



Microsoft Partners in Learning

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Innovative Schools Program

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

**TA 1 & 2 Assembly**  
Friday 22 February 8.45am

**Parent Night**  
Wednesday 27 Feb 5.30 pm

**P&C AGM**  
Monday 11 March 4.45pm

**Labour Day long weekend**  
Monday 4 March

**In term swimming**  
Group 1, Week 7  
Group 2, week 8  
Info out soon

**End of Term**  
Friday 19 April

## Canteen help required

The school canteen is only able to operate five days with the help of volunteers. If you can spare a couple of hours on a weekday morning please see Chantal or Sue in the canteen.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday.

At the end of the year we farewelled Mrs Gadsby and MS Bejah who have headed into the Murchison for promotional positions.

As the school continues to grow we welcome

- Mrs McLean in Year 1/2
  - Ms Collis in Year 2
  - Mrs Quadrio in Year 1
- And to start the year we welcome
- Ms Gradinscak in Year 6
  - Ms McEvoy in Year 6
  - Mrs Williams in Year 4

A new music teacher is imminent! Several other teachers are on leave at the moment.

## Home reading and homework

All classes from years 1-7 have home reading and homework. These routines should be running fully by week two. Reading signers were on your book list. Please ensure that you sign them each day that your child reads as we provide incentives to the children when they reach milestones. Please note that 50 days can only be reached 50 days into the new year and not earlier. Please help your child's learning by taking the

time to read to your child each night and listen to them read.

## School procedures

We would like to remind families about ongoing procedures regarding the school. As such the following pages outline many of our policies and behaviour expectations. Many of these can now be downloaded in full from our website, see below for the URL. You may like to read through some with your children.

## SNAKES SNAKES SNAKES

Please be aware that Waggrakine School has many snakes caught in summer. We have already caught snakes this week. All staff are trained in first aid of snake bites and we have a trained snake handler. All students have been briefed on what to do if they see a snake. Please reiterate to your child not to touch snakes, lizards or spiders. We teach the children to take three slow steps back if they are close. We have not had a bite while I have been here but we need be vigilant and make sure we take precautions. If your child is not wearing closed shoes can you please get them to wear sandshoes each day.

Lis Turner ☺  
Principal



## Children enjoy the first day of school



### Positions Vacant

The following  
Recruitment Pools for  
WPS are currently  
advertised online  
[jobs.wa.gov.au](http://jobs.wa.gov.au)

**Education Assistant  
Mainstream**

**Education Assistant  
Special Needs**

**Gardener/Handyperson**

Applications Close 22.2.2013  
For further information go  
online or call Carol-Anne  
White 99381132

### P&C NEWS

**Welcome back to school for another exciting year for parents, staff and students alike! A special welcome to our many new families. We know you will enjoy your time here at Waggrakine Primary School.**

The P&C is an important association giving parents a voice in our school community. We need new members in order to remain vibrant and viable, so please support us. No experience on committees required! Members apart from president, secretary and treasurer have no extra expectations apart from attending meetings.

Our **AGM will be held on 11 March at 4.45pm**. The venue will be the library. Please sign in at the front office prior to the meeting. If you are interested in being involved but the time does not suit you, please register your interest. The meeting times and days are flexible to suit the majority of members. Please note the AGM will be primarily to register members and elect positions. Membership is \$1.

We look forward to working with you over the coming year! All the best for your endeavours, and many thanks for your support.

Deb Crothers  
P&C President

## Ambulance cover

Each year there is sometimes the need to call an ambulance for emergencies and we do not hesitate in doing so for the safety of the child. This may, at times, be done before parents are, or can be, contacted. We endeavour to contact parents prior to calling ambulances when possible. The family is billed for the ambulance direct and this can be around \$800. We strongly urge all families to pay the small annual fee for ambulance cover or check your current private health insurance to ensure that you have ambulance benefits for all family members. Contact St John Ambulance or a private health fund for more information.

## Mobile Phone Policy

Students are not to have mobile phones with them during the school day and they are discouraged from bringing them to school at all.

If it is necessary for your child to bring a phone to school, it is to be switched off and taken to the front office before 8-45am where phones are labelled and stored. Students may collect mobile phones after the final siren.

Students in possession of, or using a mobile phone during school hours will have the phone confiscated. The phone will need to be collected by the student's parent/guardian from the office.



## Scoters

While we encourage students to ride and walk to school for their health we would like to remind those students who ride scooters and bikes that these must be walked inside the school grounds to prevent accidents. A scooter rack donated by the P&C is now a great help in storing scooters.

## Everyone at Waggrakine Primary School has the right and responsibility to ensure:

- Everyone is respected.
- Everyone is safe.
- Everyone has the right to learn.
- Everyone has the right to be able to do their job.
- Everyone can speak up when others do not follow the code of conduct.

## School Code of Conduct

- Show consideration, courtesy and respect to others and their property.
- Follow instructions from staff members.
- Play and move in the school so that all people are safe.
- Abide by the school's policies and procedures and classroom codes of behaviour.

## Volunteers welcome

Each year the school program is greatly enriched by many volunteers, parents and family members helping out with reading groups, excursions, library work or other school functions. At the beginning of each year it is a mandatory requirement for the safety of children that all parents of children at Waggrakine sign a confidential declaration and all non parent volunteers require a Working with Children Check. Teachers will seek your cooperation in meeting our requirements to ensure children's safety.

## Assemblies

Assemblies are held on Friday. During Term 1 they will commence at 8.45am. Dates are advertised in each newsletter.

## Attendance

Attendance is an area we continue to focus on in 2013. Regular attendance of over 90% is essential for children's academic progress. Please ensure your child attends regularly to maximise their learning opportunities. Lateness is also an issue and students are expected to be at school prior to 8.45 to ensure they do not miss valuable learning experiences. If your child is a poor attendee you will be contacted by the class teacher or member of the school administration team to work together to improve attendance.

## Swimming classes

Swimming classes for years 1-7 take place in weeks 7 and 8 this term. Notes will go home in a few weeks. To enable early budgeting, we anticipate the cost to be approx \$40 per child. This covers pool entry and bus fares. The Education Department covers the costs of the lessons.

## School Contributions

This year contributions remain \$40 per child. Your support in paying these contributions early allows us to provide a richer curriculum for your children. We thank you in anticipation for your support. An invoice will be mailed home for contributions.

## Hats

In order to play in the playground at breaks children must wear a broad brimmed hat. Caps and bucket hats do not comply with our Sunsmart policy.

# WAGGRAKINE PRIMARY SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR STANDARDS

## RESPECT FOR SELF, OTHERS, PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

### Attendance

- Students (other than bus students) are expected to arrive at school between 8-30 and 8-45am. If students arrive before 8-30am they must immediately move to the courtyard outside the staffroom and wait quietly until dismissed at 8-30am. Students are not to take their bags to class or order their lunch during this time. Only students accompanied by a parent may wait outside the classroom.
- Students who arrive late (after 9-00am) must go to the office for a 'late slip' before going to class. All late arrival is recorded in the record keeping and continued lateness will be discussed with parents.
- Absence from school must be explained either verbally or in writing by a parent/guardian.
- Students may only leave the school grounds during the day if they have been collected by a parent/guardian who has signed them out at the front office prior to collecting them from class. Teachers will not let children go without a sign out slip from the office.

### Behaviour

- Responsible and respectful behaviour is expected.
- Language used at school must be socially acceptable.
- Follow the instructions of all staff.

### Classrooms

- Students are permitted in rooms only when a staff member is present.
- Students are expected to follow the class code of conduct.
- After entering the classroom in the morning, students must not leave without permission from their teacher.

### Dress

- Students are expected to meet school dress requirements unless an exemption has been granted, including the wearing of a broad brimmed hat. Sun Smart and Dress policies are available on line at our web site [www.waggrakineps.wa.edu.au](http://www.waggrakineps.wa.edu.au)

### Eating

- Eat only in designated area.
- Remain seated until dismissed.
- Place rubbish in bins after being dismissed.

### Playground

- No broad brimmed hat, no play anywhere except in the undercover area near the hall.
- Play in designated areas and follow rosters for playground equipment.
- Use all playground and sporting equipment appropriately. Equipment in PE teacher's marked area on the oval is not for use during breaks.
- Play non contact games. (no tackling etc in football, this is explained to children)

### Movement

- Walk on verandas, undercover areas and other paved or concrete surfaces. Students riding bikes, scooters etc. to school must wear helmets and enter through the gate on Hall Rd and then walked to the racks. Locks are recommended.

### School Property

- Treat all school property with care.

### Personal property

- Any items of personal property brought to school are at students' own risk. Items taken from student bags are not covered by insurance. Valuables should be left at home.

### Canteen

- Orderly queuing is required.
- Lunches are to be ordered between 8-30 and 8-45am.