

WESTPORT

PUBLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN A CARING ENVIRONMENT



Monday 22nd October 2018

Welcome back to Term 4, 2018. Only nine weeks to go to conclude what has been a very successful year at Westport Public School. During 2018, we have seen a significant increase in student numbers and gained two full-time teaching positions! The future is looking very bright for Westport!

Last week our school chess team travelled to Coffs Harbour to compete in the North Coast Finals. The students performed well, but were defeated. The final draw was 4 - 4 and the countback also tied. This forced a replay where the result was once again locked at 4 - 4. The tie breaking countback saw Ballina winning 11 points to 9.

Our Kinder Orientation Day was also a great success with many new parents attending the school and enjoying the information sessions. Thank you to all those parents who attended and also to Mrs Laws, Mrs Riordan and Mrs Bendall for organising the event.

On a more serious note, it is important to remember that the school expects a high standard of behaviour whilst visiting our wonderful school. Our school is committed to building a safe and happy environment for students, staff, parents and the broader community.

We encourage parents and carers to advocate strongly on their child's behalf and, as part of this, expect them to raise concerns about their child. Sometimes these concerns may relate to the way a child may have been treated by another student at this school. It is natural for parents and carers to feel protective of their children.

However you must not raise any concerns you have about the behaviour of another child directly with that child (or his or her parents while they are at school) but should instead report your concerns to the principal or a member of the executive team.

Your concerns will be taken seriously and responded to promptly. If a parent, carer or other community member raises their concerns directly with a child (or their parents while they are at school) this may result in the access that person has to the school site being restricted or withdrawn.

We greatly value the contribution parents, carers and other community members make to the school community and do not wish to take any action that impacts on their participation in school activities.

Please let us know if you have concerns about the behaviour of another person's child while they are at school or on school related activities. Raising your concerns directly with the child (or his or her parents while they are at school) could result in your access to the school site being restricted or withdrawn.

Tony Johnston
Principal

Reminder to Parents/Carers Late Students

Please ensure that you accompany your child/ren to the school office to sign them in. Student/s will be given a late slip to give to their teacher and make their own way to class.

Early Leavers

Parent/carers please come to the school office to sign your child/ren out. The office will then arrange for your child/ren to be brought to office.

Coming Events for Term 4

Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th Oct	Stage 3 Milson Island Camp
Wed 24 th Oct	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thurs 25 th Oct	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Wed 31 st Oct	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thurs 1 st Nov	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thurs 1 st Nov	Stage 3 Surf Education at Town Beach
Wed 7 th Nov	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Thurs 8 th Nov	Kindergarten Transition Drop-in 1.00 – 3.00pm
Fri 14 th Dec	Presentation Day
Mon 17 th Dec	Year 6 Farewell

Free Dental Service

DMMSG is a mobile dental service providing essential dental treatment for students K-6 under Medicare scheme CDBS. A dentist will be visiting Westport Public School from the 26th to 29th November 2018. The dentist will set up in a room in the school to make students more comfortable. Information and permission forms will be sent out to all K-6 students in the next week. Eligible students will receive this service FREE of charge. To test your eligibility, please complete the forms using the information on your Medicare card as shown in the brochure. Please return the form to your class teacher by Friday 23rd November 2018 so we can confirm your child's booking. Please ensure you complete one form per child.

Skoolbag App

When sending absentee notes via the Skoolbag App, please put your child's full class name e.g: 1 Banksia, 2 Bluegum or 5 Melaleuca.

Term 4 Assembly Timetable

Assembly is held on Tuesday starting at 1pm

K-Year 2	Year 3-6
Week 2 – Year 2 Paperbark	Week 3 – Year 3/4 Bottlebrush
Week 4 – K Flame	Week 5 – Year 5 Melaleuca
Week 6 – Year 2 Bluegum	Week 7 – Diamond Assembly
Week 8 – K Jacaranda	Week 9 – Year 5 Hibiscus

SCHOOL INTENSIVE SWIMMING SCHEME

The School Intensive Swimming Scheme will be held during weeks 5 and 6 Term 4. The program is aimed at students in years 2-6 who are non-swimmers or poor swimmers. There will be 60 places available at a cost of about \$60 per student. Students participate in 45 minute lessons each day over the 2 weeks. The lessons are taught by qualified instructors and are designed to teach water confidence and build swimming skills. A note will go out early next term.

Miss Walton



Congratulations to Hayley for achieving a Merit in the ICAS Mathematics Competition!

Tell Them From Me Parent Surveys – Partners in Learning 2018

This week we are offering all parents the chance to complete the online Tell Them From Me Parent Survey. The survey assists our school in future planning as we act on the feedback provided with improved school systems, practices and initiatives. The survey is 100% anonymous and easy-to-use. It is based on a questionnaire covering parents' perceptions of their child's experiences at home and at school.

Please visit <http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/2019> to complete the short survey.

The survey closes this Friday 26th October at 4pm.

HASTINGS SECONDARY COLLEGE

Hastings Secondary College are now accepting applications for our Year 7 scholarship program. Four (4) scholarships at each campus are available to incoming 2019 Year 7 students for excellence in Academic, Sporting, Cultural or Community Involvement.

Closing: 3pm Monday 19 November 2019

Apply by following the link.

<http://www.hastingssecondarycollege.schools.nsw.edu.au/news-and-events/2019-year-7-scholarships>

WESTPORT UNIFORM SHOP

NOTICE - DUE TO A VOLUNTEER SHORTAGE, WESTPORT UNIFORM SHOP IS CURRENTLY CLOSED.

UNIFORM ORDERS ARE CURRENTLY ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE

Students and families wishing to purchase uniforms can do so anytime online via www.flexischools.com.au.

Uniforms purchased via flexischools will be delivered as follows:

- **EXISTING STUDENTS** - Uniform orders received prior to 4pm Wednesday will be delivered direct to the students classroom weekly on a Thursday.
- **NEW STUDENTS** - When ordering uniforms for a new student, select the 'New Student' class within FlexiSchools. Orders placed before 4pm for new students will be delivered to the school office for collection the next school day.

Getting online is easy and only takes a few minutes to register. Simply visit the FlexiSchools web site and click "Register Now". You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration.

HOW CAN YOU HELP - The Uniform Shop is run by volunteers on behalf of the P&C for the benefit of the school community.

If you have any time to spare and would like to be involved in opening and running of the shop on a Thursday morning for 45 minutes, please contact the P&C President, Mark Edenborough by email at mark.edenborough@gmail.com

Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

WHAT WE DO - The uniform shop stocks school shirts, jumpers, jackets, hats, culottes, girls pants and school badges

PAYMENT - Online via Flexischools or in-store via cash.

We look forward to seeing your next order online!

PRICE LIST

Maroon/Gold Westport School Shirt	\$ 26.00
School 'Bucket' style hat	\$ 10.00
Girl's culottes	\$ 22.00
Girl's Leisure Pants	\$ 22.00
Fleecy embroidered v-neck sweatshirt	\$ 24.00
Fleecy embroidered zip front jacket	\$ 27.00



Artwork produced by Gumbaynggirr artist Brentyn Lugnan



Health
Mid North Coast
Local Health District

Healthy on Track Exercise Program

Mid North Coast Local Health District will be offering a free six-week Healthy Lifestyle program to all Aboriginal people in the Hastings Region.

Where: **Macquarie Park, Port Macquarie.**

When: **Every Monday & Wednesday from 5pm til 6pm**

Commencing: **Monday 29 October until
Wednesday 5 December 2018**

This program includes exercise catering for all fitness and skill levels including boot camp, games, circuits and boxing.

All participants are required to complete a registration pack before the program starts

Registration packs are available from;

- Werin Medical Clinic, Lake Road
- Birpai Local Aboriginal Lands Council, Aston Street
- Health Promotion office at Community Health, Morton Street Port Macquarie
- Or phone Jess Morris on 6588 2896

Registration packs can be returned to all of these places.

MAKE
HEALTHY
NORMAL

**SMALL STEPS
CAN MAKE
A BIG
DIFFERENCE.**



How to help your children learn to read and spell

A workshop for parents and early educators of children in preschool, kindergarten and year 1

Learning to read is one of the most important skills that children need to learn in our modern world. If we can read we have greater opportunities in life for work, recreation, education, personal development and in our social lives. Yet many children struggle to learn to read.

Carol Baker (LCST, MSPA) is a paediatric speech pathologist who has had a long career working with children with speech, language, reading and spelling difficulties. She is a registered tutor with SPELD and she is passionate about early intervention and supporting and empowering parents to help their children. Carol has developed these practical workshops to give you some useful information and let you practice some skills so that you can help your children learn to read.

The workshop covers the following:

- how to create a rich home-learning environment
- evidence-based research findings on the importance of phonics for reading and spelling
- practical strategies on how you can help teach your child these early literacy skills:
 - The speech sounds associated with the single letters of the alphabet
 - How to write the letters of the alphabet neatly and use writing to help reading
 - The speech sounds associated with letters that work together eg: sh, ee, ow
 - How to break words into sounds and blend sounds into words
- Working with longer words (words with more than 1 syllable)
- Some early spelling / reading rules
- Some tips to develop reading fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension
- I do, we do, you do teaching strategy
- How to correct errors without saying 'no'!

Some feedback from past workshops:

- "Thank you so much Carol. I thoroughly enjoyed your session. I have been frustrated and feeling at a loss as to how to help my 6 year old. Thank you for giving me some tools to assist him."
- "Very easy to understand – I appreciate the practical exercises and handouts we can use".
- "I have had a few years off teaching and I'm about to go back. It was a great overview and refresher. Thanks."

Where: Emerald Downs Community Hall, Port Macquarie

When: Sunday 4th November 2018 from 9.30am - 1 pm

Cost: \$70

To register call Carol on 0405 658 593 or email cb.speech@outlook.com