NEWSLETTER 2014
Term 3 Week 5 14th August 2014
Be Safe, Be Responsible, Be Respectful

DATES FOR THE DIARY
August
20th - Kindy 2015 Parent Info night 6pm
26th - Wakakiri performance
28th - RHHS Orientation 10-2
29th - Ridges Zone Athletics Carnival

CURRENT NOTES
Yr 6 Rouse Hill High School Transition Days
Yr 6 Funday White Elephant Donations
Wakakiri After school rehearsals
Yr 1 Powerhouse Discovery Centre
Yr 2 Powerhouse Discovery Centre

P & C FUNDRAISERS

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Dear Parents and Friends,

Staffing Information
We bid farewell again to Therese Fox who has again been seconded to LMBR, this time in the Finance team. We wish Therese all the best in this new job, which she truly deserves. At this stage she will be absent for the remainder of the term, but I expect it will be longer. Allison Batten has agreed to be relieving SAM again and Michelle Jones will work additional days in the office. Thank you to those people for stepping in to help out.

Kindergarten Information Night
Our first Kindergarten Information Night is coming up on Wednesday 20th August. We look forward to meeting with our new Kindergarten families and some of our existing families who have new children starting. So come along if you have a child commencing Kindergarten in 2015 and meet some of our staff and community.

Student Talent
We have several performances coming up for our very talented students. On Thursday night our PULSE choir sang at the Opera House. This is always an amazing concert and what a great experience for our children. As usual, our students were amazing and beautifully behaved. Our dancers in Wakakiri are putting the last touches to those dance steps, costumes and props ready for their performance on Tuesday 26th August. Our Kindergarten and Stage 1 dance groups will be performing in the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod, also on the 26th. We have choirs performing shortly in the Hills Festival at Penrith and the Ridges Festival in Norwest. Our Kindergarten and Stage 1 dance groups were also successful in their entry into the Ridges Festival. Good luck to all our students in all areas of endeavour.
Ridges Zone Athletics Carnival
The Ridges Carnival will be held on 29th August at Blacktown. Students who will be representing our school will receive a note informing them of the details. Our school is running the carnival this year so we are gearing up for this event. We wish all our students the best of luck on this day.

Crossing and Parking
I feel I need to remind parents about the safety of our children. Two events this week caused me some concern. I had a car do a U-turn in front of me across double yellow lines the other morning just outside the front of the school. Not only is this illegal but also dangerous. I also observed a mum with a young student cross the road, not using the crossing. It is important for our children to, especially at a young age, to learn how to use the crossing correctly. The crossing is there for their safety. Please help us keep our students safe by using it.

Dogs
Unfortunately it is a council regulation that dogs are not permitted on school grounds. I know it would be nice to take your pet for a walk but you cannot bring them into school with you. Thank you for supporting us in this regard.

Lost Property
Every day we have a huge amount of lost property at the school. Could you please help us out by having your child’s name clearly marked on their items. We endeavour to get them back to your child but it is impossible if their name is not on the article.

Enrol Now for Kindergarten 2015
If you have a child who will be starting Kindergarten at Ironbark Ridge P.S. in 2015 please come in and fill out an enrolment form. We are starting to get enrolments from the new areas across the road making it difficult to predict our growth for the coming year. This is the time of year when I start planning for 2015 and even one child can make a difference. The more accurate we are the better for everyone.

Have a wonderful fortnight,
Anne Forbes
Principal

Deputy Principal’s Report

Performances and festivals
Festival season is in full swing and our many student groups and teams are madly preparing for their big days/evenings. Spending a day with our Snr Choir at Parklea Public School on Thursday this week was a great privilege for me. Teachers and students alike are working very hard to practise and polish their performances ready for you all to see. Given that Ironbark Ridge students are involved in Wakakirri, Hills Performing Arts, Ridges Music Festival and the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod it is no wonder we are all busy! I know all groups will represent our school magnificently and I congratulate all involved for the huge amount of effort and skill being shown.

Reading support
Thank you to the small number of parents who have volunteered to be a part of our reading support program. Ms Shorten is organising the allocation of students to parent-helpers and we look forward to seeing more of you involved if you can spare an hour or two during school time each week. Any parents who help will obviously have to agree to our Community Helpers Code of Conduct that ensures confidentiality and sensitivity with any information and observations during these support sessions. It is wonderful to have your support with important programs such as this as the learning of all students in our school will benefit in the long term. Contact the school office and leave your details if you can help.
ICAS Tests
This week students completed the last of the annual ICAS tests. Student recognition of results from these assessments will be done through either class or whole stage presentations for certificates of Participation, Merit and Credit, or at the end of term for Distinction and High Distinction at our special awards assembly on Wednesday 17th September. So far we have received results for Computer Skills and Science with some extremely pleasing scores. Students who sit the tests on later dates due to illness or other school activities may receive their certificates and results on a later date to others.

Special awards Assembly – Wednesday 17th September, 2pm
A range of student achievements will be celebrated at this term’s special awards assembly on the afternoon of Wednesday 17th September in our school hall. All classes K-6 will attend. Awards presented will include athletics, chess, ICAS tests and Spelling Bee.

Morning Assemblies
Each morning as students line up to hear school messages it is great to see a number of interested parents and friends watching from the sides of the assembly area. Please remember to wait and watch from the back of the assembly area near the grass playground or from the Canteen/Hall side. This causes less congestion and allows classes to leave the area quickly and orderly so as to arrive at class promptly for morning lessons. Thank you for your assistance in this procedure.

Spelling Bee
Students from all Year 3 to 6 classes are currently involved in a competition to find our best spellers! The process of running a Spelling Bee is a daunting one for many, but a great way to showcase skills and knowledge about the rules and conventions of spelling. It also highlights the relevance and continuing importance of spelling in our digital world, despite the terrible efforts of ‘texting language’.

C U L8r ☺,

Nick Thomson
Deputy Principal
Parents of large families tend to have seen it all before. But if you have only one or two kids, you’re pretty much learning it all on the run. Here are some ideas for matching your parenting style to your kids’ development.

If you’re the parent of a small family (two children or less), your learning curve is steep as there are so many firsts: first steps, first time at preschool, first experience of school camp, first transition from childhood to adolescence.

The extensive list of “first” experiences means you constantly need to acquire new knowledge (“Now, how does this toilet-training work?”) and new skillsets (“Hm. How do I persuade a reluctant toilet trainer?”).

The other challenge, of course, is matching your parenting with the developmental needs of each stage in your child’s young life.

You know how it goes: Just as you finally learn how to successfully tackle an independent-minded toddler, he suddenly moves into a more compliant but far more inquisitive stage. You think, “What’s with all the questions? Do I have to answer them all?”

NEW STAGES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW CHALLENGES!

Parents of large families can draw on their previous experiences, but when you lead a small crew it’s largely trial and error. Here are some ideas for matching your parenting with your child’s developmental stage:

1. Follow your child’s lead. Kids will let you know in many and varied ways what they require from you.

2. Learn from other parents who have been down the parenting track before you. Ask questions: “Does your six-year-old...?” “Is it normal that...?”

3. When a previously successful strategy no longer serves its purpose, this is evidence that your child has moved to a new developmental stage. Now you need to ask yourself whether you have too.

4. Follow the lead of professionals such as child care workers, teachers and parent educators who have broader experience of specific age groups.

5. Learn more about developmental stages and their parenting requirements. Each stage brings new challenges and new opportunities. Understanding the developmental needs of children helps you match your parenting to their age and stage.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said: “Learn from the mistakes of others. You can’t live long enough to make them all yourself”. This wisdom definitely applies to parenting, especially in smaller families. So if it’s a struggle to get it right, don’t be too hard on yourself. See it as an opportunity to learn.

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Want to know more about your child’s age and developmental stage? Join ParentingIdeas Club and receive a Life Stage Developmental Map and a Year Ahead Planner on your child’s birthday. Find out more at parentingideasclub.com.au.
WEEK 4 - Term 3

PRINCIPAL
1 Paris for beautiful artworks

K DUBLIN
Caedin, Kuhu, Annabelle

K TORONTO
Grace, Ebony, Austin

1 CAIRO
Ray Kai, Lucia, Macayla, Darcy, Mitchell

1 PARIS
Sienna, Tori, David, Liam

2 MAUI
Zoya, Lily, Aditya, Emily, Felicity

3 ST PETERSBURG
Hayley, Ava, Chloe, Ankana, Joshua

4 WASHINGTON
Ryan, Molly, Nataniel, Chloe, Preston

5 RIO DE JANEIRO
Aryan, Jack, Crystal, Pranav, Vasu

5/6 DUBAI
Olivia, Khemata, Darcy, Tom, Shayan

5/6 SALZBURG
Sakshi, Liam, Philippa, Tahilla

6 HONOLULU
Neha, Catherine, Kelvin, Miley, Roger

CHINESE
Kindy Dublin

WEEK 5 - Term 3

K BULAWAYO
Alisha, Coby, Lara, Suzanna

K LONDON
Lilly, Rachelle, Lachlan, Spencer

1 BRISBANE
Jay, Ryan, Hannah, Kevin, Jacob, Sarah, Luke, Este

1 JASPER
Sophia, Raied, Holly, Lucas

2 BARCELONA
Leanne, Ryan, Brodie, Jemma

2 KANSAS
Connor, Aadi, Millie, Annaliese, Jasmine

3 COPENHAGEN
Hiral, Anlu, Chalise, Ruby, Wiliam

4 NEW YORK
Liam, Laurence, Max, Mitchell, Bisman, Jack

5/6 MOSCOW
Jayden Loivia, Dilara, Riley, Saphrine

5/6 PRAGUE
Keegan, Marc, Taryn, Carlo

CHINESE
1 Jasper
We hope that all our Kindy families are well and enjoying these cool, sunny winter days. Last week we bade farewell to our chicks when they went back to Henny Penny’s farm and their mums. Be sure to keep writing and talking about the chicks with students as they have built up quite a lot of field knowledge regarding chicks and growing.

On Friday 8th August Kindy visited Calmsley Hill City Farm at Abbotsbury. Baby animals, sheep shearing, milking, dog trials and a whip show were just a few of the activities students got to experience first hand. When selecting books to read with your children consider choosing titles that relate to this visit to really consolidate knowledge. Below are some strategies, questions and ideas to help you in discussing and writing about books with your children and enhancing their comprehension. You might like to choose one or two of these items for discussion and writing each week. These comprehension strategies are the focus of Kindy homework this term:

**Making Connections**
- What does this remind me of in my life?
- What is this similar to in my life?
- How is this different from my life?
- Has something like this ever happened to me?
- How does this relate to my life?
- What were my feelings when I read this?
- What did I see and hear?
- Is the text fiction or non-fiction?
- What events or problems are likely to happen?
- Who is the intended audience?
- What other stories does it remind you of?
- How is the text similar to other things you have read or seen?
- What does this remind me of in the real world?
- How is this text similar to things that happen in the real world?
- How is this different from things that happen in the real world?
- How did that part relate to the world around me?

**Predicting**
- Good readers make educated guesses. They make inferences, not wild guesses.
- Good readers find evidence that may or may not support their predictions as they read.
- Good readers continue to make new predictions as they read. They base their new predictions on the clues that they find.

**Make a prediction**

*Example:* When the bear was so close that Wendy and Oliver could smell its hot breath, and see its sharp teeth, and look into its red rolling eyes, Oliver let out an ENORMOUS...

Allen (1997) *The Bear’s Lunch*
Questioning
I wonder questions
- I wonder where he is going?
- I wonder if he is lost?
- I wonder if he speaks English?
- I wonder what may be in his backpack?
- I wonder if someone is waiting for him?
- I wonder where he has already been?
- I wonder if his feet hurt?

Monitoring strategies
- Re-read
- Read ahead
- Read aloud
- Make predictions
- Slow down
- Draw a picture or diagram
- Look for clues to make connections
- Stop and think
- Ask a question
- Retell what you have read in your own words
- Retell the difficulty in your own words
- Figure out unknown words
- Look for patterns in text structure
- Talk to other students and teachers

Summarising
Summarising is when you identify the most important ideas and restate them in your own words.
- Reread
- Look at the title
- Look at the first and last paragraph
- Ask yourself: what was the text about?
- Think about main ideas and key words.
- Look for text or information that is repeated.
- Identify what happens first, next, then, finally...
- Look at captions, pictures, subheadings, words in bold and words in different font.

During Term 3 homework goes home on Friday and needs to be returned on Thursday.

So that you don’t miss out on your child’s assembly performances be sure to record the following dates on your calendar:

**KD - Week 8** (Wed. 3/9, 2pm)
**KB - Week 9** (Wed. 10/9, 2pm)

Many thanks to all our parent helpers who assist every week in Kindy classes. Please continue to sign in and out at the office. We greatly appreciate your dedication and remind all classroom...
helpers that strict confidentiality is essential and that students, their performance and achievement levels must not be discussed outside the classroom.

Wishing you all a great weekend and lots of fun reading and writing.

The Early Stage 1 Team

STAGE 1 SNIPPETS

What a busy term it has been so far! Stage 1 classrooms have certainly been a hive of activity. Year 1 and Year 2 have been eagerly learning about different types of families and about our 5 senses.

There is an increasing pile of lost property at the moment, which will only get larger as the weather warms up. Please ensure that your child's jackets and hats are clearly labelled with their name so that if it is ever lost it can be returned easily.

Our excursion to the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo is rapidly approaching. The latest permission note and/or payment for the excursion is due by Tuesday 19th August.

We are looking forward to listening to some amazing poetry readings this week. Have a safe and happy weekend!

The Stage 1 Team
What a busy start to Term 3 it has been! There have been so many things on including Education Week, Art Show, Athletics Carnival, debating, Milo Cup Cricket, Pulse Choir and ICAS Maths Test.

Inside the classrooms there has been plenty of exciting work happening too. Stage 3 has started participating in their transition program which aims to give them a real sense of what high school is like. This program runs every Friday during the middle session and will run until the end of the year. Students have been given a timetable and are expected to know by this point in time which subjects they have each Friday during the middle session and any homework that is due. Stage 3 teachers are teaching the following subjects:

- Mrs Paton and Mrs De Jager – mathematics
- Ms Hoggan – French
- Ms McGill – visual literacy
- Ms Dalli – drama
- Mrs Sayer – high school general education
- Mr Pengelly – history/geography

Students have also been participating in class spelling bee’s to determine their representatives at the school spelling bee final. This final will be held next Tuesday morning in the school hall. The winner and runner up for both Stage 2 and 3 will go on and represent our school at the regional spelling bee final.

The performances that Stage 3 put on at the Education Day Assembly and their artworks that they produced were fabulous and really demonstrated the talents of our Stage 3 students. Artworks that were purchased on the day of the Art Show have been sent home. If you haven’t purchased your child’s artwork and you would like to, please pay at the office.

Also coming up is Tournament of Minds in which many Stage 3 students will be participating in. We wish them the best of luck. We know that they represent our school with distinction.

Stage 3 Teachers
PSSA SPORT:    TERM 3

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN PSSA TEAMS (EXCEPT NETBALL) ARE REQUIRED TO BE AT SCHOOL ON FRIDAY MORNINGS IN TERM 3 AT 8.45AM FOR AN 8.50AM SHARP DEPARTURE. IF STUDENTS DO NOT ARRIVE ON TIME THE BUS WILL NOT WAIT AND YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN PSSA ON THAT FRIDAY.

WEEK 6  22ND August 2014

NEWCOMBE BALL:       Rouse Hill Public School
BOY’S SOCCER:        Connor Greasby Park
RUGBY LEAGUE:        Kellyville Park, Kellyville, Field 2
GIRL’S SOCCER:       Paterson Reserve
NETBALL:             Baulkham Hills Netball Courts, Commercial Road, Kellyville

ADMINISTRATION NEWS:

Just a reminder to all parents that we are now processing EFTPOS payments. We cannot, however, process EFTPOS payments after 1.00pm. All monies should be put in an envelope in the green box at the office each morning on arrival at school. No monies are to go to the classroom teacher.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2015
We are now accepting local enrolments for 2015 and applications for non-local sibling enrolments.
Year 6 Fun Day - White Elephant Stall

Need to clear out at home? Got any toys, books, games or puzzles that are still in good condition but just taking up space? PLEASE donate them to the White Elephant stall for Fun Day. All donations can be delivered to the office or to Ms Hoggan’s classroom.

Thank you for your support.
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>14/4</td>
<td>15/7 Students return</td>
<td>16/7 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>17/7</td>
<td>18/7 PSSA Winter Rnd 6 Student Banking</td>
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<td>21/7</td>
<td>22/7</td>
<td>23/7 OC Placement Test Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>24/7 RHH5 Orientation 10-3 Debating Rnd 5</td>
<td>25/7 PSSA Winter Rnd 7</td>
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<td>28/7</td>
<td>29/7 ICAS English Test</td>
<td>30/7 OPEN DAY; Grandparents Day, Book Fair, Art Show, open classrooms, concert</td>
<td>31/7 IRPS Athletics Carnival</td>
<td>1/8 Student Banking PSSA Winter Rnd 8</td>
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<td>4/8</td>
<td>5/8 Premier's Debating</td>
<td>6/8 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>7/8 Milo Cup Cricket SRC Crazy Day</td>
<td>8/8 Student Banking PSSA Winter Rnd 9 Kindy Farm Excursion</td>
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<td>11/8</td>
<td>12/8 ICAS Maths Test PULSE choir rehearsal</td>
<td>13/8 WHHS meeting 8.30 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>14/8 PULSE Choir Debating Rnd 6</td>
<td>15/8 Student Banking PSSA Winter Rnd 10</td>
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<td>18/8</td>
<td>19/8 Hills Choir rehearsal Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>Kindy 2015 Parent Info Night 6pm</td>
<td>21/8</td>
<td>22/8 Student Banking PSSA Winter Rnd 11</td>
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<td>25/8</td>
<td>26/8 Wataki performance @ Riverside Theatre</td>
<td>27/8 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>28/8 RHH5 Orientation 10-2</td>
<td>29/8 Student Banking Ridges Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>1/9</td>
<td>2/9</td>
<td>3/9 Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>4/9 Hills Perf. Arts Festival Fathers' Day Stall</td>
<td>5/9 Student Banking PSSA Winter Rnd 12</td>
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<td>8/9</td>
<td>9/9 Year 6 FunDay</td>
<td>10/9 SydWestArea Athletics Assembly 2pm</td>
<td>11/9 Ridges Choir rehearsal RHH5 Orientation 10-2</td>
<td>12/9 Student Banking No PSSA weekly</td>
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<td>15/9</td>
<td>16/9 Special Awards Assembly 2pm</td>
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<td>17/9</td>
<td>18/9 Last day of Term 3 Student Banking No PSSA weekly</td>
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Next P&C Meeting Wednesday 3 Sept, 7pm in the library.

FATHER'S DAY

Father's Day Stall
Thursday 4th September
Flexischool Vouchers Now On Sale
Donation To Help
Please leave in the office, some ideas: torches, mugs, tool kits, gadgets, personal care, car care & more.
Students buy gifts during class time. Year 2 students purchase before their excursion.
Purchase vouchers on Flexischools, cash sales if gift available at lunch.

Positions Vacant
Book a shift online for the canteen and get involved. If you can make a sandwich your hired!
Go to www.CareBookings.com.au and enter CODE: YJP98 or email canteenrostering@irpspc.com

Canteen Hours
Monday - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Friday - 9.00am to 3.00pm
canteen@irpspc.com

Uniform Shop Hours
Monday - 8.30am to 9.30am
Wednesday - 2.00pm to 2.50pm
Friday - 2.00pm to 2.50pm
uniforms@irpspc.com

STUDENT BANKING IS
FRIDAY AT IRPS
Contact Mishelle or Trish
studentbanking@irpspc.com
FUNDRAISING

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 4: Fathers Day Stall
- October 18: Family Portraits #1
- October 19: Family Portraits #2
- October 25: Family Movie Night
- November 15: Bunnings BBQ
- November 30: Gingerbread House
- February 15: 50 Shades Ladies Movie Night
DISCLAIMER:
Ironbark Ridge Public School newsletter contains paid advertisements which assist with the cost of publication. The publication of such advertisements does not imply endorsement of any product or service by the NSW Department of Education and Communities or Ironbark Ridge Public School.
The Hills Fair Trade Market 2014

Saturday 6 September

10am – 2pm
St Paul's Anglican Church
Old Northern Rd, Castle Hill.

Over 20 market stalls selling a variety of Fair Trade goods including clothing, homewares, coffee, chocolate, toys, shoes, Fathers' Day gifts and more!

Stalls will be inside so the market will run rain, hail or shine.

Ample all-day free parking.

Café, BBQ and free kids' activities.

The Fair Trade movement is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. By addressing injustices of conventional trade, Fair Trade enables producers living in poverty a chance to improve their position and have more control over their lives.

For further details please contact: hillsjusticeproject@gmail.com

To view our stallholders, check out our event page at: https://www.facebook.com/events/234013160139794/
Can your Students Climb Sydney’s Tallest Building?

We would love to invite your students to be part of the ‘School’s Challenge’ at this year’s Sydney Tower Stair Challenge on August 24. This is a great chance for teams of 4 to take on the 1504 stairs from Pitt Street Mall to the Observation Deck at the Sydney Tower Eye. **Participants have to be 12 years or older.**

Each stair climbed will assist Giant Steps who operate a school and intervention service for children and young people (2-20) who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

For more information and to register simply go to [www.active8change.com.au](http://www.active8change.com.au). Alternatively you can contact Steve Corrie at Active8Change on 0439 975 759 for specific event day information or Michelle Jocum at Giant Steps on (02) 9879 4971.
Community Open Day

Saturday 13 September 2014  10am—3pm

Organic BBQ  Handcrafts
Warrah Farm Tours  Art Exhibition
Boutique  Biodynamic &
Market Stalls  Organic Produce
Good Coffee  Spring Potato
Music & Bush Dance  Planting

Information about Warrah’s Services

20 Harris Road Dural
Full program and more information at warrah.org
or contact Christine on 9651 2411 or cchiarella@warrah.org
Community Open Day

Saturday 13 September 2014  10am—3pm

10:30am  Tour Warrah Farm
Learn & get involved in growing biodynamic produce

11:30am  Warrah Special School Tour
Hear & learn about what makes our individualised curative education approach different

12:30pm  Talk “The Task of the Parent” Rosalind Pecover

1pm  Official Opening - Hornsby Shire Councillor Anisse & Warrah CEO, Georgina Michaelis

1:30pm  Celebrate Spring Festival with the Jacaranda Bush Band

2pm  Tour Warrah Farm with Spring Potato Planting
Learn & get involved in growing biodynamic produce

PLUS…Boutique market stalls, kids activities and food stalls all day

20 Harris Road Dural
www.warrah.org  9651 2411