



Werrington Public School

Term 4 Week 10, 14th December 2020

Dates for your calendar!

16th December: Last day Term 4 for students
27th January—Office opens
29th January—Students in years 1-6 return.
29th January—3 February: Kindergarten Best Start—appointments
4th February— Kindergarten Start



Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This is the last newsletter for 2020, and what a year it has been! I would like to thank all our students' parents/carers, community and staff for your support, patience and flexibility in the face of the many changes and challenges we have faced throughout the year. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful and restful holiday break. I am so proud of each and every one of our students and look forward to working with them in 2021! I would also like to wish our departing Year 6 students all the very best for high school. There will also be some families who leave us this year, and I would like to thank them for entrusting their child to us, and wish them the best of luck for the future.

Werrington Wise Assemblies, Presentation Day and Year 6 Farewell/Graduation

Our Werrington Wise Assemblies, Presentation Day, Year 6 Farewell and Graduation and Induction ceremonies were held last week. A huge congratulations to all our students' and staff for their achievements and adaptability in a challenging year. We held our first live streamed Presentation Day and Year Six Graduation which was recorded, with all year six students to receive the recording on their USB. 2020 was certainly a year of doing things differently.

Congratulations also to all students who were recognised during these presentations. I would like to thank our outgoing student leadership team;

Captains – Brock Hathaway and Aleena Dutta

Vice Captains – Anthony Stanfield and Ava Marks

Prefects – Rynald Naidu, Brodie Mackay-Caunce, Dilpreet Kaur and Faye Fiaavae

For their leadership and efforts throughout 2020 and welcome our 2021 student leaders;

Captains – Amos Teviranus and Lillyava Brenner

Vice Captains – Julian Castle and Lydia Marks

Prefects – Kobi Brooks, Rere Waipouri, Isabella Lopez and Ellie Jones.

Congratulations and we look forward to a wonderful 2021 with you leading our students.

Classes 2021

Students in Years 1 to 6 return to school on Friday 29th January 2021 (Kindy start on Thursday 4th February at 9.30am). Until we are able to finalise student enrolments and numbers, (normally sometime during the first full week), the students will not be in their 2021 classes, but will be in their 2020 classes. This enables us to confirm our numbers in each class before the students are placed with their teacher. A note will go home informing you of your child's class and teacher as soon as the classes are formed. For the first day of school, the children will follow the same morning procedure as 2020. They will line up in their 2020 class lines with their 2020 class teacher, where possible.

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Kindergarten 2021

Our modified 4 week transition program concluded a couple of weeks ago and our new Kindy students have only a few weeks before they start school in earnest! School commences at 9.30am on Thursday 4th February for our Kindy students, with Best Start assessments conducted on Friday 29th January, Monday 1st February, Tuesday 2nd February and Wednesday 3rd February. Please contact the school office if you have not received notification of your child's Best Start appointment time.

Personal Details

It is important for the school to have updated student information at all times. This includes change of address, change of telephone numbers and change of emergency contact numbers. If your details have changed, contact the office so that your details can be updated.

Office Hours

Our regular school office will be closed from Friday 18th December 2020 until Tuesday 26th January 2021. The office will reopen on Wednesday 27th January 2021 from 8.30am.

Staff 2021

There will be some changes to staffing in 2020. Mrs Georges and Mr Dawson leave us for other opportunities, Ms March was successful at merit selection and will be joining the staff at William Dean Public School as an Assistant Principal, Mr Le Couteur was also successful at merit selection and will take up a permanent position at Kurrajong East Public School, Mrs Brandies was also successful at an EOI selection process as Assistant Principal Wellbeing at Yeoval Central School for up to three years. Mr and Mrs Moses who are taking a year's leave to work in schools in the Mudgee district and Mrs Tucker who after a long and successful career will be retiring at the end of this year. We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours. We also welcome back Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mrs Gigg one day per week, as well as Mrs Dempsey for three days per week. We are also very excited to welcome two new permanent staff members to Werrington Public School; Ms Hill and Ms Hammond in 2021.

I am very grateful to all our staff for their extraordinary work this year, and so proud to be the principal of a school that has such a dedicated staff. I am sure you will join with me in wishing all these staff members the very best for the future, and to thank them for all the hard work they have done at our school.

End of Year

In many schools it is a tradition for the Year 6 students to have their shirt signed by their teachers and friends. If you are happy for your child to do this, then that is fine. I do ask, however, that the children bring a spare shirt in their bag for this purpose. Students will not be permitted to wear a shirt at school with signatures on it.

Reports Home

Reports have been sent home to parents today. If your child was absent today, please collect their report from the office. Reports not collected by the end of term will be posted home during the holiday break.

Privilege Day

Due to forecasted inclement weather tomorrow, our end of term privilege day will be held on Wednesday 16th December. Children who have maintained an acceptable standard of behaviour in Term 4 or who have made significant efforts to improve their behaviour, will be invited to attend. This term, we are holding an inflatable obstacle course at school for children on Levels 3 & 4. We do have a contingency plan in the case of inclement weather on Wednesday.

I would like to wish all our families, students, staff and community a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful and relaxing break.

Thank you for your support this year and I look forward to seeing everyone when we return in 2021.

Mrs Avery
Principal

Werrington Public School P&C Update

What's happening...

It has been a very quiet year in terms of fundraising but behind the scenes has been very busy trying to think of ways to get parents more involved and taking the P&C into a direction where we are able to apply for grants and in doing so we've been successful in gaining our 1st grant as a team. The volunteers grant from the Government which helped pay for items so we can run a more efficient P&C and buy equipment for breakfast week which was held during Wellbeing Week last month.

The Christmas Raffle was a huge success with generous donations from various businesses including:

- *By Dems Boutique
- *Amy Miner Photography
- *GJ's CupCakery
- *Lash'd up eyelash extensions and beauty
- *Castle Hill Tavern
- *Raging Waters
- *Mecure Sydney Parramatta

Please show your support for these businesses like they have shown for our school.

If you have a small business and would like to donate a prize in future raffles please get in touch.

The Christmas Raffle raised \$1640 which is an amazing amount so thank you all for your support.

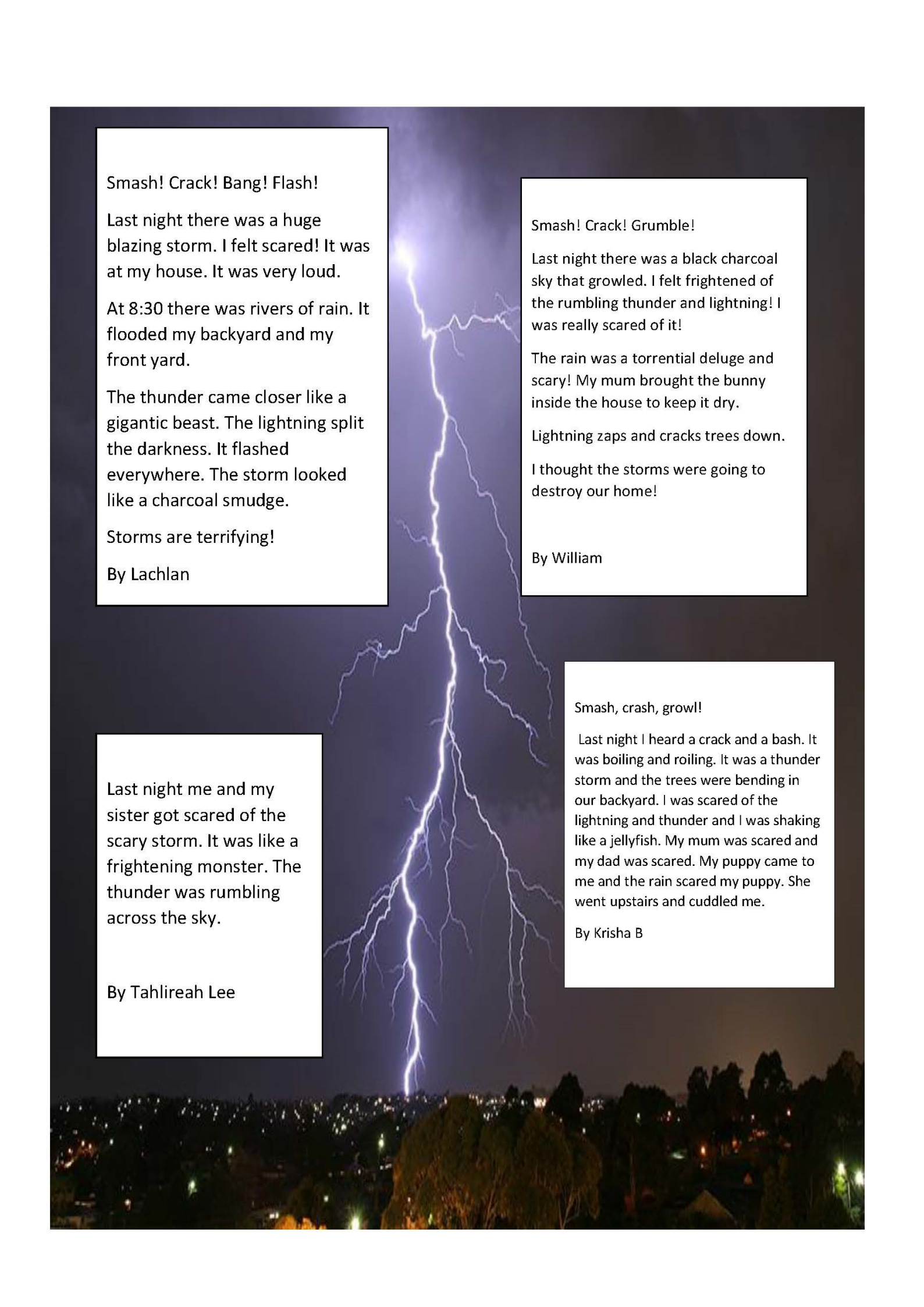
Next year we have planned quite a few exciting things so hopefully things will be returning back to normal so we can achieve this. If you would like to be a part of the P&C keep an eye out in the newsletter for upcoming dates and come to our meetings next year, we are a friendly bunch.

Lastly thank you to the office staff for all their help and support throughout the year.

Have a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year!

Regards,
P&C Committee





Smash! Crack! Bang! Flash!

Last night there was a huge blazing storm. I felt scared! It was at my house. It was very loud.

At 8:30 there was rivers of rain. It flooded my backyard and my front yard.

The thunder came closer like a gigantic beast. The lightning split the darkness. It flashed everywhere. The storm looked like a charcoal smudge.

Storms are terrifying!

By Lachlan

Smash! Crack! Grumble!

Last night there was a black charcoal sky that growled. I felt frightened of the rumbling thunder and lightning! I was really scared of it!

The rain was a torrential deluge and scary! My mum brought the bunny inside the house to keep it dry.

Lightning zaps and cracks trees down.

I thought the storms were going to destroy our home!

By William

Last night me and my sister got scared of the scary storm. It was like a frightening monster. The thunder was rumbling across the sky.

By Tahlireah Lee

Smash, crash, growl!

Last night I heard a crack and a bash. It was boiling and roiling. It was a thunder storm and the trees were bending in our backyard. I was scared of the lightning and thunder and I was shaking like a jellyfish. My mum was scared and my dad was scared. My puppy came to me and the rain scared my puppy. She went upstairs and cuddled me.

By Krisha B



Maneki Neko The Beckoning Cat

Cats look like dogs but they have sharper teeth and like to play with wool.

Cats are a bossy boots. They just to lay around all day and all night and kill some stuff or maybe birds. Have you heard of the beckoning cat? The beckoning cat saved the samurai and he gave money to the monks so the people made a statue about the beckoning cat. It cleans itself and people think it brings money to the people.

By Logan

Cats are amazing!

They look adorable and are so fluffy and so soft. They have big whiskers and a long tail.

They are very playful, cuddly and curious.

Did you know you can see a beckoning cat at the shops?

There is a story of the beckoning cat. I will tell you so there was a monk who was very poor. His cat saved the samurai.

Then the samurai gave money to the monk.

People believe the beckoning cat will bring them wealth when they see the beckoning cat on a counter of a shop.

By Ziva

Cats are like a fluffy, furry round ball.

Cats are very agile. They cuddle lots of people and they are very playful.

Do you know about the cat on a counter at the shops?

It is a beckoning cat from Japan. There was a story about a cat that was cleaning itself and a samurai was saved in a storm because he was about to get lightning struck. But the cat saved the samurai and he paid the villagers.

The people got a beckoning cat because they wanted money and luck too.

By Kai

Office News



Well 2020 has proven to have some challenges for everyone. Mr Moses and myself will be relocating to Mudgee for the start of 2021. I have been at Werrington Public School for the past 18 years and Mr Moses for the past 10 years, so it is quite sad to be leaving, but our time has come. I will be taking leave from Werrington Public School for the 2021 year and I have been lucky enough to have been offered work at Mudgee High School for 2021 as the Business Manager for three days per week. Mr Moses has been working at Mudgee Public School since the end of August and hopes that this may continue in 2021.

As you all can imagine that working at one school for such a long time and also living in the school community has been great for us both and our children. To see the students that have been through the school return with their own children has been such a delight.

It has been our honour to work with the Werrington community over this time. We have been very lucky to work with such dedicated staff over the years and the community is lucky to have such dedicated staff working with their children.

Mr Moses finished at Werrington Public School at the end of August and my last day will be Thursday 17th December.

I also must give thanks to the wonderful office staff that I have had the absolute pleasure of working with over the past 18 years. I will surely miss them!

Many thanks to everyone as we both have some very treasured memories of our time at Werrington Public School.

Mrs Moses
Business Manager



SCHOOL ZONE OFFENCES

WHAT ARE YOU RISKING?*

FACT

Children are small, harder to see, behave unpredictably and are extremely vulnerable. They need **you** to take extra care when driving and parking around school zones

NO PARKING

No waiting. You have **two minutes** to drop-off or pick-up. You must stay within **three metres** of your vehicle



NO STOPPING

You must not stop on a length of road with a **no stopping** sign. The first **10 metres** from an **intersection** is a no stopping zone. **Yellow kerb** lines are also a no stopping zone.



BUS ZONE

Only a public bus can stop in a bus zone



MOBILE PHONES

Extra fines apply for using a mobile phone in a school zone. *May be subject to Double Demerits.*



SPEEDING OFFENCES

40km/h is the limit. Children are vulnerable, so slow down in school zones. *May be subject to Double Demerits.*



DRIVEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Do not park on or across a driveway or footpath.



PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

1. In a queue of traffic, **no part of your vehicle can stop** on a pedestrian crossing.
2. Do not let **your children in or out of a vehicle** at a pedestrian crossing as this is a no stopping zone.



U TURNS

U turns are illegal on or near a pedestrian crossing and across a double white line



DOUBLE PARKING

Double parking is illegal and is very dangerous in a school zone.



* Fines current as of 25th November 2019. Fines and demerit points are subject to change. For more information check out the NSW Centre for Road Safety website.