

# What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter

## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 14th February  
**Playgroup Starts**

Thursday 15th February  
**Breakfast Club starts**

Thursday 22nd February  
**Community Picnic**

Tuesday 27th February  
**Photo Day**

Wednesday 6th March  
**P&F AGM**

Welcome to the 2024 school year at Wangaratta West Primary School! We have had a smooth but busy start to the year as we have begun getting to know our new preppies and settling all students into their new year levels. The students have been getting straight back into fun and learning so if your house is anything like mine, you will have had tired little people in the evenings lately!

With so many new families joining our school community, we will be beginning the year with a community picnic on **Thursday February 22nd from 5:30-6:30**. We invite you bring along a picnic rug and some food and drinks to enjoy whilst socialising with staff and other families. We will have a barbeque selling sausages and drinks and a couple of food trucks on site for other easy dinner options. We hope to see everyone there .

This year we are also changing things up slightly....Newsletters will be posted fortnightly as we shift towards increasing our communication through Seesaw. All important reminders will continue to be posted on Seesaw and facebook, or via text if urgent, so you will still be well informed about what is happening at The West.

We will also be moving to fortnightly assemblies this year, with students recognised with awards each fortnight rather than weekly (published as usual in the newsletter). As always parents/carers are invited to join us for our assemblies, particularly if your child is receiving an award. Our first assembly will be held next week!

### Professional Development

We are absolutely committed to providing our staff with ongoing, high quality professional development so that we can continually refine our craft and provide the best possible learning environment and experiences for our students. As such, we spent the first two days of the year undertaking two heavy duty professional learning days.

TERM 1 WEEK 2 | 9.2.24

# 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.

On Monday we explored our 2023 data and 2024 Annual Implementation Plan to ensure that all staff are aware of our goals, targets and strategies that will drive improvements for our students. We then spent a significant part of the day exploring a new literacy model that has been developed by our curriculum leaders in reference to new research, emerging literature and changes to the Victorian Curriculum that was released in December of last year. Further information about this will be sent home shortly so keep an eye out on Seesaw.

On Tuesday we undertook our first day of whole staff training delivered by Real Schools with whom we are partnering for three years. This day focussed on restorative practices; particularly strategies for restoring relationships in a meaningful way following an incident in order to help students strengthen their empathy and understanding of others, as well as their understanding of how their actions can impact others. We explored strategies for supporting strong emotional awareness by all, as well as the importance of, and ways to, create a sense of belonging for every student. The day flew and our staff were raving about not only how interesting the content was, but how they were able to put a lot of the day's content into practice on day one of the year.

On Wednesday our teachers then had time to digest all of the information that was presented to them over the first two days, and to prepare for the kids' first day. Feedback we have received from staff and parents/carers suggests that this strategy of placing three out of five of our pupil-free days at the beginning of the year was highly beneficial and convenient for families which we were thrilled to hear. Our only other two curriculum days will be on April 19th and November 4th (the day before Melbourne Cup Day) so pop those dates in your diaries (and we hope you enjoy that long weekend).

## School Council Elections

At Wang West, we have an amazing school council group, with efficient, productive (and dare I say fun) meetings 8 times per year. If you would like to join our group, we have **four parent** and **one DET** school-based employee position available on our School Council for 2024. I encourage anyone interested to nominate for a position by filling out a form which is available from the office. Please note that nominations close **Friday, 23rd February 2024 at 4pm**.

## Parents & Friends

This week our 2023 Parents and Friends crew met to begin planning fundraising activities for the 2024 school year. We have a small but mighty team and meetings that are relaxed but highly productive, and we are looking for new recruits! We will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7PM so if you are free for any of these evenings, please come along for some fun. Our next meeting, featuring wine and cheese, will take on **Wednesday March 6th**. We hope to see new members there.

## AIP Focuses for the year

Here is a summary of our focuses at WWPS for 2024:

WWPS 2024 AIP 

### NUMERACY

- Build staff capacity in assessment and Tier 2 support practices and differentiation in Numeracy in order to identify and meet students' individual learning needs (support and extension)
- Provide targeted intervention for students working well below the expected level in Mathematics (Tier 3 intervention)
- Familiarisation with, and implementation of the new Mathematics Curriculum 2.0

### LITERACY

- Review, redefine and embed a new whole school approach to a structured literacy block (Instructional model).
- Review of literacy assessment schedule and plan to align with resources and strategies used in the classroom for both formative and summative assessment.
- Extend staff knowledge of the connection between reading, writing and spelling (phonology, morphology and etymology) and how to plan effective instruction (Tier 1 and Tier 2)

### WELLBEING

- Strengthen staff, student and parent understanding of restorative practices as a whole school approach to promoting positive behaviours.
- Using data to inform explicit and inter-connected teaching of Emotional Literacy (connecting to Respectful Relationships, SWPBS, school values, Resilience Project)
- Strengthen approach to supporting students with additional needs through regular revision of IEPs and BSPs and the introduction of new strategies to support student de-escalation.

### Hats

Just a reminder that students need to wear a school hat (not cap) at break times. It is particularly important given the very hot weather we are experiencing at the moment. Students without a hat will need to play in the shade outside the hall.

### Lunch Orders

Lunch orders will only be available on **Monday** and **Thursday** until the **4th of March**, when Friday's will be added back in. This is due to staffing shortages at Butler's Pantry - sorry for the inconvenience.

I hope you all enjoy a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you soon.

*Kristy*

## 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

# Student OF THE Week

<b>Prep D</b>	Oscar	For always being focused and ready to learn and for taking care and great pride in the work he completes. Keep up the great work, Oscar!
<b>Prep J</b>	Austin	for the amazing way he has started Prep. We love seeing your positive attitude every day!
<b>Prep M</b>	Bentley	For having an amazing start to your time in Prep. Thank you for always starting your day with a smile on your face and giving everything a go. Keep up the good work!
<b>1B</b>	Harper	for the resilience she has shown in settling into her new class. We love how positive you have been this week!
<b>1C</b>	Lilah	for the fabulous start she has made to Grade One.
<b>1M</b>	Joe	For settling into Grade 1 so well, always coming to school with a big smile on his face and ready to learn. Thanks for being such a great team player, Joe!
<b>1Z</b>	Madelyn	for a wonderful start to Grade 1. You arrive each day with a smile on your face and are ready to learn. Well done.
<b>2C</b>	Aleisha	For showing kindness and respect to all her teachers, class mates and giving her absolute best to her learning tasks. I am so delighted to have you in 2C.
<b>2L</b>	Celeste	Well done Celeste on an amazing first week at Wang West. You have adapted well to our school culture of kindness, caring and respect. Keep up the great work!
<b>2WR</b>	Poppy	You have made a wonderful start in Grade 2! You continually show kindness to your peers, complete your work quietly and help others in our class without being asked to.
<b>3A</b>	Noel	for beginning the year with such a positive attitude and for making Mrs A smile each day. Thanks Noel and keep being your happy self!
<b>3JA</b>	Sophia	for settling in to the year so well, and being a superstar role model.
<b>3M</b>	Finn	For a fantastic start to Grade 3! You have demonstrated focus towards every learning task and ensure that it reflects your best effort. Well done Finn!
<b>4G</b>	Hattie	For starting the year in exceptional fashion by being a dedicated learner and thoughtful student who always offers to help out. Thank you Hattie.
<b>4P</b>	Dakoda	What a start you've made to Grade 4, Dakoda! You've set the bar so high with your focused learning and friendly nature. We're so lucky to have you in our class!
<b>4S</b>	Brock	Thanks for being our biggest supporter. You make sure everyone receives a compliment each day and it fills our bucket. Thank you, Brock.

# Student OF THE Week

- 5RC** Audrey For being a great team leader in maths and explaining her thinking so clearly to the class. Thank you for sharing your strategies Audrey.
- 5V** Ivy Welcome back Ivy Gartside, we are so thrilled to have you back at the West with us and what an amazing start you have had. Already showing our school values of resilience, safety, connection and success, Super star!
- 5W** Allaryce for starting the year with an amazing attitude and willingness to give things a go. Keep it up!
- 6C** Macy for bringing a positive attitude to our classroom. We appreciate you Macy.
- 6L** Clay For his amazing transition from Grade 5 to Grade 6. I have been blown away with your growth mindset and your ability to build up those around you! 11/10!
- Auslan** Sebastian C for an amazing start to Auslan by showing great leadership and respect within the classroom. Keep up the wonderful work.
- Art** Allaryce What a brilliant start to your year in Art, Allaryce. You might have the longest name in the class but your name art work will be superb!
- Music** Millie N This certificate celebrates your exceptional talent and dedication to the world of music. Keep playing, creating, and sharing your beautiful melodies. Well done!
- PE** Archie G for showing resilience in his first PE lesson of the year. You bounced back straight away after your tumble. You are definitely ready for year 1! Keep it up Archie!
- Science** Clara for her hilarious sense of humour and brilliant focus in the Science Room.

# INVITING NEW 2025 ENROLMENTS

Galen Catholic College welcomes all families to our annual Discovery Evening.

Come and see our new facilities, meet our educators and get hands on with some of our classroom and extra curricular activities!



Thursday  
**MARCH**  
**14<sup>th</sup>**

5.30 - 7pm



Scan the QR code to register or [galen.vic.edu.au/enrolmentandtours](http://galen.vic.edu.au/enrolmentandtours)

What will you

# DISCOVER?

*Empowering minds, enhancing lives, embracing faith*

**JOIN LFC TODAY**

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YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE

International Academy  
Australia

**REGISTER**  
WEEKLY SKILL DEVELOPMENT CLINIC!

GALEN CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
**WANGARATTA**

WED 7 FEB - WED 27 MAR  
4:30 PM - 5:30PM

AGES 6-14 | ALL GENDERS | ALL ABILITIES