FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Term 2 was off to a fantastic start on Tuesday with all students present and eager to start their learning journey for the next 10 weeks. They have shown enthusiasm and commitment to their learning, which makes for a great educational environment at Warra. English this term is looking at narratives, Science is concentrating on Chemical Sciences - Materials and their Properties, Technology and The Arts will be combined, focussing on Media, with students producing a story using visual media. NAPLAN testing is in this term, but as we do not have Years 3, 5 or 7 this year, it will seem a bit strange to not be doing these tests for real. Students will still be getting exposure to these tests to familiarise them with what is expected in relation to filling out the tests and what questions to anticipate. As yet, I have not been able to find a suitable replacement for Ms Siddins, so the students will have me full time for the foreseeable future.

Judy Angel

BUNNINGS BBQ
The P & C made $1030 from the BBQ. A great big thank you goes to the helpers and Bunnings Toowoomba. Also, thanks to: Darling Downs Foods Woolworths (Dalby) Betros Brothers for their kind donations. Without these donations, the fundraiser would not have been as successful. Again, thanks to all who helped make the BBQ successful.

ANZAC DAY
ANZAC Day is on this Friday, 25th April. We would like as many students as possible to attend a wreath laying ceremony being held at the Warra Memorial Hall at 9am. This will be followed by morning tea. Please bring a plate to share.

P&C MEETING
A general meeting will be held on May 8th, (Thursday) at 3.30pm.

TENNIS
Tennis commenced today for the term and will continue each Wednesday for the 10 weeks. Cost is $7.00 per student per lesson, with the option to pay each week or in a lump sum.

FOLLOW 2014 PREMIER’S ANZAC PRIZE WINNERS’ OVERSEAS JOURNEY
You can follow the epic journey of the five 2014 Premier’s Anzac Prize winners as they travel to Gallipoli and the Western Front. The group departed Brisbane on Easter Sunday and photos, video and travel journals from their 14-day trip will be regularly uploaded to http://education.qld.gov.au/students/grants/scholarships/anzac2014.html.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Congratulations go to Cody Poulsen, who has been awarded Student of the Week (from 4 April). Congratulations also to the following children who have received awards.

School Rule awards:
- Respect for Yourself – Harley Rhodes
- Respect for Each Other – Annabelle Taylor

CROSS COUNTRY
Our school cross country will be on Thursday, 8th May, starting at 9.00am. The event should be finished by 10.30am, in time for an early morning tea. All students will be expected to compete on the day, but only 10 years and above will be nominated to attend the District Cross Country, if the qualifying times are met. District Cross Country is on the 22nd of May at Chinchilla. If your child is interested in attending District level please encourage them to train regularly.

10 yrs - 2 km
11/12/13 yrs - 3 km
TOP TIPS FOR INDEPENDENT LEARNING

Kids aren’t born ready to hit the books. In fact, adults play an important role in providing kids with stimulating and supportive environments for learning and development.

To become good life-long learners, children need to grow their confidence and independence. This is a process that happens over time. Kids need to ‘learn about learning’ and they look to the adults in their lives show them how.

Here are our top tips for families to create independent little learners.

- Don’t give away the answers
  It’s tempting, but giving kids the answers to their homework prevents them developing their learning and thinking processes and overall independence. As much as they need to learn about specific subject matter, children need to learn about the process of learning. This includes having plenty of chances to make mistakes, and to experience the joy of figuring things out for themselves. You don’t need to have all the answers!
- 'Scaffold' their learning
  Scaffolding is a great way to build children’s confidence and capabilities. It involves supporting them through the task at hand using the following broad stages, and allows adults to draw back as the child’s learning independence grows:
  - ask questions about what needs to be done
  - break the job down into smaller steps
  - demonstrate how to approach each step, talking it through
  - praise achievement or, if they’re struggling, break the steps down further still.

- Routine, routine, routine
  Homework is a more efficient process if it is done at the same time and in the same place. Don’t expect that children will perform well with study tasks late in the day or night, or if they’re tired or hungry. One of the best routines is to attend to homework after school when kids’ minds are still firing. It can also help concentration if they have a chance to blow off some steam first and have something to eat. Getting school work out of the way before doing fun things keeps motivation up as well.
- Don’t make it a battle
  Is homework a constant clash of wills at your place? Battling kids to do their homework puts strain on relationships, including between siblings, and is exhausting for the whole family. A regular study routine sets the expectation and minimises any backlash. Framing conversations in positive ways - rather than interrogating or telling kids what to do - and giving them lots of praise for achievements helps keep things upbeat.
- Be available
  Being available doesn’t only mean being physically present for homework time. Many adults work full-time and might have another adult supervising study - like a carer at an after school program. If this is you, check in with your kids when you all arrive home. You don’t have to grill them over whether their work is complete, but simply take an interest in and discuss what they are up to. ‘Availability’ is about quality time more than anything.

(https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/families/role-families/working-together/working-together-further-resources)

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<td>Anzac Day</td>
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<td>Thurs 8 May</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<td>Thurs 22 May</td>
<td>Principal’s Cluster Meeting</td>
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