



- Newsletter -

Wodonga Primary School

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS:

Whole School
Assembly
Monday 5th
9:10
Gym

Community Night
Tuesday 6th
5:00pm
Cola

Swimming Trials
Wednesday 7th
9:00-11:30
WAVES
(self selected students
only)

HELPFUL LINKS

[FACEBOOK](#)



[COMPASS](#)



[WEBSITE](#)



**Student
Leadership
Assembly**

Monday 12th of
February

Newsletter #1

Monday 5th of February, 2024

Principal's Message

Damian Duncan



Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome to the 2024 school year! Last week we welcomed all 880 students, which included our very excited and somewhat nervous Foundation students. It was a great week which saw our wonderful staff welcome and comfort students as they settled into their new classrooms. I would like to welcome all our new families to our school and ensure you all now we encourage communication and connections with our school.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY NIGHT

We look forward to seeing our whole school community tomorrow night (Tuesday 6th Feb) for our annual back-to-school Community night, commencing at 5:00pm. This will be a night of fun, and a great opportunity for families to connect with the school, and fellow parents. Families are welcome to bring a picnic dinner if you wish and enjoy a dinner on the Brockley oval.

TEACHER LED CONFERENCES: February 12th to 15th.

These conferences will be held from Monday February 12th to Thursday February 15th **before and after school**. Today at 3pm a COMPASS Conference booking event will be sent out to families, providing families with the opportunity to book their conference via COMPASS. These conferences are an opportunity to discuss student learning and set future goals. They also provide an opportunity for teachers to develop relationships with families at the beginning of the school year.

FOUNDATION PORTRAIT PHOTOS

Our annual school photos are scheduled for August of this year. Communication around whole school photos will be distributed early in term 3. Next week Leading Image will be here to take portrait photos of all our Foundation students plus new students to our school on Monday 12th. Please note, these photos are for Compass and to assist staff in recognising and adhering to the child safe practices.

FOUNDATION FREE HEALTH CHECKS

Today all Foundation students will bring home an envelope with information and log on instructions to access the free service provided by the Primary School Nursing Program. The program aims to assist in the early identification of children with potential health, wellbeing, or development concerns which may impact on their education and offers screening (such as hearing, vision, speech, dental and motor skills) as well as advice, information and referrals to other health and support services. We strongly encourage all families to take up this opportunity and free service. Please contact the school if you have further questions.

Assembly Update...

At this morning's assembly we welcomed our new staff and celebrated the students who received happy cards last week!



- Engage Learning -
- Expand Minds -

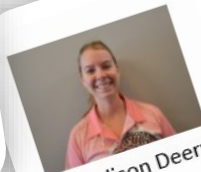
Meet our new & returning staff...



Maddi Crothers
Classroom Support



Jo Coleman
Year 1 Teacher



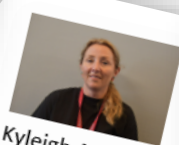
Maddison Deery
Education Support



Tom Gibbs
Education Support



Abby Veenbaas
Education Support



Kyleigh Andrews
Year 5 Teacher



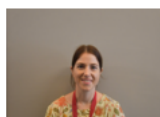
Hannah Rosser
Education Support



Peter Sajko
Year 5 Teacher



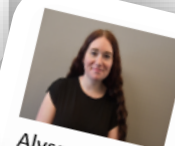
Shelley Gilbert
Leading Teacher



Emily Ryan
Respectful
Relationships



James Smith
Year 3 Teacher



Alyssa Chilvers
Library



Breelle Mackie
PE



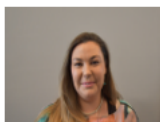
Kristy Lappin
Year 6 Teacher



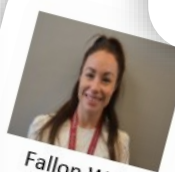
Amelia Cole
Year 1 Teacher



William Hampton
Year 6 Teacher



Jessica Mitchell
Year 6 Teacher



Fallon Walsh
Education Support

Our vision

principals are...

Culture

Curiosity

Collaboration

Challenge

Community

Canteen Reminder:

Be sure to change your child's classroom name on eCanteen to their 2024 classroom name!

First Aid Update...

Jenny Martin

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Anaphylaxis information

We are seeking your help to support the students in our school who are at risk of anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that is potentially life-threatening. The most common causes of anaphylaxis in our school are food and plant allergies. The only way to prevent allergic reactions is to avoid being exposed to the allergen.

Our school is supporting students at risk of anaphylaxis in the following ways:

- > all staff are trained in anaphylaxis first aid,
- > encouraging students to wash their hands before and after eating,
- > teaching students not to share food with friends,
- > teaching students the importance of getting help immediately if their friend with allergy looks sick.

Food allergy is now common in school aged children. Children can be allergic to any food, and it is not possible to completely remove all foods from our school. To help manage food allergies, our school does not recommend banning foods as this is difficult to enforce and can bring a false sense of safety. We request that parents also consider not sending nuts to school, especially for younger students. As we educate our school community to help with the management of food allergy and anaphylaxis, the parents of the student with food allergy will continue to educate their child on self-management at a developmentally appropriate level.

*“Learner
qualities help
us to extend
our learning
independently*

*Question
Connect
Self Aware
Reflect
Persist*

PE Update

Breelle Mackie

Attention Year 4-6 Families: Just a reminder that swimming trials are this Wednesday the 7th of February. Please ensure that students participating bring their swimwear with them on the day along with a towel, goggles, water bottle and sunscreen. The trials will take place between 9:30 and 11:30. Students will meet in the courtyard with their bags once they have got their name marked off their class roll. Students will be leaving the school at 9:15am to walk to Waves. Students will then return to school at the completion of the event via bus transportation.

Music Update

Aaron Silver

I am very excited to be starting our **3-6 Choir Program** this week (Week 2). Below is information I have shared with students and staff at today's assembly:

Rehearsal times:

Monday Lunchtime (11.10am) - Performance Choir for students in Years 3-6
Thursday Lunchtime (11.10am) - Year 5/6 Music Group

Information about Performance Choir:

Performance Choir (formally $\frac{3}{4}$ Choir) is an opportunity for students to sing and perform together. This is the amazing group of singers that will be doing the majority performances throughout the year. Senior students who wish to join (years 5-6) will have the opportunity to take on mentoring and leadership roles within the choir. There are no auditions and no sign up forms required. All we ask is that once students join choir they commit to **attending every rehearsal for the whole term**. Students who are absent from school do not need to worry about missing a rehearsal. At the end of the term student will have the choice to re-commit to choir for the following term.

Information about Year 5-6 Music Group:

This is a safe and inclusive space for students in Years 5/6 to sing, play instruments and share their love of music. In term one we will be focusing on singing and ukulele playing. This group is perfect for students who might enjoy some extra musical or social opportunities at school.



From the Literacy Team...

Home Learning is promoted at Wodonga Primary School as a means of:

- Developing and practising learning habits
- Connecting learning between home and school
- Consolidating and practising known skills
- Promoting questioning and curiosity
- Daily home reading

Wodonga Primary School endorses the following home learning choices:

- Daily reading – take home readers / library books will be provided by the school
- Using Reading Eggs program to practise literacy skills
- Seeking answers to "Discovery" or questions that promote curiosity and motivation.

Daily Home Reading

Home reading is a fantastic way of developing a student's love of reading.

Students books in Foundation to Year 2 will mostly consist of levelled readers that are easy to read independently. Students in Year 3 to Year 6 are encouraged to pick reading material of interest this can consist of school library books, books from home and audio texts.

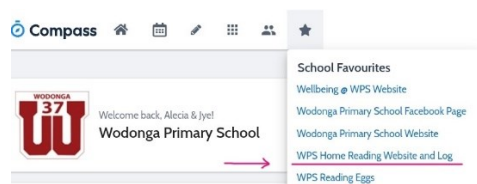
It should be an enjoyable activity where students practice fluency, build confidence, learn about the world around them and develop their imagination.

Student reading logs are used to track reading interests and acknowledge high engagement in home reading at year level assemblies each term. Student reading logs are encouraged to become a routine practice, firstly supported by adults at home and then encouraged for students to log their own home reading entries.

WPS Home Learning Website Link

<https://sites.google.com/education.vic.gov.au/wpshomelearningwebsite/home?pli=1>

You can also locate the link on the COMPASS Star...



Foundation students and new students to Wodonga Primary School will receive their home reading logging book mark and will get their keyring tags in coming weeks.

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
Community Night	Feb 6 th	Whole School	5pm – 6pm meet in the COLA	N/A
Swimming Trials	Feb 7 th	Self-nominated students only	Event on Compass for select students	CLOSED
Leadership Assembly	Feb 12 th	Students Leaders	Student Leaders will be presented with their badges at whole School Assembly	N/A
Foundation Portraits	Feb 12 th	Foundation students	Portraits for Compass and school use	N/A
Teacher Led Conferences	Feb 12 -15	Whole School	Book via Compass	N/A
Year 3 & 4 Athletics Carnival	Mar 4 th	Year 3 & 4 only	Details to come on Compass	
Year 5 & 6 Athletics Carnival	Mar 5 th	Year 5 & 6 only	Details to come on Compass	
Labour Day Public Holiday	Mar 11 TH	Whole School	No school – Public Holiday	N/A