



# Ariel Announcements

No. 28 ~ October 11, 2021

**Engage Learning \* Expand Minds**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 2 at Wodonga Primary School. We enter some more uncharted territory at our school this week with the staged return of our students in Years 3 to 6. We are excited to have our senior students back learning onsite (see table below) and hope that all students can come back full time all the time!!!!!! Fingers and toes crossed!

Year levels	From Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	From Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	From Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> October
Foundation	✓	✓	✓
Years 1-2	✓	✓	✓
Years 3-4		Tuesday-Wednesday	✓
Years 5-6		Thursday-Friday	✓

A reminder to our returning 3 to 6 students...

- Don't forget your school broad brimmed hat for when you are playing outside.
- Use your House Gate for arriving and leaving school, as you have done previously
- Bring to school any learning utensils/stationery you have at home
- You will have a specialist class in the afternoon to help get back into the "normality" of being at school onsite.

## FACE MASKS IN SCHOOLS

The Premier announced last week that facemask wearing by students in Years 3 to 6 students will come into effect on **Monday October 18<sup>th</sup>**. This announcement was made on Friday Oct 8<sup>th</sup> and schools have not yet been notified of the parameters around implementing this safety measure.

Due to not having detailed information to share with families at the time of publication of this newsletter, I will post relevant information out to families via a Compass Newsfeed as soon as the information comes to schools.

**Note:** we will be sensitive and supportive to students who will be challenged with this initiative. Feel free to contact your classroom teacher via Compass if you have any concerns.



*Collaboration \* Culture \* Challenge \* Community \* Curiosity*

## STAFFING

Wodonga PS staff are delighted to welcome Paula Van Willenswaard to the Administration team while farewelling Faye Kammerer who has been a long-standing team member since the Year 2000. Paula is new to the Victorian Education system but is quickly learning the role of Finance officer. We wish Faye all the best as she transitions to retirement using her Long Service Leave for the next two school terms, however you will see her familiar face in the office from time to time as she relieves staff.



**FAYE KAMMERER**  
(Finance Office on Leave)



**PAULA VAN WILLENSWAARD**  
Finance Officer / Admin

## NATIONAL ARIA AWARD NOMINATION: Aaron Silver (Music)

We are super excited and proud of Mr Silver who has been nominated for a 2021 National ARIA Award. He has initiated a new interest in music for our students over recent years and has especially found his forte in providing interactive and engaging Remote Music sessions for our students and their parents, creating a new love of music for many during our Lockdowns.

Voting has now opened, so please get online and vote via this link:

[https://www.aria.com.au/vote?fbclid=IwAR06X9MxGynh1\\_KJ4Z6UpPPSzsHSAwJQx32vmDMXilHIRnwFI975BQiaK4](https://www.aria.com.au/vote?fbclid=IwAR06X9MxGynh1_KJ4Z6UpPPSzsHSAwJQx32vmDMXilHIRnwFI975BQiaK4)

**You can vote every day!!** Let's make our vote count and reward Mr Silver for his innovative approach to teaching music.

## LEARNING DURING LOCKDOWN: Voicing Feelings

It was a proud moment when I was emailed "Harry's Lockdown Poem".

For our students to be continuing to be learning while also utilising their own student voice to express how they are feeling, speaks volumes of the support our teachers are providing our students at school.

Enjoy Harry's poem and *THANK YOU* Harry for sharing!

### HARRY'S LOCKDOWN POEM

It's been going on for ages,  
I'm sick of lockdown stages.  
It's like a rule,  
to not go to school.  
There's so many things we can't do,  
Like going on trips to the zoo.  
We can't see family or friends,  
But our friendship never ends.  
We can still see each other online,  
Play at the park when the weather is fine.  
But missing out on holidays is cruel,  
And that's totally not cool.  
We miss out on birthday parties as well,  
Lockdown is a living hell!

**By Harrison, HU5**

## KIND KIDS

This week's KIND Award recipients are **Audrey Catherwood** from HU3 and **Alexis Taylor** from MI6.

Audrey helped a student in the yard to find a friend while Alexis helped the Yard Yakka teacher during break time.

Thanks for looking out for our school and being kind to our school community.



## REMINDER: 2022 STUDENT PLACEMENT

In November, teachers alongside the leadership team, commence placing students into their 2022 classes. This process consists of a strategic approach to ensuring our classroom structures are balanced and supportive of learning. Staff consider multiple factors when constructing the classes for the upcoming year; gender balance, academic achievement balance, behavioural needs and the overall combination of student personalities.

Students have a voice regarding their placement by nominating five (5) learning partners which they rank from 1 to 5. In addition to this, parents who have concerns or would like to provide a request, can do so by putting their **request in writing addressed to myself (Damian)**. These requests have parameters which parents need to consider.

There are three types of parent requests the school will consider when using parent input into the process.

1. Parents can request *a separation*. Valid reasons why their child would not learn to the best of their abilities if in the same classroom as a particular student.
2. Parents can request *a pairing*. This requires **both** sets of parents to put in writing a request for their children to be in the same classroom.
3. Parents can request *a type of teaching style*. This requires a description of the attributes their child learns best with, parents are unable to request a particular teacher (by name).

**NOTE:** All previous year's requests made by families need to be re-submitted.

Families with twins may also consider letting the school know about their desire for their children to be placed together or apart.

The deadline for parent requests is **Friday October 29<sup>th</sup>**.

Have a great week,

*Damian Duncan*, Principal

## GRADUATION BEARS: Year 6

Due to the fact that the Grade 6 students are not back at school until Thursday and Friday this week, the closing date for orders of Graduation products has been **extended until Monday October 18<sup>th</sup>**.

This way, orders can be brought in with students on Thursday and Friday this week.

Thank you for your understanding.

*Tracey Chadwick*

## SCHOOL PHOTOS: Postponed until November 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

Unfortunately, due to the extension of the current Lockdown, our School Photo dates have again been moved back. Fingers-crossed that this is the last time. We are now scheduled for whole school photos on November 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please remember, you can order at any time online, just record your Reference Number on the envelope you have and send that to school when it's actually Photo Day.

All orders previously lodged online will be honoured, the photography company has a record of all orders so please don't be concerned.

## 2022 STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A reminder for students in Years 4 and 5 to get their applications for leadership positions in by the end of this week. As mentioned in this morning's assembly, the selection interviews have been pushed back until 3<sup>rd</sup> November to allow all our students to settle back into regular school.

Application forms are available in the booklet on the school's [website](#) or as a hard copy from the school office.

*Maureen Murray*, Student Leader Coordinator

## LIBRARY NEWS

**BOOK CLUB:** Book Club Issue 7 made its way home last week! This will be the last Book Club for the year, as we will be holding a Book Fair at school from November 15<sup>th</sup>.

This is a bumper Christmas Edition Book Club with 40 pages of the best Christmas gift ideas, the best summer reading and the best of the best for 2021! The catalogue can be viewed online via the link below.

All book club orders are to be sent to Paula in the office for processing or you may choose to order online through our Parent Loop

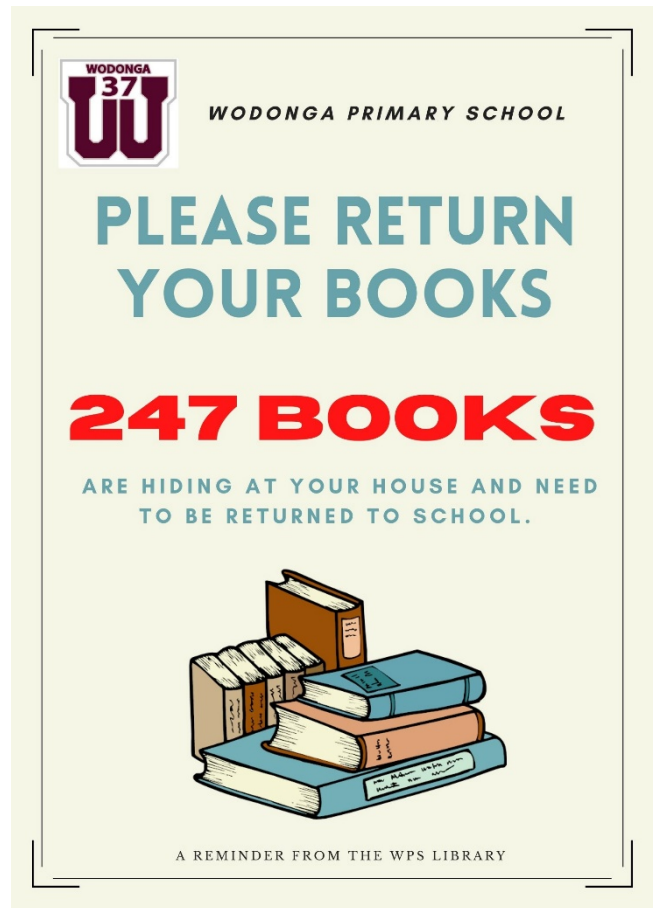
<https://mybookclubs.scholastic.com.au/Parent/Login.aspx>

Orders are due back at school on Monday October 18<sup>th</sup>. Happy Shopping!

**UNRETURNED LIBRARY BOOKS:** We have a large number of books missing from our Library shelves that could be hiding at home in bags or perhaps under beds!

We need to have these back at school so that they can be shared with other students. Please check and return them as soon as possible.

*Wendy & Tracey, Librarians*



## SUNSHINE WALK - JOIN THE TEAM



### SUNSHINE WALK - JOIN THE TEAM

It's time to join the Wodonga Primary School team to participate in the Sunshine Walk for the Albany Wodonga Cancer Centre Trust.

The walk is on November 7<sup>th</sup> however it has now gone virtual. We will wait until we know what restrictions are in place to determine how we will support each other or walk together. We are asking families to register for the 10km walk and support our fundraising efforts.

You can use the link below to join our team and register to walk or to make a donation towards the team's fundraising goal. You can register as an individual or as a family. Individuals or families set their personal fundraising goal that adds to the team total. Go WPS!

<https://give.awcancertrust.org.au/fundraisers/WodongaPrimarySchool>

<https://give.awcancertrust.org.au/join/WodongaPrimarySchool>



## GATES FOR SCHOOL ENTRY

Parents are reminded to drop-off and pick-up students from their House Colour gates as communicated via Compass and Facebook over the past few days.

WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

# RETURN TO SCHOOL ENTRY GATES

Effective September 13 2021

**HUME** Cherry Tree Lane **Main** gate

**MITCHELL** Mitchell Street **Gym** gate

**HUON** Brockley Street gates

**HOVELL** Wilson Street gate

**START & END OF DAY**

*Every Day*

**TERMS 1 & 4**

# BE SUNSMART

APPLY SUNSCREEN BEFORE COMING TO SCHOOL & WEAR A BROAD-BRIMMED HAT

WODONGA 37

## 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
All students onsite	October 26	Whole School	Check Compass for updates	N/A
School Photos	November 9 & 10	Whole School	Envelopes to be returned on the day	N/A
Book Fair	November 15-19	Whole School	From the library – more details soon	N/A
Wodonga Cup	November 26	Whole School	Public Holiday – No School	N/A
Pupil Free Day	December 17	Whole School	Last day of Term 4 – no school	N/A