Assembly Roster
Whole School hosted by Leaders 2.30pm 10th February

Important Dates
9th February
Information Session 5.30pm – 6.15pm to be held in students classroom
KA, KJ and KT
Information Session 6.15pm – 7.00pm to be held in students classroom
1C, 1S, 1/2R and 2C

10th February
Information Session 5.30pm – 6.15pm to be held in students classroom
2/3P, 3D, 3/4G and 4RP
Information Session 6.15pm – 7.00pm 4/5T, 5/6M and 5/6P

17th February
Swimming Carnival Yrs 3 – 6

26th February
Sport shirt orders due

On time for School
It is very important that students come to school on time.
Our school day starts at 8.55am.

Homework
This year we are implementing our new homework policy.
Students (except for kindergarten) would have received their homework last week. Our homework policy is available to read on our website and there will be more information at the parent information sessions this week.

Evacuation Area
A number of schools in Newcastle have recently received recorded bomb threats. Bomb threats are very disruptive for students and staff. Any bomb threats are reported to police immediately and the school evacuated. Our designated evacuation area is Werribi Park and school procedures will be followed to ensure the safety of students, staff and visitors. Parents will be alerted using our Skoolbag app if students need to be collected at the evacuation point. The school has a number of evacuation and lock down drills each year to ensure all staff and students are familiar with our procedures.

Classes
Our numbers have been confirmed for our 14 classes and this means there is no need to restructure classes.

Uniforms
It is very pleasing to see most students in their full school uniform, especially wearing the new sun safe hat and wearing black shoes. Students should wear the school uniform each day unless advised otherwise. All items should be clearly named. We don’t want to end up with the same amount of lost property as last year.

Resource Pack
Thank you to everyone who paid their resource pack last week. Teachers can now distribute books and other items to students as they commence their new work for the year.

Scripture
Scripture lessons will commence next week. Section 32 of the Education Act 1990 requires that ‘in every government school, time is to be allowed for the religious education of children of any religious persuasion’. Each week, 30 minutes has been set aside for scripture classes. Class teachers remain in the classroom while volunteer scripture teachers take the scripture lesson. Students, whose parents have indicated that they do not wish them to participate in scripture lessons will be supervised by teachers in a nearby room. Students will do reading or revision activities as determined by their teacher. Information for kindergarten students was taken from enrolment forms and students in year 1 – 6 received a note yesterday. If you do not wish your child to attend scripture lessons, please return the note by Thursday. Scripture lessons will start next week for all classes.

Swimming Carnival
A Swimming Carnival is being held for all Year 3 – 6 students next Wednesday 17th February at the Beresfield Pool. Students will travel to and from the pool by bus. A note was sent home yesterday and needs to be returned to school by next Monday 15th February. Parents are welcome to attend.

Before School
Parents are reminded that students should not be at school prior to 8.30am. At 8.30 a bell is rung and a teacher is on duty.
Library News

Welcome back for 2016
I’m sure 2016 will be another busy year for MWDS Library.
Borrowing has started this week for Kinder - Year 6 and all
students are encouraged to use a library bag. Blue PVC library
bags with a velcro closure are available at the canteen/uniform
shop, however any library bag is fine. Preschool and
Kindergarten borrowing will begin next week.
Premier’s Reading Challenge 2016
The NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge is about to begin and I
am hoping that many MWDS students will once again participate.
The PRC “aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and
pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality
literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student
to read, to read more and to read more widely”.
The Challenge is divided into three categories: Kinder - Year 2
(30 books), Years 3 - 4 (20 books) and Years 5 - 6 (20 books).
Students have until 19th August to complete their reading.
Information about the PRC can be found on the website:
The website will not be ‘live’ and available for students to login
until Monday, 7th March and more details about this process will
be provided in the next few weeks.
Happy Reading
Louise Troup
Teacher Librarian

Canteen News
Wednesday 10th February Kristy, Nat and Bec
Thursday 11th February Kristy, Help needed
Friday 12th February Mandie, Help needed Recess
Monday 15th February Gayle
Tuesday 16th February Jane

The Canteen is in desperate need of a helper for every Friday
recess 1.20 – 2.00pm

Keep an eye out in your child’s school bay next Tuesday for an
order form for our first sausage Sizzle of the year.
Additional forms are available from the Canteen.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop opening hours are:
Monday 3pm
Friday 8.30am – 9am
Order forms are available from the office.
Hats can be purchased from the Canteen outside of these hours.

Sport Shirts
Order forms were sent home today for our next order for Sport
Shirts.
Samples of sizes and shirts can be located in the office foyer.
Please send order and money to the office by no later than
Friday 26th February.
If you are unsure of your child’s house please check with their
teacher.