Spooky Halloween:

Today we have thoroughly enjoyed our own Halloween celebrations at Wairoa! Staff and students dressed to impress and the students participated in some peer support trick-or-treat time. It was all in the name of good fun and it was a great opportunity to practise those fundamental social interaction skills.
**Kimberly Clark Volunteer Day:**

On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome a group of 20 volunteers from the Kimberly Clark group who came to school full of energy and enthusiasm ready to take on those jobs around the school that nobody seems to have the time to do! The team willingly got stuck in to the weeding, cleaning, photocopying and data entry. We really appreciate the support from Kimberly Clark – this is the second year they have turned up in force to help us out. Community and corporate support is fundamental to the smooth operation of Wairoa School and makes an enormous difference to the everyday lives of our students. The students, staff and school community thank you very much.

![Volunteers at Wairoa School](image)

**Friends of Wairoa:**

This Wednesday we held our last Friends of Wairoa meeting for the year and it was a wonderful time to celebrate all that we have achieved throughout 2015.

We held two major fundraisers this year – The Comedy for A Cause night and our Bogan Bingo night. Both were outstanding successes and we raised over $23,000. Thank you to everyone for supporting these new fundraising initiatives. Next year will be even bigger and better!!

This term the Friends of Wairoa group have pledged funds towards: the purchase of a new trampoline for the Primary playground; the re-stocking of our Maths resource tubs; payment for the whole school incursion – A Bush Christmas, by the Observatory Hill Environmental Education Centre and the purchase of a new movie camera. Without the amazing fundraising and work of the Friends of Wairoa these sorts of purchases would not be possible. Every cent raised by this group goes directly towards the purchase of resources and learning opportunities for our students.

Next year, come along and join the Friends of Wairoa – new faces are always welcome and you will really be helping out your school. Meetings are held each term and are publicised through the school newsletter.
**Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children. Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies. Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation. Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for information for childcare and schools about whooping cough.

**“CAREFLIGHT’S Christmas MAGIC MANIA”**

A project by Magic Mania for special needs children and families throughout New South Wales

We would like to invite any special needs children and their families from your organisation to "MAGIC MANIA". It will be held on Saturday 19th December 2015 at the *Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre*, Homebush. There are three (3) available show times commencing promptly at 12.30pm, 2.30pm and 4.30pm, although we ask those needing assistance to arrive at least 30 minutes prior.

We are offering FREE tickets to this event to all special needs as well as care givers and family members who would like to attend. These tickets to you are completely **FREE OF CHARGE** and made possible by the generosity of your local business and professional people.

We request that you email or fax us the number of tickets you require. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to call Jenny Goodman during business hours on 02 9699 3925.

Please email the school if you would like tickets.

Tell us the session you wish to attend and how many people will be going.

Tickets will be supplied by return email.
Dates for the Diary:

Friday November 6th
“Bush Christmas” incursion

Wednesday November 25th
Parent information session – Kindergarten 2016

Tuesday December 1st
End of Year concert!

Thursday December 3rd
Kindy orientation visit

Tuesday December 8th
Christmas Fun Day

Thursday December 10th
Kindy orientation visit

Monday December 14th
Yr 12 Graduation

Wednesday December 16th
Christmas Assembly
Last day of school for students

Sara Swift 😊