



# WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Friday 6 November 2020

NEWSLETTER

Issue 19

## END OF YEAR UPDATES

We received updated Covid-19 guidelines for schools yesterday that has provided helpful advice for the remainder of the school year.

Many of the existing procedures remain in place. We will continue with our drop off and pick up arrangements, split recess and lunch times and non-essential visits are still not allowed.

Excursions – All excursions need to have a direct link to the curriculum and unfortunately our excursions to the Schoolhouse Museum (Year 1,2 History), National Park (Year 3, 4 Geography) and Sport and Rec camp (Stage 3 PDPHE) were cancelled this year. We have, however, organized a school fun day called 'Let Loose Day' that links to our PDHPE curriculum for all students K-6. Students will complete fun activities in stage groups throughout the day, organised by Be Skilled, Be Fit – a company who we have worked with in the past to conduct Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games days. The school is covering the cost of this event for students and we are looking forward to a fun day at school.

P&C Christmas event and P&C disco – these events are not possible within current guidelines. Fingers crossed for next year.

Presentation day - the updated guidelines do allow for parents to attend presentation day provided we have a Covid plan and adhere to the four square meter rule. We will let you know.

Year 6 farewell from Mrs Dempsey – I spoke to the Year 6 students yesterday about the notification sent last night and what they could be expecting for a farewell. At this point in time, we are still waiting on COVID safety plans from venues to determine what the farewell activity will be. Year 6 will still be recognised and celebrated as a farewell activity with times and venue to be confirmed. If you are wondering about suitable clothing, please do not go to any extravagance but think more along the lines of smart casual as if your child was attending a birthday party, church or other celebration. Thank you for your patience and we will let you know as soon as we know. Mrs Dempsey

## KINDY ORIENTATION

Our first orientation session went off without a hitch this week. The sisters and brothers of new students were wonderful in accompanying their siblings to the classrooms and our new students were equally brave to say goodbye to mum and dad at the gates and enter into school on their own. Dads and mums also did well and held back the tears! Congratulations and thanks to Mrs Guest for her leadership and organisation and to the team of teaching and non-teaching staff who supported us on the day (and every day!). We are looking forward to session 2 next week.

## 2021 PLANNING

We are currently planning for 2021. If your child is not going to be at Woongarra Public School in 2021 could you please ring or email the front office.

## STUDENT USE OF DIGITAL DEVICES AND ONLINE SERVICES

The draft Student use of Digital Devices and Online Services is attached for your information. If you have any questions or comments about the document, can you please direct these to the school's email, attention Mr Lorne Smith. The updated procedures will commence in 2021.

## NAIDOC

On Friday 13 November we will be celebrating NAIDOC. Students can wear red, yellow or black mufti. Students will complete activities in their classrooms related to the Aboriginal culture. There will also be a session on Aboriginal story telling and Aboriginal culture and artefacts for each year group. Students will view a video of our Aboriginal students performing some Aboriginal dances. Due to COVID guidelines, parents are unfortunately unable to attend.

Sharon Buhr                      Aboriginal Education Coordinator

## 2021 STUDENT LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS FOR YEAR 5 STUDENTS

Each year, eight students from Year 5 are elected as student leaders for the following year and eight students are elected as sporting house captains. Mrs Dempsey will be holding a meeting with all Year 5 students next week about the leadership process. Year 5 will be able to 'interview' our current student leadership team to find out what the role of a student leader entails. The following information is important and will explain the nomination and voting process.

Eligibility for nomination:

- All students in Year 5 are eligible for nomination.
- Students who achieved Super Gold in the previous year are automatically eligible. Students who did not receive Super Gold must apply to the Student Wellbeing Team for special consideration.
- Similarly, if a student has been suspended, or has displayed a pattern of unacceptable behavior, the student must apply for special consideration on the grounds of a proven commitment to improved behaviour. The Student Wellbeing Team will make the decision.
- Students may only hold one leadership position.

Nomination Process – Ministers

- Year 5 students nominate candidates. Self-nomination is allowed.
- Successful nominees prepare speeches to present to Year 5 and Parliament.
- Staff, Year 5 and Parliament vote to create a short list of 8 candidates.
- Candidates then present their nomination speech which will be zoomed to classrooms this year.
- All staff and all students in Years 3-5, plus the outgoing Year 6 ministers vote.
- Staff and student votes have equal weighting.
- Announcement of Parliament is made on Presentation Day.

Nomination Process - House Captain Elections

- At the first house meeting each year, nominations from Year 6 are called.
- All students in Years 3-6 have one vote each.
- Votes are made by a show of hands during the house meeting.
- The boy and girl who receive the most votes are elected as the House Captains.
- Ministers and SRC members are ineligible to run for the position.

Unacceptable behaviour when elected

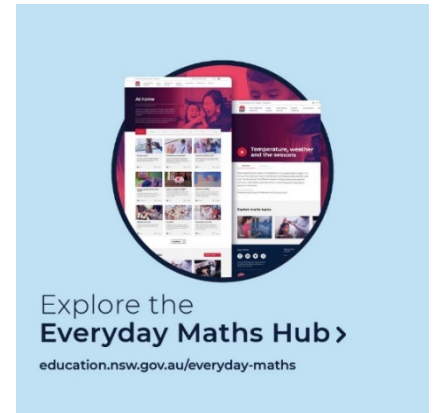
Student leaders are role models within the school and are expected to set a good example at all times. Students who choose to disregard the school rules may lose their badge and leadership privileges for a period of time. Suspension results in an immediate loss of badge and position.

## EVERYDAY MATHS HUB

The Everyday Maths Hub has been launched by the Department of Education. The Everyday Maths hub can be found at [www.education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths](http://www.education.nsw.gov.au/everyday-maths)

### The Everyday Maths hub:

- is an engaging and dynamic online platform for parents and carers of children in Kindy through to Year 10
- aims to support and encourage family conversations about the relevance and usefulness of mathematics in everyday life
- is part of the NSW Mathematics Strategy to achieve the Premier's vision, 'for all NSW students to develop the mathematical skills they need to succeed in life'
- was designed in consultation with our teachers, parents and carers
- can support parents and carers in empowering their children to think critically and creatively, find and solve problems, and notice and wonder about the mathematics in the world around them
- helps parents and carers connect with their children through mathematics.



### The Everyday Maths hub features:

- mathematical bite-size content
- short creative videos to introduce topics
- interactive everyday activities
- inspiring reading and resource lists
- games and puzzles

### Parents and carers can:

- generate conversations about mathematics
- introduce and support the use of mathematical language
- encourage curiosity and playfulness with mathematical ideas
- connect mathematics across stages, topics and other key learning areas
- promote positive mathematical mindsets
- suggest games, books and activities.
- support positive home-school partnerships

## K-2 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL.



A bit of light rain was not going to dampen the spirits of our eager and enthusiastic students. It was great to see so many students dressed in their sports colours and cheering on their peers. All students had a fantastic Athletic Carnival. They participated in their age races, minor games such as parachute, ball games, stuck in the mud, tunnel ball, rob the nest and captain ball and Athletic style events including egg and spoon relays, relays, javelin and discus. Thank you to the Year 6 house captains for their support on the day and to Ms Patterson and Ms Ella for organising the event.



*Dawson HB11, Jazlyn HB13, Torin HB13,  
Taj HB13, Dustin HB9, Skylar HB5,  
Harry HB10*

	<b>MERIT AWARDS</b>	<b>CAUGHT YOU BEING GOOD</b>	<b>QUALITY WORK</b>
HB1	Indy, Lilly, Hudson	Archawin, Jacob	Maddy
HB2	Max, Wade, Laila	Laila	Marley
HB3	Beau, Katarni	Taylan	Maika
HB4	Mia, Chelsea, Jayden	Brendan	Lachie
HB5	Ethan, William	Narsharla	Skylar
HB6	Claire, Eli, Liam	Leon	Aylah-Jae
HB7	Memphis, Saxon	Indiannah	Rhyden
HB9	Toby, Nakiah	Dominic	Dustin
HB10	Piper, Bailee, Jacob	Chase	Keyarn
HB11	Annika, Darcy, Lincoln	Ewan	Darcy
HB12	Tison, Tyson, Xavier	Matilda	Ruby
HB13	Pyper, Chloe, Indy-Rose	Ebony	Alyssa
HB14	Rishaan, Navaiia	Lucy	Leila
HB15	Keira, Ashton, Imogen	Khloe	Shalise
HB16	Scott, Caleb, Cooper	Wyatt	Porshia
HB19	Ebonee, Aiden, James	John	Luke
HB21	Hayden, Claire, Cooper	Madeline	Luke
HB22	Isabella, Lilly, Cooper	London	Lincoln

### **P & C NEWS**

Orders for Christmas Gingerbread houses are now closed. Thank you for all those that have placed an order. We will have updates on collection prior to term ending.

The next P&C Meeting is on Wednesday November 11 at 7:30pm, Via Zoom.

We are always looking forward to seeing new faces and getting fresh ideas. Please follow the link to register prior to the meeting.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscO6prj0uG9Z9Cibnwn5w76rZCoUbaFJA?fbclid=IwAR26TYk4Qid8qCjpTMmwW-H5PtTUIbhWfzXULC\\_idd1cMm8UXTj9B4OL9o4](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscO6prj0uG9Z9Cibnwn5w76rZCoUbaFJA?fbclid=IwAR26TYk4Qid8qCjpTMmwW-H5PtTUIbhWfzXULC_idd1cMm8UXTj9B4OL9o4)

Woongarra Public School Parents and Citizens Association.

### **FOCUS ON LEARNING TEACHER SURVEYS**

Each year, students complete the Tell Them From Me surveys and teachers complete Focus on Learning surveys. I'd like to share our Teacher Surveys results this week.

24 teachers completed the Focus on learning survey in Term 3. The survey is a self-evaluation tool based on research around effective schools. Questions are scored on a 10-point scale. A score of 0 indicates strong disagreement with the questions, 10 indicates strong agreement, and 5 is a neutral position. The table provides a summary of our results.

## Eight Drivers of Student Learning

	Our score	NSW Norm
Leadership	8.1	7.1
Collaboration	8.5	7.8
Learning Culture	8.3	8.0
Data Informs Practice	8.3	7.8
Teaching Strategies	8.3	7.9
Technology	7.0	6.7
Inclusive School	8.5	8.2
Parent Involvement	6.7	6.8

The survey also measures four dimensions of effective classroom practice.

	WPS	NSW Norm
Challenging and visible goals	7.8	7.5
Planned learning opportunities	8.2	7.6
Quality feedback that guides students' effort and attention	7.6	7.3
Support for students to overcome obstacles	8.2	7.7

### **So what does this mean?**

We use this information as part of our self-assessment, reporting and planning. Our results are very positive and you can see that responses are above state norms in all areas, with the exception of parent involvement which is lower than usual due to Covid-19. We look closely at specific questions to validate what we are currently doing and to look for areas to improve for the future. We look at changes in results across the years to measure the impact of some of our current work, for example Feedback and Collaborative Practice that have been focus areas within our three year plan. The survey results tell us that our actions are having a positive impact. Our scores have remained high over the past 5 years and improved over time and 96% of teachers believe that school leaders are effectively leading improvement and change. Areas to improve for the future include using technology to give students immediate feedback on their learning and sharing student learning goals with parents.