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Principal: Mr Trev Mason

‘Today is for Tomorrow’

SAFE RESPECTFUL LEARNERS

NEWS FROM WALLACIA PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 2 Week 5, Thursday May 30, 2019.

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

A warm welcome to everyone now that the cold weather has hit. Can you believe we are at the end of week 5, half way through the term 2? Doesn’t time fly in a blink! I really enjoyed our special Harmony-Grand Parents Day last week. It was lovely to see all the students and families participating and engaging in this special event. It was really special to have so many families attend. I know this isn’t easy to organise in our busy lives, so many thanks.

I really enjoyed watching our school captains Adam and Hannah, with their families; attend the Penrith Council School Leaders Reception at the Evans Theatre at Panthers. This was very special event. As usual our leaders represented our school with pride, dignity and grace.

Our year 3 and 5 students have all completed the paper NAPLAN assessments. Our Mathematics has been a big priority to improve and hence has been a strong focus for our professional learning. It will be great to access the external NAPLAN data as an objective measure to ascertain the impact of our school wide improvement processes in regards to this. I know we continue to improve, but I am looking forward to having this externally measured. NAPLAN will also provide us with very specific information on each child to continue to build and accommodate every student’s learning.

We have had our Cross Country and Western Sydney Wanderers Cup Days recently. We were able to send a large cohort of students to represent our school. I really enjoy seeing our kids stepping up against the bigger schools and doing us proud.

A big thank you to the P&C for their fundraising and organisational support for the school and the Year 6 Farewell. The efforts at the election were a great success.

Our support at the recent Gala days was excellent, thank you. I did notice some parents and students from other schools getting pretty fired up on the sidelines and during the games, especially at the referees. I heard “Come on, ref!” “What are you doing?!” “Are you blind?!” This got me thinking about the impact of modelling this behaviour and how blaming and complaining deeply hurts the development of our kids. Part of the problem is that we see people do it on television, or it gets glorified in movies. Sometimes, at the highest level, there is an appropriate time to hold referees accountable. But school events are not the highest level. Our most important job at this level is not to win or

replicate what we see the professional coaches do. Our job is to provide a positive experience and develop young kids. Unfortunately, we can find ourselves complaining to referees, and it directly affects our kids in a most negative way.

Specifically, when we yell or complain at referees our kids then learn that mistakes are not okay. More often than not, the referees were also kids, who were just a little bit older than the ones playing. They are, just like the players, there to learn and grow. They are going to make mistakes. If we complain or yell at the referee every time he or she makes a poor call, we teach our children that making mistakes is not okay. Our kids learn to be afraid to fail, and likely end up not trying at all to avoid messing up. Our kids see the actions of their parents and coaches and then become be afraid to try something new as players out of fear of blowing the game. This lesson, of course, extends to the rest of our children's lives, and they will learn to be afraid of taking chances in all endeavours.

Blaming the referee is an excuse. Our teams are going to get bad results sometimes. And seldom, a draw may very well turn into a loss because of a misjudged call from a referee. However, we can only control our own efforts, actions, and responses. If we complain about and blame the referee, our kids will begin to blame their poor results and performances on the referee. They make an excuse for why they were not successful. If we want to develop resilient and mentally strong children, we need to teach them to take responsibility for their actions. We need to teach our kids to not blame others for their results and learn to overcome any obstacles that enter their path. Otherwise, our children will be blaming others for anything and everything that goes wrong in their lives, and they will never be as successful as they otherwise could be.

We often complain about kids having no respect and a disregard for authority. However, as soon as the referee, the person in charge of a match, makes a poor call, we complain and yell. How do we expect our kids to learn to respect authority if we don't show that very same respect ourselves? As parents and coaches, we are undermining our own authority by teaching kids to be disrespectful. As always, it is important to realise how our actions affect our children, and how the way we approach the sporting experience affects the lessons our children learn. Whether we realise it or not, like it or not, how we act and what we teach our children through sport affects them in all areas of their lives. Our interactions with referees is no different. Is there ever an appropriate time to hold the referee accountable? Certainly. But there is a productive, positive way to do it, and there is a negative, destructive way. Instead of yelling or complaining, the coach (not the parents!) should calmly speak to the ref at half time or off to the side. This teaches our kids how to handle situations in a civil, respectful, and mature manner.

Warmest regards,
Trev Mason

Hannah Ison Year 6
Penrith Zone Touch Football May 2019



Leaders Civic Reception
Hannah Ison



Adam Parsons



Reading with your young child



You can support your child in learning to read by reading to your child for up to half an hour every day using a story book. Here are some helpful hints.

1. Set the scene

Before you read the story, tell your child the title of the book and a bit about it. Try to relate it to your child's own experience, if you can. If it is about dogs, talk about a dog they know. You can also discuss what might happen in the story.

2. Read the book

Read the story in a lively way with lots of expression. If you come across unfamiliar words, stop and tell your child what they mean. This improves your child's vocabulary and helps them to understand the whole story. During the week, you might also like to remind your child of some of the new words from the story book and relate them to your everyday life.

3. Recalling the story

After reading the book, ask your child questions about the story. For example, "What happened at the beginning of the story?" or "What happened at the end of the story?". If they can't remember, tell them. You might also want to try asking different types of questions that require more than a yes or no answer. For example, "Why do you think the little green dragon was so sad?" These sorts of questions help to develop your child's language skills.

You don't need to read a different book for every session; in fact, re-reading the same book several times allows the child to become familiar with the story and helps them to learn new vocabulary.

Finally, being patient and enthusiastic will make reading together a much more positive experience for both you and your child. Have fun!

LAPTOPS

New Student Notebooks for Classroom Use.

Wallacia Public School has recently purchased 23 new notebook computers for students to use in the classrooms, and a new trolley for storage and charging.

The notebooks have been set up with standard Department of Education programs and internet access. They will be used within the classrooms for a range of activities including mathematics.

The use of technology is integrated in all aspects of student learning at Wallacia Public School.



Harmony /Grandparents Day



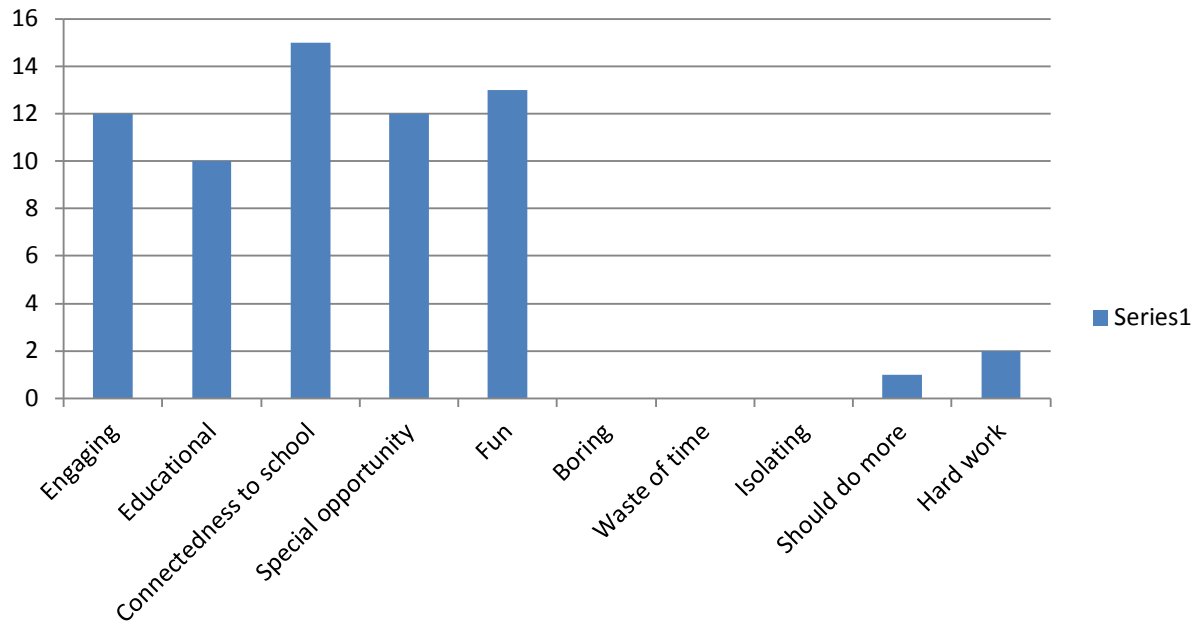
What a fantastic day. Thank you to everyone for coming in and joining in so positively. The day is all about togetherness and kindness, about sharing experience and knowledge, and everyone did their bit to contribute to this, thank you.

The students loved performing in front of everyone. There were definitely some very talented students, especially in the K-6 choir. It was also a terrific opportunity for our leaders to represent our school with pride, dignity and grace.

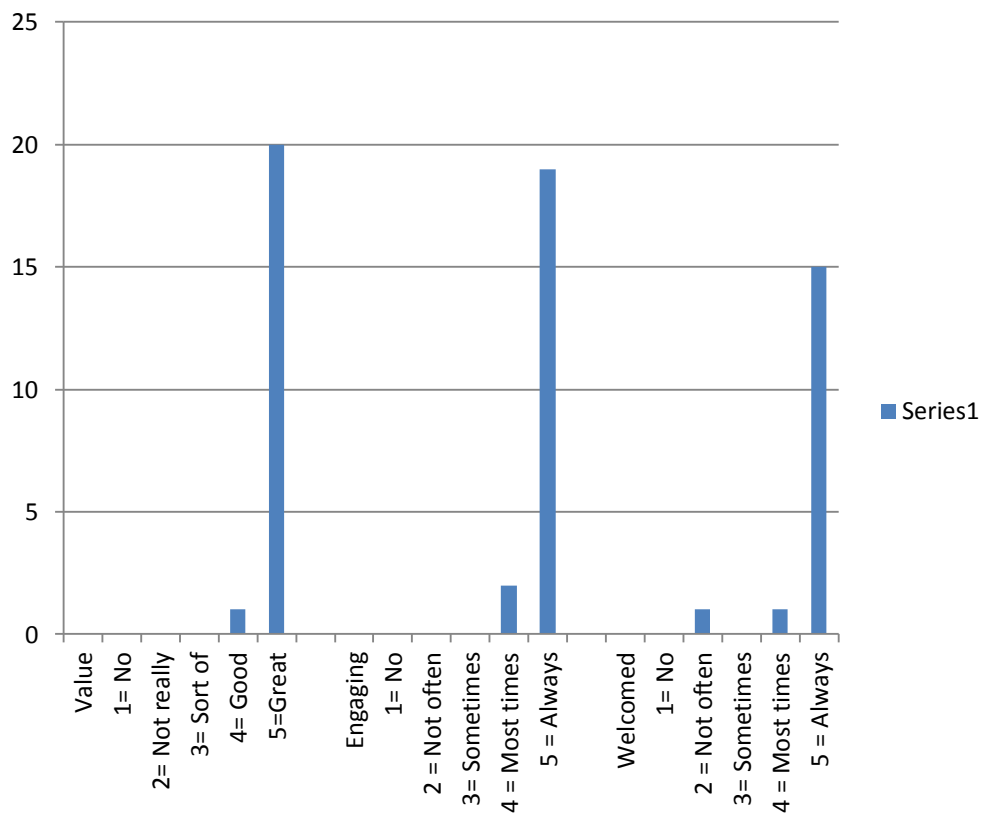
A big thank you to the P&C for the flowers and the organisation involved with this, the students and parents loved the carnations.

A big thank you to all the staff at Wallacia Public School, without everyone working as a team this day would not succeed. The data from the surveys definitely shows that everyone was satisfied and thought it was an engaging, educational and fun day.

Outcomes for Day



Harmony-Grandparents Day Satisfaction





WOOLWORTHS
EARN AND
LEARN



Wallacia Public School is participating in the 2019 Woolworths 'Earn and learn' program.

Please help to earn equipment for our school by shopping at Woolworths, collecting stickers and placing them on the sheets before putting them in the box located in the school office foyer.

We also have a box for our school set up at the Glenmore Park Woolworths store.

Be sure to tell friends and family to help our school out.



ABSENCE SENTRAL SMS MESSAGING

Wallacia Public School has commenced sending SENTRAL SMS messaging for absent students.

If your child is absent and you have not notified the school, you will receive a SMS message, the morning of their absence. You can reply to that message with a valid reason for your Child's absence. This service will also allow you to provide prior notification to the school of any future absence.

Thank you to those parents using this system. It is working well!





Library @ Wallacia PS

Could you please send a library bag with your child, for library book borrowing, our books need protecting. Even an old, simple pillow case works as a library bag.



A helping hand is needed! Do you have a spare half an hour here and there? We need your help to; tidy shelves, re-shelve books, cover books and other duties in the School Library. Just call into the school office to offer your services, or see Mrs Kitching on a Monday or Tuesday.

Your help will be greatly received.

KEY DATES

ASSEMBLY	Friday 31 May	2.15pm School Library	Presented By 4/5/6
P & C Meeting	Monday 3 June	All Welcome 2.00pm	
Captains & Year 6 Make up Photos	Tuesday 4 June	Year 6	NOTE DATE CHANGE
Public Holiday	Monday 10 June		
ASSEMBLY	Friday 14 June	2.15pm School Library	
Whole school excursion to Mt Annan	Tuesday 2 July	WHOLE SCHOOL	NOTES DUE BY June 18 Free
LAST DAY TERM 2	FRIDAY 5 JULY	HAPPY AND SAFE WINTER HOLIDAYS	
FIRST DAY TERM 3	TUESDAY 23 JULY	WELCOME BACK TERM 3	

E&OE (updated 28.5.2019)

Please check all notes for official dates.

Dates set may be changed due to unforeseen circumstances.

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