

WANGARATTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



BE SAFE
BE RESPECTFUL
BE A LEARNER

TERM 3 - WEEK 10



IMPORTANT DATES

5th October

First Day of Term 4

19th October

Traffic School: Foundation

20th October

School Council – 6pm

26th – 30th October

F-2 Swimming

31st October

Bunnings BBQ

3rd November

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

11th November

Transition session –
Foundation 2027 Students

19th November

Transition session –
Foundation 2027 Students

19th November

Transition session –

24th November

School Council – 6pm

8th December

Statewide Transition Day

11th December

Final Assembly

14th December

Christmas Activity Day

15th December

Year 6 Graduation

16th December

End Of Year Break Up Activities

18th December

Last Day Of Term 4
1:30pm Finish



Dear Parents & Carers,

As we wrap up another busy and productive term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many wonderful experiences we have shared together. Term 3 has certainly been action-packed, with our students embracing every opportunity with enthusiasm, resilience and pride. From three days away at camp, our Athletics Carnival, Graduated Sleepover, Father's Day Breakfast, Book Week, Book Fair and Science Fair, along with so many other activities and learning opportunities, there has certainly been plenty happening at WPS!

I also want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our wonderful staff. So many of these experiences require an enormous amount of organisation behind the scenes, as well as staff giving up significant time outside of their normal working hours. These are often the experiences our students remember most about their time at school, and they simply wouldn't be possible without the commitment, energy and generosity of our staff. I am incredibly appreciative of our team and everything they continue to do for the students of Wangaratta Primary School.

A big thank you also to our families and wider school community for your continued support throughout the term. Whether it has been volunteering at events, attending activities or simply supporting us from home, it all contributes to making WPS the wonderful community that it is. Looking ahead, Term 4 promises plenty more exciting moments as we head towards the end of another school year – including watching our new multipurpose court and covered area continue to take shape!

I hope everyone enjoys a safe, relaxing and well-deserved break. Take the opportunity to recharge, enjoy some time together and return ready for another busy and exciting term at WPS. We look forward to seeing everyone of Monday the 5th of October for the start of Term 4.

YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

Our F-2 students enjoyed their Graduated Sleepover, with each year level taking another step towards building their confidence and independence. Our Foundation students stayed after school for afternoon tea and games, before our Year 1 students continued on to enjoy dinner together. Then it was over to our brave Year 2 students, who took the big step of staying the night at school!

There was lots of excitement, fun and plenty of proud faces along the way. A huge thank you to our staff who gave up their time to make this special experience possible for our students.

BUILDING WORKS UPDATE

There were certainly mixed emotions around the school this week as students watched our much-loved rebound wall come tumbling down to make way for our new multipurpose court and covered area. While there were a few sad faces saying goodbye to a familiar part of our playground, it was also an exciting sign that our project is really starting to take shape!

The footings have been poured this week, and things are progressing quickly. We are hopeful that by the time we return from the school holidays in a fortnight, we might actually see the new structure beginning to take shape. It is very exciting to watch the transformation happening, and we can't wait to see the finished result!



Wangaratta Primary School acknowledges the
Bpangerang people, the Traditional Owners of the land on which we
meet today, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



SCHOOL ARRIVAL TIMES

We'd like to remind families about student arrival times at school. It has come to our attention that some students are being dropped off well before 8:30am. For safety and supervision reasons, we kindly ask parents to make use of our Before School Care program, as the school yard is not fully supervised until 8:45am. Your cooperation in ensuring the safety of all students is greatly appreciated.

BIKE ED & BIKE HIKE

Our Bike Education program was due to get underway onsite early next term; however, with our building works now in full swing and space around the school currently quite limited, we are having to rethink how we deliver the program this year. We are working on a slightly different plan and model and will endeavour to ensure Bike Ed still goes ahead for our students, as we know how much they enjoy and value the program each year.

We are also still planning for our much-loved Bike Hike to go ahead. It may be held a little later in the term than we would normally like, but we are working through the logistics and will share further details with families once plans are confirmed.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

What a fantastic day we had at our Athletics Carnival last Wednesday! It was wonderful to see our students giving everything a go, encouraging their friends and showing great sportsmanship throughout the day. A huge thank you to Mr Stubberfield for his amazing organisation and all the work that went on behind the scenes to make the day such a success. We would also like to sincerely thank all of our parent helpers who volunteered their time to assist with events throughout the day. Days like these simply wouldn't be possible without your support, and we are incredibly grateful.

Congratulations also to the students who have qualified to move through to the next stage of competition, where they will proudly represent Wangaratta Primary School early next term. We wish them the very best of luck!

YEAR 5/6 PUBERTY

Today our Year 5/6 students participated in puberty education sessions delivered by Elephant Ed. The sessions provided students with age-appropriate information about the physical, social and emotional changes that occur during puberty, while providing a safe and supportive environment for questions and discussion. A big thank you also to our Year 5/6 teachers, who have supported the program through important pre- and post-session learning and conversations with students. This preparation and follow-up helps ensure our students feel informed, comfortable and supported as they explore these important topics.

SMOKE FREE ZONE

We would like to remind families that smoking and vaping are prohibited on school grounds and within 4 metres of school entrances. We have recently noticed smoking and vaping occurring in the car parking area directly in front of our Junior School classrooms. This area is immediately adjacent to our Junior School courtyard, which is regularly used throughout the day as an outdoor learning and play space for our youngest students.

While the car parking area may extend beyond the legislated 4-metre smoke-free zone, we respectfully ask parents, carers and visitors to refrain from smoking or vaping within 10 metres of the front of the school. Cigarette smoke and vaping aerosol can easily drift into areas where our students are learning and playing. This request is simply about protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of our students and maintaining a healthy school environment. We greatly appreciate the cooperation and consideration of our whole school community.

SAVE THE DATE – BUNNINGS BBQ

A quick heads up that we will be looking for **lots of volunteers** to help with our **Bunnings BBQ on Saturday 31 October!**

This will be a tremendous fundraising opportunity for our school, but we will need all hands on deck. With it being **Halloween** and Bunnings also running a special Halloween event on the day, we are expecting it to be a very busy one!

Please pop **Saturday 31 October** in your calendar. We'll be calling for volunteers to help cover shifts once we return after the holidays. Even an hour or two of your time will make a huge difference. Let's make it a successful fundraiser for WPS!

I hope you all have a fabulous holiday. See you next term!

Jacinta



REMINDERS

ABSENCES

Please log all absences on Compass, or call the office after 8:30am. It is a legal requirement that all absences are explained.

1 or 2 days a week can really add up...

If your child misses...	1 DAY <small>per fortnight</small>	1 DAY <small>per week</small>	2 DAYS <small>per week</small>	3 DAYS <small>per week</small>
That equals...	20 DAYS <small>per year</small>	40 DAYS <small>per year</small>	80 DAYS <small>per year</small>	120 DAYS <small>per year</small>
Which is...	4 WEEKS <small>per year</small>	8 WEEKS <small>per year</small>	16 WEEKS <small>per year</small>	24 WEEKS <small>per year</small>
and over 13 years of schooling, that's...	1.5 YEARS <small>per year</small>	2.5 YEARS <small>per year</small>	5 YEARS <small>per year</small>	8 YEARS <small>per year</small>

Attend today, achieve tomorrow.
Every day counts.

SIGNING STUDENTS IN/OUT

Please sign your child 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.

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. Out of School Hours care are 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 kindly ask that **students do not arrive before 8:30am.**

STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

Staff can be contacted via Seesaw between 8:30am and 4:00pm on their working days. Out of hours contact will not be responded to until the following work day. Please be mindful that staff work hours are 8:30am to 4:30pm Mon – Wed, and 8:30am – 3:30pm on a Thursday and Friday.

SUN HATS

Students are now **required** to wear their hats outside during break times