

Our School Community Newsletter

WARBY NEWS

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23rd March 2021

Acting Principal's Report

Whole school events begin again

It is so pleasing that we can begin our whole school events again. This week we are holding our first whole school assembly where students will be receiving their sport leadership badges and Student Representative Council (SRC) badges.

Our Principal's Awards will also be handed out to those students who have continued following our rules of being a Safe, Respectful Learner.

Parents and carers whose children are receiving either a badge or award will receive an invite to our assembly. Only 1 parent or carer from each family who receive an invite will be able to attend to ensure that we follow COVID safe guidelines.

Our Easter Hat Parade is next week and it is always a great event. Due to our current guidelines I am asking that only 1 parent or carer from each family attend and that they check in using our QR code and sign on in our School Sign-In sheet. This ensures we have a record of people on our school site and continue to keep everyone safe. If it is wet weather unfortunately parents and carers will not be able to attend due to the size restrictions in our hall. We will let you know with plenty of notice if this will occur.

Our P&C have put together a number of fantastic Easter Baskets for our Easter raffle. This hard-working group of parents always looks at different ways to raise money to support our students and I would like to thank them for their efforts. If you have not purchased raffle tickets or need to get extras they are available in the school office. Tickets will also be available to purchase on the day of the Easter Hat Parade.

Tell Them from Me Survey

Each year our students in Year 4-6 have an opportunity to complete a survey for the Department of Education. It asks them questions about their learning and how they feel about school. Over the coming weeks our primary students will be completing this survey with their teachers. I have included an information sheet for parents at the end of our newsletter. If you do not wish your child to participate please fill in the form and send it back to school by Monday 29th April.

On a final note...

"Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere." – Chinese Proverb

Thank you for your support of our school.

Mellissa Page
Acting Principal

Week 9 Term 1

Calendar

2021

Thurs 25th Mar

- NAPLAN online practice Yr 3 7 Yr 5
- Whole School Assembly – 2.10pm

Tues 30th Mar

- Easter Hat Parade

Thurs 1st Apr

- Last day for students and teachers

Fri 2nd Apr

- Good Friday

Term 2

Mon 19th Apr

- Pupil Free Day

Tues 20th Apr

- Students return



Student of the Week

Wk 8 – Junior A

Wk 9 – Emilia C

Class of the Week

Wk 8 – Eucalyptus

Wk 9 – Bluebells

Star Spellers

The following students have achieved 100% in their spelling test in Week 7 or 8.



- **Eucalyptus** – Brett, Meralyn, Aariana, Maliha, GR, Anna, Aliza, Tyler, MK, Monson, Jackie, Breeanna and Maryam
- **Wattle** – Deon
- **Bottlebrush** – Ezekai, Zahira, Shareen, Malaika, Demetrius V, Dannielle, Amelia, Isabel and Kaytan
- **Orchid** – Ajwa, Lincoln, Kwinton, Richard, Elijah and PJ

We are a 'Nut Aware' School

We currently have students enrolled at our school who are allergic to peanuts and nut products (peanut butter, nutella, hazelnuts etc). Please help us to keep all our students safe by ensuring your child does not bring food containing any nuts to school. Your support with this helps to minimise the risk of a student having a potentially life-threatening reaction. Please speak with your child's classroom teacher if you have any questions.

NAPLAN Online

This year our students in Year 3 & Year 5 will be sitting NAPLAN online in Term 2. This week we have a practice online test to complete to make sure that our laptops and technical set-up will support the process for our students. Our practice test will take place on Thursday and students in Year 3 & Year 5 will be involved. We do not receive any feedback about student results during this practice, however it is a good chance for our students to see how NAPLAN online works and talk through any questions they may have. Miss Crimlis is organising NAPLAN for our school this year so please contact her if you have any questions.

Star Readers in Kindy!

Can you believe it? It is still only term 1 and already we have 2 amazing students in Kindergarten who have started to read.

Congratulations to Sabreen and Patricia of class Bluebell for your outstanding effort during literacy groups.

You are learning to use the sounds you are being taught to blend words to read simple books. You're able to spell and write all the words in these books without help. Finally you can use magnetic letters to make the words and read them to the teachers.

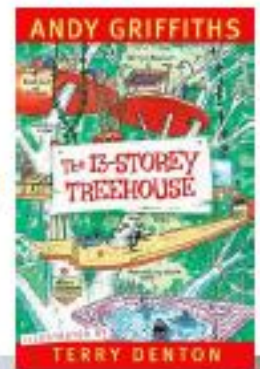
Mrs Murray, Miss Dixon and Mrs Saleh are so proud of you. We know everyone else will be too.

Keep up the great work...your learning is improving each day!



Library News

On Tuesday 16th March students in Stage 2 and the Support Unit were invited to attend a virtual talk with Andy Griffiths. We have been reading his book *The 13-Storey Treehouse* and were very excited to see him on the big screen. Students enjoyed the interview and we will hopefully start to use some of the strategies he suggested to make us better writers! Learning a little more about Andy, has made the students more excited about reading his books!



Home Reading

Students would have started to bring home a Home Reader as part of their homework. Home readers are usually at a level easy for the student to read independently. Students should be encouraged to read daily as it is an essential life skill they will use for the rest of their life. Just 20 minutes a night will make a huge difference in a student's progress. The following video is a great place to start with tips for parents on how to encourage home reading with your child. The Link is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M4SI87VPX_4. Please contact your child's teacher or myself for any help needed regarding home reading.

Happy Reading - Mrs Saleh



Preschool News...

The preschool children were so excited for the opening of our long-awaited outdoor area. The artificial grass that covers all of the concrete areas looks amazing and is much safer for us to run and play. We now have an awesome new bike track that we are learning to pedal around and a huge new sandpit to dig, build, cook, imagine and explore. The children have been learning to care for the plants and gardens and love taking turns to water the plants. We love our new yard!



HARMONY DAY CELEBRATIONS



NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2021

Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Federal, state and territory education ministers agreed that all schools will gradually transition from the current paper-based NAPLAN to NAPLAN Online. In order to provide a better and more precise assessment that is more engaging for students.

State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online. The current plan is for all schools to transition to NAPLAN Online by 2022.

One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, in which the test presents questions of higher or lower complexity depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the tests online or on paper. Results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

What can I do to support my child?

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so.

You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs is a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the types of questions and related functionalities available in the NAPLAN Online assessment at nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should discuss the use of any adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

NAPLAN Online timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is nine days instead of the three days provided for the paper test. This is to give schools flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 11 May and finishes on Friday 21 May 2021.

The online test scheduling requirements are detailed in the table below.

How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/ITAA
- visit nap.edu.au

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test (on day 1 only) Year 5 must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only) Years 7 and 9 must start on day 2 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 2 and 3 only)	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 42 min. Year 7: 42 min. Year 9: 42 min.	Students are provided with a writing stimulus (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	To ensure online schools are able to complete NAPLAN tests within the nine-day testing window, Years 7 and 9 students can start with reading on day 1; however, writing must start on day 2 as the writing test takes priority over any rescheduled reading tests from day 1	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 55 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	To be completed before the conventions of language test To be completed after the reading test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	This test assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	To be completed after the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 55 min. Year 9: 65 min.	This test assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

australian curriculum, assessment and reporting authority

acara

NAP NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Why choose a public high school?

Information for parents and carers



Public high schools prepare young people to lead full and satisfying adult lives, and to handle the challenges of the contemporary world.

Quality teaching and learning

Schools within the NSW public education system use the NSW Quality Teaching Framework to provide engaging, relevant and challenging teaching and learning. Our teachers are fully trained and tertiary qualified. Our schools also have access to specialist consultants who provide advice and training to teachers on a regular basis to ensure that teaching and learning in the classroom remains of the highest standard.

Extensive curriculum opportunities

NSW public high schools provide students with a breadth of subjects, opportunities and expertise. Through vocational education and training opportunities, our students not only study a wide range of school subjects, they also have access to a variety of courses, many provided in conjunction with TAFE Institutes. Senior students can also study university-level subjects linked to the HSC. Many schools in rural and remote areas use computer link-ups to provide additional subjects.

Strong values

Your local public high school will continue the important values education that began in your child's primary school. It is imperative that our students understand the importance of respect, responsibility, integrity, excellence, open-mindedness,

cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy. In this way, we can help your child to:

- develop a love of learning
- pursue excellence and high standards
- develop care and respect for themselves and others
- take pride in their work
- exhibit a strong sense of fairness and social justice
- have an appreciation of Australia's history and multicultural society
- actively participate as citizens.

Excellent support services

One of the core strengths of the public school system is the vast network of people who work to ensure that every

child successfully adapts to their new school environment. The wide range of support services that help students manage their change to high school include:

- student advisers
- careers advisers
- student welfare teams
- qualified school counsellors
- support teachers for students with learning difficulties
- English as a second language teachers
- Aboriginal education assistants
- community information and liaison officers.

A focus on the middle years (Years 5 to 9)

Helping children in their 'middle years' has been identified as a priority across public education in NSW. Schools have developed highly successful middle years programs to make sure the move for students and parents to high school is as easy and comfortable as possible.

High academic outcomes, quality teaching and learning, extensive curriculum opportunities, strong values, excellent support services and a focus on middle years – six good reasons to enrol your child in a public high school.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to contact your Principal, please call the Telephone Interpreter Service on telephone number 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The interpreter will call the Principal and will stay on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

NSW Department of Education

GPO Box 26
Sydney NSW 2001
T 190 21 0000



OFFICE OF SPORT

CLAIM TWO \$100 ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

All NSW school-enrolled children are eligible for **two \$100 Active Kids vouchers**. The vouchers can be used with any approved Active Kids provider, to help cover costs towards registration or membership fees for sport and active recreation. **Voucher one is valid January to December** and **voucher two is valid July to December**. After 1 July 2019, the second voucher can be claimed immediately after the first voucher.

How to claim your vouchers



Mary Sm



- 1** Visit service.nsw.gov.au and login to your MyServiceNSW Account
- 2** Click on the Active Kids icon found in your SERVICE tab
- 3** Fill out the requested information (you will need your current Medicare card)
- 4** Print a copy of each voucher or email it to yourself

Visit sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids for terms & conditions and FAQs

How to use your vouchers

- 1** Find a provider by visiting our website: sport.nsw.gov.au/activekids
- 2** Once you have chosen an activity give the voucher number to your activity provider, or log onto your provider's website and enter the voucher number

*Vouchers can always be found in your MyServiceNSW account by looking in the My Applications tab





***Tell Them From Me* student survey:**

Information for parents and consent form for parents and carers

Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed online and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar** which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes 30 minutes or less to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), has access to data from across NSW and is running a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research is looking at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable, he/she can choose to stop the survey at any time. The majority of questions in the survey can be skipped.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to the school by Monday 29th March 2021.

More information about the survey and the research is available at education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm.

Thank you

Melissa Page

Acting Principal John Warby PS

***Tell Them From Me* Student Feedback Survey non-consent form**

If you do not want your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to the school by

I DO NOT give consent for my child/children to participate in the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey.

Name of student 1

Roll class of student 1

Name of student 2

Roll class of student 2

Name of student 3

Roll class of student 3

Name of student 4

Roll class of student 4

Name of parent/carer

Signature of parent/carer

Date
