



3N Newsletter Term 1, 2023

Hello everyone and welcome back. As we move into what we all hope will be a more settled and predictable 2023, we are excited to get started on another busy but exciting school year. I would like to begin by taking this opportunity to introduce myself.



My name is Sam Nilon and I am so lucky to be teaching your children this year. This is my first year at Wyrallah Road Public School and I am excited to watch your children grow. I have been a teacher for five years working at schools in the Northern Rivers including Lismore South and Casino Public School. I have been fortunate enough to learn from many different teachers and am looking forward to working with such an incredible staff.

I believe that learning should be child centred and that children learn best in a safe, secure environment with both individual and group work activities. The classroom will be a welcoming environment for both students and parents.

When I am not at work, I enjoy spending time with my family going to the beach and participating in sport on the weekend.

I look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks.

Please find attached a comprehensive list of information to provide you with all you will need to know about the routines and organisation of Stage 2.

We will be holding a parent 'Meet and Greet' morning on Thursday 16th February from 8:00 to 8:45 am where you will have the opportunity to pop in to your child's classroom and ask any questions you may have. If this time doesn't suit you please don't hesitate to make an appointment. I look forward to meeting you over the next few weeks!

Our Stage 2 Team:

3T Miss Drucilla Templeton

4E - Miss Karen Eakin

3N - Mr Sam Nilon

4W - Mr Malcolm Wheeler (Stage Manager)

3/4M - Miss Zoe Macris

Important Dates

Term 1 will be an 11-week term, concluding on Thursday, 6 April

- **Wednesday, 15 February** – Swimming Carnival
- **Thursday 16 February** – Meet the Teacher morning 8:00 am
- **15 – 27 March** - NAPLAN Assessment
- **Friday, 3 March** - Clean Up Australia Day
- **Friday, 17 March** – Harmony Day
- **Thursday, 23 March** – School Photos

Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL

- Wyrallah Road Public School is a 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' (PBL) school, taking a school wide, systematic and proactive approach to explicitly teaching expected behaviours.
- As a PBL school, teachers at WRPS explicitly teach expected behaviours covering the many different school settings. This is reinforced by both our formal and informal recognition systems.

Wyrallah Road Public School proudly stands on Bundjalung land

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<p>Communication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At WRPS we understand and value the importance of effective communication and building relationships with our parents. Communication is one of the most important parts of the relationship between school and home as it helps us to better understand your child. We recognise that every child is a unique individual and begins school with varying social, emotional and learning needs. • If you need to get a message to me during the day, please ring the office. My day can become very busy and I don't always check my emails until after the school day. If you have a non-urgent message, I can be contacted via the office or email. I will only be corresponding during business hours which are 8:30 to 4:30 weekdays. • If you would like to organise a time to have a chat with any of the teachers, please ring or email to make an appointment. • There will be times that we may contact you via phone or email. We like to contact parents to share wonderful learning moments, if we have any concerns or need to clarify any confusions regarding your child. We also may contact parents to discuss areas that may need some extra attention and a collaborative approach. • Our school has an excellent website and Facebook page, which highlights many exciting things that happen at our school. Our website contains information about individual classes and notes for upcoming events and excursions.
<p>Weekly Organisation</p>	<p>Sport: Tuesday morning Enrichment groups: Wednesday (beginning week 6) Scripture: Wednesday afternoon Music: Friday Technology: Friday Whole school assembly: Friday afternoons on even weeks in school hall from 2:10pm - 2:50pm. Beginning week 4. All are welcome to attend.</p>
<p>Curriculum Overview Term 1</p>	<p><u>Integrated Unit</u> Term 1 - 'Heroes and Villains'. This unit explores the notion of heroes and villains as they are portrayed through literature, media and art. Students will investigate historical figures who may fall into these categories and examine some of the special commemorations and celebrations held within Australia and the world. Students will consider how a healthy lifestyle and diet are essential for good health and superhero stamina.</p> <p><u>Mathematics-</u> Term 1 focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole number concepts • Collecting and displaying data • Addition and Subtraction • Multiplication • Simple fractions • Measuring length and calculating area • Recognising and describing patterns • Time • 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes <p><u>English:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading – Students will continue to strengthen their decoding skills, increase fluency and practice comprehension skills which will be explicitly taught. Students will engage in



	<p>whole class, small group and independent activities focused on these skills and strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing – Students will engage with imaginative, informative and persuasive writing. They will learn about the writing process including brainstorming, planning, drafting, editing and publishing across the school year. Punctuation and Grammar rules are embedded through explicit teaching and regular opportunities to practise these skills. Handwriting lessons and activities are also timetabled throughout the week. • Spelling – Students will continue to learn through the Soundwaves spelling program in 2023. Each week, students will learn a new phoneme (basic unit of sound) and the associated grapheme (letter selections to represent the sounds) choices. Students engage in whole class interactive lessons, small group work and online games as part of this program.
Crunch and Sip	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each day, students are encouraged to eat a serve of fresh fruit or vegetables and drink water during the morning session. This gives students an extra boost to get through the long morning session while they are working in class. • Fruit is available at the canteen if necessary, but needs to be purchased before school.
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision for students begins at 8:30am. Please do not drop your child off before this time. • Parents requiring earlier drop off may wish to contact 'Helping Hands' before and after school care. Contact number: 0448125995 Email address: wyrallahroad@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au • Parents are reminded that children must come to school every day unless they are ill, have medical appointments or there are exceptional family circumstances. • If children are absent from school, parents are required to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within seven days of the absence. • Explanations can be submitted via a written note, email to the teacher or through the SkoolBag Mobile App (search Wyrallah Road Public School in the App Store)
Enrichment Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrichment Groups will be on offer for students in Years 3-6 this term. Students will be able to participate in one 45-minute activity each week beginning in Week 6. Their effort and achievement will be reported upon in Semester 1 and 2 reports. • Enrichment Groups will occur on Wednesdays between 12:10pm and 12:55pm. More information will be available as we get closer to our start date.
Homework and Home Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework will be sent home each week. Students can complete the work and return it to their classroom teacher the following week. • Reading at home is very important as it allows children to practise their reading skills and improve their general reading ability and comprehension. All students are encouraged to read at least 15 minutes each day. Students may use their own books from home, borrow from the library, or utilise our Home Reader collection here at school.
Excursions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excursions to enhance classroom learning will be planned throughout the year along with one overnight excursion for both Year 3 and 4. Further information and costing will be provided as soon as possible. • Excursions are a wonderful opportunity for students to experience educational activities that we cannot provide in the classroom. All students are strongly encouraged to attend.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If finances are a concern, please do not hesitate to contact the Stage 2 Assistant Principal. <p>We will notify families later in the term regarding upcoming excursions and special events</p>
Scripture and Ethics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scripture lessons are on Wednesday afternoons for half an hour. These lessons are conducted by volunteers and are supervised by a classroom teacher. Students' participation in the Scripture and Ethics programs will be based on their preference from 2022. If you would like to change the program your child attends, please contact your class teacher. Students who do not participate in religious education will be engaged in independent revision activities supervised by a classroom teacher.
School Fees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is easier than ever to pay school fees with parent online payment (POP). This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Log onto our school site at:- www.wyrallahrd-p.schools.nsw.edu.au If paying online does not suit, you can also pay in person at the front office (EFTPOS or cash) or write a cheque made out to Wyrallah Road Public School. \$55 per student, \$100 for two children or \$130 for a family of 3 or more children. Although voluntary, school fees are a vital part of our budget each year and pay for essential items in classrooms such as pencils, books and art supplies. Thank you in advance for your prompt payment.

At WRPS we understand and value the importance of effective communication and building relationships with our parents. Communication is one of the most important parts of the relationship between school and home as it helps us to better understand your child. We recognise that every child is a unique individual with varying social, emotional and learning needs.

So please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or information you need to share.

Kind regards,
Sam Nilon

Contact details

Email: Samuel.nilon2@det.nsw.edu.au

School office hours: 8:30 – 3:30pm

Phone: 02 6621 3363