



Warragamba Public School

Keeping in Touch – Term 1 Week 10

1 April 2021

Principals Message

Well we made it!!!! Well done everyone on an amazing term. I have loved watching our Kindergarten students settle in and learn our routines. They are always so excited to engage with their learning and visiting their classrooms puts a smile on everyone's faces. Our 2021 School Councillors & Captains have also done an amazing job this term. They are fulfilling their roles very well and have proven to be outstanding leaders for our school. I have seen many, many moments of kindness and friendliness shown by our students and my "Just Because" awards this term have focused very much on being a good citizen and caring for others. It is also about recognising those students who face every new day with a smile and a positive attitude. Keep it up Warra!!!!!!! ☺



SSW Swimming Results

Congratulations to the following students on their amazing results!!! We are so proud of you ☺ we wish you all the very best at the State Carnival this week ☺

Luke

3rd open boys 100m freestyle
2nd Senior boys 200m individual medley
3rd 12 year boys 50m freestyle
1st Senior boys 50m breaststroke
1st Senior boys 50m backstroke
3rd Senior boys 50m butterfly

Izabel

3rd 11 year girls 50m butterfly
4th 11 year girls 50m breaststroke

Nikora

3rd 9 year boys 50m freestyle

Layne

7th 11 year boys 50m freestyle
11th 11 year boys 50m butterfly

Wyatt

8th 8 year boys 50m freestyle

Snr Boys Relay

2nd in their event



WPS Wellbeing - Attendance

As part of our School Improvement Plan 2021-2024 there is a focus on attendance and improving the percentage of students attending 90% or more of the time. The target is a system negotiated target and all schools have a target they are aiming for based on individual school system data.

As part of the focus we have developed an incentive activity that encourages students to attend every day. Of course we understand that students cannot attend when they are unwell but we are trying to target the students who may have moments of school refusal and/or days where they just don't want to come to school.

Using a 'random sorter' app, a random day and a random reward are chosen. The day and reward is a surprise each week and is only revealed on the actual day chosen. All students who are at school on that day receive the award!!!!!!

We are doing many other things to address attendance at WPS and we will continue to communicate those to you as the year progresses.

Thank you!!!

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our school community for their support last week whilst we were all impacted by bridge and road closures. It was a complex week for all, and we appreciate the support of the minimal supervision here at school. We were fortunate to have many local teachers who could not get to their schools, come to Warragamba and support our staff who could get here. Many of our staff could not get here and spent a few days at their local schools as well.

On Thursday we had some of our staff travelling the long way round via The Oaks just to get here, and we also had a group of teachers drive to Wallacia, park their cars and then walk across the bridge to meet Mr Duncan who then drove them up the mountain to school. I am very proud of the commitment shown by all of our staff.

It was great to see all of our students back on Friday 26 March 2021 😊

Holidays

I would like to wish everyone an amazing holiday break. It has been a very busy term and I know that the staff and students are more than ready for a restful break. Stay safe and if you are travelling enjoy your time away. We look forward to seeing you all back next term.

Mrs Shepherd 😊

School Security, You Can Help

School Grounds are not to be visited when our School is closed which includes weekends and school holidays.

If parents or community members observe any destructive or suspicious behaviour in the school grounds, please ring the School Security phone number listed below. All reports will be treated discreetly.

School Security - 1300 880 021



Family Contact Details



At the beginning of each year we ask families to ensure that their contact details are accurate, which include email address and mobile numbers. Thank you to those families who have already updated their details. Accurate information is extremely important in the event that we have to contact you regarding your child or in the event that we have to declare a catastrophic fire warning during bushfire season.

Updates can be completed via our Skoolbag app or by contacting the office.

Attendance

As part of the new school improvement plan 2021-2024, we will be looking closely at attendance. All schools have attendance targets that they are working towards. We have spent a lot of time analysing attendance data from the past couple of years and the DoE have created lots of resources to support schools and their communities. The image below represents "Why Attendance Matters" and provides you with some information to look over and reflect on. Often an absence here and there does not feel like much, however when presented in this manner you can see that it does have an impact over time.

If students are unwell/sick then they need to be at home and at this point in time we are all managing with COVID regulations as well. It is other types of absences, which in some cases can be avoided, that are of concern.

As a school we are currently collecting data from the first 10 weeks of school to gain a clear picture of what the start of the year looks like in terms of attendance at our school. Please take time to read over the information presented. By all working together we can improve our attendance levels. Our school P&C are working together with the school on developing some strategies to further improve attendance at WPS.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au

Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss days per year

5 mins per day = 3 days

30 mins per day = 18 days

Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.

education.nsw.gov.au

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

education.nsw.gov.au



Brainstorm Productions

Brainstorm
Productions

On Wednesday 21 April Brainstorm Productions will be presenting their student wellbeing performance 'Buddies'. 'Buddies' is a live educational theatre performance that follows the journey of Lucy and Charlie as they discover the secrets to building positive friendships and staying safe online.

'Buddies' is part of our student wellbeing curriculum and has been developed by teachers and psychologists. This exciting live theatre experience gives students practical skills to make and keep good friends, take a stand against bullying and stay safe online. Brainstorm Productions is one of Australia's largest and most respected theatre in education companies, performing to over 360,000 students every year. They offer a range of programs to help schools build healthy and harmonious environments, addressing issues such as cyber safety, bullying, resilience, diversity and inclusion. If you would like to know more about Brainstorm Productions, you can visit their website: brainstormproductions.edu.au. The school will be subsidising the cost for this event.

NAPLAN

We are just beginning to receive information about NAPLAN for 2021. Year 3 & 5 students will be undertaking NAPLAN this year. The dates are **Monday 11 May – Friday 21 May 2021**. The NAPLAN window is over a two week period as we are completing NAPLAN online so assessments are spread out. The writing test for Yr 3 students remains as a paper/pencil test. You will receive some information soon relating to NAPLAN.

Road Safety – Please take care each morning and afternoon when dropping off and picking up your children. It is a busy time and I understand the difficulties with parking at pick up time. It is important that everyone follows the organisation that has been communicated to you so we avoid too much congestion at one gate. Staff are supervising the dismissal of students each afternoon. When parking please be aware of other cars and pedestrians and always follow the signage. Please monitor the crossing near the pool end, and if you are getting children out of the car or putting them in, please do so away from the road side.



Principal's Merit Award

Social Rule: Kind and friendly to others always.

K/1 Possums - Lily F

K Platypuses - Jayden C

K Wombats - Rose D

1/2 Dingoes - Wyatt A

1/2 Bandicoots - Imogen M

1/2 Galahs - Cleo H

1/2 Bilbies - Jazmine W

3/4 Dugongs - Vanessa G

3/4 Echidnas - Evelyn K

3/4 Koalas - Marcus C

3/4 Numbats - Travis S

5/6 Lyrebirds - Isaac V

5/6 Kookaburras - Casey DV

5/6 Kangaroos - Jade D

5/6 Major Mitchells - Sarah S

Mrs Luc - Savannah P



Please see below for events already on our calendar for 2021. This will give you an idea of when things are scheduled, however please check each newsletter for updated events and dates in case of changes.

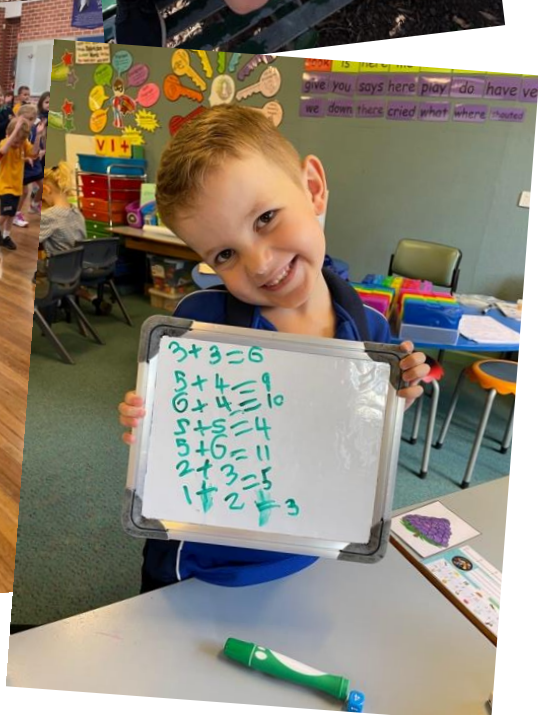
| Date | Event |
|--------------------------|--|
| Term 1, 2021 | |
| 29.03.21 | Easter Hat Making K-6 |
| 31.03.21 – 1.04.21 | NSW State Swimming |
| 1.04..21 | Easter Hat Parade |
| Term 2, 2021 | |
| 19.04.2021 | SDD – All Staff Offsite @ Wooglemai EEC |
| 20.04.2021 | Students return for Term 2 Cross Country Carnival |
| 21.04.21 | Brainstorm Productions |
| 22.04.2021 | Be Skilled Be Fit Athletics program – Every Thursday K-6. School will be subsidizing most of the cost (\$30.00 per student). Parents will be asked to pay \$15.00 per child towards the cost. Notes will come home in Week 1. We will be using the Football oval across the road. |
| 23.04.21 | Razorback Zone Cross Country Carnival |
| 26.04.2021- 7.05.2021 | Check in Assessments Yrs 4&6 |
| 7.05.21 | Gala Day 1 |
| 10.05.2021 | Stage 3 Debating @ WPS |
| 11.05.21- 21.05.21 | NAPLAN Yr 3 & Yr 5 |
| 20.05.21- 21.05.21 | Yr 4 Zoo Snooze |
| 28.05.21 | Gala Day 2 |
| 02.06.21 | NSW Netball Cup |
| 18.06.21 | Gala Day 3 |

Please note if there is a need to change a date we will let you know through the newsletter/skoobag.

What have the students in K-2 been doing?

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 have enjoyed an extremely busy term! We can't believe we are now at the end of one term already!!

Wishing you all a wonderful safe Easter break with your family.



Stage 2 News

Another busy two weeks for Stage 2!

Bulls in Schools

On Friday 19.3, Primary classes participated the Bulls in Schools Program run by Macarthur Bulls FC. While weather impacted the day, students enjoyed participating in a range of drills and games designed to introduce students to the game of soccer. Students practiced dribbling and heading the ball as well as playing a game that tested their ability to react quickly.



ZooSnooz Update

Thank you to all Year 4 students for returning their camp notes. Further information with payment details will be coming home this week. A Year 3 ZooSnooz note will be coming home shortly.

Bike Education

Bike Education notes went home last week. Please return permission forms and payment by Wednesday 26th May 2021. Payments will not be accepted after this date.

A big than you to all the parents who helped cover workbooks over the past few weeks. The students have been designing and painting their book covers as part of their Creative Arts program.



Thanks,
Stage 2 Teachers

Stage 3 Blurb

Stage 3 students have had a very productive term. All students have engaged in their learning and are making good gains. We hope that this continues into next term.

Unfortunately, we have seen a huge increase in profanities and inappropriate language in the primary playground. We will be taking a no tolerance approach next term to try and curb the language.



Hat Making with our buddy classes

All of the year 5 and 6 students enjoyed decorating their hats for the parade. They worked really well with their buddy students in kinder, assisting them to decorate their hats. It was lovely to see them working together.



Stage 3 Reward Day

Students enjoyed spending time playing at Livvi's Playground for the Stage 3 Reward Day. It was great to see them smiling and having fun. It was a great way to end a very busy term.



School Travel – Term 1 2021



School Travel Applications

We hope you've had a great start to the year and thank you for your continued support in managing student travel.

Just a reminder that if you receive a travel application that has incorrect student details, administrators are able to amend the first name, date of birth or grade for a student's travel application by clicking in the relevant row on the portal. Before doing so, please ensure you have confirmed the information. Refer to page 16 of the School Portal User Guide if you require further instructions.

School Drive Subsidy

A reminder for schools that Semester 2, 2020 attendance checks for the School Drive Subsidy (SDS) and the Private Vehicle Conveyance subsidy (PVC) are now overdue and need to be completed via the School Portal as soon as possible. If you have submitted incorrect attendance days, these will need to be updated via the School Portal under the actioned attendance tab.

School Drive Subsidy applications for Semester 1, 2021 are required to be submitted by no later than 25 June 2021.

Should you have any enquiries regarding entitlements or any of your students are not listed, please contact us at <https://transportnsw.info/contact-us/feedback/fares-concessions-tickets-feedback#/> and select School and Students > School drive subsidy.