WRS Students make a splash

On Wednesday 20th March selected students from William Rose School went to Cabarita Pool to participate in the Combined Metropolitan Swimming Carnival. Students participated in a variety of races with students placing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in some of the events. It was a fun day filled with lots of swimming and competition. Thankyou to the volunteers who helped out on the day.

Dear parents, caregivers and community members,

NDIS
I would recommend you visit the National Disability Insurance Scheme web site: http://www.ndis.gov.au/
The news below may be old now, but is still extremely relevant.

THE GOVERNMENT has released a series of draft "rules" informing people how to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme and what level of support can be provided to them.

The rules, which also set out how the government can deliver assistance, will be readjusted as required following the launch of the program in five sites across NSW, Victoria, South Australia, the ACT and Tasmania. The rules establish guidelines on how to determine who is best positioned to make decisions on behalf of children with disabilities, who has parental responsibility and when children are capable of making decisions for themselves.

Parent–teacher interviews
A good website to visit if you are having an interview with your child's teacher is school a to z. Here are some tips for getting the most out of these important meetings. Prepare a few questions to ask, and walk away with a plan.

Trevor Townsend, Principal
**Little Gardeners**

The gardeners in group 10 were very excited to harvest the vegetables they planted last year. They picked many sweet, red cherry tomatoes and dug in the soil to find long, crunchy carrots. They are looking forward to planting their next crop of delicious vegetables!

**April Birthdays**

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**Musicians in the making.**

Group 8 have participated in music activities and Music Therapy where each student responds to a range of music through the use of percussion instruments. We are assisted to explore different items such as clapping sticks, triangles, tambourines, wood blocks, sound shapes and drums. We listen to a variety of music and songs such as pop, rock, country, as well as music from different cultures.

**Our Fabulous SLSO’s**

A big congratulations to our SLSO’s Dipti, Marise and Karen on obtaining permanent positions at William Rose School. All three SLSO’s are passionate about working with students and helping them to achieve to the best of their ability. We look forward to you all being a part of the William Rose School Family for many years to come.
Recognition of Special Education Charity.

We hope everyone had a great Easter long weekend; our Easter raffle was very successful we raised approximately $900.00 which will go towards therapy, assistive and adaptive technology devices. Our winners for the raffle are:

1st Darren Oo
2nd Charlotte Daher
3rd Aloma Maye

Our Annual Dinner dance fundraiser will be held on the 9th August this year at the Haldon function Centre Lakemba, our theme this year will be Fairy Tales. We will be having a Mother’s day raffle for all great mum’s, tickets will come home on Wednesday the 1st of May and will be drawn on Friday the 10th May.

Membership fees are now due, remember it is our charity for our kids it is only $10.00 a year so please dig deep and help raise some money for therapy, assistive and adaptive technology Devices and other great things our kids may need at school.

Thank you

Kellie Monk, Chairperson

Harmony Day

In week 8, this term, William Rose School celebrated Harmony Day by sharing the stories of the students at our school. Harmony Day is a day to celebrate the diversity of our country and to learn about, understand and celebrate each other’s cultures and individual stories. Students dressed up in their favourite clothes and shared their stories during a special assembly. The message for Harmony Day 2013 is ‘Everybody Belongs’.

Fun at Hydrotherapy

Group 7 has been going to hydrotherapy this term at the Children’s Hospital, Westmead. Hydrotherapy is great for developing muscle strength, confidence around water, straightening limbs and relieving pressure on the spine and joints. Our class look forward to hydro every Tuesday! Athavan has been practising walking independently and uses the resistance of the water as support. Rebecca enjoys swimming with her mum (thank you Julie!) and uses her floatation device to swim independently. Kayla enjoys being ‘weightless’ and uses bean bags to support her tummy and head. Jack loves splashing his brother, Ben, and enjoys moving his arms and legs in the water.
**Our Enviro Helpers**

**Recycling and Compost**

Well we are finally underway! Students at our school have designed and created posters to show what our three recycling bins are for: PINK is for paper recycling, BLUE is for aluminium can recycling and GREEN is for cardboard, tin, plastic and glass. We also have mini-bins located in each block for compost. Our students are responsible for emptying the recycling bins into our council bins each week and take them out for collection. The recycling program also supports our can-crushing and paper-shredding programs that develop work skills in our senior students. Our new compost bin has been completed and is already in use – we can’t wait to use the compost on our vege gardens!

**Ipad Apps**

**Build it up** helps develop visual perception skills and fine motor skills among toddlers aged 2.5+ years old. It also helps develop primary math concepts such as size, top and bottom, before and after.

**Toddler Counting** iTot Apps, LLC

Toddler Counting helps teach basic counting skills, and even makes it fun for students.

**Whizzit 123** Fairlady Media, Inc.

Whizzit 123 is a super-fun counting game.

**Art maker Fun**

Fun and interactive game for students that uses characters from playschool. Students can create and record their own scenes.

**PicCardMaker**

Simple and easy way to make flash cards using photos.

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**Autism Awareness Month - Access Performances for Kids**

As part of Sydney Opera House's commitment to improving disability access we are delighted to announce our program now includes a number of number of inclusive performances for young people with a disability.

Our aim is to ensure that all young people and their families, carers and friends have an opportunity to experience the magic of live performances and creative play at Sydney Opera House.

Visit: [http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/kids_access.aspx](http://www.sydneyoperahouse.com/kids_access.aspx) for more information

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**Have a Safe and Happy School Term Break**

**Last Day Term 1**
Friday 12th April

**Students return Term 2**
Wednesday 1st May