School Strategic Directions 2015
- Consistent, high quality student learning.
- Consistent, high quality teaching and leadership.
- Cultivate consistent, high quality collaborative processes within the Whitebridge Community of Schools to enhance the quality of teaching, learning & leadership.

What’s Happening This Week
Week 9 Term 1

Mon 23 Mar
- Creative Arts Groups
- WCoS Dance Rehearsals

Tues 24 Mar
- Scripture & Ethics
- Staff Meeting
- K-2 Cross Country

Wed 25 Mar
- Responsible Pet Program K-2
- T-Ball Gala Day
- Executive Meeting

Thurs 26 Mar
- Learning Support Team
- Harmony Day Performance Group
- WCoS Principals’ Meeting
- Assembly Item 2/3G
- Primary Principal’s Council Meeting

Fri 27 Mar
- Cakes for Stall to Old Hall
- P & C BBQ & Cake Stall at Elections

Sat 28 Mar

ANZAC Centenary Grant
Last November we notified parents that Dudley PS had applied for a federal grant relating to the ANZAC centenary. We received notification last week that we were successful with the grant and will receive $8,000 from the Federal Government.

The application outlined that we proposed to have 2 murals created of our two VC recipients Currey & Jeffries. One mural will be a photo reproduction digitally laminated onto metal sheeting and placed on the front portal of the Fairleigh school hall facing out to Boundary & Ocean Streets. The second mural is a hand painted mural of the 2 VC soldiers which will face towards the school from the Fairleigh Hall front portal.

Congratulations to Meg Burton who received her Principal’s Award for showing a conscientious approach to her learning & outstanding dance representation.

A prominent sign will be constructed on ground level with a garden planted with poppies created below the mural and sign. We hope to have this completed before ANZAC Day.

P&C News

• Easter Raffle
It’s on again! Raffle tickets went home on Thursday for our annual Easter raffle. The raffle will be drawn at our assembly on the last day of term, Thursday 2 April. The Easter assembly will run from 10.15 - 11.10am in the Fairleigh Hall. It would be greatly appreciated if each family could donate Easter egg/s (and baskets) for prizes and these can be left in the box provided in the office foyer.

Parents are asked to return raffle tickets & money to the school office area by the morning of Thursday 2 April.

• Cake Stall
At the NSW state election this Saturday 28 March, our P & C will run a BBQ and cake stall at the Pensioner’s hall on the day. We would greatly appreciate if families could bring a cake/slices etc in the box provided last week to the old school hall this Friday 27 March to be sold at the stall on Saturday.
If you are able to assist at the stall either with the barbecue or cake stall, please let our office staff know.

**P&C Treasurer Position**

In accordance with the P&C constitution, our much valued treasurer, Luke Brumfield must relinquish his position as he has served for three years. We would greatly appreciate if anyone qualified within our school community could step into this role. Luke has kindly offered to support the new treasurer with the transition into this role, if required. If you are able to assist, please contact our P&C President, Kathy Sloss, through our school office.

The P&C would like to take this opportunity to thank Luke Brumfield for the outstanding job he has done as our treasurer for the last 3 years.

**Harmony Day Performance**

This Thursday 26 March, Ryka Ali will be performing at our school to support our Harmony Day focus. Ryka Ali’s heritage stems from the Wuthathi tribe of Shellbourne Bay, Cape York and from the Torres Strait Islands. He is a very proud ambassador for Australia’s Indigenous youth. The show includes participatory dances with the students and also presentations and explanations of various instruments, artifacts and costumes specific to the Island. The performance will be held in the Fairleigh Hall with students K-6 attending at 1.45pm. **The cost is only $2.00, which has been subsidized by the school at $2.00 per student utilizing our RAM Aboriginal funds we receive.**

**K-2 Cross Country**

Our K-2 students will have their Cross Country carnival this Tuesday 24 March starting at 10am and should finish by 11am. It will be held at Dudley Football Ovals (John Balcomb Oval). **Students need to wear sports uniform and take a water bottle, hat and sunscreen. They will walk to and from the venue with class teachers.** Our Kinders will run 1 lap of the football oval and Year 1 & 2 will run 1 lap of the combined football & soccer ovals. Parents are welcome to come along and cheer on their children’s efforts.

**T-Ball Gala Day**

This Wednesday 25 March we have entered in the T-Ball Gala Day at Barton Oval, Belmont. This will involve all Years 3 - 6 students and they will be travelling by bus. John Costolo, Karen Murphy, Rachael Murray, Kate Sullivan & Jason Horadam will supervise our students on the day.

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**Cross Country Champions**

Pictured are age champions from the Yr 3-6 Cross Country last Friday.

The cost of the day is $8.00 per student including bus and carnival entry. Parents received a permission note last week and we would like these with the correct money by **this Tuesday**

**Responsible Pet Program**

This Wednesday 25 March, our K-2 classes will have a 45 minute lesson by the Responsible Pet Program. This deals with living safely with dogs and is presented by an experienced Pet Educator. Our Kinders will have their lesson at 11.35am and Yr 1 & 2 at 12.20. Please advise our office if your K-2 child has an allergy to dog fur or any other reason not to attend.

**Year 3-6 Cross Country**

Our Year 3 – 6 Cross Country last Friday was a very successful morning despite very warm weather on the day. Our age group places as follows:

**8 & 9 Boys** - 1st Toby Winter, 2nd Brodie Wright, 3rd Wes Matthews and 4th Kaman Pappas

**8 & 9 Girls**- 1st Matisse Murray, 2nd Emma O’Hagan, 3rd Hannah Snow and 4th Layney Wilkins

**10 Boys** - 1st Cian O’Hagan, 2nd Liam Lieschke 3rd Finton Butterfield and 4th Archie Ruks

**10 Girls** - 1st Emmy Ormandy, 2nd Jemma Pollard, 3rd Jordan Byrne and 4th Emma Campbell

**11 Boys** - 1st Joseph Gillard, 2nd Jonah Finlay 3rd Sajj Carson and 4th Louis Snow

**11 Girls** – 1st Ella Osborne, 2nd Baillee Pappas, 3rd Jade Andrews and 4th Grace Baker

**12 & 13 Boys** – 1st Jayden Wright, 2nd Tristan Clinton-Muehr, 3rd Chris McNair and 4th Brayden Park

House Results: Will be announced this Friday after the K-2 results have been tallied.
I would like to congratulate all students on their excellent efforts at the cross country. Special thanks to Sharon Growden, John Costolo & Kate Sullivan for organizing this carnival so thoroughly.

What’s Happening Next Week
Week 10
Mon 30 Mar  - Creative Arts Groups
             - Jill Hall at School Assembly
Tue 31 Mar  - Staff Meeting
             - Scripture & Ethics
Wed 1 April - Awabakal Day Stage 2
             - Executive Meeting
             - WCoS Stage 3 & 4 Maths Meeting
Thurs 2 April - Learning Support Team
                - Final day Term 1
                - Easter Assembly
Fri 3 April  - School Holidays Begin

Creative Arts Day—Change of Date!!!!!!!
Last week we notified parents that we had to change the date for our Creative Arts Day from Wednesday 27 to **Tuesday 26 May**, as Starstruck had changed their major rehearsal date to the Wednesday 27 May. We apologise for any inconvenience caused, however, as we have our senior dance group involved in Starstruck, we had no other option. If you had volunteered to assist on the original date, could you please confirm with Mrs Piper if you are still able to assist on the Tuesday.

Stage 2 Awabakal Day
Next Wednesday 1 April, 2/3G, 3/4CP & 3/4M are going on an Awabakal Excursion. They will be involved in a variety of activities in the Awabakal classroom, which will be led by Kate Brumfield and assisted by Sharon Growden. They will also experience a guided walking tour which will be lead by an Awabakal Teacher educator who has extensive knowledge of the Awabakal bush, Aboriginal heritage and conservation practices. This excursion supports the “Being Australian “ Stage 2 unit taught this term.

Easter Combined Service
Next Tuesday 31 March our scripture teachers will run a combined scripture assembly in the Fairleigh hall at 1.50pm. This will replace their individual lessons and includes a special presentation on Easter.

Ethics Classes
This week we will not be having our Ethics classes as we are unable to have all our Ethics teachers available at 1.50pm and so we will form non-scripture groups for these students for this short period.

Easter Assembly
Our Easter assembly will be held next Thursday 2 April in the Fairleigh Hall from 10.15 - 11.10am.

Jill Hall Assembly
Next Monday 30 March Jill Hall, our Federal member will formally announce the ANZAC Centenary grant at our 9.10 assembly. Still awaiting confirmation for this.

WCoS Maths Meeting
Stage 3 & 4 teachers from our Whitebridge Community of Schools will have a 1/2 day meeting next Wednesday to plan a common unit of work for Year 6 at the end of the year.

School Development Day
All staff will return on Monday 20 April for a Term 2 School Development Day. On this day our staff will complete the following workshops:
1. Introduce the Performance & Development Framework.
2. Review the new Sport & Physical Education Policy.
3. Using the Literacy Continuum for teaching units.

School Holidays
Next Thursday 2 April is the final day of Term 1. School holidays commence Friday 3 April - Monday 28 April. **Students return on Tuesday 21 April to commence Term 2.** Our staff would like to thank parents for your continued support and assistance during Term 1.
**International Competitions**
In the last newsletter we included the International Competitions and entry cost for interested parents. Parents are asked to return entry sheets to our school office by the final day of term, Thursday 2 April.

**State Swimmers**
Congratulations to our wonderful Regional Swimmers, Sam Bloomfield, Vess Ward, Serina Di Pietro, Aarkey Kneen, Isabella Milajew, Bailee Pappas, Brodie Wright, Jayden Wright, Finn Todhunter and Saij Carson whom competed very well at this recent carnival. We have 3 students, Jayden Wright, Aarkey and Ella Osborne who will now compete at the State Swimming this Wednesday and Thursday and they take with them best wishes from a very proud Dudley school.

**From the Library…..**
We are well on our way to a record number of Dudley students undertaking the PRC – well done to everyone. 214 so far! If you haven’t registered yet, there is still time because the PRC doesn’t finish until the end of August. The following graph shows our growing PRC Participation rate for the past 6 years.

As we come to the end of Term 1 I’d like to mention the great work done by our library monitors. They are a credit to themselves, their families and our school. Pictured below is one of our Library Monitors, Ava Doyle, stamping books ready for cataloguing. Thank you Ava for your enthusiasm and wonderful work ethic which makes you shine as a school leader.

Happy Reading
Narelle Warren
Librarian

**UNIFORM SHOP—Winter Uniform Orders!**
Despite the very warm weather we are experiencing……winter is on its way! Please find below an order form for winter uniforms. I would greatly appreciate if these orders could be into the school office by this Friday 27th to enable me to send the order off before the end of term.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Size (4-16)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red/Black Unisex Jacket</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Red Hooded Jumper</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys Black Hooded Jumper</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Track pants</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Black cargo</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount enclosed:</td>
<td>$</td>
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</table>

Please contact Liz Divall on 0417 684 121 if you have any queries.

To support the PRC we have lots of new titles appearing in the library:
**For Years 3-4** – the following series are now available – Lulu Belle, Juliet Almost a Vet, Clementine Rose, Paddington Bear, RSPCA Animals Tails and more Hey Jack Books.

**For Years 5-6** the following series are available – Percy Jackson, Truly Tan, The Last Thirteen, the Time Hunters, Minecraft and Stuff Happens.
Come and play Rugby League for the Mighty Magpies in 2015.
Register Online at https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regoform.cgi?aID=94&pKey=5802826cc97755951d0b8092dbfb1ae5&cID=12074&formID=41072
Fees for 2015
**Mini 6,7,8**  **FREE**
**Mod 9,10,11**  **$80**
**Mod 12**  **$100**
**International 13,14,15,16**  **$110**
For more information please call Lisa 0414 614 666

**Dudley Parents!**

Come and check out our life-changing kids karate classes. Starting 4pm, 19th March in the school hall. **Limited Time Offer**: 5 Classes and a **FREE** karate uniform (uniform valued at $65) for just $29.99!
Register Online Now! www.kangakarate.com

**Dates for your Diary!**

Some fabulous performances are happening this year at the Civic Theatre which I know many will be enthusiastic to attend.
♦ Adaptations of “The 26 Storey Tree House” in July
♦ “The Cranky Bear” in September
♦ And did you know that Mary Poppins is coming to town? This amazing musical, performed by the Newcastle based Metropolitan Players, will be at the Civic in August for a limited season. For more information on all of these shows just go to the Civic Theatre website.

**VACATION CARE 4 – 12yrs**  **April 2015**
Come & Join Us These School Holidays, We Will Have You Reaching New Heights Participating In Programs Such As:
♦ obstacle courses  ♦ craft  ♦ gymnastic skills  ♦ cooking  ♦ acro
♦ trampolining  ♦ science  ♦ tumbling  ♦ athletics ... just to name a few

VACATION CARE IS AVAILABLE FROM TUESDAY 7TH APRIL - MONDAY 20TH APRIL
7.30AM-6PM, MEALS INCLUDED
1 HOUR GYMNASTICS BASED HOLIDAY PROGRAMS ALSO AVAILABLE, PLEASE REFER TO OUR WEBSITE

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL** Contact the Centre:
Ph: 4953 6366  Fax: 4953 6587  www.hsc.org.au
# Springloaded April School Holiday Program

All programs are for ages 5-12 years unless stated in the timetable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>9am-10.30am KINZA PLAY</td>
<td>9:30am-10.30am GYMNASTICS</td>
<td>9:30am-10.30am GYMNASTICS</td>
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<td>9am-10am OPEN GYM</td>
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<td>11:30am-12pm JUNIOR KINZA</td>
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<td>1pm-2pm JUNIOR KINZA</td>
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<td>8pm-9pm OPEN GYM</td>
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**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

**SPRINGLOADED**

PH: 4942 8418 OR Book Online at www.gatesheadindoorsports.com.au

**School Holiday Netball Development Clinic**

For children turning 8-13 in 2015

- **25 March -**
  - **Thursday:** 8-13yrs 10am-12pm
  - **Friday:** 8-13yrs 10am-12pm
- **30 March -**
  - **Tuesday:** 8-13yrs 10am-12pm
  - **Thursday:** 8-13yrs 10am-12pm

**For details or to book**

**TAE KWON DO ACADEMY**

Can help...

- **For Men, Women & Children**
  - From 5yrs+

**Classes at...**

- **CARDIFF**
  - John Young Community Hall
  - Thomas Street
  - Mon. 5.30 – 6.30pm
- **DUDLEY**
  - Dudley Vintage Hall
  - 96 Ocean Street
  - Tues. 5.30 – 6.30pm
- **THE JUNCTION**
  - St. Joseph’s School Hall
  - 182 Unions & Kerrick St.
  - Tue. 5.45 – 6.45pm
- **WALLSEND**
  - Callaghan College
  - Carr Minen & Macquarie St.
  - Mon. 5.30 – 6.30pm

4943 2806 or 0403 799 981

www.southerncrassstkd.com.au
It’s more challenging than ever to be present with our kids, and so easy to get lost in concentration on a device. Here are 5 tips to really impact and make the most of every opportunity you have with your kids.

When you are fully present you can:

1. **Build their language**
   Recently, I saw a mother walking side by side with a young toddler playing a simple language game. She would make a sound with her mouth and her young son would mimic her. She changed or added to the sounds and her son tried to replicate the sounds. This is language building at its most natural and finest, and wouldn’t have happened if this mother was on the mobile phone rather than being present with her child. Whether you are with a toddler, primary aged child or a teen the language building opportunities are endless. You just have to focus on the one you are with and let things happen naturally.

2. **Teach your children about their world**
   Most children are naturally curious and will ask lots of questions. “Why do dogs bark?” “Why is the sun round?” “Where do babies come from?” Yes, some are simple, some are hard to answer and some you are just not ready for. But it’s through these simple interactions that you become your child’s first and most important teacher. My hunch is that most kids will stop asking these questions of you if your attention is focused elsewhere, such as on a mobile phone or other electronic device.

3. **Impact their thinking**
   Influential British educator Charles Des Forges says, “If you want to influence your child’s thinking then you need to talk to him. If parents want more influence then they need to talk more to their children.” According to Des Forges it’s through the conversations that parents have with their children that they impact the way they think, as well as influence their values. Nothing kills personal conversation with a child or young person like a mobile device.

There are five BIG opportunities available to you as a parent if you, like Sonia, choose to be in the moment when you have children.
... Lost in concentration ... 

4 Build relationships 
Relationships are built through common interest, good intent and respectful behaviour. I can think of no better reason for being in the moment with your child than the opportunity it presents to build some common interest and rapport. Time spent giving attention to your child is like putting money in the bank for the future. You never know when you are going to withdraw some of the deposits that you’ve made, so it’s reassuring to know that you’ve made plenty of deposits of goodwill to draw on, particularly in the tricky teenage years.

5 Build memories for you 
As a parent of adult children I now treasure the memories of times I was fortunate to have spent with them as young children. It’s strange how these memories resurface at the most unexpected time. Recently, I was in a supermarket and I remembered the time when I enthusiastically asked my youngest, who was three at the time, to get the box of cereal with the big red K. Off she went feeling all important and returned with a triumphant smile armed with a box of dog food. “Thanks darling. Nearly!” was my reply desperate not to quell the enthusiasm to help that only a three year old can have.

Yes, there are million memories such as this available to parents who are willing to focus attention on the children rather than be distracted by the lure of communication devices.

As a parent you have competing demands on your time, and the allure of communication technology can be overwhelming. However, as Sonia is so aware, the time for parents to really impact on kids is limited so you want to make the most of every opportunity you have with them.

The key to positively influencing your kids, building strong relationships and building enough fond memories to last a lifetime is to make sure that your mind is where your body is and be fully present when you are with your kids.