



Ariel Announcements

No. 05 ~ February 28, 2022

Engage Learning * Expand Minds

Dear WPS community,

TEACHER LED CONFERENCES

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we were very pleased with the number of bookings that had been made by families for our annual Teacher Led Conferences. Although the format was a little different, we have had encouraging feedback from staff and families that, although not in person, the use of Zoom still ensured that families could make connections with the school and were able to share and learn valuable information about their child to ensure academic, social and emotional supports are established for the 2022 school year. We look forward to further opportunities for 'teacher to home' connections throughout the year.

2022 SCHOOL COUNCIL

As per last week's Newsletter, nominations for our 2022 School Council are open. Nomination forms can be picked up from the office, 8.30am – 4.30pm. The closing date for nominations is Friday March 4th.

For further information on this process, please see last week's newsletter.

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).

COVID SAFE UPDATES

Further to announcements made last week by the Victorian Government, we have been informed that the voluntary RAT screening will continue in schools for the remainder of Term 1. The school is yet to receive further deliveries of RATs however when they arrive, we will distribute to all students.

If however you do not wish your child to receive a RAT kit for home testing, please advise us on:

Wodonga.ps@education.vic.gov.au before 12pm tomorrow. It is again recommended that children complete a RAT test at home on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The air purifiers continue to be used in classrooms, in addition to increased ventilation and continued hand hygiene practices. The school will continue to send out communication to families where a positive case has been identified, so families can monitor their child for symptoms.

There have been some changes to mask mandates in the secondary school sector and offices, however the current Department of Education Operations guidelines require students in Years 3-6 to continue to wear masks. We have now received additional mask supplies and will have spares for students in the room.



*Collaboration * Culture * Challenge * Community * Curiosity*

YEAR 5 CAMP: Borambola

Exciting times ahead this week as our Year 5 students head to Borambola Camp!!!! This is the first camp that WPS students have attended since pre 'Covid-19 Pandemic'. Keep an eye out in next week's newsletter and Facebook for camp updates as they come through.

GEM (*Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness*) STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Well done to Xavier from Year 6 for being drawn out of the GEM box this morning.

Unfortunately, Xavier was not here to receive his award and was therefore unable to explain what he did to be "in the box" but we can tell you, he was "in the box" a number of times!

Well done Xavier!!!

SCHOOL REVIEW

After a rescheduling of dates from last year, we are excited to begin the formalised School Review Process. The school review will have a variety of panel members, open forums, and classroom observations to review our previous School Strategic Plan and to determine our next steps of direction for teaching and learning at WPS as we move forward. We will continue to share outcomes of the review process as they occur over the next 4 weeks.

FOUNDATION UPDATE: Start of full weeks

This week will see the Foundation students complete their first full week of school. From this week onwards, all Foundation students will come to school 5 days each week. Thank you to all our Foundation families who supported by ensuring their child had their School Entry Assessment completed during the Wednesdays in February. We will use this important information to ensure we have targeted teaching and learning programs for all our students in the cohort.

Enjoy your week,

Christine Forrest, James Harris & Jye Williams, Assistant Principals

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT PARENT AND STUDENT PRESENTATIONS



We are super excited to be hosting Martin from the Resilience Project tomorrow for our student presentation sessions!

Keep an eye on our school Facebook page for some pics of the day! This will be such a huge opportunity for WPS students to engage in powerful, practical and engaging personal development that is renowned worldwide!

Remember, Martin will be **presenting to parents and carers online** from 6:30-8:00pm on Monday March 7th.

About the Parent/Carer Presentation: As parents and carers, we know you want to show-up for your kids, support their mental health, and encourage them to be the best they can be. An important part of showing-up for our children, however, is first showing-up for ourselves.

The Parent & Carer Presentation will help you...

- Equip yourself with simple, practical tools to look after your own wellbeing.
- Be informed of the confronting mental health statistics in our country and understand why prevention is the key to changing this narrative (especially for our children).
- Learn about GEM (Gratitude, Empathy & Mindfulness) - the evidence-based principles your kids are living and breathing at school to feel happier and build resilience.
- Feel confident in holding positive wellbeing discussions with your family.

Please register for the Parent/Community presentation using the following registration link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IY1EWE2wTLe471T81yDDNg Upon registration, registrants will receive a link to attend the webinar, along with a reminder the day prior.

Jye Williams, Assistant Principal

HOME LEARNING PROGRAM

Home reading is on the rise at WPS! We have noticed that over the past two weeks it has increased over 100% in students logging their Home Reading experience. Tracey and Wendy in the Library have begun to respond to the Year 3-6 Student Reading Interest Survey. Students have indicated high interest and motivation in reading and borrowing books from the following genres:

1. Funny books
2. Book series
3. Adventure

Their plan is to make book displays that are based on student interest to assist them in easily selecting these books. Just a reminder that students are welcome in the library to borrow, exchange or enjoy reading a book which they will be able to log on their Home Reading on the student computer station in the library.

Students in Foundation, Years 1, 2 & 3 will bring a selection of school home readers home each week. If your child/ren is confident to read these books independently then parents can support with fluency, expression and comprehension. If your child/ren finds the text challenging, reading to them or along with them is a great way you can support and engage with them in the reading process. On our Home Reading Website, explore the section titled 'How to engage in home reading successfully'.

<https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/wpshomelearningwebsite/home>.

You can find support in how to select one book and explore it over multiple nights building your child/ren's confidence, fluency and comprehension over the week.

Lisa Harrison & Alecia Williams, Literacy Lead Teachers

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
Brass & Woodwind Tuition	Weekly	Selected students	Payment & consent required	Mar 28
Hidden Creatures Workshop	March 1 & 4	Year 4	Consent required , no cost – opt in	Feb 18
Regional Swimming	March 2	Eligible students	Consent & payment TBA	March 1
Year 5 Camp	March 2-4	Year 5	Consent & payment , \$325.00	Feb 18
Year 4 Camp	March 17 & 18	Opt-in	Register from SMS link – info on Compass newsfeed	asap
WPS Aths Sports	March 18	Years 5/6	Consent & payment on Compass soon	
WPS Aths Sports	March 25	Years 3/4	Consent & payment on Compass soon	
Last Day of Term 1	April 8	All students	Early finish, 2.30pm	N/A
Public Holiday	April 25	Whole School	Anzac Day	N/A
Pupil Free Day	April 26	Whole School	Staff Professional Development	N/A
First Day Term 2	April 27	Whole School	School starts at 9.00am	N/A