

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

Enrolments are Welcome for all Year levels, including Kinder for 2019.

Please come and collect an enrolment form.

Principal's report

Dear Parents / Carers,

School Photos

Yesterday we had our school photos taken (the Kinder will have their done at a later date). I must say the students looked lovely so thank you parents / carers for taking extra care and effort for having them looking so spotless in their best uniform. I hope you enjoy receiving your photo order, which usually take about a month. Our photographer thanked us all for being so organised and co-operative, and left saying he really enjoyed working with our classes. Well done to our school captains, Emily and Anthony, who did a fabulous job running errands and collecting people for our photographers. It's not easy being a school captain!

Cultural Banquet

Exciting news! We have been really lucky to have received a small grant to recognise Harmony Day and the many families we have from different countries at our school. Our new English as an Additional Language (EAL) teacher, Kelly McGregor, is organising a whole school (including the Kinder) Cultural Banquet lunch for next Thursday 14th March. We are asking all students to bring along a plate of food to share from another country. In addition, the school will be providing some fried rice and mini spring rolls for each class to share. Mrs McGregor and Mrs Kenny will be preparing this in our Kitchen

during the morning. We want to encourage everyone to participate and enjoy experiencing a range of foods from around the world. We will also supply paper plates and cutlery. A reminder will also be sent out on Compass so that all families can participate.

To compliment this, all our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen classes will be doing cooking from various countries before the end of the term, including making special indigenous ice-cream for dessert. Yum!



School Council

Congratulations to the following people who have been elected onto School Council. I formally thank you and we look forward to working with you all. I know you all have the best interests of our school community at heart and will work hard to make our great school even greater. We welcome Jessica Thompson (1 year Community position representing the Kindergarten), Lauren Barber, Stephanie Grant, Renee Porter (all Parent members), and Melissa Watson (DET employee). Our Annual General Meeting will be held next Wednesday March 13th at 5.45 pm. Immediately follow-

ing, we will hold our first meeting of the year with our new councillors. School Council materials are sent home with your child the Friday before the School Council Meetings across the year. Again, many thanks for putting yourselves forward and for giving your time and energy to our Wodonga West Children's Centre.

Winter Uniform

Today's cool weather this morning caught some of our families off guard. As we head into Autumn, a reminder to make sure you have some warmer (Winter) clothing handy in case we get further colder weather. Please make sure all student clothing is clearly labelled with their name.

Important Dates

Monday 11th March	Public Holiday
Wednesday 13th March	School Council meeting AGM 5:45PM
Thursday 14th March	Multicultural lunch
Saturday 16th March	Wodonga Show (Free entry for children)
Monday 1st April	Sun smiles

Student Attendance - It's not O.K. to be away

The time is right to focus on improved student attendance at Wodonga West .

Last year on average we had a high rate of student absence. This means that some students missed large chunks of their learning. For example, if a child misses on average one or two days per fortnight, they will miss a year of learning during their time at school.

Local and international research demonstrates a strong correlation between student's learning, longer-term life outcomes and attendance at school and appropriate participation in education programs.

It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance from an early age, as the older a child gets the more difficult it can be to establish new habits.

Poor patterns of attendance place students at risk of not achieving their educational, social and future potential as adults.

Once learners have begun to absent themselves from pre-school or school, and the initial cause of this remains undetected or unresolved, it is likely that the pattern of absence will continue and escalate through their subsequent schooling and adulthood.

Please remember that if you are experiencing difficulty in having your child attend school, discuss the matter with your child's teacher.

Just Brass

Today we were joined by Jeremy Kerr, our Just Brass teacher. Our students who were lucky enough to have been chosen to participate in this exciting opportunity were allocated their instrument to take home and begin practising. It is their responsibility to

practise 15 minutes daily and to look after their instrument very carefully. Each Thursday, students are to bring their instrument along to school for their music lesson during the day, followed by their band practise immediately after school each Thursday at the Salvation Army. Parents are to collect students from band practice at 5.30 pm – beginning next week. What an amazing opportunity for the 20 participants to have this free tuition. Those students who missed out will be kept 'on file' in case vacancies occur into the future. We hope to have our brass band perform for our school after they have had time to learn their instruments. Well done to everyone concerned. I am sorry to say ,parents / carers, that the instruments do not come with ear plugs (which might be required by you initially!!!)

Regards

Jocelyn Owen



Bogong Leadership Camp

Two weekends ago I was lucky to be able to accompany eight year five students to Bogong Leadership Camp. These student were able to learn some valuable leadership skills while having a lot of fun. Some of the activities included rock climbing, abseiling, orienteering, night walk, disco and much, much more. I look forward to these students stepping into leadership positions this year and next.



Sports News

WODONGA WEST CROSS COUNTRY

Our Wodonga West Cross Country will be held on Thursday 2nd May at Willow Park. All students in classes 2/3 to MYOS have been training and will participate in a 2km (9/10 years) or 3km (11/12 years) distance. Year 2's can run a modified course if they wish. Permission notes will be given out next week and need to be returned ASAP, so they do not get lost over the holidays and you don't miss out on a great day!

This will be our first event where house points will be awarded for all students who participate!

If any parents are able to help, please see Mrs Macdonald, or contact the school.

Kinder News

We have had an extremely busy fortnight in the kinder

The children have been showing a great deal of interest in bugs this fortnight. To extend this interest we have set up a large bug investigation area. The children are beginning to learn basic facts about different bugs and insects. This area promotes investigation while extending their curiosity in an area of interest to them. The children are also learning to interact with their peers. To extend on the bug theme, we went for a walk to the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden, to go bug hunting. The children were very excited to see so many familiar bugs as well as some chickens.



To help the children learn to count, we have been singing the song '5 Fat Sausages'. The children have been taking it in turns to act it out in front of the group.



Richmond Footy Club Visit.

By 4 Chick.

Monday the 25th of February, 2019

The Richmond tigers are the best team. They only came to 12 schools in Albury/Wodonga and we were one of them. We got to have a question and answer session with the team. And we got to take an awesome photo with the team. They even signed Miss Chick's old footy. They will be at the Wodonga plaza tomorrow, where I will see them again. *Holly Wills.*

The Richmond Tigers are the best footy team because of the amount of skill that they put in to their footy. Also the Richmond Tigers don't give up when they play; they always try their hardest. I learned from Mabior Chol how to do a banana kick. *Kyron Ward.*

The Richmond players all started playing footy at different ages. Two of them are now 22 and one was 19. One of the players was in the back line, his name was Ben Miller. The other two are in the front line, they were Jason Castagna and Mabior Chol. Being on the front line means that they get to kick a goal, but in the back line you don't get to kick a goal. *Hunter Steff.*

The visit of the three Richmond footy players was an opportunity to ask questions that we had. The footy players taught us the kick drop and the banana kick. It was an exciting opportunity to learn from the Richmond footy players. *Alexis Pierce.*

On Monday the 25th of February, 2019 Wodonga West Primary School had three special Richmond Footy Stars. Their names were Jason Castagna, Ben Miller and Mabior Chol. They are also named short, short and tall. They were all massive people. Two of them were 22 and the other was 19. They taught us a lot and different types of kicks. They also kindly let us ask them questions. We got our class football signed. *Keanu Neave-Bundle.*

2/3 Stagg and 3/4 Lord and us 4 Chick got to see the Richmond footy players. They told us all about how long they played for. What teams they use to go for. And in the library we saw everything from a hand ball to a banana kick. From a torpedo to a group photo. They normally play PlayStation in their free time. Each weekend they play footy because they have their match. A lot of the time the three of them get to hang out, with just the three of them. *Deacon Martinelli-Walsh.*

The tigers are the best team. One of them taught us how to do a banana kick. Two of them are 22 and one was only 19. We all got a big photo of all of us together. It was very cool. I learned that is their spare time one of them plays a PlayStation. They didn't have a favourite player because they learned from each person they played with and against. *Kayli Chalmers.*



Rugby Club Visit.

By 4 Chick.

Tuesday the 19th of February, 2019.

Our school got a chance to do a little bit of Rugby practice with an NFL player named Jack. That day we learned how to catch a footy, and how to do a burger (holding it) and marking the ball (catching). The burger is where you have to hold the ball, and when you go to put it in the grass to mark the ball this is how you hold it, in the burger shape. *Haley Waite.*

On Tuesday for P.E. we had a special guest, and his name was Jack. He taught us a bit about rugby and how to catch the ball and mark it. We played out on the oval near Mrs Nichol's class room. I enjoyed their visit and would like them to come back again. *Aiden Stern.*

I really enjoyed the game we played. It was really fun, and I hope you come back. You work very hard. We got to play a lot of Rugby with Jack, and hope that he can come and teach us more things about when you were playing rugby. You were teaching us lots of things. *Allie Robinson.*

Rugby is fun, so I chose to write about it. We got to play games with Jack who came into the school. We got to use the proper rugby balls. We got to run around on the oval with him. We played a rugby game it was a lot like tiggly. *Jordan Nicol*

The people who came to our school were from the Rugby. I played the handball thing. We played stuck in the mud. I had a great time. We got our school photo with him. I had lots of fun. We also played running around the oval game. *Ben Myers.*

On Tuesday the 19th of February, we had a very kid person (named Jack) come and teach us some rugby. He taught us really well and let us play some fun games. He told us some things about himself. He also told us that if we wanted to do rugby, we can join him on the 26th of February at 4:00



STUDENT ATTENDANCE REPORT

DID YOU KNOW?

<p>Attendance At or above 98%</p>	<p>These students have missed no more than 1 day this term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You have every chance of achieving to the best of your ability -You are likely to have positive friendship groups
<p>Attendance 95-97%</p>	<p>These students have only missed 2 days this term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You are likely to be achieving your best at school -With only occasional absences, you will find it easy to get back in touch with the learning program after absences
<p>Attendance 90-94%</p>	<p>These students have missed 3-5 days this term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You may be finding it challenging to keep in touch with lessons or with class work -You may have been unwell this semester -Aim to improve your attendance rate
<p>Attendance 80-89%</p>	<p>These students have missed 6-10 days per term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You have missed up to 1 day every week, which equates to 2 ½ years schooling missed by Year 12 - It will be very difficult to keep in touch with school work - Please contact your teacher immediately to discuss a plan for improving attendance rates
<p>Attendance Below 80%</p>	<p>These students have missed 11 days or more this term</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You have missed more than 1 day per week - You may feel 'disconnected' from school. You are almost certain to experience difficulties at school; both academically and socially - Please contact your teacher immediately to discuss a plan for improving attendance rates.

Become a Junior WARRIOR



Join the exciting sport of Baseball
Open to Children of all ages



Contact: Tracey Chadwick - 0407592722
Bill Clear - 0427594947

We are a Child Safe Club



Find us on

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WodongaWarriors/>

Under Lights, Every Wednesday

Starting 27th March

4:30pm-6:00pm

Season Commences April 28th

Gayview Park, Serpentine Ave, Wodonga.

Come along and
support your
local show

WODONGA SHOW

16th March, 2019

9.00am - 4.00 pm.

**FREE PASS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 15
WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT**

Army Display, Petting Zoo, Games, Food Vans, Produce,
Photographic Competition, Mural Competition, Pumpkin Competition
Carrot Cake Competition, Croquet, Amusements
Army Tug of War, Cooking Workshop, Dance Workshops, Lego Workshop,
Tunnel Ball, Egg & Spoon Races, Three Legged Races
Face Painting, Balloons, Pipe Band, Irish Dancing
Chris Humphreys Wild Action,
and much much more



Proud to Belong – A celebration of Cultural Diversity

In 2019, March is the month Victoria celebrates its Cultural Diversity. At Wodonga West PS, we will be celebrating our diversity with several events from the 18th March – 29th March.

Proud to belong is about cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land, to those who have come from the many countries around the world. By participating in cultural diversity activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians, from diverse backgrounds, equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

Throughout the two weeks, students will be participating in ‘Wonder through West Kitchen’, a creation of multicultural dishes in the Stephanie Alexander kitchen, followed by an indigenous inspired dessert.

On **Thursday, 14th of March**, Wodonga West Primary School would like to invite students and parents to bring in their favourite multicultural dish, to be shared with their classmates, to help celebrate our diversity. Parents are invited to join in the celebration from 11.10am for shared banquet in their child’s classroom.

We are also asking for some volunteers that would like to come in and help to cook some whole school shared dishes on the morning (9.10-11.10) of Thursday 28th of Feb. Please let the office know if you can help.

We hope to see you there!!





Meet
Carebear
and his
friends!



Welcome to our Sun Smiles School

Since launching in 2012, Sun Smiles has been inspiring students to care for their teeth, one smile at a time.

We are proud to be a Sun Smiles School and welcome the Carevan Sun Smiles team into our classes. The whole school will take part in the Sun Smiles classroom program, learning about oral health with fun hands-on activities.

All students will be offered the opportunity to have a free dental screening and free fluoride varnish treatment at school. Fluoride varnish is applied to children's teeth to strengthen and protect their teeth from tooth decay.

Please read the Sun Smiles brochure to see how your child can benefit from taking part in the program. Your consent is needed before we can enrol your child in the Sun Smiles program and apply fluoride varnish to your child's teeth. Please fill out the Sun Smiles consent form and return it to the school.

For more information talk to your child's classroom teacher or the school principal.

Receive
a **FREE**
Sun Smiles
showbag!





2020 YEAR 7 STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

Wodonga Middle Years College would like to invite you to attend our 2020 Year 7 student information session.

Tuesday 19 March from 6.00pm to 7.00pm at our Felltimber Campus

GUIDED TOURS

Tuesday 19 March 2019 from 4.00pm to 5.30pm– Felltimber Campus

Tuesday 19 March 2019 from 4.00 to 5.30pm– Huon Campus

You are invited to join

Wodonga Council's Supported Playgroups

Supported Playgroups are free weekly group sessions with a trained facilitator. They are funded by the Victorian Department of Education and Training.

Responsive to the needs and interest of all eligible families, opportunities are provided for parents to:

- Learn about local services and meet other parents for emotional support and friendship
- Develop the skills and confidence to support their children's learning and development.

Wednesdays at 11am at Wodonga West Children's Centre



Reminders



School Hats

During term 1 and 4 if students don't have their hats they will be required to play in the shaded areas. Please have names clearly marked on the inside of their hats and keep them clean. Remember - No Hat, No Play!



PFF are accepting donations for the Easter Raffle, please drop any contributions to the office



We are collecting clean empty small sized food cans for a project with the SAKG Program. This is part of our 10th Birthday Celebration to be celebrated in May this year.