



WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

67a Church Street,
WOLLONGONG NSW 2500

Email: Wollongong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Harold Cosier

Phone: 4228 9120

Term 4, Week 9



Weekly message

Dear Parents,

This will be our last newsletter for the year, and what an amazing year it has been with so much happening on so many different fronts. Items of significance this week are:

Student Congratulations

My congratulations goes to every student who received an award at today's assembly or will receive one at Monday's Award Assembly. I applaud your achievements and congratulate every one of you. This is the culmination of a year of learning, and it is appropriate recognition of your efforts. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Neaves, Miss Morley and Miss McKechnie in organising these assemblies as it is an enormous task that requires months of planning.

Staff Thanks

Of course none of these achievements are possible without the efforts of a great team of teachers and support staff, and I would like to acknowledge the work of all of my team over what has been an enormously challenging year. Our building program has meant that we have had a significantly reduced playground, and both teaching and playing space has been very limited. We have embarked on an ambitious new program, particularly in the K-2 section where we have successfully introduced Instructional Leaders, and we have implemented, again very successfully, our Positive Behaviour for Learning program. The success of these all depend on the cooperation and support of all our staff, and they have provided that throughout the year. I would like to acknowledge their work in not only supporting students, but also each other throughout 2019. Thank you, our school is a better place through your contributions.

Year 6 Farewell Dinner

On Wednesday evening our departing Year 6 students held their final dinner and dance at Wollongong PS and it was heartening to see what fine young men and women they are becoming. I have watched many of them grow since Kindergarten, and while others may not have been here as long, the growth and maturity they have exhibited in the past year has been outstanding and we will all miss them. I am hoping that I will be able to participate in their final leaving parade next Wednesday. I would like to acknowledge the huge amount of work done by Ms Stephenson and the team of parents and teachers in ensuring that it was such a successful night. Thank you.

Student Reports

All student reports have been completed and I am currently reviewing and signing these ready for distribution on Monday. As always, please discuss the report with your child, as it is a reflection of their learning, and we want that learning to include an ongoing conversation involving you, your child and the school.

School Discos

On Tuesday afternoon we will be holding discos in the hall for K-5 students. The P&C will be providing a stall selling drinks and snacks for the students while they are at the function.

Peacekeepers Excursion

Also on Tuesday, our Year 6 Peacekeepers will have their fun day out at Jamberoo Recreation Park. They play a very important role in our school playground throughout the year so it is fitting that we acknowledge their contribution in this way.

Chess News

Last Sunday the NSW Country Chess Championships were held. Congratulations to Quan in 5/6M who won the title of NSW Country Under 12 Champion!

On Tuesday our chess team played Emanuel School in the final of the NSW Interschool Chess Tournament. The games were played in great spirit and our team competed hard but after several hours of play Emanuel emerged victorious. Congratulations to Emanuel School and well done to our team on a great year of chess.

Year 6 Assembly and Arch Walkout

On Wednesday December 18th, our final day of school, at 2 pm we will be holding our final assembly for the year where we will farewell our Year 6 students as they move on to various high schools and start the next stage of their learning journey. This will be followed by our traditional arch walkout where the school community forms an arch of hands from the school hall to the front gate and say a final farewell. This is always a very moving moment and we invite all our school community to be a part of this occasion.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday break and to enjoy the time with your families. For those of you celebrating Christmas, may it be joyous and peaceful, and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on January 29th 2020.

Regards

Harold Cosier

Deputy Principal News

Reports

The final aspects to our update regarding student reports is the general and student comment sections. The purpose of the general comment is to provide you with a summary as to how your child is achieving in all other areas of their schooling. Teachers may comment on aspects of your child's social, behavioural, emotional, organisational skills, other Key Learning Areas or special achievements throughout the year. The student comment is an essential aspect of the reports as children of all ages are aware of their achievement and learning goals. It's also vital to ensure children have ownership over their learning as this leads to future success. Comments reveal children's reflection on their successes, highlights and future learning goals and these are great discussion starters to help guide learning journeys.

Books

Teachers approach to feedback is evolving and this is supported by significant research. It is vital in learning activities that students give and receive feedback on their progress in the task and this could be in the form of non-verbal, verbal, written, peer to peer and self-reflection. Therefore you will notice that not all work in students' books will receive written teacher feedback and as a school we support this. Feedback must be timely, goal referenced, ongoing, user friendly and individual. This becomes a significant task for teachers as we need to ensure we are effective and efficient when providing feedback to all students in the class. All student work books will be sent home in the next few days if you have not already received them. We encourage you to spend time reflecting on student learning throughout the year and discuss the knowledge gained and growth displayed. Students often need prompting to go back in their books comparing this to their current work. The following prompts may assist you in this discussion, but please take this opportunity to share in your child's learning.

What was the most challenging task this year and why?

What piece of work are you most proud of and why?

Choose a work sample that displays a time when you were challenged but succeeded.

Parent Feedback

Please feel free to contact me if you have any celebrations, concerns or would like to discuss aspects of our school. To arrange an appointment you can email me at matt.richards5@det.nsw.edu.au or contact the school office on 42289120.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday and I look forward to seeing you next year!

Kind regards,

Matt Richards

Library Furniture

As the library is being refurbished we have an excess of library tables.

These tables are available free to parents on a first come first served basis.

Parents must arrange their own transport of the furniture.

Instructional Leader Update by Mrs Neaves and Mrs Critoph

This week we sent the following note home to all Early Stage One families asking everyone to return their home reading folders to school. We are asking all families to ensure that this happens as soon as possible so we can begin our planning for home reading in 2020.

Tuesday, 10th December 2019

Return Home Reading Student Bags

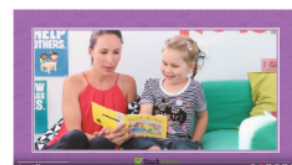
Parents and Carers,

Mrs Neaves, Mrs Critoph and the Early Stage One teachers are very busy planning for our student reading in 2020. *We are asking all families to kindly return the blue reading folders to classroom teachers as soon as possible this week.* Please note that your child will get their folder back at the beginning of next year to continue their nightly reading. Thank you for your cooperation and support of our student learning.

Reading in the Holidays

What can I do at home to support my child to read?

Reading together



Find a reading time and space that works for your family and read for 10 minutes.

Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books. This will help develop your child's love of language.

Discuss new vocabulary and at the end of reading, ask questions that encourage discussion.

Read to your child, as well as them reading to you. Read with expression and a good pace, to model this to your child.

Give your child opportunities to re-read books.

Visit the local library and let your children select books that interest them.

What can I do at home to support my child to read?

Pause Prompt Praise


Pause	Prompt	Praise
<p>When your child experiences difficulty, pause before expecting an answer.</p>	<p>To help your child continue reading, give a hint. Remember, if the word is not correct after two or three prompts, say: 'The word is ...'</p>	<p>There are two main types of praise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• explicit praise• general praise
<p>Looks like 🔍</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give your child at least five seconds before expecting an answer.	<p>Looks like 🔍</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>This is a word you can sound out.</i>• <i>What is the first sound?</i>• <i>Now try stretching this word.</i>• <i>Do you see the 'at' chunk in that word? Now try to read the word.</i>• <i>What smaller parts do you see in that word? Now try to read the word.</i>• Once the child has figured out the word, ask them to go back and re-read so comprehension isn't lost.	<p>Looks like 🔍</p> <p>Explicit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Fantastic, that didn't make sense at first and you corrected it.</i>• <i>Your reading was really enjoyable to listen to today because ...</i>• <i>Well done for trying to re-read the sentence. You are reading with so much more expression. Well done.</i> <p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Well done, you are really trying to solve this.</i>• <i>Great work, you corrected that by yourself.</i>• <i>I liked listening to you read. You did that really well.</i>



Please find the link to the Pause Prompt and Praise YouTube clip as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWxwf07omZo>

Save the date



Recognition of
Excellence Assembly
Friday 13th December 2019
11.30am

Recognition of
Specialist Programs Assembly
Monday 16th December 2019
11.30am

Year Six
Graduation Ceremony
Wednesday 18th December 2019
2.00pm

~ December 2019 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
15	16 Specialist Programs Assembly 11.30am	17 Yr 6 Peacekeeper Jamberoo Excursion School Report Translating Session 1pm-3pm School Disco	18 Yr6 Graduation Ceremony LAST DAY OF TERM 4	19 School Holidays	20 School Holidays	21 School Holidays
22 School Holidays	23 School Holidays	24 School Holidays	25 School Holidays Christmas Day	26 School Holidays Boxing Day	27 School Holidays	28 School Holidays
29 School Holidays	30 School Holidays	31 School Holidays New Years Eve				

~ January 2020 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Years Day	2 School Holidays	3 School Holidays	4 School Holidays
5 School Holidays	6 School Holidays	7 School Holidays	8 School Holidays	9 School Holidays	10 School Holidays	11 School Holidays
12 School Holidays	13 School Holidays	14 School Holidays	15 School Holidays	16 School Holidays	17 School Holidays	18 School Holidays
19 School Holidays	20 School Holidays	21 School Holidays	22 School Holidays	23 School Holidays	24 School Holidays	25 School Holidays
26 School Holidays Australia Day	27 School Holidays	28 Staff Development Day	29 Students return to school Years 1 - 6	30	31	

~ February 2020 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Swimming Carnival Competitors only	4 Kindergarten classes commence	5	6	7	8

SURF EDUCATION AUSTRALIA

This term Stage Three participated in Surf Education Australia's Surf Skills Awareness Program at Wollongong City Beach. We were fortunate enough to have lovely warm weather, and students had a great time developing their surf awareness skills. Smiles all round!





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Student School Report Translating Session for Parents

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Tuesday 17th December at 1-3pm in the School Library, Wollongong Public School will be providing an opportunity for parents to attend an on-site translating session to have your child/ren's classroom reports read in person. Arabic and Chinese translators will be made available for this afternoon session and will sit individually with each parent/carer to ensure that student reports are read in a confidential manner and are communicated privately.

Please note that this is not a regular parent/teacher interview session and if you would like to discuss any further matters in relation to your child then you will need to contact the school to make a booking with your child's classroom teacher.

We look forward to seeing you at the student report translation session and the school welcomes the opportunity to work in partnership with you to support your child.

Kindly

Mrs Fist, Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Elphick, Mrs Al Salih, Ms Yacoub and Mr Richards

The English as an Additional Language Team



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学校报告会

亲爱的家长和监护人，

我们将于 12 月 17 日（星期二）下午 1 点到 3 点，在卧龙岗小学图书馆内举行学校报告会。学校将为家长和监护人现场翻译并解释您孩子的学校报告。

届时将有会阿拉伯语和中文老师和翻译人员参加，他们将与您一起一对一的，以保护隐私的方式解释和翻译您孩子的学校报告。

请注意，本次会议的目的不是与班主任或任课老师面谈，而只是为了翻译和解释学校报告供您参考。如果您想见孩子的班级老师，请与学校联系单独预约时间。

我们期待您的参与，让我们有机会与您一同支持您的孩子的学习和成长。

此致敬礼！

Mrs Fist, Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Elphick, Mrs Al-Salih, Ms Yacoub and Mr Richards

英语作为第二语言组的老师



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جلسة ترجمة التقارير المدرسية للأهالي

أعزائنا الأهالي وأولياء الأمور،

في يوم الثلاثاء الموافق ١٧ ديسمبر/ كانون الأول في الساعة ١-٣ ظهراً وفي مكتبة المدرسة ستقوم مدرسة ولونجونج بإتاحة الفرصة للأهل وأولياء الأمور لحضور جلسة لترجمة وشرح التقارير المدرسية الخاصة بأطفالكم. سيحضر الجلسة كادر من الهيئة التدريسية والمترجمين الناطقين باللغة العربية والصينية من أجل توضيح وترجمة تقارير أطفالكم بشكل سري وخصوصي معكم. الرجاء مراعاة ان هذه الجلسة لا تهدف إلى اجراء مقابلات مع معلم او معلمة الصف وإنما تهدف حصريا إلى ترجمة وتوضيح التقارير المدرسية لحضراتكم. اذا رغبتم بمقابلة معلم او معلمة الصف فإن عليكم الاتصال بالمدرسة لحجز موعد محدد لهذا الغرض.

نسعى لرؤيتكم والعمل سوية من اجل دعم أطفالكم.

لكم منا كل الاحترام والتقدير

Mrs Fist, Mrs O'Reilly, Mrs Elphick, Mrs Al-Salih, Ms Yacoub and Mr Richards

أعضاء هيئة تدريس اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة ثانية

First Lego League Robotics (FLL) Competition - REGIONALS

On Saturday 30th November, two Wollongong Public School teams competed in the Illawarra FLL competition at Wollongong TAFE.

Both teams, walked away with trophies. The Urban Avengers won a coveted 'Mechanical Design' award.



The Affinity Stones won a judges 'Show Must Go On' award, due to their impressive teamwork skills. Due to their all-round capabilities, the Affinity Stones were invited to progress to the National competition on Sunday 8 December at Macquarie University.



The nationals were held at Macquarie University in Sydney, with teams participating from across Australia's eastern region. Our representative team, the Affinity Stones was among the 48 teams that showed up for the brutal 8:00 registration.

All teams were given a timetable, the Affinity Stones were scheduled to have their first robot game immediately after the opening ceremony. After the game was over the Affinity Stones opened with a score of 340.

After the game, the team attended their innovation project judging session. The team identified a problem in their community. The team researched the problem, developing a practical solution and putting it into action. The Affinity Stones' project was school comfort in the playgrounds and toilets.

Then, it was off to core values judging, where our teamwork skills were assessed. The team needed to choose five features for a hypothetical new leisure centre. They finished with plenty of time remaining and the judges were pleased when the teammates answered questions with ease.

During robot design judging, the team explained their robot programming, design, and strategy. They scored exceptional results on the marking rubric.

Back at the robot game, the team robot scored 355, finishing in an impressive 9th place on the leaderboard.

The Affinity Stones had their third match, before the closing/awards ceremony. The Stones didn't receive an award or get through to internationals... but they had a great time and friendships were strengthened!



Alec
Chloe
Evan
Holly
Jasper
Shlok
Til
We are the Affinity Stones.

By Jasper Williams and Til Chevalier



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS JANUARY 2020

WOLLONGONG

ACTIVITY	AGE	MON 6 JAN	COST	WED 8 JAN	COST	FRI 10 JAN	COST
PARKOUR (MB)	7-15yrs	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 p/half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day
HOCKEY/OZTAG	7-15yrs	1:15pm-3:15pm	\$30 per half day				
BOXING	7-14yrs	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session		
GIRL GROUP WORKSHOPS	8-18yrs			9:30am-12:30pm	\$20 per session		
ARCHERY/ ARCHERY TAG	7+ yrs			1:15pm-3:15pm	\$30 per half day		
KARATE	10+ yrs			6pm - 7.30pm	\$12 per session		

ACTIVITY	AGE	MON 13 JAN	COST	WED 15 JAN	COST	FRI 17 JAN	COST
PARKOUR (MB)	7-15yrs	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day
HOCKEY/OZTAG	7-15yrs	1:15pm-3:15pm	\$30 per half day				
BOXING	7-14yrs	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session		
GIRL GROUP WORKSHOPS	8-18yrs			9:30am-12:30pm	\$20 per session		
ARCHERY/ ARCHERY TAG	7+ yrs			1:15pm-3:15pm	\$30 per half day		
KARATE	10+ yrs			6pm - 7.30pm	\$12 per session		
SOCCER SKILLS	8-15yrs					1:15pm-3:15pm	\$20 per session

ACTIVITY	AGE	MON 20 JAN	COST	WED 22 JAN	COST	FRI 24 JAN	COST
PARKOUR (MB)	7-15yrs	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day	9:30am-12:30pm	\$30 per half day
HOCKEY	7-15yrs						
OZTAG	7-15yrs						
BOXING	7-14yrs	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session	4pm - 5pm	\$11 per session		
GIRL GROUP WORKSHOPS	8-18yrs			9:30am-12:30pm	\$20 per session		
ARCHERY/ ARCHERY TAG	7+ yrs			1:15pm-3:15pm	\$30 per half day		
KARATE	10+ yrs			6pm - 7.30pm	\$12 per session		
SOCCER SKILLS	8-15yrs	1:15pm-3:15pm	\$20 per session			1:15pm-3:15pm	\$20 per session

- RECESS AND LUNCH NOT PROVIDED -

All participants MUST be members of PCYC. Become a member **NOW** for only \$10 per child, per year. Join online at www.pccynsw.org.au/membership



POLICE CITIZENS
YOUTH CLUBS NSW