Presentation Assemblies
This week I was privileged to experience my first Wahroonga Presentation Day Assemblies. They were extremely well coordinated and showcased incredible student talent. I felt incredibly proud sitting on stage, watching over proceedings. The award recipients demonstrated grace and good manners, while audience members watched respectfully and happily applauded the success of their peers.

Donation
Last week the school received a sizeable yet anonymous financial donation attached with the donor’s wishes for the funds to be spent on books - yep, good ol’ fashioned books! This was a most generous gesture which will directly benefit all of the students at our school. I am most thankful for this donation and look forward to updating some of our reading resources in both the library and various grade groups.

Grey Breeze
Year 6 students have been working hard on ‘advocacy’ campaigns this term. One group, going by the name Grey Breeze, has asked that I publish this information in the newsletter to help raise awareness of pollution related to the North Connex works.

Holiday Security
Over the holiday period I ask that local residents keep watch over the school and report any suspicious activity to the School Security Hotline 1300 363 778, local police 9476 9799, police assistance line 131 444, my email or twitter accounts. We have beautiful grounds and I would expect that they will be preserved over the break but would appreciate the community’s assistance in notifying any breaches.

Dreams Come True
It is no hyperbole to declare that the only way 12 months ago I would have imagined writing an end-of-year newsletter contribution as Principal of Wahroonga Public School was in my dreams. Most inspiring has been the enthusiasm and friendliness with which I have been welcomed to the school and the willingness of the community to sit and talk with me about various issues – sometimes instances where agreement is easy to reach and common views are expressed, and sometimes where alternative viewpoints are discussed. As with any aspect of life, ups and downs occur, and differences of opinion are unavoidable – what I have learned from my first six months as Principal is that we all seek the same outcomes – happy, healthy, internally motivated, academically stimulated students. Thank you all for a memorable initiation to The Bush School – I can’t wait to lead the school in 2016 and beyond. We hit the ground running on Thursday 28th January! Merry Christmas.

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