WANGARATTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

TERM 4- WEEK 2

BE SAFE
BE RESPECTFUL
BE A LEARNER

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4! We hope all our families enjoyed a wonderful spring holiday break and are feeling refreshed and ready for what promises to be another busy and exciting term filled with learning, celebrations and special events. Term 4 is always a particularly special time of year as we look forward to celebrating our Year 6 students and their final weeks of primary school, while supporting them as they prepare for the exciting transition to secondary school. At the same time, we are looking forward to welcoming our newest little learners and their families as they begin their Foundation transition journey with us. It is a lovely reminder of just how quickly the years go by!

With the warmer weather hopefully on its way, we remind families that SunSmart hats are required to be worn by all students when outdoors throughout Term 4, in line with our school's SunSmart policy. We also appreciate your continued support in ensuring students wear the correct school uniform. Our school uniform plays an important role in building a sense of pride, belonging and identity within our Wangaratta Primary School community. For families needing additional items or spares, we have a great selection of second-hand uniforms available at the school office.

BUILDING WORKS UPDATE

We were so excited to see the incredible progress made on our new multipurpose court and undercover area over the school holidays! It certainly went up quickly, and it has been wonderful to watch the project take shape. The main structure is now complete, with works moving on to the resurfacing component of the project. We have been advised that everything is on track to be completed by early November, which is fantastic news! We are eagerly counting down the weeks until our students can enjoy this wonderful new space. It will be such a valuable addition to our school, providing even more opportunities for play, sport and outdoor learning. We can't wait to see it in action!

FOUNDATION EXCURSION

Today, our Foundation students enjoyed a very exciting milestone as they headed off on their very first bus trip and school excursion to the Wangaratta Road Safety School! Students had a wonderful time learning all about road safety in a fun, hands-on environment. They explored important safety messages, including recognising road signs, wearing helmets correctly, using footpaths safely and remembering to *Stop, Look, Listen and Think*. They also had the opportunity to put their learning into practice on the miniature road network, complete with traffic signals. A huge thank you to Mrs Puls and our wonderful staff for organising and supporting this special experience. Our Foundation students were exceptionally well behaved and represented Wangaratta Primary School beautifully. We are so proud of them for showing such independence and enthusiasm on their very first excursion!

ATHLETICS ACHIEVEMENTS

What a wonderful achievement to have 3 of our students qualify and proudly represent Wangaratta Primary School at the Ovens and Mitta Divisional Athletics Carnival today! A huge congratulations to Grace, Coen and William — an outstanding accomplishment!

IMPORTANT DATES

20th October
School Council – 6pm

26th – 30th October
F-2 Swimming

31st October
Bunnings BBQ

3rd November
Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

11th November
1st Transition session – Foundation 2027 Students

19th November
2nd Transition session – Foundation 2027 Students

24th November
School Council – 6pm

27th November
Curriculum Day – no students

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

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.

2027 STATIONARY PACKS & PARENT PAYMENT POLICY

Next week at School Council we will discuss our Parent Payment Policy for the 2027 school year. We are currently working on our Student Stationery Packs for next year, and these will go out to parents, along with parent payment summary in the next couple of weeks. Please keep and eye in your child's bag for these, as stationary packs will need to be ordered prior to the end of the school year.

2027 CLASS PLACMENTS

It is that time of the year when we are looking at our student numbers and possible grade structures for 2027. If you have a child beginning Foundation next year and you are yet to fill out an enrolment form, please contact the office ASAP. Likewise, if you know of any other families who would like to attend our school in 2027, please encourage them to speak to me.

If you know your child is leaving the school at the end of the year, could you please contact the front office as soon as possible so we can factor this into our decision making for next year. Student enrolments have a huge impact on our budget and possible grade structures; therefore, we would like to know that all students are accounted for when making decisions for 2027.

In November, teachers alongside the leadership team, will commence placing students into their 2027 classes. This process consists of a strategic approach to ensuring our classroom structures are balanced and supportive of learning. Staff consider multiple factors when constructing the classes for the upcoming year; gender balance, academic achievement balance, behavioural needs and the overall combination of student personalities. Students have a voice regarding their placement by nominating five (5) learning partners, not friends). Teachers will ensure that your child is placed with one of these nominated learning partners.

In addition to this, if parents have any concerns or information they would like to share with us regarding their child, can you please contact me via **phone** (not email) **before Friday the 6th of November**. Changes made to classes after students have been placed is extremely difficult and normally cause a snowball effect of other students also needing to be moved. This is not fair on students, and why **requests will not be accepted after the above date.** Please also note that requests cannot be made for a specific teacher.

2027 FOUNDATION TRANSITION DAYS

Our Transition Program for 2027 Foundation students is approaching quickly. The dates are as follows: Wednesday the 11th of November: 9.15am to 10.15am; Thursday the 19th of November: 9.15am to 10.45am; Tuesday 8th December: 9.15am to 12.20pm.

SMOKE FREE ZONE

We would like to again remind all families that smoking and vaping are prohibited on school grounds and within 4 metres of school entrances. Unfortunately, we continue to have concerns about 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 by our youngest students for outdoor learning and play.

We have recently been contacted by Wangaratta Council following complaints from members of the public regarding smoking and vaping in this area. Council has advised that officers will now be conducting patrols to monitor the situation and ensure regulations are being followed.

Council has also asked us to remind families that parking directly in front of the school is restricted to five minutes. Parking officers will be monitoring this area and may issue reminders or infringement notices to those not complying with the restrictions.

We appreciate the cooperation and consideration of our school community in helping us maintain a safe, healthy and respectful environment for our students, families and neighbours. We greatly appreciate the cooperation and consideration of our whole school community.

BUNNINGS BBQ

Our Bunnings BBQ fundraiser on Saturday 31 October is fast approaching, and we really need your help! With Halloween falling on the same day and Bunnings hosting a special Halloween event, we are expecting a very busy day and a fantastic fundraising opportunity for our school.

Bunnings BBQs are always wonderful money-spinners and have the potential to raise significant funds that go directly back into supporting our students and school. However, we simply cannot make this event a success without the support of our families!

A volunteer roster is now available at the school office, and we encourage as many families as possible to pop in and put their names down for a shift. Even an hour or two of your time would make an enormous difference. A big thank you to the couple of families who have already volunteered their time – we really appreciate your support!

We know weekends are precious, but with everyone contributing just a little of their time, we can make this a fantastic fundraiser for WPS. Please consider lending a hand – many hands make light work!

I hope you all have a fabulous weekend. *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.

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 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