



WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL

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Principal: Mr Harold Cosier

Friday 8th February 2019

Term 1 Stage 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Wollongong for our first term of the year. We hope that you and your families had a relaxing and safe holiday period. Students have started to settle into their new classes and teachers have begun assessment activities to gain an understanding of students' abilities. We ask that you read the following information, which is an outline of our teaching and learning programs for the term, and some additional information regarding upcoming events.

Staffing

We have 5 classes this year in Stage 2. Our Stage 2 staff are enthusiastic and dedicated to developing positive relationships with all students and families to foster a productive learning environment for all students this year.

Teachers	Class
Maria Gray	3G
Leah Early	3/4E
Rielle Nelson (Relieving Assistant Principal)	3N
Maddison Prior	4P
Johanna Smith	3/4S
<u>Support Staff all full time</u> Trish Roberts- Learning and Support Sharon McKechnie- Sport Steve McQueen- Library Mary Elphick- English as an Additional Language or Dialect Micaela O'Reilly- English as an Additional Language or Dialect	

Listed below are some important dates for Term 1:

Week 3 Beginning 11 Feb	Welcome BBQ	Week 8 Beginning 18 Mar	Cordeaux Dam Excursion Harmony Day
Week 4 Beginning 18 Feb	Stage 2 Meet the Teacher Tuesday 19th February 5.00 pm Hall	Week 10 Beginning 1 April	Parent Teacher Interviews Easter Hat/Movie Night
Week 7 Beginning 11 Mar	Cross Country	Week 11 Beginning 8 Apr	Last Day of Term Stage 3 Camp

Parent /Teacher Evening

The Stage 2 Meet the Teacher evening will be held on Tuesday 19th February at 5.00 pm. Parents are asked to meet in the hall to hear specific information related to the entire stage. Parents will then be invited to meet their child's class teacher in their classroom where each teacher will discuss aspects specific to their class. Time does not allow for teachers to discuss individual students on this night. Parent/Teacher interviews will be held in Week 10 of this term. By this time all teachers will have had a chance to get to know their students and complete assessment tasks which will be discussed at this interview. Unless you have special concerns, we ask that you wait until this date to meet with your child's teacher regarding his/her progress.

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 just before 9.00 is also vital and supports children transitioning into the classroom, ready for a full day of learning.

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.** As it is Summer, please ensure that your child has a hat at school. 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 - current or forthcoming. We often find that our students don't like to miss school for even a day, which is lovely... but... if your child is unwell, please do insist that 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 bugs. 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.

Car Park

Please avoid walking through 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

You will receive information from your child's teacher regarding homework tasks.

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.

Term 1 Learning Programs

<u>English</u> Teachers balance the English program through modelled, guided and independent literacy activities to support and extend student learning. Students will have the opportunity to engage with a variety of rich texts that give them experience of the world around them and the beliefs and value systems of people. During Literacy sessions, students will be exposed to quality literature through Shared Reading with explicit teaching of comprehension skills, grammar and writing techniques. Students will also work in smaller differentiated groups for Guided Reading where they will work with the teacher on their area of need. Teachers will explicitly teach phonemes to enable students to apply their knowledge to read and spell words correctly. Modelled writing lessons are focused on writing to persuade and entertain. Children will be exposed to a variety of grammar and text structures throughout the term. Speaking and listening activities will be integrated into all Key Learning Areas.	
<u>Mathematics</u> Students' learning will involve a range of hands on, open ended activities that will continue to build on previous knowledge and achieve specific outcomes in each of the Mathematics strands. The children will be immersed in a variety of engaging activities that will cover the content strands including Number and Algebra, Measurement and Geometry, and Statistics and Probability.	
<u>PE</u> In Physical Education activities, stage 2 students will be working on Cross Country running skills that promote endurance & sprinting to the finish line up in preparation for the Cross Country in Week 7 Term 1. From weeks 8-10 students will begin training on their Athletics skills in preparation for the Athletics Carnival in Week 6, Term 2 .	<u>Creative Arts</u> Students' visual arts learning program will be linked to the rich texts that they are reading in class. Activities will also include sketching and painting. Digital technology will be used to create self-portraits.

Science/ History/ Geography/ PDH - **First Contact**

This year we are teaching these subject areas through integrated units via Mappen. Mappen is an online curriculum solution for Australian primary schools that provides teachers with expertly crafted integrated units. Each unit is focused on particular curriculum areas more so than others. This term our integrated unit is titled First Contact. Students will learn about the lives of the First Australians before European settlers arrived in Australia and the causes and reasons for the journey of the First Fleet. They will practise thinking and acting like historians as they are immersed in stories of first contact between Indigenous Australians and European Settlers.

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

We look forward to seeing all parents at our **Information Evening on Tuesday 19 February at 5pm.**

Kind Regards (on behalf of all Stage 2 Teachers),

Rielle Nelson

Stage 2 (Years 3 & 4)

Rel Assistant Principal



**Wollongong Public School
upgrade**