



Ariel Announcements

No. 32 ~ November 23, 2020

Engage Learning * Expand Minds

Welcome to Week 8 Parents and Caregivers,

I know I've said it before, but this term is flying by! With only four weeks of school left, there are a lot of events and initiatives that we need to 'pack-in' as per any other year. Our Monday morning assemblies are being posted on the School's Facebook page, so be sure to check-out some communication and celebration of our values.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Please keep an eye on the Compass and the next series of Newsletters to ensure your questions and clarifications are explained in regards to end of year happenings. Below is a list of events you might want to put on your kitchen calendar...

Year 6 Graduation: Our Year 6 Graduation Ceremony* will be a live event on **Thursday December 3rd**. Students will be dropped off at the Wilson gate at 5:30pm, and parents should return home, with the virtual event being live broadcast to the parents (only) commencing at 6.00pm. A recording of the ceremony will be provided to families as well.

** Year 6 parents have been informed of this in detail via Compass.*

Transition Year 6 to 7: Headstart will be conducted during Week 10* (**December 7th - 11th**). All students attending either of the WMYC Campuses will be offsite for the week.

** Year 6 parents have been informed of this in detail via Compass.*

Transition - Preschool to School: With the Victorian Government continuing to ease restrictions, we are anticipating further restrictions around preschool to school transition. At this stage, we have planned for **Tuesday December 8th**, all 2021 Foundation students are planned to be attending school from 9:30am to 12:30pm for their one and only onsite Orientation Day*. To ensure it is Covid Safe, it will be implemented a little bit differently from previous years due to the restrictions, however, we are extremely relieved to commence planning around having our new students come and get a taste of school.

** 2021 Foundation parents will have further communication and confirmation around what this looks like and class placement details soon. Please continue to use the 2021 Foundation Transition Hub website.*

Step Up: Step Up is about students going with their existing (2020) class, up to the next year level to find out a little bit more about their learning for 2021. This will be conducted on **Wednesday December 9th**. Be sure to hear all about it when your child/ren comes home that evening.

Award Ceremonies: This year, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to host our annual Awards Ceremony in its usual format. We are therefore hosting a number of virtual Awards Ceremonies via each year level's assembly (**Thursday December 10th & 11th – see list below**). Even though we can't acknowledge these achievements as a whole school community, the accomplishment is still as prestigious and well-earned.

** Please note there could possibly be changes to this plan. Families will be communicated directly via the Year Level Compass feeds of any updates and there will be information on how and where to access the virtual assembly.*

*Collaboration * Culture * Challenge * Community * Curiosity*

2021 Semester 2 Reports: Reports will go live on Compass on **Friday December 11th**. Families will be notified by a Compass notification at 3.00pm on this day.

2021 Student Placement: Families of students In Years Foundation to Year 5 will be notified of their child/ren's classroom placement on **Monday December 14th**. This will be via email and will include the name of their 2021 classroom teacher.

Meet the Teacher: On **Tuesday December 15th**, all students will meet their 2021 teacher. This annual initiative gives students the opportunity to meet their teacher as well as see which peers are in their classroom in 2021. This initiative aims to reduce students' anxieties or worries about the following year.

Class Parties: **Wednesday December 16th** (except Year 6)

- There are no off-site parties.
- Food sharing is to be store bought/wrapped items if the party includes food (no homemade items)
- Communication to families from individual year level teams will be via Compass next week.
- **Year 6 Class Party** will be held on Friday December 4th as notified via Compass.

Christmas Concert: Unfortunately, we will not be having our "Back of the Truck" Christmas concert this year due to Covid-19 restrictions. This night is always a wonderful time for students and families. We hope we can re-commence this unique event in 2021.

This table might be of great assistance to you in seeing the sequence of events.

2020 END OF SCHOOL YEAR - DECEMBER				
Monday 30 th	Tuesday 1 st	Wednesday 2 nd	Thursday 3 rd	Friday 4 th
			Year 6 Graduation	Year 6 Awards Year 6 Class Party
Monday Dec 7 th	Tuesday 8 th	Wednesday 9 th	Thursday 10 th	Friday 11 th
Year 6 Transition to Secondary College	Foundation 2021 Transition Day TBC Year 6 Transition to Secondary College	Step-Up (Years F-5) Year 6 Transition to Secondary College	Year 6 Transition to Secondary College Award Assemblies Yr 5 - 9.15am Yr 2 - 12.15pm Yr 4 - 2.15pm	Year 6 Transition to Secondary College School Reports 'Live' on Compass Award Assemblies Yr 1 - 9.15am Yr 3 - 12.15pm Yr F - 2.15pm
Monday 14 th	Tuesday 15 th	Wednesday 16 th	Thursday 17 th	Friday 18 th
2021 Class Placements announced	Meet your 2021 Teacher	Class parties: Years F-5	LAST DAY TERM 4 3.15pm finish	Pupil Free Day – NO SCHOOL
2021 START OF SCHOOL YEAR - JANUARY				
Monday 25 th	Tuesday 26 th	Wednesday 27 th	Thursday 28 th	Friday 29 th
School Holiday	Australia Day Public Holiday	Pupil Free Day – NO SCHOOL	All students commence school – 9.00am	Normal School Day 9.00am – 3.15pm

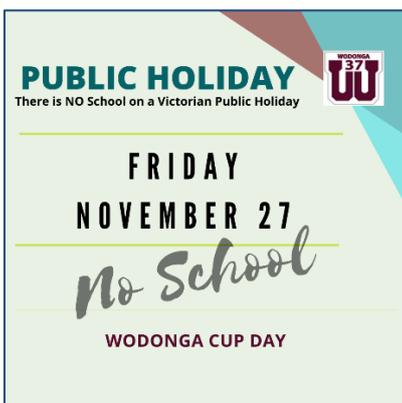
STUDENT SAFETY: Early Pick-ups

We'd like to take this time to remind parents of safe practices when picking up students early from school for appointments. Whilst parents are observing the practice of contacting the school when they arrive at the school gate (which we appreciate), many have been observed driving up to the gate as the student approaches, expecting them to jump into the car. This is a very unsafe practice and not endorsed by our staff. For this reason, we request that parents please plan ahead, park their car and walk to the gate to meet their child. Thanks for your support.

KIDS BEING KIND TO KIDS

This week's KIND award recipients are Josie Van Corler and Ella Way. We are very proud of our younger students being KIND to our school and being KIND to other kids.

Let's not forget the public holiday this Friday (27th).



Have a great week,



 Principal

ARE YOU LEAVING WODONGA PS AT THE END OF THE YEAR?

In preparation for 2021 class setup, parents are requested to contact the school if your child/ren will no longer be attending Wodonga PS in 2021. This ensures a smooth transfer process from WPS to your new school, along with making sure your child collects all their belongings at the end of the year.

Please ring the school office on 02 6048 0300 to let us know.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY: Wodonga Cup

The Wodonga Federation of Government Schools support the Wodonga City Council's Public holiday (in lieu of Melb Cup) which is held on **Friday November 27th** for the Wodonga Cup.

Please note, the school and Their Care will be closed on this day.

LOST BOOK ROUNDUP



December already – the end of year is approaching fast! We need your help to round-up our library books and readers. Some books we have not seen since the first COVID-19 quarantine. **So where could these books be?**

Lost in a dark place, under the bed or behind the couch?

Lost at Nan's, Dad's, Mum's or in your room – the same room you've been asked to clean- 5 times!

We need to find these lost books and bring them back to the library where they belong.

So let's Round Them Up! And return them to school.

Wendy Plunkett, Librarian

PHYS ED NEWS

Sporting Schools Programs

Our Sporting Schools programs for our Foundation, Year 3 and Year 6 students concluded last week. The feedback from all three programs was incredibly positive. A number of students said they were challenged during their program and that they were able to achieve a great deal of success through persisting, using teamwork and by having a Growth Mindset!

Our program facilitators both commented on the outstanding effort demonstrated by our students and how much they enjoyed providing the programs for our WPS community.



Foundation Tennis Racquets

Each year, Tennis Australia facilitate the ANZ Prep Racquet Initiative where official partner schools can complete a survey and go into a draw to receive racquets for their Foundation students. This year, WPS was fortunate to be one of those lucky schools. Therefore, today, all our Foundation students will bring home their very own tennis racquet and certificate. This racquet is theirs to keep and hopefully use to practice some of the skills they learnt in their Hot Shots unit, to play tennis with family or friends, or to participate in a junior tennis program at their local tennis club.

I hope our Foundation students enjoy their very own tennis racquet and it encourages them to continue participating in the wonderful sport of tennis!



Break Time Tennis Program

Once again providing tennis equipment for students to use at break times has been an incredible success. The students have been enjoying challenging themselves with racquet skills and rallying with their friends. This program has been positively impacted by the leadership of some of our senior students. Year 6 students Adriel, Mike, Charish and Lydia displayed initiative by taking it upon themselves to assist some of the younger students with their tennis activities and to monitor the use of and packing away of the tennis equipment. Our WPS community would like to thank these four students for their generous and thoughtful contribution to the success of the break time program. I look forward to the continued success of this program throughout the final four weeks of term.



Blake Maxworthy, Phys Ed Coordinator

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM: TheirCare

TheirCare have a comprehensive School Holiday program planned for the upcoming school holidays. Please view the attachment to this newsletter or visit our website for full details.