



LINK LETTER



20 FEBRUARY 2020

Lawrence Street, Wodonga, Victoria, 3690

Phone: (02) 6024 1188

Email: wodonga.west.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

www.wodongawestps.vic.gov.au

Enrolments are welcome for all year levels, including Kinder for 2021

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

Yard focus this fortnight: being a good friend

Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Carers,

Nude Food Day

Well done to our very keen team of Year 5 students who are our 'Plastics Police' for their organisation of Nude Food Day last week. This was a bit of a fun day, and the whole purpose is for our school community to become more environmentally aware - especially regarding single use plastics

and wrappers. Ideally we would encourage Nude Food every day, but this is a good start. Thank you to those who really got on board and had completely Nude Food lunch boxes. The Plastics Police collected data and we had almost exactly half (69) of our students with Nude Food. 72 students had either single use plastic (such as cling wrap or other wrappers). Many of these were very close to qualifying as Nude food lunch boxes on the day. We plan on another Nude Food Day this term so let's see if we can beat this baseline score next time. Thanks parents/carers for getting behind this initiative and caring about our environment. We are also collecting plastic labels off loaves of bread, and plastic bottle tops from milk and juice bottles. Please hand into the front office, as these are recycled. Let's see if our Plastics Police can have an impact and begin to change our habits over time so that less plastic end up in our environment and harming innocent animals (especially in our waterways and oceans).



Important Dates

21 February	Bogong Leadership
24 February	PCC Meeting
25 February	SWPBS Whole School
28 February	Division Swimming
28 February	Houses Reward 2.30-3.30
2 March	Hockey School Visit
4 March	F-6 School Photos
9 March	Labour Day—No School
10 March	Kinder School Photos



continued over the page...

Our next school assembly is on **Monday 24th February** and will be hosted by our **Administration team**

Principal's Message



Student Leadership Council

Congratulations to our 2020 Student Leadership Council (SLC) who were elected by their peers this week. These students will join our school captains and meet regularly to discuss things and make important decisions that impact our school. They will also organise several fundraisers and conduct our fortnightly Monday morning assemblies. These students must follow all our school expectations and be positive role models for others. The 2020 SLC members are Seth Walters, Rhon Evangelista, Kiara Graham, Jood Harb,

Mathew Dykstra and Brandon Kuhn. They will be presented with their SLC badges at next week's assembly. I look forward to working with you all throughout the year and watching your leadership skills develop.

School Council

A reminder that if you would like to self nominate or nominate someone else for School Council, that nomination forms are available at the front office. Nominations close next Monday 24th Feb. All nominations must be handed in personally to the front office (not emailed). A voting ballot will be conducted if more nominations are received than places available (vacancies). Please see me if you have any questions about what is involved and the role of School Council.

Reading Assistance Before School

Our wonderful staff, and a small group of dedicated and enthusiastic parents, have begun to offer their services before school to hear students read their take home books. Reading is a HUGE focus at our school and we are encouraging ALL students to read each night at home and have their parent/carer sign. We have rewards this year for 25, 50, 75, 100 (plus more) nights of reading at home. We are aware that sometimes it is difficult and we don't want students to miss out.

Ultimately this is a parental responsibility, but we are happy to help out at times, therefore we are offering this generous service. This will be offered in the Resource Centre (Library) daily.

Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden

We are desperately seeking volunteers to help out with our amazing SAKG program – either in the Garden, Kitchen or both! This program relies on volunteers to operate. We have only a handful of our parents/carers who volunteer so please if you can spare an hour or two we would love to hear from you. It is fun, personally rewarding and you will be surprised at what you will also learn. You will need to obtain a Volunteers Working With Children check (which is free). We can advise you how to go about this – it is an easy process. So please give this a thought. We cannot offer this wonderful program that students adore without the support of our community. Please help us out with this. The program operates on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays only.

We are also offering a special deal this year to families. If you have paid for your child to attend all of the first 3 term's SAKG, then you will get the fourth term for FREE. For any family who has paid the whole year already, you will be credited for term 4. This is a special deal we are offering this year only, with no guarantees for 2021. Remember, you can pay termly by the second week of each term. This is a highly valued program and we are so lucky to have it at Wodonga West.

Regards,

Jocelyn Owen



Wellbeing Report

Canteen

Canteen will run the same as last year, on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at lunch time for snacks. A slushy or shaky shake cost \$2 everything else is less than this price. We have wonderful year 6 canteen helpers working in the canteen and I commend students who already are showing fantastic manners when lining up and waiting their turn.

Bogong Camp

This weekend 8 year five students are heading off on a special leadership camp run by Wodonga West Rotary Club. All the chosen students are excited for this jam packed fun filled learning experience. There will be photos and a write up by students in the next link letter.



Win a free Slushy – anyone who purchases a slushy in the next two weeks will get a ticket in the draw to win a free slushy. Good luck



Do you hold a concession card?

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF—Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund cover the cost of any sports activity, swimming and any excursions your child attends. If you hold a Health Care or Pension Card you are able to receive this. If you are new to the school please see the office staff to complete the CSEF form. If you received CSEF at Wodonga West Primary School in 2019 there is no need to complete a new form.



Centrepay

The school now has the facility to be able to pay School Fees using Centrepay. Centrepay is a voluntary bill-paying service which is free for Centrelink Customers. Use Centrepay to arrange regular deductions from your Centrelink Payment.

You can start or change a deduction at any time. The quickest way to do it is through your Centrelink account online. This facility can be used to pay for items such as the Essential Education Items and SAKG for the year. Once this is set up payment can be easily made on a fortnightly basis covering your child's fees (excluding items covered by CSEF) until they are paid in full or until you cease the deduction.

This is convenient way to have the fees paid off without having to come into the office to make payments.

Please see Jo Henderson in the office if you would like to start accessing this service.

For further information visit Services Australia website, go to servicesaustralia.gov.au/centrepay

OIB

Classroom

News

Welcome back to a busy 2020. F/1 B and 5/6N had their first buddy activity on Tuesday. We meet and had a big chat with our buddies. The big buddies were teaching the little buddies how to tie their shoelaces. This gave them a chance to really get to know each other and it is also an important skill for everyone to know. Have a look at all the photos we took of this event. We plan to have many other buddy activities during the year. Make sure that you continue to practise tying shoelaces at home.



CHILD SAFE HOT TOPIC

Developing Healthy Habits

Our ever increasing busy lifestyles can be hard on our family's health. Rushing to and from school and work can make it hard to find time to be physically active. We can also slip into the habit of choosing unhealthy snacks and take-away foods or spending our free time watching TV or in front of the computer.

However, these choices can be dangerous for our health and our children's health – both now and in the long-term. That's why it's so important to stop, take stock and make a conscious decision to follow a healthy lifestyle. There are five simple ways for your family to lead a healthy lifestyle and get back on track:

1. Get active each day

Regular physical activity is important for the healthy growth, development and well-being of children and young people.

They should get at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day, including vigorous activities that make them 'huff and puff'.

Include activities that strengthen muscles and bones on at least 3 days of the week.

Parents should be good role models and have a positive attitude to being active.



2. Choose water as a drink

Water is the best way to quench your thirst – and it doesn't come with the added sugar found in fruit juices, soft drinks and other sweetened drinks.

Reduced fat milk for children over two is a nutritious drink and a great source of calcium.

Give kids whole fruit to eat, rather than offering fruit juices that have a lot of sugar.



3. Eat more fruit and vegetables

Eating fruit and vegetables every day helps children grow and develop, boosts their vitality and can reduce the risk of many chronic diseases.

Aim to eat two serves of fruit and five serves of vegetables every day.

Have fresh fruit available as a convenient snack and try to include fruit and vegies in every meal.



4. Switch off the screen and get active

Sedentary or 'still' time spent watching TV, surfing online or playing computer games is linked to kids becoming overweight or obese.

Children and young people should spend no more than two hours a day on 'small screen' entertainment. Break up long periods of use as often as possible.



Plan a range of active indoor and outdoor games or activities for your children, as alternatives to watching TV or playing on the computer.

5. Eat fewer snacks and select healthier alternatives

Healthy snacks help children and young people meet their daily nutritional needs.

Snacks based on fruit and vegetables, reduced fat dairy products and whole grains are the healthiest choices.

Avoid snacks that are high in sugar or saturated fats – such as chips, cakes and chocolate – which can cause children to put on excess weight



Sourced from: www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

CONGRATULATIONS WEST WODONGA CHILDRENS CENTRE KINDER STAFF

Last year the kinder underwent its 4 yearly Assessment and Rating Audit by the Department of Education and Training during December 2019. The Department have released the report and we are extremely proud of how well the centre has gone.

The National Regulations prescribe the rating levels within the assessment and rating process (regulation 57). The rating levels are:

- o Exceeding National Quality Standard
- o Meeting National Quality Standard
- o Working Towards National Quality Standard
- o Significant Improvement Required

The following grid gives a breakdown of the results for each key area for our service.

Assessment and rating summary

Quality Area 1 is rated	Meeting NQS
Quality Area 2 is rated	Meeting NQS
Quality Area 3 is rated	Meeting NQS
Quality Area 4 is rated	Meeting NQS
Quality Area 5 is rated	Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 6 is rated	Exceeding NQS
Quality Area 7 is rated	Meeting NQS
Overall rating	Meeting NQS

Overall the Kinder is rated :Meeting; with 2 areas identified as Exceeding. This is a wonderful achievement and we feel the ratings represents the wonderful service available to our community at WWCC. It is also important to note that to become Exceeding in a given Quality Area – all criteria for that Area must be rated exceeding of which there may be 3-4 to demonstrate . When reviewing the report the Kinder was noted to have at least 1-2 Exceeding ratings in most Quality Area Ratings which is a wonderful achievement and something we will work on improving over the next 4 years.

Once again we would like to say a huge congratulations to our wonderful Kinder Staff for all their ongoing hard work.



*Private music lessons available
at school every Thursday*



*Instruments taught are Piano,
Keyboard, Guitar, Piano Accordion and Ukulele.*

Contact Heather Wilson on 0459 256 480

MEET OUR SLC



Good afternoon or morning parents, carers, and guardians. This week I have been chosen to be a part of the Student Leadership Council. I am so excited for this special journey as I will do beyond my best to help students in need. I am also part of Plastic Police.

I truly and strongly know I am the perfect person for SLC because I am a persistent student with a colourful growth mindset. I am also a trustworthy organised student. When I do Plastic Police I always have great ideas. I sometimes spend my break and some of my learning time to help sustain a more environmentally friendly lunchbox. As well as that, I was one of the few students to be chosen to go to Bogong Leadership Camp.

Student Leadership Council truly means for me to help other students in need, show the younger people the 3 expectations (be safe, be respectful, be a learner) and make our school a better and a safer place for everyone.

Thank you so much for your time.

Rhon



I thought I would be good at the role of SLC because I am a responsible and mature student as I have had a lot of practice because I have four younger siblings and have learnt to take on all the expectations and responsibilities that our school has.

Kiara



Dear parents and carers,
I am very honoured to be a member of the SLC this year! I would just love to thank my class mates for voting for me and supporting me also I would like to thank my parents for all of the hard work they put into me. To be a SLC member is a big deal for me, not only do I have to speak out front at every assembly but I also represent my school, my wonderful and supportive school! Lastly I just want to say that each child in this school can be a leader to anyone even the little kids because to be a leader you can't fake it or just do it for the sake of it, you have to love being a leader! Like myself, I really do hope that my friends see that they picked the right person and they will not be ashamed of it. Cheers!

Jood



I am proud to part of the SLC this year.
I will do my best to be a good leader and support the students at my school.

I would like to thank everyone that voted for me, my friends and my family and hope to make them all proud of me and what I achieve with SLC.

Seth



Hi,
My name is Mathew (you probably know me as Mat).
I wanted to be in the SLC because I believe that I have a very colourful mindset! I also think that I am a super nice student! Another reason is that I am epically passionate with my work! I will always try to do my best and never give up! I am always determined to do my work and finish it!

Thank you everyone for choosing me!
Thank you for your time!

Mat



I am so grateful to be a member of SLC this year. I will try my best to be the voice and face of the school for the time being and it is

incomprehensible how ecstatic I am to have the opportunity to be what I am. Just last year I wasn't a very nice student but I made a complete turn around and this year I am going to participate in more activities and do my best in them. When it is my turn to speak at assembly I am going to do it clear and loud enough for all to hear. I am looking forward to helping others like I have been helped.

Brandon



KINDER REPORT

Our library borrowing program has now started. Each Tuesday the kinder children walk down to the library to borrow a book from the school library and participate in a story time session. The children take this home to share with their family for the week. We highly recommend parents read this book several times with their child before returning it the following Tuesday. Reading aloud is one of the most important things parents can do with their children. Reading aloud builds many important foundational skills, introduces vocabulary, provides a model of fluent, expressive reading, and helps children enjoy reading books.

The children have also been participating in a variety of different activities as they continue to explore their new environment and get to know their fellow peers.





ALEA RIVERINA MURRAY IS PROUD TO PRESENT A
FREE PARENT WORKSHOP

Starting School

Supporting your child's literacy
development

**TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY
HUME PUBLIC SCHOOL,
7 - 8:30PM.**

**Presented by Dr Noella Mackenzie
Associate Professor in Literacy Studies at Charles
Sturt University**



Topics discussed include:

- the links between drawing, talking, writing and reading
- why we should continue to read aloud to children
- the power of rhymes, poems and songs
- helping children to learn about how letters look and work
- supporting children as they learn how to write and read

**REGISTER ONLINE
OR CONTACT NATALIE
NTHOMPSON@CSU.EDU.AU
02 6051 9236**



**AUSTRALIAN LITERACY
EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION**



**WODONGA
MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE**

PO Box 1263 Wodonga
Victoria 3689
ABN: 29 230 336 258

13 February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope your child has made a successful start to Year 6. This is an important year for your child as they prepare for Year 7. As a family, you will need to make a decision about which secondary school they will attend next year. At the beginning of Term 2 (early May), your primary school will provide you with a Year 6 to Year 7 Parent and School Transition Information Pack which includes a form for you to indicate your preference of secondary school.

To ensure you have the necessary information to make this decision Wodonga Middle Years College is inviting your family to attend our College 'On Show' night.

**Wodonga Middle Years College 'On Show'
Wednesday 18 March
3.30pm to 7.30pm
Felltimber Campus, Hedgerow Court, Wodonga**

While the College has several activities running on the night, it is important that Year 6 families attend the Year 7 Transition Information Session.

You may also like to attend the following:

- College Tours at Huon Campus (Mitchell St) and Felltimber Campus (Hedgerow Court)
- Career Conversations Session
- Subject & College Interactive Displays & Information Session
- Raising Happy and Resilient Young People - Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

For further details and times, please see the full program over the page or on the Wodonga Middle Years College Website.

Our College works closely with your primary school to ensure the transition to secondary school is a positive experience for students and their families. We believe strongly in 'Every Student, Every Opportunity, Success for All'.

For further information please visit our website or contact Assistant Principal Sarah Kilner at skilner@wmyc.vic.edu.au or on 02 6057 9000.

Maree Cribbes
Campus Principal

Vern Hilditch
Executive Principal

FELLTIMBER CAMPUS

Hedgerow Court Wodonga Victoria 3690
Phone: 02 6057 9000 Facsimile: 02 6059 2900
Email: wodonga.middle.years.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

HUON CAMPUS

22-24 Mitchell Street Wodonga Victoria 3690
Phone: 02 6057 9000 Facsimile: 02 6024 3633
www.wmyc.vic.edu.au



**WODONGA
MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE**

PO Box 1263 Wodonga
Victoria 3689
ABN: 29 230 336 258

Wodonga Middle Years College 'On Show'

3.30pm – 4.00pm	4.00pm – 4.30pm	4.30pm – 5.00pm	5.00pm – 5.30pm	5.30pm – 6.00pm	6.00pm – 7.30pm
Huon Campus Tours	Huon Campus Tours				
Felltimber Campus Tours	Felltimber Campus Tours	Felltimber Campus Tours			
		Subject & College Interactive Displays & Information (Felltimber Campus)	Subject & College Interactive Displays & Information (Felltimber Campus)	Subject & College Interactive Displays & Information (Felltimber Campus)	
				Year 7 Transition Information Session (Felltimber Campus)	
		Career Conversations & Year 10 Transition Session (Felltimber Campus)		Career Conversations & Year 10 Transition Session (Felltimber Campus)	
					Raising Happy and Resilient Young People - Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (Felltimber Campus)

Campus Tours (Felltimber & Huon Campus)

Wodonga Middle Years College has age-appropriate teaching and learning facilities. The best way to see and experience these facilities is to participate in a personalised Campus tour. While touring the College, you will also be able to appreciate the supportive and aspirational culture of the Middle Years College. A tour is also an excellent opportunity to ask any questions that you may have about the College.

Subject & College Interactive Displays & Information

Wodonga Middle Years College offers a wide range of subjects and opportunities for students. You will be able to see the work students will undertake during the year as well as speak with teachers. Information about extra-curricular activities will also be on display. Current and previous students will be available to talk about their experiences of the subject.

Year 7 Transition Session

Hear about the College values, Year 7 Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting requirements, Specialist programs, College opportunities, use of learning technologies from the College's leaders, as well as first-hand student experiences.

Raising Happy and Resilient Young People - Dr Michael Carr-Gregg

Dr Carr-Gregg is one of Australia's highest-profile psychologist, author, broadcaster and specialist in parenting, children, adolescents and mental health. This session explores the science of psychology and how we can support our children to become resilient young people. The audience will gain knowledge and an understanding of how parents can incorporate these evidence-based strategies at home. Together with this Michael Carr-Gregg will unpack the power of the positive psychology movement and the 10 key messages that all parents can share with their children to greatly increase their child's well-being.

Career Conversations and Year 10 Transition Session

Learn the art of having a Career Conversation at home. This session will give you the tools and resources you need to learn the very important skill of talking about your child's education pathway and post-school options. This session is great for students and parents/carers! The session will also outline the key dates for Year 9 to Year 10 transition.

FELLTIMBER CAMPUS

Hedgerow Court Wodonga Victoria 3690
Phone: 02 6057 9000 Facsimile: 02 6059 2900
Email: wodonga.middle.years.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

HUON CAMPUS

22-24 Mitchell Street Wodonga Victoria 3690
Phone: 02 6057 9000 Facsimile: 02 6024 3633
www.wmyc.vic.edu.au



If you have a couple of hours or more a week to spare and would like to fill it doing something to help save lives

WE NEED YOU!

We need truck drivers, driver assistants, balers, sorters and retail assistants at our Albury or Wodonga Op Shops.

Funds raised in our Lifeline stores go directly to keep our local 131 114 Crisis Support Services operating.

Over 90% of Lifeline Albury Wodonga is volunteer based and we need more of you to keep providing this vital service.

Call Retail Manager Carol on **02 6021 6397**

to find out more about how you can help.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE





Wodonga Basketball Association Inc.

Registrations

Juniors

Boys & Girls *U16 & U18 Monday Night *U14 Thursday Night *U8, U10 & U12 Friday Night Wheelchair Basketball Wednesday Night

Seniors

Men & Women Competitions Div 2-5 Men and Social Women Monday Night Cross Border Wednesday Night Wheelchair Basketball Wednesday Night

Register online: <https://www.playhq.com/register/4823e8>

Aussie Hoops 5-10 years Monday & Thursday Register online:

www.aussiehoops.com.au

@ WS&LC



Wodonga Basketball 02 6059 3644

wdgaball@bigpond.net.au

www.wodonga.basketball.net.au



REMINDERS



Wearing a helmet is compulsory when riding a bike or scooter.

“NO HELMET NO RIDE”



Payments for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program in Term 1 are now overdue. Payment must be made before your child can participate.



Students must wear a broad brimmed hat at school in Term 1. If you do not have a broad brimmed hat please see the office to purchase one for \$15.00.



Please remember that the school carpark is for the vehicles of staff, authorised parents/visitors and Disabled Permit holders only. This is not a drop off/pick up zone.



Our school uses Compass School Manager for ALL communication. If you require log in details, assistance or have any questions relating to Compass please see office staff.



School banking occurs each Friday. Please ensure you return your banking by Friday morning.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR OUR YEAR 5 AND 6 STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND DEPOSITS FOR SHREK THE MUSICAL CLOSE MONDAY 24TH FEBRUARY (THIS COMING MONDAY).

IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BY MONDAY YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND AS TICKETS WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE.

IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND DEPOSIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



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