



WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

James Harris - Acting Principal

Firstly, I hope all of the Mother's and Maternal figures in the WPS Community had an amazing Mother's Day yesterday. Mother nature certainly turned it on for you all! Hopefully, receiving a gift from the WPS Mother's Day stall made the day extra special. A huge thanks to Chantal Gardner and Nat Thompson for their organisation of the stall as well as the parents who volunteered their time to work at the stall. Our school community really appreciates you all!

Welcome to Education Week!

Education Week is an annual celebration of education in Victoria. This year the theme is Active Learners, Move, Make, Motivate'. In our case, it is celebrating the students, staff & families of Wodonga Primary School, a proud Government School. We have a number of fun activities planned, below is a timetable of the events happening over the week.

A reminder to all families that classrooms will be opened for you to join in on a WPS Exploratory Maths Lesson on Thursday morning from 9:00 - 10:00am. If you would like to join in simply make your way to your child/rens classroom during this time and join in!

We look forward to the Silent Disco on Wednesday, details on this Event are on Compass.

We look forward to celebrating the week, keep an eye on our Facebook Page for updates and photos of events during the week.

Wodonga Primary School Education Week					
Active Learners: Move, Make, Motivate'					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
First Block 9:00 - 11:00am	Education Week Assembly 9:00 - 9:30am		Silent Disco Year 2/3/4	Maths Open Class 9:00 - 10:00am	
Lunch	Computer Lab - Just Dance	Japanese - Kendama		STEM - Paper Planes	
Middle Block 11:40am - 1:40pm			Silent Disco Year 5/6		
Recess	Art - Sticky Note Art	P.E - Obstacle Course + Throwing Accuracy			5/6 Winter Sport 1:15 - 3:00pm
Last Block 2:15 - 3:15pm			Silent Disco Foundation/Year 1		

COVID 19 & Illness

Our school is currently encountering a huge increase in staff and student illness. With a statewide shortage of teachers, finding Casual Relief Teachers to meet the demand of absent staff has been extremely difficult. As a last resort, some classes have needed to be split across other classes in the year level. At WPS, our staff plan collaboratively and deliver the same lessons and content across year levels so it makes this process a lot smoother for students and staff.

We ask families to be aware that there have been a number of COVID 19 cases within staff and students and we ask you all to please keep a close eye on your children for symptoms and to test regularly. Our school office has RATs available if you require them. To minimise the spread of COVID 19, Influenza and the common cold we ask families to please keep unwell children at home. Your support here is greatly appreciated.

Attitudes to School Survey

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of their school.

The AtoSS is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education to assist schools to gain an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Students will be asked about their thoughts and feelings in relation to their school, their learning, peer relationships, resilience, bullying, health and wellbeing, physical activity, and life in general.

This year, the AtoSS will be conducted at your school from May 22nd - June 2nd. The survey takes around 30-40 minutes and is conducted during class time.

Participation in this survey is voluntary. If you do not wish for your child to do the survey, please opt out by emailing your child's classroom teacher.

EDUCATION WEEK 15 - 19 May

Today students enjoyed some 'just dance' as well as 'sticky note art' during their break times



Japanese

Elyssa Webster - Japanese Language Teacher

Last Friday, 20 select students from Year 4 were given a fantastic opportunity to watch RIN-PA and A.YA, a travelling Japanese performance group. They performed a mixture of Taiko drumming and Tate, which is based on traditional Japanese swordsmanship and dance.

RIN-PA and A.YA are currently touring the region and have recently won the Kilmore busking championship. We were very lucky to have the chance to see them perform their award-winning performance at Wodonga Senior Secondary College.

Students were treated to an exhilarating performance that wowed the audience. Our students loved seeing the performers show off their swordsmanship through their choreographed dances. The taiko drummers were so energetic when performing and you could really feel the power of the taiko drums. After the performance, our students had the opportunity to have a go at using the wooden swords and play the Taiko drums. It was a lot fun for all involved and an experience our students will not forget.

This was a combined excursion with Wodonga Middle Years and Wodonga Senior Secondary College, and a big thank you goes out to all the staff involved who made this possible for our students.



Canteen

April & Cindy

Please note that we have had a price increase on our icy poles. They have increased from \$1 to \$1.50 due to a supplier increase.

Lost Property

Tracey Chadwick

Please note that we are receiving a large number of jumpers in lost property. Please name jumpers and other uniform so we can return to the correct owner



Music

Aaron Silver - Music Teacher

WPS Silent Disco: Moving Together for Education Week!

We are getting very excited about our first ever whole school Silent Disco coming up this Wednesday! The event is all part of celebrating Education Week and the theme of Move, Make and Motivate!

This inclusive event will be held during school hours with each year level will participating in one of the three sessions held throughout the day. Please see the Education Week timetable for more information about when each of these sessions will be happening.

We have had an amazing response to our Compass event with only a small number of students left needing to consent and pay. Please make sure you check your child's attendance on the Compass event before Tuesday 16th to ensure your child can attend.

What is a Silent Disco?

Instead of using loudspeakers each student will receive own pair of Silent Sounds headphones to borrow for the session. Moving around the space, students will be able to choose between 3 different channels of music (and control the volume of their headphones) with the touch of a button. We will have one live DJ and two Virtual DJs so that students will always have a choice about the music they're listening to.

To ensure this is a truly inclusive event for all students to enjoy, a sensory/calm space will be available for students who need a break or need a change of environment during the event.



Maths

Maureen Murray - Mathematics

WPS Maths Newsletter Challenge #3

Maths Tip #03: Shapes

Looking to help bring Numeracy into your everyday activities at home?
Playing with and using shapes helps to develop shape knowledge and spatial awareness in children. It also improves hand-eye coordination. Some activities to build your child's shape knowledge and spatial awareness might include:

- Jigsaw puzzles, tangrams or shape sorting toys
- Name and notice the similarities and difference between shapes eg curves, edges, corners
- Make paper aeroplanes to explore angles, shapes, halving and symmetry

Weekly Maths Challenge: Greedy Pig!

W.P.S challenges its students and families to practice their skills of addition and chance through this fun game for the whole family.
Scan the QR code to find out more and enter the challenge!

Purpose: To practice the numeracy skills of addition and consider the chance of rolling particular numbers on a dice.

What you need:

- 6 sided dice
- Record Sheet
- One or more players

Instructions:

- The aim of the game is to have the highest score 'banked' before rolling a 1.
1. Each turn of the game consists of one or more rolls of the die. You keep rolling until you decide to stop, or until you roll a 1. You may choose to stop and 'bank' at any time.
 2. If you roll a 1, your score for that turn is 0.
 3. If you choose to stop rolling before you roll a 1 and 'bank', your score is the sum of all the numbers you rolled on that turn.
 4. Each player has 10 turns.
 5. The player with the highest score wins. Example:



Congratulations to Kush and Yash Taimni who are the winners of our spot prize for this week. They had lots of fun adding and subtracting at home. They both love learning Maths and enjoyed the weekly challenge. Well done boys.



Wellbeing

Wellbeing Team

Al's Skate Co sessions kicked off this week. A group of 11 Year 5/Yr 6 girls rolled on into Al's Indoor Skate Park. The 8-week program has been funded by the School Focused Youth Service and is supported by the Wellbeing staff at WPS to enhance student's engagement with school, connection with peers and staff, improve confidence and self esteem and boost mental health.

Within minutes of beginning, it was evident that the program was certainly going to do just that!..... Both students and staff were buzzing with a mixture of emotions ranging from excitement and curiosity to anxiety and even a glimpse of fear! Whilst some students (and staff!) were being pushed WAY outside their comfort zones, others were gleefully zooming around on skateboards, gliding down ramps and around barriers!

The aim is for all students to learn to skate on skateboards, improving their skills, confidence and connectedness by the end of the program.

It was incredibly amazing to see the way in which the students were willing to 'have a go' and push themselves, especially when some of us have never even stepped on a board before!

We look forward with great anticipation to see what challenges, humps and bumps we all may be faced with and conquer along the way.

The boy's sessions will begin this Thursday and will alternate fortnightly with the girl's sessions."



It's Time We Talked

In today's society almost every student is accessing technology as part of their daily life. Pornography has become an issue for children, even those in primary school.

Please see the highlighted links which outline the statistics and resource links, as well as the upcoming FREE in person presentation by Maree Crabbe **"It's Time We Talked"** (29/5/2023), and multiple **FREE eSafety Commissioner webinars available**, where parents and carers can access further knowledge and advice.

WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

Friday 19th May, Walk to school Day.

Walk to school and then come see the Wellbeing team in the courtyard for a healthy breakfast snack.



EVENT NOTIFICATIONS

Stay in touch with Events / Activities – using Compass as your information base

Event / Activity	Event Date	Who	Information on Compass	Consent / Payment Due Date
Winter Sports	May 12 – Jul 14	Year 5 & 6 Students	Compass payment and consent	Closed
Slow Food OS1	May 15	Year 3 OS1	Information on Compass	Closed
WPS Silent disco	May 17	All year levels	Compass Payment and consent	16/05
Willow Park Excursion	June 6	Year 1 Only	Compass Consent	06/06
Public Holiday	June 12	All Students		N/A
Pupil FREE day	June 16	All Students	Student LED conference – more info to come	N/A
Last day of Term	June 23	All Students	School finishes at 2.30pm	N/A

