Welcome back to the start of what will be a great year of teaching and learning at Wakefield School.

We return with 3 classes operating, 2 high school classes with 7 students each and the primary class with 3 students. Teachers have set high expectations for their students and are developing challenging and achievable learning activities for all.

Classes this year will be based around the following teachers and room numbers.

**Room 1**—Mr Quodling, Miss Allen, Mr Higgins and Kylie.

**Room 3**—Mr Lang and Tanya

**Room 4**—Miss Watson, Edna, Jen and Deb

Mr Walker started teaching room 4 this term, however, starting this week, he was offered a teaching role at another school. I know the students and fellow staff members will miss Mr Walker and we wish him well with his new role. Miss Watson will be taking over room 4. Welcome back Miss Watson!

I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome our new staff members Mrs Wilkinson and Miss Allen to Wakefield School. Mrs Wilkinson brings many years of teaching and leadership experience to her role as Assistant Principal. Mrs Wilkinson was the relieving Assistant Principal during Term 4, 2014. Miss Allen also brings many years of teaching experience to Wakefield School. Miss Allen is working closely with Mr Quodling and Mr Higgins in Room 1, closely supporting the new secondary students.

What can you expect to see at Wakefield School this year? The big focus will be implementing the school’s 2015-2017 Strategic Plan. A large focus around explicitly teaching students the 3 Positive Behaviour for Learning Values: Respect, Responsibility and Learning.

I look forward to the year ahead and sharing your child’s learning journey with you.

With regards

Shauna Gillett
Principal
Assistant Principal Message

Hi everyone! I am really excited to have been successful in gaining the position of Assistant Principal at Wakefield School. I have previously worked at Adamstown Office in a range of welfare roles, including Out Of Home Care Coordinator and Learning and Engagement Officer. I am looking forward to working closely with the students at Wakefield School, and am excited to be planning some fantastic events for the students this year.

I have been fortunate to accompany some of our students to the Food and Friendship group on Thursdays. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to become prepared for post-school options, with experience in the retail and customer service areas. We hope to continue this group throughout the entire year, and include some more students in this valuable learning experience.

Looking forward to a wonderful year ahead!

Renay Wilkinson

Reward Outings by Keith Lang

Fridays reward outing to Speers Point to go fishing was a big success. All the students behaved very well and had plenty of success catching fish.

Reece was put in charge of choosing a good fishing spot and he made a good decision to fish under one of the Five Island Bridges. Not only did we catch ten fish, but everybody could fish in the shade to prevent us from getting sun burnt.

Jed caught five of the school’s ten fish. Well done Jed and all the students who obtained more than 75 points last week.

Reward outings will occur every Friday afternoon for students earning 75% or more of their weekly points.

Keep up the great work students! There are many more exciting activities planned for the remainder of the term.
Konnichiwa!
Welcome to Term 1 2015!
Students are off to a great start this term beginning their study program with the exploration of Japanese culture. ‘Journey into Japan’ introduces students to language, traditional dress, sports, food, beliefs, and the arts.

A literacy and numeracy focus is embedded within our daily routine where games-based learning is paramount! Students have also begun a science unit ‘It’s Electrifying!’ The unit allows students the opportunity to investigate and discover the wonders of the physical world.

Movement skills and fitness testing are also a focus this term. The competition is on between the students, competing for fastest time in 20m sprints, and best score in one-mile walk and the ‘shuttle run’. Students...and staff are benefiting from both health and fitness improvements!

Each week students are working towards a reward excursion based on achieving PBL points for ‘Respect, Responsibility and Learning’.

Excursions allow students to visit various locations around Lake Macquarie and Newcastle areas experiencing different leisure activities such as fishing, beach and bush walking, and bike riding. All students are encouraged to keep up the great efforts in class and on the playground to work towards attending each week’s reward excursion.

Looking forward to the term ahead,
Sayonara!

A new student to our school Todd experimented with a simple circuit using a battery, wire and a light bulb as part of our science lesson. Great work Todd!

Room 3 by Keith Lang

Room 3 have been studying Newcastle’s history, from the end of the last ice age to the early 1800s. We have learnt about some of the culture of our local aboriginal people, who have been here for at least 8000 years. We have also found out that Europeans from the first fleet, first came to Newcastle looking for a group of convicts who had stolen a sailing ship from the Hawkesbury River and made a spirited escape to freedom by heading north. John Shortland led the search party and sailed into Newcastle harbour. He was surprised to find plenty of coal on the beaches of Newcastle and exposed coal seams in the cliffs. This lead to the first European settlement in Newcastle, which was initially called Coal River, then Kingstown and finally Newcastle.

Mr Lang and Laura composing a song about the arrival of the first Europeans in Newcastle!
Conditions such as the following (but not limited to) will require a Health Care Plan.

- Asthma
- Allergies (food or insect bites)
- Anaphylaxis
- Epilepsy
- Encopresis
- Head injuries or frequent headaches requiring monitoring

Please support the office staff by providing a Health Care Plan from your health provider (eg. GP) as soon as possible to ensure suitable support is provided for your child.

Thank you for your support

Shauna Gillett & Sue Matano