

What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 7th November
Melbourne Cup Day

Friday 10th November
COLOUR RUN

Wednesday 15th November
First Prep transition day

Tuesday 21st November
WHS Discovery Day

Thursday 23rd November
**Prep Excursion to Albury
to see Pevan and Sarah**

Well it has certainly been a busy and exciting week at The West this week!

In case you missed it, our school was announced as winners in the category of Outstanding School Improvement at the awards ceremony last Friday. We are absolutely thrilled to have been recognised in this manner for the incredible work of our entire staff. I have the absolute privilege of working alongside the most dedicated, caring, skilled professionals who are passionate about their role and about ongoing refining of practice in order to create the best possible learning environment for our students, so this is an absolute credit to them.

We also had the Channel 7 film crew here for an interview on Monday so I wanted to thank our four school leaders who participated in the filming and particularly congratulate Mia Zachariou for the beautiful way she spoke about our school. Mia, you should be so very proud of the way you spoke so articulately and positively about our school. It was very impressive!

I also had the privilege of presenting at the Monash Manningham Network Day on Wednesday. I spoke to the group of approximately 100 school leaders from the Inner-East Melbourne area about our school's journey of improvement over the years and the key drivers that have led to positive changes in student academic achievement as well as staff and student opinion data. I felt so proud talking about our school (with beautiful photos taken by Coby Canning in the background – thanks Coby!)

The West is on the map now!



REMINDERS

Absences

Please text any absences to 0477 343 814 or call 5721 3491. It is a legal requirement that all absences are explained.

Signing Students In/Out

Please sign your child or children in and out at the office if they are arriving at school late or being picked up early. For early pick-ups, we ask that parents/carers please go directly to the office.

Late Arrivals

All classes (including specialist classes) will begin at 9:05am so we ask that students please make their way in to classrooms by 8:55am.

School Hours

Just a friendly reminder that staff supervision of students in the yard before school begins at 8:45am. Prior to this, all staff are in a staff briefing each morning and thus cannot monitor the yard. We understand that this timing may be difficult for some families which is why we have Out of School Hours care available each morning from 6:30am. Alternatively, should you wish to drop your child off before 8:45am, you may do so but please be aware that formal supervision is not available at this time and we recommend that students do not arrive before 8:30am.

Staff Correspondence

Staff can be contacted between 8:30am and 4:30pm on their working days. Out of hours contact may not be responded to until the following work day.

Real Schools

Yesterday Adam Voigt from Real Schools dropped in to visit Xavier, Danielle and I and see our wonderful school. We are thrilled to be partnering with Real Schools next year to refine and enhance our approaches to positive behaviour support strategies (amongst other things). Check out the video message he left for you all by visiting our facebook page.

There will be plenty more information to come but for now, just know that we are signed on as partners and will be commencing the year with a full day of professional learning in the first week of the 2024 school year.



Curriculum Days 2024

Just a reminder that we have booked in two days of professional learning days (Monday Jan 29th and Tuesday 30th) followed by a pupil free day (Wednesday 31st) for staff to prepare for the next busy year. This means that students will start back all together on Thursday February 1st. We hope that by grouping three of our four curriculum days at the very start of the year you can all enjoy an extra few days of holidays together before the term begins.

Student Placement Requests

We will shortly begin the enormous process of placing students into their 2024 classes. At present, classes will be structured as follows:

Prep	63	21, 21, 21 (with an E.S. in each class)
1	85	22, 21, 21, 21
2	60	20, 20, 20
3	77	26, 26, 25
4	68	23, 23, 22
5	69	23, 23, 23
6	64	22, 21, 21
TOTAL	486	22 grades

If there is any pertinent information that you would like to share with me regarding your child's class placement, please submit these to me via email by no later than **Friday 10th November**. If you have sent in requests in the past and you would like these to continue to be considered, please also put this in an email to me.

Requesting a particular teacher is tricky as teacher placements are not locked in until later in the year (due to ongoing recruitment changes) so I'd recommend instead describing the particular teaching approach/attributes of a teacher that you feel would be beneficial for your child. Also, please note that if you put in a teacher request your child may not also get their chosen friends (as this doesn't always work out).

Please put your thoughts into an email and we will endeavour to match your child's needs to the teacher in that year level most suitable.

Please send all emails to kristy.mullins@education.vic.gov.au

REMINDERS

Headlice

We endeavour to keep our school as free from headlice as possible. As such, any student who has live headlice or eggs will be sent home for treatment. They can return as soon as the treatment has occurred but please remember that it is vital that bedding, hats, clothing and any other soft furnishing/teddies that your child has used need to be washed. If you require a treatment kit, please let the office know.

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders are available online through Munch Monitor on Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays at first break (11.20am).

Bike Storage & Locks

We encourage our students to ride their bikes to school and would like to inform due to high numbers at the school now, we will require bikes to be stored in and out of the bike storage facility. Each student is required to have their own bike locks and are responsible for safely securing them to the bike racks.

Compass Parent Portal

If you haven't accessed the Compass Parent Portal please call into the office for your unique log in letter. This is vital for informing of student absences, emailing your child's teacher and accessing of student reports.

OSHC

All OSHC Queries/Bookings to 0407 004 059 or wangwestoshc@gmail.com

Spotlight on...

Art



Preps have finished their 'old fashioned' recycled cameras and are making painted paper and pastel resist paper, ready to build Klee inspired building block cities next week. It is a rainbow of colour and material experimentation.

Year 1 have loved their James Rizzi building project and their faces on their buildings have to be seen to be believed! They've loved using watercolours for the first time. Our ink lions are up on display in the Library hallway. Check them out at drop off.

Year 2s inquiry into where food comes from has spilled into Art this week, too. We've printed bee hives with bubble wrap and rollers and drawn native Australian bees with velum wings.

Year 3 have made the most incredible foam prints in conjunction with their inquiry unit 'My Country' and have printed these ready for framing for West Fest Twilight Market in a special Year 3 Gallery.

Year 4 have put final touches on their botanical prints for the Twilight Market. If you need any stunning greeting cards, come see Year 4 for these original masterpieces. We've also explored Polly Jones this unit and have been busily painting and collaging a still life of citrus. We've finished our bowls last week, our citrus is painted and we are ready to put these together. These are shaping up to be stunning. Get an A3 frame ready, families!

Year 5 have made food trucks in our market theme and have designed a business, logo and a food van/truck. Building these in 3D has been a challenge, but they are looking incredible.

Year 6 toilet paper hamburgers have just gone home. We've now worked on abstracts by Australian artists Tiff Manuell and Deb McNaughton. This week we begun our work in a Tim Burton style.





Student OF THE Week

Prep M	Mia	For always working hard during class time. It is amazing to see the effort you put into your work and you should be very proud of this!
Prep O	Ella	For being a rockstar with your sight words - all your hard work and effort has paid off! Mrs O'Connor and Kellie are very proud of you!
	Zeke	For outstanding effort with his writing this week! Well Done, Zeke/Masterpiece!
1J	Isla	for working so hard to improve her handwriting. Isla, your determination and focus on your handwriting is amazing, keep up the great work!
1M	Zoe	For working really hard on her reading fluency and using a storyteller's voice.
2B	Huntah	for his outstanding problem solving skills during our Maths lesson. The way that you showed your thinking about Jeff the Chef's cooking challenge was fantastic! Keep up the great work, Huntah!
2K	Abigail	Well done Abby for the resilience you showed during our Grade 2 sleepover. I loved seeing you flourish on your first school camp!
2WR	Isabelle	For displaying our school values every day. We love your positive and diligent approach to your learning.
3RH	Audrey	for being an outstanding SRC rep and always caring for our school.
	Zion	for being a kind and caring classmate and always trying his best.
4MV	Dave	for always showing kindness in our classroom. Whether it be giving someone his hat, sharing a pencil or letting someone go first in line, Dave is a perfect role model that demonstrates how to spread kindness like confetti!
	Pia	for showing success in our classroom by putting her hand up to answer a question, even if she isn't 100% sure, she will still give it a go. Keep up the great growth mindset Pia!
4SM	Cooper	thank you for sharing your outstanding entry in the RSPCA Pawsome Story Competition. We loved listening to Oswald's adventures and cannot wait for the second book! We are proud of you and your achievement.
6R	Emily	for her wonderful writing pieces, matching the style of our Mentor Text. We love to read your stories, Emily!
	Cody	for continually showing our school values, setting a great example for others. Thank you for being a resilient learner and kind friend, Cody!



TWILIGHT MARKET

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER

5:30PM - 7:30PM



PLANTS / FOOD TRUCKS / WOODWORK
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS / BATH BOMBS / JEWELLERY
ARCADE GAMES / CRAFTS / ARTWORK
AND SO MUCH MORE!



Give a Gift Appeal

Upper Murray Family Care



WEST END
Plaza



topolino

ANDIAMO
STREET KITCHEN



Helen Haines MP
INDEPENDENT FEDERAL MEMBER FOR INDJ

Children's
Services
Centre



Rural City of
Wangaratta



REGENT
CINEMAS
Albury Wodonga

WHITE BOX RISE
Shopping Centre

WANGARATTA
Chronicle



Give a Gift Appeal

Upper Murray Family Care

Thank-you for your generous donation of:
**unwrapped, new gifts or
school packs**

(backpacks with stationary, books, other school items)

for vulnerable children and young people *(aged newborn-17 yrs)* in our community

Gift donation points

- UMFC Wodonga, 27 Stanley St Wodonga
- UMFC Wangaratta, 36 Mackay St Wangaratta
- Rural City of Wangaratta Council Office,
62-68 Ovens Street, Wangaratta
- West End Plaza, Albury
- Whitebox Rise Shopping Centre, Wodonga
- Rural City of Wangaratta Children's Services Centre,
1 Handley St, Wangaratta