



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Year 3 & 4 Athletics
Carnival
Monday 4th March

Year 5 & 6 Athletics
Carnival
Tuesday 5th March

LABOUR DAY PUBLIC
HOLIDAY - No School
Monday 11th March

HELPFUL LINKS

[FACEBOOK](#)



[COMPASS](#)



[WEBSITE](#)



**Next Pupil
Free Day
Monday 15th
April**

- Newsletter -

Wodonga Primary School

Newsletter #3

Monday 19th of February, 2024

Principal's Message

Damian Duncan

Dear Families and Friends,

I hope this message finds you well and ready for another exciting week ahead!

Firstly, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the families who joined us for our recent Community Night. It was a wonderful success, and seeing so many of you connecting with the school, engaging with teachers, and enjoying the vibrant atmosphere was amazing. Your presence and support is much appreciated.

I also want to express my gratitude to all the families who participated in our Teacher Led Conferences. These conferences provide invaluable opportunities for us to strengthen the bonds between school and home in a more formalised setting. Your dedication to your child's education and your willingness to partner with us in their learning journey is also truly appreciated.

On another note, I am thrilled to congratulate the 11 students who represented our school at the Division Swimming Championships. Your hard work, determination, and sportsmanship have made us incredibly proud. Also, a massive thanks to Miss Mackie for the behind-the-scenes organisation of this Event.

Wishing you all a fantastic week ahead!



- Engage Learning -
- Expand Minds -

**Our vision
principals
are...**

Culture

Curiosity

Collaboration

Challenge

Community

Attendance

Be sure to log your
child's attendance on
COMPASS if they are
sick or away!

NAPLAN

As you may be aware, the NAPLAN testing window is approaching. Our school was transitioned to Online NAPLAN assessment back in 2018 and we continue to use the online testing platform. NAPLAN online has a test window from **Wednesday 13th March - Monday 25th March 2024**. However, with our school schedule we aim to have all tests finalised within 4 school days.

Standardised tests are a snapshot of a student's academic progress on a given day. Wodonga Primary School endeavours to provide a supporting and non-threatening approach to the tests. However, parents with concerns regarding NAPLAN, or who wish to withdraw their child will need to speak directly with their child's teacher, or to Christine Forrest, the school's NAPLAN coordinator.

This week, Year 3 and Year 5 students will bring home an information letter and brochure with more detailed information regarding this year's NAPLAN online. Please ensure, as parents and carers, you are well informed and contact us for any further questions or clarification you might have.

School Council Elections

School Council contributes towards the direction our school takes and is an important component in ensuring the big Picture is achieved. Each year, we ask parents to nominate for positions on Council, to help us achieve our parent membership. This year, we have seven spare positions available (each position has a duration of 2 years).

If you wish to be part of the governing board of our school, please drop by the office and pick-up a SC Nomination form or download the forms from the same Compass newsfeed as this newsletter. School Council is a great way of being involved in many of Wodonga PS.

[Nominations close Monday 4th of March.](#)



Assembly Update...



Marlie is our GEM Award winner of the week.



Congratulations to our students who received Happy Cards last week!



Abigail & Sethuli are our Library winners this week!

First Aid Update...

Jenny Martin

STUDENT TOILETING 2024

Welcome back to 2024 and looking forward to another safe & healthy year at Wodonga Primary.

Due to some ongoing issues with students soiling or wetting themselves, we will be implementing the following procedures:

- If a student presents to the first aid room wet or soiled, and they DO NOT have a change of clothes/underwear in their school bag, the parents will be called to come to school to supply clothes or take the student home
- If the student has a change of clothes/underwear in their school bag they will be guided to change/clean themselves in the toilet in the first aid room and then returned to class

We are implementing these procedures to best structure the use of the first aid room toilet, to be able to fully assist students with diagnosed medical conditions.

Your assistance with getting your child cared for in a quick and personal manner will be very much appreciated.

Attached is the Education Dept's continence policy for your reference

[Continence Care: Policy | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/continence-care-policy)

"Learner qualities help us to extend our learning independently"

Question

Connect

Self Aware

Reflect

Persist



Mathematics...

Maureen Murray & Shelley Gilbert

WPS Mathematicians

Welcome to an exciting year of Maths at Wodonga Primary. From our Foundations to our Year 6s, our students are being engaged and challenged through authentic problems. This is an approach based in research and designed to provide entry into the learning for all students. In the coming weeks, students will be offered the opportunity to play with Maths during one break time as we will have games and activities available.

Each week in this Newsletter we will be sharing some thoughts about how children learn Maths and how we can combat Maths anxiety at school and at home so that every child knows they are a capable Mathematician and can learn how to solve mathematical problems.

Learning Key #1 (from Limitless Mind, Jo Boaler 2019)

"Every time we learn, our brains form, strengthen, or connect neural pathways. We need to replace the idea that learning ability is fixed, with the recognition that we are all on a

Sport...

Brelle Mackie

Congratulations to the 11 students who competed at the Hume Division swim meet last Friday. It was wonderful to see all our students enjoying themselves, giving their best effort and demonstrating great sportsmanship. Well done to the following students who will now progress through to Shepparton on the 6th March; Peyton McAuliffe, Ella Way, Brooklyn Bradsworth, Erin Riley, Adella Churches & Milla Williams.



Wellbeing...

Wellbeing Engaging and Connecting with Families - 2024!

Welcome to all the amazing families connected to our school. We hope the beginning of the new school year has seen students developing new friendships, linking to their teachers, learning more about themselves and friends, whilst engaging in a vast variety of learning.

An important aspect of the student's journey at school is their social and emotional development. At WPS this is supported by whole school interventions, such as the Wellbeing units, which are implemented each term.

This year our focus is on CONNECTEDNESS! ... (note the connected running writing - see what we did there!). We are working on connectedness between students and their peers, students and their teachers, as well as connectedness between families and the school.

- Research is showing that **school connectedness** is:
- An important protective factor for many students
- Influences regular school attendance, which is key to improved education and health outcomes.
Reduces risk-taking behaviour and violent and antisocial behaviour
- Reduces likelihood of emotional problems.
Is associated with greater academic achievement and psychological wellbeing*

We will be offering families the chance to engage in fun activities together at home, so we can share this with students at school, as well as between families.

How are we going to do this we hear you ask?

- Fun activity suggestions will be sent home in the newsletter and on the WPS Facebook. KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR THESE!
- The activities will be directly linked to the wellbeing activities being run at school.
- We hope you will take the opportunity to engage your playful side, be ready to talk and laugh with each other, and most importantly **HAVE SOME FUN!**

WELLBEING ACTIVITY 1 - OLD MAID!

*Research:

https://www.rch.org.au/cah/research/Health_Promoting_Schools/School_connectedness/

<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/why-is-school-connectedness-so-important#:~:text=School%20connectedness%20is%20an%20important,the%20likelihood%20of%20emotional%20problems.>

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
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 Holidays	N/A
Bogong Leadership Camp	Mar 15 th	Selected Students	<u>COMPASS DETAILS</u>	N/A
Last Day of Term	Mar 28 th	Whole School		N/A

