Whole School Newsletter
Wodonga Primary School
EDITION # 27 Monday 5th October, 2026

THIS WEEK AT WPS

OCOTBER 2026

THUR 8th Oct
- Art Show

FRI 9th oct
- Slow Food OS4

HELPFUL LINKS

FACEBOOK

COMPASS

WEBSITE

eCanteen

Principal's Message

Damian Duncan

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 4!!!! To be honest I ask myself, where has this year gone? I'm back on deck this term after extended leave and would like to take the opportunity to thank Christine Forrest, Cara Pfeiffer and Lisa Bradshaw for stepping up into the respective acting roles for terms two and three.
It's great to be back at our wonderful school, ready to finish off the year strong. Term 4 is always a busy term for schools, which leads me to encourage our families to be vigilant with the communication and updates from the school. Please ensure your Compass log ins are working as Compass is a vital tool for the school and our families to obtain up to date information and know when events and consents/payments are required.
To kick us off is our much anticipated LEARNING SHOWCASE: **Write Wodonga** and **Art Show** celebrations, commencing later this week!
See flyer and details below.

SunSmart Reminder

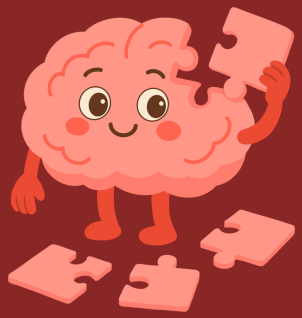
Hats On! **Term 4 is a SunSmart Term** with broad brimmed hats being mandatory for students to play in the yard at lunch and recess. Please dig out your child/ren's broad brimmed hats and ensure they are labelled clearly with your child's name.
SUNSCREEN: Parents are encouraged to *apply sunscreen to their children before school* and pack sunscreen in backpacks for students to re-apply during the day. Please note the school does not apply sunscreen to children.
Click on the link to view the SunSmart School Policy.

Hats are available for purchsae at the front office if needed.

OUR VISION PRINCIPLES ARE...

- ***Culture***
- ***Curiosity***
- ***Collaboration***
- ***Challenge***
- ***Community***

- Engage Learning -



- Expand Minds -

MEDICATION SUPPLY OR ADMINISTRATION

A gentle reminder and information to new families that Wodonga Primary will not:

- In accordance with Department of Education and Training policy, store or administer analgesics such as aspirin and paracetamol (eg: Panadol) as a standard first aid strategy as they can mask signs and symptoms of serious illness or injury. (Ibuprofen will be accepted)
- Allow a student to take their first dose of a new medication at school in case of an allergic reaction. This should be done under the supervision of the student's parents, carers, or health practitioner.
- Allow use of medication by anyone other than the prescribed student except in a life-threatening emergency. (e.g. if a student is having an asthma attack and their own puffer is not readily available). If a student requires short term medication ie. antibiotics, Wodonga Primary School encourages parents to administer medications at home where posible.

2027 STUDENT PLACEMENT

In November, teachers alongside the leadership team, commence placing students into their 2027 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 to the school via using this GOOGLE LINK.
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 the 23rd of OCTOBER.

Assembly Updates

This Weeks Happy Card Recipients!

GEM Dinner Table Chats

Hello from the GEM teachers!
This term in our weekly GEM lessons, we're exploring mindfulness and how it can help us slow down, notice what's happening around us and within us, and respond with greater calm and awareness.
Students will be practising different mindfulness tools and strategies, learning how to use these skills in everyday situations, exploring the benefits of mindfulness, and talking about some of the things that can make mindfulness tricky to practise.
We're looking forward to helping students build simple, practical strategies they can use at school, at home and beyond.

KIND+ER ⟶ RSE

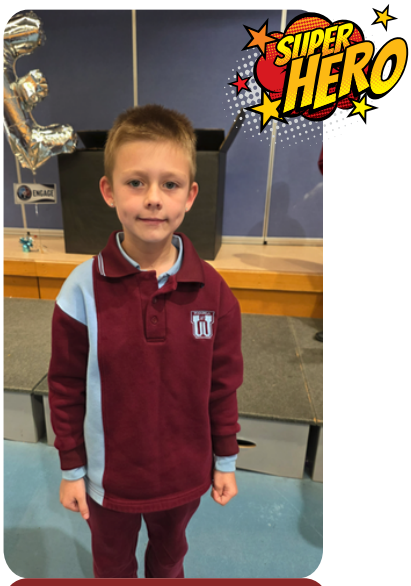
All was revealed at this morning's assembly where we farewelled our six KIND+ER rules and our magic black box turned them into (insert DRUM ROLL and EPIC countdown!!) THREE new school behaviour expectations - much to the delight of our students!
We would like to introduce **RESPECT, SAFE** and **ENGAGE** *as our new school rules.*
This term, students will be exploring what each of these words mean and how they can show them in their daily life.

Every day at WPS, we are going to ask ourselves:

- Am I being respectful?
- Am I being safe?
- Am I being an engaged learner?

We look forward to further exploring with our students what it means to be a respectful, safe and engaged learner at WPS!

Our Environmental Superhero is:



Arlo BR6

Write Wodonga + Art Show

We're excited to celebrate the creativity of our students with our Art Show opening on Thursday 8 October, showcasing a wonderful collection of student work across the school.

The celebrations will continue through to Tuesday 13 October, when we'll come together for Write Wodonga from 9:10–10:00am.

Families are warmly invited to join us for a special morning featuring an opening performance by our school rock band, time in classrooms to celebrate students' writing, and the opportunity to visit the Art Show in the PLC.

It's set to be a colourful, creative celebration of all the amazing work our students have been producing!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - 2027

This term we will be running the process for appointing students to leadership positions for 2027. The available positions are: Student Leaders, Foundation Buddies, Computer Lab Helpers (for foundation classes), and Friends of the Library.
SLOW FOOD mentors will be selected in term 1 2027.
All positions will be determined at the same time using a single process.
For detailed information, "The Wodonga Primary School Student Leadership - Process for Application and Appointment" will be provided to all interested students at a special year 4 and 5 meeting tomorrow (Tuesday 6th of October).
We encourage students in Years 4 and 5 to consider their interest in any of the leadership positions in preparation for the selection process beginning in Week 3 of Term 4.
Year 3 students can consider the Computer lab helper roles as well.

Upcoming Events

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
Animals in Oz	Wednesday 14th October	Year 1	COMPASS DETAILS	12/10/2026
Mansfield Zoo Excursion	Friday 16th October	Year 2	COMPASS DETAILS	12/10/2026

Canteen update

Term 4 of 2026 and term 1 of 2027 (hello warmer weather!) brings some new canteen items to the menu!
Check out the updated canteen menu on our website, order online through e-Canteen or submit your oders at school.

THIS WEEK

TERM 4 2026 EVENTS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	5th October	6th October	7th October	8th October Art Show	9th October OS4 Slowfood Art Show
Week 2	12th October Art show	13th October Write Wodonga, Art Show & Rock Band!	14th October Year 1 Animals in Oz Incursion	15th October Foundation Fire Truck Visit 1	16th October OS5 Slowfood Regional Athletics Year 2 Zoo Excursion
Week 3	19th October	20th October	21st October	22nd October Foundation Fire Truck Visit 2	23rd October OS1 Slowfood
Week 4	26th October	27th October	28th October	29th October	30th October OS2 Slowfood F-2 Tabloid Sports