



# WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Leonie Clarkson

Friday 16 February

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### PARENT HELPERS, VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

We are really fortunate at our school to have parents and close relatives who are able to offer to assist in the school as volunteers. If you are planning to assist as a Parent Helper this year, you will need to check in at the office prior to your first visit. This is necessary because we need to:

1. Check your Working With Children Check status:
  - a. if you have a WWCC number, please bring this with you
  - b. if you don't, that's OK, (you can still volunteer) but you will need to complete a form here at school and show 100 points of ID.
2. Give you a quick briefing around Health and Safety obligations
3. Explain organisational procedures

This only needs to happen once before you begin.

A group **Parent Helper Induction session** will be offered next **Monday February 19 at 2:30** if you are able to attend. If you are unable to attend the Induction Session, the Guide for Parent Helpers is attached at the end of the newsletter for you to read and you will still need to check with the office prior to assisting in the classroom. Volunteers must sign in and out of the office and wear a Volunteer lanyard whilst on school grounds.

### NAPLAN ONLINE

Our school will be one of around 500 schools in NSW that will be transitioning to NAPLAN Online this year. This means our students in Years 3 and 5 will complete the NAPLAN assessments online this year rather than pencil and paper. The Year 3 writing test will continue to be paper-based, but all other Year 3 NAPLAN tests will be online.

Last year we participated in a school readiness test to prepare for the transition to NAPLAN Online. Our experience with the school readiness test confirmed that our school is ready to transition to NAPLAN Online in 2018.

Our teachers and students will be involved in preparation and practice activities in the lead up to NAPLAN this year. This will include participation in a practice test during March, where students will have a further opportunity to become familiar with the types of questions they will be asked in NAPLAN Online.

More information about NAPLAN Online, including the latest fact sheet for parents and carers, can be found on the NSW Department of Education's NAPLAN Online website:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/student-assessment/naplan-online/getting-ready/parent-information>

## TERM 1 PARENT – TEACHER MEETINGS

Term 1 Parent / teacher meetings are planned for you to meet with your child's teacher on a one-on-one basis. The meeting time will provide an opportunity for us to let you know how your child is settling into learning this year and also for us to learn more about your child from you.

- Kindergarten, Years 3,4,5,6 will have meetings in the weeks beginning 26 February and 5 March.
- Years 1 and 2 will have meetings in the weeks beginning 26 March and 2 April.

A separate note will be sent home with information regarding booking times.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL – 20 FEBRUARY

Woongarra Public School Year 3-6 Swimming carnival will be held at Wyong Pool on 20 February 2018. The swimming carnival is for competitors only. All competitors must be able to swim 50m unaided. Students can select which events to enter on the day.

**Please note that entry has closed** as permission notes were due back at the school office by Tuesday 13 February, 2018. Closing dates are set for a reason as we are required to conduct thorough risk assessment and ensure management plans are in place for any variation or outline such as carnivals and excursions. This is not a quick or easy process and it requires planning, staff and student organisation and consultation that cannot occur within or on the day. We appreciate your support in adhering to due dates.

## YEAR 6 BUDDIES

Over the past few weeks, Kindergarten students have enjoyed getting to know their Year 6 Buddies. Last year the students from Year 5 were matched with a Kindergarten buddy in preparation for their entry into school. These students worked with their kindergarten buddies on their Orientation days so when the Kindergarten students began their school year, they would have an older friend and role model to help them.

This program is enjoyed by the senior students and is highly valued by the school community, particularly by parents with beginning Kindergarten students.

The Kindergarten and Year 6 children are looking forward to working together and participating in a range of activities this year.

We would like to commend our senior students on their fantastic effort in helping our new students as they join Woongarra.

Mrs Guest     Assistant Principal.

## STUDENT RESOURCE PACKS

A reminder that Resource packs have been organised for 2018. They include everything that students need for the school year. The cost is subsidised by the P&C at \$25 for Years 1-6 and \$40 for Kindergarten. The cost for two in-school performances that will occur during the year, including Commonwealth Games Day and a musical performance, is included for students who purchase the pack. This saves asking for additional small payments throughout the year.

You may like to pay the voluntary school contributions at the same time. Contributions for 2018 remain at \$35 per student or \$70 per family. These have not increased for the past decade. **Please send payments to the office, with the slip, or pay online.** If paying online, use the 'Make a Payment' link on the school website [www.woongarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.woongarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au), and record the receipt number on the slip below. Include the reference 'Student Pack'.

## CLAEEN UP SCHOOLS DAY – FRIDAY 2 MARCH



2018 Clean up Australia day will be held in Week 5 on Friday 2 March. The campaign will focus on the three R's – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Students will be engaged in activities that focus on how we reduce waste at school and how they can reduce waste at home.

Kindergarten and Year 1 - Our General Assistant, Mr Barraclough, will be showing students how to sort waste into the appropriate bins at school. We will then be investigating how and why we need to recycle.

Year 2 will be shown what worm farms look like and how their fruit break scraps are reused and turned into a product by our school worm farms.

Years 3 to 6 will be investigating consumer choices and how we can bring our recess and lunch to school as nude food to help reduce waste.

Mrs Mileto      Event Coordinaor

## VEGETABLE WEEK - MONDAY 26 FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 2 MARCH

Did you know that only 5.4% of Australian children eat enough vegetables? To encourage students to eat more vegetables, our school will be taking part in The Big Vegie Crunch (as part of Vegetable Week) on **Thursday 1 March at 10 am**. Details follow:

### THE BIG VEGIE CRUNCH

#### Get ready for The Big Vegie Crunch!

On **Thursday 1 March at 10 am** our school will be joining hundreds of schools across NSW to break the record for the most students crunching vegetables simultaneously. We need your help to make it a success!

On Thursday 1 March, please pack your child a container of vegetables (**not fruit**) for them to crunch on. Need some ideas?

- carrot, celery, cucumber – cut into sticks or left whole
- capsicum – cut into sticks or wedges
- corn – raw baby corn spears or a cooked corn cob
- broccoli or cauliflower florets - raw or lightly cooked to keep their crunch
- tomatoes – small cherry tomatoes or a large tomato that can be eaten like an apple
- beans or snow peas - raw or lightly cooked to keep their crunch
- mushrooms – sliced or left whole



If you require more information on The Big Vegie Crunch, please contact the school or your child's teacher.

Mrs Buhr      Vegetable Week School Coordinator

## K-6 ASSEMBLY ROSTER

Assemblies occur once per fortnight for Years 3-6 and once per fortnight for Years K-2, on alternate Fridays. The Term 1 roster follows. Parents and community are most welcome to attend the assembly that commences at 9:15am in the school hall.

| Week | Assembly    | Who is running Assembly |
|------|-------------|-------------------------|
| 4    | Years 3-6   | Ministers               |
| 5    | K-2         | HB10                    |
| 6    | Years 3-6   | HB22                    |
| 7    | K-2         | HB9                     |
| 8    | Years 3-6   | HB18                    |
| 9    | Good Friday | Good Friday             |
| 10   | K-2         | HB7                     |
| 11   | Years 3-6   | Ministers               |

## BOOK CLUB

The first issue of Book Club for 2018 has now been handed out. For those parents new to our school, Book Club is a service we provide to families through Scholastic Australia. The school receives a commission for purchases made by the school community. This commission provides the school library with new resources.

If you wish to purchase a book please place an order online using the LOOP Online Ordering system (see information attached) **no later than Friday 23 February**. Please note that while we promote the value of reading this is a voluntary exercise.

**Money is not collected at school.**

**LOOP Online Ordering** - Scholastic uses an online LOOP payment system where you can order and pay online and the order is then delivered to school. Please see order forms for details or use the following link to the payment page. <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/>

Mrs Gilbert                      Teacher / Librarian

## EXTERNALLY FUNDED SERVICE PROVIDERS – REQUESTING THE DELIVERY OF DISABILITY THERAPY SERVICE AT SCHOOL

We receive many requests for therapy services, such as speech therapy or Occupational therapy to occur during school hours at school. This may be a provision funded by the NDIS or privately paid for by parents. To request this, parents need to complete an application process and form that is available from the office. The process is:

1. Complete the application form and attach necessary documents from the provider. You will need one form per provider.
2. Return all documents to Mrs Buhr via the office.
3. The Principal and Learning Support Team will consider the application against a set of criteria taking into account the needs of your child, other students and the operation of the school
4. Mrs Buhr will liaise with the class teacher regarding times, dates, location etc.
5. Mrs Buhr will write a work agreement to send to the Provider
6. The work agreement is signed and returned to Mrs Buhr.
7. School induction procedures are completed with the provider
8. Therapy may commence

Parents are responsible for informing therapists to cancel therapy when their child is absent from school or when there are school variations such as Carnivals and excursions.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Deputy Principal, Mrs Buhr.

## ASSEMBLY AWARDS

|      |  |
|------|--|
| HB1  | Chelsea, Alissa, Rhys, Ashton              |
| HB2  | Hudson, Kaiden, Cooper, Chloe, Lucy        |
| HB3  | Riley, Cadell, Piper                       |
| HB4  | Chloe, Jordan, Charlie, Charli             |
| HB12 | Joseph                                     |
| HB15 | Evie, Kaiah, Jake, Xander                  |
| HB16 | Mia, Aleena, Bryce, Callum, Alana, Lillian |
| HB18 | Taj, Jacob, Miranda, Sofia, Sienna         |
| HB19 | Isabel, Owen, Thomas                       |
| HB21 | Christopher, Luke, Matilda                 |
| HB22 | Melikah, Ella, Candice                     |

## WE CAUGHT YOU BEING GOOD

|           |             |            |           |              |
|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
| Khloe HB3 | Cooper      | Hudson HB2 | Lucas HB1 | Kaiden HB12  |
| Cody HB15 | Sienna HB18 | Finn HB19  | Kai HB19  | Miranda HB18 |

## CANTEEN ROSTER

| Tuesday      | Wednesday                 | Thursday   | Friday                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Feb 13 Jenny | Feb 14 <b>Help needed</b> | Feb 15 Min | Feb 16 Jodie                     |
| Feb 20 Jenny | Feb 21 Kerry              | Feb 22 Min | Feb 23 Jodie, <b>Help needed</b> |

## TERM 1

|   |  |   |   |   |  |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| 4 | 19<br>New parent Helpers<br>Induction session                            | 20<br>WPS swimming<br>carnival<br><br>Sydney Roosters<br>visit Y3-6 | 21<br><br>Parliament  | 22  | 23<br><br>Book Club Issue 1<br>due                 |
| 5 | 26<br>AECG meeting @<br>Wyong<br><br>K, 3-6 Parent /<br>Teacher meetings | 27<br><br>K-2 Responsible<br>Pets talk at school                    | 28<br><br>WCS Year 7<br>Information evening                           | 1<br><br>Big Vegie Crunch   | 2<br><br>Clean Up Schools<br>Day<br><br>Newsletter |
| 6 | 5<br><br>K, 3-6 Parent /<br>Teacher meetings –<br>all week               | 6   | 7<br><br>Zone swimming  | 8   | 9<br><br>WCS academic test<br>entries due to WCS   |
| 7 | 12   | 13  | 14  | 15<br>Selective HS test<br><br>Y6-7 forms due<br>back at school<br>tomorrow | 16<br><br>School Photos<br><br>Newsletter          |
| 8 | 19   | 20<br><br>Parliament  | 21<br>C'Vealth Games<br>Day @ school<br><br>NAPLAN online<br>practice | 22<br><br>NAPLAN Online<br>Practice<br><br>Y6 WCS academic<br>class test    | 23   |
| 9 | 26   | 27  | 28  | 29<br>Easter Parade   | 30   |

|    |  |   |                              |                          |   |
|----|--|---|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
|    | Stage 1 Parent /<br>Teacher meetings –<br>all week |   |                              | Sydney North<br>swimming | Good Friday                                       |
| 10 | 2<br><br>Easter Monday                             | 3<br><br>Stage 1 Parent /<br>Teacher meetings –<br>all week | 4                            | 5                        | 6   |
| 11 | 9  | 10<br><br>AFL gala day                                      | 11                           | 12                       | 13<br><br>Newsletter<br>Cross Country @<br>school |
|    | School holidays                                    | School holidays   | School holidays              | School holidays          | School holidays                                   |
|    | School holidays                                    | School holidays   | School holidays<br>ANZAC Day | School holidays          | School holidays                                   |



# WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

## PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

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### PARENT HELPERS, VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

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Thank you for volunteering to assist our school this year. We appreciate your support. You will need to be aware of the following information and procedures.

#### Organisational Procedures

- Sign in at the office as you enter and leave the school
- A Visitor lanyard must be worn at all times
- Activities must take place under the direct supervision of the teacher
- All matters or concerns regarding the behaviour of a student must be reported to and dealt with by the student's teacher. Refer questions regarding a student's progress to the teacher.
- If you are unable to attend please let the teacher know either by phone or a note via your child.
- All workers, voluntary or paid who deal directly with children in NSW have to complete *Working With Children Check* requirements – information is available from the office.

#### Code of Conduct

Parent helpers, visitors and volunteers are expected to:

- be role models for students
- follow appropriate safety procedures to protect yourself and others
- speak in a kind and friendly way to all students
- report all emergencies, injuries and safety concerns to the office
- follow the professional direction of staff, following school practices and procedures
- refrain from smoking in the school grounds
- proceed to the back grassed playground should there be an evacuation emergency in the school
- proceed to the nearest classroom or office should there be an lock down emergency in the school

#### Privacy and Confidentiality

As helpers in the school, there may be times when private and confidential information is open to observation. It may be that you are required to record information relating to students' progress for example, or asked to help with an individual learning program. You will observe a variety of behaviour and you will observe the range of learning abilities within the class. All information that you are privy to as a result of being in a classroom and / or the wider school, must be kept in the strictest confidence. You cannot share information about children with other parents, neighbours or friends. If confidentiality issues are compromised, there may well be legal implications arising from such a breach. Privacy legislation and confidentiality in the school setting are very serious matters that cannot be stressed too often.

Thank you for volunteering to support the school in this way. Your support will make a difference to the students with whom you work. I hope you find the role you play in supporting students satisfying and rewarding too.