Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17th - 28th March</td>
<td>Henny Penny visits K/1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th March</td>
<td>Bookclub Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>Choir Performance at Bowling Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th March</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>Last Day for High School Applications</td>
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<td>Stewart House Bouncy Ball Order Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th March</td>
<td>Choir Performance at The Retreat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Camp Deposit Due</td>
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<td>3rd April</td>
<td>Food Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th April</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th April</td>
<td>School Cross Country</td>
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Weekly Events

- **Wednesday**
  - Library
  - Banking
  - Wisemans Ferry & District Sports

- **Thursday**
  - Music Classes
  - Oztag/Soccer

- **Friday**
  - Scripture
  - Oztag/Soccer

Principal’s Report

**School Camp/Sydney Excursion**

Parents of students in Yrs 4, 5 and 6 would have received the preliminary information about the school camp/Sydney excursion last Friday. We have also sent home an Expression of Interest form for parents who would be interested in attending the camp as well.

It is important to return the Student permission note and $30 deposit as soon as possible so we can confirm numbers. We must have a minimum of 20 students attending to make the camp viable. To date we only have approx. 12 permission notes/deposits returned. We will extend the time to return notes/deposits up until Friday 21st of March. If we do not have 20 students confirmed, we will unfortunately have to cancel the camp for this year. We will make a decision on which parents will attend the camp once we have established whether we have the minimum numbers to go ahead. This year’s camp includes a number of activities to suit all interests – some can only be accessed by school groups. If you have any questions regarding camp, please contact the school office.

Some financial support for families experiencing hardship OR who have more than one child attending is available HOWEVER you need to contact the office as soon as possible. Hopefully we can proceed with this wonderful opportunity.

**Congratulations Sky**

On behalf of the school community, I would like to congratulate Sky on her excellent performance at the District Swimming Carnival. Her 3rd place in the 50m Freestyle was outstanding. She will now swim at the Sydney West Carnival. We wish her all the best!!

Wisemans Ferry Public School P & C Committee are as follows

- **President** Simone Hayhurst 0423 483 563
- **Treasurer** Jenny Smart 0425 248 586
- **Secretary** Jenni-Mae Clissold 0415 880 936

Please feel free to contact any of these representatives if you have any concerns you wish to discuss.
**Principal’s Report (cont’d)**

**Parent Online Payment**
Our school has signed up to the Department’s Parent Online Payment facility. This will enable parents to pay for school fees, excursions, school materials and special events from their home computer, tablet or smartphone. The payment portal link will be available via our school webpage.

You will simply need to click on the link, and complete the fields. This payment facility will be ‘live’ in early term 2. I will advise parents as soon as it becomes accessible. This should make paying for school items much easier and efficient.

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**Family Occupation and Education Index (FOEI)**
On Friday, we sent home some forms for parents to complete that asked about your Education levels and Occupation. For some parents, the last time we asked for this information was when your child first enrolled at school – which may have been some years ago now. In the past, this data was used by the Department mostly for statistical purposes. From 2013 though, the Department has used the FOEI data to determine part of the funding that schools receive. While the FOEI data doesn’t affect the base funding (this is calculated based on enrolment numbers), it is used to determine the level of additional funding schools receive based on Socio-economic disadvantage. The variation in this funding level can be significant from school to school. For example – some Hawkesbury Small Schools receive approx. $3,000 of extra funding based on the school’s FOEI data while other Hawkesbury Small Schools receive approx. $20,000. For this reason, it is important that our school data is accurate and up-to-date so that it paints a true picture of our school community. All information returned to the school is confidential. Please complete the forms and return them to the school office as soon as possible.

When you are indicating the Occupation Group you belong to, please complete this to reflect your CURRENT situation. This may have changed since last time you completed this form. If you are unsure which category you fit into, please contact the school office. We have more detailed information about which occupations fit into which group. If you have not been in paid work for the last 12 months, please write ‘8’ as your occupation group. If you fit into more than 1 group, indicate the group that is your MAIN occupation or source of income.

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**Book Fair**
The Book Fair in the annexe last week proved to be very popular. The school sold over $600 worth of books which enables us to $60 worth of free books for our Library. Thank you for supporting our Book Fair.

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**Fantastic Ferry Awards**
Congratulations to the following students who have received awards during the past fortnight.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K/1/2</th>
<th>3/4</th>
<th>5/6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payton</td>
<td>Sierra</td>
<td>Amber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leo</td>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison</td>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>Mykaela</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tess</td>
<td>Alyssa</td>
<td>Jasmyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>Kane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ashley</td>
<td>Zeke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Tess will be presented with her Bronze award at next week’s assembly (Week 8).

Students are reminded that when they have collected 5 Ferry Awards then they qualify for their BRONZE award. If they have collected 10 Ferry Awards this year then they qualify for their SILVER award. These Ferry Awards are handed in at the school office.

Bronze/Silver/Gold awards are presented at our fortnightly assemblies. Please note that parents are always welcome to attend these assemblies.

Students are responsible for looking after their Ferry awards and lost Ferries are not usually replaced. If students are away on the day their Ferry award is presented, it will be held over to the next assembly.

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**Choir - Senior Citizens Performance**
Next Wednesday 19 March our school choir will be performing at the Bowling Club for the Senior Citizens luncheon. Mrs Walker has been hard at work preparing the choir for this important performance. The performance will commence at approx. 11am.

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**Henny Penny**
Our school has been overrun with baby chicken fever with the arrival of Henny Penny! Our K/1/2 class will be studying, nurturing and writing about the baby chickens as they have gradually hatch from their eggs. The Henny Penny Program provides our students with ‘real life’ science lessons as well as teaching how to care for animals.
P&C News (cont’d)

Food Day
The next Food Day will be held on Thursday, 3 April (Week 10). The menu will be Chicken Strips with Potato Wedges and Carrot Sticks. Cost will be $5.00

COMMUNITY NOTICES

UWS PENRITH OBSERVATORY
Astronomy Night – Saturday 22 March (8pm – 10pm)
DADS & KIDS NIGHT
Kids and dads also include grandfathers, kids and grandkids. So it is for everyone. Age is no barrier to spending an evening with the family and the stars. This night not only includes a multimedia presentation but also a 3D astronomy movie and viewing of the night sky through the University’s computerised telescopes (weather permitting). Our program will run regardless of the weather.
Cost: $15 adult, $10 child/concession and $40 family.
Bookings are essential: Book online: www.uws.edu.au/observatory, What's On
Enquiries: Phone (02)4736 0135 or email r.mccourt@uws.edu.au (Mon, Wed, or Thurs)

WESLEY MONSTER BOOK SALE
Where: In the Wesley Uniting Church grounds at 32 Showground Road, Castle Hill.
Date/Times: Saturday March 22nd 2014 (operating from 8:30am to 12:30pm)
Sale items will include Books, Magazines, Records, CDs and DVDs.
We will also be providing tea, coffee and cake during the morning.
Enjoy the friendly atmosphere, and pick up a bargain (or two) knowing you are helping those families who need help within the Hills District, through the Hills Family Centre.
TERM 1 FEES ARE NOW DUE

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the office.

Thank you to all the families who have already paid.