



# The River News

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Issue 1 - Term 1 – Week 2

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2017

## Important Dates – TERM 1

### Week 2

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	Senior Dance commences PSSA Trials
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Junior Dance commences PSSA Trials Welcome Picnic 5.30pm

### Week 3

Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Summer Reading Challenge BBQ
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	PSSA commences

### Week 4

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	P&C Meeting
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Textbook Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	PSSA

Welcome to the 2017 school year. I trust you had an enjoyable summer vacation and festive season. 2017 sees a number of staffing changes. The school would like to welcome Mr Livesey, Mr Westwood and Mrs Courtney to our teaching staff. Mrs Courtney is taking up the role of Assistant Principal. Mr Rasborsek has joined our staff as the General Assistant. Mrs Gorscak and Mrs Lane are the Office Managers. Mrs Gorscak will be in the office on Monday, Thursday and Friday with Mrs Lane Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Sheehy has been appointed as our school counsellor and will be at Woronora River every second Friday. Mrs Considine is taking leave for this year. Mrs Castle is continuing her leave for Term 1.

Thank you for patience and support over the opening week of the school year as we await final numbers and class allocations. I am anticipating that classes will be finalised by the end of the week.

This fortnightly newsletter and our school website offer up to date information about key dates and events. Copies of correspondence and notes are located on the notes tab on the school website. The school office is open from 8.45am to 3.30pm on school days.

### Big School

Welcome to our 2017 kinder class and their families. There were so many excited little faces this morning gathered in the playground. They looked so grown up in their uniforms and had a wonderful time at Sport in Schools. Year 6 was so happy to catch up with their buddies and show them around our beautiful school.

### Welcome Picnic

Our annual Welcome to the School Year Picnic will be held this Friday (3<sup>rd</sup> February) from 5.30pm to 7pm on the bottom oval. This is a great opportunity to meet other school community members and mingle, particularly for our new families. Please bring a rug, some picnic food and some chairs and join in the fun. This is an informal evening and all children are to be supervised by their families.

### Sport in Schools

Our Sport in Schools program commenced today. This program delivers fundamental movement skills and gross motor skills and is a highlight on our sporting calendar. The program promotes teamwork, cooperation and healthy lifestyles whilst delivering fun, engaging and challenging physical activities for all students from Kindergarten through to Year Six. The program will run for 10 weeks and conclude on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April. Please ensure students are dressed in sports uniform each Wednesday. Payment for the program is due at the school office by 15<sup>th</sup> February.

### PSSA

PSSA trials will be held this Thursday and Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> February). Possible options include Touch Football, Kanga Cricket and Softball. Sports options will be finalised when interested student numbers are known. The PSSA competition begins Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. A draw will be distributed when it is finalised by Sutherland PSSA.

### Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all students who completed the Summer Reading Challenge. It is encouraging to see the number of students who accepted this challenge, continuing with their reading through the holidays. Reading logs should be handed to Mrs Simula by the end of this week.

There will be a celebration barbeque for the Reading Challenge participants on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February during school time.

### Mobile Phones

Students who bring a mobile phone to school are required to follow the school's mobile phone and other devices policy. Parents need to complete a form to indicate their child understands the policy. Forms are available on request from the school office and on the school's website.

### Late Arrivals/Early Departures

Please ensure you stop off at the office to complete late arrival and early departure slips. Late arrival slips are needed for any arrival after the morning bell. Please note that 'late' as a reason will be marked as 'unjustified' in the roll. If you are intending to take a family vacation of more than 5 school days please ask for an application for extended leave at the office. Please note that family holidays are marked as 'leave' for roll marking purposes and will count in students' attendance tallies. Please ensure all absences are explained in writing or by phone within 7 days. Absence explanations may be emailed to the school email account. Absences that are not explained are marked as 'unjustified' within this period.

### Crunch 'n Sip

Our Crunch 'n Sip program will continue in 2017. This is a quick, 5-10 minute break at 10am when students eat a healthy snack of either fruit or vegetables. This food should be easy to eat and should be finished within the 10 minute time frame. This short break allows the children to refocus and

recharge for their lessons as well as promote healthy eating across the school.

### Activity Payments

PSSA, incursions and excursions support the curriculum content taught in classes. These activities are selected to support and extend your child's learning. Many extra-curricular activities are provided by the staff at WRPS, some of which incur a cost to families. Payment for these activities is appreciated by the due date. Where payment has not been received for these activities by the due date, students will be unable to participate. Please speak with our administration staff or Mrs Simula if you are experiencing financial difficulties.

### Playground Updates

Just in case you have missed it – the shade sail was installed in the top playground over the Christmas vacation. A huge and heartfelt thank you to our wonderful P&C for funding this project and providing the students with some much needed shade in the top playground.

The Before and After School Care building also had a lick of fresh paint over the holidays.

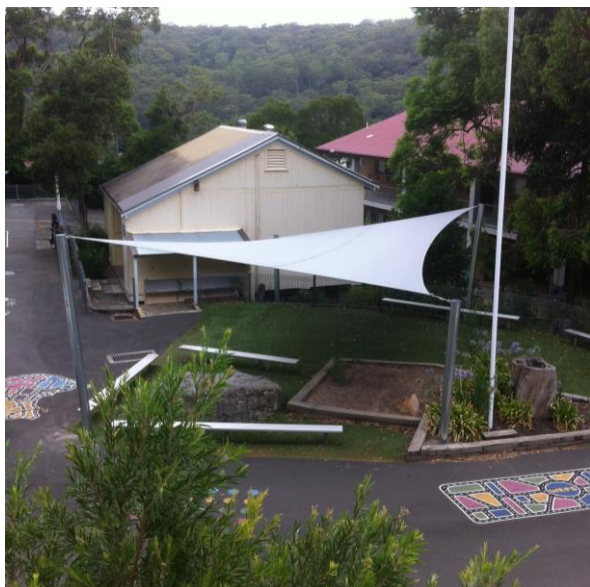
### Canteen

Our school canteen provides a quality service to our school families and is run on a voluntary basis by the P&C. Volunteering in the canteen is a great way to meet other parents and carers, is an easy way to help our school and also offers the opportunity to learn new skills. The P&C is looking for volunteers to work in the canteen; cooking and serving on Mondays and Fridays, prep cooking of canteen items mid-week, and are also looking for interested people who would like to help in the management of this great school asset. Committee member roles include ordering, rostering, coordination and financial management. If you can volunteer your time in Term 1 or are interested in joining the committee, please complete and return the form to the school office sent home today. Please be aware that the canteen will be closed on days that do not have enough volunteers.

Karen Simula  
**Principal**



## New Shade Sail!!



## Kindergarten 2017

