



Dates to Remember



We have completed **5** days of school so far!!

Assembly

Week 3 19th February 2016
Staff Assembly

Ipad Parent work-shops

Friday 12th February
9am in the staffroom

Monday 15th February
3pm in the staffroom.

EB Games - If you are wanting to purchase an iPad, EB Games have a number of refurbished iPads in stock and are able to order more from Perth if needed. They come with a 12 month warranty and are sold at a reduced cost.

Kindy Students

A reminder to our Kindy parents that our students start full days next week. Please ensure they have their lunch and fruit packed for recess.

Principals Report

Welcome to the 2016 School year, with a big welcome to all of our new families. It has been great to see everyone back at school with happy smiling faces. We have had a fantastic start to the year and our new staff have been a great addition to the Wandina Team. We have increased the number of classes this year as we grow to a K-5 school. The new build for additional classes, a library and staffroom, will begin in April 2016 with the tender process closing this week.

ECE 1- Kindy A - Carolyn Couper
ECE 4—Kindy C- Anne Hunt
ECE 3—Pre-Primary—Ms Morcom
Rm 2 - Pre-Primary Year 1—Mrs Knight
Rm 4—Year 1 - Mrs Verryt
Rm 6—Year 2—Ms Wilson
Rm 8 - Year 3/4—Ms McVee
Rm 10 Year 4/5 - Mr Campbell

ECE1 - Kindy B - Carolyn Couper
ECE 2 - Pre-Primary—Ms Zabel
Rm 1—Year 3—Ms Ridgeway
Rm 3—Year 1—Ms Guagliardo
Rm 5 - Year 2 - Mr Brook
Rm 7—Year 3 - Mr Power
Rm 9 - Year 4/5 - Mr Howell

BYOD iPad Information

We have had fantastic support from our families regarding the BYOD program with 70% of students in years 2-5 bringing their iPads to school. Students are already using them to support their literacy and numeracy learning at times during the day. Our students are still doing reading, handwriting and writing lessons with pen and paper, with the iPads supporting the development of 21st Century Learning skills for our students.

Seesaw App

Teachers will be sending home the Seesaw app information, so you can access your child's learning file via iPad or computer. This is a great way to see what your child is learning at school and enables you to show your child that you are seeing what they do during the week at school. We do have some school iPads for students in each class to access if they don't have one, although at times they may need to share with another student.

Parent Workshops

We are looking at holding more parent workshops about iPads and answering your questions, particularly for our new families. The sessions will discuss what iPad usage will look like in classrooms, restrictions you might need to set up and questions relating to use of apps etc. Please see the dates and times we are offering to start with, in the dates to remember column in this newsletter.

School Code of Conduct

Be Respectful

1. Speak kindly to others-use your manners.
2. Follow the teacher's instructions.
3. Care for your own and others belongings.

Be Safe

4. Walk on the verandas and in the undercover areas.
5. Sit whilst eating.
6. Keep hands and feet to yourself at all times.

Be Responsible

7. Wear your hat - No hat, shade play.
8. Put all your rubbish in the bin.
9. Report problems to the duty teacher.

Our school has positive school wide behaviours that we explicitly teach to students. Teachers work with the students to model and remind them about the behaviours that we expect them to do.

Bush to Beach

This year the school has moved toward an integrated/thematic approach to our Curriculum Planning. This year we have a whole school theme of Bush to Beach. Teachers and students will be involved in a variety of activities based on this theme. Please keep an eye out for your child's work on Seesaw and in what comes home.

Effective Learning Behaviours

These behaviours are explicitly taught in the classroom and support students in learning skills that will support them in their learning in the 21st Century. Please see the charts in your child's class for more information. As to how students use these behaviours in their learning.

Collaboration
Self Awareness
Effective Communication
Critical and Creative Thinking
Using Feedback

Composite /Split classes

Multi- age, split or composite classes are terms that refer to classes set up to include children from more than one grade. These classes have been a part of education in Australia for over 80 years. 70% of schools in Australia have composite classes. There are often misconceptions about the impact composite classes have on student learning and social and emotional development.

The latest research shows that by the end of year 6, along the bell curve we use to determine where students are at in their learning, (children who are at the top, middle and bottom of their cohort) there is no statistically significant difference between students from multi-aged classes or straight classes in terms of academic performance.

In results for social indicators like tolerance of others, showing empathy, adaptability, there was statistically a positive difference for children who had been taught in composite classes. The very nature of a schools enrolments, dictates that schools will often have composite classes, which are not outside normal arrangements. Government Schools are allocated money based on student enrolments through the Student Centred Funding Model. With this funding, we are required to determine class structures that ensure all students are allocated to classes and individually catered for. The school also needs to ensure it has enough funds to operate the school ethically whilst meeting all compliance issues when developing possible class structures, based on the information available to us at the time.

Some common misconceptions are outlined below. **Being the oldest in a split class will hold my child back academically.** There is no evidence based research that suggests that composite classes affect the quality of teaching. The quality of the teacher is what makes the difference in classrooms. The teaching and learning program is tailored to the needs and current achievement levels of students. Work is undertaken in small groups in both composite and straight classes.

Composite Classes Cont.

Composite classes limit my child's friendship groups

Children don't make distinctions based on age when forming friendships. Being an older or younger student in a multi-age class, enables the younger students to learn the routines from older students and develop social skills through interacting with them and also enables the older students to nurture the younger students. These are all qualities we want for our children. Care is taken to ensure social needs are catered for, it is important for children to experience new classes with different classmates, so that their circle of friends is extended.

For more information about composite classes in Australia - go to schooljotter.com or eric.ed.gov

School Communication to Parents

The school communicates with our parents via the school app, the school website, facebook and our newsletters.



www.wandinaprimarieschool.wa.edu.au

The first newsletter each term, will be sent home as a paper copy. All other newsletters will be downloaded onto our school app and will be placed on the website for you to access. These will be published 3 times per term. Please download the school app for your phone or Ipad from the playstore or the app store. We send regular notifications to parents about what is happening in our school.

Announcements

Important information and current news, will be placed on the announcements page under the News and Events tab. This information will also be sent via the app where a notification will pop up on your phone or iPad. The Facebook page will forward messages and P&C information. The page will still be monitored by a P&C member as well as school staff.

Please ensure you contact the school if you need any clarification on information that is provided.

School Board 2016

There are 2 positions available to parents or school community members to be on the board for a 1 year or 2 year tenure beginning this year.

The school is calling for nominations for the school board. We will need to appoint 2 new members this year. Being on the school board will mean you will be trained in what this involves.

Information will be sent home this week informing parents about what it means to be a board member of an Independent Public school and the process for nomination. Please speak to our School Board Chairperson or the Principal Di Miller, if you would like to know more details.

Important School Information

Before School Information

Students (other than bus students) are expected to arrive at school between 8.30 and 8.45am. We understand that there are times that students need to arrive earlier, therefore, if students arrive to school before 8.30am, they must move to the office area and sit outside the office on the benches until 8.30 so they can be supervised and then released to go to class. Students are not to take their bags to class during this time. Thank you

Late students

Students who arrive late to school after 9am, must go to the office for a "late slip", before going to class. Ongoing lateness to school will be discussed with parents.

Leaving the school grounds during the day

Students may only leave the school grounds if they have been collected by a parent or guardian who has signed them out of the school at the front office prior to collecting them from class. Parents will be given a yellow slip to hand to the teacher. Staff will not let children leave the classroom unless this yellow slip is provided. If a student has custody orders in place, staff are made aware of this and processes are put in place.

After school

Students in K and PP must be picked up by a parent or family member. Please let the teacher know or contact the school if this changes. If an older sibling is picking them up from class, please notify the teacher.

Absences from School

All absences from school must be explained verbally or in writing by a parent/guardian. This can be done via the school app, via email or phone call. Parents/Caregivers of students who do not attend on a regular basis, will be contacted to discuss attendance issues. Parents who are taking students on a holiday during school time, must discuss this with the Principal.

In Classrooms

All students are expected to follow the school code of conduct.

Students are permitted in rooms, only when a teacher is present.

After entering the classroom in the morning, students must ask for permission to leave the classroom.

Students are not to play with sports equipment or on the playgrounds in the morning.

Students are expected to play in designated areas and use play equipment safely.

All students are expected to wear their school uniform as part of the school dress code and wear a school sun smart hat. No hat – shade play, is the expectation.

Safety around the school

For safety reasons, students are expected to walk on the verandahs and concrete areas.

Students riding bikes, scooters or skateboards to school, must wear a helmet and enter through the

School Information cont.

gate across from the community oval and walk to the bike racks. The gates will be locked during the day, although we do recommend bike locks.

The school will not take responsibility for any valuable items that are bought to school. These items are sent to school at your own risk and are not covered by insurance. Valuables need to be left at home unless discussed with the classroom teacher.

Food and eating

Wandina is a crunch and sip school. Parent are asked to provide healthy snacks, such as fruit and vegetables and a water bottle, for crunch and sip time at 10am every day. At recess and lunchtime, students are to eat in the designated areas. Students must remain seated whilst eating, with rubbish placed in rubbish bins, after students are dismissed.

WOW Awards

Part of our school wide positive behaviour approach, is to reward good behaviour in class and in the playground.

Students who are making good behavioural choices and learning choices, in PP to Year 4 will be given WOW award slips.

This means that your child is a "Wandina Outstanding Wonder Kid" if they receive these slips.

All slips will go into a box and awards will be drawn at assembly and points given to the factions according to the number of awards collected. Students will receive a special certificate and a canteen voucher if their name is drawn out. Class teachers will also reward students as part of their whole class reward system.

Parent Help in Classrooms

All parents who help out in classrooms on a regular basis, will need to **sign in at the front office** (this is so if we have the need to evacuate, the Principal knows who is on site and where they are) and complete a confidentiality declaration form. Please go to the front office to do this.

All non-parent/family helpers are required to have a Working with Children's check if they help out on a regular basis. The school will need copies of this before the non-parent helper is able to come into the school grounds.

School Fees

Thank you to those parents who have already paid their school fees via the Booklist or through the Front Office. Your contributions/school fees are really important. The \$60 per year, covers the purchase of resources for our students to participate in classroom and specialist activities, such as cooking, art activities and the purchase of consumables like lined books for students to use in the classroom.

You can either EFT the funds or come in to the office and pay via EFTPOS or in cash. Thank you for your anticipated support.

P&C News

The Tucker Hut ~

Welcome Back to Term 1 2016!!

The '**Tucker Hut**' is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

We have different Hot Options available on each of these days and for Term 1 and Shepherd's Pie and Spaghetti Bolognese available every day!

Just a reminder that Recess is available to the Pre Primary students as well – they will just need to fill in a **separate** order bag.

Don't forget that we also have the **Lavazza Coffee & Hot chocolates available** for \$3 each – or why not buy a coffee card so you don't have to remember money every time only \$15!!

We also have available for sale Reusable lunch order bags from the Stickybeaks Company in a variety of colours at \$10 each. These keep the money separate from the food and decrease the rubbish around the school! They are for sale at the canteen.

The menu is available on the web page, at the Canteen and in the Office. Recipes for some of our newer items are available on the P & C Facebook page and also on request.

Also Volunteers are always needed. Helpers mainly needed on Fridays from 10.30 – 1.30. Please pop in and put your name down as you also go into the Term draw for a fantastic prize (\$50 value).

Congratulations to Robyn who was our Term 4 2015 winner of a \$50 voucher for Breakers Bar and Café!! THANKS ROBYN!

For any concerns or ideas regarding the canteen please feel free to email Mel Scott at

wandinapandccanteen@gmail.com or phone 0428757715.

Community Notices

Geraldton Auskick and Junior Football Registration Day.

Football is back! Boys and girls come along to register in Australia's number 1 sport. Register in Auskick, U8, U10, U12, U14 or U16 to make new friends and have fun!

When: 14th February

Time: 2pm – 3pm

Where: Towns Football Club (8th Street Wonthella)

Contact: Steve Broberg 0429 914 220 or look for us on Facebook for further information.



West Coast Dance offers classes in Hip Hop, Contemporary and Tap from ages 5 to adult.

Classes are held in Geraldton at Allendale Primary School and in Dongara at Sea Rescue Hall.

For more information please call Melissa on 0417 962 252 or Karen on 0400 623 758

Or visit www.westcoastdance.com.au or email westcdance@gmail.com



Junior Squash Coaching

Geraldton Squash Club, 8th Street, Wonthella—99215008

Sessions: Friday Afternoon 4—5.00pm \$4 with Chris Sekuloff 'SECKO', Wednesday Afternoon 4—5.00pm \$4 with Louise Manning and Saturday Mornings 10-11.30am \$4 with Mike Dufour.

Child and Parent Centre Rangeway—Let's play—Term 1

Free drop in playground for parents with children 0 to four years.

Every Monday and Thursday 9-10.30am except on public holidays. No playgroup in week 3 (13 and 18 February). Excursions on Monday 4 April to Forrester Park Kultown Drive, Waggrakine and Thursday 7 April to Paringa Park Paringa Street, Mount Tarcoola. A casual but stimulating environment for parents, grandparents and carers to spend time with your children while getting to know other families in your community. Drop in any time between 9 and 10.30am. Morning tea is supplied. Please note: Parents must be in attendance.

Circle of Security

For parents of children aged up to 5 years.

What is it all about? Understand your child's behaviours and needs, Find out what you do well as a parent, Take the pressure off parenting and help your child develop into a happy and secure person. **When and where can you access the program?** Every Wednesday from 9.30 to 11.30am starting 3 February 2016 until 23 March 2016 at Child and Parent Centre, corner of Cassia and Hovea Street, Rangeway. **How can I attend?** Bookings are essential and participants must attend all 8 sessions. Please phone Parenting WA on 99231125 to register today. **Is there a cost?** This program offered is free of charge. **Creche?** A crèche is available at each session. **Who runs the groups?** This program will be facilitated by Parenting WA and 360 Health & Community. **Supported by?** This program is supported by Child and Parent Centre Rangeway, a State Government initiative.