Ariel Announcements

No. 12 ~ May 16, 2022

Engage Learning * Expand Minds

Welcome to Week 5

Education Week 2022 kicked off this morning with our “BIG BREAKFAST” event, and was it BIG!! Thanks to all that attended and enjoyed being at school. We have a lot to Celebrate at Wodonga Primary School, please continue to join in with opportunities we are providing this week (see below)...

Tuesday: Our classrooms are open for families to come in and see Resilience Project learning in action. From 2pm to 3:15pm our classroom doors will be open. Please sign-in at the office before heading off to your child's classroom. To ensure the flow of visitors and equity of time, please plan to stay in your child's classroom for a maximum of 15mins.

Wednesday: Our YR 3/4 Choirs will be performing in the Courtyard at lunchtime. Families of our 3/4 choir members are welcome to attend in person at 11:40 am to 12:00pm. The school will live-stream the event on Facebook.

Thursday: Open Classrooms once again - Our classrooms are open for families to come in and see Discovery learning in action. From 2pm to 3:15pm our classroom doors will be open. Please sign-in at the office before heading off to your child's classroom. To ensure the flow of visitors and equity of time, please plan to stay in your child's classroom for a maximum of 15min

Friday: Years 5 and 6 students will be competing in the Winter School Sports Carnival. Families are encouraged to pop over to your child's location to watch the sports in action.

As part of Education Week, we set up a Reading Log table, where we encouraged students and their parents to share a book whilst enjoying their breakfast! It was also an opportunity for students and parents to practice their logging skills and promote a love of reading at WPS! Thank you to all who came.

NOTE: If anyone has misplaced their Reading Log Tag or is having trouble logging please send you child to our office (close to the canteen) so that we can help.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Parents - please mark in your calendar a Pupil Free Day on Tuesday the 21st of June. This day is a Professional Practice Day for teachers as per the Department of Education teacher award. We understand that this date was a surprise to many, however due to the stalling of the industrial award negotiations, schools have only recently been notified of this additional day. School Council has ratified the date last week.

NOTE: THEIRCARE is open for business this day.

GEM OF THE WEEK

Today's GEM student is Peyton Antstis. Thank you, Peyton, for caring for our school by showing empathy in the yard. Well done!

COVID UPDATE

Many of you will know that many community members are testing positive to COVID currently. This is certainly the case at our school, with teachers, aides, principals, and students having to have 5 days off school. The school leadership team is doing their very best to accommodate the COVID leave and have teachers in your child's classroom. To date, we have been successful. Please understand that there are critical shortages of casual replacement teachers. Thank you for your support and communication around illness and student absence at this time.

I hope to see you here at school across the week.

Damian Duncan

Principal

LIONS JUNIOR PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETION

We are very excited to have 24 students from Yr 3 to Yr 6 participating in the public speaking competition this year. Students have prepared and practised their speeches and will speak in front of a panel of judges and an audience of their peers.

Years 3 and 4 students will talk about a place (outside of Victoria) that they would like to visit.

Years 5 and 6 students will introduce a famous person from the 19th Century.

The school winners in each category will go onto the district competition.

Students should come to the MI6 classroom/meeting room at 12pm on Wednesday.

COVID VACCINATION HUB

In conjunction with DET and AWH, our school has been chosen to be a COVID Vaccination Hub on Tuesday 31st May from 2pm – 6pm. The clinic is aimed for students between the ages of 5 – 11 years old and is an optional choice for families. For further information regarding children's COVID vaccinations, please click on this link.

Reservations will be open as from 7pm today.

To book your child's vaccination, please click here to schedule a time.

Please note that parents MUST accompany their child to obtain their vaccination!

NF DAY FUNDRAISER

The student leaders, especially Lahni, Jade, and Matilda along with Sage and Liam, would like to extend a huge thank you to our staff including the wellbeing and engagement team and canteen staff, our community, and to Foodshare for supporting our fundraising efforts for The Children's Tumour Foundation on NF day last Tuesday. The sea of Blue and Green exploded into the courtyard to play games at lunchtime, and lines ran around the buildings to buy smoothies and cupcakes at Recess. Through the efforts of all involved and the generosity of the WPS community, we raised a total of $1,325.25 on the day!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council met last Wednesday night. It was a big meeting with lots to talk about. Damian presented some of the goals that the school are working towards based on the School Review that happened in March. They will be focusing specifically on whole school approaches to teaching Mathematics and English as well as student wellbeing, with lots of exciting strategies and initiatives planned. We heard from Student leaders, Emma and Madeleine, about some of the work they have been doing around the school including the successful Wear Blue and Green fundraiser and a recent leadership conference.

Responding to parent feedback, we also spoke about some congestion with parking around the school, with some concern that the drop off zones around the school are being used for longer parking. In order to keep kids safe, we would like to remind parents about the importance of these drop of zones to keep traffic moving. The School Council will write to Wodonga Council about the issue and I encourage you to reach out if you have any feedback or ideas you would like included (via email below). We also revisited the time the school gates are opening in the morning, now that the new COVID normal allows parents to be on grounds more readily. The school leadership team are monitoring this situation closely and are regularly opening up the gates a little earlier. They report a significant decrease in students waiting at the gates and feel that the new opening time is working for the community. If you have any further feedback regarding the gate opening, please do get in touch.

Nat Thompson

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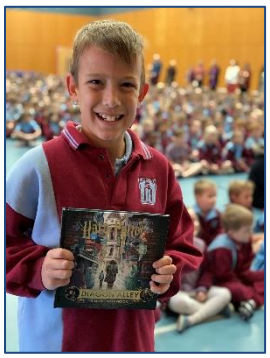

LIBRARY NEWS

To encourage children to change their books on a regular basis, we have been explaining to classes that every day is library day.

Children can come into the library before and after school to borrow and return books.

Any child that has been into the library before or after school has had their name placed in a jar and this morning at assembly, Byron Fouracre's name was drawn from the jar and he won a book. Congratulations Byron.

This will be happening each week so come in and see us before or after school.

Simultaneous Story time

Don't forget to tune in at **11am on Wednesday 25th May 2022** and listen to Mrs Harrison reading Family Tree.

Wendy Plunkett, Library Technician

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
Education Week	May 23 -27	Whole School	Daily activities	N/A
Winter Sports	May 27	Years 5/6	Closed	N/A
Walk Safely to School	May 20	Whole School	Walk to school safely	N/A
Simultaneous Story Time	May 25	Whole School	11.00am (see article)	N/A
Year 6 Camp	May 30-Jun 1	Year 6		N/A
Pupil Free Day	June 10	Whole School	**Student Led Conferences**	
Public Holiday	June 13	Whole School	**Queen's Birthday**	
Pupil Free Day	June 21	Whole School	**Professional Practice Day for Teachers**	
Last Day of Term 2	June 24	All students	**Early finish, 2.30pm**	
First Day Term 3	July 11	Whole School	**School starts at 9.00am**	