



Talking
Together

wanggajimanha

Achieve By Caring



Term 1 Dates

Year 6 Leadership Day

Friday 5 February

Year 6 Speeches

Tuesday 16 February at 8.45am

Year 6 Assembly

Friday 26 February at 2:00pm

Labour Day Public Holiday

Monday 1 March

Assembly (Class TBA)

Friday 12 March at 2:00pm

Year 1-6 Swimming

Monday 8 – Friday 19 March

Assembly (Class TBA)

Friday 26 March at 2:00pm

Last Day Term 1

Thursday April 1

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the 2021 school year. We begin the year with the tentative uncertainty that we still live in the world where COVID-19 has not been eliminated and some restrictions and precautions remain in place. We were pleased that parents are welcome into the classrooms to start our year.

We have started the 2021 school year with around 500 students. It has been a smooth transition for students settling into classes and new routines. I would like to take the opportunity to welcome new students and their families to our school community.

Our first day was another hot day at 39 degrees! Children were happy and excited to be back at school and staff were definitely ready to go and get into a new year with excitement.





Water play in Pre Primary

Staffing Update

Welcome to:

- Miss Georgia Dawson, Year 2 Teacher
- Mr James Booth, Year 4 Teacher
- Mrs Joey Bailey, Kindergarten
- Ibu Riza Suryandari Indonesian Language Assistant
- Mr Mitchell Powell – School Psych

We also welcome a number of prac students from the universities and TAFE each year doing practicums in teaching or education assistant qualifications. The school will be advertising pools again soon for education assistants, mainstream and special needs.

We welcome back from maternity leave:

- Christi Jerovich, PP Wednesdays
- Miss Salome Ehlers, Year 3 Teacher
- Ms Vanessa Gould - SNEA
- Mrs Cara Hughes – SNEA

We are also very sad to advise Ms Alyce Brook as left Waggy to take up a position at Geraldton Grammar. We wish her all the best.



School Break times

Breaks are at the following times:

First Break

- A 10:55 – 11:15am
- B 11:15 – 11:30am

Second Break

- A 1:30 – 1:50pm
- B 1:50 – 2:00pm

Year 1/3/5 students play while Year 2/4/6 eat
Year 2/4/6 students play while Year 1/3/5 eat

Office and Ancillary Staff

The everyday running of the school is greatly supported and welcomed by our staff who have roles outside the classroom, a reminder of who these are:

- Carol-Anne White – Manager Corporate Services
- Michelle Tazewell and Marina Fowler are School Officers in the front office
- Mrs Kylie Pears in the library
- Mrs Jen Ford is our ICT Officer



Grounds Update

At the end of 2020 and during the holidays, we had:

- Concertina walls built in Year 1 and 2 blocks
- Two new playgrounds built - one from a Variety WA grant, and the other from an Education Department grant.

Regards

Lis Turner | Principal

Why You Need Ambulance Cover

Each year there has been a need to call an ambulance for an emergency. We do not hesitate in doing so, as the safety of your child is paramount. This may be done before parents can be contacted. The family is billed for the ambulance and this can be around \$900. We strongly urge all families to pay the small annual fee for ambulance cover or check your current private health insurance to ensure you have ambulance benefits for all family members.

Scooters and Bikes

While we encourage students to ride and walk to school, we remind students that scooters and bikes must be walked inside the school grounds to prevent accidents. A lockable scooter rack is available. Please ensure children wear helmets. It is also strongly advised you provide your children with a lock as we cannot be held responsible if your child's bike or scooter goes missing.



Website

The school blog is part of this website and there is an events calendar in the info tab for school events including swimming and all term dates for 2021.



Facebook

Regular small communications will be done through the school Facebook page 'Waggrakine Primary School' or Seesaw. There is also a P&C site that we encourage parents to join for the latest info from the P&C 'Waggrakine Primary School P&C'. There are two questions which must be answered regarding being a parent/guardian of students before your request will be accepted.

Newsletters

Newsletters are available electronically only and are released generally twice a term, although more regularly when issues such as COVID-19 arise. Newsletters are posted on Facebook, the website and Seesaw.



Seesaw

Seesaw gives you a window into your child's learning and notices from your child's teachers.

The 'Seesaw Family' app is available on iOS, Android or through the web. When your child adds new work, you will receive a notification to see, hear and respond to your child's post. You only have access to your own child's notices and at times class and whole school notices. All content is stored securely. The app also provides you with an inbox where you can private message your child's teacher; however, please understand that teachers will generally only check and respond to messages during work hours.

Please contact your classroom teacher with any questions about Seesaw. With your help, we can continue building our school community of lifelong learners. Parents who were connected to Seesaw last year will be automatically linked to your child's 2021 class. For new parents, you will receive a handout with directions how to download and sign up to your child's 2021 Seesaw class.



PBS

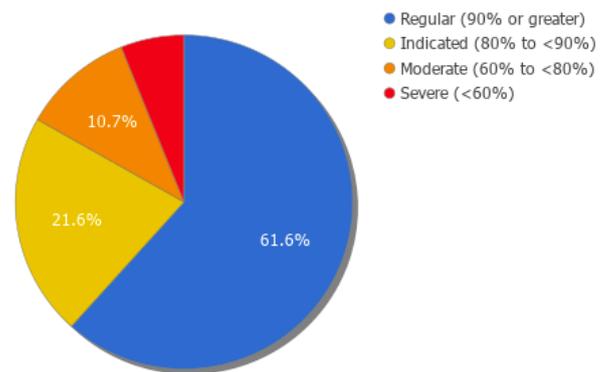
Waggrakine is in its sixth year of being a Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) school. You will notice our matrix of expectations displayed around the school, together with the PBS expectation posters and murals.

This year at WPS, we have moved our Waggy Wonder point collection system from paper to digital. Using PBiS (Positive Behavioural Interventions & Supports) Rewards software, we can now manage an automated school wide system, save paper and save time hand-counting paper Waggy Wonders. Students will now earn 'Waggy Points' for demonstrating Respect, Responsibility and Active Learning throughout our school and are easily distributed and tallied. Through using PBiS Rewards, we can better see how staff are utilising Waggy Points and continue to support a positive culture within our school.



Attendance

Helping your children to achieve academic milestones is a priority, and as attendance data correlates to academic data, we again remind families of the importance of regular attendance for student achievement. Our Semester 2, 2020 attendance remained low with only 61% of students attending over 90%. While Semester 1 was severely affected by COVID-19, the school was open for all weeks during Semester 2, and we must aim to bring the attendance rates back to our goals of 70% of students with regular attendance of 90%.



This year, we are introducing attendance as one of the requirements of the PBS Good Standing Rewards. Students who are below regular attendance rates of 90% with unexplained absences may miss out on these rewards.



Reading Room

TA16 (third classroom in the Year 6 area) is our English Intervention room. It will be open from 8.15am for any students, parents and caregivers to access some books and read! A great way to get your reading diary full of entries.

Parent Contributions

Parent contributions are set by the School Board each year. In accordance with the School Education Regulations 2000, a maximum of \$60 per student can be charged. Waggrakine Primary School sets these contributions considerably lower each year. This year our contributions have been set at \$50 per student. The contributions assist us to provide more funding to classes for hands-on activities such as cooking, outdoor play rewards, special classroom purchases, computer consumables, classroom activities and consumables, Physical Education, Art, Indonesian, Music, and Technology and Enterprise resources and materials.

Contributions may be paid by cash, cheque or direct deposit. Using your child's name as the reference, our bank details are:

Account name: Waggrakine Primary School
BSB: 016 650
Account number: 3408 19733

Invoices will be sent home this week.



Payment Plans

The school is happy to put payment plans in place for any school activities throughout the year. If you are interested in this, please contact the office.

Centrepay

Waggrakine is registered for Centrepay – reference number: 555123236A if you would like to arrange regular payments for all school activities.



Parent Volunteers

Each year the school program is greatly enriched by 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 with children at Waggrakine sign a confidential declaration, and all non-parent volunteers require a Working with Children Check. Teachers will seek your co-operation in meeting our requirements to ensure children's safety.

Sun Smart Policy

In order to play outside at recess and lunch breaks, students must wear a broad brimmed or legionnaire hat. Caps and bucket hats do not comply with our Sun Smart Policy. Hats are available to purchase from the Canteen.

