



Westlawn Public School

Strive to Achieve

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Newsletter: Term 4 Week 9 2022

Principal's Message:

Thank you to Ms Gordon, Mr Pereira and Mr Andrews for organising the year 6 camp. It was great to spend the week with them. They were all well behaved and had a terrific experience at Taronga Zoo at night, and met some high-profile people in Canberra, the Governor General David Hurley. I am sure our year 3, 4 and 5 students have been enjoying their activities also. I have seen some of the fantastic paintings the year 5 students have done. They can be seen on the school Facebook page.

I look forward to seeing the community at our Presentation assembly on Monday and look forward to acknowledging the achievements of students at Westlawn.

Teachers have completed report cards. They will be sent home next week. Please take the time to read and discuss the positive areas of achievement with your child and set goals for next year. Thank you to all the teachers for your professionalism in writing clear and informative reports for every student.

Our year 6 students are counting down to their last few days at Westlawn Primary School and I wish them all the best for 2023 and beyond.

Congratulations to our successful school leaders, who I am sure are waiting with anticipation for Monday when they find out their role for 2023. I look forward to the valuable role you will play in leading the students and supporting the staff at Westlawn.

Student Attendance continues to be a focus our aim is to have 85% of students attending 90% of the time. So please make sure your child attends school every day they can. Missing a day here or there may not seem like much, but absences add up and can impact your child's learning more than you think. When your child misses one day a week over a year, that's 40 days of school, 8 weeks of lessons and 2.5 years over their school life lost.

We have begun a new SMS attendance notification system. Each day a SMS will be sent to absent student's contacts, and you are able to click on the link and explain your child's absence. We appreciate your co-operation.

Flood Recovery Money

Just a reminder to parents that the school holds Flood Recovery Money that can be used for school resources, excursions, uniforms, and black school shoes at Sports Power. Each student was originally allocated \$500.

COVID-Smart

We are still having students and staff testing positive to COVID-19 and this year's flu strain has continued to have an impact. Please continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and test your children consistently if required. It is very important our community continues to follow NSW Health guidelines. Thank you for your continued support keeping our school and community safe. Our school has a good supply of RATs for you to use. Please don't hesitate to contact our school to access these.

Collecting children at home time from school

Please ensure that a note is sent to the classroom teacher if a student is being collected by another person who does not usually collect your child.

If a child is waiting for a parent, please do not ask the child to wait outside the school gates until the parent arrives. Please do not ask another child to go with you if this has not been pre-arranged with the child's parent and a note sent to the class teacher.

We have procedures that we follow to keep our students safe, and I am sure our school community will support us with our safety measures.

I need to collect my child early from school

If you need to collect your child early from school, to minimise disruption during class time, it would be appreciated if you could please send a note with your child to the class teacher.

You will need to come up to the office and sign your child out from school if they are leaving early and collect them from their classroom.

Thank you for your support



Congratulations to Amber for being one of our PBL winners. We hope you enjoy your canteen lunch voucher!



Congratulations to Ava from Year 6 who received a special certificate & book award from Kevin Hogan today. The award was presented to Ava for striving to do her best in all learning tasks. Well done Ava!

School magazines

The printers have advised that our school magazines are on their way. Once we receive them, they will be sent home with the children unless otherwise specified.



Major Raffle

Raffle tickets are being sent home this week with the students. There are some wonderful prizes to be won.

Please return tickets (sold or unsold) to the office by Monday 12th December as the raffle will be drawn at the Carols night Thursday 15th December.

End Of Term Dates

Please note the new schedule for end of term dates is as follows:

Friday 16 December 2022 - students last day of Term 4

Monday 19 December 2022 - extra school development day

Tuesday 20 December 2022 - last day of Term 4 (already planned as school development day)

2023

Tuesday 31 January 2023 – students return to school

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 OCT	10 Students Return	11	12 Fire Truck visit for Kindergarten	13 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am – 12pm	14 Police visit Year 1 and Year 2
2 OCT	17	2024 Select Class Applications open	19	20 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am – 12pm	21 Year 6 half day visit to GHS Stage 2 Police visit
			PSSA ATHLETICS		
3 OCT	24	25	26	27 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am - 12pm	28 Jacaranda March of Youth on Saturday morning
4 OCT/NOV	31	1 GHS half day taster day Year 6 Kindergarten 2023 Parent Session 5.30pm	2 INFANTS SPORTS FUN DAY	3 Jacaranda Thursday (School open until 1pm)	4
5 NOV	7	8 Grafton Eisteddfod Schools Day	9 Grafton Eisteddfod Schools Day	10 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am – 2pm	11
6 NOV	14	15 Kindergarten Excursion	16 2024 High School Selective Class applications close	17 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am – 2pm	18
7 NOV	21 Book Fair open for sales GHS ORIENTATION Day	22 Book Fair open for sales	23 Book Fair open for sales Book Character Parade and Community Day	24 Kickstart to Kindy 9.30am – 2pm	25
8 NOV/DEC	28 YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION	29 YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION	30 YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION Year 5 Fun Day	1 YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION Year 5 Fun Day	2 YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION Year 5 Fun Day
9 DEC	5 YEAR 3 CASCADE EXCURSION GROUP 1 YEAR 4 EXCURSION YARRAHAPINNI	6 YEAR 3 CASCADE EXCURSION GROUP 1 YEAR 4 EXCURSION YARRAHAPINNI	7 YEAR 3 CASCADE EXCURSION GROUPS 1 AND 2 YEAR 4 EXCURSION YARRAHAPINNI	8 YEAR 3 CASCADE EXCURSION GROUP 2	9 YEAR 3 CASCADE EXCURSION GROUP 2 INFANTS AWARD ASSEMBLY
10 DEC	12 ANNUAL AWARD PRESENTATION DAY 11.45AM Xmas raffle tickets return date	13	14 YEAR 6 FAREWELL STAGE 2 REWARDS DAY BIG BANANA	15 Special Awards Assembly 12.45pm Christmas Carols Night and Major Raffle draw	16 STAGE 3 REWARDS DAY BIG BANANA STUDENTS LAST DAY of term

Students from our school have recently undertaken an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$45 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate Program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...







Learn Make friends Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au



Minutes lost = days lost per year

A couple of minutes here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	they miss days per year
5 mins per day 	= 3 days 
30 mins per day 	= 18 days 

 Patterns of lateness can have a serious impact on your child's education.

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