



Principals Report

Welcome to 2017 and a big welcome to our new families and students. This is a very exciting year for the Wandina Primary School Community as we have our brand new buildings, playgrounds, library and staffroom in operation. We also have our first year with year 6 leaders who will be involved in a leadership program designed to build their independence and leadership skills, in readiness for high school. We welcome a number of new staff in 2017 and welcome back previous staff.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------|
| Mrs Di Miller | Principal | Ms Sue Ashworth | Deputy Principal |
| Mr Michael Ostaszewskyj | Deputy | Mrs Anne Hunt | Kindy Teacher |
| Mrs Carolyn Couper | ECE 1 K | Mrs Kate Verryt | ECE 2 Pre-Primary |
| Mrs Martika Elward | ECE 3 PP | Ms Simone Rogalski | Rm 1 – PP/1 |
| Ms Jenna Guagliardo | Rm 3 -Yr 1 | Mrs Hana Chalwe | Rm 4 – Yr 1 |
| Ms Brodee Raymond | Rm 2 -Yr 1/2 | Ms Genevieve Knowles | Rm 5 – Yr 2 |
| Ms Ellen Brown | Rm 6 -Yr 2 | Ms Lisa Holtfreter | Rm 7 – Yr 3 |
| Mr Marc Power | Rm 8 – Yr 3 | Mrs Jenny Ridgeway/ Mrs Tash Tapper | Rm 9 – Yr 3/4 |
| Mr Riccardo Amazzini | Rm 10 -Yr 4 | Ms Donna McVee | Rm 11 Yr 5/6 |
| Mr Connor Campbell | Rm 12 - Yr 5/6 | Mr Joseph Hodgson | Rm 13 Yr 4/5 |

The P&C and the School have also been fortunate enough to have been awarded a **Royalties for Regions Grant** to build a **"Nature Playground"** on part school and shire land on the Derna Park side of the school. It is hoped that this will be completed by late October and will be another great play space for our students to access at recess and lunch as well as for the community to access throughout the day via Derna Park. This is fantastic news for our school community.

Thank you to our families for their understanding in not photographing class lists and placing on social media. This was a directive from the Education department to protect the privacy of others as issues arose in other schools in Perth. We have had a number of new enrolments this year with our student numbers currently sitting at 428.

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.

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 display.

Dates to Remember



We have completed **3** days of school so far!!

Assembly

17th Feb Staff

Year 6 Leadership Day - Camp

School
15th Feb

Year 6 Speeches

16th Feb

Assembly Rm 11

10th March

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.

School Banking

Tuesday 7th Feb
8.30am
Front Office

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.

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.

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 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.

Composite Classes Cont.

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 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 2017

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. 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. We ask that parents do not bring their children to school any earlier so that duty of care can be covered as we have had some students arriving at 7.45am. Students are not to take their bags to class during this time. If children are with their parents they are able to sit outside classrooms and ensure the safety of their children. 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 only 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.

School Information cont.

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 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 brought 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. Parents 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 6 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.

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, per child 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. Thanks to those parents who have already paid through staples.



Parent Classroom Meetings

In the next couple of weeks, parents will be receiving a letter from teachers regarding a parent meeting date and time. At this meeting, teachers will share how things will operate in the classroom, discuss the home reading program, the curriculum for your child's year level as well as any other information you need to know to support your child in their learning. Please keep an eye out for this letter.

Year 2 Parent Meeting iPads in the classroom

We would like to hold a parent meeting with all year 2 parents to go through how we use the iPads, how to set up restrictions, how to download apps etc. We held similar meetings last year and would like to offer it again.

Please register your interest through the front office.

Use of iPads at WPS

For parents new to the school, our staff will be using iPads in the classroom to support student learning. This means that teachers will use iPads for 30% of the day so that students are able to learn different skills in Literacy and Numeracy learning.

Please make sure all the apps are downloaded for students to use so that they are able to fully participate in the activities organised in the classroom.

Students are expected to

*Leave iPads in their bags until they get to class as well as when they go home.

*Place their iPad in the Black tub provided in the classroom.

*Make sure their iPad is fully charged ready for the day.

As the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be going online in 2019, it is really important that we teach our students the skills they will need (such as using drop down menus and logging into the NAPLAN site) to complete the test and achieve their full potential.

Students who don't have their own iPad are able to borrow a shared class iPad.

Playground Use after school

Please be aware that the school is not liable for students who hurt themselves playing on the playground after school hours. Students must be with a parent, as the parent will have duty of care.

Please make sure children are playing safe and being respectful of school property.

Parking – A reminder about parking areas for parents

Parents are able to park in all parking bays opposite the ECE area, there are also parking bays behind the oval and on the new building side of the school. (please do not park in the loading zone/ bus Zone) We received correspondence from CGG that they have had a complaint about the number of cars parking on the shire land next to the school carpark, mainly about parents parking on the pathways (which causes issues for people who are walking around the area) and issues with people driving very fast over shire land to access the road.

Please be aware that this is not a designated car park and you could be fined for using this area.

Please make sure you slow down in all areas around the school to keep our kids safe.

Bus Parking on Ilma Rise

The school bus will be dropping students off on the Ilma Rise side of the school **in the loading zone** near the gate. Please **"Do not park in this area"** in the morning between 8.15 and 8.45 as the bus needs to drop students off.

A sign outlining the Bus Zone and signage on the ground will be in place in the next week or so by the builders. Please don't be offended if we ask you to move your car. Thanks for your support.

New Kiss and Drop Area

We are going to trial a new kiss and drop area in the school starting Monday.

Drop off 8.30am – 8.50am - Parents are now able to **drive through the staff front carpark from 8.30 – 8.50** to drop students off. The Deputies or the Principal will be on duty in this area to make sure things run smoothly. Please **drive up to the crosswalk, stop before the crosswalk and let your children out of the car.** Students need to walk to the crosswalk and into the school via the front gates. Please **drive slowly @ 10km** per hour in this area.

Pick up – 3.05pm–3.15pm Parents need to remind their children to come to the front gates and wait near the cross walk. The Deputy or Principal will ensure that students get in your car when you stop after the crosswalk. Please don't be offended if we remind you of the new rules for this area. We need to make sure that our children are safe as they come into school. Thanks

P&C News

First of all a huge THANK YOU to everyone for their support for the P and C Association for 2016 this is parents, children, friends and of course our teaching staff!! **THANK YOU THANK YOU** Onto 2017.....

After making over \$20,000 in donations back into the school last year for things such as the ECE Nature Playground, end of year book awards etc we have still managed to keep the fundraising \$\$\$ up and now have over \$20,000 in the Major Projects account. This money as not been allocated yet but once the AGM happens it will be, so make sure you come along and have your say.

Important dates:

Tuesday 7th March AGM – all positions will be declared open and vacant. In the next newsletter we have a short description of each main role within the P and C so that you know what is involved.

Saturday 18th March – International Day of Happiness Quiz Night – Grab some friends and come along for the chance to win a few prizes, bid on auction and raffle items. Invitations will be sent out soon and make sure you get your tickets early as there is limited seating!

Friday 31st March – Student Disco. Theme to be confirmed. Time will be similar to previous. Further information to come.

Thursday 6th April – Easter Egg Raffle – donations of Easter eggs in classrooms and raffle prizes done, with the hope of a special extra raffle!! Watch this space.

This year we are also having our very first **Wandina Family Fun Day!!**

So mark Sunday 22nd October in your calendar and come join us in this very special first time event. A separate "Fun Day Newsletter" will be circulated shortly with more information on the types of stalls, food and drinks we are having and how you can contribute to make this day a huge success.

P & C Executive Committee is:

President: Mel Scott

wandinapandc@gmail.com

Vice President: Louise O'malley

wandinapandcvc@gmail.com

Secretary: Robyn Sarcich

wandinapandcsecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer: Fern Pardoe

wandinapandctreasurer@gmail.com

Executive Members: Kara Kamid, Lisa Harrison, Sarina Ritchie, Julie Hammett, Gemma Martin, Shilo O'Neil
Please feel free the contact any of the Executive Committee at any time for any issues, concerns or compliments .

Canteen Helpers

Canteen Helpers:

Your school canteen needs helpers! We have employed a Canteen Supervisor who works 3 days a week. **BUT we need more helpers!!**

The current Volunteers are slowly running out of steam and for our school canteen to remain open we need your help. Please fill in your times available below and return to the school ASAP or message me directly. If we can get a few more people on board the load is spread out more. There will be full information given to anyone who helps us out.

You will need to wear closed in shoes and sign in at the front Office.

All canteen helpers are in the running for the Term Prize (to the Value of \$50!).

Please help us to keep our canteen running successfully as all of the profits are put back into the school via the P & C!!!

Contact Mel or Kara in the canteen. Phone 0428757715 or email: wandinapandccanteen@gmail.com

I also can be placed on the "Snack Roster" - You will be asked to make a double batch of muffins, Oaty biscuits or Pikelets. An Ice cream tub will be sent home with your child on the Friday and will need to be returned on a Wednesday morning. All recipes will be attached (as we need to maintain our traffic light system). If you can help with this please fill in form above and child's classroom number so that we can commence the roster straight away.

Thank you for your time and patience and the more hand make very light work and in the end it is all for our children at the school!!

Student Banking

At Bendigo Bank Geraldton we've introduced our Student Banking Program and Bendigo Piggy Saver Account – perfect for primary school aged saver to catch the saving bug.

Whether it's for the latest craze in computer games, for a new bike or just a rainy day, we all know it's never too early for our kids to start learning about budgeting & saving.

To open a Piggy Saver account we will need: Original Birth Certificate, Medicare Card, Parent / Guardian's Driver's License.

Kelly from Bendigo Bank Geraldton will be here on Tuesday 07th February 2017 to conduct our 1st school banking for 2017 and to answer any questions you might have OR feel free to pop into the branch located at 79 Forrest Street anytime between 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday or Saturday mornings 9am – 12noon
You can also call the branch directly on 08 9921 2335

Term Planner

| W | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | SUN |
|----|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|-----|
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | Holidays | Holidays T4W | Pupil Free Day Office Open | Australia Day | Pupil Free Day | | |
| 1 | 30 | 31 | 1 February | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | Pupil Free Day | Pupil Free Day | | | | | |
| 2 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | School Banking | | | | | |
| 3 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | | Executive Meeting P & C | Board Meeting | Leadership Speeches | Assembly Staff | | |
| 4 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| | | School Banking | | West Coast Eagles 1.20pm -2.05pm PP - Yr 6 | | | |
| 5 | 27 | 28 | 1 March | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | Clean up Australia Day | | |
| 6 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | Public Holiday Labour Day | AGM P & C School Banking | | | Assembly Rm 11 World Maths Day Quiz Night | Election Voting Wandina | |
| 7 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | Cultural Infusion Incursion | | | | | | |
| 8 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| | | Harmony Day School Banking World Poetry Day | Board Meeting | | Cricket Carnival | | |
| 9 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 April | 2 |
| | | | | | Assembly Rm 12 Disco | | |
| 10 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | World Autism Day | School Banking | Parent Open Night | Easter Raffle | What I want to be when I grow up Day | | |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | Holidays | | | | | | |
| | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | Easter Monday | | | | | | |