



NEWSLETTER



5th March, 2020

WHAT'S ON IN THE WEST

2020

Monday 9th March

Wednesday 11th March

Wednesday 11th March

Thursday 12th March

Saturday 14th March

Tuesday 17th March

Wednesday 18th March

Thursday 19th March

Mon 23rd - Wed 25th March

Friday 27th March

Labour Day Public Holiday ~ NO SCHOOL

Play Group 10am – 11:30am

Parents & Friends Annual General Meeting 7pm

Breakfast Club 7:45am – 8:15am

Muntz Street Market 4pm – 8pm

Grade 5 Bonegilla Excursion

Grade 6 Bonegilla Excursion

Open Classroom Evening

Grade 3 Nillahcootie Camp

Last Day of Term 1

Principal's Message:

When it rains, it pours! We officially celebrated our hand-over of the new portables with a downpour, causing enormous puddles to form around the school. A huge thank you to Mr. Norden who was at school at 6:30AM yesterday morning cleaning out the storm drains in front of the Prep classrooms to help drain the lake that had formed there!

Garden Club

We would like to start a garden club for students during one (or more) of the break times. We are looking for someone to work with a group of students to plant, weed and water in our vegetable garden. If you are willing to help or know of anyone (parent/carer/grandparent/community member), please contact Kristy.



Wangaratta Fun Run

There was great excitement at assembly on Monday when it was announced that we were the back-to-back winners of the Wangaratta Fun Run (2019 and 2020!) Congratulations to all of the 68 competitors who completed the run.

Feedback Surveys

Prep parents/carers, we would love to hear your feedback about your child's experience transitioning to our school this year so we have created a very short survey for you. Please use the link <https://forms.gle/dG6FTYqRa8EczBmh9> to respond to these simple questions: *What worked well with our transition process this year* and *How could we improve the transition process?*

All parents/carers, we would also really appreciate your feedback in relation to what is working well at our school and your ideas for how we could improve, so we have an alternate survey for you. Please use the link <https://forms.gle/HWKVAuAGToH3eCVN8>

Both surveys are anonymous and, as always, we really appreciate your feedback so please send through your thoughts and ideas.

Improvements to our Grounds

This year we are planning on further enhancing our school grounds. We are currently in the process of seeking quotes for the following ideas:

- resurfacing the asphalt courts
- creating a year 5/6 playground
- installing shade sails
- landscaping around the new portable

If you have any ideas relating to these possible projects, please see or email Kristy. We won't be able to complete all of these projects this year, so your feedback in relation to prioritising them would be greatly appreciated.

House Captains

Congratulations to our newly appointed house captains:

Bogong – Jas H (6C) and Mitch V (5/6D)

Buffalo – Bethany T (6MW) & Toby P (6C)

Feathertop – Lia M (6MW) and Kade H (6C)

Hotham – Jayla K (6MW) and Harry Pople (6C).

You are all very deserving and I'm sure you will do an amazing job in this role.

Crossing the Road on Donald Street

If your child crosses the Donald Street road, please advise them to cross at the gate rather than walking down to the old crossing point. A consistent crossing point allows me to chaperone students across the road.

Staff Professional Development

Last Friday Toby McIlrath, an assessment and data literacy consultant, worked with our team leaders to improve their understanding of student assessment data and how it can be used strategically to guide planning and teaching. The teachers involved were raving about the day and are excited to implement what they have learned within Professional Learning Community (PLC) sessions.

Today Toby returned to our school to work with the entire staff on creating assessment rubrics. In particular the day will focus on the preparation of in-depth rubrics for staff to use during our upcoming 'WOW Week', a week during which students will be immersed in a topic, exploring it through all areas of the curriculum. Students will then showcase their learning during our open evening on Thursday March 19th.

70th Anniversary

Due to unforeseen circumstances we have postponed our 70th year anniversary celebrations until a later date. We will advise you of this date in the coming weeks. If you have any suggestions for ways that we can commemorate this special occasion please see or email me. We would love to get as much parent/community involvement as possible.

Cyber Safety

As part of our Cyber Safety focus this year, we will be publishing information for parents in our weekly newsletter. TikTok has been a huge point of discussion in current media and in particular with young children. Please find attached "What parents need to know about" in regards to TikTok.

A reminder that on August 5th we have 'Safe On Social' coming to present to our families in regards to being safe online. We will be encouraging all of our families to attend, in particular those families with students in Grades 3 -6 as it will be an extremely informative and beneficial night.

Principal's award

Jasmine (4M) for the initiative she showed by writing and publishing a persuasive piece at home relating to the rubbish entering our oceans.

Twilight Market

A twilight market will be held across the road in the Muntz street park on **14th March from 4:30pm – 8:00pm**. On the evening our Parents and Friends will be running a cake stall and are looking for volunteers to bake a plate for us to sell. If you are willing to help out, please let Anna at the office know what you will be baking, and please don't forget to include a list of ingredients. **All stall items may be left at the office on Friday 13th March before 3:30pm or at the stall on Saturday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.**

Band equipment

We are still looking for spare band equipment. If you have any items you are willing to donate or sell, please contact Amy Bedoe ASAP via beddoe.amy.a@edumail.vic.gov.au

Grade 4 Camp

Welcome back to our happy campers! Hopefully by now our students (and staff) have caught up on their sleep following a very busy few days (and long nights!!)



Kind regards,

Kristy Keenan

Absences

If your child is absent from school, please **TEXT 0477 343 814** or **call 5721 3491** to let us know the reason for the absence. Alternatively you can use Compass to explain the absence. **It is a requirement from the Department of Education and Training that all absences are explained**, so we kindly ask that you assist us with adhering to this requirement.

Principal: Kristy Keenan

Phillipson Street, Wangaratta, Phone 5721 3491

Website: www.wangwestps.vic.edu.au

Email: wangaratta.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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

TEXT SCHOOL ABSENCES to 0477 343 814

Our Vision: Developing learners for life who care for themselves, others and the environment.



Regional Swimming Competition

On Wednesday 4th of March, Merlin competed in Shepparton for our school at the regional swimming competition. He competed in two events, freestyle and breaststroke against the best swimmers in the region. Merlin came 3rd in freestyle and 4th in breaststroke!

Congratulations Merlin! You have done Wang West proud!

Parents & Friends Association

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 11th March in the Staffroom at 7pm**. We are always looking for new members, so we welcome all interested parents and friends to attend.

Hot Cross Bun Order forms and Hot Cross Bun Drive Fundraiser forms will be sent home on Tuesday 10th March. These forms are due back **WITH CORRECT MONEY** and **MUST** be handed into the office by **9AM THURSDAY 19TH MARCH** to allow for counting and ordering.

Hot Cross Bun Drive Fundraising orders will be ready for collection from **3pm-4pm on Thursday 26th March**.

Hot Cross Bun orders for individual students will be distributed to the classrooms for first break on **Friday 27th March**.

IF ANYONE IS AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH THE COUNTING OF ORDERS (Thursday 19th) OR SERVING (Friday 27th), PLEASE LET ANNA OR TANIA KNOW AT THE OFFICE.

We will also be running our Easter Raffle to be drawn on the last day of Term. If you could please send along an easter egg donation for the raffle before Wednesday 25th March, it would be greatly appreciated. Raffle tickets will be sent home shortly or will be available from the office. Tickets and correct money are to be returned by Wednesday 25th March.



Easter Raffle

Please send along a donation to our Easter Raffle!

Tickets will go home via students, and can also be purchased at the office.

Donations, tickets and money will be accepted at the office until **Wednesday 25th March**.

[Netball Registration](#)

The Wangaratta Netball Association competition is due to commence on the 18th of April.

All students who would like to play need to complete their Netball Victoria registration, this is to be done online by THURSDAY 19TH MARCH. The link can be found on the Wangaratta Netball Association or Wangaratta West Primary School Facebook page.

Once registration is completed please email receipts to Miss Hannah Grady at grady.hannah.h@edumail.vic.gov.au

REMINDERS:

[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.

[Digital Technology Permission Forms](#)

Last week we sent home the Digital Technology Permission forms with students. Could these please be read, signed and returned to your child's class teacher as soon as possible as forms must be returned before iPad use is permitted.

[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.

[Late Arrivals](#)

All classes (including specialist classes) will begin at 9:05am following roll call, so we ask that students please make their way in to classrooms by 8:55am when the music begins, so that they are ready to start learning by 9am. We recommend that students enter classrooms between 8:45am and 8:55am so that they may get ready for the day (unpack their bag, hand in notes, etc.)

[Signing Students In and Out](#)

Just a reminder to 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 and Anna will call the classroom to ask that your child be sent up. This minimises distraction to students and ensures that we know who is in the school at all times. We appreciate your assistance with this.

[Names on belongings](#)

Each year we end up with a huge number of school uniform items in lost property that are unnamed. Please ensure that all items have your child's name on them so that, in the event they are misplaced/lost, we are able to return them.

[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 not, the headlice will return and the cycle reoccurs. If you require a treatment kit, please let the office know.

[Lunch Orders](#)

Lunch orders are available online through Munch Monitor (Login details attached) as usual. Lunch order days remain the same as last year, Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays 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.



Student of the Week!



- 0C** **Seb** for being an amazing thinker and showing us all how to take our time, think things through properly and try different ideas in maths. Great job Seb, keep it up!
- 1DS** **Audrey** for always being organised and ready to learn and for being such a kind and caring class member. We are very lucky to have you in our grade, Audrey!
- 2M** **Annabel** for being such a positive member of the classroom and always helping those around her with their work! Well done Annabel!
- 2SS** for the way in which you have all showed patience and determination to learn whilst waiting for our learning palace to arrive. Resilient and dedicated learners are what 2SS are made up of. Let's enjoy and be grateful for this wonderful space.
- 3WC** **Xander** for always making kind and caring choices in our classroom. You always make everyone feel welcome.
- 4AP** **Zac** for being a positive role model in our classroom as he consistently displays our school values. Thank you and well done, Zac!
- 4P** **Ivy** for being responsible and a great self-manager on camp and in our classroom. Well done Ivy, keep leading by example.
- 4M** **Scarlett** for your incredible persistence on camp with your bike riding, well done!
- 5C** **Connor** for caring about his learning by actively reading at home, asking questions during group and independent work and making good seating choices. Keep up the great active learning!
- 5G** **Tane** for showing passion and commitment towards our persuasive writing topic. It is fantastic seeing such a willingness to finish and uplevel your writing during free time and at home.

WANGARATTA WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL



WELCOMING FAMILY TOURS

PLEASE SPEAK TO TANIA AND ANNA IN THE OFFICE TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT

(03) 5721 3491

47-49 PHILLIPSON STREET
WANGARATTA, VIC, 3677
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FACEBOOK: @WANGWEST



DEVELOPING LEARNERS FOR LIFE WHO CARE FOR THEMSELVES, OTHERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Our Vision: Developing learners for life who care for themselves, others and the environment.



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos much in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. It's main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-synching and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity to become the iOS store's most downloaded app with over 33 million downloads. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.

AGE RESTRICTION
12+
If under 18, supervision of a parent or legal guardian required.



What parents need to know about TIKTOK



MATURE CONTENT

18+

On the iOS store, TikTok is listed as 12+. On the Google Play Store it is rated as 'Parental guidance recommended'. When signing up for the app, it's possible to lie about your age without any form of verification. As children scroll through their feed, most of the videos they're likely to come across are lighthearted or funny takes on dance routines which are designed to make people laugh. However there has been a slow of videos which have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, self-harm and sexual content, including young teens dressing overtly sexually and behaving suggestively. Given the deluge of material uploaded to TikTok every day, it's impossible to moderate everything and it can be quite common to come across explicit content on the 'For you' feed when logging into the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE MUSIC

TikTok revolves around creating music videos through lip-synching and dancing. Inevitably, some of the music featured by users will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the undeniably young user base, there is a risk that children may look to imitate the explicit language they hear or the suggestive actions they see when viewing others user's videos on the app.

TIKTOK FAME

TikTok is very image focused and there is a notable preoccupation with appearing cool and attractive. Many to enages now attempt to go viral and become what's known in-app as 'TikTok famous'. TikTok (and its predecessor musical.ly) has spawned its own celebrities - social media stars Loren Gray and Jacob Sartorius have been catapulted to fame through their initial exposure on the app. Obviously, most budding influencers looking to become the next big thing will be disappointed, but this may have the knock-on effect of making them go to more and more drastic lengths to get noticed.

ONLINE PREDATORS

As a social network, TikTok makes it easy to connect with other users. This includes the ability to comment on and react to other user's videos, follow their profile and download their content. Be aware that by default, any user can comment on your child's video if their account is set to public. Most interactions are harmless enough but as an app, TikTok is prone to predators because of the abundance of younger users.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Social media is designed to be addictive and TikTok is no different. It can be fun and hugely entertaining. However, it is also because of this that it can be hard to put down. In addition to the short, punchy nature of the looping video format, the app's ability to keep you guessing what will come on screen next makes it easy to turn a five-minute visit into 45-minute visit.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Aside from the content, there's also the option to purchase in-app extras called 'TikTok coins'. Prices range from £0.99 for 100 coins to an eye-watering £93.99 for 10,000 coins. TikTok coins are used to purchase different emojis to reward content creators that a user finds funny or entertaining. In the iOS version of the app you can disable the option to buy TikTok coins but this sadly doesn't seem to be a feature in the Android version.



Safety Tips for Parents

TALK ABOUT ONLINE DANGERS

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use the app, make sure you also take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have a dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour for them. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding of them. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may clash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



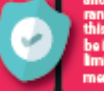
EXPLORE AND LEARN YOURSELF

Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with TikTok. You could then even use the app with your child and watch some videos with them. If you are the parent of a teen, even if it does not make you popular, keep a close eye on what they're viewing and sharing. That said, it's a brilliant chance to turn it into a bonding opportunity with your child also. You could even unleash your inner performer and make videos with them while (more importantly) keeping them safe online.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a safe space for your child to express themselves. However, just in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



SOURCES:

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety

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WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL

2021 Year 7 Transition Timeline

DATE	EVENT
Thursday 27 th February	Welcome BBQ for 2020 Year 7 students and parents
Thursday 5 th March	Transition Information Evening 1, 6pm in the FLC
Thursday 7 th May	Open Day at WHS (tours throughout the day)
Monday 3 rd August	Expo Week One begins
Monday 10 th August	Expo Week Two begins
Friday 11 th September	Discovery Day One
Thursday 8 th September	Discovery Day Two
Thursday 17 th September	Transition Information Evening 2, 6pm in the FLC
Monday 26 th October	Interviews begin at Primary Schools
Thursday 26 th November	Grade 6 Teachers Meet with WHS Transition Team
December 7 th to 11 th	Orientation Week for 2021 Year 7s

LEARNING MATTERS • RELATIONSHIPS MATTER • I MATTER



Galen Catholic College

Year 7 (2021) Enrolment Information

Enrolment at Galen - 4 easy steps

Step 1	Attend our Information Evening	Date: Wednesday 4 th March Time: 7.00pm Location: Galen Catholic College Stadium	No need to book
Step 2	School Tours: see Galen in action	Available dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th March 9.15am & 1.50pm • 6th March 9.15am & 1.50pm • 10th March 9.15am, 1.50pm & 5.00pm • 11th March 9.15am, 1.50pm & 5.00pm • 12th March 9.15am, 1.50pm & 5.00pm 	Book online: www.schoolinterviews.com.au (login code: 3jysf) Or Contact the school: 5723 8304 Or Book by email: mardi.mogford@galen.vic.edu.au
Step 3	Submit your application	Applications available from galen.vic.edu.au or Main Office Due date: 13 th March	By mail or In person
Step 4	Attend an interview	Interview dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March: 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th • April: 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th 	Book online: www.schoolinterviews.com.au (login code: 79sp7) Bookings open 2 nd March

