



Talking Together

wanggajimanha

Achieve By Caring



Important Dates

Easter Tuesday 3 April Closed

Easter Tuesday is a public sector holiday and our school will be closed.

Friday, 6 April

TA3 Assembly, 8.45am

P&C Pyjama Disco:

Junior 5.15-6.30pm / Senior 6.45-8.15pm

Thursday, 12 April

Last day of Term 1 for students – free dress day

Monday, 30 April

First day of Term 2

Tuesday, 1 May

ANZAC Commemoration Assembly, 8.45am

Friday, 11 May

TA12 and 13 Assembly, 8.45am

Monday, 14 May

P&C Meeting, evening (time TBA)

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the first edition of our new, 'waggajimanha' newsletter, which means 'talking together' in the local Wajarri language.

Term 1 has been going smoothly, with staff, students and parents busy with many new initiatives and commitments to focus on student learning. This year is the beginning of our new 3 year cycle and we will soon post the new School Plan for the community to read.

Our three Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) expectations are now formulated with them being:

- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful; and
- Be an Active Learner

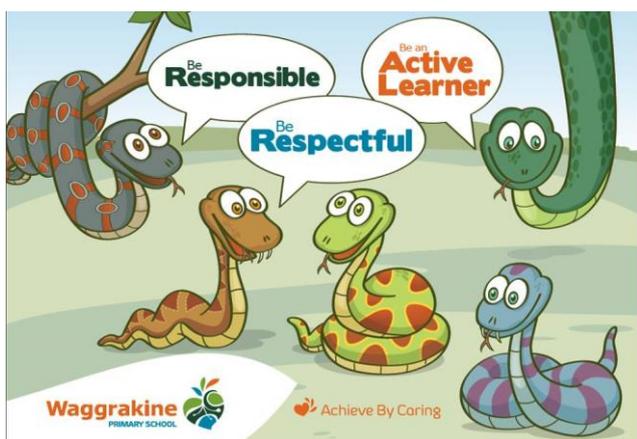
The PBS team, made up of 12 staff, is working to support all teachers to help make a whole school focus on teaching these expectations and asking students to contribute to what this looks like.





If you would like to help, ask your children what these things look like at school and let us know through FB or Seesaw. We are very happy with our first PBS Expectations mural, painted by one of our talented grandparents, Brian Clow.

The PBS image stemmed from a student poster competition in late 2017 and of course snake posters featured most favourably with our students. Funny that, as they do say Waggrakine means 'Place of Snakes'.



School Plan

Our school plan priorities are:

- Success for all Students
- Quality Teaching and Leadership; and
- Community Engagement

Community Engagement has been going well and we are really thrilled to see so many parents taking up the opportunities to connect with staff, or engage in some of our parent workshops. Mrs Nixon has offered a number of workshops to help children with English and will be offering more next term. There was also a good representation of parents at the Mathletics and Mathseeds parent workshop held earlier in the month.

Last week we also had a 'Have a Yarn' afternoon, to promote and support more community engagement with our Aboriginal Community. The didge boys provided us with some of their playing accompanied by one of our parents, Carrum Mourambine on the guitar. Thanks to those community who came along to have a yarn. The photos on the front page are of that afternoon.

We also had a fabulous turn out to the Year 6 meeting earlier in the term. It is really wonderful we are connecting with so many parents. It is great to see so many parents connected now through Seesaw. If you are not connected please let your teacher know. All you need is a smart phone, tablet or computer and you can download the Seesaw Family app.



To assist us in further gathering data about how we can improve, or how we are going in this area we are participating in an Australian Council of Educational Research survey. We would appreciate you taking the time to participate. <http://survey.qa/FAZ23M>.

This is voluntary and the survey is available now until 2 April. We would appreciate if some more parents can take the time to do this and help us get some data to improve our practices. It will ask for a child year level so just choose one if you have multiple. Big thanks to those who already have.

Regards
Lis Turner | Principal



New Logo

We have had lots of positive feedback about our new logo. For those who didn't see it on Facebook here is the meaning. The new brand/logo, now in colour, is symbolic and also derived from the natural environment of Geraldton.

- Blue represents the ocean and coastal location. It symbolises tranquillity, freedom, aspiration and lifestyle.
- Green is fresh and vibrant and represents nature and the Moresby Ranges. It symbolises growth and learning.
- Deep green represents the trees and symbolises depth of knowledge.
- Burnt orange reflects the earth and symbolises creative energy, warmth and harmony.

The friendly energy of the brand icon encapsulates the school's vision of a caring and nurturing community and references elements of the local environment.

In essence the icon shows the local environment with the blue ocean at the base, and the green hills at the top (symbolising Moresby Ranges). Nestled between the hills and the coast the dark green symbolises the school community. Together these shapes form an iconic heart shape which implies that students are nurtured within a caring environment.

Growing from within this environment is a symbolic Tree of Knowledge with its roots stretching throughout the community, drawing in students to begin their quest for personal growth. One root runs further down to the ocean to symbolise the depth of knowledge and interconnection to the world beyond. The roots draw the eye upwards

representing a student's growth through the school, achieving and striving, upwards and outwards. The three coloured leaves symbolise the diversity of the students, how they flourish and fly outwards and onwards ready for life's challenges.

School Leaders

Congratulations to our school leaders (photos above) who were voted in as Faction Captains and School Representatives. We look forward to you being role models in our school.

NAPLAN

In week 3, Term 2 the National Assessment Program, Literacy and Numeracy will once again be conducted with Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students across Australia. A flyer has already been sent home regarding the NAPLAN with students in those year levels.

Roadworks

A reminder that roadworks on Hall Road at the front of the school are planned to commence 9 April and will continue until approximately 14 May. The works involve drainage, curbing, new bitumen and a traffic island which will mean all traffic exiting the Kiss and Drop will have to turn left. The works are planned to cause as least disruption to the school as possible. If you have any issues, please contact the school so we can discuss with the project manager.

P&C News

The new WPS P&C was appointed at the AGM on 12 March. We look forward to a very busy 2018, with plenty of events coming up.

The new committee is:

President	Paula Steenson
Vice President	Amy Blyth
Treasurer	Kelly Cripps
Secretary	Fiona Watts

Ms Turner also presented her 2018 Wish List to the P&C which included book prizes and Dux Award, Library resources, contribution to Year 6 graduation and Activity Week events, Showcase, NAIDOC celebrations, Year 5&6 Clubs, Breakfast Club and chaplain services which totalled \$10,600. The P&C are extremely proud to be able to grant the Wish List each year, but now the hard work begins to raise more funds needed to support our children's education!

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM. The next P&C meeting is scheduled to be an evening meeting on Monday, 14 May - everyone is invited to attend.

We had a fantastic response with the Laura Jean Family Portrait Sessions held recently, with 52 families taking part. We look forward to our photographer Steph returning with the pictures on 12th April!! We raised \$1040 from the event and a further \$200 for the raffle drawn to win a Family Portrait Package. Thank you to everyone who participated and to David Power for greeting our families on Saturday morning when they arrived.

The first disco is being held on 6 April in the hall. With the theme of a Pyjama Party we'd love to see lots of PJs. Junior Disco runs from 5.15 till 6.30pm and Senior Disco from 6.45 till 8.15pm. Students can only attend one disco. Entry is \$2 and glostuff, drinks, hotdogs and snacks will be on sale from the canteen. If parents are able to help out at either disco, please contact Paula on 0409 076 476.

We are very fortunate to have our Canteen open 5 days a week to provide lunch and recess options to our staff and students. We are always looking for volunteers to help out in the canteen, even if it's just a couple of hours per term please pop your head into the canteen and speak to Anne-Marie, Amy or Taryn.

Lunch orders can be done online, via Quick cliq or over the counter but they must be done before 9.20am. Orders will not be accepted after that time. If you need more information about online ordering, please see the canteen staff.

The P&C are also holding a Mothers' Day raffle and would love donations of new items to add to the hamper. Please drop items into the office. Tickets will go on sale from 30 April.

Reminders

For the safety of your children, we request parents **do not bring** dogs onto school premises. On occasions, pets are brought into class for news. In these instances, this needs to be cleared with the class teacher, and pets must be on a lead at all times.

It is also strongly recommended that parents provide a lock for their children, so that bikes and scooters can be locked when in the bike racks at school.

In keeping with our Sunsmart Policy, we have a 'no hat, no play' rule. Please ensure your child/ren have a hat so they can play on the oval at recess and lunch time.

Congratulations and welcome to Jo O'Toole as the newest member of our School Board. Board members are: Lis Turner, Vanessa Gould, Brenda Wann, Diane Suckling, Carol-Anne White, Paula Steenson, Sue Britt, Debranne Geeves, Brooke Bennett, David Power, Rene Duthie and Jo O'Toole.

We also ask parents NOT to park your vehicles in the staff carpark. As our staff numbers are continually growing, car parking bays are at a premium. On occasions parents also block staff members' vehicles in the carpark.

Wishing everybody a safe and happy Easter break. See you all back at school next Wednesday, 4 April.

