



5/6W Newsletter Term 1 2019



Hello everyone and welcome back for what promises to be another busy but exciting school year. For me, it is great to be back in front of a Stage 3 class after a number of years in Stage 1. Many of you I will have already met through that association with your children, but for those I haven't, I would like to begin by taking this opportunity to introduce myself.

My name is Mal Wheeler and I am 5/6W's classroom teacher and also the Stage 3 Assistant Principal. I have been fortunate to have taught in a number of North Coast schools over the past 16 years, as well as 2 years teaching in England. I have been part of the team at Wyrallah Road since the beginning of 2014 and am proud to be part of such a talented and dedicated staff.

A cornerstone of my teaching philosophy is my desire to get children passionate about learning. I strive to excite children about the world around them and ignite in them a desire to want to know more. I have high expectations of all my students and will do my utmost to ensure they achieve their best.

When I am not working, I enjoy simple things: travelling when I can, a spot of fishing or just mucking about in the shed.

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 3.

<p>We will be holding a parent 'Meet and Greet' afternoon on Tuesday, 5 February 4.30-5.30pm 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!</p>	
<p>Our Stage 3 Team 5/6N - Mr Michael Nind 5/6W - Mr Malcolm Wheeler (Assistant Principal) 5/6P – Mrs Meg Pickford (Assistant Principal) Monday-Thursday 5/6P Mr Tas Wales (Friday) 5/6B – Mrs Jessica Brewer-Charles 4/5E – Ms Karen Eakin</p>	
<p>Important Dates</p>	<p><i>Term 1 will be an 11 week term, concluding on Friday, 12 April</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, 12 February (Week 3) – Swimming Carnival • Tuesday, 26 February (Week 5)-6-7 High school orientation day (Lismore High Campus) • Thursday, 21 March (Week 8) – Harmony Day • Thursday, 28 March (Week 9) – School Photos • Tuesday, 2 April (Week 10) – Parent Teacher Interviews 3:15-7:15pm
<p>Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.




<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>Music: Thursday odd weeks Technology: Tuesday even weeks Sport: Wednesday morning Enrichment groups: Wednesday Scripture: Wednesday PE: Friday Whole school assembly (even weeks): Friday afternoons in school hall from 2:10pm - 2:50pm. All parents are welcome to attend.</p>
<p>Library Borrowing Day</p>	<p>5/6W- Monday (odd weeks) 4/5E- Thursday (odd weeks) 5/6N- Thursday (odd weeks) 5/6B- Monday (even weeks) 5/6P- Thursday (even weeks) The library is also open 2nd half lunch every day and all students are encouraged to utilise this time for borrowing outside of their class borrowing time.</p>
<p>Curriculum Overview Term 1</p>	<p><u>Integrated Unit</u> Our Neighbours-Asia: Students will explore countries of the Asia region and the connections Australia has with other countries across the world. Students learn about the diversity of the world's people, including the indigenous peoples of other countries. Students will explore and reflect upon similarities, differences and the importance of intercultural understanding. Students will also explore migration and the impact that it has had on Australian society and the connections Australia has with Asian countries. The unit will conclude with students completing a country study.</p> <p><u>Mathematics-</u> Term 1 focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place value of numbers of any size • Collection of data and data displays • Addition and Subtraction • Multiplication and division (order of operations, factors, integers, prime numbers) • Identifying and naming properties of 3D objects



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring and constructing angles • Fractions and decimals • Measuring length, calculating perimeters and converting between units of length • Locating and describing position on maps using grid references • Constructing and completing number patterns • Manipulates, draws and calculates the area of 2D shapes • 24 hour time and am and pm notation in real life situations <p>English:</p> <p>Reading – This term students will focus on learning explicit comprehension skills which will be introduced one at a time this term. These skills are: predicting, monitoring & clarifying, visualising, questioning, making connections and inferring. More information about these comprehension skills will be sent home when students commence home reading.</p> <p>Writing – Students will be focusing on narrative and persuasive writing this term. We will be learning the language and structural features involved in writing these genres.</p> <p>Spelling – In Week 5 this term the Stage 3 teachers will be undergoing training for a new spelling program. This program will be rolling out across Years 1-6. Each week students will be working on a phoneme (basic unit of sound) focus. You may notice this in your child’s weekly homework.</p>
<p>Crunch and Sip</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each day students are encouraged to eat a piece 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 and needs to be purchased before school.
<p>Attendance</p>	<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)
<p>Assemblies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every fortnight on a Friday (even weeks of the term) there will be a whole school assembly in the hall. All parents are warmly invited to attend. • All classes will have a turn throughout the year at performing in a class item. Additional opportunities for performances may arise through enrichment groups and extra-curricular activities. Parents will be advised about when these are scheduled through the school newsletter. • Term 1 whole school Friday assembly performances: 5/6W- Week 6 (8/3/19) 5/6P- Week 8 (22/3/19)
<p>Enrichment Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once again enrichment groups will be on offer for students in Years 3-6. Students will be able to participate in one 45 minute activity each week from Week 5 Term 1 to Week 2 Term 2 and then will be given the opportunity to choose another activity from



	<p>Week 5 Term 2 to Week 3 Term 3. Their effort and achievement will be reported upon in Semester 1 and 2 reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrichment Groups will occur on Wednesdays between 12.20pm and 12:55pm. 												
Homework and Home Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework will be handed out each Monday morning and needs to be returned each Friday. Home reading is very important as it allows children to practise their reading skills and improve their reading ability. Please remember to sign your child's home reading log and send it to school to be marked off. If your child has misplaced their log please let me know and I will organise a replacement. 												
Equipment Requirements	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>6 Lead Pencils HB</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Erasers Pack 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Compact 2 hole sharpener</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clear Plastic Ruler 30cm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Glue Stick 35g</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highlighters Pack 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Whiteboard Marker Blue</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A4 Button Document Wallet (any colour)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A4 20 Pocket Display book</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pens black, blue and red</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Your choice of coloured pencils</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Item Description	6 Lead Pencils HB	Erasers Pack 3	Compact 2 hole sharpener	Clear Plastic Ruler 30cm	Glue Stick 35g	Highlighters Pack 4	Whiteboard Marker Blue	A4 Button Document Wallet (any colour)	A4 20 Pocket Display book	Pens black, blue and red	<i>Your choice of coloured pencils</i>
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Excursions	<p>Year 6 will again be travelling to Canberra and Sydney for their excursion. Information regarding payment details was sent home at the end of 2018 and should now have been returned to school together with the deposit of \$80. If you have not paid the deposit please do so by Friday, 22 February as numbers will be confirmed with the bus company on this date. This will allow for venues to be confirmed and the total excursion cost to be finalised. More information will be coming home closer to the excursion regarding equipment and itinerary once numbers have been confirmed with the bus company.</p> <p>Year 5 will be attending Camp Koinonia at Evans Head. Information regarding payment details was sent home at the end of 2018 and should now have been returned to school together with the deposit of \$90. Students will have the opportunity to participate in many outdoor activities including surfing, stand up paddle boarding, laser tag and much, much more.</p> <p>All information about these two excursions can be found under the 'permission note' tab on the school website.</p>												
Scripture	<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 your child's classroom 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.
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So please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns or information you need to share.

Contact details: Mal Wheeler

Email: malcolm.wheeler1@det.nsw.edu.au

School office hours: 8:30 – 3:30

Phone: 02 6621 3363