



Werrington Public School

Term 4 Week 8, 22 November 2021

Dates for your calendar!

26th November
P&C meeting 2pm

10th December
Reports go home

14th December
Year 6 Farewell

16th December
Last day for students

1st February
(Tuesday)
Students in Years
1 - 6 return to school
for 2022

1st - 4th February
Kindergarten Best
Start

Principal's Message



It is hard to believe week 8 is already upon us. As we approach a traditionally busy time of year, this year will be very busy, but many things will look a little different. Please look out for notes and newsletters that will explain how we will be adapting end of year activities to meet current guidelines.

Phone Lines

Unfortunately, we have been experiencing a significant number of issues with our phone lines and electronic noticeboard. Telstra and NBN are still investigating the major fault affecting all our phone lines. Currently they have provided some interim phones, whilst they find the fault and carry out the necessary repairs - we have not been given a time frame for this. The school can be contacted on the normal school number 02 9623 7077.

If calls seem to ring out, this means the line is in use, please try the number again later or email the school on werrington-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au. Calls from the school will appear as a private number. The sign company is also continuing to investigate the fault with both our electronic signs.

Kindergarten transition

Our first of three kindergarten transition sessions was held last week, with rigorous plans in place to ensure a COVID safe process. We thank our parents and carers for their cooperation with these processes and look forward to welcoming our 2022 kindergarten students again this week and next week.

Our Kindergarten Transition Parent/Carer Q&A Session will be held tonight, Monday 22nd November at 6pm, via Zoom. Parents and carers please see the previous communication sent out to you directly for the Zoom details.



Address
School Email

Werrington Public School, Armstein Crescent, WERRINGTON NSW 2747
werrington-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone 02 9623 7077

P&C Meeting

There will be a P&C meeting this Friday afternoon, 26th November, from 2pm in the school hall. For parents/carers to attend they must be fully vaccinated (and provide evidence of vaccination when checking in) and check in using the QR code and school sign on book.

Year 6 Farewell

Planning is well under way for our Year 6 Farewell and Graduation. This year's event will be quite different from previous years and will be held onsite, to allow all our Year Six students the opportunity to participate. Staff are working hard to ensure that this will still be a special and memorable event for students. A note regarding Year 6 Farewell and Graduation was sent home to parents and carers last Friday. Please note that our plans may still need to change at short notice.

Werrington Wise Assembly and Presentation Day

We are currently working through the current guidelines to determine the best way to hold our Presentation Day and Werrington Wise Assemblies. These assemblies will look very different from previous years, and it is likely that the Werrington Wise and Presentation Day awards will be combined, and the Presentation Assemblies split to one assembly per stage. As soon as we have completed planning for this in view of current guidelines a note will go home to parents.

End of Year

Just a reminder that the last day for students this year is Thursday 16th December. Students returning in 2022 in Years 1-6 return to school on Tuesday 1st February 2022. Student's semester 2 reports will be handed out on Friday 10th December (week 10).

Enrol In Kindergarten 2022 Now

We are currently accepting enrolments for Kindergarten **2022**. We are required to submit our anticipated numbers for 2022 to the Department of Education. It would be of great assistance to have accurate numbers of proposed Kindergarten enrolments before then. Please contact the school office for further details or complete an online enrolment from our school website.

Planning for 2022

Our school is already planning for 2022. To help us with this, would you please advise the office if your child is not returning to Werrington Public School in 2022. Of course, you do not need to do this if your child is in Year 6!

What do I do if my child is sick or unwell?

If your child is feeling sick or unwell, do not send them to school. Even if your child is displaying only the mildest of symptoms, it is important that they stay home until they are well. If they are displaying any cold or flu like symptoms, headache, sore throat, running nose, cough, aches and pains, or fever, please keep them home and get them tested. They cannot return to school unless they return a negative COVID test result.

Canteen

The canteen is open for orders only. Students can order any item on the menu. Orders will be collected each morning in the classroom and sent down to the canteen. These will then be collected from the canteen for each class group and distributed in class before break time.

Students will not be able to purchase items directly from the canteen at recess or lunch time.

Orders can also be made by 9pm the night before via email on ssusan.liddiard@yahoo.com.au. You will then receive a confirmation email back with the cost. Payment can then be sent in with your child the next day or made by direct deposit.

BSB: 082-778; Account number: 11930 8942; Name: Susan Liddiard. Please include your child's surname and class as the reference.

Uniforms

Uniforms can be ordered online and paid for over the phone or via the payment portal on our webpage.

Click on the following link if you need to order uniforms: <https://forms.gle/RLCP1JroQ3uqcFw16>

Student Safety at pick up and drop off

Our school opens for student supervision from 8.40am, which is 30min prior to the commencement of classes. Staff are not on duty or required to be onsite prior to 8.40am. If parents/carers require care or supervision prior to this we have two Out of School Hours care (OoSH) providers Camp Australia and Yoorami. These services can be contacted via their websites: Camp Australia - <https://www.campastralia.com.au/>
Yoorami - <https://www.penrithcitychildcare.com.au/our-centres/yooramichildren-s-centre>

Student safety is paramount in our school, and this includes when parents are dropping children off or picking them up from school. Please note our timed no-parking zones, which are there for the safety of our children and allow drivers to have a clear view of the school crossings. Council rangers regularly patrol both Heavey Street and Armstein Crescent. There are significant fines and loss of points for not following road rules in a school zone.

Teacher Professional Learning

Regularly, teachers and staff undertake professional learning to keep up to date with the latest theory, research and practice in education. Many of these are held after school hours! These sessions include:

- Mrs Killbourne, Ms Huang and Ms Clarke participated in QuikSmart Mathematics professional learning online;
- Ms Proglia and Mrs Mason attended the Cambridge Park network SIP-Annual Reflection professional learning online; and
- All staff have participated in planning and reporting.

These sessions are an important way for the school and staff to keep up to date with best practice and the latest developments within the Department of Education (DoE) and the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESAs).

Have a great fortnight,

Mrs Avery

Principal

"Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow". – Anthony J. D'Angelo.

P&C News



The P&C are looking for donations for our end of year Christmas raffle.

If you could donate a gift, a product or service from your business or a gift bag for us to use to bundle donations together, that would be very appreciated.













Please send donations through your child to the office or contact our President, Louise Mooney on 0413 609 161.

More information on the raffle will be sent out shortly.

The P&C Committee.



QR codes for helpful websites and links

			
NSW Department of Education (DoE) website	NSW Department of Health - COVID	WPS change of contact details form	Department of Education Facebook page
			
WPS website – home page	WPS website – Learning from home page	WPS Newsletter	NSW DoE Learning from home resources
			
Werrington Lakes Nature Trail	Penrith City Council Facebook page	WPS Facebook page	ABC TV - Education



How to Install SkoolBag

The SkoolBag school app is the best way for parents to stay up-to-date with the school calendar, newsletters and all school communications.

Follow the instructions below to download the SkoolBag app to stay connected with what's happening in our school.

For iPhone and iPad users:



- Go to the Apple App Store, search for “SkoolBag” and download the free SkoolBag app. After opening the app, add our school and you are ready to go!

For Google Android users:



- Go to the Google Play Store, search for “SkoolBag” and download the free SkoolBag app. After opening the app, add our school and you are ready to go!

If you have any issues with downloading the app, contact our school office on 9623 7077.



Art news at Werrington!

Operation Art is the premier state-wide visual arts exhibition for school students from Kindergarten to Year 10. Every year, schools across New South Wales are invited to participate in Operation Art, an initiative of The Children's Hospital at Westmead in association with the New South Wales Department of Education. Selected artworks are chosen to hang in galleries and in the wards of the Children's Hospital where they bring joy and comfort to many unwell children.

This year, we were able to select four amazing artworks to submit to Operation Art. Usually, these students would be able to attend the gallery to see their work; however, due to Covid restrictions, this was unable to occur. Fortunately, their beautiful artworks have been displayed in an online gallery which is accessible by following the link below.

<https://digital.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/visual-arts/operation-art/2021-exhibition>

Congratulations to the following students who now have their original artworks framed and displayed in the office foyer:

Afsheen Ahmad 1/2B
Sharan Mahey 4/5E
Penny Allen 5/6H
Dharsanaa Ganeson 5/6H

Mrs Kilbourne & Mrs Mayhew
Operation Art Coordinators

			
<p>City Willow By Penny Allen Year 6</p> <p>I really enjoyed learning how to blend different colours to make the perfect shade to represent the willow and the city in the light bulb.</p>	<p>Powering the City By Dharsanaa Ganeson Year 6</p> <p>I enjoyed being considerate of my colour choices and learning how they influence our feelings when looking at the subjects in the light bulb.</p>	<p>Relaxing Elements By Sharan Mahey Year 4</p> <p>I felt calm and relaxed when making my artwork. I feel like I'm at the seaside with waves splashing in front of me.</p>	<p>Standing Out By Afsheen Ahmad Year 1</p> <p>I liked using chalk and colourful feathers to create my bird. The bird is from "Feathers for Phoebe" and she wants to stand out by being colourful.</p>



Art news at Werrington!





Children (and Parents) Struggling with Separation

Starting school for the first time or returning to school after a break can bring up some strong feelings in children and parents. It is not uncommon for children to experience big emotions and engage in behaviors that are very difficult to cope with. It is important at this time to strike balance between providing them comfort whilst encouraging them to be brave and get to school each day. We have some strategies that may help!

2022 Starting School Separation Anxiety Information Session:

Got It! Starting School Separation
Anxiety Evening Info Session

Where:

Online Event

When:

Tuesday 30 November

5.00pm to 6.30pm

To register go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/separation-anxiety-a-webinar-for-parents-tickets-209544943567>

Registrations must be in by 10pm
Friday, 26-11-21

Presented by The Got It team and
the School counselling service

Please contact the Cranebrook School Counselling team if you require further information:

Tel: 02 4729 0777 **Email:** meaghan.mckeown@det.nsw.edu.au



In the meantime...

Prepare for the school term during the holidays by practicing:

Separation during school holidays. Before starting or returning to school after a break leave your child with a caregiver for short periods and extend these as they display more tolerance to being apart from you. Avoiding the discomfort of separation will make it harder when you have to separate.

Establishing a special and quick “goodbye” ritual. Have a unique fun way to say goodbye to your child like a special handshake.

Leaving with minimal fuss. Tell your child you are leaving and that you will return, then go.

Talking up your child’s coping skills and bravery. Remind them of past successes and cheerlead them. Remind yourself they have the resources they need to cope.

Talking about their worries. Talking about worries can help children better estimate how realistic their fears are. Avoiding talking about worries is not helpful.

Respect your child’s feelings and provide them with comfort. If they are very emotional they may need you to help them calm down.

Follow through on promises. Return when you say you will and try not to make promises you can’t deliver. Trust is important.

Provide a link home. A special trinket, toy or object can be reassuring.

Provide a link to yourself. Draw a dot on your child’s hand and tell them this button is linked to you, when they push it you will know and send them a hug. Books like ‘The Invisible String’ may help develop a sense of closeness despite distance. Little surprise notes in their lunchbox may also be a way to remind them you are thinking of them.

Try not to give in. Reassure your child that they will be ok and acknowledge their feelings but set limits on behaviour.

When school starts:

Make sure your child returns to school after an absence as quickly as possible. The longer you delay the more uncomfortable they will become with returning.

Identify a safe person and a safe place. Help them know where and who they can turn to if they need help to manage feelings when you are not there.

Manage your own anxiety and let them see you doing it! Children learn by watching the adults around them and chances are if your child is upset then you are too. Get support to learn ways you can acknowledge your feelings and express them in healthy ways.

Prepare for an escalation in anxiety but continue to practice the strategies you started in the holidays.