Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to week 6, more than half way through the term. I have spent a good deal of time in the playground so far and it is apparent that the early and late timetable is working well. This new method of operation is benefiting the students, giving them more area to spread out in. Thank you to all the staff and especially Ms Nicol for making it work so effectively.

Parent /Teacher meetings are nearly here. Please take the opportunity to make an appointment with your child's teacher to learn how your child has transitioned into their new class/grade. The meetings take place during weeks 7, 8 and 9. Keep your eye out for a note that asks you to nominate times you are available to meet with the teacher.

Week 7 brings the second P&C meeting for the term. Congratulations to John Meagher for stepping into the role of President. This meeting will operate in a unique way. The new P&C executive will meet from 6pm next Tuesday 10 March to look at defining roles of the executive and the aims of the P&C. I believe the time is right to have job descriptions and purpose reinforced and/or modified. All parents are welcome to attend from 7pm to listen to and contribute to the workshop. Shirli Kirschner will be coordinating the evening. She believes it will take about two and a half hours, so an 8.30pm finish. The regular P&C agenda will not operate at this meeting.

The other P&C event next week is the disco. It serves as a welcome to new families and as the school's first community event fundraiser. Details are on the school notice boards as well as on the flyer students received last week. This disco will be for students of the school and their pre school siblings and of course parents. With our numbers the way they are, if at all possible please look for alternate arrangements for high school aged students.

I would also like to introduce something new this year. I will hold a Q&A session immediately after the morning bell in the last week of term to communicate, inform, discuss school matters, organisation etc. This meeting will not address personal situations, it is purely to clarify school matters. I will publish the date and times in the next newsletter.

School photos tomorrow. Please be sure you have completed your necessary paperwork.

Last week Ms Sparkes-Carroll and Mrs Garber asked the K-2 children to leave their 'Shopkins' (little toys that can be swapped) at home. Please reinforce this at home with your children. As always issues arise with fairness of swaps.

In Week 8 the Year 5 students are off to camp at the Narrabeen Sport and Recreation centre. This is a great experience for all Year 5 students, providing the opportunity for social relationships to grow across the entire grade, between the mainstream students and their new OC peers. I also look forward to getting to know as many of the new students as possible during my time at camp.

The school is always a work in progress. The Kindergarten courtyard is nearly complete, the new bubblers are still in the pipeline; the hand dryers for the students’ toilets were to be installed this week however once again trades people have an excuse. Six classrooms have been refurbished with painting and carpeting complete, supplementary furniture and blinds are still on the way. The school network and phones are still not perfect but new hardware cooked by the lightning strike has been ordered and is on its way; and the list goes on.

Please note that the deadline for applications to sit the ICAS tests and payment for them is 3.00 pm on 27 March 2015. At that date all entries need to be collated and the orders sent to University NSW with our payment. For this reason there will be no extensions to the deadline. Please take the time to look through the newsletter as more information is available on the following pages

Simon Symeou—Principal
2015

Thursday  
2015 P&C MEETINGS  
Tuesdays of Week 3 and Week 7 each term  
from 7:00pm in the staffroom.  
TERM 1: 10 FEBRUARY, 10 MARCH  
TERM 2: 5 MAY, 2 JUNE  
TERM 3: 28 JULY, 25 AUGUST  
TERM 4: 20 OCTOBER, 17 NOVEMBER

Friday  
TERM 1: 10 FEBRUARY, 10 MARCH  
TERM 2: 5 MAY, 2 JUNE  
TERM 3: 28 JULY, 25 AUGUST  
TERM 4: 20 OCTOBER, 17 NOVEMBER

March 6  
Thursday  
Years 3,4 and 6 Sport—Thursdays until March 26  
Year 5 Sport—Fridays until March 27 (except March 20)

Friday  
Class Photos

12  
Thursday  
Robotics 5B

13  
Friday  
Welcome Disco

16-20  
Parent Teacher Interviews

18-20  
Year 5 Camp

26  
Thursday  
DEADLINE for ICAS applications

27  
Friday  
Opera Australia performing Cinderella at school

30  
Monday  
Principal’s Awards Assembly

April 2  
Thursday  
LAST DAY TERM 1

April 21  
Tuesday  
Staff return

22  
Wednesday  
Students Return  
Year 2 Robotics

24  
Friday  
ANZAC Day Assembly 9.00 am

May 8  
Friday  
Mothers Day Assembly 9.00 am

12-14  
Tues-Thu  
Years 3 and 5 NAPLAN

15  
Friday  
Cross Country Carnival Years 3-6

April 21  
Tuesday  
Staff return

22  
Wednesday  
Students Return  
Year 2 Robotics

24  
Friday  
ANZAC Day Assembly 9.00 am

May 8  
Friday  
Mothers Day Assembly 9.00 am

12-14  
Tues-Thu  
Years 3 and 5 NAPLAN

15  
Friday  
Cross Country Carnival Years 3-6

Have a happy and safe holiday

2015 SCHOOL TERMS

Term 1, 2015: Wednesday 28 January to Thursday 2 April 2015
Term 2, 2015: Tuesday 21 April to Friday 26 June, 2015
Term 3, 2015: Tuesday 14 July to Friday 18 September, 2015
Term 4, 2015: Tuesday 6 October to Wednesday 16 December 2015
Scripture News

Scripture at Woollahra Public School started in Week 4 of this term. Scripture lessons run for half an hour on Tuesday mornings. All K-6 students have the option of attending the following religious classes:

- Anglican
- Buddhist
- Catholic
- Christian Orthodox
- Jewish
- Uniting

For those students who will not be participating in one of these religious groups two alternatives exist:

Ethics - Ethics is a branch of Philosophy that examines ethical concepts and issues. The Ethics curriculum comprises of age appropriate lessons on a wide range of topics. These classes have a strict policy of no more than 22 students per class.

Availability for classes to date is as follows:

- Year 1 – 10 spaces
- Year 3 – 8 spaces
- Year 4 – 6 spaces
- Year 5 – 5 spaces

Non Scripture – Non Scripture is held in the hall and is supervised by two teachers each week. The students read or are read to for this half-hour period.

Your child’s placement is based on enrolment information or notes sent to classroom teachers requesting particular placements. There have been some concerns regarding the enrolment forms from last year. The school issues enrolment forms as they are updated. Any discrepancies therefore, are out of our control. We apologise for any confusion regarding this.

If you would like your child to move out of a particular group and in to another, please put this in writing and pass it on to your classroom teacher. Students that are requesting changes mid-term will be placed in Non Scripture until the beginning of the following term to allow for minimal disruption to established classes.

Kind regards,
Belinda Sparkes-Carroll
K-6 Scripture Coordinator
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS for Term 1 have recently been posted to all families.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES, STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.
Please make sure you keep your receipts in a safe place as the school is not able to issue duplicate receipts.

CASH: Please place the correct amount of cash, together with any permission notes, in a sealed envelope with your child’s name, class and reason for paying. Give envelope to your child’s class teacher before 9am.

CHEQUE: Please place your cheque, payable to Woollahra Public School, together with any permission notes, in a sealed envelope with your child’s name, class and reason for paying. Give envelope to your child’s class teacher before 9am.

TELEPHONE: If you would like to pay your account by credit card “over the phone”, please phone the Barton Office before 10am.

ONLINE PAYMENTS: It is possible for families to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school’s website by selecting $ Make a payment.

REMEMBER to just “fill in the GREEN asterisk bits”

You are able to pay online for one excursion for example, or your whole account. No more lost receipts! You can print out your own receipt at time of payment.

If paying ONLINE, please return your child’s permission note for excursion or other activity to your child’s class teacher. There is a place for you to include the ONLINE RECEIPT number on the tear-off slip.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME. If you are having difficulties paying your account, you may be eligible for funding under the Student Assistance Scheme. Each application for assistance is considered on its merit. The provision for assistance is strictly on a confidential basis. Please contact the school to make an appointment with the Principal.

If you are paying your account online, please be mindful of any items that may appear on your Statement that you may have already paid. To avoid the extra work involved in refunding any online payments, please check your Statement of Account. If you are not sure if an item has been paid, please telephone the school office 9328-6313.
Dear Year 3 to Year 6 parents and carers

University of NSW ICAS TESTING

After consultation during 2012, it was decided that ICAS will become a voluntary part of the school curriculum from 2013. This year all ICAS tests will be offered to all students in Years 3 to 6.

If you wish your child to take part in the testing, please complete the tear-off slip below and return to your child’s class teacher no later than 3:00pm Friday 27 March 2015. As the school will be drawing one cheque only to pay for these test papers, no requests or payment will be accepted after this date.

Please complete the tear-off below and return to your class teacher, to-

Please choose carefully. We are not able to refund families once payment is receipted at school.

Please note that only those students who have returned the tear-off below together with payment by the due date will be able to sit for these tests.

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**VOLUNTARY ICAS TESTING - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6**

| Child’s name ................................................................. | Class ................................. |

- [ ] I wish my child to sit the following ICAS testing (I have ticked the appropriate boxes).
- [ ] I understand that payment in full and this tear-off slip needs to be **returned to my child’s class teacher by 3:00pm Friday 27 March 2015**.
- [ ] I understand that it is not possible to give me a refund once payment has been made to the school.

**ICAS SUBJECT** | **ICAS SITTING DATE (conducted at school on the following dates)** | **PRICE excl GST** | **Please tick this box with your choices** | **Payment enclosed for tests chosen** |
<table>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies</td>
<td>Tuesday 19 May 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 3 June 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday 15 June 2015</td>
<td>$17.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 16 June 2015</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 28 July 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 11 August 2015</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>$</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL PAYMENT**

$ |

ON-LINE PAYMENT OPTION.
If you are paying on-line, please remember to select “other” and type in the subjects and amounts for each item.

Please pay this amount in cash, cheque payable to Woollahra Public School, or on-line via the tab on the school’s website.

If paying on-line, please write your receipt number here ..........................

Parent / Carer’s signature .............................................. Date ..........................

Please return this section with payment to your child’s class teacher by 3pm Friday 27 March 2015
Helping Hands Out of School Hours (OOSH) services at Woollahra Public School

Helping Hands Network works in partnership with Woollahra Public School to provide Out of School Hours services to the school community.

Location

The Helping Hands OOSH facility is located in Afterschool Care Room, behind the equipment in the bottom playground. All children attending the service must be dropped off in the morning or collected in the afternoon by an authorised person and signed in and out of the OOSH room each day.

Programs

Helping Hands Network tailors their programs to meet the local school community needs, providing much more than child minding.

Their programs are designed to develop stronger, healthier, happier children and to provide an environment that is like a “home away from home”.

Programs are developed in consultation with children, parents, the school community and Helping Hands Educators. They are tailored to cater to the children’s age, skill, interests and abilities through a variety of challenging and recreational activities.

Before and after school care

Care is available 5 days per week during term time. Before school, the service operates from 7.00am – 9.00am. After school, the service operates 3.00pm – 6.00pm. Children can walk straight to and from their classrooms. Educators pick up and drop off the Kindy and Year 1 students and escort them to the OOSH room.

Vacation care and student free days

A full day program is available 5 days per week during school holidays, and on Student Free Days from 7.00am to 6.00pm.

Food

Helping Hands Network provides a healthy breakfast at Before School Care and a healthy afternoon tea at After School Care. Breakfast, morning tea, and afternoon tea are all provided at
Vacation Care. In addition to these meals the children also have the opportunity to participate in cooking activities and the occasional special treat.

**Government subsidies**

There are a number of schemes available to parents including;

Child Care Benefit (CCB) – CCB is a means tested benefit available to parents accessing Outside School Hours Care. The percentage benefit available to a family is determined by criteria including the number of children in care and household income. Helping Hands Network automatically lodges claims on behalf of parents, and only bills for the difference.

Child Care Rebate (CCR) – This rebate is available to all families, and entitles families to receive 50% of their out-of-pocket child care costs up to $7,500 per child per year. This can be claimed as a rebate paid quarterly. Alternatively, you can now arrange to have it paid direct to Helping Hands to reduce your upfront fee payment. If you would like to take up this second option, please contact Centrelink in the first instance, to make these arrangements.

**Cost to parents after CCB and CCTR**

To get a quote, or to make an enquiry to use the service, please contact the Coordinator of the service directly on mobile 0448 063 341, or by email at woollahra@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au or the Helping Hands Help Desk between 8.30am and 6.00pm by phoning 1300 612 462 or on email at accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au.

Currently, places are available in Before School Care, After School Care and for Vacation Care.

For more information on Helping Hands Network, or information on enrolling at the service: please visit the Helping Hands Network website at www.helpinghandsnetwork.com.au and select Our Schools/Families, and follow the prompts.

**Parents handbook**

A copy of the parent handbook is available on request from the service coordinator, or by contacting the Helping Hands Help Desk on 1300 612 462.
The health, child development and education professionals at the Clinic include occupational therapists, psychologists and a speech pathologist.

12 Junction Street, Woollahra NSW 2025
tel 9389 4512 • email info@parksclinic.com
www.parksclinic.com

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maximise your child’s potential • individually tailored programs
established 1990

Come and join our acting family!

We run classes for children and adults, catering for beginners through to working actors; running term classes and holiday workshops for kids and intensive, specialised classes for adults.

Term 1. The Art of Improvisation
(Children classes for 6 to 18 year olds)
Our first class will start in week 4, on Tuesday 17th February, and will run until the end of term 1.

www.bondiacting.com.au
or call Sarah to book a place:
0478 620 699
Callanan Academy of Dance

Offering RAD Ballet and Irish Dancing Classes
Ages from 3 years to Adults
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Exam and Competitions/Eisteddfods available
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Phone: 0430083981
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Learn Music on the keyboard at
Woollahra Public School
Enrol now for Term 1
Great songs! Musical games!
Cool music knowledge!

Smart kids LOVE Music!
♫ Convenient at-school venue ♫
♩ Small group - 45 min weekly lesson ♩
♩ Competitive rate - $27 per session ♩
(GST incl. Please do not forward payment to the school office.)
♩ Instrument not required initially ♩
♩ Music material provided ♩

Please call 9411 3122 to enrol

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Bondi Physie = Fun, Dance & Friendship!
Combining jazz dance, ballet and exercise routines...great for coordination, rhythm, posture, flexibility, grace, fitness and confidence!
Classes only $8 per lesson (5-12 years)
Contact to register for your daughter’s first class free!
Call Michelle on 0402 001124
Email: michelle@bondiphysie.com.au

BondiPhysie
www.bondiphysie.com.au
who: any child ages 6-10 years
when: 19, 20, 21, 22 January 2015
where: Rose Bay Cottage, Woollahra Golf Club
       O’Sullivan Road, Bellevue Hill, NSW 2023
time: 9:00-3:00 each day
price: $100 per day, or $365 for all 4 days

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supporting children to learn valuable skills whilst having fun!

For bookings and more information, please contact us on:

Kerry Gordon | 0411 276 552
kerry@colourfulminds.com.au

Sarah Peterson | 0429 462 665
sarah@colourfulminds.com.au

ADVERTISING RATES
$ 20.90 incl GST   Business Card size
$ 33.00 incl GST   1/4 A4 page
$ 66.00 incl GST   1/2 A4 page
$120.00 incl GST   A4 page

Enquiries:
please email the school with your advertisement as an attachment
woollahra-p.admin@det.nsw.edu.au
Advertisement (JPEG please).
No photos of children please.
Payment by cash, cheque, EFTPOS needs to be received by

WPS String Ensembles
(Junior and Senior)

With some of our senior members moving on to high school and some junior
members moving up, we have several vacancies in both ensembles.

Junior Strings rehearse on a Monday morning at 8.10am
Senior Strings rehearse at 7.45am on a Wednesday morning.

Have you been playing a string instrument for at least 6 months? Do you have
weekly music lessons outside of school? Do you enjoy working hard and want
to have fun with some like-minded students and a great teacher (professional
musician Ms Andrea Ng)? Are you able to commit to rehearsals once a week
and attend occasional performances outside WPS? If so, we would love to
meet you!

For further details please contact:

Ms Leanne Garber
Assistant Principal
Woollahra Public School