



Talking  
Together

# waggrakine

Achieve By Caring



## Term 2 Dates

### Pre Primary Swimming

Tuesday 27 April – Friday 7 May

### TA9 and 10 Assembly

Friday 30 April at 2pm

### NAPLAN (Years 3 and 5)

Tuesday 11 May – Friday 21 May

### Good Standing

Friday 21 May

### Book Fair

Monday 24 - Friday 28 May

### TA12 and 13 Assembly

Friday 28 May at 2pm

### Pupil Free Day

Friday 4 June

### WA Day Public Holiday

Monday 7 June

### TA14 Assembly

Friday 11 June at 2pm

## From the Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have had a busy start to Term 2 and thank you for your support settling children into classes. We hope to plan a parent night later in the term and will send out dates via Seesaw once confirmed.

Year 1-6 swimming was very successful, with swimming instructors giving positive feedback about the behaviour of Waggrakine students. This fortnight we have our Pre Primary students at the pool, having a lovely time learning to swim.

We do our best to keep children safe and ask parents entering school grounds during the day to please close gates they come through to help us keep your children safe.

Regards

Lis Turner | Principal





### Know Your Admin Team

The school leadership team is made up of our Principal, Ms Turner and Deputies, Mrs Ostaszewskij, Mrs Suckling, Mr Reynolds, and Miss Wann on Fridays.

Other staff play key roles of leading programs in the school and future newsletters will have a focus on these areas.



### Evacuations and Lockdowns

As schools and society become increasingly diverse, school policies and processes are constantly updated. All schools have evacuation and lockdown procedures to ensure we continue to be prepared to support the safety of our children. At times, we give staff a code to stay in the classroom if a child is displaying poor behaviours outside classrooms. On other occasions, we may move a class to an alternate environment if poor choices are being made in the classroom. Like other schools, we follow all Department processes to support children.

If these behaviours are being displayed at home time, we encourage you and any younger children to move to a different area.



### Staff Well Being

Throughout the year staff have different wellbeing activities, some visible to the community and some not. This term we are having a few fun Thursday dressing days so you may see staff get into the spirit and follow the challenges set by the team providing this month's challenges. Keep an eye out, we will post some pictures and get the students involved later too.



## Staff updates

We are pleased to welcome the following staff members:

- Mrs Susan Jones is replacing Ms Freeman who is on maternity leave and had a little girl on 28 April.
- Mrs Kendall Schuts in TA14 on Fridays.
- Ms Billie Hopkins who is sharing TA11 with Miss Wann Wednesday – Friday.
- Mr Tim Stewart - our Music Teacher.
- Special Needs Education Assistants: Mrs Cassie Wann, Mrs Emma Harris, Mrs Lynda Mogg, and AIEO Mrs Jenny Hoare.
- Ms Ashlee Corbett who is helping us out in the office.

Welcome to Dave Tolley in the gardening role replacing Robyn for 2021. Some who have been connected to WPS for some time will remember him as a past parent.

## Reporting to Parents

As we enter a Reporting to Parents term we again ask that parents ensure we have your latest email address as all reports are sent via email. Staff are asked to address attendance concerns in the comments. To assist with accurate attendance comments, we remind families that the Department has two codes for holidays, one authorised and one not authorised. In order to ensure your holiday is 'authorised' and does not therefore impact on attendance comments, please ensure you notify the teacher and Principal, Ms Turner by email: ([Lis.Turner@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Lis.Turner@education.wa.edu.au)), phone, Seesaw, or pop in and let us know. This is all it takes to have your holiday authorised.

If your child is having difficulties you have not been already made aware of, teachers will make appointments prior to the reports going out to discuss your child's learning needs with you.



## NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing is scheduled to take place from 11 to 21 May for Year 3 and 5 students. The tests cover Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language (spelling & grammar) and Numeracy. Year 3 students will complete the Writing test with pencil and paper, all other tests will be completed online. Teachers have been providing practice opportunities for their students so they will be familiar with the process on testing days. Please reassure your child/ren that all they need to do is try their best.

## ANZAC assembly

Last week we were fortunate to be able to hold our ANZAC memorial assembly. Students showed great respect.



Picture on right is students from the extension class at the interschool solar car challenge last term.

## Intervention Programs

Waggrakine prides itself on creating an inclusive learning environment for all students. As increasing numbers of students have a diagnosed or imputed disability we along with the Department aim to ensure we align to best and evidence driven practice in meeting the needs of all of our students. While the majority of these students are catered for effectively in mainstream settings, each student's needs are assessed and individualised programs are tailored to meet the needs of each child.

Three classrooms in the school are available five days a week for intervention; Tier 2, for groups of students and Tier 3, for individual students. These programs include literacy and numeracy, social skills, speech, occupational therapy, Discrete Trial Training, Protective Behaviours, life skills and more.

Waggrakine is one of four schools that form the *Geraldton Lighthouse Model – Partnership of Schools* to provide students on the Autism Spectrum with targeted evidence based programs aimed at increasing age-appropriate academic engagement, organisational skills, social thinking, peer relationships and self-regulation.

