



WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

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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 February 2019

NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

Thankyou to everyone who was able to attend the Meet the Teacher sessions last week - all 171 of you! Remember that if you were unable to attend, the Term 1 class newsletter will ensure that you have a snapshot of the learning that is planned for the term, the class routines, and the best times to contact your child's teacher. The feedback we received on the day was very positive. If you would like to add any comments or suggestions, please read the 'Have Your Say' guide for easy ways to do so.

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>

COOLER CLASSROOMS PROGRAM - AIR CONDITIONING UPDATE

We have had several enquiries regarding when the classrooms will be air-conditioned, given the successful application in Round 1 of the Cooler Classrooms program, as well as a discussion at the P&C meeting.

As you are aware, the Fund is part of the NSW Government's Cooler Classrooms program, a record \$500 million, five-year program to improve thermal comfort and indoor air quality in learning spaces and libraries across NSW government schools. The Cooler Classrooms program is in addition to the NSW Government's usual asset maintenance program.

The first step in this process involves undertaking due diligence at the school. This is a critical step in determining the required and appropriate scope of work at each school. Due diligence includes, but is not limited to assessing:









- the condition, fitness for purpose and remaining useful life of any existing air cooling, air conditioning and heating equipment;
- electrical infrastructure capacity; and
- building condition, including other factors such as heritage considerations.

We have been advised that due diligence will proceed in a staged manner and continue throughout 2019 by our Asset Management Unit. We do not have a date for our school as yet. I will keep you advised of any further updates.

SCHOOL PLAN 2018-2020 NEWSLETTER FEATURE ARTICLE -

Student Wellbeing -

Our term 1 Playground Clubs are up and running to the delight of many. This term, students may choose from K-2 Lego Club, Years 3-6 Lego Club, Gardening Club or a new Mindfulness Club – I think I might join that one!

Woongarrah Public School Mindfulness Club Term 1 2019 K-6 Thursday Lunch Time HB21	Week 3 An Introduction to Mindfulness 	Week 4 Kindness Rocks 
Week 5 Yoga 	Week 6 Calming Glitter Jar 	Week 7 Mindfulness Colouring 
Week 8 Stress Balls 	Week 9 Guided Meditation 	Week 10 Cloud Gazing 

The Peer Playground Buddy program has also recommenced.

QUALITY TEACHING ROUNDS IN HB2 AND HB4

I am excited to announce that our school has been selected as one of 200 schools across Australia who will be participating in an exciting new research project on teacher professional development in a research project called 'Building Capacity for Quality Teaching in Australian Schools'. The research is being undertaken by the University of Newcastle, led by Jenny Gore, Professor in Education. The NSW Department of Education is our partner in this important study and it is funded by the Australian Research Council and the Paul Ramsay Foundation.

Mrs Hearne (HB2) and Mr Vrolyk (HB4) nominated and were successfully selected to be involved as our lead teachers in this project. Congratulations! The students in their classes will be invited to participate in this project - invitations have been sent home today with more information for the parents of students in these classes.

The research is based on a type of professional development for teachers called 'Quality Teaching Rounds' (QTR). Research has shown positive effects on the quality of teaching and teacher morale, and therefore student learning outcomes. This approach to teacher professional development also involves teachers working in groups of four or more (known as Professional Learning Communities (PLC) - Mrs Dempsey and Ms Miller were successfully nominated for our PLC.

This research project aligns perfectly with Strategic Direction 2 in our 2018-2020 school plan – Excellence in learning, teaching and leading so that every student, every teacher, every leader and the school improves every year.

SCHOOL PHOTOS ARE ON TUESDAY 26 FEBRUARY

All students are to bring their school photo envelopes (with the correct money) on Tuesday 26 February (next Tuesday). Each child must hand in their own completed envelope to the photographers.

No school photo money is handled by our school. If photos are paid for online, envelopes still need to be returned to the photographers on photo day because they contain details of your families order.

Sibling photo envelopes can be obtained from the school office.

SAFER INTERNET DAY

Students in Years 4-6 participated in Safer Internet Day in Week 2.

Safer Internet Day (SID) is an annual, worldwide event that was held on Tuesday 5 February 2019 to help encourage a better internet. This year's theme, **'Together for a better internet'**, encourages individuals to create a better internet by developing four critical skills. We call these skills the 4Rs: Respect, Responsibility, Reasoning and Resilience.

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner is the official Committee for Safer Internet Day in Australia—responsible for driving the initiative nationally. The Office offered a number of activities for students on the day and is a valuable source of information for parents. Visit <https://www.esafety.gov.au/> to see what's available.

SPORT NEWS

In 2019, Woongarra 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.

ATTENDANCE

The school attendance records are checked daily by class teachers and monitored weekly by school executive and Mrs Buhr. If your child is absent, please notify the office by phone or by the Skoolbag app.

As part of a teacher's legal requirements if we have not received notification about a student's absences, teachers will send a note home. If a student is absent for 3 consecutive days, teachers have to call home and/or contacts to check on the welfare of students.

If your child is absent for 3 or more consecutive days due to illness, a doctor's certificate is required. If you are going on holidays during school term for 5 days or longer, you are required to complete a travel form from the school office and get it approved.

Students' that attendance falls below 75% will receive a letter and a meeting may be organised to discuss how we can support you and your child to attend school.

If you have any concerns about this please contact Mrs Buhr.

SCRIPTURE AND ETHICS

Scripture started yesterday. Unfortunately, we do not have a teacher for Stage 1 and Stage 2 Catholic groups or Early Stage 1 and Stage 3 Ethics Groups. The Ethics Teacher for Stage 1 and Stage 2 is currently being trained and will commence teaching these groups in March once the training has been completed.

If you are interested in teaching Scripture (Catholic or Protestant) or Ethics, please contact me and I can give you the contact details of the Scripture and Ethics organisers.

Sharon Buhr, SRE & SEE Organiser

ABORIGINAL CULTURAL EXCURSION

On Tuesday 19 March, an excursion has been organised for the Aboriginal students in Years 1-6 to attend a Central Coast Aboriginal Cultural Excursion. We will be going to the Bulgandry Aboriginal site at Kariong, Girrakool Picnic Area and Somersby Falls to learn about Aboriginal history and culture of the local area. We have been fortunate to obtain the services of an Aboriginal elder to explain to the students the significance of the sites that we will visit. Permission notes have been sent home. We have some available places for parents, so if you would like to attend, please indicate this on your child's permission note. Unfortunately, we are unable to take other siblings. If you have any questions please contact me.

Sharon Buhr, Aboriginal Education Coordinator

CAUGHT YOU BEING GOOD

Emmett HB10	Georgia HB10	Logan HB10	Lexi HB10	Archie HB7
Rishaan HB9	Abby HB7	Axis HB9	Mya HB2	Lucy HB3
Isabella HB22	Ava HB12	Amy HB3	Tikira HB2	Lucas HB12
Layla	Chelsea HB19	Vani HB3		

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

HB1	London, Aydin, Kaiden
HB3	Amy, Charbell, Ryan
HB5	Ruby, Tiger
HB6	Mia-Rose, Cooper
HB7	Emilie, Blake
HB8	Conor, Khloe
HB9	Alyssa, Haydn
HB10	Morgan, Emmett
HB12	Cooper, Noah, Xavier, Ruby
HB14	Grace, Audrey
HB15	Amber, Oliver, Amelia
HB16	Brittany, Jack, Tyler
HB18	Haylee, Suzi, Ben
HB19	Mali, Josh, Ethan, Sophie, Chloe, Isabelle
HB21	Georgia, Porshia, Rhiannon, Harry, Evgenni
HB22	Brayden, Cruz, Amber, Ruby, Khloe, Jordan

CANTEEN REMINDER

A reminder to all families that **there is no canteen service currently offered at our school**. The canteen tender has been issued. The Tender can be found at:

<https://tenders.nsw.gov.au/?event=public.rft.show&RFTUID=4DEA9A59-F6EB-F9D8-FA06FB36E9B655FC>

Inspection dates are Monday 25 and Wednesday 27 at 10am.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all the boys and girls who competed in the Woongarra Swimming Carnival this year. Although we didn't have many students attend, we still had some terrific little swimmers who gave their all.

Our age champions were fantastic swimmers on the day who had consistent results across all events.

Senior Boy champion – Owen Senior Girl champion – Sienna
Junior Boy champion – Brayden Junior Girl champion – Claudia

We also had one school record broken on the day. Sienna.C broke her elder sister Zara's record from two years earlier by 0.01 in the 11 years girls' freestyle. Congratulations!

House Points – 1st Dolphins 72, 2nd Platypus 40, 3rd Kangaroo 23, 4th Goanna 13

22 boys and girls have qualified for the Wallarah Zone Swimming Carnival at Mingara on Wednesday 6 March, 2019. Congratulations and good luck!

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
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

EXTERNALLY FUNDED SERVICE PROVIDERS

Some students require extra assistance e.g. Speech Therapy or Occupational Therapy and this may be provided through the NCCD or privately paid for by parents. As after school appointments are limited, parents may request that this therapy is conducted during school hours at school. If your child requires the use of an externally funded service, parents need to complete the form and return to Mrs Buhr via the school office. The process is:

1. Parents complete the form with the necessary documents requested from the provider, one form per provider is required.
2. Return all documents to Mrs Buhr.
3. Mrs Buhr liaises with class teacher, re: times, dates, location etc.
4. Mrs Buhr will write a work agreement and send to the Provider with times and dates etc.
5. The work agreement is signed and returned to Mrs Buhr
6. Therapy may commence

Parents are responsible for informing therapists when their child is absent from school or when there are school variations eg Carnivals, excursions etc to cancel therapy.
If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sharon Buhr.



Cyber Awareness Forum

**Join Central Coast Council of P&Cs as we host a forum
with staff from the eSafety Commissioner
to discuss the issues, you and your family need to know about to keep safe
in this 21st Century *social media world*.**

Venue: Mingara Recreation Club, Mingara Drive, Tumbi Umbi, 2261

Please register, for catering purposes, via <http://www.cccpandc.org>



March 2019

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
	Week 5	School Photos	WCS Year 7 Information evening		Clean Up Day	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Week 6 Friendly Schools Stage 3 camp AECG Meeting	Stage 3 camp	Zone swimming P&C AGM Stage 3 camp	Woo, New and You workshop	Newsletter	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Week 7 Friendly Schools Week	Y6-7 HS applications distributed		Selective High School test	National Day of Action Against Bullying	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	Week 8 Anti-Racism Week	Y6-7 HS applications due Aboriginal Cultural excursion		Harmony Day mufti day WCS Academic test	Newsletter	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Week 9 Tell Them From Me Week	Y6-7 WCS Visit	Wellbeing show @ school	Cyber Awareness forum for parents		

Key events this month:

- Weeks 5-7 include the launch of our updated **Friendly Schools Anti-Bullying Program** of lessons K-6.
- This culminates with the **National Day of Action against Bullying** on Friday 15
- Week 8 is **Anti-Racism Week** including the launch of our new Anti-Racism scope and sequence of lessons K-6 and **Harmony Day Mufti Day** is on Thursday 21 – wear orange
- Stage 3 are off the **camp at Myuna Bay** in Week 6
- **Wallarrah Zone swimming carnival** 6 March @ Mingara; **Sydney North** 28 March
- Tell Them From Me Week – **Student Voice**: students in Years 4-6 complete this annual online survey as part of our continual school improvement process
- **A Wellbeing Show** for all students K-6 12 noon (K-2) and 1:45 Years 3-6 (Free)
- **Selective HS tests** are for Year 6 students who wish to apply for a selective class placement for high school. The closest classes to Woongarra are located at Gosford HS (fully selective) and Gorokan HS (partially selective). Parents apply online in Term 4 the previous year.
- Aboriginal students in Years 1-6 are visiting Bulgandry Aboriginal site, Girrakool and Somersby Falls on a **cultural excursion** on Tuesday 19 March.
- Selected students in year 6 will attend a **STEM workshop** with Eddie Woo – Woo, New and You at University of Newcastle on Thursday 7 March.

School Banking. Helping kids learn the value of saving.

What pocket money can teach your child.

Pocket money can help teach kids about the value of money and how to look after it. However, there's no 'one size fits all' approach and it's important to decide what's right for your family. Research of over 1,000 parents of primary school students revealed that 55% give regular pocket money[^] and here's how they manage it:



Over half give less than \$10 per week (\$5 - \$10 is the most common range). There's no right or wrong – the amount should suit your family situation.



Around 4 in 5 parents link pocket money to the completion of a chore or task. This can help children understand that money needs to be earned.



On average, kids save about half of their pocket money each week. Learning to put money aside for a bigger goal is a valuable life skill.

Join the Dollarmites on a Polar Savers adventure.

The majority of parents think it's important to make learning about money engaging and to reward good saving behaviour[^]. So to help, our Dollarmites characters (Pru, Addy, Spen, Lucas and Pat) are taking School Bankers on a Polar Savers adventure, that's full of exciting rewards.

Students participating in School Banking will receive a silver Dollarmites token each time they make a School Banking deposit at school (maximum one per week). Once they've collected 10 tokens, they can redeem them for a Polar Savers reward.



Polar Savers Rewards:

Term 1: Scented Stackable Highlighter, Snowy Origami Set

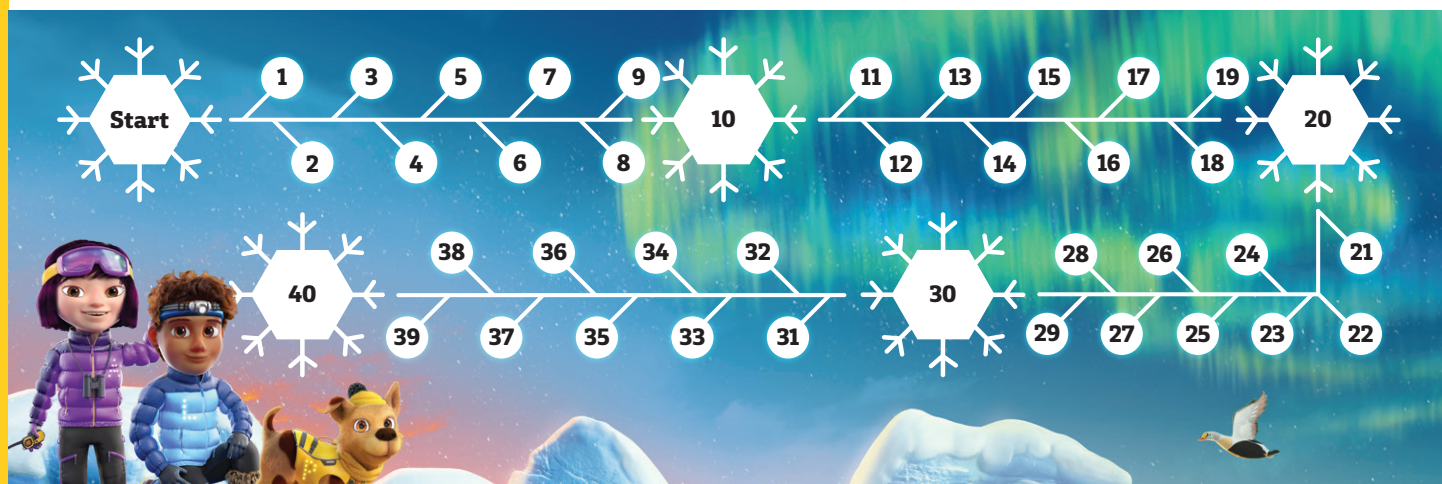
Term 2: Yeti Fluffy Notebook, Icicle Slapband Ruler

Term 3: Arctic Owl Fluffy Keyring, Scratch Art Cards

Term 4: Water Skimming Bounce Ball, Polar Pencils & Pencil Toppers

School Banking Deposit Tracker.

Colour in a number every time you make a deposit at school. For every 10 School Banking deposits you can redeem a reward.



To find out more about the School Banking program and how to get your child involved, ask your School Banking Co-ordinator for a School Banking Parent Pack or visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking