

What's on in the West

Wangaratta West Primary School Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 26th June

Final day of Term 2 - 2:30pm dismissal

Beanie order form due back

Monday 13th July

Term 3 commences

Ongoing

Virtual Tours

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Well this was certainly a term to remember! It had its challenges: The initial shift to a completely different method of schooling and then back again; increased anxiety levels in relation to Covid-19 and its implications across the world; social isolation away from extended family and friends; and the difficulties associated with juggling work and/or care commitments whilst supporting the learning of children.

However, there were also a number of positive aspects. Parents and carers reported enjoying being able to spend more time with their children, appreciated gaining a greater understanding of and input into their child's learning, and the formation of stronger relationship with their child's classroom teacher.

I too have definitely built and strengthened bonds with parents and carers, and have gained an even greater appreciation for just how sensational our staff here are. The way they all adapted so quickly to a completely different teaching style and went above and beyond to support students and families showed their professionalism, empathy and amazing work ethic. I felt so proud to lead such a dedicated, remarkable team.

I also have so much admiration for the way parents and carers handled this very difficult time. Your patience, resilience and care for our staff shone through, and your efforts to support your child's or children's learning was truly inspiring. On behalf of myself and our staff, I would simply like to say - thank you!



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.

School Council

On Monday we held our third school council meeting for the term. At this meeting it was decided that:

- **The year 5 camp to Ballarat** will not proceed this year. This camp was scheduled for mid-term 3 and, in light of recent Covid-19 changes and the advice of the DET, we determined that it was safest to cancel this camp. We understand that students will be very disappointed but the school council felt it would be the best move for our school.
- **Out of School Hours Care** payment practices will be modified slightly. The school council decided that, from the beginning of Term 3, invoices will be sent out every 7 days (5 working days) with full payment to be made within 7 days (5 working days). If this does not occur, students will not be able to access the service until full payment is received. We thank our OSHC users for their cooperation with this.

School Captains

Today I had the absolute pleasure of watching a group of year 6 students present their speeches, applying for positions as school captain in Semester 2. I was so proud of each and every one of them for having the courage to speak in front of their peers, teachers and leadership team, and for the time and effort they had clearly put into their speeches. It was an incredibly difficult decision to make but we have locked in our next batch of leaders and will announce these at our first assembly back next term.



4AP Changes

Danielle Ashmead has been appointed as the Acting Assisting Principal for the remainder of the year – congratulations Danielle! As a result, we will be welcoming Nadia Aumann to the school at the beginning of Term 3. Nadia comes to us with a wealth of experience and is highly respected within the education community for both her teaching and leadership skills.

School Uniform

Our school will no longer be selling our school uniform on premises from the beginning of Term 3. We have sold our current stock to Worklocker so you can continue purchasing our uniform from there as of today.

Gardening Club

Rachel Hogan will be launching a new Gardening Club next term. This will run on Fridays from 1:30-2:05. Thank you Rachel!

Drink Bottles

Please remember to send a drink bottle to school with your child again each day next term as we will continue to only use our bubblers for refilling bottles.

I hope you and your family are able to enjoy some quality time together over the next two weeks and I look forward to seeing you all again next term.

Kind regards,

Kristy Keenan
PRINCIPAL

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.

Victorian Chief Health Officer message to parents

Please find below a message from our Victorian Chief Health Officer:

I am writing to Victorian parents, carers and students today to seek every family's support in slowing the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) in Victoria.

As the school holidays approach, we can't ease up on looking after ourselves and our families. The only thing between us and a second wave is what we do next. Wherever you go, please be mindful of the risks. Be aware others may be carrying the virus and practice physical distancing.

We are currently experiencing the highest case numbers we've seen in more than two months. Current evidence suggests that the rise in case numbers in Victoria is being driven by families having get-togethers and not following advice around physical distancing and hygiene.

Unfortunately, we are still in a pandemic and people's lives are still at risk. As we've seen across the world, this virus has the ability to turn a small number of cases into hundreds in a matter of days.

This is not where we want to be and we must all act now – while we can. This is why we've had to implement a number of revised restrictions. The number of visitors you can have at your home is now reduced to five. Outside the home, families and friends can meet in groups up to ten.

This is how each and every member of the community can help:

- Stay safe while out in the community.
- Stay safe at home. And that means only seeing those you need to. Don't have big family gatherings and remember to keep your distance and maintain good hygiene.
- Don't share food or drinks.
- If you, or anyone in your family is feeling unwell – stay at home. Don't visit friends and family. Don't go on holiday if you are unwell and don't go to work. Don't send your kids to school, childcare or kindergarten if they are unwell - stay home.
- And if you have symptoms, get tested.

The vast majority of Victorians are doing the right thing, but this is a wake-up call and we cannot be complacent. It's up to all of us to keep our friends and families safe.

For current information and updates on coronavirus (COVID-19) visit the Victorian Government's coronavirus website.

If anyone in your family has any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, they should stay at home, seek advice and get tested. These symptoms include fever, chills or sweats, a cough, a sore throat, shortness of breath or runny nose, or loss of sense of smell or taste.

For more information about where to get tested visit the getting tested for coronavirus web page. If you're concerned yourself or a family member has contracted the virus and need more information, please call the 24-hour coronavirus hotline on 1800 675 398.

Adj Clin Prof Brett Sutton
(Victorian Chief Health Officer)

Westy's Sports Report



NETBALL COMPETITION

On the last day of term 2 the grade 5 and 6 students competed in the WWPS Netball League. The Sharks took on the Tigers. Sharks were the favourite going into the game. Ruari Adamo's intercepts were absolutely on fire in the first half. Both teams were on point with their passes. There Jayla Keys was dominant in GS scoring consistently through the game.

There was only a goal in it at half time with the Sharks just ahead. Strong defensive pushed the Sharks lead out further during the third. Gus Jayet worked hard to get the Tigers back into the game early in the fourth but it was all too late. The Sharks came out with the win, defeating by 8, the final score 13 – 5.

Jayla top scored for the Sharks with 9 and Ellie Meggs with 5 for the Tigers.

Congratulations to all teams and everyone that participated in the competition.

A big thanks to Holly Craven, Ellie and Georgia Meggs who umpired each game!

By Harry Pople

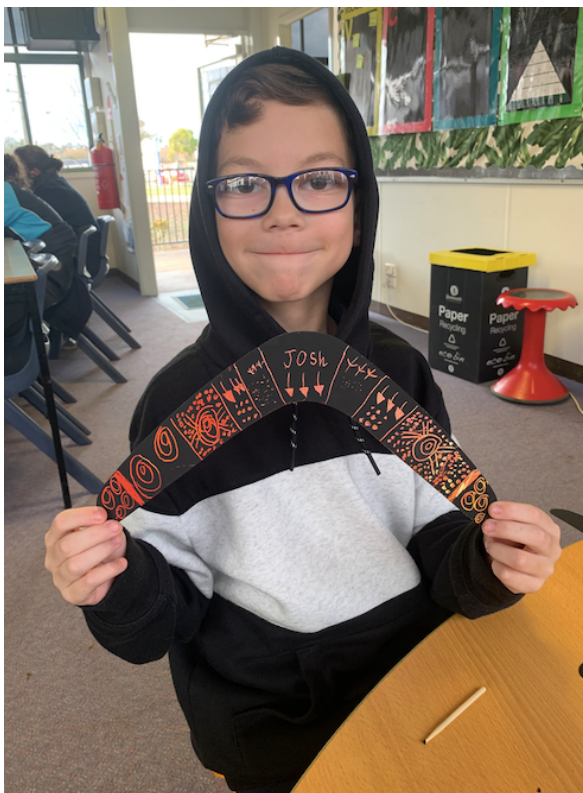


Mundgee Group

Last week our Mundgee Group met and spent time working together on creating boomerangs etched with traditional markings and symbols. The students spent time discussing what each symbol meant and connections were made to their culture.

The Mundgee group also discussed the upcoming filming of our 'Acknowledgment to Country' to be played at each assembly and plans for activities leading into Terms 3 and 4 as Term 2 remote learning and restrictions has not allowed many of our activities to proceed. The group consists of our identified Indigenous students in grades 2-6.

Next term we will be looking to expand our learnings about Indigenous culture to include a more whole school approach.



NAIDOC 2020

**ALWAYS
WAS
ALWAYS
WILL BE**
Monday, July 6th
10:30am to
12pm

**Wangaratta NAIDOC Committee welcome
you to join our virtual Morning Tea**

FEATURING

- Live Music
- Local Cultural Videos
- Community Videos About NAIDOC Week 2020

**Search for NAIDOC Wangaratta on Facebook or
Eventbrite for more information or use the link below
to register!**

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wangaratta-naidoc-virtual-morning-tea-tickets-109118771182>

This event is hosted by the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) and the Dirrawarra Indigenous Network (DIN)



VACCA
Connected by culture



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

- 4AP** Hugh For consistently displaying an excellent, responsible attitude to all his learning. Thank you Hugh for always going above and beyond what's required. You're a star!
- 4P** Logan For making a huge improvement in your attitude towards learning the past 2 weeks. Especially by setting and working towards your writing goal. Keep it up next term Logan!
- 5C** Karlee For her creative writing using WOW words such as soggy, whined, swine and pondered. These words, along with voice and higher level punctuation make your pieces a pleasure to read. Keep up the great work!
- 6C** Saimone For completing incredible work during our data and graphing lesson. Your work was absolutely amazing! Well done!



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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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Wangaratta West
Primary School

VIRTUAL TOUR



As you are unable to visit our school in person during these unprecedented times, we have put together a video that summarises many key aspects of what makes our school special.

Please use the password
West4642 to access the video.

For enrolment packs or queries, please
contact our office on 5721 3491



**SCAN HERE TO ACCESS
VIRTUAL TOUR, OR
VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

