



MARCH 6TH 2023, NO. 5

WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

Damian Duncan - Principal

Welcome to Week 7,
This term is shooting by quickly! All classrooms are operating at full swing and school-wide programs are up and running once again. It's great to see excursions are happening again and our planning for camp programs for years 4, 5 and 6 are underway. Tomorrow Mr Sarkis has a STEM excursion to Albury where some budding young scientists will be competing in Albury- Wodonga Science and Engineering challenge at the Albury Entertainment centre.

Camps

With some re-alignment of resources, bookings post COVID and also due to staff Time in Lieu parameters we have locked in camp dates for 2023. These dates were passed at last month's School Council meeting...

Year 4:
Feathertop Chalet Harrietville
Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th of April
Communication to parents has occurred.

Year 5:
Valley Homestead, Ovens
Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th of August
Communication to parents will occur in Term 2.

Year 6:
Valley Homestead, Ovens
Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th of August
Communication to parents will occur in Term 2.
* 2024 Year 6 camp will be at Borambola Outdoor Education Camp, NSW



Year 4 Junkyard Beats excursion



Athletics

Our Athletics carnivals are happening in a few weeks which our students have commenced preparing for here at school. This part of our curriculum is a key part of the Physical Education program and classroom teachers and Mr Maxworthy have been working hard on being 100% inclusive of all students. As athletics is multi-disciplinary, kids can succeed in various areas. ie: jumping, running, throwing. Keeping this in mind, it's important that families at home encourage their children to attend and participate in athletics, even though some events might not be to their liking. We are looking forward to having all students attend the carnivals and urge families to support hte school in this part of our schooling.

Year 3/4 Athletics Carnival: Friday March 24th
Year 5/6 Athletics Carnival: Friday March 31st

SCHOOL COUNCIL - Call for Parent Nominations

School Council contributes towards the direction our school takes and is an important component in ensuring the big picture is achieved.

Each year, we ask parents to nominate for positions on Council, to help us achieve our parent membership. This year, we have four parent positions available (each position has a duration of 2 years).
If you wish to be part of the governing board of our school, please drop by the office and pick-up a SC Nomination form. School Council is a great way of being involved in many aspects of Wodonga PS. Full details of the SC Election process are attached.

MEET THE TEAM

The administration team is an integral part of our school and the administration team members are often the first point of contact for our families. Keeping our finances in order, our communication clear and concise and our children’s first aide support accountable. All are essential to our school running smoothly. The following is to help assist our families in knowing the “folks up front” and their roles...



Chantal Gardner - Business Manager

Chantal coordinates our finances and is a member of our School Council finance committee. Chantal leads the administration team at our school. You’ll often see Chantal in the administration area, however her office is beyond the foyer. Chantal is contactable to coordinate payment plans etc.



Jenny Martin - Student Administration / First Aid

Jenny oversees student enrolments, attendance protocols and the first aide of our students. Jenny is a busy staff member who has not one, but two workstations (one in the first aide room and one in the main office).Jenny is the point person for any medication administration of asthma/diabetes plans.



Leah Calder - Communications and Publications

Leah is behind all that you see and hear about our school through our school newsletter, facebook and our communications regarding events throughout the year. Leah is also lead support for the operation of School Council and is responsible for many other procedures and processes that occur behind the scenes at school.



Natalie Eberle - Reception and Finance

Natalie is our newest staff member to our administration team. Natalie is probably the first smiling face you see upon entering the administration building, she might also be the kind voice behind a phone call to our school. Natalie is in charge of the “till” and receiving and receipting monies as well as a major component in Compass payments and incursions/excursion.

Student Footwear

As per our school policy it states...

School shoes, sport shoes or sandals that support foot development are appropriate daily footwear. Student footwear should encompass covered toes and enclosed heel. Specialised footwear should only be worn during organised special events.

Recently we’ve had a large number of students coming to school in “roller shoes” which are quite dangerous in a busy school ground. Students who wear these types of shoes to schools will have their parents contacted for them to come to the school to change the footwear over. Thanks in advance parents for being vigilant of your child’s footwear.

Have a great week!
Damian

Rotary Student Leadership Camp

Maureen Murray - Student Leadership Coordinator

Wodonga Primary School has been proud to participate in the Rotary Club of Wodonga West's Bogong Leadership Camp for Year 5 students for more than 17 years. This year, the camp moved location to Valley Homestead in Ovens due to road closures at Bogong. Our eight Year 5 aspiring leaders had a great weekend of learning, challenge and friendship building with students from four other Wodonga Schools. We are very proud of how they are developing as leaders and look forward to seeing them step up to leadership in our school and beyond.



Student Camp Reports

Hi, my name is Izy.

3 weeks ago I went to Valley Homestead and spent 3 days learning about leadership skills.

One of the skills was public speaking. It got on the edge because I don't like public speaking.

Number two is responsibility. The activities were fun but it was very loud.

Number three was cooperation. It was hot so we were sticking like glue to each other.

Number four Orienteering. Which we had problems with because the group didn't cooperate so we learnt some skills, particularly about the importance of cooperation.

I'm working on getting better at cooperating in a team.

My favourite thing was the vertical challenge climb and making new friends.

Isabella Mitchell, EL3

Hi my name is Tom,

3 weeks ago I went to a leadership camp at Valley Homestead in Ovens.

I learnt that leadership is all about listening to others and that you need good communication skills and much more.

I learnt that I need to have more confidence in myself and to push myself to my limits.

My favourite thing was the flying fox because we got to see over the valley.

Tom Waite, EL3

Hi my name is Archer,

What I learnt about leadership is that you have to do public speaking, to be good at communication, lead by example & speak in a clear voice.

I have to push my limits and push further to get the goal I have in mind.

The things I liked best were flying fox, vertical fall & orienteering as they were fun and challenging.

Archer Russell, EL3

Hi, my name is Rhys. Three weeks ago I got to go on the amazing Bogong Leadership camp. I learnt that to be a great leader you have to be confident around public speaking and giving things a go. You also have to show good leadership skills such as honesty, courage, trust, persistence and much more. I think it helped me to build my confidence in talking in front of a large group, I learnt that I had the courage to do this which will help me to be an awesome leader when I grow up.

My favourite activity on camp was definitely the flying fox because of the exciting feeling it gave me going so fast and being so high up.

Rhys Brown EL4

My experience at leadership camp.

A lot of exciting activities got everyone pumped. Such as the flying fox, the vertical fall, vertical challenge, and a night walk through nature. It was a lot of fun. We also did some get to know you games so we could build relationships and make new friends. My favourite thing on camp was the flying fox because it was a lot of fun to go down. I also enjoyed it because it was high and because it had an amazing view. I could see a lot of wildlife because I was so high. Animals I could see were different types of birds. I could also see very tall trees, in fact one was a little bit taller than I was, so I ended up hitting a branch. I was OK though. When I was doing some activities as a group we were learning about leadership. Something I learnt about leadership is to be confident in speaking in front of lots of people. Another overcoming my biggest fear and to be brave. Something I learnt about myself as a leader is to be brave when I speak in front of people but if some people feel really nervous and scared, that's OK. My strengths in leadership are to be confident and to always be brave. Something I'm still working on in leadership is to encourage people in the way they would want to be encouraged.

Quinn Saltmarsh EL1

What I learnt about leadership:

- Cooperation
- Encouragement
- Trust

And as a leader if I put my mind to it, I could do anything.

The thing I liked the most was the vertical fall because it was a mental challenge.

Toby Laird - EL4

NAPLAN

Christine Forrest - Assistant Principal

Our NAPLAN preparations are well underway with the administration of the National Assessments starting next week. Wednesday 15th will see our Year 3 and Year 5 students complete their Writing assessments. This will be followed with Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy over the Thursday 16th and Friday 17th.

Some catch up tests will be available the following week as per the test schedule protocols. A reminder that if families are wishing for their child to not participate in the NAPLAN assessments, please make contact with Christine Forrest who will ensure all the correct documentation is prepared for parents to sign at the front office.

Buses

James Harris - Assistant Principal

We have been advised by Dysons that as of Monday 6th March - Dyson Bus Drivers will be now starting to ask students for Bus Passes/Money when getting onto the school services. Please ensure your child either has money or a Bus Pass.

Toileting

Jenny Martin - First Aid

Due to some ongoing 2022 issues with students soiling or wetting themselves, we will be implementing the following procedures:

- If a student presents to the first aid room wet or soiled, and they DO NOT have a change of clothes/underwear in their school bag, the parents will be called to come to school to supply clothes or take the student home
- If the student has a change of clothes/underwear in their school bag they will be guided to change/clean themselves in the toilet in the first aid room and then returned to class

We are implementing these procedures to best structure the use of the first aid room toilet, to be able to fully assist students with diagnosed medical conditions.

Your assistance with getting your child cared for in a quick and personal manner will be very much appreciated

Classroom Libraries

Alecia Williams & MelMcInnes

Classroom Libraries are well and truly established and are running beautifully. Students and teachers have collaborated to create a classroom libraries that are meaningful to them. They have participated in books sorts, categorising sessions, book tastings and some classrooms have even created a recommendation station where students are recommending books to their peers.

Students use their classroom libraries to collect a range of 'I PICK' (just right) books for different purposes throughout their day of learning. To ensure student interest is being catered for we plan to hold regular year level classroom library book trades, to keep engagement in reading high amongst our learners. Here are some images of the amazing classroom libraries here at WPS.



ASSEMBLY CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to our Happy Card Recipients



Connor is our Library Raffle winner



Ben is our Environmental Hero award receiver of the week

EVENT NOTIFICATIONS

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

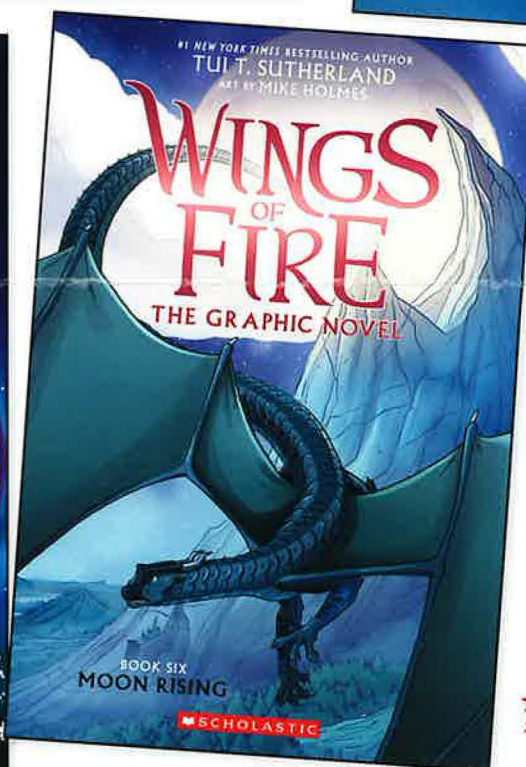
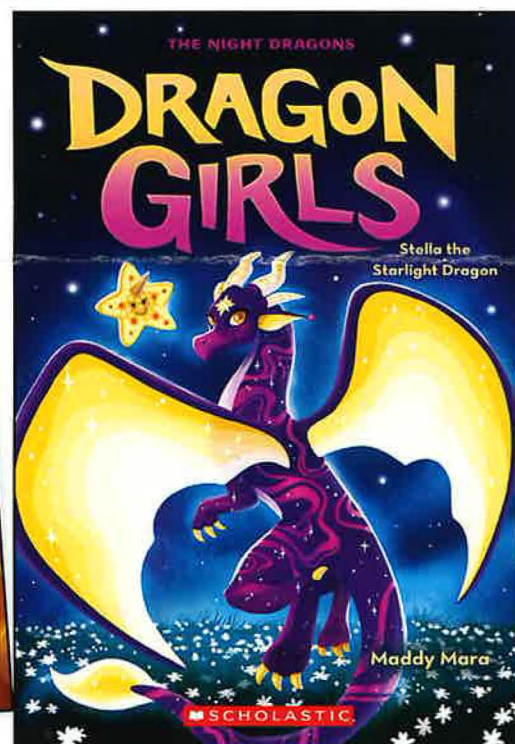
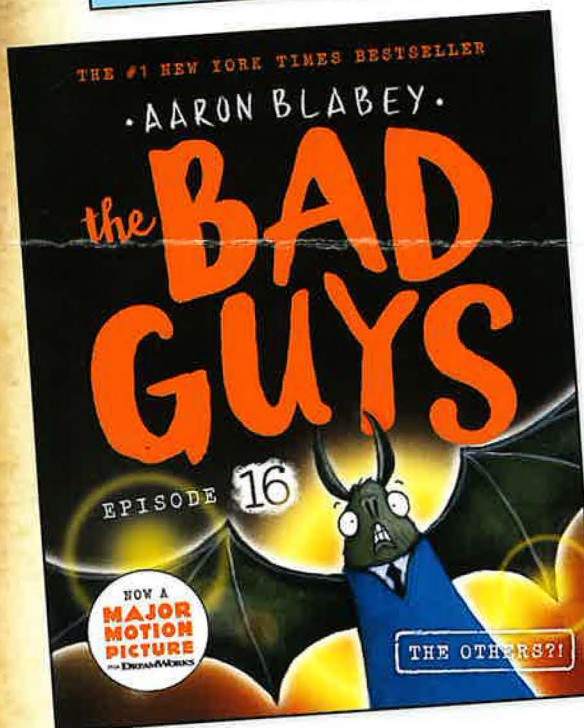
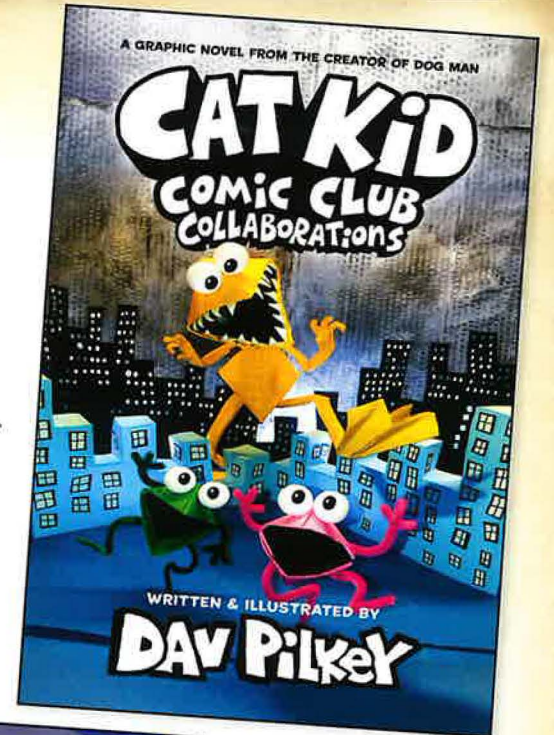
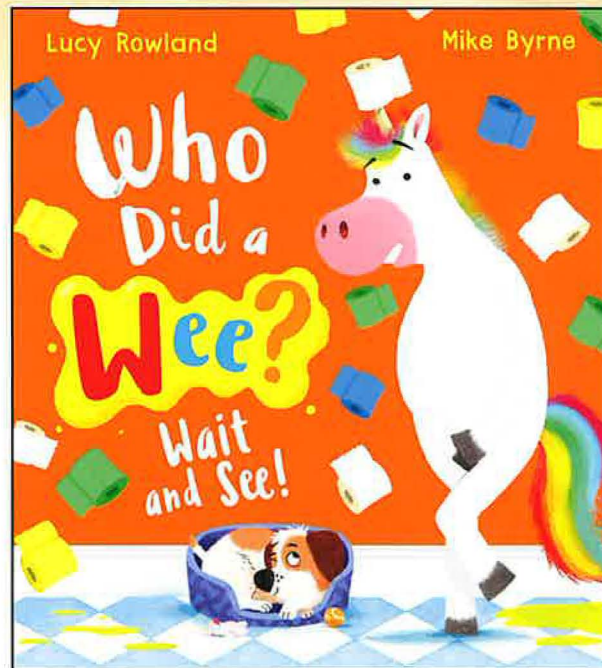
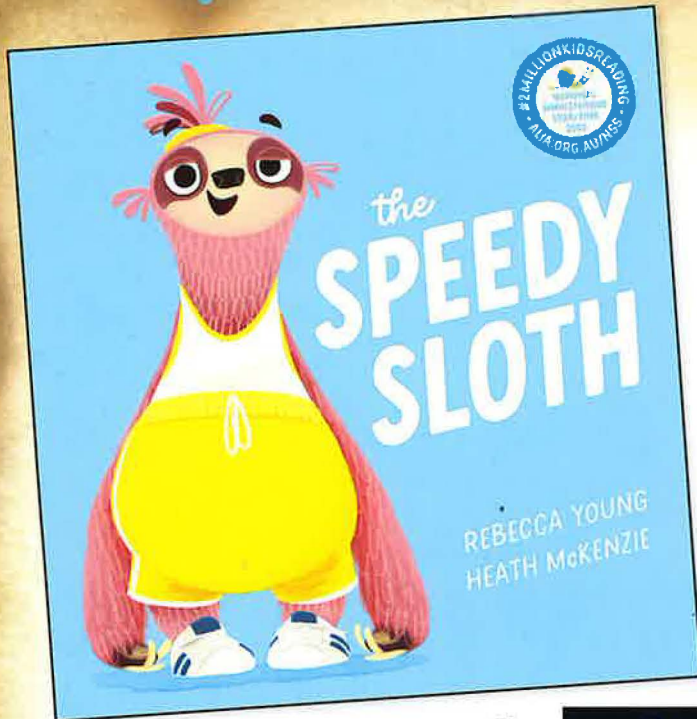
Event / Activity	Event Date	Who	Information on Compass	Consent / Payment Due Date
Alb/Wod Science and Engineering challenge	March 07	Year 6 students	Consent and payment required	Closed
Sporting School Incursion	March 07	Year 2 Students	Hot Shots Tennis	N/A
Sporting School Incursion	March 07	Year 5 Students	Hot Shots Tennis	N/A
Labour Day Holiday	March 13	All Students	No School -public Holiday	N/A
3/4 Athletics Carnival	March 24	Year 3 & 4 Students	More information to come	N/A
5/6 Athletics Carnival	March 31	Year 5 & 6 Students	More information to come	N/A
School Camp	April 5/6	Year 4 Students	Harrierville – Feathertop Chalet	Closed
Easter Hat Parade	April 06	All Students		N/A,
Last day of Term	April 06	All Students	Early Finish 2.30pm	N/A



SCHOLASTIC Book Fairs

You're invited to our Scholastic

BOOK FAIR



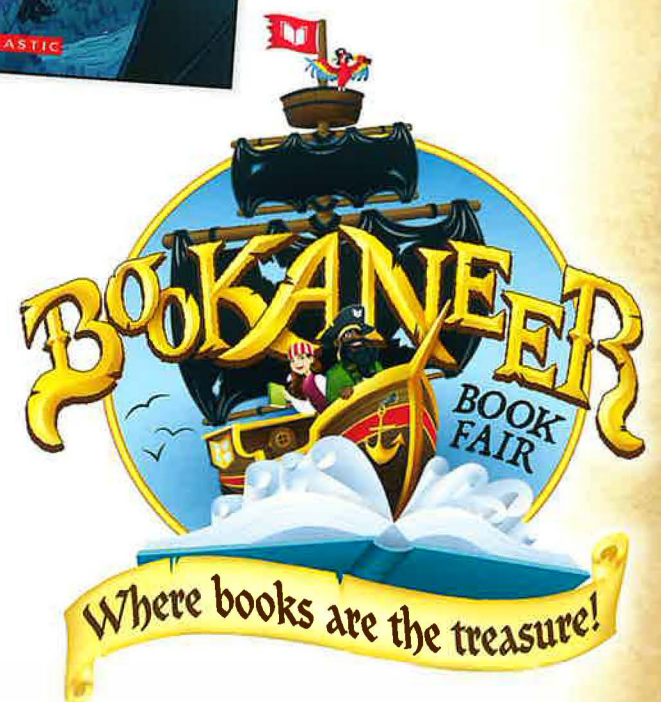
Find these
books and
more at
the Fair!



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



**SCHOLASTIC
REWARDS**



Date 6th - 15th Mar

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Time

Anytime

Plac

LIBRARY

Form 3: Self-Nomination form for Parent Member category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a parent member on the school council.

Name

Residential Address:

Contact phone (<i>mobile or landline</i>):

Email:

I am the parent/guardian of (list student's names below)
who is/are currently enrolled at this school.

Statement	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school.		

I am prepared to serve as a parent member of the above-named school council.

I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have never been, insolvent under administration
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the *Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004*.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of Candidate

Date:	
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You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

Your name will be included in a list of school council candidates and nominators (where applicable) posted in a prominent position at the school and for candidates, on a ballot paper (where applicable). Further, the name, membership category, gender (optional), term of office, office held (if any) of school council members and notification whether the member is an employee of the Department will be forwarded to the Department of Education and Training by the principal by 30 April each year as a record of council membership and may be used for statistical purposes.

You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

If you choose not to give some or all of the information requested your nomination may not be accepted.

If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.

Form 5: Self-Nomination form for School Employee member category

I wish to declare my candidacy for an elected position as a school employee member on the (school name below)
school council

Candidate's details

Name

Residential Address:

Contact phone (mobile or landline):

Email:

Statement	Yes (Mark with an x)	No (Mark with an x)
I am an employee of the Department of Education and Training		
I am an employee of the school council		
I am engaged in work at and for the school.		

I accept the nomination and I am prepared to serve as a school employee member of the above-named school council.

I hereby declare that:

- I am not, and have never been, insolvent under administration
- I am of sound mind
- I have not been found guilty of an offence that is, or would if committed in Victoria be, an indictable offence
- I am not a registrable offender within the meaning of the Sex Offenders Registration Act 2004.
- I am not suffering from any medical condition that would affect my ability to perform the role of member of a school council.

Signature of Candidate

Date:	
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You will be notified when your nomination has been received.

The personal information provided in this form is collected as part of the school council election nomination process. The information may be used to determine your eligibility as a candidate. Your personal information may be disclosed as a result of inspection prior to the commencement of voting or at any time up to one year from the declaration of the poll.

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You can access your personal information by contacting the principal on:

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If you have any queries about the school council nomination process, please contact the principal.