



LINK LETTER



20 May 2021

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Phone: (02) 6024 1188

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

www.wodongawestps.vic.gov.au

Enrolments are welcome for all year levels, including Kinder for 2021 & 2022

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be A Learner

Yard focus this fortnight: Including Others

Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Carers,

Working Bee

A reminder to you all that our Autumn Working Bee will be held this Saturday from 9am—12 midday. We would love for you to support us by coming along (even for an hour or so) as we have lots of jobs in our grounds to complete. Please bring along any tools you might find useful for some weeding, sweeping, raking etc. Many hands make light work, and we want our school to look its' best for Education Week which is next week. There will be a \$50 gift card raffle drawn at the Working Bee for one lucky participant who helped out. Please register your name on the registration sheet to be entered into the raffle.

Open Day

This Sunday our school will be open for tours at the following times; **Sunday 23 May at 11.00am and 11.45am**. This will be after the Principal Q&A session at The Cube which parents can register for.

Education Week

Next week is Education Week. Our school will be offering tours to any prospective parents/caregivers who will have

children starting school or Kindergarten in 2022. Our school tours will be held on both **Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 9.30am and 12.30pm**.

If you are aware of anyone with children beginning next year in school or Kinder, please let them know as we would love to showcase our great school and Kindergarten to them. They will be shown right through the school and have a chance to ask us any questions they might have. If for any reason these times do not suit, we can arrange a different day or time by phoning the school.

Student Attitudes to School Surveys

This week students in years 4, 5 and 6 completed an "Attitudes to School Survey" which asks them questions about their teacher, their school and themselves as learners. This information is collated and sent back to the school. The school and the Department of Education will use these results for research to improve outcomes for students.



Important Dates

Saturday 22nd May	Working Bee
Sunday 23rd May	Open Day
Sunday 23rd– 28th May	Education Week

School Uniforms

Now that the Winter weather has hit us, we have had many lost or misplaced tops around the school. Many do not have a name on them so it is difficult to ensure the correct top gets back to students. Could families please make sure that school uniform is clearly labelled. This makes it so much easier for us all, as it becomes expensive to replace lost uniform items.

Regards,

Jocelyn Owen

Principal

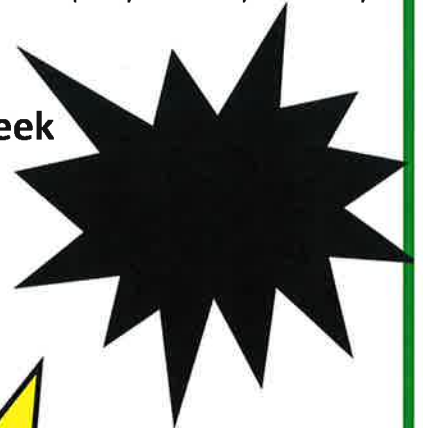


National Reconciliation Week is Thursday 27th May to 3rd June 2021 and this year the theme is **“More than a word”**. Students have been very busy learning about Reconciliation Week and we are holding a dress up day Thursday 27th May where students can wear Red, Yellow and Black.

Dress Up Day for National Reconciliation Week

Thursday 27th May

Students can wear **RED, YELLOW AND BLACK!**





Wellbeing Report

Studio West

Studio West will be operating in the child care building on Fridays at lunch time and running for the rest of the term. I hope you will come along and enjoy being pampered by our wonderful Studio West Staff.

We will be offering hand massages, back massages, foot soaks and mini face massages

All services will be free – no charge 😊😊



Parent & Relationship Education Programs and Parenting Support –Term 2, 2021

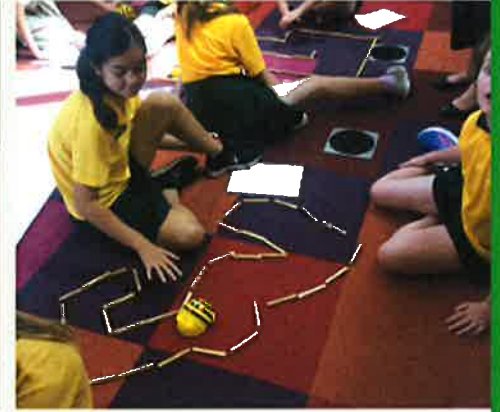
(bookings essential for all programs)

Program	Venue	Date	Time	Phone:
Positive Parenting Telephone Service (PPTS)	Free call telephone service	Ongoing	day & evening appointments	1800 880 660
WODONGA				
Tuning in to Kids Emotionally intelligent parenting (2-10 years)	Gateway Health Room F11a and F11b 155 High St, Wodonga	Fridays 21st May to 18th June 2021	10am - 12pm	Intake Team (02) 6022 8888
Tuning in to Teens Emotionally intelligent parenting (10+ years)	Gateway Health Kitchen Dining (Facing High St) 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 19th May to 23rd June 2021	10am to 12pm	
Parenting Trans and Gender Diverse Kids and Teens	Gateway Health Room F11a and F11b 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 5th May to 9th June 2021	6pm to 8pm	
Mother Goose (0-2 years)	Gateway Health Room F11b 155 High St, Wodonga	Wednesdays 21st April to 23rd June 2021	10:30am -11:30am	
YACKANDANDAH				
Tuning in to Kids Emotionally intelligent parenting (2-10 years)	Yackandandah Kinder 30 Isaacs Ave Yackandandah	Mondays 10th May to 7th June 2021	5:30pm to 7:30pm	Yack Kinder (02) 6027 1560
Individual Parenting Support - WANGARATTA				
Individual Parenting Support— Wangaratta Based	Gateway Health 45-47 Mackay Street Wangaratta Vic 3677	By Appointment Only Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday	Business Hours	Intake Team (03) 5723 2000

Please note that registrations for group programs is essential as spots are limited due to Covid-19 safety protocols. Please contact our intake team on (02) 6022 8888 for any questions or to register your interest.

EDUCATION WEEK

SUNDAY 23RD - FRIDAY 28TH MAY



**2022 Kindergarten and Foundation enrolment
places available.**

**Contact the school to join in a tour:
Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am or 12.30pm**

Do you hold a concession card?

If you hold an eligible Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card you are able to bring this in and complete an application for CSEF funding which is an amount of money that helps families cover the cost of some of the user pay items on your charges list. This includes sports levy, swimming, cultural events, excursions and camps.



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

If you require a FREE breakfast pack,

**please see
Mrs Potter**



CHILD SAFE HOT TOPIC

Child safe hot topic 1: Stranger Danger.

When you talk to your kids about strangers, it is important to get the right balance. We need to equip our children with the right words and responses to help themselves stay safe and get out of tricky situations with people who may not be safe. Here are 3 top tips to support conversations at home about staying safe around unknown people.

1. **Choose your words with care.** Experts say that it's best not to use the word "stranger" at all. Instead, try using the term "tricky people". "Tricky people" are grown-ups—both familiar and unknown—who try to trick children into breaking the rules of safety. The term is especially important because young children implicitly trust kind grown-ups. The people our children need to be safe from are going to be friendly and charming; they're going to have a toy or a lost puppy and this will be confusing for them.

To make sure your child knows the right thing to do, go over specific scenarios. Pose questions like: "What if a grown-up offered you candy? What if a grown-up asked you to help him find a lost puppy?" See how they answer, then explain, "Just like you don't pet a dog you don't know, you don't talk to people you don't know when you're not with us or another adult you trust."

If your child wonders why they can't take the candy or search for the puppy, stay away from comments like, "Somebody might try to take you." Instead, you could say: "While most people are good, there are some people who are not and do not keep kids safe." Instil a blanket rule that your children should never go anywhere, with anyone, without asking for permission.

2. **Plan ahead and practice.** For young children safety rules are best learned through muscle memory. Physically act out different scenarios with your child to help them stick. When you do this role-playing, do your best to keep it low-key and fun.

Practice using a code word. Pick something that is easy and specific to your family. Help children to understand how and when the code word will be used and how it keeps them safe.

Sometimes, of course, kids will need to turn to strangers for help. So it's useful to go over rules for those kinds of situations too. Tell your child that if they ever get **separated from you** in public, they should look first for an employee (a cashier in a store, for example). If that's not possible, they should then look for another mum with children.

3. **Teach them to trust their instincts.** You should also teach your child to trust their gut or what we can call listening to the "uh-oh" feeling. And that's not only with strangers but also with familiar people since most sexual abuse of children is done by an adult whom a child already knows.

Discuss with your child how that if they start feeling weird in their stomach, they should listen to it. At the first opportunity they should get away from whoever is making you feel that way and tell an adult you trust right away.

Kinder News

Kinder Week 5, Term 2

How fun is it to dress up? The kinder children absolutely love it!!! Dressing up allows the children to build confidence, increase self help skills, enhance social skills and engage in conversations with their peers. Dress up play provides the children with an opportunity to be whoever they want to be. They can step into the character they choose and explore that role. This promotes imagination and creativity as they explore their play ideas. During this play we have seen the children expand their vocabulary and interact socially with children in the group that they are still getting to know.



Cooking with Mrs Hillas is certainly a hands on experience. The children are always eagerly waiting for their turn to cook. When children are given the opportunity to help prepare or cook food they are more willing to taste it.

This cooking session the children made Apple Teeth, which was so much fun. Just look at those smiles!





CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the many students who participated in our Wodonga West Cross Country event. With the absence of many events last year, it was great to finally get back to normal!

It was pleasing to hear student's positive comments about how they went and if they had improved their place compared to previous years.

A big thank you to the many parents who helped on the day, given the absence of Secondary students this year. There are too many to name individually but your help to supervise the course and make it safer for the students, is very much appreciated.



Also a big thankyou to Ms. Nicol for co-ordinating the day in my absence. She even organised a superb sunny day!

Congratulations to the students who ran within certain times and have qualified for the Division Cross Country on Friday 28th May. Permission notes have been given out and need to be returned to the Front Office ASAP.



NORTH MELBOURNE PLAYER VISIT

Wodonga West is fortunate to be one of the chosen schools to receive a visit from North Melbourne AFL footy players on Monday 31st May. Whilst the specific time is yet to be finalised, several players will be attending to answer questions and sign North Melbourne memorabilia. Hopefully, there will also be time for a kick to kick with students.

Susan Macdonald

P.E. Coordinator



Get to Know Our Therapy Dog

Our Therapy dog to be, Elvis, can't wait to get on the job! But, before he comes to our school he wants you to know a bit more about him.

From the very beginning Elvis was carefully selected for the work we wanted him to do. The breeders from Murray Gold Golden Retrievers, observed all the puppies in the litter, and matched Elvis to us based on his temperament, intelligence and willingness to interact with the environment.



As soon as Elvis went to his new family with Mrs Gonzalez, he started training and learning how to be Safe, Respectful and a Learner. Elvis also attended Puppy Training where he graduated with flying colours!

Currently Elvis attends the Dog Education Centre once a week where he continues to develop as a well socialised dog and has the opportunity to play and learn with his doggy friends.

In addition Mrs Gonzalez and the Dogs Connect Team at our school continue to work with Elvis to help set the environment to receive him at Wodonga West Primary School in the coming weeks.

Profile facts

Date of birth: 4/Oct/2020

Breed: Golden Retriever

Colour: Golden

Parents Name: Lucy and Murray



To help Elvis settle down in our school. Teachers in all classes will be discussing safe and respectful ways to interact with Elvis and will be teaching the 3 Expectations Poster.



This is me now. Can you guess who am I in the picture below?



3 Expectations

It's easy as 1,2,3 to help our Wellbeing Dog to learn to relax.

1

hi!
We say hello to the person, not the dog!

2

We give lots of space when we pass the dog!

3

We keep moving (we don't stand around and stare).



The Kinship Space



- **Are you the Primary Carer for a child?**
- **Would you like to meet other carers who are in the same situation?**

Upper Murray Family Care Kinship workers host an *informal* monthly gathering for Grandparents and other Kinship Carers in North East Victoria to provide carers with:

- Connection with other carers to share experiences and ideas
- Support and friendship
- Information and discussion on relevant support services available
- To share a cuppa, morning tea and a laugh

**Come and join us on:
Wednesday, May 19th 2021 |
10.30am – 12.00 noon at
UMFC Offices, 27-29 Stanley Street, Wodonga**

To RSVP your interest, please contact Jen Lepp on 0409 002 146 (text is ok) or via email to jlepp@umfc.com.au or call 02 6055-8000 and ask to speak with someone from the Kinship Team

COVI-19 social distancing practices will be followed



**The Rotary Club of Wodonga West
Rotary World Peace Bell Albury Wodonga
Fundraising Ride on Mower Race**



**Albury Wodonga Kart Club
Sheathers Road
Wodonga 3690
22nd May 2021**

**\$5.00 per head. Children under 12 free.
Gates open 0930
Racing commences 1030**



Email secretary@arolmra.net



TheirCare
where kids love to be!

Amazing Before + After School Care Programs

Wodonga West Primary School



About the program

TheirCare provides a stimulating and safe environment for all children and an environment where children come and enjoy their time in their program. During sessions children develop life skills, friendships, confidence and creativity through play.

Wodonga West Primary School has partnered with **TheirCare** to provide quality care, flexibility and commitment to deliver on our promise to your school community.

Operation Times		Fees	Out of Pocket	Average [^]
Before School Care	7:00am – 9:00am	\$15.05	\$2.26 - \$15.05	\$2.41
After School Care	3:30pm - 6:00pm	\$18.17	\$2.73 - \$18.17	\$2.91
Pupil Free Day	7:00am – 6:00pm	\$51.90	\$7.79 - \$51.90	\$8.30
Late Booking Cancellation Fee	Within 48 hours	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Cancellation Fee	Same Day	Full Fee	See BSC/ASC	

Service Phone Number: 0447 007 044 Your service coordinator will be available during session times. TheirCare support is available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410

How to Enrol

Visit **TheirCare** website: www.theircare.com.au and click on 'Book Now' in the top right hand corner to register your child's details.

^{*}Standard fees excluding incursion / excursion costs

[^]Based on ABS published average family income for the suburb the school is located

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 2 are now due. Your child cannot participate until payment is made.



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.



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



No dogs allowed on school grounds