Parents, Carers and our Community,

Over lunch on the weekend a close friend of mine said to me, “You must be relaxed and winding down now, only a few weeks to go.” Well, he didn’t really get the answer he thought he would get. I promptly responded that before the end of the year …

- Staff need to complete the stocktake of all resources including library materials,
- Staff will complete the assessment of every student, match assessment results to standards and write informative student report cards,
- Admin will read each and every report card and issue to families in the last week of school,
- All 4,5,6 and 7s will be involved in selecting school leaders for 2014,
- Plans for 2014 will be made including: student class lists, staffing arrangements, room allocations (including room moves),
- All staff will plan for 2014 including the introduction of Geography into the curriculum,
- Admin and school teams will plan for the 3 student free days at the start of next year,
- All staff need to get their folios of student evidence in order for filing,
- Year 7 Graduation will be organised and run seamlessly,
- Prep to Year 3 will have completed swimming lessons,
- Year level and class celebrations.

Now keep in mind this does not include that each and every day our dedicated teachers will be making the most of their learning time with students working hard in class on reading, writing and numeracy.

As you can see, the winding down will not happen for quite some time. Your support in encouraging great behaviour from your children, reinforcing that they will work hard each and every day till the end of the year and supporting your teacher’s work in class is very much appreciated.

In short, I do believe the last few weeks are rewarding, however, some of the most demanding weeks of the school year. I guarantee my friend won’t talk to me about winding down until Saturday, December 14.

School Opinion Survey – 2013

Our School Opinion Survey results were released last week. Surveys were completed by parents (randomly selected sample), students (all year 4 and 6 students) and staff (all teaching and non-teaching staff). Our results were fantastic.
Parent Opinion Survey

There were 35 surveys returned. Percentages in approval of the following statements:

- 100% - Teachers at this school expect my child to do his or her best (above State average)
- 97.1% - Teachers at this school motivate my child to learn (above State average)
- 97.1% - I can talk to teachers about my concerns (above State average)
- 97.1% - This school gives my child opportunities to do interesting things (above State average)
- 100% - Staff at this school are approachable (above State average)
- 97.1% - This school has a strong sense of community (above State average)
- 97.1% - This school celebrates student achievements (above State average)

Student Survey

There were 113 Year 5 and 6 students surveyed. Percentages in approval of the following statements:

- 100% - My teachers expect me to do my best (above State average)
- 97.3% - My teachers motivate me to learn (above State average)
- 97.3% - My teachers provide me with useful feedback about my school work (above State average)
- 99.1% - I am getting a good education at my school (above State average)
- 99.1% - I am encouraged to use computers and other technologies for learning (above State average)
- 99.1% - My schoolwork challenges me to think (above State average)
- 97.3% - My teachers clearly explain what is required in my school work (above State average)
- 98.2% - My school encourages me to participate in school activities (above State average)
- 92.9% - This is a good school (above State average)

Teacher Survey - Teaching and Non-Teaching staff

There were 15 non-teaching and 24 teaching staff responses. Percentages of approval of the following statements:

- 100% - I enjoy working at this school
- 100% - I receive useful feedback about my work at this school
- 100% - Students are encouraged to do their best at this school
- 100% - I feel that social, cultural and racial diversity are respected at this school
- 100% - Staff are well supported at this school
- 100% - This school is well maintained
- 100% - This is a good school

Well done Wulguru. This School is certainly a community asset where parents, carers, students and staff work together and high expectations for each and every child.

Assistant Regional Directors Visit

Today I meet with the ARD to discuss our school’s progress and achievement. We will be discussing the performance of our students, our teaching practices, our school processes and identifying possible areas for improvement in 2014. I am looking forward to this meeting as I am proud of (as a school) the journey we have travelled this year.

P and C Meeting

I would like to express my thank you to the hardworking P and C executive and members. I attended the last meeting this Monday night and as always, it was professionally run and focussed on ‘all that is best’ for Wulguru SS. I challenge all parents to attend the P and C and contribute to your child’s school. It is worthwhile as well as good fun. Thank you P and C, keep working with apoloistic zeal.

End of Term

Next Wednesday morning we will have our last formal parade. We will have one in the last week of school to farewell our students (this time is not decided as yet). I will send out a short newsletter in the last week to provide a wrap up of the week and to say farewell to the Wulguru community.

Sincerely

John Kratzmann
Learning Together Opens a World of Opportunities

Deputy News

School Camps
Our school offers school camps for students from Year 4 to Year 7. These are not 'reward' camps but part of our school program where all students are expected to participate. Cost of camps are expensive particular for those students from Years 5 to 7. The Year 6 & 7 camp will cost over $300, whilst the Year 5 camp will cost towards $300.

We understand it is a lot of money for parents but the school is willing to help you. You can enter a payment plan where you can pay the costs off over 9 months (you can start now) or ask Centrelink to make payments to the school.

We can't always offer raffles to parents so that they can raise this money so please take steps now to ensure your child can attend camp. We’d like all students to attend and it will be something they will thank you for and remember for many years to come.

Classes For 2014
The aim is to publish class lists late Friday afternoon before school commences next year ie January 23rd. Lists can be found under C Block on the notice board.

Our school numbers have grown this year since the beginning of the year and with some of the Stuart students enrolling at our school our school will grow by an extra classroom.

While we will do our best to create the right class break-ups it may not be until Week 2 of term 1 that this is finalised and some classes may need to be re-organised.

If you know of any families moving to Wulguru who intend to enrol their children at our school (or any one leaving our school) please let us know. When we have accurate enrolment information we can make the best decisions. Thanks

Tony Di Giacomo

From the Sports Desk

2013 Sports Awards
Next Friday, 6th December, we will be holding the annual Wulguru State School Sports Awards. These awards will be held in the hall, commencing at 11.15am. The purpose of these awards is to recognise and celebrate the sporting achievements, in 2013, of Wulguru State School. At these awards the 2013 Sports Girl and Sports Boy of the year will be announced. We will also be announcing the winner of the House Cup.

One of the main objectives of Interschool Sport is to provide students with a variety of sporting experiences. Data shows, that for many students, the only form of organised sport they experience is at Primary School.

In the last newsletter I shared the team success throughout the year. From an individual perspective we had 29 students gain selection in a Townsville District team, and a staggering 8 students compete for North Queensland at a State Championship. To top that off we currently have Trisha Starlight-Clumpoint competing against all the other children, across Australia, as she runs for Queensland at the National Track & Field Championships. This is an outstanding achievement for a school of our size.

LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM PREP - 3
This Program starts on Monday, 2nd December. The cost of this program is $55 for 7 x Lessons. This cost also includes bus fare. TODAY is the final day for payment to be made. Arrangements for a payment plan can be made at the office.

LUNCH TIME GAMES
Last week Wakara defeated Biari in the final of the Yr 4 & 5 Tee-Ball Lunch Time Challenge. Congratulations to all students that were involved in these matches. Tomorrow the Yr 6 & 7 students will start a Lunch Time Touch competition. Results of these games will see Houses earn points towards the House Cup.

Brook Wilson
In 3M we are working hard on improving our fluency and comprehension. Here are some of the tips that have helped us improve our reading...

- "If you get stuck on a word, just read on and then come back to it"  
  - Tolawha

- "We are so good at reading we have even written our own books!"  
  - Travis, Cathy & Joel

- "Home reading is important because you can read different books and get more practice."  
  - Liana

- "The storyboard lets us read whenever we want and we can see the whole story"  
  - Maxx & Wylie

- "Working in a small group with a teacher helps us get better at reading because we can work together and have fun!"  
  - Mariah & Cameron

- "My goal is to get to reading level 19 by the end of the year. I'm going to read with my teacher so that I get better."  
  - Logan

- "Reading in a group is good because there are people to help you if you don't know a word"  
  - Aly & Justin
Learning Together Opens a World of Opportunities

Term 4, Week 8

Page 5

Maths

Out and About

Learning with our friends

Prep S
**Students of the Week**

- Taylan Gorry—PB
- Bella Jefferies—PS
- Rose Wellson—1B
- Issabella Spence—1H
- Jarrod Rosser—2XO
- Haylee Phillips—2XO
- Aly Massengale—3M
- Ben Mazlin—3C
- Tamara O'Grady—3/4T
- Lyncon More—PB
- Eden Ireland—PS
- Tavia Long—1B
- Joshua Stahre—1H
- Rayvenna Colwell—2XO
- Maddy Carr—2XO
- Cameron Huston—3M
- Brenton Dickson—3C
- Tyson Pratt—3/4T

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**Emergency Lunches**

These lunches are provided at lunch 1 for any children who are without lunch. However, it is only an emergency lunch. Some children are regularly seeking lunch every day. Parents will be notified if their child regularly turns up. At this stage of the year, we can no longer provide anymore lunches as we are unable to fund this program.

**Chappy Phil/Peita**

**Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you so much to all those here at Wulguru State School who supported Operation Christmas Child this year. You have helped put smiles on faces, bringing joy and hope to children in need with gift-filled shoeboxes for Christmas this year, WELL DONE!

By now each class room who participated should have received an instruction sheet on how to see where in the world your shoe box has been shipped too. I want to encourage you all to get online and check it out as it’s exciting to know we are making a difference. We were able to send 15 boxes this year......make sure you tell Chappy Peita when she returns next year how exciting it has been and how we are going to try and outdo ourselves for next year.

Thanks for supporting this great cause and for your support of Chaplaincy in this wonderful school.

Chappy Peita and Chappy Phil.

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**P&C**

Well this year is almost over, and we are looking forward to a well-deserved break. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the active members of the P&C for their contribution and support in 2013. We are small but mighty! Special thanks must go to John Croft, Stella Bull & Melissa Crawford and my Mum Liz. Sadly we lose John next year, as his daughter is going off to high school. John has been running the Stuart pub raffles most Friday nights, and has done a fantastic job. However, it’s not just for running the pub raffles that we thank you for, it’s for the 9 years you have contributed to Wulguru P&C / School. We would also like to thank Jean Croft, Johns wife, for her help and support over the years as well. We wish you and your lovely family all the very best and will certainly miss your expertise. A Pub Raffle Co-ordinator will be needed early next year so that we are able to continue this fundraising endeavour. So if you are thinking of helping and have a couple of hours on a Friday night, this very important job might just be for you.

We would also like to thank all the families and friends that have volunteered in the school in 2013.

Mr K, the P&C would like to thank you for your dedication and support over the past few months. We hope you have enjoyed working at our school and wish you the very best for 2014. To the wonderful staff, teaching, admin, support, cleaning, or grounds, thank you all for supporting the P&C and its endeavours.

Congratulations to all of the graduating year 7’s. We would like to thank you and your families for your support over the years, and wish you the very best for the future.

To the fabulous P&C staff, Annette, Caitlin, Emma, Emily, Bianca, thank you for your commitment and assistance ladies you do an awesome job! I would also like to thank my family for all the time you have given to help the P&C, for without your support I couldn’t get everything organized.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas. We hope Santa is good to you and you have a safe and happy holiday. We hope to see you at the AGM in February.

Kathy Waldon

Learning Together Opens a World of Opportunities
**Tuckshop Tales**

As this is the last newsletter for 2013 and due to the intentional running down of stocks, some items on the menu may not be available and a substitute will be given or your child will be advised to come to the tuckshop to choose another item. However I will try to make these as minimal as possible. Just a friendly reminder that on Thursday 12th December the tuckshop will be open for a limited time for over the counter sales only. NO cold/hot food will be prepared on this day as children have their class parties. Friday 13th December TUCKSHOP CLOSED for final end of year clean and stocktake. To all my wonderful volunteers that have helped out in 2013 a big thank you to all. Hope to see you all in 2014.

Annette Winfield

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**Tuckshop Roster**

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<th>Day</th>
<th>Vol 1</th>
<th>Vol 2</th>
<th>Vol 3</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Joanne</td>
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<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>Kristy</td>
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**SAINTS NETBALL CLUB INC**

2014 SEASON SIGN ON DATES

Juniors aged 7yrs – 18yrs

SATURDAY 18th JANUARY, RSL Stadium, Annandale
9am – 12 noon
OR
WEDNESDAY 29th JANUARY - TCNA
Outdoor Courts Murray
5pm - 8pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
KRISTINA MOORE 0400 721118
NEW & RETURNING PLAYERS WELCOME!

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**OSHC News**

**Vacation Care**

The end of the school year is fast approaching and we have an exciting Vacation Care program for the December 2013/January 2014 school holidays!

Our excursions include going to the movies, Reef HQ, Riverway, Billabong Sanctuary, Strand Water Park and Pizza Hut, as well as plenty of fun activities to do at the centre.

Our opening days for the school holidays are:

December 16th - 20th 2013 (1 week)
We are then closed between December 21st 2013 - January 5th 2014
January 6th - 24th 2014 (3 weeks)

We are open between 7:30am-6:00pm and the daily fee is $45 (before Centrelink subsidy).

If you have a child starting Prep in 2014, they are able to start attending OSHC in January.

Come on in and pick up one of our programs and enrolment forms or email me on wulguruoshc@hotmail.com and I can send one out to you. Any questions, please don’t hesitate to come and see me or give me a call on 4729 1833.

**Accounts**

Accounts need to be cleared up and at $0.00 on the last day of school - Friday, December 13th. Your child/ren will not be able to attend Vacation Care until accounts are paid. If you have any issues with this, please do not hesitate to come and see me to discuss this further.

If your child/ren have attended the centre as "Emergency Care", it would be great if we could have these accounts sorted by this date also.

**Uniform Shop**

School uniforms will be available to purchase during the school holidays on the following days/times next year:

Thursday, 23rd January - 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Friday, 24th January - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Alternatively, you can contact Outside School Hours Care on 4729 1833 to arrange a time to come in. Please do not turn up unannounced as it could be at an inconvenient time or we could be out of the school on an excursion.

Order forms can be filled in prior to this time for collection and payment on these two days. Payment can be made by cash, cheque or EFTPOS. Please make cheques payable to "Wulguru P&C Association".

Caitlin

Wulguru SS P&C Outside School Hours Care
STUART HOTEL-MOTEL

Phone  (07) 4778 1804  Fax   (07) 4778 1896
Stuart Drive  Wulguru, 4811

*Fish & Chips
*Burgers
*Sandwiches
*Catering Deals Available
OPEN FROM 10:00AM DAILY
Phone: 4778 2831

ROBERT POOLE’S
PHARMACY
Trading Hours
8am - 6pm • Mon-Fri
8am - 6pm • Sat, Sun & Public Holidays
Fairfield Central
Shopping Centre
Ph. 4778 2095  Fax 4778 3223

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