

# What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter



## IMPORTANT DATES

**Thursday 17th December**  
Final Day of Term 4

**Friday 18th Decemeber**  
Curriculum Day

**Thursday 28th January**  
2021  
Curriculum Day

**Friday 29th January 2021**  
Term 1 Begins

**Ongoing**  
Virtual Tours



### Weekly Values Focus: Resilience

This week each class focused on resilience through class discussions, activities and display creations. Congratulations to 3R who are this week's recipients of an icy-pole for their work on resilience (and persuasive letter to the leadership team explaining why they should be chosen!) Congratulations also to **Millie H (4AP)** who is the week's individual recipient. Millie, Tiahna and I enjoyed a lovely lunch together to help Millie celebrate her award. Millie was nominated for this award for her ability to face challenges with an optimistic attitude, bouncing back quickly, giving everything a go and trying her best.



I'd also like to recognise students from across the school who were nominated for this award:

- **Jack S (1C)** has showed resilience many times. Recently at school he was upset and not feeling the best but he composed himself and carried on doing his best, not letting his strong feelings of worry take over.
- **Finn N (Prep R)**. Finn never lets anyone else's behaviour impact on him in the slightest and knows not to sweat the small stuff. He even got his footy kicked into a tree yesterday and as much as he wanted it back, he just carried on with the day.
- **Nate M (2HV)**. Nate showed great resilience with his work recently. When facing a task that he was uncertain about, he showed great resilience and gave it a go, in the end doing a fantastic job of his writing!

Well done everyone!

## Daily School Wide Meditation

This week we launched a new initiative – a school-wide 6 minute meditation session daily, immediately after first break. Across the school we had noticed an increase in undesirable behaviour since students returned from the second period of remote and flexible learning, so this is a proactive step we are taking to increase a sense of calm across the school and focus on students' wellbeing. So far staff have noticed that, following the daily session, students are more focused, relaxed and ready to learn so we are very pleased with the impact thus far.

## New Toilets

Our new toilets are now ready to go! These will be in use as of Monday for years 4, 5 and 6 students.

## Red Poppy Appeal

Wang West have united once again to raise a staggering \$790 throughout the Red Poppy Appeal. This total 'exceeded our most optimistic hopes' for the Wangaratta Branch of the RSL. SRC members Remi, Gemma & Connor went on a tireless campaign to fill the school with badges, wrist bands and pens, heading to classrooms after second break each day. The Red Poppy Appeal helps provide specialist services like crisis accommodation and health and wellbeing programs to thousands of veterans and their families.



## ★★★Principal's Award★★★

**Isaac R (4P)** for embracing our new daily meditation sessions with such maturity and positivity. After a recent session, Isaac shared with his class that he used the mindfulness time to think about all of the things he is grateful for. What a beautiful thing to focus on!

## 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.

## Empathy Week

After reading a book during Empathy Week, students in grade 4 decided they wanted to do something to support those in our community who may be less fortunate than us or falling on hard times given the year 2020 has been.

As a collective, they decided to being in non-perishable items to create hampers for local organisations. With the support of items from Breakfast Club, which hasn't been able to run due to Covid, the students created a whopping 22 hampers filled to the brim! An amazing effort!

Open Door Neighborhood, CareVan, United Church and Centre Against Violence were the grateful recipients of these hampers, with students being involved in the delivery and pick up.



My name is Trudy Cornish and I am the Secretary and Marketing Media Coordinator for **Wangaratta Carevan Inc.**

Thank you for you considering us with the amazing effort these children have put into giving back to their community. We would be honoured and love to accept any donation available, thank you.

What a sense of pride of these amazing young ones. I personally have been blown away by how many different school children have initiatives to help their community ... feel like it's just the greatest step for the future and what these young ones are bringing to the future.

**Centre Against Violence:**  
CEO Kerry Burns.

What a wonderful project and yes thank you. We have 5 refuge properties and the women/children living there would greatly appreciate the gift.

**Uniting Church**

Rose kindly facilitated the donation to Uniting Church who were also blown away by the generous contributions and thoughtfulness of our grade 4 students.

That is very generous and lovely of your class to prepare hampers. A very empathetic project indeed!!!

We would love to accept your donation and we will most certainly distribute them to people in our community that are experiencing hardships at the moment.

These generous acts of kindness is what gives people hope back, and makes their days that little bit easier. We never know what a person is going through at any given time and it takes a whole of community effort to support each other.

Please pass on our sincere gratitude and appreciation and congratulations on such a wonderful project. Well done everyone!!!

Loretta Waters  
Executive Officer - **Open Door Neighbourhood House**

## Parent Opinion Survey

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to the parents and carers who completed the Orima Parent Opinion Survey this year. We had 110 responses which is a significant increase on previous years and gives greater reliability to the data.

Some particular highlights include:

- **School connectedness** – 90% positive response rate. This is a great response considering the year we have had, and the fact that students are still feeling very connected to the school after the significant amount of time they had to spend off-site!
- **Physical Environment** – 95% positive response rate (up from 88% in 2019). We are so proud of the improvements we have been making around the school, and there are more to come very soon with the transformation of the netball/basketball courts and new shelter!
- **High Expectations for Success** – We maintained the high positive response rate of 89% which is fantastic. Growth mindsets and high expectations is something that the staff here are collectively focused on, so it was great to see that reflected in the parent data.

In relation to our 2020 AIP targets, we unfortunately didn't meet our targets however this was an extremely challenging and different year, one that we couldn't have been predicted back when we set our targets. Here are our results:

1. **Managing Bullying** – Target – 90%. 2020 result - 84% positive (down from 92% in 2019)
2. **Not Experiencing Bullying** – Target - 65%. 2020 result – 58% (with 15% neutral) (down from 63% in 2019)
3. **Confidence and Resiliency skills** – Target - 95%. 2020 result – 87% (down from 95% in 2019).

Please find below the data received:

### DOMAIN: PARENT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	% Neutral	% Negative
<b>Parent participation and involvement</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>7%</b>
This school gives me opportunities to participate in my child's education	72%	19%	8%
I feel this school values parents' contributions	78%	15%	6%
This school has a strong relationship with the local community	83%	12%	5%
<b>School support</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>5%</b>
I am able to get the information I need through the school's regular communication channels	88%	8%	4%
I feel comfortable about approaching this school with any concerns I might have	88%	8%	4%
This school takes parents' concerns seriously	82%	12%	6%
<b>Teacher communication</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>12%</b>
There is effective two-way communication between the teachers and parents at this school	85%	8%	6%
Teachers communicate with me often enough about my child's progress	65%	15%	18%

## DOMAIN: SCHOOL ETHOS AND ENVIRONMENT

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	% Neutral	% Negative
<b>General satisfaction</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>
Overall, I am satisfied with the education my child receives from this school	85%	8%	6%
<b>Physical Environment</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>
This school has clean and well-maintained facilities and grounds	95%	4%	2%
<b>School improvement</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>4%</b>
This school always aims to improve the quality of education it provides	92%	6%	2%
This school has a clear understanding of its strengths and areas for improvement	81%	14%	5%
<b>School pride and confidence</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>2%</b>
I feel confident that this school provides a good standard of education for my child	86%	12%	2%

## DOMAIN: STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	% Neutral	% Negative
<b>Student agency and voice</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>7%</b>
This school provides opportunities for my child to make decisions and solve problems	87%	11%	2%
This school provides opportunities for my child to develop a sense of responsibility	87%	6%	6%
My child is taught organisational skills to help him/her with managing homework and schoolwork load	67%	21%	12%
<b>Confidence and resiliency skills</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>7%</b>
The school provides my child with opportunities to build his/her confidence	88%	5%	6%
This school encourages my child to persist when learning is difficult	86%	6%	7%

## DOMAIN: STUDENT COGNITIVE ENGAGEMENT

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	% Neutral	% Negative
<b>High expectation for success</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Teachers at this school expect my child to do his/her best	93%	7%	0%
This school celebrates student achievements in all areas	85%	10%	5%
<b>Student motivation and support</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>
My child gets extra help with learning from teachers when needed	82%	11%	7%
My child feels motivated by his/her teachers to learn	90%	5%	5%
<b>Stimulating learning environment</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>
This school provides diverse programs for my child's interests and abilities	81%	12%	6%
The academic standards at this school provide adequate challenge for my child	85%	7%	7%
The teachers are very good at making learning engaging	90%	5%	5%
<b>Effective teaching</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>8%</b>
Teachers are enthusiastic and positive about teaching	94%	5%	1%
Teachers provide useful feedback and respond to the learning needs of my child	74%	11%	15%
My child can explore their own interests when it is related to their class work	83%	14%	4%
I understand how my child is assessed	69%	18%	13%

## DOMAIN: SAFETY

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	Results % Neutral	% Negative
<b>Managing bullying</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>6%</b>
My child feels safe at school	90%	7%	3%
My child feels confident about the skills and strategies he/she has learnt at school to address bullying behaviours	77%	13%	10%
<b>Non-experience of bullying <sup>i</sup></b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>26%</b>
My child has been bullied recently at school	58%	15%	26%
<b>Promoting positive behaviour</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4%</b>
This school has a consistent approach to promoting positive student behaviour	88%	8%	4%
Teachers at this school model positive behaviour	88%	7%	5%
<b>Respect for diversity</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>2%</b>
The school respects and values my family's beliefs and wishes	81%	16%	3%
This school communicates the importance of respecting all cultural beliefs and practices	87%	10%	2%
This school treats my child with respect	96%	2%	2%

## DOMAIN: CONNECTION AND PROGRESSION

Framework Factor	Wangaratta West Primary School		
	% Positive	Results % Neutral	% Negative
<b>School connectedness</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>4%</b>
My child feels accepted by other students at school	86%	6%	7%
My child enjoys the learning they do at school	92%	5%	4%
This school gives my child opportunities to participate in school activities	92%	7%	1%
<b>Positive transitions</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>5%</b>
My child has been supported this year to adjust to his/her new year level	88%	7%	5%
I feel confident that this school prepares students for the next phase of their life/schooling	82%	13%	5%

# Mundgee Group

This week our Mundgee Group gathered to reflect upon the NAIDOC Week activities undertaken last week and to create their own rainstick.

Rainsticks are ancient musical instruments used by Aboriginal Australians (as well as others around the world) that were thought to bring rain to droughted land.

Our Mundgee group recreated these by using cardboard tubing, pebbles and painting the outside using indigenous art techniques and animal tracks.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

- Prep A** Carter for his amazing effort sounding out words during writing activities. It's wonderful to see you having a go, Carter! Keep it up!
- Prep C** Harper for always trying her best and always being respectful and kind. It doesn't matter what we are doing Harper, we love how you always give it your all. Well done and keep it up!
- Prep M** Piper for showing so much confidence in your reading and writing. You are working so hard, with AMAZING results!
- 1C** Olivia for showing RESILIENCE when she didn't get the highest total of Westy Wolf stamps in 1C last week. She nodded and accepted that someone else got the highest amount even though she had worked so hard, expected to win and was disappointed at first. This is an amazing quality you have Olivia, and I am so proud of this Resilience you have.
- 1DS** Charlotte For working very hard on her narrative piece and using descriptive words. Well done Charlotte!
- Sienna For working very hard on her handwriting. Keep up the great work Sienna!
- 1J** Mac for his brilliant use of alliteration and dialogue in his writing this week. Well done Mac, keep up the fantastic writing!
- 2M** Jacob For always caring for his friends and making sure that they are ok out in the yard.
- Mason For always coming to class with a smile on his face and giving everything 100%. Keep up the good work Mason!
- 2HV** Ella For her amazing results in Semester 2 reading. Well done Ella.
- Dayne For caring for his learning and taking the time to work hard on his reading and achieving great results, well done Dayne.
- 2SS** Maddi for being a caring member of 2SS. Thank you for thinking of others and assisting them to get ready for their learning by putting book boxes out each morning.
- Zac Well done on your effort with your reading. Your growth in reading over the term is a testament to your hard work. Keep it up Zac.



# STUDENT OF THE WEEK

- 3R** Indie for considering how she can be of help to her classmates and teacher by asking questions and always offering to do jobs. Thanks for looking after our classroom, Indie!
- 4AP** Zeke For the effort and motivation he's had towards completing his biography on Daniel Rioli. Well done Zeke, great to see you get past your writer's block!
- 5C** Matilda  
Sienna  
Jaxon  
Bradley  
Tyler for achieving outstanding results in Maths testing and demonstrating an increasing use of strategies, always asking questions, and sharing mathematical thinking with the class.
- 5G** Brooklyn for showing kindness and empathy towards classmates. It was great seeing you so focused on your own learning and helping other along the way. Keep up the great work!
- 6C** Zoe for presenting an incredible presentation for her Celebration Project! I was so proud of how you spoke and what you created! Well Done Zoe!!!
- Rieley For putting in an incredible effort in his Australia Day Presentation and having a go in dance this week! Keep it up Rieley.
- Gus for showing kindness and always caring for himself and others in and outside of the classroom. You are a joy to have in our classroom Gus!
- PE** Mitchell for coming into PE with a great attitude and working really hard on making good choices during our lessons.
- Darby for consistently showing all the school values during PE lessons. Your honesty during games is incredible. You set such a good example for the rest of the class!

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