



WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

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The inclusive and caring school where expert staff support students to achieve excellence.

Tuesday 08 April 2025

NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 11

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From the Principal

As we wrap up what has been a vibrant and productive term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful students, staff, and families for their continued support, enthusiasm, and resilience. Term 1 has been filled with rich learning experiences, exciting opportunities, and countless moments of growth, both in and out of the classroom.

Our students have embraced every challenge with curiosity and determination. Whether it's through academic pursuits, creative endeavours, sporting events or leadership roles, they continue to make us proud with their commitment to doing their best and being kind, respectful citizens of our school community.

A huge thank you to our teaching and support staff for the energy, care, and professionalism they bring to their roles each and every day. Their efforts to provide high-quality teaching and nurture every child's potential do not go unnoticed.

Thank you to our families for your partnership in your child's learning journey. Your involvement, whether through attending school events, supporting learning at home, or simply being present and engaged, makes a meaningful difference.

I feel very honoured and proud to be serving as the relieving principal of Woongarra Public School. It is a privilege to lead such a dynamic and caring school community, and I look forward to continuing our strong partnership with students, staff, and parents as we head into Term 2 while Mrs Clarkson continues to enjoy her much-deserved leave.

Next term promises to be just as exciting, with new learning units, excursions, sporting carnivals, and community events planned. In the meantime, I hope the upcoming school holidays provide a chance for rest, recharge and family time. Term 2 begins on Monday 28 April, where staff will embark on two days of professional development. **Students return Wednesday 30 April.**

Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable break. We look forward to seeing everyone back, refreshed and ready for another fantastic term of learning and growing together.

Warm regards,



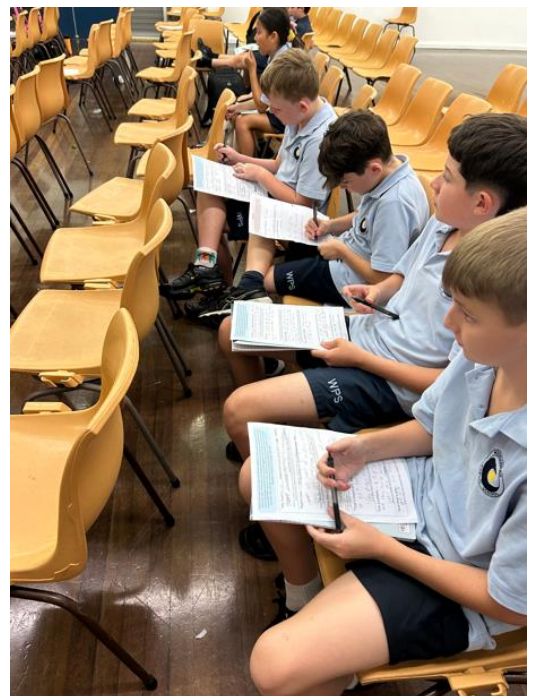
Mrs Tricia Bradney

Relieving Principal

Woongarra Public School

Debating Workshop

On Thursday, 27 March, eight Stage 3 students attended a Debating Workshop at Budgewoi Public School, where they developed debating skills, gained public speaking confidence, and had a fantastic time working with other students from our region. Each student had the opportunity to present a speech, showcasing their growing abilities in public speaking and debate. They represented our school with pride and enthusiasm—well done to all!



Cross Country 9 April

Our annual **Cross Country Carnival** will take place on **Wednesday 9 April** at **Woongarra Oval**. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to get active, cheer on their peers, and enjoy a day of friendly competition and school spirit.

Key Information: Start Time: Students will assemble under the COLA at 9:00 am and begin walking to Woongarra Oval in class groups at 9:30 am.

What to Bring:

- o Recess and lunch
- o Fruit break
- o Water bottle
- o Hat
- o Comfortable running shoes
- o Sports uniform in house colours
- o Any required medication (teachers will carry class medications)

Venue: Woongarra Oval – students will be seated in house groups upon arrival.

Race Schedule: Races are expected to begin around 10:00 am, and will run in the following order:

8 and 9 year old boys (3 laps)

8 and 9 year old girls (3 laps)

Year 2 students will return to school after their race

10 year old boys (3 laps)

10 year-old girls (3 laps)

11 year old boys (5 laps)

11 year old girls (5 laps)

12 and 13 year old boys (5 laps)

12 and 13 year old girls (5 laps)

Please note: These are approximate times and may vary depending on how the day unfolds.

Returning to School: After the final races, students will return to school in their class groups. If they return in time for lunch, they will eat at school and resume their normal afternoon routine.

Parent Attendance: Parents and carers are very welcome to attend and cheer from the sidelines!

Early Departure: If you would like to take your child home early after their race, please ensure you find their class teacher and sign them out before leaving the oval.

We're looking forward to a fun, energetic day of racing and school spirit. Thank you for supporting our students!

Easter Parade 11 April



Woongarra Public School would like to invite our K-6 families to celebrate Easter with us at our annual Easter Parade on Friday 11 April at 9.15am under the school COLA. This year it will be a K-6 event as requested by the 2024 SRC.

K-6 students are to make their parade items at home and bring them to school on the day of the parade. They can make a hat or mask, decorate a poster or basket or bring any other Easter themed items. Students are not to wear costumes or fancy dress. Please wear normal school uniform.

We look forward to celebrating this fun event with our K-6 families

Anzac Day March 25 April

I've received a few enquiries regarding the recent change to our school's RSL sub-branch affiliation. I've been advised that, due to continued growth across the Central Coast, the RSL sub-branches have had to adjust their boundaries. Unfortunately, this has impacted our school.

I completely understand the frustration this may cause; however, this decision is beyond our control. I have raised our concerns with the RSL and asked them to reconsider the impact on our school community. That said, no changes will be made prior to this year's ANZAC Day.

Mrs Hughes will be representing our school at the Doyalson/Wyee RSL Sub-Branch service. She will be in attendance from 8.15am on Thursday 25 April, ready for the start of the march at 8.30am. We hope to see our Ministers and students there on the day, proudly representing our school.

Mrs Bradney

ANZAC DAY

JOIN US AS WE HONOUR AND REMEMBER
THOSE WHO SERVED.

Our school now falls under the Doyalson/Wyee RSL Sub-Branch, and we look forward to commemorating ANZAC Day together.

ANZAC DAY MARCH

- Students are invited to march with the school in the main service at 8.30am.
- Schools will assemble on Wentworth Ave before the march.
- A designated seating area will be available for students near the memorial.

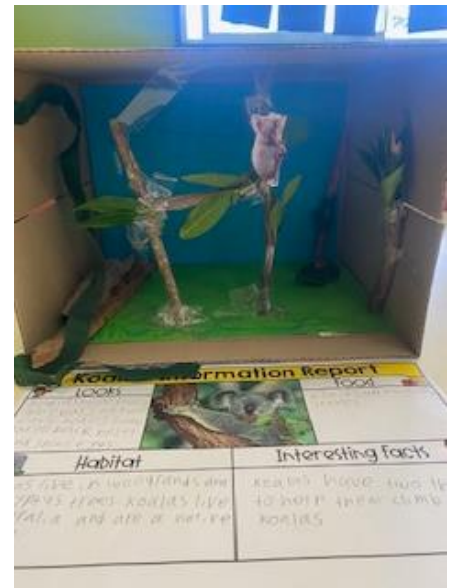
All children will receive a free drink, chips, and ice cream after the ceremony.

Date: April 25, 2025
🕒 **Dawn Service: 5:30 AM**
🕒 **Main Service & March: 8:30 AM**
📍 **Location: Wentworth Ave, Doyalson (near the Doylo Club)**

Kindergarten – Term 1 in Review

English

In English, students have been learning about phonemic awareness and phonics through the Heggerty and Little Learners Love Literacy Programs. You may have heard of Milo Monkey! They have been learning letters and sounds and how to decode, segment and blend. Students have engaged with a range of high-quality texts including Starting School, We're Going on a Bear Hunt, Edward the Emu and the Book with No Pictures. These wonderful texts are used to build oral language, vocabulary reading and writing skills.



Mathematics

In mathematics, students have been learning to represent whole numbers, patterns combining and separating quantities, 2D shapes and 3D objects, data, forming groups, length, and mass. Students engage in daily Number Talks to build numbers sense, mental maths, and flexibility with numbers. In maths. lessons they learn to read, write, show, discuss and justify their mathematical ideas and solutions and connect maths to their everyday world.



Geography

Students have learned that people live in places and that these places are important to them. They look out how the location of places can be represented on maps.

Students developed an understanding of what makes a place special and that this might differ for different people.

Science

Students have been learning about what things are made of with Mr Vaughan. They sorted objects as being manmade or natural. They also explored what the best materials would be to make a raincoat, hats and/or a shelter and why.

Creative Arts

Students have been creative wonderful art works that link to the literature that they have been studying in English.



We have had a wonderful term of learning and look forward to an exciting Term 2.
Mrs Rawson, Mrs Cranstone, Mrs Kingsland

Stage 1 – Term 1 in Review

English

This term, Year 1 have explored a variety of rich texts to learn about context, narrative, character perspectives, arguments, and imagery. They have been building their reading and writing skills through the *Little Learners Love Literacy* program, with a strong focus on handwriting, spelling, and reading fluency.

Students have applied their learning in exciting literacy projects such as writing informative reports about animals and our local environment, creating imaginative stories, and building fantastic dioramas to match their writing.

They have also been developing their speaking and listening skills by sharing their ideas, listening to others, and participating in group discussions and presentations. It has been a wonderful term of learning, creativity and growing confidence in all areas of English.



Year 2 have been learning about Context, Narrative, Character, Perspective and Argument and Imagery, symbol and connotation while we looked at quality literature including “Welcome to Country”, “The boy who wanted to shrink his name”, “Where the Wild Things are”, and “Koala ark”. Students have also been reading and spelling using the Little Learners Love Literacy Program. Students have been writing simple, compound and complex sentences and learning about nouns, articles, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions and time connectives.

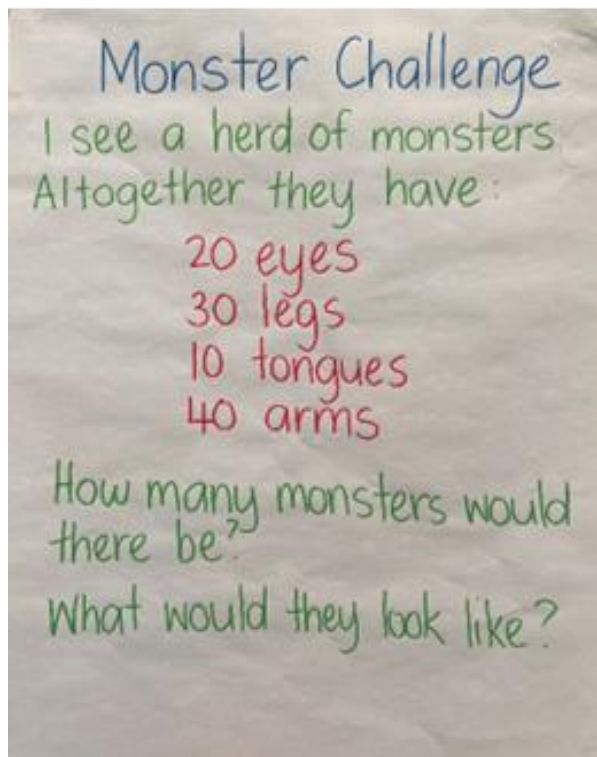


Maths

This term in Mathematics, Year 1 have been building their confidence with numbers and developing strong foundational skills. Students have explored counting, place value, and simple addition and subtraction strategies using hands-on materials and number stories.

They have been learning to recognise, order and represent numbers up to 100, and have enjoyed using games and real-life scenarios to explore how numbers work in everyday situations.

Students have also investigated patterns, explored length and mass using informal units, and started to tell time to the hour and half-hour. They have been encouraged to explain their thinking and work together to solve problems, helping them build mathematical reasoning and confidence. It's been a fun and engaging term full of discovery, problem-solving and number sense!



Year 2 students have been learning about patterns, numbers, place value, two dimensional shapes, lines of symmetry, smaller numbers in bigger numbers, combining and separating numbers, data, length, area, volume and mass.

Geography

Students have been learning about the Features of Places. They looked at the weather, natural features and built features of our environments. They designed a park that included both natural and built features and discussed ways to look after the park.

Science

Students have been learning about Material World and what things are made of. They discussed the best materials to use when making a waterproof item and redesigned face masks. They enjoyed making Play Dough.



Visual Arts

In Visual arts, students have created fantastic art works focussing on colour, line and space.



PDHPE

Students participated in the “Woongarra Way”, “Friendly Schools” and the “Resilience Project” programs to learn about the rules and expectations at school and about bullying. Students have enjoyed participating in Sport on Tuesday afternoon and are developing their fundamental movement skills. We have also had several events this term including Harmony Day and a visit from Healthy Harold. HB13 and HB12 enjoyed hosting the K-2 Assemblies this term. We are looking forward to the Easter parade on Friday.



Mrs Buhr, Ms Cranstone, Mrs Guest, Mrs Johnson, Ms Miller, Mrs Morrison, Mrs Ruskin, and Miss Taki wish everyone a great Holiday and Easter break. We are looking forward to another exciting term ahead.

Teachers as Learners: Driving Excellence in Every Classroom



We unpacked the eight key steps of explicit teaching, including setting clear goals, modelling, practising together, and checking for understanding. This approach will continue to guide our teaching throughout the year. Teachers have been reflecting on how to bring these strategies to life in their classrooms. Through professional reading, collaboration, and a shared commitment to growth, our staff are continually deepening their practice to meet the needs of all learners.

At Woongarra, teachers meet regularly in teams to reflect on teaching and learning, share ideas, and plan how to best support every child's learning. This term, our focus has been on using student assessment data and strengthening explicit teaching—a clear, structured approach that helps all students succeed. On our Staff Development Day, teachers explored how breaking learning into manageable steps builds confidence and deeper understanding.



We're so proud of the care, effort, and professionalism our staff bring to the classroom each day, creating a place where every student feels supported to do their best. It's the strong relationships, quality teaching, and shared belief in every child's potential that make Woongarra such a special place to learn and grow. After a great start to the year, we're excited to keep the momentum going in Term 2.

Natasha Stanford – Assistant Principal, Curriculum & Instruction

P&C News

On the 1st April we held our AGM followed by a regular meeting, I unfortunately forgot to take a photo but it was a nice turn out. Our new executive committee is as follows

President - Michelle Gatt

Vice Presidents - Natalie Smith & Rebecca MacRae

Treasurer - Cherly Lean

Secretary - Vacant

I would like to thank the outgoing executive team including Norma Lyden & Danii Garrett who have stepped down due to work commitments.

Our position of secretary is vacant, and we are looking for a volunteer to take on this position. The secretary role is to take minutes, email agenda and minutes, collect agenda items, check emails, post on social media. This position is less than 45 mins a week. If you are interested or want to chat more, please reach out to me at woongarrahpandc@gmail.com or if you see me say hi, I'm always up for a chat.

President Report 2024/2025 ending 1st April

Thank you for allowing me to be the President of Woongarra Public School P&C for the fifth year, it has been a privilege to lead our executive team.

With low numbers for our volunteers and members in 2024 it was a year for the P&C with minimal events.

With very few volunteers our P&C managed to hold these events and contributions:

- Mother's Day Stall
- Purchased the Wreath for Anzac Day March
- Easter Colouring Competition
- Father's Day Stall
- Athletes Foot Fundraiser
- Second Hand Uniform Stall opened throughout the year
- Several Morning Tea events through the year
- Purchased the colour for the school colour splash event
- Comedy Night with a Pizza Truck and the Kombi Keg a fun night for everyone
- Cookie Dough Fundraiser
- Cupcakes for Year 6 formal
- Hats & Library Bags for Kindergarten students of 2025
- Tears and Tissues 2025
- Meet the teacher 2025 this was a donation back to our school not a fundraiser with a free sausage sizzle for everyone.

Thank you to everyone in our executive team, members and volunteers who have helped throughout the year. I would love to see 2025 be a year of school community.

I have only 2 years left at the school and would love to hand this position over to a person at the school who can carry the torch to continue our hard work to enrich our students school experience.

Thank you
Michelle Gatt
President

Easter Raffle

Thank you to our beautiful school community. You have been very generous with Easter Raffle Donations! Due to your generosity the P&C have increased first prize to \$250 cash plus a large Easter Hamper!!!!

Second prize has been boosted \$50 Visa Gift Card (donated by a family at the school), \$80 Master food Hamper & a Large Easter Hamper

Third prize \$80 Master foods Hamper & a Medium Easter Hamper.

These prizes will be very handy for bored and hungry children during the school holidays!

The raffle will be drawn at the Easter Hat parade on Friday 11th April 9.15am - the last day of school.



Link to purchase your tickets

[Woongarra Public School P&C Fundraising Raffle | RaffleLink](#)

Exciting times

We are excited to be working with Mrs Bradney our Relieving Principal who is supporting the P&C. We have lots of fun things planned for this year but are looking for more volunteers or members.

A membership is not locking you into anything it gives you voting rights at meetings plus you receive the minutes to be the first to know what we discuss and what is happening at school.

When we ask for volunteers, it is whatever time you can give. If we are asking for volunteers for an event but you may only be available for part of the event or the set up or pack down this is an amazing help, whatever you can give, we are grateful.

We asked on our Facebook page and in the newsletter for what our mothers would like for Mother's Day - a stall was the winner however we did have some mums wanting a morning event. We will be holding both!

Mother's Day Breakfast/Morning Tea - 8th May at 8am our lovely teachers will be volunteering to host this event for our Mum's. We are looking at hosting the breakfast/morning tea payment is a gold coin donation. We will hold a raffle we are looking for donations if you have a small business or would like to donate a prize please reach out.

Thank you to these businesses who have already kindly donated.

<https://mumlifethelabel.com/>

<https://www.wildbudscos.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MichelleGatthermomixconsultant>

<https://www.facebook.com/LilyJaneCreations>

<https://www.cuttingedgelaserdesign.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/brownpaperpackagesbychels/>

<https://www.facebook.com/lmhboutiquesalon>

<https://www.sanitarium.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556193575479> (Flabulash by Peita)



If you or your business would like to donate, please reach out to the P&C by email or FB, we will give your business a plug to say thank you.

For catering purposes if you could please comment on our FB post with how many adults and children will be attending this event or if you don't have facebook please email us woongarrahpandc@gmail.com

Mother's Day Stall - 9th May 9-11am children will attend in class groups.

Our preferred payment is by online payments to pre order gifts of \$5 & \$10. Pre ordered gifts can be purchased by students with no limit however on the day if students bring in cash they are limited to 1 gift and if any gifts are left, they can come back in recess. Mum's Life the Label has generously donated a \$100 gift voucher every child that purchases online will go in the draw to win this voucher thank you Haley.

We are supporting some small business of Mum's at the school who have reached out so our gifts will be amazing.



Purchase your gifts using this link

<https://woongarrahpandc.square.site/>

We are also looking for parent/grandparent helpers, last year we had a dad help which was lovely. The kids love seeing you at the school, it gives them so much joy. If you can help from 8.30-11.30 (even if it is for only some of this time) please reach out.

Democratic BBQ

With the Federal Election on the 3rd May we have had a dad wanting to hold a Democratic BBQ we are looking to see who can help. We will only run the BBQ for a couple of hours not the entire day. If you are wanting to help, please reach out if we don't receive enough volunteers we will not hold the event.

Working Bees

Friday 2nd May at 9.15am - Packing and wrapping Mother's Day stall gifts

Venue is at Woongarra if you can make it let us know and we will advise the address.

Thank you
Michelle Gatt
President