega fauna. Lots of questions were asked and answered about these animals. We also found out a lot about how archaeologists, palaeontologists and other scientists work to build knowledge.

4/5/6D

Year 6 Fete
Year 6 are in the process of organising this year's fete and would appreciate any donations of toys that are no longer used for our second hand toy stall. Any donations can be dropped off into Mrs Duncan's room for storage. Also if anyone has a snow cone maker that they wouldn't mind lending to us for the day as well could you please contact Mrs Duncan or Mrs Cattle. All proceeds from this day go towards a gift to the school from Year 6 2013.

Mrs Duncan & Mrs Cattle

Year 6 Orientation
Next Wednesday 4 December is Year 7 Orientation Day for Year 6 students. All students have received a note concerning this day which they need to return to their home class teacher. This is a whole day event with a free BBQ lunch provided. Students are required to make their own way to and from Evans River School.

Mrs Duncan

Year 6 Farewell
The Year 6 Farewell is quickly approaching and the need for more information to be communicated is upon us.

The cost for family members to attend is $15p/p - please note the change from the invite (proofreading error). This $15 needs to be paid to the office in cash no later than Wednesday 11 December to secure the required catering. The

Canteen Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rostered Weeks</th>
<th>Monday 11 am - 2:30 pm</th>
<th>Friday 9 am - 2:30 pm</th>
<th>Friday (lunch prep) only 10 am - 12 noon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wks 1 &amp; 6</td>
<td>HELP!!!!!!!</td>
<td>Sam &amp; Rachel Trustum</td>
<td>?? ??</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wks 2 &amp; 7</td>
<td>Lisa Cottle</td>
<td>Kim Skaines &amp; Kaz Humphris</td>
<td>???</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wks 3 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Tammy Davis</td>
<td>Deb Cain &amp; HELP!!!!!!!</td>
<td>???</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wks 4 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Stacy Gordon</td>
<td>Kaz Humphris &amp; Tammy Tuck</td>
<td>???</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wks 5 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Belinda Gomes &amp; Jennifer Merton</td>
<td>Jennifer Merton &amp; HELP!!!</td>
<td>???</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fresh & Frozen Fruits available now for just 20c

REMINDER - BROWN PAPER BAGS ARE 10C EACH IF NOT BROUGHT FROM HOME! Please have your money securely placed in your lunch bag! Parent Helpers for the next week are in bold. Thanks for your ongoing help - we really appreciate you! If you cannot make it on your rostered day it is up to you to find a replacement. Any ideas for canteen PLEASE come along to the next P & C Meeting!
Bunnings Help

Name: _______________________________

I would LOVE to help out at the Bunnings Lismore BBQ on Saturday 30 November. My preferred time is:

____________________________________

Signed ___________________   Date ______

invite is extended to adults only- no siblings are to attend.

The farewell will begin at 5pm. Students and parents will need to arrive and be seated by this time.

Mrs Mander

End of Year Disco

On Monday 16 Dec, Year 6 will be having their farewell here at the school. After the farewell, all students of WPS are invited to celebrate with them the end of their primary school years with a disco. The disco will begin at 7:30 pm and finish at 9pm sharp. Entry to the disco is $2 and glow sticks will be for sale for 50c each. There will be no food or drinks available for purchase at the disco although drinks will be made available for those attending.

Mrs Mander

Student Banking

Remember to bring in your banking each Friday. If you would like to open an account with the Commonwealth Bank please come to the office for an application form.

Lyn Blake
COORDINATOR

Bunnings BBQ

The P & C will be running the BBQ at Bunnings Lismore on Saturday 30 November and we are looking for some volunteers to help again. If you can spare an hour or two please return the slip with your preferred times (starts at 8 am and finishing at 4 pm - 2 hour time slots would be fabulous) to the office asap. We really appreciate your help!!!

Alison, Kim & Toni
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Uniforms

NEW Hooded Jumpers now in stock - $25 ea, sizes 6 - 16 available. Sloppy joes will be discontinued - $15 till sold out!

Kim Skaines
UNIFORM COORDINATOR

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Signed ___________________   Date ______

JANE CORNISH –LYMPHOMA AWARENESS NIGHT

Sat 30 November
Evans Head Bowling Club
5:30pm - Twilight Bowls
7pm - Joan, Robyn & Amanda have their heads shaved
8 pm – Auctions
Donations can be made at the Evans Head Medical Centre, Spirit Cafe or the Lions Club Mid Richmond River.

 comprar 20 OR MORE TICKETS & SAVE!

We have your end of season celebrations in the bag, why not make a group booking to enjoy Sea World and get free entry from 2:30pm to Warner Bros. Movie World. For a great night out join us for a delicious three course dinner, magnificent animals, & stunning special effects at Australian Outback Spectacular. Purchase VIP passes for your family, friends and colleagues to enjoy unlimited theme park fun until 30 June 2014.

It’s the year you won’t want to miss with a gorgeous baby Polar bear coming out to play later this month. And the awesome new Storm Coaster/riding into Sea World late 2013.

Call now on 5519 6210 or email groupbookings@vrtcp.com.au
**Important Canteen Stuff**

Canteen will be CLOSED on Friday of Week 10 due to the Year 6 Fete!

Mel Gillett
COORDINATOR

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**Christmas Hamper**

The Christmas Hamper raffle is on again!! Just bring in something for the hamper and you’ll get a ticket in the draw to win at the Presentation Night. No tickets will be sold for this raffle - just a nice way to end off the year!

Kim, Alison & Toni
FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

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**Community Stuff**

**Playgroup at Woodburn Public School**

Every Thursday (during school terms) from 9:30 am to 11:30 am. Come along for a fun morning. We have a great facility with plenty of toys and games. It’s very informal - a chat and morning tea while the kids play. It’s open to Mums, Dads, Grandmas, Grandpas and Carers.

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**Rising Sun Support Group**

- The Mid Richmond Neighbourhood Centre is now operating a support group for those affected by suicide called the
- Rising Sun Support Group. Supported by Provisional Psychologist, meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month commencing at 5pm.
- Bookings are not necessary. For additional information please contact the centre on 6682 4334.

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Outdoor play also gives children plenty of chances to try new and favourite movements; engage in 'rough and tumble' play; seek adventure; improve balance, strength and coordination; and manage their fears.

‘Risky’ play

Although outdoor play may appear risky, children need opportunities to play freely and explore outdoor play spaces. What some adults may see as consequences of ‘risky’ play could actually be side effects of fun play experiences - for example, being messy and loud, getting grubby, small grazes, and dealing with heights and new play areas.

The benefits of outdoor play far outweigh the risks when it comes to children’s development.

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**School is the most fun place to be**

by Milly, Tamika, Ashleigh & Justin

School can be fun in many ways: sports, learning, outing and friends. Just one of the fun things that you can do is learning. Learning is about the biggest and most important thing that you can do.

There are lots of different subjects that you can do at school: maths, spelling, writing, science, art, reading, PDHPE, HSIE and lots more to choose from. Some people think that learning is boring but it is not at all, if you just try your best towards every task and always think positive every subject is a lot of fun. You make lots of friends at school. A lot about school is fun and one of the most funest things to do is go on outings.

There are Big Day Outs and other excursions. Outings are things that you can go on with your class or school; you usually go for about one day. You can go to Sea World, Dream World or the pool; everyone has a lot of fun and learns about the world around. It is a great chance to have fun with your friends. The bus ride is just as fun as the outings. People who have friends are no different to anyone else, we are all the same. We go to school and we learn. We go to school and we laugh. We go to school and we make friends. We go to school to know life. You should do better. you should do harder, you can hang out with your friends once it’s all done. So make sure you don’t be mean and keep safe.

School isn’t a place to be bored it’s a place for people to learn and get on with life, you may receive awards from competitions, athletics carnival awards, you may even earn the teachers trust or make a lot more friends but it’s all about the fun of school and getting on with life.
### Last Week's Stars!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RIPA's</th>
<th>Maddy Gordon</th>
<th>Amber Clarke</th>
<th>Zoe Wylie</th>
<th>Sean Davis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KJ</td>
<td>Rebecca Bradley</td>
<td>Miah Bella</td>
<td>Sarah Cormack</td>
<td>Marcus Swansborough</td>
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<tr>
<td>1J</td>
<td>Marvin Turner</td>
<td>Jacob Cormack</td>
<td>Violet Hosie</td>
<td>Roary Hosie</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3T</td>
<td>Cooper Cameron</td>
<td>Leni Cain-Roberts</td>
<td>Daniel Williams</td>
<td>Courtney Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5/6C</td>
<td>Aaron Kirk</td>
<td>Kiara Stewart</td>
<td>Judd Piggott</td>
<td>Marshall Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5/6D</td>
<td>Hayley Trustum</td>
<td>Michael Jordan</td>
<td>Faith Taylor</td>
<td>Chloe Trustum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Values</td>
<td>Aime Kirk</td>
<td>Faith Taylor</td>
<td>Hayley Trustum</td>
<td>Stephen Kennedy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificates</td>
<td>Adam Moylan</td>
<td>Miah Bella</td>
<td>Chloe Trustum</td>
<td>Keely Johns</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scarlett Horder</td>
<td>Norman</td>
<td>Samuel Ticknor</td>
<td>Amy Hicks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Josh Mills</td>
<td>James Torrance</td>
<td>Cody Spicer</td>
<td>Seb Fletcher</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zoe Wylie</td>
<td>Ashley Gorman</td>
<td>Hayden Simpson</td>
<td>Jai Deahm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bayley Williams</td>
<td>Jayden Williams</td>
<td>Judd Piggott</td>
<td>Jasmine Clarke</td>
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<td>Taj Wylie</td>
<td>Ashleigh Williams</td>
<td>Blair Piggott</td>
<td>Marshall Brown</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jack Torrance</td>
<td>Marvin Turner</td>
<td>Jack Patterson</td>
<td>Harrison Lever</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Damien Rojcevic</td>
<td>Jacob Trustum</td>
<td>Aida Miller</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chloe Trustum</td>
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<td>Harrison</td>
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<td>Book Awards</td>
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<td>Adam Moylan</td>
<td>Oliver Webb</td>
<td>Benson Trustum</td>
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<td>Taj Wylie</td>
<td>Damien Rojcevic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathletics</td>
<td>Kobi Anderson</td>
<td>Tyler Elliott</td>
<td>Jasmine Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secret Teacher</td>
<td>4/5/6D - You Rock!!!</td>
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**Life Inside the Egg Timer** by Michael Grose

Australian family-life is incredibly scheduled. The recently released Time to Live Report indicates that family life increasingly operates around a rigorous schedule as Australian families balance work/school, leisure, social and personal lives.

Three in five kids in the 12-16 age group and most parents can nominate where they’ll be at 5pm on any given Wednesday. Wow! That’s organised. So entrenched is life inside this egg timer like existence that operating outside it can genuinely cause anxiety. In fact, around half of teens and the same percentage of parents say that life would be chaotic if they didn’t live to a schedule.

**Introducing spontaneity**

Australian families are forgetting to be spontaneous. Yet, there appears to be an appetite to balance life’s relentless routines with greater spontaneity. So let’s have a go. Here are 10 suggestions to help you introduce more spontaneity into your family:

1. Tidy a room with a child (any room)
2. Walk the dog together
3. Do something you’ve never done as a family
4. Go to a movie that a child chooses (any child)
5. Wash the family pet
6. Cook the NEXT meal together as a family
7. Drop in on a family or friend without notice
8. Put music on when everyone is home
9. Play outside regardless of the weather
10. Make a weeknight takeaway night

If any of these suggestions made you wince then maybe you do need to spend some time in Spontaneity Street. It helps make going around Routine Roundabout more bearable. Besides, Spontaneity Street runs into Resiliency Road, which is just down from Grit Grove. This is a good road to live on in the long-term.