

Wagga Wagga District NEWSLETTER



Date: Tuesday, 13 February, 2001

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the electronic district newsletter which will be emailed fortnightly to ensure the district office keeps in touch with schools. Congratulations on a very settled start to the 2001 school year and thank you for your newsletters which are an excellent way for me and the district office staff to keep in touch with the achievements of your staff and students. There is some excellent use of digital cameras being made to promote school programs. Do heed the DET policy on privacy and use of student names when publishing photographs for public view. If unsure, contact the district office for advice.

Congratulations to all primary schools on your comprehensive annual school reports. I wish you well with your community meetings. New District CEO, Peter Brabin is only too willing to assist you in any way with this final step in the process of school reporting.

A district meeting for all principals is planned for Tuesday, 20 March 2001. Mark this date in your diary for an informative and collegial day. Details of venue will be in the next newsletter.

We wish colleague, Dick Mead, (Principal – Turvey Park PS) a speedy recovery. Dick is currently hospitalised in Sydney.

My mobile phone number is 0427310063. This is not for general distribution, however, I think it is essential that you can contact me at weekends and after hours for important issues.

Regards,

Colin Parker
Superintendent, Wagga Wagga District.

From the CEO

Thank you to all those Principals who I have been in contact with over the first few hectic weeks for your assistance and advice. It has been greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to the Primary schools for the quality of their Annual School Reports and while there has been some minor delays with the posting out of reports to parents, most Annual School report Meetings have proceeded as planned. The quality of the reports can be attributed in no small part to the efforts of not only Principals and their evaluation teams but also to the support of Dennis Bishop last year. Thank you Dennis for making such a great contribution.

I will be delivering the Principal's Support Package to all High Schools and Central schools over the next two days. This comprehensive package will allow schools to fully analyse their School Certificate and Higher School Certificate results.

High Schools and Central Schools are reminded that the Annual School report should be sent on disc to be received by me **no later than Friday 2 March 2001.** Also a request from the Director, Hetty Cislowski, on 3 November 2000 last year for a copy of the 'back to school allowance' disc for Years 11 and 12 students

should be sent to me ASAP. Thank you to those schools that have already done so.

If any school would like assistance finalising their reports please contact me early to arrange a suitable time.

I look forward to working with Principals and school teams throughout the year.

Peter Brabin
Chief Education Officer

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From the HSLO:

Hello. My name is Lyn Robinson and as most of you would know I have recently taken over the role of Home School Liaison Officer. I am looking forward to meeting those of you who I don't already know and of course working with all of you in the near future.

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School Webmail Guidelines

School Webmail Guidelines are almost ready for release. The closing date for comment by the representative group of school and district office personnel is 14 February.

The completed guidelines will be delivered by conventional mail to each district school before the end of February. It may seem inappropriate to deliver the guidelines in a paper envelope, however, it's to ensure that everyone gets a good copy in their hand for reference at the same time.

These guidelines aim to assist efficient and reliable email communication between district office and district schools. They are suggestive rather than prescriptive, and are the result of consultation and comment from school and district office personnel. They are open to future comment and refinement.

Please direct suggestions for improvement to a member of the representative group, for inclusion in a proposed update later in the year.

Webmail/email. What's the difference?

Webmail is email accessed through a web browser. That is, you go to a particular website on the internet by typing a web address in a browser (eg. Netscape or Internet Explorer).

To access the DET Webmail you go to:
<http://webmail.det.nsw.edu.au>

Prior to the web emphasis, you accessed email using an email program, which had to be configured with account details. The now terminated school dxxxxyn1@ozemail.com.au email accounts with Ozemail were examples of such email.

Web competition: Science

Develop a web site that tells the world what's really great about your school.
<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/webawards2001/>
Closing date: 1 June 2001

Matt Gown
Technology Adviser

Wagga Wagga District Primary Principal's Council

The next meeting will be held at Wagga Wagga Leagues Club, Gurwood Street, Wagga Wagga on Wednesday 28 February commencing at 9.00am for 9.15am.

Caring for the Kids in our Community

This is a drug education professional development package developed by the Commonwealth Government and will be sent to schools this week.

The materials are designed to assist schools to further develop expertise in school drug education and managing drug related incidents in schools.

The package is consistent with and complements the *Guidelines for Managing Drug Related Incidents in Schools* and the video and written support materials made available to schools by the NSW Department of Education and Training in 2000.

It does not take the place of DET *Guidelines for Managing Drug Related Incidents in Schools* or policies. Schools should still comply with DET requirements.

The package includes:

1. *The National Framework for Protocols for Managing the Possession, Use and/or Distribution of Illicit and Other Unsanctioned Drugs in Schools*
2. An edited video of the national satellite broadcast *Caring for the Kids in our Community*
3. A facilitator's guide to assist schools to make use of the package
4. A copy of the brochure sent direct by the Commonwealth to schools last year, *Information for Parents on the National School Drug Education Strategy*.

Kerrie Tweddle
Student Services and Equity Coordinator

ELLA 2001

A marking center for the English Language and Literacy Assessment (ELLA test) will operate in June. Three schools are participating in marking at the centre Cootamundra, Junee and Temora High Schools. For information concerning the marking of the ELLA test, please phone Ineke Kolder-Wicks on 69 373817.

School Financial Support Unit

The School Financial Support Unit Website was launched in November 2000 and contains information on Money Matters; GST; CEPS; Security Banking; Canteen Lease Agreements; BAS Spreadsheets and a site for updates.

The website address for the School Financial Support Unit is:
<http://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/directorates/finance/schools/welcome.htm>

Of particular interest is information on CEPS Codes and the guidelines for the employment of casuals using the Primary and Secondary CEPS Codes lists.

The updated information on CEPS Codes is available to schools at:
<http://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/directorates/finance/schools/ceps/content.htm>

Enquiries regarding the guidelines and the codes list should be directed to the School Financial Support Unit on telephone 13 10 72 or via email. Enquiries regarding staff employed under specific purpose programs and activities should be directed to the relevant manager at the district office. The address for the Unit is Level 15, 1 Oxford Street, Darlinghurst

Judy Grant
Office Manager