### Calendar

**Term 1 Week 11**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 8 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 2 Week 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26 April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27 April</td>
<td>Students return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 28 April</td>
<td>Athletics Program at Beaton Park- wear sports uniform. Parents drop children at 9.15am</td>
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</tbody>
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**Term 2 Week 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 6 May</td>
<td>P and C Mothers’ Day stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 7 May</td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Term 2 Other important dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 10 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Writing 9.15am and Language Conventions 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Reading 9.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Numeracy 9.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 12 May</td>
<td>Athletics Program at Beaton Park- wear sports uniform. Parents drop up children at 3.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 13 May</td>
<td>Year 6 Grip Leadership Conference-UOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18 May</td>
<td>District Cross Country- selected competitors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 19 May</td>
<td>Athletics Program and Carnival at Beaton Park- all day. Parent drop off and pick up 9.15am and 3.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24 May</td>
<td>Whole School Musica Viva Performance-in school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 May</td>
<td>Oz Tag Gala Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27 May</td>
<td>Whole School Walkathon SRC Fundraiser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 30 May</td>
<td>ICAS Science Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 June</td>
<td>Whole school performance at nursing home 10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 3 June</td>
<td>Whole School Netball Clinics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 10 June</td>
<td>Whole School Netball Clinics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wednesday 15 June   ICAS Spelling Assessment  
Thursday 16 June     ICAS Writing Assessment  
Friday 17 June       Children’s Disco  
Saturday 18 June     Progressive Dinner  
Monday 20 June       WHSPA Enrichment Day- Year 6  
Thursday 30 June     Showcase Assembly 2.15pm  

**Principal’s Message**

Dear Parents

**Congratulations Mrs Hay!**

I am thrilled to advise the school community that Mrs Angela Hay has been appointed to the position of Educational Services Support Officer at Warilla Office, each Monday and Tuesday throughout Term 2. This is a well-deserved promotion for Mrs Hay and I wish her all the best in her new role. We are lucky that Mrs Hay will be able to juggle her new role while also still working at Mount Keira.

At our school in Term 2, the roles of Learning and Support Teacher, Learning Support Team Co-ordinator, Librarian and Release Teacher will be filled by Mrs Hay each Wednesday and Thursday and Miss Saunders each Tuesday and Thursday.

**Congratulations Andrew!**

In other exciting news, Andrew has been successful in his application to attend an Academically Gifted class for Year 5 students from all schools across the Wollongong area. Entry to this class is highly-contested and it is a huge achievement for Andrew to have been successful in his application. Andrew will be attending this class at Tarrawanna PS each Tuesday throughout 2016. Congratulations Andrew, we are all very proud of you.

**Showcase Assembly**

This morning, our school hosted our Showcase Assembly for Term 1 2016. This beautiful morning gave our children the opportunity to proudly present their learning of the past 11 weeks to their families. A highlight of the morning was the whole-school performance of the song “Kind-hearted Hand” that demonstrated our children’s understanding of the value of kindness that was a component of our whole-school Rich Task this term.
Thank you to our P & C who hosted an amazing morning tea. What a fabulous selection of tasty treats were on offer!

**Celebrating Earth Hour**

Our hard-working Eco Team, under the leadership of Miss Saunders, led our school through some environmental activities today to celebrate Earth Hour. A representative from Bunnings spoke to our students about energy-saving initiatives in the home and at school, before our children participated in activities to encourage awareness of environmental matters, such as recycling old clothing items to make reusable shopping bags. Our Eco-team are hoping to visit Wollongong Central early next term to give these recycled bags to shoppers. Please keep donating old T-shirts from family members to support our children with this worthy initiative.

**Enrichment Day**

Yesterday, I had the pleasure of accompanying our Year 6 children to Wollongong High School of the Performing Arts for an Enrichment Day. Our children participated in a Drama workshop. This important initiative is a component of the school’s Transition Program to support students as they exit their primary years and embark on their high-school journey. This Enrichment Day was offered to all of our Year 6 students, regardless of which high school they will be attending in 2017. Thank you to Ms Armstrong, Transition Co-ordinator for WHSPA for co-ordinating this special morning for us. We look forward to attending another Enrichment Day at WHSPA in Term 2.

**April Fools’ Day Breakfast**

Last Friday morning was a lot of fun as our P&C hosted an April Fools’ Day Brekky. Our school appreciates all of the efforts of our P&C in providing enjoyable activities that engage our school community and also much-needed money through your fundraising efforts. Thank you for a wonderful morning!

**ANZAC Service**

Last Thursday, our student leaders hosted our annual ANZAC service. It was a moving occasion that allowed us all to remember our Australian soldiers and their acts of bravery and heroism. Thank you to our student leaders for the respectful and dignified manner in which they conducted this service.

**Parent-teacher-student Interviews**

Over the last few weeks, members of our school community have been involved in three-way interviews where children teachers and parents have met to discuss the learning goals of each child, progress towards them and where children are heading to next along the learning continuum. I warmly thank all parents, children and teachers who have participated in these conferences. I would
highly value parent feedback on the two major changes to this process that we have implemented this year:

- the timing of the interviews—traditionally held in July, these interviews have occurred earlier this year to enable open dialogue about a child’s learning to be had in a more timely fashion
- the participation of children in the interviews.

Please email me your thoughts regarding these changes to michelle.deebank@det.nsw.edu.au. Your thoughts will shape the time and format of interviews in future years.

Sport for Term 2

During the first few weeks of Term 2, the development of skills in both track and field events will be our whole-school sporting focus.

As the school has limited space and sporting equipment, we will be travelling to Beaton Park on 28 April and 12 May for practice in Athletics activities in the lead-up to our carnival to be held on 19 May also at Beaton Park. Please ensure you have input the Skoolbag e-permission note, which was sent out last week, for this activity. We need to have all permissions in order by the end of term.

Later in the term our children will be participating in a netball clinic to be held on the school grounds.

Our visits to Beaton Park and also our participation in the netball clinic will be largely subsidised by the sporting grant that our school was successful in obtaining earlier this year.

Attention Year 4 parents - OC Class Placement for Year 5 in 2017

Opportunity classes cater for high achieving academically gifted students who may otherwise be without classmates at their own academic and social level. These schools help gifted and talented students to learn by grouping them with other gifted and talented students, teaching them in specialised ways and providing educational materials at the appropriate level. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 27 July 2016.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 5 opportunity class entry in 2017, you need to apply soon.

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 26 April 2016 in a printed application information booklet and at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement. A letter was sent home to all Year 4 students regarding OC Class Placement last Friday.

Calendar Dates for Term 2

Included in this Summit are many important dates for the school in Term 2. It looks like being another busy term, so please add these dates to your diaries. Please note, that there have been some minor changes to some dates previously given, such as some of the dates of the ICAS assessments.
Celebrating the many achievements of our school throughout Term 1, 2016

Our school is currently working towards the achievement of our Three Strategic Directions as outlined in our School Plan 2015-2017, that can be found on our school website under the tab – Our School. Our three Strategic Directions are Differentiated and Personalised Learning, a Rich, Relevant and Future-focused Curriculum and an Inclusive and Connected Community. Term 1 has been a very busy and highly productive term for all members of our school community and we have achieved many milestones over the last 11 weeks. Some of the milestones that have been achieved in pursuit of our Strategic Directions so far this year are:

Differentiated and Personalised Learning

- full implementation of our school Assessment and Reporting Schedule that was developed last year;
- evidence-informed decision-making to inform Learning and Support allocation throughout the school based on student assessment data;
- implementation of a consistent maths program (Go Maths) across the school;
- Performance and Development Plans developed for all teaching staff;
- collegial and collaborative practices developed for the sharing of literacy practices and programs across the school;
- Mrs Robinson participated in a GROWTH Leadership Coaching course;
- teacher professional learning to ensure quality mentoring practices and capacities for teachers supporting pre-service teachers learning at our school and
- Four pre-service teachers completing a practicum experience at our school.

A Rich, Relevant and Future-focused Curriculum

- full implementation of our school’s school Scope and Sequence for HSIE, History, Science and Creative Arts developed last year;
- full implementation of our school’s Fundamental Movement Skills Framework developed last year;
- Curriculum Leaders within our school working collegially with leaders from neighbouring schools to provide quality curriculum delivery across all Key Learning Areas;
- Professional Learning for new teachers to our school on the principles of Concept-based Learning Principles and planning for Rich Tasks;
- Professional Learning for all teachers on the importance of Visible Learning and exploration of the effect sizes of school programs and initiatives;
- establishment of a Robotics Club supported by students from Smiths Hill HS and the purchase of resources to support this initiative and
- the purchase of i-pads and laptops to support curriculum delivery across the school
A Connected and Inclusive Community

- the development of our 2016 SRC Action Plan;
- the co-ordination of school initiatives by our student leaders – Harmony Day, ANZAC service, Easter celebrations;
- the establishment of an Eco-team and its leadership of Clean-up Australia at school and Wollongong Harbour, introduction of a classroom composting program, leadership of Earth Hour promotion and the making of Boomerang Bags;
- participation in a Gardening Club for students, parents and staff occurring each Tuesday during Lunch;
- the “Better Buddies” program introduced to support our children transition into Kindergarten;
- completion of a whole-school Rich Task, centred around the value of kindness;
- showcasing of Rich Tasks and Term 1 learning to our wider community;
- completion of the outdoor refurbishment, including the building of a retaining wall and the holding of a Working Bee;
- digital communication streamlined throughout the school, with all classes now using Class Dojo;
- a revised format for parent-teacher interviews to now include student involvement and to be held earlier in the school year;
- design and launch of a revised Enrichment Program with WHSPA to support transition to high school for our senior students and
- completion of deployment activities to support the launch of new model for business reform and school operations later in the year.

Well, it certainly has been a very busy start to the school year and it is no wonder that we are all feeling a tad exhausted! Thank you to all members of our school community—staff, parents and students who work hard each day to make our school such a wonderful place of learning for our children.

School Uniform

When school returns in Term 2 students have a choice of wearing either winter or summer uniform until Week 3 depending on the weather. From Week 3 all children should be wearing full winter uniform.

School Holidays

The upcoming Autumn school holidays will be commencing this Friday 8 April. Teachers will be returning to school on Tuesday 26 April with students returning on Wednesday 27 April. I wish everyone a safe and restful break and I look forward to seeing everyone after the holidays for a wonderful Term 2.
Regards

Michelle Barnes
Principal

What’s Due?

A reminder that student invoices are now overdue. Reminders were sent out again last week. If you are yet to make the payment please ensure you do so by the end of the week. If any family is having trouble meeting their payment please see Mrs Barnes to work out a repayment plan or to discuss financial assistance options that may be available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/ Note</th>
<th>Students Involved</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Invoice payments- reminders sent home again last week</td>
<td>Selected families</td>
<td>Overdue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P and C contribution $10-</td>
<td>All families</td>
<td>Overdue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5/6 Camp expression of interest (details sent home last week via Skoolbag)</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 students</td>
<td>Friday 8 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 Athletics permission note (details sent via Skoolbag this week)</td>
<td>All students</td>
<td>Overdue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library News

We have a number of new books that require covering. If you are able to assist please see Mrs Christlo during the holidays.

We have had a good response to finding overdue books. More notices were sent home late last week. Please ensure any overdue books are either returned or reborrowed before the holidays.

Student Representative Council (SRC) News

SAVE THE DATE!

What: Mount Keira Walk-a-thon
When: Friday May 27th
Why? For fun, fitness and to raise money for our artificial turf for the playground.

Our goal is $50 000. We are applying for various grants but our school will need to raise at least $25 000. This will be our major fundraiser this year as part of our SRC Action Plan. Please support this great SRC initiative.
P and C News

Mother's Day Stall

We have Mother’s Day covered for you this year! The P&C will be holding a Mother’s Day Chocolate stall on Friday 6th of May.

A small gift-wrapped bag of chocolates will be available for children to purchase for $5. They are a great gifts for grandmothers, aunts or friends.

You will be able to pre-order your chocolates via Skoolbag until Thursday 5th of May. Look out for your Skoolbag alert this week.

April Fools BBQ

We had a great time serving you at the April Fools BBQ last week. Thank you to the support of our cooks, servers and cleaners. Thank you also to all the eaters! What a delicious way it was to start a school day.

School Uniform Sale

These are the last few days for you to purchase uniform items from the school. Beginning in Term 2, you will only be able to purchase items at the Poppets shopfront in Fairy Meadow or online.

School hats and school bags will still remain available from the school.

Happy Holiday

The P&C wishes you all a happy school holiday time. We look forward to seeing you back in a few weeks.

Holly

P&C President

Our Assembly morning tea was a real treat for all. Thanks to everyone who bake and worked on the stall.