Welcome back to another exciting and full term at Warranwood Primary School. After the rest over the Easter break we have all settled back into the swing of things and hope you have as well. The students have returned to school with renewed enthusiasm and it is wonderful to see how easily they have settled back into routines and classroom learning.

BUDDIES

In the last week of first Term we managed to fit in two fantastic buddy sessions. The Grade 5 & 6 students invited us to join them in their Superheroes celebration. The Preps had a fantastic day with their buddies rotating around a number of different activities and then sharing in a massive class party at the end of the session.

GRANDPARENTS/SPECIAL FRIENDS DAY

Grandparents/Special Friends Day was another highlight in Term 1. The Preps did a wonderful performance for the Grandparents and Special Friends and took part in various activities in the classroom. The Preps took them for a tour around the school and shared a picnic lunch. Parents, please pass on our thanks to everyone who attended our day. It means so much to the children to share their learning experiences with the people they care about!
IN THE CLASSROOM

This term the students will be learning about fairytales through our exciting integrated topic “Once Upon A Time”. This unit of work will enable the students to explore key aspects of narrative texts such as plot, setting and characters whilst also giving them opportunities to complete literacy, numeracy and problem solving tasks that relate to the stories. In addition to this unit we will continue to explicitly teach literacy and numeracy through our Discovery Learning program.

ASSEMBLY

Don’t forget that our whole-school assembly is held most Mondays in the Hall at 9.00am. We start at the classroom and walk to the Hall together. We have begun selecting students to receive a Principal’s Award at each assembly. These awards are in recognition of outstanding work. You will receive notification the week before your child is to receive an award. You are invited to come along with your camera to take a photo of this special moment. During the year some students will also receive Citizenship Awards. The Warranwood Citizen can be determined by the following criteria:

- Helps and considers others,
- Shows initiative,
- Is organised with commitments,
- Takes responsibility,
- Involved in school wide programs,
- Compassionate and thoughtful,
- Particular personal endeavour and values displayed.

COMMUNICATION

Please make sure your child brings their communication pouch to school each day as we often have notices that need to be sent home. It is also very important that you read the information sent home as well as regularly visit our website and Wiki once it is operational, to keep up-to-date with what is happening in the school. If you require more information about any of our notices please come and see your child’s class teacher.

PADDY’S MARKET

On Wednesday 1st May it will be our Paddy’s Market Day. Paddy’s Market is an annual event that the whole school celebrates together. It is an opportunity for the students to be involved in organising and running market stalls with profits going to support school programs. In addition to being able to purchase stall items on the day, there will also be a disco and a sausage sizzle for the Prep students to enjoy. A free dress day was held on Friday, 19th April. Our students brought a bag of lollies to be divided up and sold on the day. Our classroom reps will soon be asking for some help bagging up the lollies so if you are available for an hour or so please let them know.
**TAKE HOME BOOKS**

It is great to see the students regularly reading their take home books. Don’t forget to refer to the monthly calendar inside your book cover for any major events occurring during that month. Some events are listed FYI and do not require your attendance or any action. Please also remember to write the name of the book they read in the calendar on the day you read it. Parent helpers in the classroom will be listening to the students read at various times during the day so please make sure your child’s reader is returned each day, even if you haven’t read it.

**TAKE HOME WORDS**

Please help your child learn the high frequency words that are sent home with their reader. These words are designed to rapidly improve their fluency and understanding of the books they read and to also improve the quality of their writing. They will be changed on a regular basis at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

**CANTEEN**

The canteen is closed on Wednesdays for lunch orders but open during lunchtime every day for the children to purchase snacks. Lunch orders need to be placed in the class basket at the beginning of the day. We will encourage students to place any change in their bags. If they are allowed to spend their change, please let them know.

**SPENDING MONEY**

Due to our concerns about food allergies, we ask that you please discourage your children from buying snacks from the canteen for other students. Buying food for others can also cause distress for the students who are not selected by their friends to share the money.

**CONNECT GROUPS**

All students at Warranwood belong to a multi-age Connect Group. These groups meet on a regular basis and focus on establishing relationships across the school and developing positive social skills. The students really enjoy the time spent in these sessions, meeting new students and new teachers and we are looking forward to the program continuing this term.

**EASTER WITH OUR BUDDIES**

Another activity that took place in the last week of Term 1 was our Easter activities with the buddies. They helped the Preps make an Easter basket and some bunny ears with the highlight being our Easter egg hunt and receiving an egg from the Easter bunny himself. We look forward to some more fantastic buddy activities in Term 2.
HEALTHY BODIES

All the students are extremely busy at school and as the weather gets colder we are encouraging them to keep healthy by eating well, getting plenty of exercise and rest. Going to bed early is also encouraged. Please make sure your child brings their jumper to school each day - autumn days can often be a mixture of warm and cool temperatures so it is important that they come to school prepared. If your child is sick please keep them at home as necessary. However don’t forget that every day is full of learning and students often feel left behind if they have too many days away from school. Please contact the office if they are going to be away.

LOST PROPERTY

We would also like to remind everyone of the importance of labelling all of your child’s belongings. We do have a lost property area (located in the Hall entrance), however it has proven difficult to locate and return unnamed clothing. Please remind your children to take their belongings home every night and feel free to come into the classroom to search for missing items.

PREP WIKI

Coming soon will be our Prep Wiki for 2013. The Prep Wiki is like a private website which requires an invitation for you to access it. It contains pictures of students and information about what is going on in the classroom. There is a section for documents and forms that you will be able to print out if you have misplaced or not received a form. We will be sending out further information with instructions on how you can join our Wiki in the not too distant future. It is a great way of keeping in touch with what goes on in the classroom, especially if you are unable to get up to school often.

TERM 2 Diary Dates

April

Monday 15th April – Term 2 starts

Friday, 19th April – Free Dress day and donation for Paddy’s Market

Thursday, 25th April – Anzac Day holiday

May

Wednesday, 1st May Paddy’s Market – Starting 11:10 am

Tuesday 7th May – Open Day and 7:00 pm 2014 Prep Information Night

June

3rd June, Incursion – Camp Quality 11:15 – 11:45 am

5th June, Life Education – 9:30 - 10:30 am

10th June – Queen’s Birthday holiday

21st June – Fairytale Puppet Show - Reports and Portfolios go home

24th & 25th – Parent/Teacher Interviews

End of Term 2

Friday, 28th June 2:30pm dismissal

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. We are all looking forward to another busy and exciting term. Don’t forget to come and see us if you have any further questions.

Dee, Yvonne and Jacquie