

What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter



IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 23rd October
AFL Grand Final Public
Book Club Orders Due

Tuesday 3rd November
Melbourne Cup Day

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



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Together We Will Be OK Day

On Tuesday we celebrated resilience and the power of community through an afternoon of beautiful activities. Around the school the atmosphere was incredible, with students completing class activities based around quality wellbeing-based texts read aloud (filmed) by senior students. They also contributed to a whole school mural of spray painted hands (one per student) next to the powerful words "Together Everyone Achieves More". Thank you to Kellie Canning, Annie Chapman, Bree Thewlis and Xavier Norden for organising this afternoon for us – an afternoon that recognised the challenges students have faced this year and simultaneously helped them to look forward with optimism to good times to come, supported by those around them.

Team Colours / Book Week Dress Up Day

Today the schoolyard was a flurry of colours as students chose to either wear a footy jumper/supporter clothing or dress as a beloved book character. We unfortunately could not run our usual book day parade but organised an hour of fun physical activities for the last session of the day – a perfect way to wrap up the week.

Orima Parent Opinion Survey

Thank you very much to the parents and carers who have responded to the DET Parent Opinion Survey thus far! To date we have had 58 responses which represents 18% of our parent/carer community. We would love to gain even more feedback so if you did not receive the text with the link and PIN, please do not hesitate to email me and I will send it to you directly. Please remember that responses are anonymous and help us with both reflecting on this year and planning for the future.

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.

2021 Classes

We are in the process of finalising grade structures and teacher allocations to year levels in preparation for student placements later in the term. We envisage that we will run 22 classes next year:

- 4 x **Prep** classes (approx. 19 per class)
- 4 x **year 1** classes (approx. 19 per class)
- 3 x **year 2** classes (approx. 21 per class)
- 3 x **year 3** classes (approx. 20 per class)
- 3 x **year 4** classes (approx. 26 per class)
- 2 x **year 5** classes (approx. 26 per class)
- 1 x **5/6** class (approx. 26 per class)
- 2 x **year 6** classes (approx. 26 per class)

TOTAL = 22 classes

We have added an additional class (22 grades in 2021) even though we will only grow in student numbers by a very small amount, in order to again keep class sizes as low as possible. To add the additional class, we will use a second middle space. The above class sizes are only an indication based on current enrolments (and are therefore subject to change) however we are pleased to share that these class sizes fall well below those recommended within the Victorian Government Schools Agreement 2017 (see below)

	Recommended Average Class Size	WWPS 2021 Average Class Size
Prep - 2	21	19.5
Prep - 6	26	22

As you can also see we will run one composite class next year. This is a result of focussing on making the best possible arrangements for the numbers in each year level and across the school as a whole. If you would prefer that your child in year 5 or 6 be placed into this composite class or not be placed into this composite class, please let me know via a phone call or email by Friday 13th November and we will make every possible effort to accommodate your request.

If you have any other factors that you would like us to take into consideration when placing your child into their 2021 class, please again call or email me by Friday 13th November. Please note that changes after student allocations have begun are extremely difficult to accommodate so any requests made after this date are unlikely to be successful.

2020 Challenge & Enrichment Program

This week saw the introduction of Wangaratta West's Challenge and Enrichment program as part of the Victorian Excellence program. Senior students worked with Stacey Hedderman and joined up with a representative of KIOSC – Knox Innovation Opportunity and Sustainability Centre via a virtual session to learn about different ocean food chains and webs. They then designed their own interactive food web game during the session using the coding program Scratch. What a great start to this exciting program.



2021 Support & Extension Programs

Our focus for Term 4 is to make sure that each student is supported in their wellbeing and learning needs and can finish the year with the confidence to progress to the next year level in 2021.

Some parents may be worried about their child's progress during the period of remote learning and be wondering whether their child would benefit from repeating a year of school.

Research shows that repeating a year level is not recommended and can lead to poorer outcomes for students. It's understandable that parents may think that another 12 months at the same year level will give their child an opportunity to catch up or mature, however this is only the best option for a student in exceptional circumstances. In most cases, research tells us that repeating a year level is not an effective strategy as it often negatively impacts academic achievement, wellbeing, engagement, and school completion.

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.

2021 Support & Extension Programs

We have support available to help identify and meet the individual learning needs of each student. Our school is using, and will continue to use teaching strategies that draw on the best evidence available to help students close any learning gaps and meet their learning needs. If you have concerns about your child's progress, please contact myself via phone call or email so that we can arrange a meeting with you to discuss how our school can work with you to support your child to complete this year and progress to the next year level in 2021 with confidence and optimism.

Next year we will also be putting in place some additional support programs, including:

- **“Jumpstart Program”** – A classroom teacher has been allocated to a support role (full time, 5 days per week for one term) to work with selected students on a 'catch up' program designed specifically to meet their needs. This program will primarily target junior students and participants will be selected by classroom teachers based on need.
- **Numeracy Intervention** – Next year we will launch a numeracy intervention program run by a teacher for a full day per week, targeting specific students and their needs as identified by classroom teachers. This program will assist students from all year levels.
- **MiniLit and MultiLit** – We will again be running these highly successful literacy intervention programs, targeting students from all year levels.
- **Tutoring Program** – Recently the DET announced a commitment to funding tutors in schools to assist students. The above programs are all in addition to this new initiative for which further details will be provided once communicated to me.

In addition to support programs, we will also be continuing to extend students through our enrichment programs, led by our High Ability Practice Leader Stacey Hedderman. Programs will involve students from years Prep-6 in opportunities such as:

- LEGO Engineering challenge
- Developing a Rube Goldberg Machine challenge
- Stop Motion IT challenge
- Engineering Challenges
- Participation in the Challenge and Enrichment Program
- Participation in the High Ability Program (selected entry)
- Maths Olympiad (senior students)



2020 Learning From Home Parent Survey

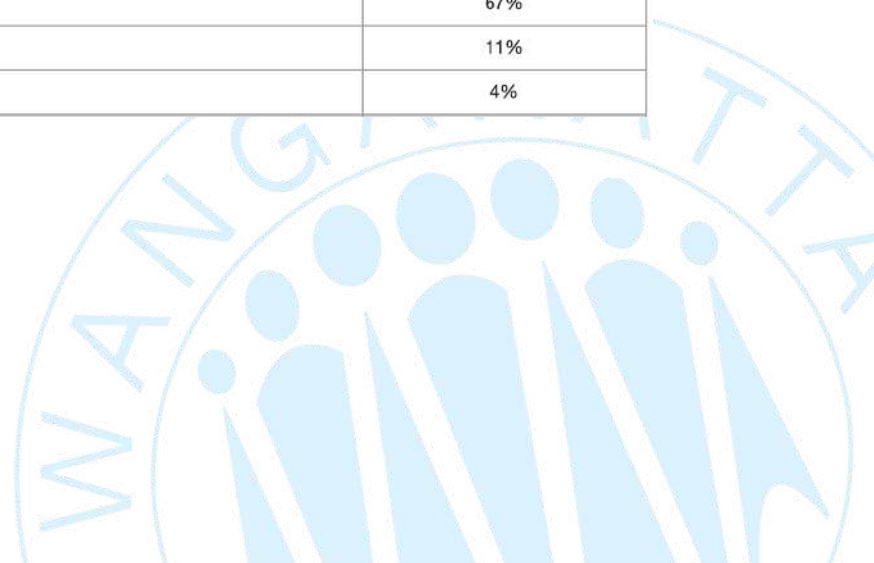
Thank you so much to the parents and carers who provided feedback relating to Remote Learning 2.0 through the DET Orima Learning From Home Parent Survey. There were 30 responders who provided some really positive and affirming data and comments (please see below).

	% Positive – agree or strongly agree
I received clear communication from my child's school on how to prepare and transition to learning from home	96%
I felt prepared to transition my child to learning from home on the first day of Term 2	89%
My household has the necessary IT equipment for learning from home (e.g. appropriate hardware / devices, software and learning platforms, internet connection, etc.)	89%
The technology my child has needed to learn from home has worked reliably without any major problems (e.g. computers, internet, software)	89%
I feel like I can adequately provide the help that my child needs to learn effectively from home	67%
My child's school is well prepared and well-resourced to deliver classes remotely (e.g. using an appropriate online platform or paper-based learning materials, providing a structured student learning schedule, regular teacher interaction with students online, etc.)	85%
My child has retained the same teacher(s) that they had prior to learning from home	93%

PARENT PERCEPTIONS OF LEARNING FROM HOME

	% Positive – agree or strongly agree
The school was ready for remote learning at the start of term	85%
The school has improved aspects of its remote learning delivery since the beginning of term	85%
I feel well supported by my child's school and teachers to help my child learn from home	78%
The school has responded to feedback from parents	78%
My child has everything they need to learn from home successfully	93%
I feel that my child can learn just as effectively from home as they can in the classroom	41%
I find it difficult to balance my work and other family commitments with supporting my child to learn from home (% Positive – disagree or strongly disagree)	37%
Overall, I am satisfied with the learning from home arrangements provided by my child's school	89%

Do you think the amount of school work your child is receiving while learning from home is:	
Far too light	0%
A bit light	19%
About right	67%
Too much	11%
Far too much	4%



We also received 25 written comments, all of which were positive so thank you, thank you, thank you! Please find below some examples:


- Every teacher has done the absolute best they can in very difficult circumstances, I applaud their dedication and flexibility. My daughter has been offered support when needed by phone call which has been lovely.
- Personal approach and teacher feedback kept him engaged and work was also designed to be fun with many learning through play options, I think we gained greater understanding of what and how early learning develops and the steps and stages became clear. We saw staff operating as part of a team and it was clear our adult involvement and support was both welcomed and valued too.
- The teachers have done a fantastic job of preparing schoolwork and ordering it in days of the week/work to be done and had it ready to pick up each Friday. I really like how Friday's were reduced to some lighter work to celebrate the end of the school week and the work that had been completed (easier on the parents too!) And to also change Wednesday's to specialist activities (after reading) showed a real respect for feedback from parents and an ability by the school to change and go with the flow. I really appreciated all your effort!!
- The school has been amazing with their regular, consistent and clear communication. All levels of the school community have embraced the remote working arrangements - the teachers are easily and readily available via SeeSaw for both students and parents, the hard copy packs are well put together and easy to follow, the leadership team are also easily accessible, the student wellbeing (Rose and Bree) have been calling parents to check in and ensuring families are managing okay, even Melissa in the library has set up a new Instagram page with new and interesting books and made herself available on Friday afternoons for book borrowing!

I shared all of this feedback with staff this morning at our briefing and they were so grateful for your kind words and reflections. It was a beautiful way to round out the week.

★★★Principal's Award★★★

Iris (Prep M) – for designing and creating an animal with moving parts in science with amazing independence and enthusiasm. Keep up the wonderful work Iris!

Have a great weekend.


KRISTY KEENAN
PRINCIPAL



Westy's Sports Report

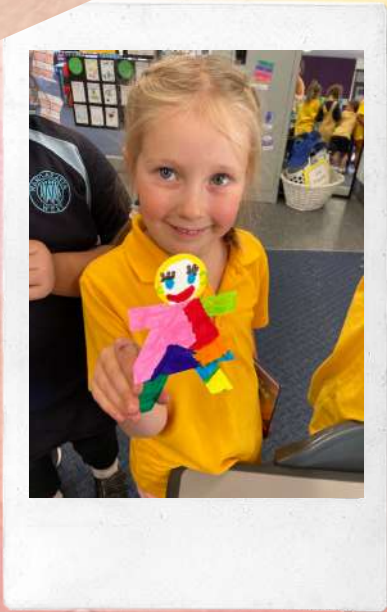


WANG WEST FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Well it was one for the ages. The first quarter start even with both teams loading their midfield with their stars. Ruari and Kade went head to head in the ruck, providing first class service to midfielders Gus and Saimon. Jack Ford started quiet but as the game went on, he settled into the game and had a very strong second half. Dylan Hooper was outstanding at Full Back, stopping multiple goals. Connor Ormond was everywhere. Whether it was taking intercept mark across half back so delivering the football into the forward line. He was clear winner of the Best On Ground medal and continued to stand by his nickname of "Silk". Coming down to the final seconds, Tigers held on to win by 5 points.



Together we Will Be OK



TEAM COLOURS



Book Week

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

- Prep A** Amelia For always being a good listener and having such a positive attitude towards her learning. Well done, Amelia.
- Prep C** Lily Your enthusiasm for everything we do is delightful and you are such an important member of our class. Thank you for being just all-round amazing!
- Prep M** Holly For having confidence in your learning. I love seeing how proud you are over the wonderful writing you are doing.
- 1C** Jed For amazing doubles facts in his Maths work.
- Britney For caring about her reading and having read for 200 nights. Fabulous.
- 1DS** Reid For being focused during writing sessions and for adding extra detail into his writing pieces. Well done Reid, we are very proud of you.
- 1J** Brax For his brilliant Big Write he completed last week. The narrative you wrote included so many WOW words and it was so creative. Well done Brax, keep up the great writing!
- 2M** Jessica For a great start to Term 4 and always coming to class with a positive attitude towards her learning, great work Jess!
- Max For settling into his new classroom with a positive attitude and making sure he is always ready to learn!
- 2SS** Jack The effort and persistence that you are putting into your handwriting is outstanding. It is fantastic to see the improvement Jack!
- Ava Thank you for being a helping and kind member of 2SS. You are one of the first students to offer help to others as well as kind words. Awesome Ava!
- 4AP** Paige For having the confidence to step outside her comfort zone and bring her pet bird in for show and tell, participate in skipping and volunteer more of her thinking and answers in class. Well done, Paige!
- 4M** Charlotte For the amazing way you have settled into your new school and your positive attitude towards your work

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

- 5C** Lusila for always being respectful, organised, and accepting of feedback. You have returned to the classroom beautifully - well done and keep it up!
- Jorja For returning to WWPS after many years and settling back into the West with ease. Keep up the already observed great effort and attitude towards all aspects of your learning.
- 5G** Ryley For showing kindness to another student. It was great to see you reflecting on our 'Together We Will Be OK Day' and helping out a student in need.
- Levi For the amazing effort and passion shown towards writing. It has been fantastic to see the hard work you put into your research. Can't wait to see the final report!
- 6C** Luke For working incredibly hard and blowing me away with his focus this week while working on our AFL Project. Keep up the awesome work Luke!!
- Bina For always working incredible well and putting her best efforts into all areas of her schooling. I am so proud of how you have joined our class, it is like you have been here since the start of the year!!
- 6MW** Jawad For the amazing work that you have put into Wang West TV. We love watching what you contribute to it each week!
- PE** Mason S for all the hard work you've put into your skipping during Jump Rope for Heart. Keep up the awesome skipping and fundraising!



Woolworths Cricket Blast!

City Colts Cricket Club will be running Woolworths Blaster cricket program for season 2020/21.

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 30th October.

Register via 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



Rovers United Bruck Cricket Club: All Junior Players Welcome!

RUBCC are powering up for an awesome season of cricket and we'd love to have you with us.

All ages are welcome to our successful and friendly club. Our aim is to help you develop your playing skills, build your cricket knowledge, enjoy the social side of being in a team and after the year we've had, how good will it be to be outside playing sport with your teammates?

More information about the club can be found on our website <https://www.rubcc.com.au/> and to lodge an expression of interest please email info@rubcc.com.au

We're looking forward to hearing from you!



**Wangaratta Netball Association
Representative Netball Tryouts
Season 2021**



WNA welcomes all interested players to attend our tryouts for the 2021 Representative Netball Season.

To be considered eligible for selection players must attend 2 out of the 3 trial dates for your age group.

TRIAL DATES

17 & UNDER: Monday October 26th, Wednesday October 28th & Wednesday November 4th, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

15 & UNDER: Tuesday October 27th, Thursday October 29th & Thursday November 5th, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

13 & UNDER: Monday October 26th, Wednesday October 28th & Wednesday November 4th, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

11 & UNDER: Tuesday October 27th, Thursday October 29th & Thursday November 5th, 4:30pm - 5:30pm

All trials will be held at WNA courts at the Barr Reserve.

Please make sure you wear appropriate footwear and bring your own water.

No representative or club shirts to be worn.

All players are to be registered online prior to tryouts at

<https://forms.gle/S97eMTV8duurgrSQ7>

13 & Under and 17 & Under registration closes 11:59pm 25/10/2020.

11 & Under and 15 & Under registration closes 11:59pm 26/10/2020.

Covid Safe protocols will have to be followed including no spectators and strict drop off and pick up times.

For further information contact Cameron Miller on 0422 984 167 or

cam_wna@bigpond.com

wangarattana.vic.netball.com.au

WE ARE BACK!

Baseball/Teeball



The WANGARATTA RANGERS welcome you back to TARGOORA PARK.

There are no limit's to the numbers of junior players, but registrations are a must.

We can register you on the night. Only one parent per household is allowed to attend.

**THURSDAY
NIGHTS FROM
5.30PM - 6.30PM
AGES 6-14
12/11 - 3/12
@ TARGOORA PARK**



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

PLEASE CALL - Owen 0419514695

OR

EMAIL - owengodenzi@gmail.com

All equipment is supplied and sanitised. We will follow all the COVID safe guidelines. Please wear suitable sports attire, bring a drink bottle and a mask if you are over 13y.

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We are grateful for their support and look forward to the Wangaratta West school community supporting them.



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