Dear Parents,

The Graduation of our Year 6 students on Monday night was a Gala celebration that included a shared meal, formal presentation and concluded with a student disco. It is a very special night for the students as it is their rite of passage as they move on to varied secondary colleges.

It is always a night of mixed emotion for me; for it makes me feel my age as I’m not familiar with the music the DJ (Dallas) plays any more but also a real sense of loss. I watch these very special people who have been in our care for so long, now confident and primed to embark on the next stage of their journey. As a school community it is an affirmation that we have successfully completed our mission but it’s still hard to let go!

Congratulations to Angela M, Charlie B, Liam C and Brianna S who were presented with the Nick Farley citizenship award for 2014.

A number of families will conclude their association with Wattle Park Primary School as their last child graduates this year. Our best wishes and sincere thanks go to the families for their support and assistance over the years; Alder-Goad, Bell, Balchan, Burgess, Chen, Elward, Free, Giles, Jiang, Jalaly Ahmadzay, Kalamatas, McIntosh, Mantarakis, Mason, Mayes, Melville, Pitman, Sadiqzai, Shaw, Shelley, Stukenborg, Wang, Warlond, Watson, Wilson Rajaratnam, Wong and Wood.
To students who are leaving Wattle Park PS for a range of reasons, before the completion of Year 6, I wish you well at your new schools. I hope you and your families will look upon your time at Wattle Park with fabulous memories.

At the final School Council Meeting of the year, 9th December, the Finance Committee presented the 2015 Parent Payments and Voluntary Contributions. They were accepted unanimously by all school council members. There has been no increase from 2014. The school levy for 2015 is set at $860.00 including essential items and excursion levy.

Staffing arrangements for 2015 have been finalised. A full list of class and specialist teachers is presented below. Mr Drew Baxter is taking 12 months leave to pursue other employment opportunities, we wish him well.
Mrs Paula Frost who was due to return to her art position in 2015 has decided to resign her teaching position due to family circumstances.

The teaching arrangements for 2015 are:

**Foundation** Ms Pia Chadwick, Mrs Julie Gledhill, Ms Hayley Kellahan

**Year 1** Mrs Amanda Chetcuti, Ms Emma Goldsworthy

**Year 2** Mrs Amanda Dwyer, Ms Robyn Gilmour, Mrs Vicki Phillips,

**Year 3** Ms Julie Nield, Mrs Kathy Skantzos, Ms Annabelle Sizeland

**Year 4** Mrs Robyn Heeps, Ms Helen Sterling

**Year 5** Mr Karl Jenkinson, Mrs Samantha Teng

**Year 6** Mr Chris Roberts, Mrs Anna Saaksjarvi/ Mrs Cynthia Tuck

**Specialists:**

**Art** Mr John Davey

**EAL** Mrs Ammamia Antonino

**Physical Education** Mrs Melinda Downes

**Music** Mrs Lorelle Caulfield-Lloyd

**Library** Mrs Kim Wheatley

**Library Technician:** Ros Cordner

**LOTE Mandarin** Mrs Ainslie Peszynski

**Reading Recovery** Mrs Rhonda Lush

**ES Support:** Vicki Keith, Susan Wright

**ICT Technician:** Mr Ashley Flentjar

**Gardening Staff** Ms Marian Bonadeo and Mr Gavin Cass

**Kitchen Chef** Mrs Nadia De Casarisi

**Canteen Manager** Mrs Alison Dunn

**Uniform Manager** Mrs Georgia Kelly

And of course our highly valued office staff, Mrs Robyn Hunter, Mrs Joy Roberts and Mrs Vicki Keith. Robyn, Joy and Vicki do a superlative job. They are treasured members of our staff.

The starting day for students in Years Foundation -6 inclusive is Thursday 29th January 2015. The uniform shop will be open on Wednesday 28th January 11.00a.m. -1.00p.m.

The Curriculum Days passed by the School Council for 2015 - Monday and Tuesday 13th and 14th April,( Planning Day for term 2 and Report Day) and Monday 2nd November.

Our first whole School Assembly will take place on Monday being the 2nd February, at 3.00pm in the Gymnasium.

As the year draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of all members of our community. To the talented and dedicated staff, exceptional administration team and efficient support staff, thank you.

I would especially like to thank School Council President Mrs Jo Holland and Treasurer Mr Tim Humphries for their unwavering support for the school – staff, administration and community; their leadership of school council; their wise advice on many issues and that they always have passionate and positive conversations both public and private about our school.
Special thanks to all the parents for their extraordinary support and encouragement. Particular mention must be made of the School Council and Sub Committee members, the Fete Committee, the Movie Night committee, Parent Helpers, who devote many voluntary hours to ensure Wattle Park continues to be the outstanding school it is.

Thank you to Suskia Malafu who every second week produces the alternative to the newsletter, ‘The Noticeboard’ as well as sending out hurried last minute messages to Parent representatives.

On a personal note a special thank you to Ms Megan Ganter for her outstanding contribution to the school leadership over the past twelve months. Megan was relied upon this year to step into the role as principal while I recuperated from a broken ankle, I value her support enormously.

To the Leadership team comprising of Mrs Amanda Dwyer and Mrs Samantha Teng, I sincerely value their insights and suggestions with regard to curriculum and workforce issues.

It was a year to remember, our 100th birthday and we celebrated accordingly! Mr Scott Sutherland took on board the daunting role as the President of the 100th birthday committee and set an agenda of events that were indeed highly successful. Thank you Scott, for all of your coordination and leadership.

Thank you to all members of the Wattle Park Primary School community for your support throughout 2015 and for your many good wishes and words of appreciation.

Have a peaceful, safe and Merry Christmas and a relaxing holiday period. Goodbye Year 6- I will miss you!

Regards Gayle
Fun at Wattle Park

Once in a small tree lived two small
guinea pigs, a Mum and a Dad.
One day in August the parents decided
that the small guinea pigs, called Patch
and Roby, should spend the day with
their Grandparents.

“Yay we are finally going to see
Grandma and Grandad! I wonder what
we’re going to do?” Patch asked.

They finally got in to the car, “next stop,
Grandma and Grandad’s”, said their
Dad.

At last they arrived and they ran into
the house to see their Grandparents.

“Are we going to go out?” they asked.

“If course otherwise why would we
invite you here?” replied Grandma
and Grandad with big smile.

“Are we there yet?” asked Patch
excitedly. “No, not yet Patch!” replied
Grandma. “Oh, well how about now?”

They finally got in to the car, “next stop,
Grandma and Grandad’s”, said their
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excitedly. “No, not yet Patch!” replied
Grandma. “Oh, well how about now?”

“Well it better be something good!”
said Roby.

“O.K. you little racing guinea pigs it’s
time that we’ll take you to Grandma
and Grandad’s house!” said their Mum.

“O.K. Mum!” they replied.

“Uh Mum, do Grandma and Grandad
know that we’re coming?” asked Roby.

“Of course they do – they’ve even got a
special outing planned for you!” said
Mum. “All right then we must get there
in full speed!” said Patch excitedly.

“They finally got in to the car, “next stop,
Grandma and Grandad’s”, said their
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special outing planned for you!” said
Mum. “All right then we must get there
in full speed!” said Patch excitedly.

Well it better be something good!”
said Roby. “Wow this is the best fun
ever!”.

“Come over here you cheeky guinea
pigs, I have a picnic ready for you” said
Grandma. “Where are we?” asked
Patch and Roby. “We are at Wattle
Park” said Grandad.

“Patch, Roby it’s time to go home
now” said Grandma. “O.K. Grandma.
Wow that was great, we wish we can
go there again.”

The End by Brooke