Principal’s Message

Bollywood Disco
What has now become a much awaited biannual event at West Ryde the Bollywood disco proved to be a fantastic evening of music, dancing, fine food and colourful outfits. If you missed out on the fun make sure that you attend the next one in 2017 as it will be the Centenary Bollywood Disco.

A huge thanks to Mrs Chaudhary and all her parents helpers. Our sincere thanks to Mr and Mrs Jabal for their generous donation towards funding the cost of the DJ as well as all the food. Your support was invaluable in make the evening possible. To all the mothers and fathers who taught the children to dance, helped prepare food, assisted with the setting up of the stage and surrounding areas the whole school sincerely thanks you. (see report later in this newsletter)

Farewell
I would like to wish our Year 6 students and families a wonderful farewell this evening. I want to thank you all for being part of our West Ryde PS community. Thank you for choosing our school as your school. It has been a pleasure to see you grow both academically as fine young people who are ready to take on the expectations of high school. The whole school wishes you the best of luck in the future and looks forward to hearing of your achievements.

I hope that you look back on your time at West Ryde and remember us with fondness.

Next Wednesday 16th December we say a traditional farewell at the school. From 2.50 pm students from Kindergarten to Year 5 will form an arch for the Year 6 students to walk through and out the gate for the last time as primary school students. You are most welcome to join in the farewell.

Student Leaders
We congratulate our new student leadership team for 2016 and wish them the very best of luck in their role. I am sure these students will take up the challenges with enthusiasm and diligence.
Captains for 2016 are Prisha Desai and Casey Irving. Vice Captains Maahika Misra and Rohan Rai. Prefects are Sarah Tan, Claire Xu-Louie, Isabel Han, Nicole Deegan and Teresa Chen as the Speaker for the students executive.

Merry Christmas and happy holidays.
As the school holidays are almost here I would like to wish all of our school community a happy and safe holiday. I hope that the children have time to relax, play and enjoy their time with you.
We look forward to seeing you in the 28th January 2016.

NOTES/MONEY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Balmoral Beach on 16th Dec</th>
<th>Friday, 11th December</th>
<th>Money and permission note</th>
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Friendly Reminders

Netball
The annual Parents v Students netball game will be held Friday the 11th December at 8am. All parents are encouraged to have a run, regardless of ability or gender, however if you don't feel netball is your sport, please come and support those brave enough to take on the Year 6 girls. This year is shaping up to be bigger than ever. The Year 6 girls went to round 5 of the State Knockout Netball Competition and are arguably the most competitive players in the school. Coaches like Mel Emeleus and Dennice Perry will go head to head with the same girls they have spent 4 years training. A coffee cart will be nearby to re-energize both playing and supporting parents, and the orchestra will perform at the end of the game.

EFTPOS now available
At the school office. Fees can still be paid by either cash, cheque and now credit card facilities (eftpos). The school will only accept a minimum transaction amount of $15 and over.

Skoolbag – Subscribe to App. and/or Email
Message from Apple - Apple is releasing the new version iOS 9.0 on the 16th September and we are pleased to confirm that your Skoolbag App will function fine on this iOS 9.0 update. However for the first time ever, Apple has also released a public Beta version of iOS 9.1 which is due for release in a couple of months time. You should encourage your users to NOT install this version, because many apps do not work on it, including Skoolbag.

Our school now has its own smartphone app! The app will help us communicate more effectively with our Parent and Student community. We are asking for as many parents and students to install our Skoolbag School App.

To install it, just look for our school name "West Ryde Public School" in the Apple App Store, Google Play Store or Windows Store and install it on your phone or tablet today!

To subscribe to the email go to our school website front page and follow the links. Please refer to the flyer at the end of this Newsletter for further information on subscribing to notification groups.

School Visits and Safety Induction
When you come onto school grounds you will need to come to the front office and sign in to receive a visitor's badge. You will now also be required to a have a safety induction. The gates on Mons and Bennett Streets will be locked during the school day - please enter via Endeavour Street.

Kitchen Garden – Spring Garden Competition
M1 and M2 (Mr Bullen and Mr Logan) receiving the 1st Place award for Best School Garden in the Ryde City Council Spring Garden Competition. The award was presented by Clr Roy Maggio - Deputy Mayor (centre) at an awards ceremony at Eden Gardens. Photo Courtesy of Ryde City Council. This year West Ryde Public School won 1st place in the Best School Garden category. This was finally our year after a string of second place awards. This was reward for our efforts in both the formal school gardens and the kitchen gardens.

For the formal gardens many thanks go to: the army of workers who helped clean up and maintain the gardens at the front of the school during their lunch hours – mainly year 3 students; the P&C who donated funds to buy some plants for in-fill planting and dress mulch for presentation; Ryde City Council and Sandra Payne of the Ryde Bushcare group, and The Habitat for providing native plants that we planted during the National Schools Plant a Tree Day; and last but not least to 5/6L who were ‘volunteered’ into a last minute mulching activity.
As of term 1, 2016 Mrs Thompson will be taking responsibility for the garden and is looking for volunteers to assist. If you want to get your hands dirty and enjoy a bit of gardening please see Mrs Thompson in the new term.

**Speech Therapist**

We again have the services of the Gladesville Speech Pathologist on site every week. If you think that your child needs speech therapy please come to the office and ask for a referral form. The Speech Pathologist will contact you directly to arrange a time that suits you. Please note that there is a cost involved and that this is **not a free service**.

**BOLLYWOOD DISCO**

Dear parents,

I want to thank everyone who volunteered, organised, helped set up and pack up, cooked food and danced during last week’s Bollywood Disco. It really was an enjoyable evening, again due to everyone’s hard work. We managed to raise more than $4500 for the school!

Special thanks go to:
- The dance teachers - Mrs S. Ghosh, Mrs T. Adhikari, Mrs A. Justin Mrs S. Duggal
- The mums who performed - Mrs S. Ghosh, Mrs T. Adhikari, Mrs R. Garg, Mrs Kesharwani, Mrs S. Srinivas;
- Financial support - Mr & Mrs Jabbal
- Parents who cooked - Mr & Mrs Muralitharan, Mrs Z. Desai, Mrs S. Duggal, Mrs R. Rai, Mrs V. Jain, Mrs S. Gulgulia, Mrs M. Gobinath, Mrs Karmakar and many more who cooked and delivered the food.

Mrs Chaudhary  
Hindi Teacher

**Instrument Lessons 2016**

Michael Slater is a professional woodwind player in the Sydney region. He owns a Bachelor of Music degree in Saxophone Performance from the University of Tennessee in the U.S.A. and has been playing for 20 years. He teaches flute, clarinet and saxophone. Available days at the school are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday during lunch time hours. Contact details are: Mobile: 0413 169 464, E-mail: michael.slater310@gmail.com

**SCHOOL BUS**

To all students who use the school bus please note the new bus route will take effect from the first day of term. The new bus number is **620W**
School Banking – From **Week 1 Term 4** all bank books will be collected in the **classroom on WEDNESDAY** for processing on Thursday (when the bank books will be returned to students via the class teacher). If bank books are not received by **Wednesday** they will be not be processed until the following Thursday. To claim rewards students will need to return reward forms and you must have 10 tokens.

**Canteen News** reopen on **Tuesday 9th Feb 2016**.

Please take note that we will endeavour to open the canteen, but it is subject to availability of volunteers to work in the canteen. The menu may be limited to accommodate available time and help.

Please consider volunteering in the canteen. If you are hesitant, but may be willing please talk to the existing volunteers, or experience a day at the canteen to understand if this is something you maybe willing to do. You can commit to one term at a time, if you are still unsure. Look forward to meeting with you in the canteen.”

**Uniform Shop News**

**Stop Press! EFTPOS now available in Uniform Shop**

**Personal shoppers only** - a minimum purchase of $15

First two opening days for Term 1 2016 will be **THURSDAY, 28th January 9.00am to 9.30am and WEDNESDAY, 3rd February (8.45am – 9.15am).**
P&C News

And so 2015 draws to a close. Congratulations to everyone who received an award at Wednesday’s presentation day ceremonies. I’ve seen just some of the efforts that our students have put in this year and I know that so many have worked very hard throughout the year. I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break.

Even more so, I hope that our teachers and staff take some time to relax as well as I KNOW how hard you’ve all worked! On behalf of all of the parents at this school, thank you for your hours of effort and support for our kids. You all go above and beyond your required duties to put in that little bit extra.

Merry Christmas everyone and have a happy and safe holiday. Take care.

Community Award

Last Wednesday the Inaugural 2015 P&C Community Award was announced. We are immensely grateful for the efforts of all of our volunteers at this school, but special thanks and congratulations must go to the following recipients.

This year’s award was given to two deserving recipients – Amy Bested and Yoko Mizota.

Amy Bested is a recognised face around the school. She’s been here for 5 years already, with another 6 to go we’ll no doubt continue to see her for some time. Amy runs the uniform shop, does school banking, helps with P&C fundraising activities such as preparing and running mother’s/father’s day stalls and cake stalls, and helps in the classroom with class reading and other class activities.

Yoko Mizota has been at the school for 15 years, with one more to go! In that time she has consistently helped both school and P&C activities whenever asked. She’s always assisted teachers in classrooms and the library, and offered a hand whenever the P&C has needed helpers. Most recently Yoko has also volunteered in the canteen each week and been a member of the Orchestra committee.

A special mention was also made of Veronique Png for her immense effort in running and supporting the school canteen. Aside from her countless hours behind the scenes organising, planning and handling administration, she has put in more than her fair share of time on duty and has always been about to help when extra hands are needed. You’re going to be missed next year.

All of these ladies have been incredibly reliable and have always been willing and available to lend a hand when help is needed. They’re a credit to the school and we can’t give them enough praise for all of their efforts. THANK YOU a thousand times over.

Congratulations Yoko and Amy.
Christmas Raffle

All families should have received a note with raffle tickets for the school Christmas raffle, which will be drawn at the morning assembly on Monday 14th. All tickets should be returned today (Wednesday 9th), so if you haven’t already please send them to school tomorrow.

Prizes for the raffle include;
- Black and Decker Tools
- Food, Wine and Gift Hampers, including Maxwell Williams cookware
- Beauty and Bath Ware
- 6 Month Gym Membership
- Hoyts Cinema Passes
- Collectable Racing Car
- Homemade and Decorated Xmas Cake

If you’d like to purchase further tickets, you can get some from the school office or there will be extras available for sale before school on Friday 11th during the morning netball game and orchestra performance. Some other Christmas products and cards will also be available for purchase to help with those last minute gift ideas, so please come and have a look.

As if to highlight how lucky we are at this school to have such a committed and supportive community, we have had a fabulous response from parents and friends to our request for donations to the Christmas raffle. Thank you as always to the wonderful Fiona Lamborn for organising the raffle. Thanks also to Danielle Wilcock, Ruth Yarad, Yoko Calder and Nathan Chan for stapling tickets. Thanks to everyone who’s donated a gold coin or two or gifted products. Below is a list of known contributors and sponsors to the raffle to date. Apologies to those whose names we did not know. Thank you all for your support.

Known Parent Contributors of Product – Gerald Katsoulis, Esther Wong, Mark King, Grace Kang, Phill Quach, Sarah Oxborough

- Stanley Black and Decker
- Challenge Me Fitness
- MarisSage Remedial Massage
- Send a Basket
- Kurrajong Kitchen
- Citadel First Aid
- Collectable Racing Car
**iPhone and iPad users**

1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open".
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

**Android users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

**Windows Phone users**

1. Go to the Windows Store on your Windows Phone.
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search.
3. Install the Skoolbag app.
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows Phone App is for 8.1 version Windows Phones.

If you have any questions please email sales@skoolbag.com.au
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Wind Ensemble / Band for 2016!

The West Ryde PS Wind Ensemble started in the middle of 2015, and now has 9 Children involved! We are looking to grow this group in 2016 – once it gets big enough we can start calling it a Band!

Children in year 3 or older, who are learning brass (eg Trumpet and Trombone), woodwind (eg Sax, Flute, Clarinet) or drums are welcome to join.

To find out more:

- The Wind Ensemble will perform for the current year 2 and year 3 children (Friday 4th Dec, 2015 2:30pm in the hall).
- We are planning a “try-out” day when children can try out playing some of these instruments. It will be towards the end of Term 4.
- The Wind Ensemble will be playing at presentation day.
- Please contact the Orchestra committee on wrpsorchestra@gmail.com.
- Some information about the Wind Ensemble is on the web site. Wrpsorchestra.blogspot.com.au