

# WANGARATTA PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER



BE SAFE  
BE RESPECTFUL  
BE A LEARNER

TERM 4- WEEK 4



Dear Parents & Carers,

Wow we are in Week 4 of Term 4 already! Our students have settled back into routines beautifully, and there is some fantastic learning happening across all classrooms. As we head into what is always a very busy time of year, please make sure you keep an eye on Seesaw for important updates and event information. Today we are also celebrating **World Teachers' Day**, and I encourage everyone to take a moment to thank our amazing teachers. We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate team who show great commitment to our students every single day.

#### 2027 STATIONERY PACKS & PARENT PAYMENT POLICY

Booklists for 2027 have now been sent home with all students. In line with our Parent Contributions Arrangements, Wangaratta Primary School will once again be using COS as our third-party online supplier for student stationery packs. Please note that the school does not provide stationery items, and it is essential that every student has *all* items listed on their booklist to ensure they are ready for learning each day. This includes key learning resources such as Soundwaves, Seesaw and iPad. There has been a slight change this year, with your packs being delivered to your home address for you to bring along to school on the first day of the school year. All orders must be completed online through COS before January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2027. If you order before the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, you will receive free delivery. If you choose to purchase your stationery elsewhere, you will still need to log in to COS to order the levy items on your child's booklist. Thank you for your support in ensuring students are prepared for a great start to the school year.

#### BUNNINGS BBQ

A huge thank you to our wonderful Parents Club and all the volunteers who have generously offered their time to support our Bunnings BBQ tomorrow! Fundraising events like these wouldn't be possible without the dedication and support of our fantastic school community.

It's not too late to lend a hand! If you have a little spare time tomorrow, please pop down to Bunnings and jump in to help. Every extra pair of hands makes a difference!

We would also love to see plenty of our Wangaratta Primary School families stop by, grab a sausage and support what promises to be a fantastic fundraiser for our school. Thank you again to everyone involved!

#### 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 19<sup>th</sup> of November: 9.15am to 10.45am; Tuesday 8th December: 9.15am to 12.20pm.

#### SOMERS CAMP

Ten of our lucky students have spent the past 10 days enjoying the wonderful experience of Somers Camp, returning home on Wednesday this week. We have received glowing reports about our students, with staff sharing how impressed they were by their positive attitudes, enthusiasm and willingness to give everything a go! Our students were described as polite, respectful and eager to embrace every opportunity. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented Wangaratta Primary School and hope they have returned home with wonderful memories, new friendships and plenty of stories to share!

#### BUILDING WORKS UPDATE

After a few unexpected delays, we are pleased to share that our exciting building works are continuing to progress! We are now expecting the asphalt for our new undercover multipurpose court to be completed by the end of next week. Once laid, the asphalt will need approximately four weeks to cure before the final acrylic surface can be applied. While the delays have been a little frustrating, we are certainly looking forward to seeing this fantastic new space take shape and eventually be enjoyed by our students.

We are also excited to share that further improvements to our school facilities will begin towards the end of November, with works commencing on our BER building. These upgrades will include a new roof, internal and external improvements, and the removal of our old heaters and air conditioning units.

## IMPORTANT DATES

31<sup>st</sup> October

Bunnings BBQ

3<sup>rd</sup> November

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday

11<sup>th</sup> November

1<sup>st</sup> Transition session –  
Foundation 2027 Students

19<sup>th</sup> November

2<sup>nd</sup> Transition session –  
Foundation 2027 Students

24<sup>th</sup> November

School Council – 6pm

27<sup>th</sup> November

Curriculum Day – no students

8<sup>th</sup> December

Statewide Transition Day

11<sup>th</sup> December

Final Assembly

14<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Activity Day

15<sup>th</sup> December

Year 6 Graduation

16<sup>th</sup> December

End Of Year Break Up Activities

18<sup>th</sup> 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 CLASS PLACEMENTS

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.

## CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOL SUCCESSES

We are incredibly proud to share some wonderful news from our recently released **2026 School Performance Report**. Wangaratta Primary School has been ranked **HIGH in overall school performance, as well as HIGH in both Learning and Wellbeing**. These are fantastic results and reflect the hard work of our students, the dedication of our staff and the ongoing support of our families.

Our results show that our students are achieving well academically, with continued improvement in learning outcomes. Just as importantly, our student wellbeing results are outstanding, highlighting that our students feel happy, safe, connected and engaged in their learning. This is something we are particularly proud of, as we believe that happy, supported students are successful learners.

While there is much to celebrate, **student attendance remains an important area for school improvement**. This has been a consistent focus and discussion point throughout the year, and our data reinforces the need to continue working together to improve attendance. Our attendance rate of 86% sits below that of similar schools, and we know we can do better.

The 86% attendance rate means that, on average, students at Wangaratta Primary School attended 86% of the school days they were enrolled for during 2025-2026.

To put that into perspective, based on a typical 200-day school year:

86% attendance = approximately 172 days at school.

14% absence = approximately 28 days missed.

90% attendance (similar schools) = approximately 180 days at school.

This means our students are missing, on average, approximately 8 more days of school each year than students at similar schools.

**Why is this important?** An average of 28 days absent equates to almost six weeks of missed learning every year. Over seven years of primary school, that could add up to almost an entire school year.

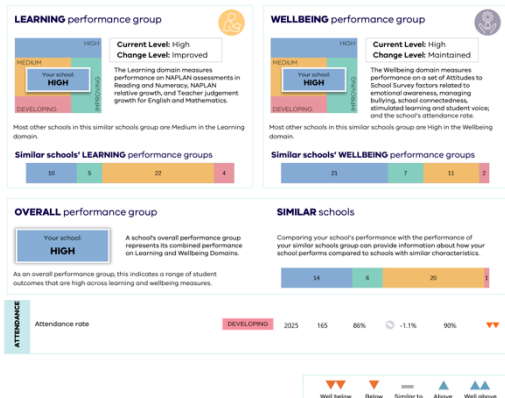
Importantly, this is a school-wide average, not a statement that every student misses 28 days. Some students have excellent attendance, while others experience significantly higher levels of absence.

**Every Day Counts!** Every day at school provides valuable opportunities for learning, building friendships and developing important skills. We ask all families to support us by ensuring children attend school every day unless they are unwell or there is a genuine reason for their absence. Improving attendance is a shared responsibility, and with your support, we can make a real difference.

We are extremely proud of what we have achieved together and look forward to continuing to build on these successes. **Wangaratta Primary School is a wonderful place to learn and grow, and these results certainly reflect that!**



### Wangaratta Primary School



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.

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

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

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