From the Principal’s Desk

Last week I attended the Young Leaders Conference and was very impressed by our Police Commissioner's speech on being a leader and mastering the little things. He said that his greatest achievement in life was to master the art of being a dad and now a grandfather. Spending quality time with his children, being there when they needed him, listening to their fears and joys, setting boundaries and house and social rules assisted build the bond and respect that he and his children share for one another. “A lot of parenting isn’t easy but it’s a job you can’t give up on because you are building the future citizens of our world and for me I wanted them to be stable, positive, contributing human beings.” He felt that getting it right as a dad and making sure that his daily dealings with his children (the little things) would add up to the big thing; happy, confident and positive adults. I believe this message is invaluable for all of us; getting it right at home affects every aspect of everyone’s life. Focus on the daily small events such as dinner time, reading together, talking about the day, taking the time to ask if there is a problem, telling someone they are loved, smiling more often and enjoying not just enduring life.

Parents, teachers and students working together for self and school improvement.
Focus on Listening Skills

In the next two weeks we will be revising all of the listening skills we have been taught:
This term we are focusing on our school rule “Being Attentive.” Listening skills came up as one of our weaker areas of grading in our school reports. This week we are discussing ignoring distractions and whole body listening. It would be great if parents could follow this up at home as well. The website link parents to ways you can develop talking and listening at home. http://www.schoolatoz.edu.au

1. Patience - When you want to hear more from another person you are patient, listening until they have finished speaking and not butting in with what you want to say until the other person has finished. Even when the person pauses, you still give them the courtesy of completing what they have to say.
2. Open Body - Your body language should reflect that you are highly interested e.g. not slouched in a chair, arms not crossed in a defensive manner etc. You should reflect you are mentally open to the other person nodding, gazing in the direction of the person and reflecting about what is being said.
3. Questioning- The listener can demonstrate they are paying attention by asking relevant questions or by making statements that build or help to clarify what the speaker has said.
4. Reflecting-Reflecting is closely repeating or paraphrasing what the speaker has said in order to show comprehension. Reflection is a powerful skill that can reinforce the message of the speaker and demonstrate understanding.
5. Ignoring Distractions- Blocking out unwanted distraction such as talking, noise, and movement so you can focus intently on what is being said.
6. Gaze- Looking in the direction of the speaker, nodding giving cues that you are being attentive and taking in what is being said

The Oaks Deli Special Offer
The Oaks Deli has organised a special offer to assist our school raise funds. They are offering all staff, parents and family from our school a special deal. Each coffee that is purchased 50c will be donated to the school. Please let the staff at the deli know you are there to support Oakdale Public School.

Gymnastics
Our gymnastics program will be subsidised this year thanks to Mrs Itskos applying for a grant. Students will only pay $2.50 per lesson which is a savings of $18.00 on last year’s price. Our lessons will start in Term 2 and as this is part of the curriculum all students are expected to attend.

School Crossing Safety
All students are expected to cross at the crossings in the afternoon. Students who ride bikes or scooters must do this as well in a safe and responsible manner. I have asked all students not to stand chatting with their scooters near the crossing as it is confusing to
parents. Parents of children in K-2 need to get out of their cars and collect their children at the end of Miss Clay’s classroom and be with them to cross at the crossing. The school gate near the fixed equipment has been locked because some students are leaving the school this way in the afternoon and are going in between cars parked near the fence and crossing the road. It is everyone’s responsibility to ensure safety on the roads.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dealing with Anger</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>How parents help:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Start with yourself</strong>—your child learns from watching you how to handle disagreements and conflict. If you yell and scream you are modelling behaviour your child will most likely copy. Take control of your own emotions. Your calm presence even when your child feels mad, helps your child feel safe, which helps build the neural pathways in the brain that shut off the fight response and allow the frontal cortex, the “reasoning brain” to take over. That’s how kids learn to soothe themselves; they learn from your self-regulation that you can control anger when you feel it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>De-escalate</strong>—Most of us are good at staying calm when things are going well, what takes effort is staying calm when things get tough. Yelling at an angry child reinforces what a child is already feeling, which is that he/she is in danger. Restore calm by speaking calmly e.g. “We all get angry but we are not allowed to hit another person.” (the action is limited - that is the hitting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>New Tip</strong> Remember that all feelings are allowed—only actions need to be limited. Why does this matter? When kids “stuff” their emotions those feelings are no longer under conscious control. Then they pop out unregulated, and the child lashes out at someone. If the emotions are allowed, the child can accept them, instead of trying to repress them. This gives the child enough cognitive control over the feelings so that the child can start putting them into words instead of hitting out.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. <strong>New Tip</strong> Set limits on aggression—allowing feelings does not mean that we allow destructive actions. Children should never be allowed to hit others, including their parents. When they do they are always asking for us to set limits and help them contain their anger. Parents could say “You can be as mad as you want but I won’t let you hit me. I will keep us all safe. You can tell me how mad you are without hurting me.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO RECENTLY VISITED THE TREASURE CHEST.
YOU HAVE ALL BEEN TRYING VERY HARD TO DO YOUR BEST IN CLASS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KH</td>
<td>Amber Halliday, Ashley Austin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>Rylee Beard, Olivia Wilkinson, Max Sproule, Amber Halliday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2BW</td>
<td>Aedan Hannigan, Jake Graham, Hayley Austin, Charlie Hooper, Paige Fraser, Morgan Scott</td>
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<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Ashley Barnes, David Milne, Zahli Hoare, Kuljas Kapoor</td>
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<td>4I</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>5C</td>
<td>Jessica Webber, Kailyn Harvey, Mitchell Nash, Madelyn Russel, Stephanie Fordham, Lauryn Takiari</td>
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<tr>
<td>6K</td>
<td>Tahlita Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1 Week 5</td>
<td>Term 1 Week 5</td>
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<td>Amira Altunag</td>
<td>Chelsea Blacker, Levi Hickson</td>
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<td>Sophia Seng</td>
<td>Jack Eather, Brinley Seisun</td>
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<td>Izak Tabone</td>
<td>Chase Brackenrig X3</td>
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<td>Alex Roberts</td>
<td>Olivia Wilkinson, Rylee Beard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Austin</td>
<td>Christian Goebel, Amber Halliday</td>
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<td>Jakson Doyle</td>
<td>Fletcher Woods X2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student of the week:</td>
<td>Chelsea Blacker</td>
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<td>Lucy Wilkinson</td>
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<td>Term 1 Week 6</td>
<td>Term 1 Week 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Austin X2</td>
<td>Fletcher Woods, Benson Hoare</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Amber Halliday X3</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Amelia Harding, Jack Eather</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Olivia Wilkinson, Izzy Johns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student of the Week:</td>
<td>Jack Eather</td>
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<td>Izak Tabone</td>
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<td>Term 1 Week 7</td>
<td>Term 1 Week 7</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sophia Seng</td>
<td>Amelia Harding X2, Benson Hoare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Austin</td>
<td>Olivia Wilkinson, Max Sproule</td>
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<td>Matthew Richardson</td>
<td>Rylee Beard, Chelsea Blacker</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rylee Beard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student of the Week:</td>
<td>Elizabeth Belter</td>
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<td>Emma Belter</td>
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**Student of the Week:**

Lucy Wilkinson

Jack Eather

Rylee Beard

Jed Palmer
### Term 1 Week 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3C</th>
<th>4I</th>
<th>5C</th>
<th>6K</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isabel Nash</td>
<td>Dakota Williams</td>
<td>Laury Takiari</td>
<td>Tahlita Smith x 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Barnes x 3</td>
<td>Breeanna Austin</td>
<td>Kailyn Harvey x 2</td>
<td>Georgia Aguila</td>
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<td>Jamie Carter</td>
<td>Riley Grieve</td>
<td>Tyrus Williams x 2</td>
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<td>Ella May Dern</td>
<td>Nash Brackenrig x 2</td>
<td>Molina Grozdanovic x 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Milne</td>
<td>Blake Takiari</td>
<td>Mitchell Nash x 3</td>
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<td>Rhys Rowbotham</td>
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<td>Madelyn Russel x 3</td>
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<td>Reagan Austin</td>
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<td>Stephanie Fordham x 2</td>
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<td>Kuljas Kapoor x 3</td>
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<td>Myia Tabone x 3</td>
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<td>Oliver Micallef</td>
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<td>William Milne</td>
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<td>Katie Chelin</td>
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<td>Jessica Webber x 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cooper Eather</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cameron Richards</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bella Payne</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Star Student:**
- Kaydence Johnson
- Xander Reid
- Cooper Eather
- Noah Meredith

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**Easter Raffle**

Year 6 are organising an Easter Raffle to be drawn at the Easter Hat Parade. We are asking parents for donations of eggs and chocolates to make up gift baskets. Please send your contributions to the office. Thanks to all of the parents who have already donated eggs and purchased raffle tickets.

A guessing competition is also organised where students are asked to guess how many eggs are in a jar. Year 6 will be selling tickets for this each morning in the bottom playground. 20 cents a guess.

---

**Slushy Day**

The Year 6 Slushy Days seemed to be a great success. Hopefully everyone was satisfied. We raised over $100.00. There will be other Slushy Days organised for later in the year.
The Canteen is having a “Fun Day Sundae”
On Thursday 24th March – Hat Parade Day

Students and Visitors will be able to buy a cup of Vanilla ice-cream with: Chocolate or Strawberry topping, Hundreds and Thousands and a wafer biscuit.

The Sundaes will be available after the Hat Parade at Lunch Time and will cost $2.00

* There will also be tea or coffee with a mini hot cross bun for $2.00

If your child has a food allergy, please come and see me in the canteen before this day so that we can arrange something.

Any parents who would like to help out in the canteen on this day, please let me or the office know, as any help would be welcomed and appreciated.

Thank you, Emili

Camden Show Art Competition

On Friday 11th March and Saturday 12th March, our school had 60 entries displayed in the Schools Art Competition at Camden Show. The quality of the artworks was outstanding. Well done to all of the students who spent so much time and effort in creating such beautiful work. Ms Fuller
Congratulations to Kuljas Kapoor 3C, for receiving an Encouragement Award for his lovely artwork.
Dear Parents/Caregivers,

**Monday 21st of March** is Harmony Day! Harmony Day is celebrated each year to promote inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. The theme for this year is ‘Our diversity is our strength’. Students will participate in activities in their classes on this theme, as well as being a mufti day. The official colour for Harmony Day is orange, so please remember to wear orange clothes or accessories on this day. Please bring a gold coin donation which will go towards the end of year whole school excursion.

We appreciate your support in this fundraising event.

---

**FUNKY HAIR DAY THURSDAY 7TH APRIL!**

The school will be raising funds again this year for the Leukaemia Foundation. Funds raised by our school will go towards researching better treatments for blood cancers, such as Leukaemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma. The SRC has organised a Funky Hair day (we are not ‘brave’ enough to ‘shave’!).

This year we would like you to come to school with crazy hair (spikes, curls, plaits, braids, ribbons, bows) and then meet us on the netball court at lunchtime with your $2 to have your hair coloured with spray or hair chalks. Half of the money raised on the day will go towards our whole school excursion at the end of the year while the other half will be sent as a donation to the Leukaemia Foundation. We would like to donate as much money as possible to this charity, so we strongly encourage all children to have their hair coloured at school!

If any parents would like to make a donation of coloured hairspray (new or used cans accepted), this would keep our costs down and allow us to raise more money. Please bring to the office ASAP!

Any larger donations over $2 are tax deductible. Please come to the office anytime and a receipt will be issued. Your generosity is appreciated.

Usual school uniform is required on the day.

We appreciate your support in this fundraising event.
SRC, Mrs Hooper and Mrs Smith

Razorback Rugby League
On Friday 4th March Lachlan Burley and Noah Meredith attended the Razorback zone boy’s rugby league trials. Both boys need to be commended for their efforts and although they gave it their all unfortunately they were unsuccessful in making the Razorback team. I would like to congratulate both boys and thank them for representing Oakdale with pride.

Sydney South West Swimming Carnival
We would like to wish Georgia Aguila all the best at the Sydney South West swimming Carnival this Tuesday 15th March. Georgia will be competing in 4 events.

Cross Country Carnival
A friendly reminder that the school’s cross country carnival will be held in term 2, week 2, on Thursday 5th May at Willis Park. Notes and more information will follow week 1 in term 2.

Soccer Visit
As we take part in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge we have been given the opportunity to have an ambassador visit on Thursday 17th March by former Socceroo player Brett Emerton. Brett will be talking to the students in years 3 – 6 about healthy habits, goal setting and working hard to achieve dreams. One class will be selected to participate in a 45 minute soccer clinic with Brett and the class will be chosen based on overall behaviour within the school setting. Permission to be published notes were sent home last week and we ask for them to please be returned by Wednesday 16th March, as photos may be taken and published through various media forms. We are very privileged to have this opportunity.
Mrs Itskos 😊

What’s On in Science

Last week was the very first session of Science Club. This club operates at lunchtime on Thursdays and is open to any students in Year 5 or 6. We had a wonderful time making “squawkers” and learning about how sound can be produced by the vibrations of various materials. Then we found out how sound is amplified.

The students could make their “squawkers” sound exactly like chickens; lots of fun! A big thankyou to Mrs Webber, aka Jessica’s mum, for lending her expertise to the constructions.

Ms Fuller
Five Cent Fundraiser

All 5c coins need to be in by the last day of
Term 1- Friday, 8th April!

Please don’t forget the money needs to be in
a zip-lock bag with the student’s name and
class written on it. And remember, we are
raising money for 15 brand new laptops so that
students don’t need to share computers!

At the moment... 3C are in the lead!

More prizes have been donated from: United
Cinemas Narellan, Maximum Skating and
Wizard of Oz Funland!

Library Monitors

Thank you to all of the Library Monitors for using their initiative when helping me out in the Library. I’m very proud of these students because, before I even had a chance to, they had divided the library jobs amongst themselves and swapped the jobs around every week so that it was fair- they work so well as a team! I’m very proud and our library is very lucky! I think we’re all ready for the next challenge- learning how to borrow/return with Oliver by Softlink (the new library software).

From left: Stephanie, Jasmine, Lauryn, Emily, Ava and Madelyn.

Borrowing Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received awards for borrowing and returning 10 books from the library: Jett (2BW) and Jasmine (5C)

Parent Information Session: Reading Strategies

Thank you to the parents who attended the information session that I held in Week 4. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive and I will run the session again if there is enough interest. Please notify the office if you’re interested and, parents who attended last year- the information is very similar but you are more than welcome to attend again.

All parents of children who: are learning to read; reluctant to read; are struggling to read; or participate in home reading would benefit from attending the session.
Kids! Come along to our....

EASTER CRAFT AFTERNOON

Spend an afternoon creating a variety of Easter crafts.

Date: Thursday 24th March 2016
Time: 4.00 - 5.30pm
Where: Wollondilly Shire Hall
Ages: 5+

Under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult

LIMITED SPACES. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.
Contact Picton Library 466778300

FREE!
AN ACTION PACKED DAY OF ACTIVITIES ON CLARK ISLAND

TRIBAL WARRIOR ASSOCIATION
EMPOWERING DISADVANTAGED ABORIGINAL AND NON-INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

EASTER CULTURAL ISLAND TOUR

TRIBAL WARRIOR run specialised training programs that encourage disadvantaged young people to become self-sufficient, leading them to employment opportunities in the maritime industries.

TRIBAL WARRIOR ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
PHONE: 02 9699 3491 | FAX 02 9699 3441
EMAIL: INFO@TRIBALWARRIOR.ORG
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, TWITTER & INSTAGRAM

Cruise Sydney Harbour to Clark Island for an Unforgettable Easter Egg Hunt! Experience Traditional Aboriginal Art, Culture, Ceremonies, Dance and More.

www.tribalwarrior.org
ISLAND TOUR

Experience an unforgettable day out on Sydney Harbour touring the pristine Clark Island, where you’ll participate in traditional tribal arts such as sand painting and hand stencilling, and observe exciting cultural performances.

A perfect way to spend Easter on the harbour complete with an Easter Egg hunt!

Join us for a BBQ lunch and participate in fascinating artistic and cultural activities from the world’s oldest living culture.

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony
- Sand Painting and Hand Stencilling
- Guided tour of Clark Island to learn about bush tucker, flora and fauna and hunting techniques
- Cultural Dance Performances

DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday 25th March</td>
<td>10.00am – 1.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 25th March</td>
<td>10.00am – 1.00pm</td>
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TICKET PRICES

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Concession/Pensioner</td>
<td>$35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family*</td>
<td>$85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prebook your BBQ lunch**</td>
<td>$10pp</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Includes: 2 adults and 2 children
** $15 if paid for on the day

TO SECURE YOUR BOOKING:

VISIT: www.tribalwarrior.org
EMAIL: info@tribalwarrior.org
PHONE: (02) 9699 3491

Pierre Toussaint, Destination NSW

To book your tickets today.
Kids! Come along to our....

Mother’s Day Crofternoon

Spend an afternoon creating a variety of crafts for Mum, Grandma, Aunty or someone you love.

Date: Thursday 28th April 2016

Time: 4.00 - 5.30pm

Where: Wollondilly Shire Hall

Ages: 5+

Under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult

LIMITED SPACES. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

Contact Picton Library 46778300

FREE!
Join us at Storytime for a reading of this year’s book, ‘I Got This Hat’ by Jol & Kate Temple, illustrated by Jon Foye, as it is read simultaneously around Australia in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.

Every child who attends receives an entry in the prize draw for a chance to win a copy of the book and a NSS bucket hat!

Wednesday 25th May 2016
10:30am - 11:30am.
Wollondilly Shire Hall, Menangle Street, Picton.

Singing, stories, craft & a whole lot of fun!
AUTUMN
activities @ your library
for kids & young adults

- Easter Crafternoon
- Aaron Blabey Storytime Party
- Pins & Things Crafts
- Juggling Show
- Mother’s Day Crafternoon
- Gaming & Pizza Night
- National Simultaneous Storytime
Pins & Things Crafts 8+ yrs
Grab your friends and join us during Youth Week to make a range of crafts including a beaded safety pin bracelet, decorated bobby pins, a clothes pin memo clip ...and more!

Date: Tuesday 12th April 2016
Time: 10.00 - 11.30am
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

Gaming & Pizza Night 8+ yrs
Battle your friends playing a range of games including Halo ODST (M) and Minecraft (PG) on the Xbox 360 and Super Smash Bros Brawl (PG) on the Wii. Be creative with Lego or crafts. Pizza, chips, lollies and drinks provided.

Date: Thursday 14th April 2016
Time: 5.00 - 7.00pm
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

‘You Can Do It Too’ Juggling Show 5-12 yrs
Be amazed by the skills of Llynda the Lady Juggler, as she juggles and balances balls, batons, plates, feather dusters, tennis rackets, golf clubs, cartons and eggs. All incorporated in her 50 minute self esteem building show. Lots of fun & laughs for all.

Date: Thursday 21st April 2016
Time: 10.30 - 11.30am
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

Aaron Blabey Storytime 5+ yrs
Come along to our very special storytime featuring the books of Australian author Aaron Blabey. Stories, games, activities, food and a whole lot of fun!

Date: Tuesday 19th April 2016
Time: 10.00 - 11.30am
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

School holiday activities are $5.00. Under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult. Bookings essential. Contact 46778300.
ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

Easter Crafternoon 5+ yrs
Join us to make a range of Easter crafts at our FREE ‘Crafternoon’ session.

Date: Thursday 24th March 2016
Time: 4.00 - 5.30pm
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

Bookings essential. Under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult.

National Simultaneous Storytime
Be part of this nationwide event and join us for a reading of ‘I Got This Hat’ written by Jol and Kate Temple & illustrated by Jon Foye, while it is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes and bookshops around the country.

When: During our regular storytime on Wednesday 25th May ‘16 at 10.30am. The storytime will have a ‘Hats’ theme, so come along wearing your favourite hat! No need to book!

Mother’s Day Crafternoon 5+ yrs
Join us to make a range of Mother’s Day crafts at our FREE ‘Crafternoon’ session.

Date: Thursday 28th April 2016
Time: 4.00 - 5.30pm
Venue: Wollondilly Shire Hall

Bookings essential. Under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult.
**Regular Activities**

**Preschool Storytime 0-5 yrs**
Come along to our regular Storytime sessions held in the Shire Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10.30am during school term. It’s FREE! No need to book!

**Bookbubs 0-24 mths**
Join us each Thursday in the Shire Hall at 11.30am (during school term) for Bookbubs, our storytime for babies and toddlers. It’s FREE and there’s no need to book!

**RamPAGE Youth Activity 8+ yrs**
Come along for a Rampaging good time at our afterschool youth activity - RamPAGE! Held in the Shire Hall on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 4.00 - 5.30pm. Craft, gaming, Lego, trivia, pizza & more. It’s FREE but bookings are essential.

Hope to see you there!