



WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

63-73 Mataram Road, WOONGARRAH NSW 2259
School Office ph: 43927493 fax: 43927807
email: woongarra-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: www.woongarra-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
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 8 February 2019

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

Let the Learning Begin!

We have enjoyed a smooth start to 2019 and all classes are now settled and looking forward to learning lots of new ideas, knowledge and skills this year.

There are several important attachments to this week's newsletter including:

- *Parent Information Booklet*
- *Calendar of Events for parents and Carers*
- *School Community Charter*

The ***Parent / Carer Information Book*** includes the following information:

- School motto, school vision, school hours
- Term dates and bell times
- Attendance guidelines
- Arriving and Departing from School procedures
- Staff list
- Classroom map
- Routines
- Behaviour Code for Students
- School Rules
- Health Information
- Communication Guide – Who Should I Talk To About...
- Weekly Behaviour Card (a copy of which has also been sent home with the blue cards this week)
- Uniform
- Fruit Break
- Complaints
- Parent Helpers, Visitors and Volunteers

The ***2019 Calendar of Events for Parents and Carers*** is current as at today. Any variations or changes will be advised through the newsletter and Skoolbag app. The relevant page for each month will also be included in the newsletter and changes highlighted.

The NSW Department of Education has introduced a [School Community Charter \(PDF 1.4 MB\)](#) for all members of NSW Public School communities. It has been developed in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. The School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive. A copy is attached.

Your feedback is requested.

Feedback from the ***Excellence in School Customer Service 360 survey*** conducted last year indicated that parents would like more opportunities to provide feedback to help the school continually improve. We are interested in any feedback that you may have about the **Parent Information Booklet and the Calendar**. There are 7 quick questions on the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q2MJM3M>

MEET THE TEACHER NEXT WEEK

Introductory sessions to meet your child's teacher(s) for 2019 have been scheduled as follows:

Tuesday 12 February 8:30am – 9am K-2 classes
 Wednesday 13 February 8:30am – 9am Years 3-6 classes

- Venue: Your child's classroom
- Purpose: A group session to meet the teacher(s), who will share information about the class routines, set up and expectations for 2019. The class newsletter will be issued on the morning and sent home to parents / carers who are unable to attend at this time.

						HB21 Mrs Jasmin Khan & Mrs Clea Le Loux Year 5	HB22 Mr Adam Demir Year 4/5
Bottom row, closest to grass	HB1 Mrs Corina Preece & Ms Toni Millett Year 3/4	HB2 Mrs Danielle Hearne & Mrs Marlou McDonald Year 3	HB3 Mrs Natasha Stanford & Mrs Kate Dyson Year 4	HB4 Mr Nick Vrolyk Year 3		HB18 Mrs Kerri Black Year 6	HB19 Mrs Megan Nicolas Year 5
Library row Library	Library			HB5 Mrs Belinda Johnson K	HB6 Mrs Samantha Guest K/1	HB7 Mrs Karen Ruskin Year 1	HB8 Mrs Karen Hourigan K
Top row, near admin block		HB9 Mrs Katherina Hindson Year 1/2	HB10 Mrs Chantal Mileto Year 1	HB11	HB12 Mr Darryn Mills Year 2/3	HB13 Mrs Wendy White Year 2	HB14 Ms Rachael Ella & Ms Cassie Patterson Year 2
Next to hall	HB15 Mrs Nichole Dempsey Year 6	HB16 Mrs Korrine Miller Year 5/6					

MATHELTICS, READING EGGS AND HOMEWORK

In Term 4 last year, teachers and students participated in a trial of Mathletics and Reading Eggs – two online programs to support teaching and learning in Mathematics and English. The trial was successful and we decided to purchase subscriptions for all students K-6. Many schools invoice students for the cost of this licence, however there is no cost for students in 2019.

This led to a consideration of our homework activities, as these programs lend themselves to home use. We have decided to replace paper worksheets with homework activities from Mathletics and Reading Eggs in Years 1-6 this year. Teachers will use these programs to:

- guide homework that is appropriate for each students age and ability
- ensure homework builds on work undertaken in class

More information will be provided at the Meet the Teacher session next week and in class newsletters.

It is important to understand that homework is not compulsory and disciplinary measures cannot be taken for failure to complete homework. Tasks will not be set, or used, to formally assess student learning.

SPORT NEWS

Swimming Carnival

The Year 3-6 Swimming carnival will be held at Wyong Pool on 19 February 2019.

- The swimming carnival is for **competitors only**.
- All competitors **must be able to swim 50m unaided** in a timed race.

- Students can select which events they like to swim in on the day.

Permission notes have been distributed to the interested students. Anybody still requiring a note can get one from the office. Permission notes are due back at the school office **no later than Friday 15 February 2019** to allow time for necessary organisation and consideration of student needs.

Team Selections

In 2019, Woongarrah Public School plan to enter a number of sporting gala days and competitions for Stage 2 and 3 children' depending on dates, location and teacher availability. Children in Stage 3 will also have the opportunity to trial for Wallarah Zone and Sydney North regional sports teams that they may excel in outside of school. Sports include – Rugby League, Rugby Union, AFL, Cricket, Hockey, Softball, Soccer, Basketball, Touch Football, Golf and Tennis.

Please be aware that:

- only students who play at a very high standard at club level or representative level should nominate
- each team will be an Under 12s age group unless stated otherwise
- parents are required to provide the transport to and from these trials
- trials will be held during school hours
- trials may be anywhere from Newcastle to Sydney
- if selected for a Sydney North team, your son or daughter will be required to travel weekly to train for a period of 3-6 weeks
- if selected for a Sydney North team, your son or daughter will be required to play in a carnival anywhere in the State
- if selected for a Sydney North team, expenses can exceed \$1000 at times
- some sports have limited numbers that are available to attend the trial due to popularity. In the case of having more entries, we would have a school trial before hand to decide who attends
- in the case of no nominations for a sport, we may invite students to take part in the trial

Any further questions regarding these trials please contact Mr Demir.

2018-2020 SCHOOL PLAN – FEATURE ARTICLE INDIVIDUAL LEARNING NEEDS

Each newsletter I will feature a different section of our School Plans for 2019 to provide a brief overview of activities and plans for the year and the resultant impact on student learning. Last week, I shared the ***Plan on a Page*** document.

This week's feature relates to Strategic Direction 1 – Equity: Individual Learning Needs.

At the end of 2018, we described how information is gathered and used to prepare classes for next year and the transition programs that exist for students and teachers. Teachers are currently accessing some of this information to begin to develop individual learning plans for all students with disabilities or additional learning needs, all Aboriginal students and students living in Out of Home Care. Teachers receive an allocation of release time for this purpose.

Later this term teachers will use the English as an Additional language (EALD) progressions to identify the learning needs of students who are learning English. They will also identify students in each class who require enrichment programs as our gifted and talented learners.

In each instance, teachers will draft the plans before consulting with parents, and students where appropriate, to seek your input regarding the accommodations adjustments or learning goals for your child. This may occur in person, by telephone, or during parent / teacher interviews later in Term 1.

These processes are facilitated through the use of needs based Equity funding that is provided to schools for socio-economic background, Aboriginal Education, English Language Proficiency and Low level adjustment for Disability.

SCRIPTURE AND ETHICS

This year we will be having Scripture and Ethics classes starting on Thursday 21 or 28 February. K-2 classes are at 12-12:30 and 3-6 Classes are 12:35-1:05. Students are organized into groupings according to enrolment forms or previous year's classes.

The groups are:

- Catholic - Kindergarten, Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2), Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4) and Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6).
- Combined – Protestant faiths - Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6
- Ethics - Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) and Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)
- Non-Scripture – Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Stage 3 (Years 5 & 6)

If you want your child to change the group they attend, you need to put the request in writing and send the note to Mrs Buhr via the office.

SRE & SEE Coordinator
Mrs Sharon Buhr

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

This year we have been fortunate to obtain the services of Jonathan Wright to teach Aboriginal Education classes on Thursday morning. Groups started yesterday for Aboriginal students in Years 1-6 and Aboriginal students in Kindergarten will join the program in Term 2. This term's program is about Family and students will complete a variety of activities, e.g. culture, dance, fitness, wellbeing, art, identity, dance and dreaming. Stage 3 students attend at 9am, Stage 1 students at 9:45 and Stage 2 students at 10:20.

Didge Groups starts for Aboriginal boys in Years 3-6 next Thursday (14 February) at 11:30. This year we have purchased some didgeridoos to replace the PVC pipes previously used so we will be excited to hear them play at the NAIDOC assembly. We also have a new Didgeridoo teacher, Glen Thomas.

Teachers are being given time in the next few weeks to consult with students about their Personalised Learning plans (PLPs) and these will be discussed at the Teacher and parent Interviews in Weeks 10 and 11.

Aboriginal Education Coordinator
Mrs Sharon Buhr

K-6 ASSEMBLY ROSTER

Assemblies occur once per fortnight for Years 3-6 at 2pm and once per fortnight for Years K-2 at 1:45pm, on alternate Fridays. Parents and community are most welcome to attend the assembly in the school hall.

Week	Assembly	Who is running Assembly
2	K-2	HB9
3	3-6	Ministers
4	K-2	HB12
5	3-6	Ministers
6	K-2	HB14
7	3-6	HB18
8	K-2	HB13
9	3-6	HB16
10	K-2	HB10
11	3-6	HB15

CANTEEN REMINDER

A reminder to all families that **there is no canteen service currently offered at our school**. A request to commence a new tender process has been made and we are awaiting further information. The tender process will be widely advertised in the newsletter and via social media when available.

BOOK CLUB

The first issue of Book Club for 2019 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 22 February**.

Money is NOT collected at school.

Please note that while we promote the value of reading this is a voluntary exercise.

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/>

Sharon Gilbert (Teacher/Librarian)

February 2019

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	28	29	30	31	1 Feb	2
	Public Holiday (Australia Day)	Staff return	Years 1-6 begin Kindy Best Start	Kindy Best Start	Kindy Best Start	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Week 2 Kindy begin Woongarra Way Week	Music Bus lessons resume this week	P&C Meeting	Aboriginal cultural groups commence	Communication cards begin Newsletter	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Week 3	Meet the teacher K-2 8:30am	Meet the teacher 3-6, 8:30am		Student Leaders Induction 2pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Week 4 Parent Helpers Induction 2pm Home Reading Commences	Swimming carnival		SRE / SEE classes begin	Newsletter	
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
	Week 5	School Photos			Clean Up Day	

Key events this month:

- **The Woongarra Way** is a series of lessons for the first two weeks designed to remind and teach students of the rights, rules and responsibilities of being a student at Woongarra.
- **Weekly communication cards** are issued at the end of Week 2 for students to begin the annual quest for Super Gold status. An explanatory letter is sent home with the card.
- The first **P&C meeting** for 2019 will be held on Wednesday 6 @ 9am and the first Wednesday of every month. All welcome. Watch the newsletter for details.
- **Swimming carnival** for Years 3-6 competitors only - Tuesday 19 @ Wyong Pool
- **Student Leaders Induction** assembly 2pm Friday 15 – Ministers, House Captains and SRC members receive their badges and make their pledges.
- **Parent Helpers induction** 2pm Monday 18
- **Assembly** begins In Week 3 – K-2 and Years 3-6 alternate each week, with a different class leading the assembly on a roster. 2pm Friday @ school. All welcome
- **Cultural classes** with Jonathon for Aboriginal students in Years 1-6 commence in Week 2.
- **Music Bus lessons** recommence in Week 2 – see the office for details if interested
- **Meet the teacher visits** are scheduled in Week 3 from 8:30-9am in classrooms. Come along to meet your child's teacher(s) and learn about how your child's class operates. A class newsletter will be sent home for those who are unable to attend.