Dear Parents
Welcome to Week 6. Today we started looking at our value of respect. If we had to choose the value that should drive our behaviour more than any other we believe it would be, respect. We defined respect as showing regard or consideration to another person. Around our school you will see ER stickers—this for us means ‘Expect Respect’. How this translates to our every day is that everyone has the right to be treated with respect but we all have the responsibility to treat others with respect. On Thursday we have the Regional Swimming Carnival and we wish Harry Leo all the best as he represents our school and the Crossroads Zone. On Friday we are doing our bit for Clean Up Australia Day by cleaning our grounds and the footpath area around our school. You may wish to put a pair of gloves in your child’s bag for their use on Friday. We will be taking half an hour out of our day for this activity. Years 5 & 6 will be doing the footpath area outside and surrounding the school grounds. If you would ever like to discuss anything that
appears in the Tallong please contact me at school by phone, drop in for a chat or send me an email on 
james.hamilton@det.nsw.edu.au.

Have a great week
Ian Hamilton

ROCK BAND AUDITIONS
The following students have been successful in making this year’s Rock/pop band. Please come to the school hall Wednesday 8.am…

Emily Jones (Vocals)
Ellie Hanks (Vocals)
Jake Dobbie (Vocals)
Tulli Bernasconi (Vocals)
Sophie Greentree - (Vocals/Guitar)
Jessica McMurtrie (Guitar)
Erin Symes (piano)
Brock Stewart or Holly Couper (Guitar/Bass)** yet to be decided ??
Lachlan Hales (drums)
Reserves; (to be contacted when needed)
Brinley Gentle -(Reserve- Guitar)
Fletcher Rinkin (drums)
Rachel Pree (Vocals/piano)

Congratulations to all these students.
The selections in most cases reflect the length of musical training (3-5 yrs).
Thank you to all students who took the time to audition.(keep practising!!)

thanks
Chris McDonald

Sporting Representation and Trials

A number of students represented WSPS at Zone and Regional sports trials this week. By all reports, they were fine ambassadors and upheld our reputation for excellence, sportsmanship and commitment. Well done, Southy sports stars! Special mention and congratulations to three students who have progressed to higher levels of sporting representation.

- Luke Bull has been selected in the Crossroads Zone Rugby League team. He will play in the Hunter RL competition later this month.
- Alexa Page had an undefeated record in the Regional Tennis qualifiers. She has been selected in the Hunter team to compete in the NSW Championships in Tweed Heads next term.
- Livie Virtue placed second in the Regional Diving trials, competing in the 10yr Girls Springboard. She will represent the Hunter Region at the NSW Diving Championships in April at the Sydney Aquatic Centre.

Sporting trials continue at school this week in softball, soccer, netball and touch football. All students in the appropriate age groups are encouraged to have a go!
Change of go home arrangements
If you need to change arrangements for how your child is to go home, please do not ring between 1pm-2pm. This is the time our students man the phone and this is too important an issue to be handled incorrectly. Please do not email these instructions. It is vital this message is given verbally to a member of staff or in written form to the teacher directly.

Exemptions
Historically the Department allowed parents to apply for exemptions from school for extended overseas travel holidays. The rules have since been changed, and no longer are exemptions granted for travel outside of school holidays. If you are travelling for an extended period and you make the teacher or myself aware of this, leave may be granted.

LIBRARY NEWS
We were sad to learn this week that Australian illustrator Kim Gamble passed away on the weekend. Kim is responsible for illustrating the “Tashi” series by Anna Fienberg and Year 6 students have learned that he illustrated many of Morris Gleitzman’s book covers. The Tashi series has been particularly popular over the years with our Year 3 and 4 students.

A new book has been purchased for the school. It is titled “Winning Goals: History of Wallsend Soccer Football Club”. This book covers the game of football (soccer) from 1887 to 2015 in our region as well as many historical events that are significant to Wallsend and the surrounding areas, including the era of the coal mines and the Women’s prison. It will be available for the children to borrow in the coming weeks.

Students in Years 4, 5 & 6 are reminded to return their Public Library membership notes in readiness for future research activities.

Teacher Librarians

Jewellery
School is not the place for excessive jewellery. If students wish to wear earrings they must be studs for their own safety. Similarly chokers, multiple bangles, anklets etc are not part of our uniform.

Best and Fairest – Year 4
Year 4 want to identify the people who play fairly in the playground. Each day, students have one vote and are able to vote for either the person they believe is playing most fairly, or for a person who is not following our expectations. This week, we had a draw. The Best and Fairest winners are…

Abigail Spannenberg 4S and Giles Harrison 4J

Congratulations, Abigail and Giles. We are very proud of you.
Super Six Strategy: Questioning

Learners pose and answer questions that clarify meaning and promote deeper understanding of the test. Questions may be generated by the learner, a peer or an adult helper.

Questions you can ask your child (or they can ask themselves):

- What in the text helped me know that?
- How is this text making you feel? Why is that?
- When you read the text, did it remind you of anything you know about? Why?
- What did the author of the text mean by ...?
- Whose point of view is this? What points of view are missing?

P & C News

Thank you to everyone who has already made a donation towards our Easter Raffle, the box for the donations is outside Mr Hamilton’s Office for those that would still like to donate. The tickets will be sent home with the children this week so keep a look out. There will also be 3 seller’s prizes for the children to win. They will each get an entry into the draw when they bring back their sold ticket booklet. Please write their name and class on the yellow ticket cover.

Today we are sending home the information on the Entertainment Book. Please take a few minutes to read the information as this has been in the past a great thing for families as well as a great fundraiser for the school.

Don’t forget we have a number of winter items that are no longer going to be stocked by the Uniform Shop, so now is the time to get in and grab a bargain for just $10.

Mel O'Brien
P & C President

GRA-HAM-ES TAE KWON DO

Tae Kwon Do classes are held in the WSPS school hall.

When: Monday and Thursday nights

Time 6pm-7pm

BEGINNERS ALWAYS WELCOME

Contact Graham on 0422 782 186
Good for Kids good for life

START THE DAY RIGHT WITH BREAKFAST

We’ve all heard that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and it’s true! Research has shown that children who eat breakfast before school have higher levels of concentration and are less likely to feel lethargic.

Below are some ideas for a nutritious breakfast:

- Wholegrain cereals such as Weetbix, Cheerios and Sultana Bran
- Untoasted muesli topped with low fat yoghurt
- Wholegrain toast topped with avocado, tomato or low fat cheese
- Raisin toast
- Fruit & vegetable smoothies

If you’re short on time, some quick ideas to send to school with your child includes: a tub of low fat yoghurt, cereal to munch such as fruity bites, breakfast drinks such as Up & Go or some fruit.