NOVEMBER 22ND, NO.34

WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

Damian Duncan - Principal

Welcome to week 8

2023 Foundation Transition #1

Well it doesn't feel much like we are on the eve of Summer does it?

We've hit the crazy time of the year which means communication is key for our families to be informed of what's happening at school. Today's newsletter is aimed to ensure our community is aware of the annual celebrations and acknowledgements, as well as key events families are invited to participate in. On pages 2 & 3 are the key calendar events, in date order for you to review.

Firstly, I'd like to explain to our new families, and perhaps existing families who may not remember or experienced our Award Ceremony due to the Pandemic, that annually we have an **Award Ceremony** which is an initiative our school implements to recognise students in our school under three categories

Academic Excellence Award Endeavour Award, and Citizenship Award.

Each classroom teacher selects one student in their class for each award. Specialists also award three students from each year level a Specialist Award. Parents of these students will be invited to the Award Ceremony via Compass where students will be awarded a certificate and a school badge. We ask that parents keep this information a surprise for their child. We run two assemblies:
Foundation to Year 2: 9:15 to 10:00
Year 3 to Year 6: 10:15 to 11:30

These assemblies are on **THURSDAY the 1st of December.** They were previously scheduled for the 2nd of December but due to the audio visual group running the sound and online livestream having double booking us, we had to move the date. more information on page 2.

NOTE: Some families can become confused by this, so to be clear we also have our Term Year Level Assemblies on the 8th and 9th of December, which recognises learning in the classroom for the term. The Year Level Assemblies are open to all families in that year level and once again families will be contacted to let parents and carers know their child will be receiving a Year Level award.

FOUNDATION 2023 TRANSITION:
Our Foundation 2023 transition program continued today with the Foundation class of 2023 learning about WPS Wellbeing Initiatives, visiting the library and having a go at some Maths. This program will continue next week and then the students will attend the 2023 Statewide Orientation Day on December 6th.

WALKATHON - WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 23
We look forward to finally being able to hold the annual WPS Walkathon tomorrow. We ask that students bring either gumboots or a change of shoes. Those who still have envelopes with donations at home please remember to bring them in.
See attached flyer for further details.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: NO SCHOOL – FRIDAY NOVEMBER 25.
The Wodonga Federation of Government Schools support and adhere to the Wodonga City Council's Public holiday being held on Friday November 25th for the Wodonga Cup. Please note, the school and TheirCare will be closed.

YEAR 3 SLOW FOOD PIZZA EXCURSION - WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 30
With the inability to use the Woodfire Pizza oven at Belviour Park, we are planning on have a mobile Pizza oven come to our school. The Year 3 team are diligently working on this incursion to round off the Slow Food program for 2022. More information when we have finalised the details.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION - THURSDAY DECEMBER 1
An EVENT has been made live on Compass for families to pay for the Graduation Pack. Further details on the evening can be found in the Event. For those families of graduating students who are yet to do so, please remember to RSVP via the Form that was sent out to families last week.
Graduation will be live-streamed and can be accessed through the following link.
2023 WPS Graduation
Make sure you share this with family and friends who would like to watch the ceremony

AWARDS CEREMONY: - Thursday DECEMBER 1

This Event will be held in our COLA. This event celebrates and acknowledges students from across our school in the following areas.

- **The Academic Award** *recognizes students who have high expectations and an ambition to achieve.*
- **The Endeavour Award** *recognizes students who have a desire to learn and challenge their learning*
- **The Citizenship Award** *recognizes students who promote a sense of community and inclusion for all.*

If your child is chosen to receive an award, you will be sent a personal invitation. We ask families to keep this information confidential (especially to your child) in order to make the event a special occasion. There will be two ceremonies, Year F-2 at 9:15am and Years 3-6 at 10:20am.

This year we will be live streaming both ceremonies which can be accessed by following the links below

Foundation, Year 1 & 2 Ceremony
Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 Ceremony

YEAR 6 HEAD START - MONDAY DECEMBER 5 - FRIDAY DECEMBER 9
Please ensure you are up to date with the communication regarding Head Start. If your Year 6 student isn't attending WMYC in 2023 please make sure you indicate their attendance during this week via the communication sent by Mel McInnis last week.

STEP UP DAY - WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6
Step Up is a chance for students to, as a year level group, move up to their 2023 year level for an information session.
Students will learn about the similarities and differences of the new Year Level as well as the year-level-specific opportunities.
*note - This will not be their 2023 classroom or teacher

YEAR LEVEL ASSEMBLIES - THURSDAY 8TH & FRIDAY 9TH DECEMBER

Term 4 - Week 10	Thursday 8th December	Friday 9th December
9.10am - 10.10am	Foundation	Year 4
10.15am - 11.15am	Year 1	Year 5
LUNCH		
12.10pm - 1.10pm	Year 3	
RECESS		
2.10pm - 3.10pm	Year 2	

MEET THE TEACHER - TUESDAY DECEMBER 13

YEAR 6 POOL PARTY - WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14

CLASS PARTY DAY / WPS COLOUR RUN - FRIDAY DECEMBER 16

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - MONDAY DECEMBER 19
On the WPS Brockley Street Oval. Our annual Christmas celebration and performances will once again be held on the back of a truck! This night is a tradition for our school, where families share in a picnic dinner together in a low-key setting on the oval. Families can choose to bring their own picnic or purchase items from our BBQ while enjoying the performance of students. The evening kicks off at 6.00pm and is open to all current and future WPS families.

*** Monday the 19th** is the last day of students at school for the 2022 school year. School dismissed at regular time on this day: 3:15pm.

*** Tuesday the 20th** is a Pupil Free day where staff are preparing for the 2023 school year.

Walkathon

Tomorrow we will be holding the 2022 WPS Walkathon as the original date was postponed due to poor weather. Please see details in the flyer provided.

Please remember that gumboots and/or a change of shoes will be required as the ground is still quite soggy!

Reminder: Helmets

Just a friendly reminder to our students who ride or scoot to school to remember to bring and wear your helmets. An increasing number of students have been seen riding and scooting, to and from school without their helmet.
Mandatory bicycle helmet laws were introduced in July 1990. This applies when riding:
• on roads and road-related areas
• on bike and shared paths
• in bike lanes
• in recreational parks
• in car parks
• on footpaths.
Police can stop bike and scooter riders and issue a fine or a warning for not wearing an approved bicycle helmet.

Hampers for the Holidays

Wellbeing Team

As we approach the holidays, this time of year can be filled with a mix of emotions. For some it will be a joyous time, but for others it can be a difficult time and many may struggle financially.
For anyone who needs some support free food hampers are available.
Please see the flyer attached below for full details on how to order the hampers and the collection date.

Mosquitoes

Jenny Martin - first Aid

Staying safe from mosquitoes
After floods and heavy rainfall, mosquitoes can grow and spread in the pools of water left behind.
While the overall risk is low, some mosquitoes carry diseases that are spread through mosquito bites.
Mosquitoes are more active at dusk and dawn, but some will also bite during the day.
The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites.
Families can protect against mosquito bites by:

- covering up as much as possible with long, loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing
- applying insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on exposed skin when leaving home
- limiting outdoor activity if lots of mosquitoes are active.

Further information

- Better Health Channel information about preventing mosquito-borne diseases
- A handy checklist for at home to help reduce mosquito breeding sites
- Department of Health safety advice for flood-affected areas in a range of languages.

2022 Basin Heroes Report

Maureen Murray - Student Leadership Coordinator

On Friday we went to Willow Park as part of the Basin Heroes program. We got to see turtles and we learnt about different types of freshwater bugs. We planted trees to help create more habitat. Everyone was included and got a go of everything and learnt lots they didn't know before. We got to do something for the community by planting trees and learnt how we could protect the turtles and stop pollution in the water.

We learnt about how we could help turtles to repopulate and survive. We learnt about the three different species of turtle that live in this area: the long necked, short necked and broad shell turtles. We learnt that turtles eat anything dead and that helps keeps the waterway clean. The turtles are at risk because foxes eat them and dig up the nests – eating up to 100 eggs in a night. Turtles' bones are fused together and to their shell. If you accidently catch a turtle when you are fishing or find one injured on the road, you should take it to a vet.

We looked at freshwater macroinvertebrates in water samples from Sumsion Garden and Willow Park. Freshwater macroinvertebrates are animals that you can see with the naked eye without using a microscope and do not have a backbone. They have an exoskeleton. The Willow Park sample had lots of tadpoles and lots of plant material, while the Sumsion Gardens one had lots of bloodworms and water boatmen. We learnt that where there is water, there is life. Animals and plants need "dirty" water that has oxygen and not clean tap water that doesn't. There was also a yabby that was found at Sumsion Gardens.

We worked with the Friends of Willow Park and landcare to plant a total of about 50 plants. We planted three different sizes of plants – tall understory plants, mid-sized bushes and ground covers. They will create a complex habitat for animals in the area.
We had heaps of fun and are grateful to have been able to go on the day and learn so much about our waterways. We thank the people from Petaurus Education Group for giving us this opportunity along with students from Baranduda Primary School.

From Oliver, Ben, James, Will, Holly, Charlotte, Harry, Austin, Rhys, Maverick

ASSEMBLY CELEBRATIONS

Ella from MI5 is our GEM of the week.

Lyla, Vincent, Milla, Ryder,Louisse and Lily are this weeks book raffle winners!

Our Happy Card recipients this week!! Great work and congratulations to everyone !

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
Walkathon	Nov 23	Whole School	No cost or consent – Envelopes back by 24/11/2022	N/A
WODONGA GOLD CUP	Nov 25	Whole School	PUPLIC HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL	N/A
Tabloid Sports	Nov 28	Foundation – Year 2	No Consent needed	N/A
DECEMBER				
Year 6 Graduation	Dec 1	Year 6	**Consent and payment required $29.00**	29/11/22
Awards Ceremony	Dec 1	Whole School	Years F-2: 9.15am – 10am Years 3 – 6: 10.15am – 11.30am	N/A
Year Level Assembly	Dec 8	Foundation – Year 3	No Consent needed	N/A
Year Level Assembly	Dec 9	Year 4 – 5	No Consent needed	N/A
Stationary Pack Orders	Dec 14	Whole School	Order Forms due at school by	Dec 14
Class Party Day	Dec 16	Whole School	Details TBA	N/A
Colour Run Day	Dec 16	Whole School	Details TBA	N/A
School Concert / Last Day of Term	Dec 19	Whole School	Details TBA. School Finishes at 3.15pm	N/A
Pupil Free Day	**Dec 20th**	**Whole school**	**No School – Last day of Term**	N/A
First Day back 2023	**Jan 30th**	**Whole School**	**Term 1- 2023**	

HAMPERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As we approach the holidays, this time of year can be filled with a mix of emotions. For some it will be a joyous time, but for others it can be a difficult time and many may struggle financially.

For anyone who needs some support free food hampers are available.

1. **Please scan the QR Code below and nominate to receive 1 or 2 hampers**
2. **Hampers must be ordered by <u>MONDAY 28th NOVEMBER</u>, 2022**
3. **Hampers are to be collected by families (given they are heavy)**
4. **Collect hampers on <u>WEDNESDAY 14th DECEMBER</u> between <u>9-11am</u>**
5. **The collection from: Wodonga Primary School from the Cherry Tree Lane gate**

WODONGA 37

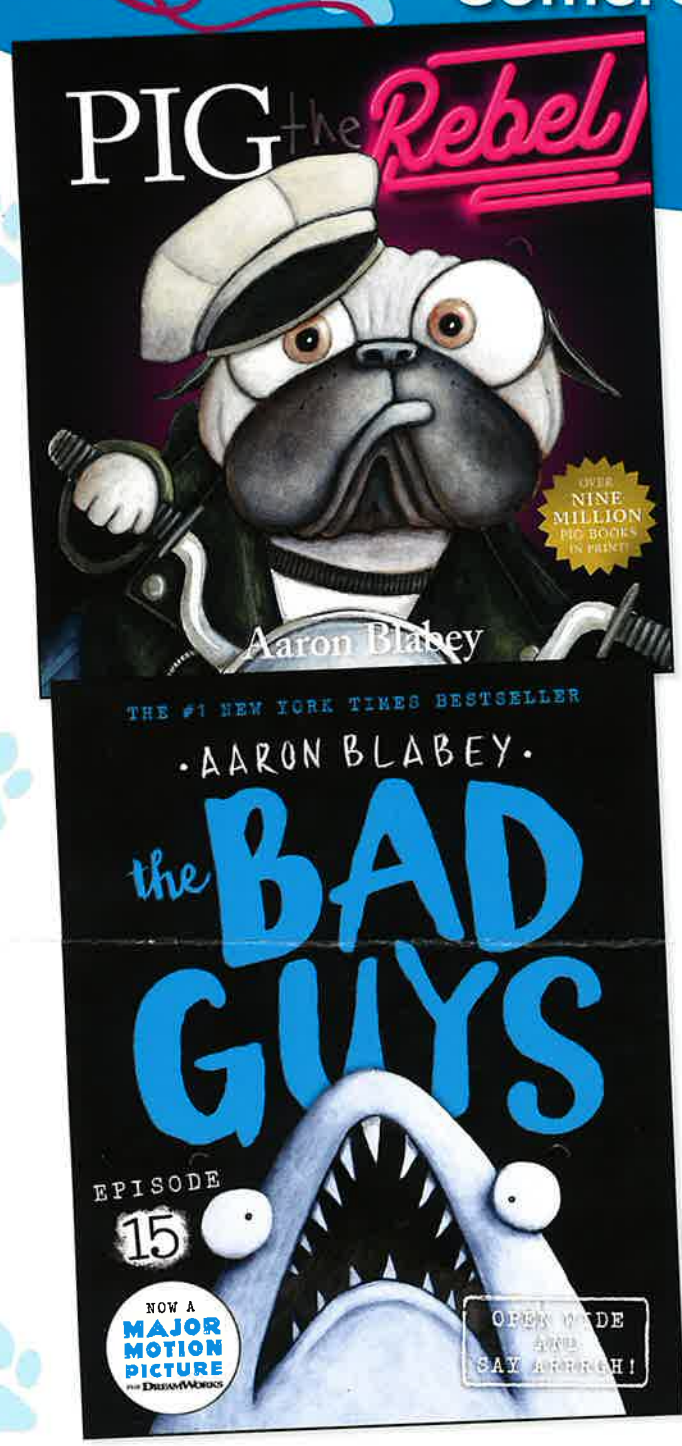
FOOD BANK

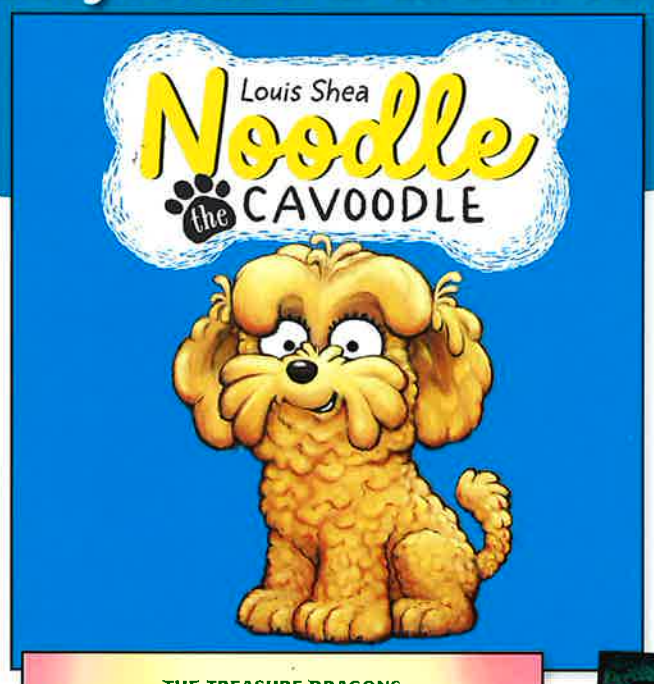
SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

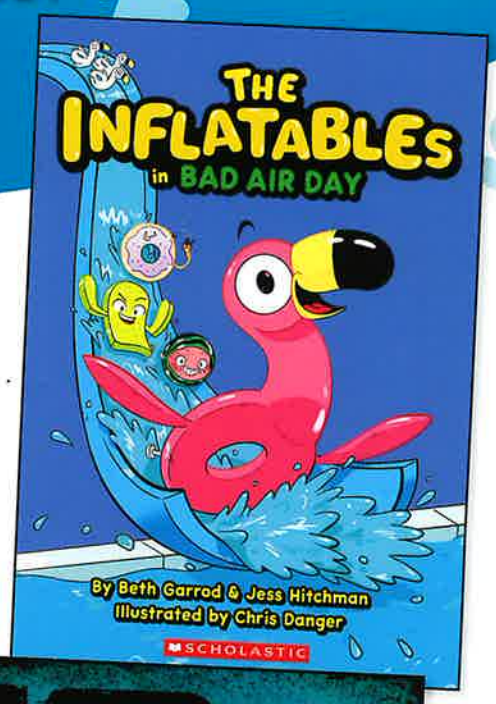
You're invited to our Scholastic

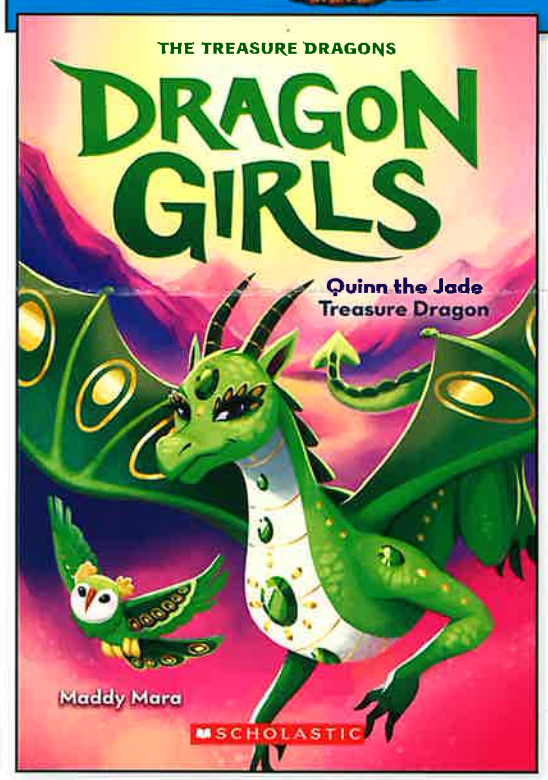
BOOK FAIR

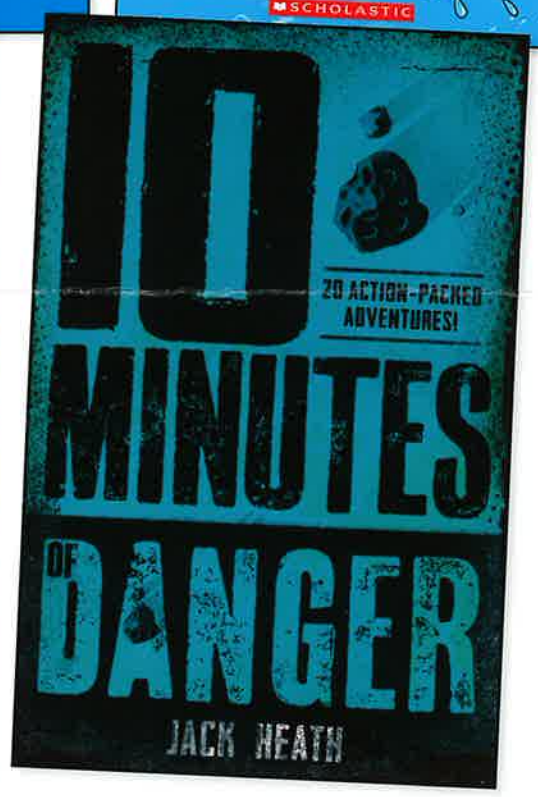
Come. Stay. Read a Great Tale!



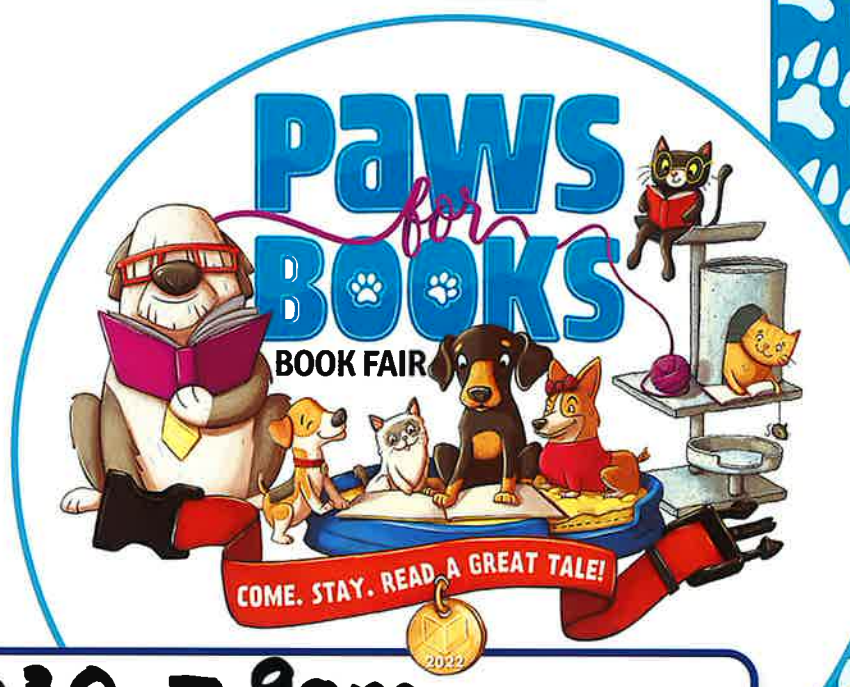








Find these books and hundreds more at the Fair!



EVERY PURCHASE YOU MAKE EARNS **LEARNING** AND **LITERACY RESOURCES** FOR **OUR SCHOOL**

Date 28th Nov - 2nd Dec

Time 8.30 - 9am
3.15 - 3.45pm

Place Library

NS: 100102013

SCHOLASTIC

WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

TERM DATES 2023

TERM 1 January 30 - April 6
(all students start on the 30th)

TERM 2 April 24 -June 23

TERM 3 July 10 - September 15

TERM 4 October 2 - December 20

LAST DAY OF EVERY TERM IS AN EARLY DISMISSAL OF 2.30PM