



WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL
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Principal: Mr Harold Cosier

Wednesday 31st July 2019

Term 3 Early Stage 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our families back to school as we begin the next semester of learning. The children have come back to school very eager to learn and continue their school journey. The following information is an outline of our teaching and learning programs for the term and additional information regarding upcoming events.

Listed below are some important dates for Term 3:

Week 3 Beginning 5 Aug	Education Week celebration - Friday P&C Meeting- Tuesday 6 pm	Week 9 Beginning 16 Sept	School Concert- Wednesday P&C Movie Night- Friday
Week 4 Beginning 12 Aug		Week 10 Beginning 23 Sept	Last Day of Term 27 September
Week 6 Beginning 26 Aug	Book Week and Scholastic Book Fair Father's Day Stall- Friday K-2 Symbio Zoo Excursion- Monday	Term 4 Week 1	First Day of Term - Monday 15th October

Classroom Supplies

Just a reminder that your children need the following resources to support their learning. Please check your child's supplies and replenish anything that is used daily. Could we please ask families to supply 2 Bostik glue sticks and 4 black whiteboard markers for student use in the classroom.

Instructional Leader Update Term 3 2019

The role of the Instructional Leader K-2 continues to ensure that all of the students within these grades are being challenged and the learning they are receiving is based directly at their individual point of need and on current research. Throughout Semester 1 we have identified continual success for all students and to build upon this success we are going to enhance the Instructional Leader role by having a second Instructional Leader. Mrs Sarah Critoph will now be employed as Stage 1 Instructional Leader Literacy. Throughout Term 3 Mrs Neaves will continue on as Early Stage 1 Instructional Leader Literacy and also K-2 Numeracy.

Both Mrs Neaves and Mrs Critoph will be working very closely together and will continue to work with students and classroom teachers to assess, track and monitor the progress of all individual students from Kindergarten to Year 2 using the new Literacy and Numeracy progressions. An important part of this process is to monitor student Literacy and Numeracy data every 5 weeks and then to collaboratively plan the next cycle of teaching with teachers to ensure that each child's individual needs are being catered for. Throughout this term Mrs Neaves and Mrs Critoph look forward to working with students and teachers on a weekly basis.

Throughout the next semester of learning both Mrs Neaves and Mrs Critoph will continue to access professional learning and research opportunities to garner knowledge of best practice in Literacy and Numeracy. We will also endeavour to provide opportunities for our parents and school community to learn more about early Literacy and Numeracy development.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance is recorded daily and it is important that your child attends school regularly as new concepts are introduced every day. Being punctual and arriving before 9.00am is also vital and supports children transitioning into the classroom, ready for a full day of learning. If your child is sick for 3 consecutive days we advise that you contact the school office.

School Uniform

At WPS we have the expectation that children come to school in full school uniform. **Please ensure that all clothing items are clearly labelled with your child's name, especially their hats and jumpers.** Hats are an essential part of our school uniform which need to be worn each day. For safety, if students do not have a school hat, they will need to stay in the shade. If you are missing any clothing, please see your child's teacher to access the lost property.

Sickness and Medication

Please notify the front office administrative staff of absences and remember that if your child is unwell, please ensure they stay home for a day or two to rest and recuperate. They will be better equipped to manage their work on their return and we have the best chance of minimising the spread of germs. Also, if your child has any medication needs, please ensure all details are up to date with the school office. Any child with asthma should carry their puffer with them during the school day. Finally, it is incredible the number of tissues we use, particularly once sniffle season starts. Soft tissues are always gratefully received. If you can send a box (or two) for class consumption that would be terrific!

Car Park

Please avoid walking though both staff car parks or through the gates that connect the car park to the playground. By not walking through the car park, you will be assisting not only the staff at school but your child with a clear and consistent message about safety.

Homework

- Daily home reading
- Camera words and phonemes to be practised daily
- Weekly topic talks linked to units of study
- Term 3 Project and Public Speaking - a separate note will be sent home

Fruit Break

Children are given a daily opportunity during the morning session to refuel on fruit or vegetables and to rehydrate by drinking water. Cut fruit and vegetables are easier to manage as its purpose is for a quick, healthy snack.

Excursions:

This term all students from Early Stage 1 will have the opportunity to visit the Symbio Zoo. Excursions are a very important opportunity for the children and consolidate the learning that has been happening in the classroom. More information regarding this excursion will be sent home soon.

Term 3 Learning Programs

English

Literacy is the foundation of most of the learning experiences your child is involved in at school. Teachers aim to balance the program through modelled, guided and independent activities to support and extend student learning. In class, students will engage with and discuss a range of texts with increasingly demanding ideas, morals and language features. Speaking and listening opportunities are incorporated into all our Literacy experiences with the aim to teach students to listen attentively and contribute ideas to discussions.

Reading will form an integral part during the daily literacy session. Please promote reading regularly at home to expose students to a variety of texts to assist their learning. Also in Library sessions, as well as borrowing books each week, the students will be explicitly taught research skills and develop their knowledge of literature and Library skills. All students will also be encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge 2019 and borrow books independently from the library. For our reading program in classrooms, we will be focusing on explicitly teaching reading comprehension strategies to enable students to gain a better understanding of texts read. This involves opportunities to analyse the writing features, text structures, spelling, grammar and punctuation skills and guided reading.

During writing lessons, students will focus on texts to inform, entertain and persuade. Class teachers will explicitly teach the grammar and text structure necessary to compose a variety of entertaining texts.

Mathematics

Students in Early Stage 1 will continuously build on previous knowledge and achieve specific outcomes in each of the Mathematics strands. The program in Term 3 will continue to develop students' skills with mental computation,

Mathematical terminology, symbols used in number and word problems and strategies to solve problems through working mathematically. The content that will be covered includes: Position, Whole Number, Patterns and Algebra, Addition and Subtraction, Length, Multiplication and Division and Fractions. Every Mathematics lesson will begin with a 'Number Talk' where students will discuss numbers. This provides them with opportunities to learn the language of Mathematics and extend their use of mental strategies.

<u>PE</u> Students explore the different ways that their body can move. Students develop the fundamental movement skills and practise these skills in fun, varied and increasingly complex situations whilst learning to communicate when challenges arise during physical activity.	<u>Creative Arts</u> Students' music learning program will be linked to the rich texts that they are reading in class. Activities vary depending on the text but will involve singing, playing and moving to a range of music, demonstrating an awareness of musical concepts.
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Science/ History/ Geography/ PDH
Your children will learn about social justice through the lens of fairness and friendship. They will practise following classroom and family rules and they will consider appropriate actions in different places that they might visit. Your child will learn techniques to manage conflict and social skills to use when working in a team. They will show what they have learnt by completing a series of sentence starters in a one-on-one conference with their teacher. At the end of each week, students will reflect on fairness and friendship in the classroom and at home. They will develop an understanding of 'right' and 'wrong' in the context of a situation or place and learn how to use clear language to manage conflict and apply social skills as they work in groups. They will demonstrate empathy by sharing and listening carefully to others both in the classroom and at home.

Weekly Update

Each classroom teacher has been emailing an update on Fridays in the hope of keeping all parents informed about the teaching and learning taking place within the classroom. If you have not received this it is because we do not have a parent email in our school list, or that the email address given has not been working. Please complete the form below and return to the classroom teacher to be added to the mailing list.

Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance, or Ms Terrina Hartley if you have any issues to discuss regarding your child. Appointments can be made by calling our school office or by contacting your child's teacher via email.

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Kind Regards from the Early Stage 1 team of teachers,
Mrs Coralie Berry, Miss Jennifer Smith, Mrs Cathy Parker and Miss Louise O'Toole

Ms Terrina Hartley
Relieving Assistant Principal
Early Stage 1

Weekly Update

I _____ parent of _____ in _____
class would like to receive the weekly update and my email address is provided below:

Signed: _____

