

Lawrence Street Wodonga, 3690 Phone: (02) 6024 1188

Email: wodonga.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au www.wodongawestps.vic.edu.au

**Be Safe**

**Be Respectful**

**Be A Learner**

**Enrolments are Welcome for all Year levels, including Kinder for 2020.**

## Principal's report

Dear Parents / Carers,

### School Concert

It was wonderful to see such a huge turnout to watch our school concert! Everyone I spoke to said it was fabulous, so thank you for that positive feedback. I was very proud of all our students performing so confidently in front of such a huge audience. As parents / carers, we all thank you so very much for making sure your children had their correct clothing or costumes for their item – everyone looked amazing! It was also lovely to see our school's Just Brass Band performing after only six months of their music tuition and band practice every Thursday evening. Every time I hear them, they improve greatly, so well done to them all and their Music teacher, Jeremy Kerr. It was also the perfect opportunity to have a look at the fabulous Visual Arts work on display from a range of schools, including Wodonga West. Thank you to all the families who stayed ( as expected ) to the end of the night to watch our school choir perform ( and I hope you were one of the lucky door prize winners ). A big thank you to all our staff for the constant practices leading up to the Arts Festival and Concert, and to Miss Simboras for her organisation and compering on the night. A great effort from everyone concerned.



### Important Dates

<b>6th September</b>	District Athletics
<b>13th September</b>	MYOS Bonegilla Excursion
<b>19th September</b>	PFF Sausage Sizzle
<b>20th September</b>	Last day of Term 3 2.30pm finish
<b>7th October</b>	Curriculum Day No students at school
<b>8th October</b>	First day of Term 4 for students

# Principals Report



## **Australian Dental Health Van coming**

Just wanting to inform everyone that we are amongst the first schools in the state to be having a visit from the School Dental Van. This will be visiting next term ( week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> November ) and providing students return their permission forms, they will receive a free dental check up and some treatments. This service will also include students in our Kindergarten. More information will come later – including consent forms which need to be completed and returned. These will be given out early next term. This is a terrific, totally free service so I really encourage everyone to jump on board with this.

## **NAPLAN Testing Results**

We have finally been sent the NAPLAN results for all students in years 3 and 5. Parents are asked to call into the front office to collect these to take home. If you would like anything explained please contact your child's teacher for clarification, although detailed explanations are printed on the form. These national tests that were completed in May are only one piece of assessment. Teachers use multiple assessments to make judgements about student progress.

## **School Carpark / Parking**

A reminder that the School Carpark is not to be used by parents / carers to drop off or collect students. Only people with a valid Disability sticker displayed on their vehicle may access the car park. As the many signs state, it is for 'Authorised Vehicles Only'. Please abide by our school policy to avoid receiving a written letter, or worse still, a Trespass Notice that does not allow you to come onto the school premises for a period of 12 months. Student safety , and the safety of our school community is paramount, so please show respect for the school rules and obey them.

We also have regular checks by Wodonga Council and Wodonga Police regarding parking in the streets around the school, so to avoid a hefty fine, please ensure you park in designated parking spots and do the right thing. I realise that the vast majority always do the correct thing and that you are positive role models to your children and the rest of the school community.

## **Parent Survey Monkey**

Last month we sent out to all parents / carers a parent survey on Compass. This was composed of 10 questions asking your thoughts about what is going well at our school and any areas we could work on improving. Thank you to everyone who took a few minutes to complete this survey. Your feedback is really appreciated and we will discuss the results at our next School Council Meeting, as well as our forthcoming School Review. In addition to this survey, a randomly selected number of parents would have been given a chance to respond to the annual Parent Opinion Survey ( sent home in a large white envelope ). Thanks again to those people who completed this and returned it to the school by the due date.

## **Pupil Free Day**

A reminder that the first day back of term 4 ( Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October ) is a PUPIL FREE DAY – the last for the year. Staff will be working on school Curriculum areas during this day. Students return on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October ready to be safe, respectful learners.

Regards,

Jocelyn

## News from the Wellbeing Officer

### Studio West

The students of Studio West enjoyed teaming up and being mentored by Wodonga Senior Secondary students while learning new skills in hair and beauty.



### Pom Pom making

Pom Pom making is on Thursdays at lunch time in the spare classroom on the gym side of LC4. Many students have been enjoying this activity. All students are welcome.

## High Achiever—Omar Khan



At our last assembly Omar Khan, a foundation student, was awarded a Wodonga West Children's Centre High Achiever Badge.

Omar was recently selected to be in the under 8 years Australian training squad in Cricket.

Omar practises bowling daily to improve his skills with his father. Local teams are keen to sign up this student who bowls at 80km per hour!

Maybe one day Omar will play for the Australian side.

Well done Omar—we are very proud of you and the way your parents support you to achieve your cricketing goals.

## Foundation Transition Program in Term 4

Please ensure any enrolment forms are completed and handed to the office with a copy of your child's birth certificate and the MyGov immunisation report.

Early in term 4 we will be visiting Kinder's (other than our own) where we know our students and they know the school due to our ongoing transition and school familiarisation program.

Families will receive a letter in term 4 confirming their enrolment and outlining the transition sessions.

## WWCC Athletics Day



This year our house trophy for Athletics went to Earth House.

A fabulous day for all was enjoyed. Pictured are the proud house captains Blake Boon and Belle Marcuzzi.

Wodonga Tennis Centre invites everyone in our community to a free month of tennis. To book a court go to our Wodonga Tennis Centre website and scroll down to court bookings. Invite your family and friends and have a great time.

[www.wodongatenniscentre.com.au](http://www.wodongatenniscentre.com.au)

A fee will only occur if lights are used.

You will need to create an account during the process to book a court. Once you have created the account you can book as many times during September as you like.

## Choir News

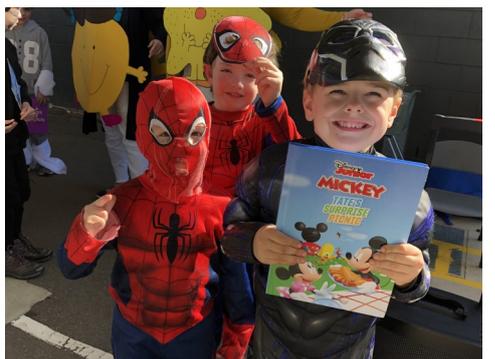
**Choir will be performing at the school assembly on Monday  
9th September 2019.**

**Please join us in the Gym from 9.10am on Monday morning.**

## News from the Kitchen and Garden

**A huge THANK YOU to Peards Wodonga for sponsoring  
the  
garden and giving us seedlings for our spring planting**

# Book Week Parade



# Book Week Parade



## News from the Kinder Room

We have had a very busy couple of weeks practicing for the school concert. The Kinder children all looked amazing on stage. I'd like to thank our families for making such an effort with the costumes for the performance. The children performed the item "You've got a friend in me" really well and they should all be proud of their performance. It can be very scary to go up on stage and some children were able to face their fear and were able to perform confidently in front of the crowd. Well Done!!!



The children have also been very busy creating a special gift to give to the important male figure in their lives for Father's Day. The children were very pleased with how they turned out and were very excited to share these gifts with their loved ones.

The children have been using construction sets to create some weird and wonderful objects. Building with construction sets increase the children's problem solving skills, imagination and creativity.



The children have been exploring colour through different craft experiences. Pictures were created by tearing pieces of coloured paper and placing them onto the paper. They then squirted water onto the coloured paper and watched the colours run to create their masterpiece. This activity encourages the children to experiment with mixing colours and to ask questions about the change that has occurred.

## News from SLC

This term we will be fundraising to support our local wheelchair group.

When: Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019

What: Wheelchair Sports.

There will be 20 wheelchairs and all students will get to use one. Each class will get to play a game against each other while in a wheelchair.

How Much: \$2:00/person

Don't forget your \$2.00 to support this worthwhile cause and get your chance to experience what it might be like in a wheelchair.

## Information regarding Child Safe Policy and The Federation of Government Schools reporting of child safe concerns

The following information is taken from the Wodonga Federation of Government Schools Child Safe Policy:

### Training and Supervision

Training and education is important to ensure that everyone in The Federation understands that child safety is everyone's responsibility.

The Federation's culture aims for all staff and volunteers (in addition to parent/carers and children) to feel confident and comfortable in discussing any allegations of child abuse or child safety concerns. Our staff and volunteers are trained to identify, assess, and minimise risks of child abuse and to detect potential signs of child abuse.

Member schools also support staff and volunteers through ongoing supervision to: develop their skills to protect children from abuse; and promote the cultural safety of Aboriginal children, the cultural safety of children from linguistically and/or diverse backgrounds, and the safety of children with a disability.

New employees and volunteers will be supervised regularly to ensure that they understand The Federation's commitment to child safety and that everyone has a role to play in protecting children from abuse, as well as checking that their behaviour towards children is appropriate (Please refer to Child Safety Code of Conduct to understand appropriate behaviour further).

### Reporting

Any staff member, volunteer or contractor who has grounds to suspect abusive activity must immediately notify the Department of Health and Human Services or the police. They should also advise their supervisor about their concern.

All allegations of child abuse and the school's response must be recorded and securely retained.

In situations where the supervisor is suspected of involvement in the activity, or if the person is having the suspicion does not believe that the matter is being appropriately addressed or dealt with, the matter should be reported to the next highest level of supervision.

Supervisors must report complaints of suspected abusive behaviour or misconduct to the Principal and also to any external regulatory body such as the police and the Departments of Health and Human Services.

Mandatory/volunteer reporting requirements are documented in the Mandatory Reporting Policy.

## Excellent Writing from Jood Harb in 3/4L—Plastic Discussion



Welcome to today's text that is an outstanding discussion, the topic will be plastic a positive item or negative. Before we start I would like to tell you that plastic is a product or object that millions of people use on planet earth from North to East to South to West.

Firstly let's talk about positive things about plastic such as plastic is mostly used to hold food or objects securely and that we believe the object will not fall out. I am positive that humans use plastic to keep fresh organic foods fresh and healthy, finally plastic is a kind of wrapping that will keep germs off your item. Before we move onto the negative stuff and reasons about plastic no one realises that if there was no plastic then cashiers can't scan the items you buy from the market.

Sadly there is a couple of reasons why plastic is a negative item. Plastic is a big problem in beaches and oceans as they do not help them stay clean and beautiful. Secondly I believe that there is many types of plastic that makes our world dirty and full of gross junk. Finally plastic is a big problem in our oceans as they make horrible injuries in marine animals' bodies such as choking, tummy ache, legs and fin damage and the most horrid is death. In the end it's up to us to stop what whatever happens.

However at the end I think plastic is good and bad. Its even! But if we want to help we have to stand up for the Earth and help as much as we can. At the end we are the problem and hopefully the resolution.

# Victorian Attendance Legislation

In Victoria, it is compulsory for children and young people aged 6–17 years to attend school.

Parents are legally required to ensure their child (aged 6–17 years) attends school every day and to provide an explanation for their child's absence from school.

Evidence shows that daily school attendance is important for young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health and employment outcomes and enjoy higher incomes.

The law provides a framework for school's attendance, exemptions and exceptions from attendance and parents' obligations relating to ensuring attendance. The rules are not in place to punish students' time away from school, which can be unavoidable. Instead, the laws are an effort to promote and improve student attendance across Victorian schools.

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING THAT A CHILD ATTENDS SCHOOL

School attendance is mandated under the *Education Training and Reform Act 2006*. It is the responsibility of parents, guardians or anyone who has parental responsibility for a child to ensure the child attends school on a regular basis.

### HOW ATTENDANCE IS RECORDED BY SCHOOLS

Schools must record student attendance twice per day in primary schools and every period in secondary schools.

### 'POOR ATTENDANCE' FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

What is considered as "poor attendance" is determined on a case by case basis. However, under the legislation, if a student of compulsory school age is absent from school for five days within a school year and without a reasonable excuse, then further action can be taken, at the discretion of the principal.

### UNEXPLAINED OR UNAPPROVED ABSENCES

A principal can approve or not approve any absence, based on the requirements of the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, an individual school policy or on a case-by-case basis.

*The Education and Training Reform Act 2006* provides some examples of what a reasonable excuse is for the purposes of explaining a school absence and includes, amongst other considerations:

- Illnesses and accidents;
- Unforeseen and unexplained circumstances;
- If the absence was a result of complying with another law;
- The child is receiving distance education through a registered school;
- The child is undertaking approved education, training and/or employment;
- The child has been suspended or expelled; and
- The child is attending or observing a religious event or obligation.

### Unexplained Absence:

A principal will record an absence as 'unexplained' if no explanation about the absence is given to the school by the parent or carer of the student.

If you do not contact the school to provide an explanation on the day of the student absence, the school must attempt to contact the parent or legal guardian either by phone or in writing and seek an clarification within three days of the recorded absence.

If no contact can be made with the parent or other carers of the child within 10 days, the absence will be recorded as an unexplained absence and a noted will be made in the child's file. A parent or legal guardian can contact the principal at any time after the recorded absence to provide an explanation.

### Unapproved Absence:

In general, a principal may record an absence as 'unapproved' when no reasonable explanation has been given for the student's absence. If a reason is given for a student absence is not approved by the principal than the school will notify the parent or legal guardian in writing.

## ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN IF YOUR CHILD REACHES FIVE DAYS OF UNAPPROVED OR UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE

If a child reaches five days of unapproved or unexplained absence in the preceding 12 months then the school and principal will work with the parent or legal guardian to implement the appropriate support or intervention to assist the child and ensure they attend school every day and remain at school during school hours. If the support and intervention do not improve your child's attendance, the principal may decide to make a referral to the School Attendance Officer. This person is the Regional Director of the Department's Regional Office where you are located.

## WHEN A REFERRAL IS MADE TO THE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICER

The School Attendance Officer will investigate the student absence records and may take one or all of the following steps depending on the circumstances.

Issue a School Attendance Notice

Issue an Official Warning

Issue an Infringement Notice

For more information on the School Attendance Officer, see: [School Attendance Officers](#).

# 2020 YEAR 7 Academic Advancement Program

Is your child a high achiever?  
Do they have the capacity to work at a significantly  
faster pace and depth than their peers?

Second round Expressions of Interest for  
2020 Year 7 Academic Advancement Program  
NOW OPEN

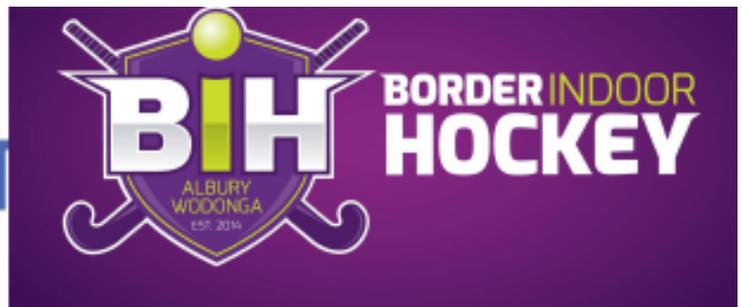
Please contact the College for further information



**WODONGA**  
**MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE**

[www.wmyc.vic.edu.au](http://www.wmyc.vic.edu.au)

02 6057 9000



# REGISTER TO PLAY NOW!

[@borderindoorhockey.com.au](https://borderindoorhockey.com.au)

T. 0438 235 395 Mel

9th Oct 2019 - 12th Feb 2020  
16 week competition

*U12, U15 | Men & Women Senior | Premier*  
\$200- senior & premier \$165- u12 & u15  
Includes uniform ~ Shirt and socks

\$25 off all new junior player registrations

# 'New players' is a player who has not played in the BIH competition since 2014

\$50 off all new senior player registrations



**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**  
**WODONGA SPORTS & LEISURE CENTRE**



BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE  
RUN - JUMP - THROW

## **JOIN WODONGA LITTLE ATHLETICS!**

Registrations now open!

Little Athletics forms the foundations for all sports.

But mostly, it's a great way for your family to keep fit and active and heaps of fun with your friends!

Girls & Boys 5-15 years  
Every athlete is encouraged to improve their own personal bests.

Come and see how it all works from Saturday 21st September.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram:

@wodongalittleathletics

Email: [wodonga@lavic.com.au](mailto:wodonga@lavic.com.au)

**Wodonga Little Athletics Centre provides athletic events and competition for 5 - 15 year olds on Saturday mornings.**

**Our aim is to make sport fun and accessible for all children, regardless of their natural sporting ability. Our focus is on each athlete achieving 'personal bests' throughout the season - an athlete can place 9th every week in the 100m, but if they run it 0.01 second faster this week compared to last, this is what we celebrate.**

**Little Athletics starts up in Wodonga for the 2020 season on 21st September for new and returning athletes.**

## REMINDERS



Start looking for your green broad brimmed hat as you will need it for term 4.



All students will need to have paid their \$25 by the end of the first two weeks of Term 4 to participate in the popular Christmas cooking session. Please note it is part of the term program and students who do not participate throughout the term will not have the option of just paying to do the Christmas cooking session.



If you use Facebook please like and follow our page to receive our updates and reminders.