**CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY**

Mon 8th - Stage 3 Gym starts

Fri 12th - Canteen Mufti Day

Fri 12th - Assembly for Junior School commences @ 9.15-10.00am

Thurs 18th - Assembly for Senior School commences @ 2.00pm-2.30pm

Thurs 18th - Assembly for Middle School commences @ 2.40pm-3.15pm

Thurs 18th - Years 1, 2 & 3 Swimming Lessons commence

Friday 19th - Swimming Carnival Years 3-6

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**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT—WEEK 2**

Happy New Year and welcome back to what is already shaping up to be a very exciting and rewarding year of learning and growth at Wagga Wagga Public School. I hope you all had a chance to spend some quality time relaxing and enjoying time with your family and friends. To those families who are new to our school we hope you have settled in well and extend a warm welcome.

There was much excitement last week when everyone returned to find the transformed Infants playground area. This beautiful natural play space was a result of the dedication of Matthew Brassil (our school General Assistant) who worked tirelessly throughout January to build this space for our children.
This playground would not have been possible without our hard working P&C who committed two-thirds of the funding and were very involved in all stages of the consultation process. As always it is great to work together to achieve such great things for not only our current students, but for generations to come.

I would also like to acknowledge Brendan Bennett who assisted Matt with a lot of the heavy concrete cutting and removal, Kirrily Brassil for her days of work on the gardens and to any other parents and students who came forth at the eleventh hour to make sure the playground was ready for the new school year.

It is such a beautiful area for the whole school community to enjoy. Just watching our younger students enjoying this area is a joy to watch.

Enough about play... all students and teachers seem to have settled quickly into the school year and are already enjoying the opportunity to form new friendships and relationships within their 2016 classes.

This year we have formed 16 classes across K-6 following the same school class structure as last year. We welcomed 58 new shiny kindergarten students and are so excited to welcome not only them but their families to our fantastic school.

In 2016 we have:

Junior School – KO, KG, KT, IN, 1P - led by Miss Nada Pokoney
Middle School - 2/3N, 2/3L, 2/3H, 2/3RG, 2/3S - led by Mrs Meg Reynolds
Senior School – 4B, 4J, 5/6EB, 5/6M, 5/6C, 5/6O - led by Mrs Erin Elsley

This year we welcome Miss Amanda O’Connell to Wagga Public as the teacher of KO. Miss O’Connell was successful in gaining a permanent position with us and has spent 2015 teaching in Darlington Point.

We also welcome back Mr James Burgess on 4J and Mrs Tania Gillett on 2/3RG on Thursdays and Fridays.

Our staff for the commencement of 2016 is as follows:

KG - Miss Caity Geaghan
KO – Miss Amanda O’Connell
1P – Miss Jess Pokoney
2/3RG – Mrs Meg Reynolds (M-W), Mrs Tania Gillett (Th-F)
2/3H – Mr Rhys Holloway
2/3L – Miss Skye Lipinski
4B – Miss Tarryn Birthisel
5/6E - Mrs Erin Elsley (M-W), Mrs Brooke Lucas (Th-F)
5/6C – Miss Sarah Clarke

RFF (Computers) – Mrs Rochelle Bennett Library – Mrs Sherrilee Allen
Reading Recovery – Mrs Belinda Cesnik (Assistant Principal)
Executive and L3 – Miss Nada Pokoney
Support Teacher Learning – Mrs Anne Cullen and Mrs Anne Smith
English as an Additional Language – Mrs Regina Tidd
School Learning Support Officers – Mrs Ros Jones, Mrs Justine Moore, Mrs Jemima Hosie and Mrs Tatjana Dowdle, Mrs Cindy Oliver, Mrs Tracey Pert
Principal’s Report continued.....

School Counsellor – Mr Stephen McMullen

School Administration Manager – Mrs Mandy Gillett

School Administration Officers – Mrs Justine Hudson and Mrs Emma Fekeila

General Assistants – Mr Matt Brassil and Mr Brent Hampstead

Canteen – Mrs Kelly Maher and Mrs Melinda Doughty

I would like to remind parents that if you have any concerns about your child’s education or wellbeing to please contact the school office on 6921 3398 to make an appointment to speak with your child’s teachers. Working together and communicating from the beginning can save a lot of unnecessary angst for all involved.

Shortly we will be sending home class newsletters and holding our annual Parent Information sessions. We will let you know the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Anaphylaxis

As you know, we have several children in our school who have anaphylaxis. As a community you have been incredibly supportive in the efforts to keep these children safe. On behalf of these families, we thank you for limiting nut products given to your children and hope you continue this practice.

We are also asking that you encourage your children to:

1. Not share food
2. Not buy food for others at the canteen
3. Wash their hands regularly after eating.

Once again, welcome back and have a great week.

Leanne Harvey
Principal

Kindergarten News

Kindergarten invite you to wear Silly Socks and Sunglasses on Monday 8th February to celebrate the Start of the School year and the start of our Kindergarten sound program.

When: Monday February 8th
Who: Kindergarten to Year 6 (and teachers!!!)
Cost: Nil (Please don’t go and buy anything for this day, you could wear odd socks, coloured socks etc)
Your child will wear regular school uniform apart from the silly socks and sunglasses.
With thanks
The Kindergarten Team
(KG, KO and KT)
P&C NEWS

P&C UNIFORM SALES

New uniforms available from the front office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short Sleeve Polo Shirts</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Sleeve Polo Shirts</td>
<td>$18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hats</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bags</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Short Sleeve Polo shirts are on order and will be available during Week 4. Sorry for any inconvenience.

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome to all the new and returning families at Wagga Public School. Our canteen is operated by the P&C, and staffed by Kelly and Melinda and their band of fabulous volunteers five days a week. We aim to provide the school community with a low-cost, high-quality option for school recesses and lunches. We need your help to make this happen!

We are looking for donations of canteen staples, to help keep our costs down and enable us to make our food affordable. We have allocated items to each year group, and we’d love it if you could support us with any of the following:

- Kindergarten and Year 1—packets of 2 minute noodles
- Years 2-3—plain cake mixes
- Years 4-5-6—tins of spaghetti or plastic spoons and forks

We will be holding a mufti day next Friday, 12th February and you can bring your contributions to give to your class teacher.

Kelly and Melinda would also love to be flooded with offers of help in the canteen - dads, mums or grandparents are all welcome. There are many ways you can do this, whether it’s a couple of hours one morning doing food preparation, or serving food during recess or lunch. Full-day volunteers are usually finished for the day by 2pm, which might give you time to have a break and run an errand or two before pick-up. We’d also love to have a standby list of people who can be called in to help at short notice (excellent for those who have unpredictable work arrangements). Please come and have a chat with Kelly and Melinda, or give them a call on 6921 3398. They are eager to find a way to let you help!

We look forward to your continued support.

Regards

Wendy Harper
P&C Canteen Chairperson
COMMONWEALTH SCHOOL BANKING 2016

Commonwealth Bank School Banking will be collected on Fridays during term weeks.

2016 packages will be handed to class teachers in week 3 or before, for all students wishing to start school banking through CommBank or those returning from previous years. Please ask your children to indicate to teachers if they would like to receive a 2016 package.

Any questions please contact the school banking coordinator through the front office or contact Commonwealth Bank directly.

PIANO AND KEYBOARD LESSONS

Term 1 lessons will commence on Tuesday February 9. Week 1 lessons will be rescheduled if not already.

There are also very limited vacancies for new students. Please contact me or the Conservatorium (69253522) if you are interested.

Thank you
Carmel Ryan (0411 201 455)

SCHOOL PERMISSION NOTES AND MONEY

COULD ALL PERMISSION NOTES AND MONEY FOR EXCURSIONS ETC. PLEASE GO TO YOUR CHILD’S TEACHER, NOT VIA THE OFFICE AS THE TEACHER NEEDS TO MARK PAYMENTS OFF THEIR LISTS.

THANK YOU.

CRICKET TRAINING

Mr O’Dea’s cricket training for any children in year 3 and 4, boys and girls, begins this Thursday in the primary playground from 3.25-4.30pm.

MATHLETICS

Due to the small amount of parent surveys received at the end of last year and the high annual cost of running Mathletics, we have decided to not continue our subscription this year, and put this money towards other resources in this area. We will re-evaluate this decision at the end of the year.

Thank you. Tarryn Birthisel, Mathematics Co-ordinator.

Hume Bank

Start saving today...

Ask your school office how to join Hume’s School Banking program and become a Clancy Koala Junior Saver.

School Banking collections: Friday

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There will be WWPS Fete planning meeting held at the Commercial Club 7pm on Wednesday 10th February All welcome to attend!

(Those unable to attend that still want to play a part in planning can contact us on wwpsfete2016@gmail.com or message us on Facebook via Wagga Public School Fete page)
NSW GOVERNMENT HEALTH ALERT

As the new school year has begun and swimming carnivals or swimming lessons will start shortly, I would like to remind you it is recommended that children who have had diarrhoea in the previous 2 weeks should avoid swimming pools.

Late in 2015 there was a sharp increase in cryptosporidiosis cases in NSW.

Many things can cause diarrhoeal illness and those who have been infected can still shed the causative agent, even after their diarrhoea has stopped. Parasites such as giardia and cryptosporidium are common and have been associated with outbreaks linked to public pools. If your child has had diarrhoea, they are to avoid swimming pools for 2 weeks after the diarrhoea has stopped.

Communicable Diseases Factsheet

Cryptosporidiosis is a disease caused by swallowing the Cryptosporidium parasite

Cryptosporidiosis

Last updated: 1 July 2012

What is cryptosporidiosis?

- Cryptosporidiosis is a diarrhoeal disease caused by the parasite, Cryptosporidium, which infects the intestine.
- Cryptosporidium infections have been reported in humans and in a variety of farm, pet and native animals.
- Although there are several species of Cryptosporidium, only Cryptosporidium parvum and Cryptosporidium hominis are thought to cause infection in humans.

What are the symptoms?

- The most common symptoms of cryptosporidiosis are watery diarrhoea and stomach cramps. Other symptoms may include fever, nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite. Some people with the infection have no symptoms at all.
- The first signs of illness appear between 1-12 days (average 7 days) after a person becomes infected.
- Symptoms may come and go and may last days to weeks. People with a weak immune system may have more severe symptoms that can last for months.

How is it spread?

Cryptosporidium is present in the faeces matter of infected humans and animals. Infection occurs when the parasite is ingested. Transmission most often occurs through:

- person-to-person contact, particularly in families and among small children (for example, in child care centres)
- drinking contaminated water
- swimming in contaminated pools
- handling infected animals or their manure
- food (in rare cases).

A person is most infectious when they have diarrhoea, but the parasite may be excreted for several days after symptoms disappear.
NSW GOVERNMENT HEALTH ALERT

Who is at risk?

People who are most likely to become infected with *Cryptosporidium* include:
- people in close contact with others who have cryptosporidiosis
- children who attend day care, including children in nappies
- parents of infected children
- child care workers
- swimmers who swallow even small amounts of swimming pool water
- people who drink untreated water (for example, from rivers or lakes).
- travellers to developing countries
- people who work with animals

People with weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease and should see their doctor if symptoms develop.

How is it prevented?

To avoid catching cryptosporidiosis:
- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 10 seconds after using the toilet, handling animals or their manure, changing nappies, working in the garden and before preparing food or drinks
- do NOT drink untreated water (for example, from lakes or streams). Boiling water will kill

*Cryptosporidium*:
- avoid swallowing water when swimming
- avoid swimming in natural waters (eg rivers, creeks, dams, surf) within a week after heavy rain

People travelling to developing countries should:
- wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after going to the toilet and before eating
- avoid uncooked foods, including fruit and vegetables unless you are able to be peel them yourself
- drink bottled or boiled water
- not drink untreated water, including ice and drinks mixed with water
- avoid eating from street stalls
- ensure hot food is thoroughly cooked and eaten whilst hot.

To avoid spreading cryptosporidiosis, people with cryptosporidiosis should:
- not swim for at least two weeks after the diarrhoea has stopped
- not share towels or linen for at least two weeks after the diarrhoea has stopped
- not handle food for at least 48 hours after the diarrhoea has stopped.

Children who have diarrhoea should be kept home from preschool, childcare or playgroup until 24 hours after the diarrhoea has completely stopped.

How is it diagnosed?
To diagnose *Cryptosporidium* your doctor will order a stool test.

How is it treated?

There is no specific treatment for cryptosporidiosis. Drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration.

What is the public health response?

Laboratories are required to notify cases of cryptosporidiosis to the local Public Health Unit under the *Public Health Act, 1991*. Public health units investigate cases, and review possible sources of infection to prevent further spread.

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au