Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a busy 2 weeks it has been! Our performing arts festivals have kept us all on our toes with the frantic pace of rehearsals, matinees and evening performances and our NAIDOC Day activities engaged both staff and students with displays, cultural talks, art work and performances. Our 40th anniversary celebrations, including our open classrooms and special assembly, ensured that Werrington Public School was positively humming with energy, enthusiasm and engagement.

I have never been prouder of our students as I have been over the past 2 weeks. Despite the changes to routine and the busyness of each and every day, they put their “best feet” forward and continued to work well together in both the classroom and in the playground. Well done, Werrington students!

Of course, a big thank you must go to all our staff who have worked tirelessly to make these events happen and to keep the school running smoothly. They have been ably supported in this by a band of wonderful and willing parent and community helpers. Thank you one and all!

Teacher Leave
Mrs Little will be on long service leave for 4 weeks. Miss De Guzman will be teaching 1L. Mrs Mason will provide assistant principal support for Years 1 and 2 whilst Mrs Little is away.

Teacher Professional Learning
Regularly, teachers and staff undertake professional learning to keep up to date with the latest theory, research and practice in education. Most of these are held after school hours! These sessions include:

- Mr Carters and Mrs Thompson at a school planning workshop
- Mrs Little at an Aboriginal Education conference
- Mrs Brandies and Mrs Kilbourne at an ADHD workshop

Our teachers also attend professional learning sessions after school each Tuesday afternoon. This fortnight we are continuing our numeracy project with Mulgoa Public School and Cambridge Park Public School. We are also looking at our language instruction programs.

As you can see, our staff work hard to keep up to date and to improve their own professional knowledge for the benefit of our students and our school.

Have a great week!

Mrs Thompson
Principal
Werrington Public School
celebrates 40 Years
Congratulations to all staff and students on 40 Years of Education at Werrington Public School. A wonderful Open Day was had by all. It was fantastic to see the students showcase their classroom work and performing arts. The hall looked spectacular for the special assembly with all of the Naidoc artwork on display. Well done everyone! We hope the staff and children all enjoyed their special treat.

Thank you to the school community for visiting the libraries Whisper Room. We hope you enjoyed your morning tea as you looked through the memorabilia; it was wonderful to have this as part of the celebrations. Special mention needs to go to Mrs Sloan, Mrs Mowczan, Mrs Marks and Mrs Vella for your support. THANK YOU!!!!

The August Coin Challenge Fundraiser has started! Every Friday for the month of August, gold & silver coins will be collected in class. The highest fundraising classes in Primary, Infants and the Support Unit will receive a special class party at the end of the term. All profits from this fundraiser will be allocated to projects that will directly support every child at Werrington Public School. Thank you for your support.

Don’t forget our next P&C meeting, 6.30pm, 18th August 2014 in the office staffroom. If you can’t make it and would like to place something on the agenda please leave a message for the P&C at the office prior to the meeting. Light refreshments will be provided and everyone is welcome.

Kind regards
P&C committee

Enjoying morning tea!

Principals past and present.

Parents enjoying the photo display.

Celebration cake and classroom treats.
The NED Show

On Tuesday 22nd July The NED show visited Werrington Public. The students got to learn NED’s positive message of Never give Up Encourage Others and Do your best. These messages were combined with an awesome show of yoyo and magic skills. The students were glued to the seats as they participated in this motivational talk.

More activities and “how to” videos can be found on their website: www.theNEDshow.com

Kellie Taliana

The students enjoyed learning the yoyo tricks.

Emily was chosen to wear the special crown.
News from the Library

On Thursday 21st August we will be having a character book parade. On this day students may dress up as a book character. At 9:30am the students will parade around the library to show the other students their costumes. Parents are most welcome to watch the parade and see all the different costumes. During library lessons we have been discussing creative costumes they could easily make using things at home rather than buying a costume. I look forward to seeing all the different ideas students dress as.

Janette Buchan
Teacher Librarian

Dance and Choir at the Cambridge Park Performing Arts Festival

It has been a huge week this week, with Open Day and celebrating 40 years at Werrington Public School and our dance and choir groups were able to showcase their wonderful talent at our assembly. They continued to do our school proud, performing another three times this week in a Monday matinee and two evening shows. We would like to thank the students for their hard work and for their commitment, energy and enthusiasm at all performances. We were given several compliments on the level of talent shown at the performances. A huge thank you must also go to our wonderful dance teacher, Rhonda Cullen, for her continued support of our school.

Mrs Greentree, Mrs Gill, Miss Hall and Mrs Young
**FREE AUTHOR TALK WITH RANDA ABDEL-FATTAH**

**Thursday 21 August 6 - 7pm**

Randa Abdel-Fattah is an award-winning international author of eight novels, primarily for young adults. Her novels include: *Does My Head Look Big in This?, Ten Things I Hate About Me, Where The Streets Had A Name* and *Noah’s Law*. Her talk is aimed at 12-16 year olds. Randa is a passionate human rights activist, who addresses issues of bullying, identity, race, politics, prejudice and human rights. Every teen who attends will go in the draw to win Randa’s books. This is a free event but places are limited so pick up your tickets at Penrith Library desk, from Monday 28 July.

**Wednesday 20 August 5 - 8pm**

You’re invited to Penrith Library’s Annual Pyjama Night Storytime! Come and celebrate book week, dress in your favourite pyjamas and make a Duplo masterpiece in the Library Theatrette from 5 - 6pm. Then join us for storytime 6.30 - 8pm in the lower lounge. There will be songs, stories, puppets and musical instruments as well as lucky door prizes to be won.
FREE two day workshop and information sessions for PARENTS/CARERS of school age students on the autism spectrum

Workshop: 2014NSWPC10 Location: Penrith

The Positive Partnerships initiatives have been developed and delivered by Partnerships between Education and the Autism Community (PEAC) and funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, through the Helping Children with Autism package.

What will you learn?
As a result of participating in the workshops and information sessions as parents/carers you will gain:
- a greater understanding of the impact of autism on your child, both at school and at home
- knowledge about how to develop effective parent, school and teacher partnerships
- specific strategies on how to:
  - advocate for your child
  - support your child’s participation at school
  - develop an awareness of ongoing learning needs
- Information about your local school system’s processes
- opportunities to network and share strategies with other parents/carers and key community members
- opportunities for discussion around a range of topics relevant to students with an ASD and their families

Some key community representatives that support families living with autism will be identified and invited to participate in the workshop with a view to supporting a community focus beyond the workshop.

Workshop details
Venue: Event Centre @ Panthers
Mulgoa Road, Penrith NSW 2750

When: Two day workshop – Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13 August 2014
Day 1: 9.00 am - 4.30 pm (Registration from 8.15 am)
Day 2: 9.00 am - 3.30 pm

Registration opens Tuesday 1 July 2014 and closes 2 days prior.
Registration may stay open until one day before the workshop if spaces are still available, but we strongly recommend that you register as soon as possible.
You will receive a confirmation of your registration.
Online registrations preferred: please go to the website www.positivenetworks.com.au.

Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet and fax or mail to:
Fax: 02 9451 9641; Mail: Positive Partnerships, ASPECT, PO Box 361, Forestville NSW 2087

Positive Partnerships Info Line number: 1300 881 971

The Positive Partnerships initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism Package. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.
FREE two day workshop and information sessions for PARENTS/CARERS of school age students on the autism spectrum

Registration Form

To Register please go to the website www.positivelpartnerships.com.au
Only complete the following form if you do not have access to the internet.
This form allows you to register to attend the Parent/Carer Workshops and some information sessions
Each person attending must complete their own form even if from the same family.
The locations and dates for each of the Parent/Carer Workshops and Information Sessions were chosen through a collaborative planning process in each state and territory.
For more information, please contact parentcarer@autismspectrum.org.au or call 1300 881 971
The following information will help the Positive Partnerships facilitators best support you during the workshop


CONTACT INFORMATION
Title: [ ] Mr  [ ] Mrs  [ ] Ms  [ ] Prof  [ ] Dr.  [ ] Other: __________________________
First Name: __________________________  Last Name(s): __________________________
Email 1: __________________________  (for confirmation and reminders)
Email 2: __________________________  (for confirmation and reminders)
Mailing address: __________________________
City/Suburb: __________________________  State: __________________________  Postal Code: __________________________
Phone (daytime): (  )________________________  Phone (home): (  )________________________
Mobile Phone: __________________________
Access to Internet: [ ] At home  [ ] At work  [ ] At home and work
Computer Internet skills: [ ] Low  [ ] Moderate  [ ] High
How many children with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum do you have/care for:
[ ] Zero  [ ] One  [ ] Two  [ ] Three or more
What type of educational program is your child/are your children receiving?
[ ] Mainstream with support  [ ] Autism specific special class  [ ] Non autism specific special class
[ ] Autism specific special school  [ ] Special school  [ ] Other
Diagnosis: [ ] Autistic Disorder  [ ] Rett’s Disorder  [ ] Childhood Disintegrative Disorder  [ ] Asperger’s Disorder
[ ] Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS  [ ] Atypical autism  [ ] Autistic Characteristics  [ ] No Diagnosis
[ ] Other

GENERAL INFORMATION
The following information will help the Positive Partnerships facilitators best support you during the workshop.

Please answer by ticking (✓) the appropriate box
1. Are you [ ] Male?  [ ] Female?
2. Would like to attend the workshop as [ ] Parent?  [ ] Grandparent?  [ ] Fulltime Carer?
3. How did you hear about the workshop?
   □ Media □ School □ Autism Organisation □ Friend □ Other ________________

4. Have you attended a Positive Partnerships workshop before? □ Yes □ No

5. Have you attended an Early Days workshop before? □ Yes □ No

6. Are there any additional supports that would assist you at or beyond the workshop?
   □ Interpreter required – language ____________ □ Support accessing online resources
   □ Translation of information – language ____________ □ Literacy support □ Other: ____________

7. Do you identify with any of the following groups?
   □ Aboriginal or Torres Strait □ Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities
   □ Regional or Remote Community

ATTENDANCE
For catering purposes, please indicate which days you will attend
Attending Day 1: □ Yes □ No Attending Day 2: □ Yes □ No

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS
Please indicate if you have any dietary requirements
□ Vegetarian □ Vegan □ Gluten free □ Halal □ No nuts
□ No red meat □ No dairy products □ Other: ____________

INFORMATION SESSIONS
ON DAY TWO a number of information sessions will be conducted.
The following information is able to assist the Positive Partnerships Team to plan effectively for Day 2
Please indicate two areas of interest:
Sessions to choose from:
Completing work □ Making Friends □ Communication
Managing Everyday Transitions □ Bullying □ Siblings
Understanding Behaviour □ Sexuality, Personal Hygiene & Safety

CHILD INFORMATION
Please fill out the required information for each of your children who are on the Autism Spectrum. Please include the age group, the school name and the school address. These details will be used to prepare the information presented during the workshop.

YOUR REGISTRATION CAN NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS YOU COMPLETE THIS INFORMATION.

How many children with ASD do you have? ____________

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<th>Child no. 2</th>
<th>Child no. 3</th>
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<td>□ Under 5 □ 5-8 □ 9-13 □ 14-18</td>
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<td>How many years is it since your child’s diagnosis? □ no formal diagnosis yet □ less than two years □ more than two years</td>
<td>How many years is it since your child’s diagnosis? □ no formal diagnosis yet □ less than two years □ more than two years</td>
<td>How many years is it since your child’s diagnosis? □ no formal diagnosis yet □ less than two years □ more than two years</td>
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