

What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 3rd November
Prep transition day #1

Thursday 18th November
Prep transition day #2



TERM 4 WEEK 1 | 8.10.2021

Welcome back to Term 4! While we didn't get the start we were all hoping for (all students back on site), we are edging our way closer now with our 3-4 students back next Tuesday and Wednesday and our year 5-6 students back Thursday and Friday (in addition to our Prep-2 students who are now back full time). I take my hat off to all parents and carers still supporting remote learning from home and of course to our students who have continued to give their best efforts. My sincere appreciation also to our amazing staff who had to quickly adjust yet again to a change of plan and are yet again doing everything they can to keep our kids engaged and motivated.

This term we have introduced a new addition to our remote learning approach across our year 3-6 classes – live teaching. From the beginning of term, we are now running all Webex sessions (all classes) from 9:15-10AM each day. From 10-11:15AM our staff are then remaining online to answer any questions and provide assistance to students working from home. So far the feedback has been really positive and we hope that this will continue helping to motivate those working from home to get through the last few weeks of remote learning before we are all back as of Tuesday 26th October (yay!)

In other great news, we were recently informed that the Tutor Learning Initiative will again be funded for the 2022 year. This is a fantastic initiative that is helping our students whose academic performance has been most significantly affected by Covid lockdowns. In 2022 Danni Castagna and Kate May will be running the program (Danni full time and Kate two days per week upon her return from maternity leave). We are fortunate to have such excellent practitioners coordinating this program which will no doubt achieve the same positive impacts that we have seen this year.



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.

Socks

Our new Wang West socks have arrived and look fantastic! Get in quick to secure your order.



Hats

outside (during P.E. and break times). Please remember to clearly label your child's hat and remind them to take it to school each day.

PRINCIPAL'S *Award*

Tristan D (4HH) for the caring manner in which he supported a new student to the school. Thank you for being so thoughtful and considerate Tristan.

Growth Mindset

For some time now, our staff have been investigating and promoting the importance of students holding a growth mindset – a belief that they can and will improve and be successful. This is extremely important as it encourages students to continue taking risks and trying even when things become challenging, as opposed to giving up immediately because they believe they cannot be successful from the start.

Please see below some further information on the importance of helping students to develop a growth mindset, and how parents/carers can help to support this at home.

The importance of beliefs

One factor that makes a huge difference to how well children learn, in school and out, is what Stanford researcher Professor Carol Dweck has called a growth mindset.⁸ Over decades of painstaking analysis of pupils, Dweck has been able to show that there are two broad categories of learners. One she calls ‘fixed mindset’ and the other ‘growth mindset’. Some children have picked up the idea that their intelligence is basically limited to however much ‘brains’ they were born with. If they can’t do something easily, they quickly conclude they just haven’t got what it takes, and that’s that. By contrast, there are other children who believe that their brains are more like muscles; they get stronger and smarter through exercise. So they like it when they have to think and try hard, because they see this as mental exercise and an opportunity to get smarter. They see their ability as expandable rather than predetermined. Here’s the kicker: children who have growth mindsets consistently outperform their classmates on public examinations *and* are generally better at doing all the things that successful people tend to do (e.g. managing their emotions, coming up with creative ideas, having a go at new things). It is not just how clever you are (as measured by some kind of IQ test) that matters, but how you think about ‘ability’ itself. Those who believe that



Woolworths Cricket Blast!

City Colts Cricket Club will be running Woolworths Blaster cricket program for season 2021/22.

Junior Blasters is for those junior cricketers who are either just starting out or have done only a season or two. As a guide Junior Blasters is suited to Preps – Grade 2. It is a fun session where everyone learns the skills of cricket and plays plenty of games.

Master Blasters is more game based and is for children who have played cricket for a couple of seasons but are not quite ready for underage junior competition.

Both sessions are run on a Friday night from 5.30pm at the Bill O’Callaghan Oval (Barr Reserve) under the direction of a Level 1 accredited coach. First session will be on Friday 22nd October.

Register via [Playcricket.com.au](https://playcricket.com.au), enter Wangaratta as location and select City Colts as the centre, or for more information please contact:



Ross Moore 0409 186 640 or rmmoore@esc.net.au



Student

OF THE WEEK

Prep M	Murray	For working hard on your sight words, you have done such an amazing job, well done!
1C	Lucas	For reading 100 nights of Reading. Fantastic commitment to your reading at home.
	Jaxon	For reading 150 nights of Reading. Fantastic commitment to your reading at home.
	Takayla	For reading 150 nights of Reading. Fantastic commitment to your reading at home.
	Flynn	For reading 150 nights of Reading. Fantastic commitment to your reading at home.
	Jonny	For reading 150 nights of Reading. Fantastic commitment to your reading at home.
2C	Mailah	for always putting in her best efforts towards her learning and taking on feedback to improve her work. You're a star, Mailah! 😊

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