



**WOLLONGONG PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
Church Street, Wollongong 2500  
[Wollongong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Wollongong-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Phone: 4228 9120 Fax: 4226 5091

Principal: Mr Harold Cosier

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019

## Term 1 Stage 1 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 6 classes this year in Stage 1 and Mr Matt Richards is the Assistant Principal. Our Stage 1 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	Sport/ Library Day
Matt Richards (Assistant Principal)	1/2R Wednesday- Friday	Sport: Friday and Library: Monday
Sarah Critoph	1/2R Monday/ Tuesday	Sport: Friday and Library: Monday
Linda Doyle	1/2D	Sport: Thursday and Library: Tuesday
Pauline Clapham	1/2C	Sport: Tuesday and Library: Thursday
Laura Lopez	1/2L	Sport: Tuesday and Library: Thursday
Melanie Beckinsale	1B	Sport: Wednesday and Library: Thursday
Terrina Hartley	K/1H	Sport: Thursday and Library: Wednesday

**Support Staff**  
Samantha Neaves - Instructional Leader Literacy and Numeracy K-2  
Sharon McKenzie- Sport  
Steve McQueen- Library  
Trish Roberts- Learning and Support  
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:

<b>Week 3</b> Beginning 11 Feb	Welcome BBQ- 15/2	<b>Week 8</b> Beginning 18 Mar	Cordeaux Dam Excursion- 21/3 Harmony Day- 22/3
<b>Week 4</b> Beginning 18 Feb	Meet the Teacher- 20/2	<b>Week 10</b> Beginning 1 April	Parent Teacher Interviews Easter Hat Parade-5/4 Movie Night- 5/4
<b>Week 7</b> Beginning 11 Mar	Cross Country-15/3	<b>Week 11</b> Beginning 8 Apr	Last Day of Term- 12/4

### Meet the Teacher Evening

The Stage 1 Meet the Teacher evening will be held **Wednesday 20 February** from 4pm – 4.45pm. At 4pm parents will be 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.

## Instructional Leader K-2

This year Wollongong Public School will have an Instructional Leader, Literacy and Numeracy K-2. Mrs Samantha Neaves will be employed in this role throughout the year to oversee the following objectives:

1. Ongoing assessment, tracking and monitoring of individual progress using the Literacy and Numeracy progressions
2. Early identification of level of attainment in Literacy and Numeracy for each individual student K-2
3. Ensure differentiated teaching programs and practice that are data driven and evaluated
4. Provide professional development to build teacher capacity and support the implementation of the National Learning Progressions
5. Provide targeted interventions in Literacy and/or Numeracy to ensure achievement growth for targeted students
6. Develop strong community partnerships and foster quality volunteer support in classrooms.

The Instructional Leader will strategically aim to improve students' performance through a targeted approach in the early years in Primary School. Instructional Leaders in schools is a core component of the NSW Literacy and Numeracy Strategy (2017-2020), the strategy involves:

1. Early identification of the level of attainment in Literacy and Numeracy of each individual child (K-2);
2. Differentiating teaching practice that focuses on the needs of the individual student;
3. Using targeted interventions in Literacy and/or Numeracy according to need; and
4. On-going monitoring of student progress against the Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions

**Classroom Supplies-** Just a reminder that your children need the following resources to begin the school year.

Stage 1 – Years 1 & 2		
Communal Classroom Use		Student's Personal Use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o tissues</li><li>o baby wipes</li><li>o paper towels</li><li>o 4 x 35g Bostik glue sticks</li><li>o 8 x whiteboard markers for student use, no fluorescent colours and preferably staedtler brand</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o 1 pkt Post-it Notes</li><li>o 5 x HB Triangular Grip pencils</li><li>o eraser</li><li>o 12 coloured pencils</li><li>o 12 coloured textas preferably Faber and Castell</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o library bag</li><li>o art smock – large old t-shirt with name</li><li>o sun cream to be kept in child's bag</li><li>o A4 plastic envelope for homework and notes</li></ul>

## 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. 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**

Students will begin homework in Week 4. All students will receive a homework grid, a spelling activity list and a reading log. All students will need a lined book for Homework activities and a plastic folder for all notes to go in. Most do tasks will consist of reading, spelling and Mathematics and the students will have an opportunity to complete can do tasks as well. Homework should only take 15 minutes per night. If your child is having any issues completing homework, please contact their class teacher as soon as possible.

### **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. Students will continue to learn camera words and phonics through the Get Reading Right program. Teachers will explicitly teach phonemes to enable students to apply their knowledge and spell words correctly. 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> Students will be working on Cross Country running skills that promote endurance & sprinting to the finishing line up until and including Week 7 (Cross Country on Fri Week 7). From weeks 8-10 we will begin training on 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 vary from drawing family portraits to designing characters and different settings.
<u>Science/ History/ Geography/ PDH</u> 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. The first unit we will teach is Community which is about Places and Spaces. This unit covers History and Geography outcomes where students will learn about the services in their community and consider sustainable practices as they design and construct model buildings for a precinct. Students will learn about navigation as they consider the language of direction and location.	

Please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance, or Matt Richards 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.

[Matt.richards5@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Matt.richards5@det.nsw.edu.au)

[PAULINE.CLAPHAM@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:PAULINE.CLAPHAM@det.nsw.edu.au)

[Laura.Lopez9@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Laura.Lopez9@det.nsw.edu.au)

[sarah.critoph@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sarah.critoph@det.nsw.edu.au)

[LINDA.DOYLE@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:LINDA.DOYLE@det.nsw.edu.au)

[terrina.hartley1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:terrina.hartley1@det.nsw.edu.au)

[MELANIE.BECKINSALE@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:MELANIE.BECKINSALE@det.nsw.edu.au)

We look forward to seeing all parents at our Meet the Teacher Evening on Wednesday 20 February at 4pm.

Kind Regards,

Matt Richards (on behalf of all Stage 1 Teachers)

K-2

Assistant Principal