

No. 17 ~ July 12, 2021

Engage Learning * Expand Minds

Welcome to Week 1 of Term 3

It was great to be back at school today after our two-week break. At assembly this morning, we had 940 students sitting up demonstrating respect, ready to get back to learning. We've had a very settled return from holidays. Thank you to our families for your support and continued commitment to your child/ren's learning.

WALKATHON

Our Walkathon was a great success with just over \$7000 being raised so far. We are still receiving sponsorship envelopes which are slowly coming in. Can all families please ensure you have the Walkathon sponsorship money back in this week?

At assembly this morning, we celebrated the great efforts of our students during the Walkathon.

- Photo A is of all the students who received prizes for:
 - Most Laps - Persistence Award
 - Best Dressed Awards
 - Craziest Walk Award
- Photo B is of all the students who raised more than \$100 in sponsorship donations. Great job!!!!
- Photo C is of participants who did the Craziest Walk.

Photo A



Photo B



Photo C



KIND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This week's KIND Kid is Jax Katu from Year One! In Week 10 of last term, Jax was caught being "KIND" in the Courtyard. Jax was being inclusive in his game with others. Well done Jax!



PARENT OPINION SURVEY

Next week, families will receive an email from me via Compass. The email is providing a link to the 2021 Parent Opinion Survey. The parents are being asked for their thoughts and opinions on our school. This is a great opportunity for families of our community to provide firsthand feedback on their perception of our school and how we operate. Thank you in advance to the families who complete the survey within the 5-week window.

YEAR 5 CAMP

Unfortunately, due to the COVID crisis in NSW, our Year 5 Camp to Borambola will not be proceeding as scheduled next week. We are currently looking at other alternatives and may need to compromise on other "bite-sized" opportunities for students to experience and extend their personal and social capabilities. Year 5 families received a communication earlier today via Compass. Thank you all for your understanding.

SMILE SQUAD POSTPONED

Due to the Melbourne lockdown last term, the Smile Squad school dental service is being postponed to later in the year. The Smile Squad has not provided our school with any new dates. We'll keep you posted, however in the meantime, please be sure to get the parent consent and referral envelopes back to school asap.



TERM 3 RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS UNIT

This term's respectful relationships learning is focusing on Stress Management and Help Seeking. Through exploration in learning opportunities and explicit instruction around these areas, students will be supported in understanding the following key concepts...

Stress Management

- What is stress?
- What are different types of stresses/worries?
- Identifying stresses to reduce worries (putting coping strategies into practice)
- Lifting mood/calming strategies.

Help Seeking

- Assessing situations – can the problems be solved independently or do they require help from a friend or adult (sometimes it's important to tell a trusted adult about worries).
- Who can you trust?
- Role plays and scenarios about clear communication with others. How do you actually ask for help when a problem is too big to solve on your own?



NAIDOC 2021

Last week was the official NAIDOC celebration week, as this week annually falls in the mid-year holiday break, it's not always achievable to have a celebratory event at school. However, this year all our classrooms are integrating a week of Koorie culture into both general instruction as well as their Discovery Learning.



Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page for snippets of this learning in our classrooms.

TERM 3 PUPIL FREE DAY: July 30

Don't forget - FRIDAY JULY 30th is a pupil free day.

All staff from across Wodonga schools will be participating in professional learning together at the Wodonga Federation of Government School's Conference.



Sincerely, *Damian Duncan*, Principal

THE YEAR 2 TRIAL TEAM! Home Learning

The Year Two cohort is being provided with an exciting opportunity to trial the new WPS Home Learning website. The WPS Home Learning website has been developed as an initiative from the School Council Taskforce for Home Reading. The Home Learning website will be available for parents to access home reading supports and parent information resources. The website is also going to house an easy and accessible **Online Reading Log Entry**.

Our Year 2 students have brought home today a QR code **WPS online reading log bookmark**. Students will be working hard on their daily reading at home and recording their reading efforts on the online reading log.

Thank you to our Year 2 families for supporting the year level trial. This will provide the Home Reading Taskforce with valuable feedback over the initial 4-week period. We will then make any necessary adjustments or tweaks before rolling it out to the whole school.

We look forward to keeping the school community informed about our new home reading initiative over the coming weeks. For all other year levels.... keep reading every night, your online reading recording links will be out later in the Term!!

Christine Forrest, Home Learning Taskforce Coordinator

LIONS JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION: Postponement

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we are unable to hold the competition this week. The competition will now go ahead next Wednesday July 21st commencing at 9am. Good luck!

Maureen Murray, Student Leadership Coordinator

THE FATHERING PROJECT

Did you know that we have a Dad's Group online that you can join. Just scan the QR code below to join and then access some great tips and activities.

Stay tuned for information about our Father's Day event to be held late August/early September.

What your kids need is 'you'

- Minimise distractions (phone etc.) when engaging with your children.
- Remind them you love them unconditionally.
- Get involved. Be an active participant in their lives.
- Listen to them. Get to know their thoughts, ideas, likes, dislikes, friends and dreams.
- Value the everyday moments. Time together at home is as important as special events.



DEFENCE FAMILIES: Defence Student Mentor introduction – Welcome!



Hello Families,

Welcome back to Term 3.

My name is Anna Makin. I am your new Defence School Mentor (DSM). I will be at the school every Monday and Tuesday between 9am and 2pm throughout the school term. I will be ensuring your child's social and emotional wellbeing needs are met whilst at our School.

I have been a Defence spouse myself for 20 years, nine of the last of those years have been here in Wodonga. I have two daughters who are 9 and 12 years old. As a family, we love everything that Albury Wodonga has to offer. We are members of Wodonga Little Athletics Centre and the Albury Wodonga Yacht Club. In the summer months, we love fishing at the weir and in the winter months enjoy going to Falls Creek.

As a Defence spouse myself, I understand that Defence life brings unique challenges for all family members, including moving schools, deployment and parent absence, which can be an unsettling and anxious time for all. I am available to give support and guidance to your child in class, in the school playground and also provide opportunities for all Defence students to be involved in planned activities to connect and bond with other Defence students across the school.

During the first couple of weeks of Term 3, I will be catching up with each student individually to introduce myself and to get to know them. Parents, please feel free to contact me via the school office on 02 6048 0300 if you have any queries or concerns you may have or just to say hello.

I look forward to getting to know all our amazing Defence Families.

Anna Makin, DSM

***** EVENTS WILL ONLY PROCEED IF COVID-19 GUIDELINES ALLOW*****

COMPASS 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
Division Cross Country	July 14	Selected students	Consent & payment required \$13.50	June 9
Winter Sports Carnival	July 16	Year 5/6	Back-Up date: July 23 or 26 th	CLOSED
Water Safety	July 16/19/21	MI2 / OS3 CH1/BR1	Consent & payment required : \$20.00 Consent & payment required : \$20.00	July 14
Lions Public Speaking	July 21	Selected students	Rescheduled from July 14	CLOSED
Water Safety	July 23/26/28	MI1/OS6 CH2/BR2	Consent & payment required : \$20.00 Consent & payment required : \$20.00	July 20
Burraja Program	July 28	Indigenous students	Consent required – no cost	July 12
Pupil Free Day	July 30	Whole School	NO SCHOOL	
Water Safety	August 2/4/6	MI3 / OS1	Consent payment required : \$20.00	July 27
In The Groove	August 2	Years 4/5/6	Consent & payment required \$5.50	July 30
School Photographs	August 3 & 4	Whole school	Official School Photos – info available soon	August 4
Akoma Schools Chorus	August 21	Selected students	Consent given with previous event 19/6	CLOSED
Quantum Victoria	TBA	Selected Yr 6 students	Consent required	CLOSED