# WESTPORT
## PUBLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN A CARING ENVIRONMENT

**Monday 29 July 2019**

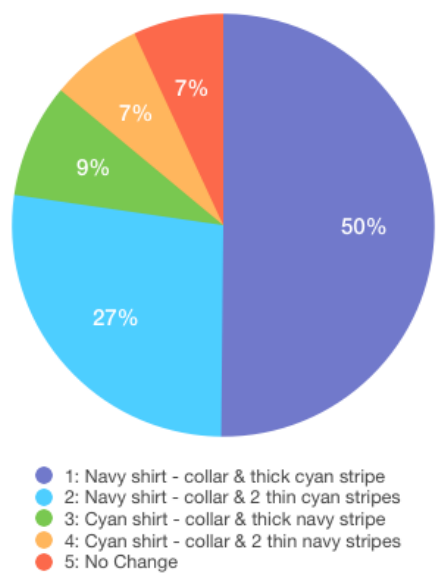
Welcome to Week 2 Term 3. This is shaping up to be one of the busiest terms of the year. Some great activities are planned both from the school and our wonderful P&C. Next week we have the P&C run Disco, a school visit by a portable planetarium and the fantastic Life Education Van. The school would like to thank the P&C for continuing to support the Life Education Van for all students. This is a very important program and we are lucky to be able to provide this service through the generosity of our P&C. Other events include:

- **Week 1:** Silver Assembly & Cyber Safety Talks
- **Week 2:** School Disco & Life Education
- **Week 3:** District Athletics Carnival, Ceremony of Excellence and Chess Tournament
- **Week 4:** Performance at the Glass House for 3-6 "The Twits"
- **Week 5:** Book Parade and Book Fair
- **Week 6:** Father's Day Stall
- **Week 7:** Opera House Performance
- **Week 8:** Splendour Rehearsals
- **Week 9:** Splendour at the Glasshouse and Colour Run
- **Week 10:** Gold Assembly and Treat Days

Another very important and exciting process is the recent uniform surveys. Below are the final results:

Combined Preferred Options

| OPTION | PERCENTAGE | ACTUAL |
|---|---|---|
| 1: Navy shirt - collar & thick cyan stripe | 50.16 | 305 |
| 2: Navy shirt - collar & 2 thin cyan stripes | 27.14 | 165 |
| 3: Cyan shirt - collar & thick navy stripe | 8.72 | 53 |
| 4: Cyan shirt - collar & 2 thin navy stripes | 7.07 | 43 |
| 5: No Change | 6.91 | 42 |
| TOTAL | | 608 |




As can be seen by the results, 50% of parents, students and
Staff prefer option 1 – Navy shirt with thick stripe, 27% option 2, 9% option 3, 7% option 4 and 7% option 5.
Therefore option 1 is the preferred option and the uniform the school will now choose for Westport.

An order for the shirts will be placed with the aim of all new Kinders starting 2020 in the new uniform.
There will be a period of up to 2-3 years to transition to the new uniform.

I would like to thank the uniform committee for their hard work and everyone for taking the time to have a say in this important decision.

Have a great week.

***Tony Johnston***
***Principal***

**Coming Events for Term 3**

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 29 July | Banks House Reward – Stage 2 and 3 |
| Tuesday 30 July – Tuesday 6 August | Healthy Harold Life Education |
| Thursday 1 August | Disco in the School Hall<br>K – 2 from 5pm to 6pm<br>3 – 6 from 6:30pm to 7:30pm |
| Tuesday 6 August | Hastings Valley Community of Schools Ceremony of Excellence 6:30 pm |
| Friday 2 August | Stage 2 and 3 Planetarium Visit |
| Monday 5 August | HCH District Athletics Carnival |
| Friday 9 August | Chess in the School Hall |

**Term 3 Assembly Timetable – 1 pm in the School Hall**

| **Kindergarten – Year 2** | **Year 3 – Year 6** |
|---|---|
| | Week 2 – 3 Silverfern - |
| Week 3 – K Jacaranda | Week 4 – 6 Grevillea |
| Week 5 – No Assembly – Choir Cluster Rehearsal | Week 6 – 6 Frangipani |
| Week 7 – 2 Bluegum | Week 8 – 5 Melaleuca |
| Week 9 – No assembly – Splendour | Week 10 – Gold Assembly |

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**PBL Focus**
This Week's PBL Focus is – Be Respectful in Classrooms

**Annual Student Record Update**
Our annual student data update form will be sent out today. It is crucial to make sure the school has correct contact information at all times in case of sickness/emergency and general correspondence. Please complete the form and return to your child's class teacher. If you have any queries relating to the form or information contained within the form please contact Deborah Menzies the School Administrative Manager.

**Hastings Valley Community of Schools Ceremony of Excellence 2019**
The Hastings Valley Community of Schools (HVCS) will host the annual Ceremony of Excellence during Education Week – 2019, on the evening of Tuesday 6 August. The focus of this year's ceremony is to recognise significant academic, cultural or sporting performance of nominated students from Year 3 to Year 12.

Each school will nominate students to receive an Award of Excellence for a specific focus area. Each school already excels in recognising students for their performance, participation, spirit and citizenship throughout the year with countless ribbons, certificates, and awards, trophies and rewards systems.

The HVCS Ceremony of Excellence, hosted at the Glasshouse, will recognise those students from each school for their outstanding academic, cultural or sporting performance. The evening will also showcase a small but select number of performances including quality solo or ensemble items to complement the presentation of awards.

Invitations to parents of students nominated have been sent home in the coming weeks. Tickets will be complimentary for all parents of students receiving awards and/or performing on the night.

The HVCS looks forward to celebrating the achievements of this group of students who are representative of our very successful Public Schools in the Hastings Valley Community of Schools.

**House Reward Afternoon**
Congratulations to Banks house who were last term's winning house. Students in Banks house were awarded a grand total of 2188 Dolphin Points.

To celebrate their achievement, students in Banks house are invited to wear their house colour 'yellow' to school today Monday 29 July, 2019. Students will also participate in a fun afternoon of activities on the oval from 2 – 3 pm and receive a Zooper Dooper. The afternoon will be supervised by K – 6 staff.

**Book Week**
Book week will be celebrated again this year in week 5 of this term. The theme this year is "Reading is my Secret Power". Our staff has been busy organising some engaging activities for our students to participate in, and yes... we will again include our Book Week Parade!

Don't forget that on that day students are able to dress up as their favourite book character to take part in the parade. A book fair will also be running that week, and all purchases will benefit your child, the library and the school. More information about specific dates and times will be given out in forthcoming newsletters.

***Miss Rachel Kelly***
***Librarian***

**Elective Sport Term 3**
This term, Stage 2 and 3 students have the opportunity to participate in an elective sport as part of Thursday's Sport program. Letters were sent home last week for three paid sports, Ten Pin Bowling, Multi Sport and Futsal. Please return permission notes and money to the school by Tuesday 30 July to secure your child's place.
All other students will have a chance to nominate their preferences for school based sports this week.

**Hastings Camden Haven Athletics Carnival**
Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's Westport PS Athletics Program. Those successful in achieving the qualifying times, distances and heights will proceed to the Hastings Camden Haven District Athletics Carnival.

The event will be held at Blackbutt Oval on Blackbutt Drive, Wauchope on Monday 5 August. Students will be transported as a team to the venue by bus, departing school at 7.15am sharp to arrive in time for an 8.30am start. Please ensure permission notes and money is returned to Mr Pettit by no later than Wednesday 31 July. In the event of bad weather, the back-up date of Friday 9 August has been reserved for the carnival.

**Starr's Planetarium Visit**
As part of Stage 2 and 3's Science and Technology Unit titled 'Earth and Space', students have the opportunity to participate in a visiting Space Planetarium Superdome this Friday 2 August.

Starr's Planetarium is the most advanced 360° immersive projection system travelling to schools today. With ground-breaking technology, the mobile planetarium has been inspiring and entertaining students since 2005 with tens of thousands of students having enjoyed this amazing and fun way to learn about Space & Astronomy.

**Please ensure the permission note and $10 is returned to your child's teacher by this Wednesday 31 July.**

**2019 ICAS Assessments**
ICAS is designed to target students' higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills.
Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition. Every student will receive a certificate and an online result report.

Top performers will be eligible for medals and are invited to attend special award ceremonies to have their academic excellence publicly recognised.

We encourage you to consider entering your child into ICAS this year. The assessments are suitable for students wishing to extend themselves academically and take up the personal challenge of competing in an international assessment. Your child will be presented with high-quality, expert-developed questions, allowing them to apply their learning without the need for prior study or revision.

ICAS Assessments are now online, a move that reflects a sector-wide transition to computer-based assessment. This allows greater accessibility for students and faster delivery of results.

Learn more about ICAS here: unsw.global/ICAS

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If you wish your child to sit ICAS Assessments in:
Digital Technologies - 3 September
Science – 5 September
English – 17 September
Mathematics – 19 September
**ICAS fees are now paid online.**

Visit unsw.global/parentpay and enter our school's unique code: **bafd027737** to make a direct payment.
Online payment will close on **14 August 2019**.
If you have any questions please contact Mrs Osborne.

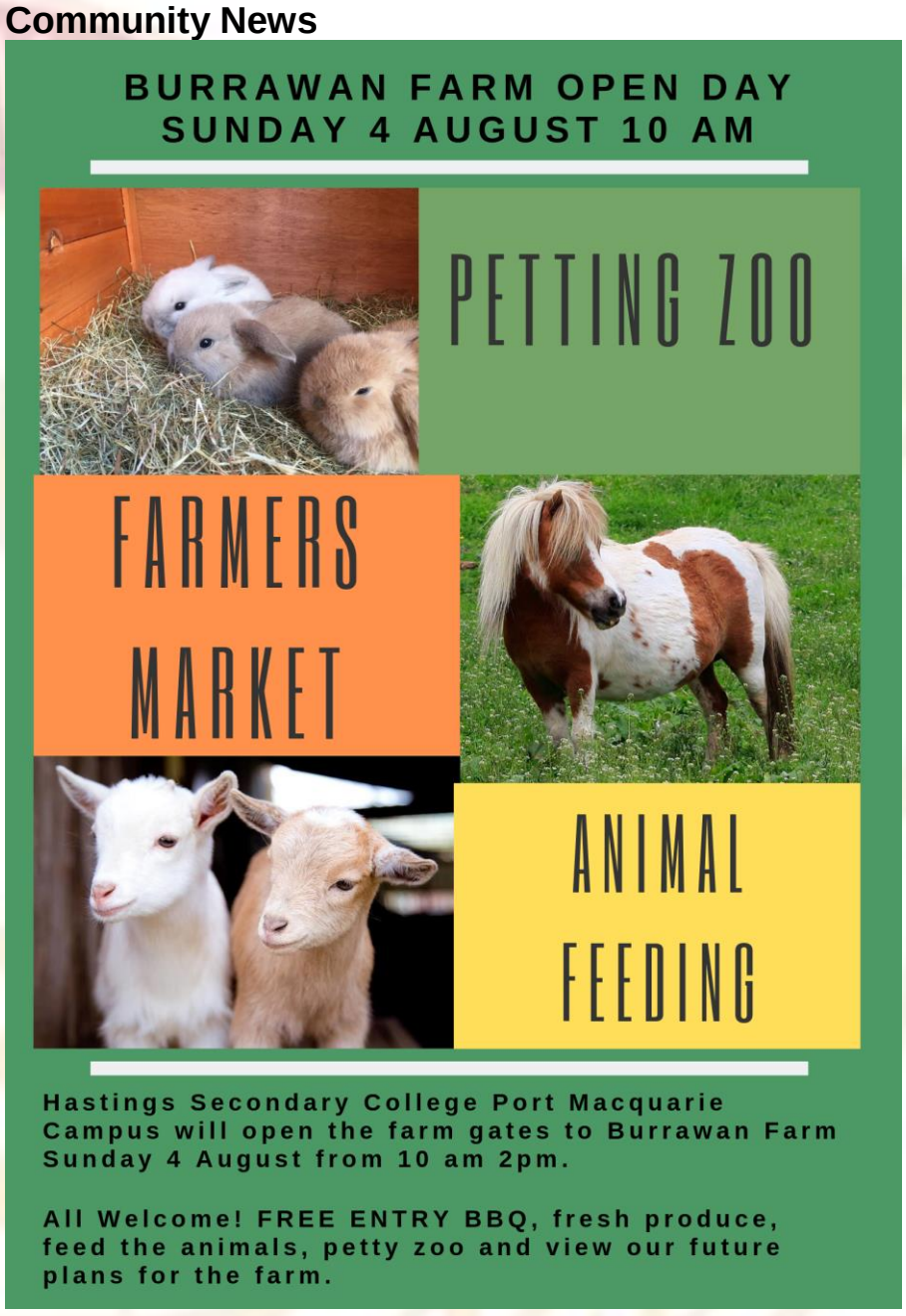
**Life Education Van**
During Week 2 and 3, your child will have the opportunity to attend the Life Education Van with their class to participate in valuable age appropriate lessons, designed to empower students to make safer and healthier choices. Students will engage in lessons delivered by the Life Educator Leanne and will even meet Healthy Harold the giraffe.

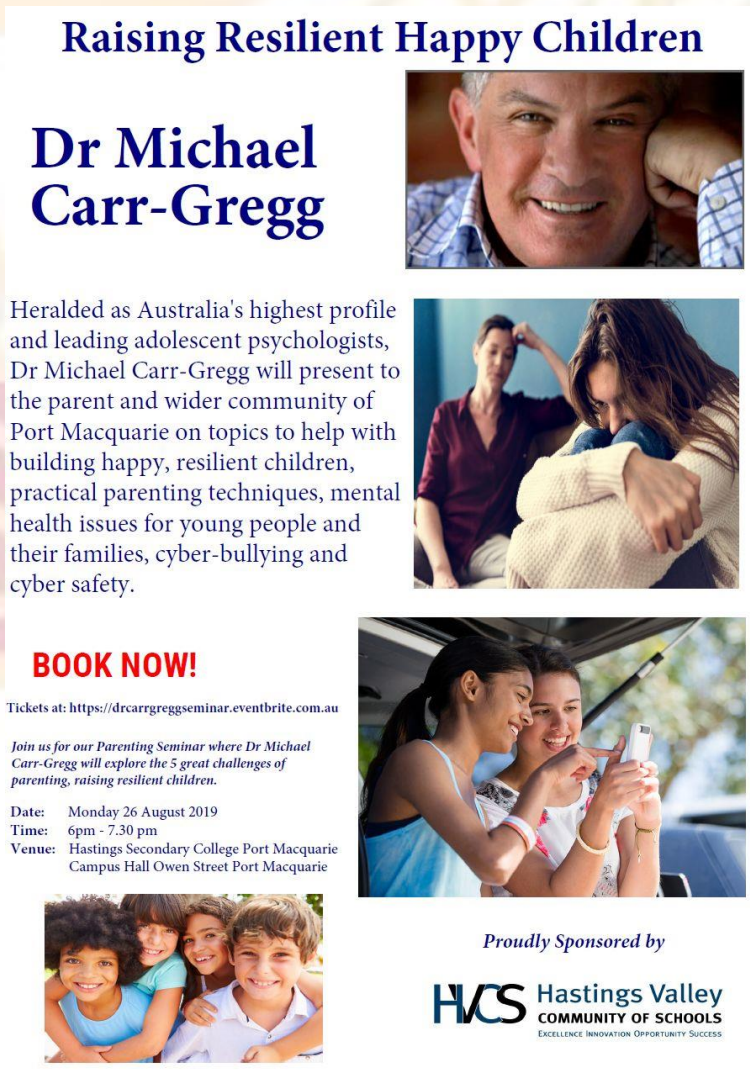
Once again, a very big thank you must go to our P&C committee who have kindly agreed to cover the cost of the program for every student at Westport Public School. This generous donation of $10 per student comes to approximately $4000. The staff are extremely appreciative as this means that all children will be able to access the visit and continue the lessons in their classes as part of the PDHPE curriculum.
Healthy Harold merchandise is available to purchase. Please see the order form in this week's Newsletter.

**Book Club**
Book Club Issue 5 was handed out last Friday to all students. Please return by Friday 9 August.

**Splendour Tickets**
Please be advised that tickets for Splendour go on sale at 9 am Monday 19 August 2019.

**Community News**



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

**Westport Public School Canteen needs your help!**

**Our canteen is in need of volunteers!**

**If you can spare a couple of hours to help us out it would be greatly appreciated ☺**

**Come in and see Bronwyn in the canteen or alternatively email westportpublicschoolcanteen1@gmail.com with your contact details and we will get in touch**

Volunteer
do good, feel good

## How to help your children learn to read and spell

A half-day workshop for parents and early educators

**Where:** Emerald Downs Community Hall,
Port Macquarie, NSW 2444
**When:** Sunday 18th August 2019 from 9 am - 1 pm
**Cost:** $70 (includes morning tea)

**Bookings are essential**

**This evidence-based, practical workshop will give you some skills and understanding so that you will be able to help your children to learn to read and spell. It has been developed so that you can understand phonics and how our alphabet system works. It will also cover some early spelling / reading rules and some tips to develop reading fluency, vocabulary and reading comprehension. In addition, you will learn some simple and effective teaching strategies and tips.**

**Some feedback from past workshops:**

- **"Wonderful! Super practical workshop giving me step by step instruction in how to teach early literacy skills."**
- **"So helpful! Cannot thank you enough for today. I'm sad it's over."**
- **"Very hands on, engaging and informative. It was a great introduction for parents."**

**Carol Baker (LCST, MSPA) is a paediatric speech pathologist who has had a long career working with children with speech, language, hearing, reading and spelling difficulties. She now gives workshops to support and empower parents to help their children, and to early educators.**

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

**More information at https://www.cbakerspeechpathology.com.au/**

NSW GOVERNMENT | Health

**North Coast Public Health Unit**
Mid North Coast & Northern NSW Local Health Districts

## Bushfire smoke

**Advice for schools & child care centres in the Port Macquarie Region**

The North Coast Public Health Unit is advising people to take action to protect their health while smoke haze continues to affect air quality across the Port Macquarie region.

Fine smoke particles are known to affect the human breathing system. The smaller or finer the particles, the deeper they go into the lungs. Bushfire smoke can affect all people and generally causes mild irritation such as itchy or burning eyes, coughing and a runny nose. These symptoms generally disappear in usually healthy people once the smoke disappears.

If your staff members or students have existing heart conditions, lung conditions, such as chronic bronchitis, emphysema or asthma, it is important that they have their medications handy at all times. Symptoms can occur for several days after this smoke is inhaled, so anyone with the above conditions needs to be vigilant with their treatment programs.

It is best that staff and students do not use ordinary paper dust masks, handkerchiefs or bandannas as these do not filter out fine particles from bushfire smoke and are generally not very useful in protecting your lungs – they may make it harder for people to breath normally. When the smoke is visibly bad, it is better to stay indoors.

The following precautions may help to minimise the adverse effects of the smoke:

- Avoid vigorous activities and, importantly, try to avoid these activities completely when it is smoky especially if you have asthma, lung conditions or heart conditions;
- If your doctor has prescribed medications, keep them with you at all times
- Consider staying indoors when the smoke is visibly bad. Close the windows and doors and if needed, use an air conditioner set on the recycle air setting to reduce smoke entering rooms.
- Consider postponing outdoor events such as athletic carnivals or sports days when the smoke is visibly bad.

It is very important to seek immediate medical assistance if staff or students do not respond to their usual medications. In case of emergency always remember to dial triple zero.

**Paul Corben**
Director | **Public Health**

**North Coast Public Health (Covering both MNC and NNSW Local Health Districts)**
**Hosted by Mid North Coast Local Health District**
ABN 57 946 356 658

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