



# WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Leonie Clarkson

Preparing our students for the opportunities and challenges arising in an ever changing world as successful learners, confident, connected and creative global citizens.

Friday 22 November 2019

NEWSLETTER

Issue 19

## EDUCATION DIRECTOR VISIT

On Thursday 7 November, Woongarra Public School was visited by Tim McCallum, Education Director (ED) and Meg Avery, Director of Educational Leadership (DEL). Whilst here they visited HB5 to see Kindergarten learning centres, HB4 to watch a Science and Technology lesson, watched the Aboriginal Cultural group practise their dances, visited the hall to see Stage 3 students from the LMG schools completing STEM activities, the school ministers cooked scones using the Kitchen Kart and they had morning tea with our SLSOs, office staff and teachers. Tim McCallum tweeted that at his visit to Woongarra he saw "A fabulous nurturing environment and tremendous energy and excitement about learning school wide".



## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

We were really pleased that 31 students in Year 5 applied for leadership positions as a Minister for 2020. This tells us that the students value our Student Parliament as a means to allow them to engage, participate, lead and actively shape their own education and schooling experience.

Students presented a speech to their peers and Parliament last week. Staff, students and Parliament then voted to elect eight students. Congratulations to our 2020 ministers, Keira, Cooper, Chelsea, Riley, Connor, Abbie, Wyatt, and Suzi.

The next step in the process involved students presenting a speech to the Years 3-6 assembly today before voting for the school captains, known at Woongarra as the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister. The positions will be announced on Presentation Day – Wednesday 11 December.



## NGARA AECG MESSAGE STICK

Last week we celebrated the arrival of the Message stick from Lakes Grammar school with a welcome dance and ceremony. This is the inaugural year of the Ngara AECG Message Stick.

The tradition of the message stick goes way back in Aboriginal culture and history and we, here on the land of the Darkinjung people, are lucky enough to bring this proud tradition back into current time as part of the Ngara AECG area initiative.

From now on, every year, this message stick will start at Kanwal Public School and travel to all of the schools in the Ngara AECG, as it slowly makes its way to Wyong High School and the Ngara Assembly of Excellence in Term 4, where it will be handed back to the Ngara AECG for safe keeping until they present it back to Kanwal to start another journey.

The message which is being passed on is about celebration, always moving forward and working together.

The two animals on the front, the kangaroo and emu are representative of Australia and both animals never back down and always move forward. The dance icons and musical notes represent celebration and the concentric circles represent coming together and working as one.



On Monday Cooper (pictured) and Chelsea took the message stick around to the classes and explained its importance and meaning. They then took it to the next school, Warnervale Pubic School, where it was explained and passed onto them at their 3-6 school Assembly.

Sharon Buhr  
Aboriginal Education Co-ordinator

## ATTENDANCE

Each semester the Department of Education conducts an attendance Census. Our results for this semester are as follows:

Our school's Semester 2, 2019 attendance rate is 91.2% (91.7% non-Aboriginal students and 87.5% Aboriginal students.)

Kindergarten attendance rate was 92.5%

Year 1 attendance rate was 91.3%

Year 2 attendance rate was 92.4%

Year 3 attendance rate was 91.3%

Year 4 attendance rate was 90.5%

Year 5 attendance rate was 90.8%

Year 6 attendance rate was 89.9%



Our attendance rates are good but there is always room for improvement. Attendance is regularly monitored as regular absences from school has an effect on student academic performance as well as their wellbeing.

### 2020 PLANNING

Planning for 2020 has commenced and staff are starting to look at classes for next year. If you know that your child/ren will not be attending Woongarra Public School next year, please advise the front office as soon as possible.

### HOME READING

Home Reading will finish on Friday 6 December (Friday Week 8). I know students are eager to achieve their 200 nights reading award so they have 2 weeks left. Please ensure all books are returned on this day so a stocktake of books can occur. If a book is not returned a note requesting the book or payment of \$10 will be sent home.

### PICK UP AND DROP OFF REMINDERS

The mornings and afternoons can be a very busy time with student pickups and drop offs. For student safety we ask that the car parks are not used to drop off or pick up students. The disabled car spots are only to be used by cars that display a disabled sticker. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sharon Buhr  
Deputy Principal

### BOOK CLUB

The final issue of Book Club for 2019 has now been handed out. If you wish to purchase a book please place an order online using the LOOP Online Ordering system **no later than Monday 25 November.**

Money is not collected at school. Please see order forms for details or use the following link to the payment page. <https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/>

Sharon Gilbert  
Teacher/Librarian

### K-6 ASSEMBLY ROSTER

Assemblies commence at **2.20pm**. Parents and community are most welcome

Week	Assembly	Who is running Assembly
7	K-2	HB8
8	3-6	Ministers, Talent Quest
9	K-2	HB6
10	Farewell arch for Year 6	Wednesday 2:30

### ASSEMBLY AWARDS

HB5	April, Ewan
HB6	Leonor, Alice, Keyarn
HB7	Lilly, Tyler, Aaron
HB8	Elliana, Dominic
HB9	Rhys, Ariana
HB10	Arielle, Byron
HB12	Ava, Noah
HB13	Will, Ella-Jaye, Axel, Jesse
HB14	Callan, Grace, Isabelle

## P&C NEWS

**Thank you** to the P & C who supplied each student with an ice block, to cool down during the catastrophic fire conditions on Tuesday 12 November.

**Uniform Shop** - Friday December 6 from 8.45am under the COLA

**P&C Christmas Picnic – 11 December** – The P&C Christmas Picnic will be held on 11 December from 5-7pm under the COLA. For further information please see flyers below. More information will be released in the coming weeks via the P&C Facebook page and the Skool Bag app.

**Please note:** Parental supervision is required throughout the event and there is to be no smoking, no alcohol and no pets! This event will have some new exciting activities for you and the students. We are looking for volunteers to assist on the night. We are also looking for donations, preferably vouchers for the Guessing Competition and other prizes at the event.

Each business will be acknowledged for supporting our school and the event. We are also seeking a Jumping Castle with full insurance.

Students will receive the **Guessing competition tickets and the Colouring-in competition** entries next week. Guessing competition and money is to be returned to the office by Friday 6 December.

Competition entries and gold coin donation will be collected on the night of the Christmas Picnic – 11 December.

Please note if we do not get enough volunteers to run the Christmas Picnic, it will be cancelled.

**Don't forget to like our Facebook Page** – Woongarra Public School P&C to keep up to date on what's on. You can also contact us through this or feel free to email us at [woongarrahpandc@gmail.com](mailto:woongarrahpandc@gmail.com).



You are invited to.....



## The P&C Christmas Picnic

**Musical Games**

**Face Painting**

(Gold Coin Donation)

**Cake Stall**

**Colouring In Competition**

(Gold Coin Donation)

**Cupcake Decorating  
Competition**

**Plaster Painting**

(Gold Coin Donation)

**Yard Games**

**Bring a Picnic**

Wednesday 11th December

5pm to 7pm

Woongarra Public School



**Class, Stage, Year**

**Musical Acts**

**Visit from Santa**



No smoking, no alcohol and no pets!

Parental supervision is required throughout the event.

Keep up to date with this event and other P&C

activities by liking & following the Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/woongarrahpandc/](http://www.facebook.com/woongarrahpandc/)

Thank you.

**Guessing Competitions**

**BBQ & Soft Drinks  
available**

**Fairy Floss**

**Lolly Bags**

**Second Hand  
Uniform Shop**

**Christmas Glow Products**

(From \$3)

**Raffle**





# Volunteers Needed!

Woongarra P&C are seeking volunteers for our 2019 school community P&C Christmas Picnic to be held on Wednesday 11th December from 5pm to 7pm.

The following volunteer roles are required to ensure the success and safety of this community event. You will be assisted by a designated leader who will brief you on your job and be your contact person leading up to and during the event. If you are interested in helping out, please post below and one of our leaders will be in contact with you.

- Bathroom supervisors: Outside of toilets, ensuring that no large groups of children enter
  - Playground supervisors: Ensuring the health and safety of children at the event
    - Santa's helpers: Ensuring that children line up sensibly!
      - Cake stall attendants
      - Game Activities

Thank you for helping make our school community P&C Christmas Picnic a success!

## *Cake Stall Donations*

*Seeking donations of home-made or store bought goodies for our cake stall at the P&C Christmas Picnic on Wednesday, 11th December 2019. Please include a list of ingredients.*





Time to get sweet!

## Cupcake Competition

At the P&C Christmas Picnic  
11th December 5pm

Open to all students from Woongarra PS  
Students are encouraged to help with baking  
and decorating their own entries!

Judged in age groups of  
K-2 and 3-6

Prizes of 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be  
awarded in each age group

Entrants to provide 6 cupcakes  
1 for judging and 5 for selling

Bring your cupcakes to the picnic before  
judging commences at 6pm, covered, on a  
disposable plate with your name, class and  
ingredients on the back of the plate.

No nuts please!

If you wish to collect a cake box  
to put your cupcakes in, they can  
be collected from under the cola  
on Wednesday the 11th from 8.30  
until 9.00am



# December 2019

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<b>Week 8</b>	Y6-7 High School Orientation Day	P&C Meeting Y4 excursion	Parent / Volunteer thank you morning tea Year 6 farewell	Ngara Assembly of Excellence  Newsletter	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<b>Week 9</b> Transition Week	Y3 excursion	Presentation Day Semester 2 reports issued P&C Christmas Picnic			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<b>Week 10</b> Side Show Alley		Last day for students	Last day for staff		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Christmas Day	Boxing Day		
29	30	31				

## Key events this month:

- **Presentation Day assemblies** are held for Years 3-6 and Years K-2. Parents / carers of students who are receiving awards will receive an invitation.
- The Parent Helpers and Volunteers **thank you morning tea** is on 5 December at 11am to thank all those who have helped out throughout 2019.
- **Semester 2 reports** issued on Presentation Day.
- **Year 6 farewell** – Thursday 5 December
- **Side Show Alley** is a fun day of activities at school organized by Year 6 for students in Years K-5 on the last Monday of the year. Sponge throwing is the favourite by far!
- **Transition visits** to meet with anticipated teachers for 2020 are arranged in the last two weeks by the Learning and Support Team for identified students.
- **Ngara Assembly** celebrates the achievements of Aboriginal students from schools across the AECG. Held @ Wyong HS. Parents / carers of students who are receiving awards will receive an invitation.