

4/5/6S Class Newsletter Term 1 2024

Hello everyone and welcome back. We are excited to get started on another busy and exciting school year.

I am very much looking forward to teaching the 4/5/6 extension class this year and join the students on their learning journey throughout the year. Prior to working at Wyrallah Rd I had numerous experiences teaching Stage 3 classes as well as extension and opportunity classes in various schools across Sydney.

I provide a structured and well-planned learning program to make the children feel comfortable and understand that the classroom is a meaningful environment. This includes daily routines of which the children are aware. I establish challenging, yet achievable learning activities and provide support for students to attain their personal goals. I create an environment in my classroom that is welcoming and positive where all students learn from one another and feel safe and comfortable to share their thoughts and ideas.

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.

We will be holding a 'Meet and Greet' afternoon on Tuesday, 20 February from 4:30pm to 5:15pm in the school hall shelter area where you will have the opportunity to pop in and meet your child's teacher 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 3 Team:

4/5/6S-Scott Shaw

5M- Christine Melkie

6E- Karen Eakin

6M- Glenn Maxwell

Stage teacher- Emma Kelly and Brianna Munroe

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	Term 1 will be an 11-week term, concluding on Friday, 12 April			
	Wednesday, 14 February - Swimming Carnival			
	Tuesday, 20 February - Meet and Greet afternoon 4:30-5:15pm			
	Tuesday 20 February- 3-6 Parent Workshop- Curriculum reform presentation			
Important Dates	Wednesday, 13 March - NAPLAN Window Opens – Year 5			
	Thursday, 21 March – School Photos TBC			
	• Friday, 29 March – Good Friday			
	Monday, 1 April – Easter Monday			
	Wednesday, 10 April - WRPS Cross Country TBC			
	This is a list of the items needed by your child to begin the new school year. The list has been			
	carefully prepared by teachers with specific items listed to best support the educational			
Equipment	needs of your child. Specific brands have been suggested; however an alternative brand is			
Requirements	fine. You can find the list on our school website: https://wyrallahrd-			
	p.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/w/wyrallahrd-p/permission-			
	notes/2024/school-information-and-other-events/Stationery_Requirements_2024.pdf			
	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.			
Positive Behaviour for				
Learning	At Wyrallah Road we are:			
PBL	Respectful			
	Responsible			
	• Safe			

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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 system.

Win Bins are used in both the classroom and across the wider school context. Win Bin tickets are issued by all staff. They are issued to students who have demonstrated positive behaviour/effort/achievement. The purpose of a Win Bin is to reinforce positive behaviour immediately. Draws are made from accumulated Win Bins four times per term at our morning assembly, beginning Week 3 each term. If your child is successful in having their name drawn, they receive a canteen voucher to the sum of \$2. There are 5 draws made for each stage.

Merit Certificates are given by classroom teachers to recognise special and positive behaviour/effort/achievement. These awards are presented at Friday assemblies.

Owlie Points contribute toward an individual award and a class reward. At the end of each week, all students are given the opportunity to self-reflect on their behaviours over the past week and record individually if they believe they have earnt their Owlie points for that week. Students have been made aware of the behaviour expectations to earn their classroom and playground behaviour points. They need to indicate if they have earnt one point for consistently following expectations to be respectful, responsible and safe in the classroom and another point for following the expectations to be respectful, responsible and safe in the playground. Students may earn a total of 2 points weekly.

Teachers will give individual feedback to students whose self-assessment is not a true reflection of their behaviour choices over the week. Feedback to students follows the restorative conversation process and refers to the WRPS whole school expectations overview.

When students earn 20 points, they become an eligible candidate for the PBL badge. Each teacher will ascertain the number of PBL badges awarded each week from the eligible candidates and relative to their class size. Teachers will contact parents if their child is receiving a PBL badge at the next whole school assembly. The student is not aware if they are to receive a PBL badge prior to the whole school assembly.

If a class receives 90% or more of their total class points for the week, they may choose a class reward for that week.

PBL Owl Badge is a PBL award, presented during Friday assemblies. This award is presented to students who *consistently* demonstrate positive behaviour and follow school expectations. It is received in the form of a Wyrallah Road Owl Badge.

Wellbeing days occur once a term. The purpose of Wellbeing days is toward:

- whole school, inclusive practice which is attended by all students
- building positive and respectful relationships between student-student and studentclass teacher
- supporting the wellbeing of all students focusing on social skills, team building and making connections across class, stage, whole school.

Communication

- 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.

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- 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.

Sport: Friday morning

Scripture: Wednesday afternoon

Music: Monday
Technology: Monday

Library: Thursday (even weeks)

Whole school assembly: Friday afternoons on even weeks in school hall from 2:10pm -

2:50pm. Beginning Week 4. All are welcome to attend.

English

Students will engage in a sequence of units throughout the year, which have been developed by the Department of Education, integrating, and covering all outcomes and content for: oral language and communication, vocabulary, reading (fluency and comprehension), writing, spelling, handwriting and digital transcription and understanding and responding to literature. The units support cumulative, explicit, and systematic teaching of foundational literacy skills as well as conceptual understanding of English.

Below is a list of the Term 1 units and a brief overview of their focus topic.

Narrative

Students will learn how an author creates engaging characters through a narrative. They will identify common narrative conventions and patterns and recognise when these patterns are subverted. Students will make connections to a text through their own personal and common lived experiences.

Genre

Students will explore how a significant historical event can be portrayed through different genres. Students will engage with various texts that describe the Wave Hill Walk-Off under the leadership of Vincent Lingiari, and consider the context and perspective of each of the authors in creating their text. Students will draw on this knowledge to create their own hybrid text about a significant Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.

Curriculum Overview Term 1

Weekly Organisation

Mathematics-

Students will engage in a sequence of units throughout the year, which have been developed by the Department of Education, integrating, and covering all outcomes and content for number and algebra, measurement and space and statistics and probability. The units connect the learning of a range of mathematical concepts and skills under 'big ideas'. They provide opportunities for students to use mathematical reasoning skills through rich tasks and cater for student needs with activities for varying skill levels.

Below is a list of the 'big ideas' for Term 1 units and the mathematical concepts they cover.

- The number system extends infinitely to very large and very small numbers: representing numbers, multiplicative relations.
- Addition and subtraction problems can be solved using a variety of strategies: representing numbers, additive relations.
- What needs to be measured determines the unit of measurement: geometric measure, two-dimensional spatial structure, non-spatial measure.
- Fractions represent multiple ideas and can be represented in different ways: representing quantity fractions, additive relations.
- Questions can be asked and answered by collecting and interpreting data: represents numbers, data.

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	Integrated Unit- Wonder, Change and Adaptation in Nature				
	This unit develops students' understanding of the growth and survival of living things and				
	how their adaptations over time suit their environment. Students will explore how human				
	involvement can have a positive and negative effect on the environment. They will study some of the living things found within the Great Barrier Reef and on "Pem Island" and explore				
	the structural features that allow them to survive in their natural environment.				
	• Each day, students are encouraged to eat a serve of fresh fruit or vegetables and drink				
Crunch and Sip	water during the morning session. This gives students an extra boost to get through the				
Crunch and Sip	long morning session while they are working in class.				
	• Fruit is available at the canteen, if necessary, but needs to be purchased before school.				
	Supervision 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				
Attendance	Parents are reminded that children must come to school every day unless they are ill,				
Attendance	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				
	Audiri Mobile App (search Wyrallah Road Public School in the App Store).				
	Homework will be sent home once throughout the term as a homework project linked				
	to the Integrated Unit being studied. Students will work on this project throughout the				
Homework and Home	term. More information will be sent home in the coming weeks.				
Reading	Reading at home is very important as it allows children to practise their reading skills and				
incauling	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 or				
	borrow from the library.				
	• Years 4, 5 and 6 will all participate in overnight excursions again this year. These				
	excursions are planned for the latter part of this year. Information regarding the camp				
	and payment details will be sent home shortly. Other excursions and /or incursions may				
Excursions	be planned to support learning in specific curriculum areas. More information will be				
	coming home closer to the excursion dates regarding equipment and itinerary once				
	numbers have been confirmed. If finances are a concern, please do not hesitate to				
	contact the school office.				
Scripture and Ethics	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 the				
	preference from 2023. If you would like to change the program your child attends,				
	please contact your class teacher in writing.				
	Students who do not participate in religious education will be engaged in independent				
	revision activities supervised by a classroom teacher.				

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

Kind regards, Scott Shaw

Contact details

Email: scott.shaw@det.nsw.edu.au School office hours: 8:30 – 3:30pm

Phone: 02 6621 3363