

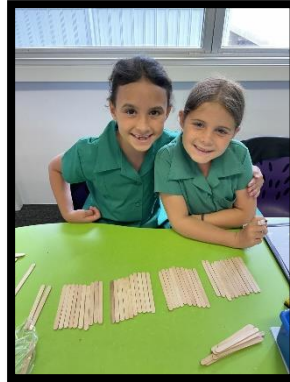


Westlawn Public School

Strive to Achieve

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Newsletter: Term 1 Week 8 2024

Principal's Message:

NSW Plan for Public Education

Our plan is built on the power of public education to provide opportunities for all and transform lives through learning. Our plan sets our direction and priorities for the coming years and harnesses the commitment of our teachers and schools to provide an outstanding education for every learner. Our approach has been informed by evidence and insights from engagement with our education community.

Our departmental values guide how we go about our work and make decisions on a daily basis. They form the foundation of what it is like to work for Education and what we expect of one another.

- Advance equitable outcomes, opportunities and experiences
- Strengthen trust and respect for the teaching profession and school support staff
- Give children the best start in learning
- Deliver outstanding leadership, teaching and learning
- Strengthen student wellbeing and development
- Provide meaningful post-school pathways

Attendance

All students with attendance over 95% will receive a postcard in acknowledgement of their excellent attendance for the beginning of term 1. Every day at school matters and we will be working with families to make sure every student is at school when they are fit and healthy.

External Service Providers

The role of school in relation to therapy services is to liaise with families to facilitate any reasonable request for such a service during school hours which will lead to improved educational outcomes. If a family requires therapy services to occur during school hours they must request the provision to occur by completing a Request for Externally Funded Provision Form available through the office. Service provider requests will not be accepted.

NAPLAN

Students in year 3 and 5 began NAPLAN assessment on Wednesday March 13, there is a two week window for students to complete the tests. Students will sit exams in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Grammar and Numeracy. Any students absent on the day of the test will have the opportunity to do a make-up test within the two week window.

Mobile Phones

All mobile phones must be handed in and stored in the School Office for the full school day, including recess and lunch. This is an approved NSW Department of Education option and will limit unnecessary distractions and complement our ongoing approach to ensure every student maximises their learning and social growth in a safe and supportive environment.

Parents/carers and students wishing to apply for an exemption *need to contact the school and have an interview with the principal or member of the leadership team.*

Bullying

- Approximately one in four Year 4 to Year 9 Australian students (27%) report being bullied every few weeks or more often (considered to be frequent) during the last term at school.
- Frequent school bullying was highest among Year 5 (32%) and Year 8 (29%) students.
- 83% of students who bully others online, also bully others offline.
- 84% of students who were bullied online were also bullied offline.
- Peers are present as onlookers in 85% of bullying interactions and play a central role in the bullying process.
- Hurtful teasing was the most prevalent of all bullying behaviours experienced by students, followed by having hurtful lies told about them.
- Cyberbullying appears to be related to age (or access to technology), with older students more likely to engage in cyberbullying than younger students.

(Source: Cross, D., Shaw, T., Hearn, L., Epstein, M., Monks, H., Lester, L., & Thomas, L. 2009. Australian Covert Bullying Prevalence Study (ACBPS). Child Health Promotion Research Centre, Edith Cowan University, Perth).

At present, particularly students in years 5 and 6 are demonstrating hurtful teasing behaviours which are having a negative impact on student wellbeing. Students who continue this behaviour will receive consequences in line with our Student Behaviour and Wellbeing guidelines. Parents and careers will be contacted to assist us in creating a positive learning environment for all students at Westlawn Public School. It has been pleasing to see some students reporting this behaviour and supporting their classmates.

Trent Patterson
Principal

School Photo Days

School photos will be taken on Wednesday and Thursday this week.

We are asking if girls could wear their green uniform and boys their green shirts and grey shorts. No sports shirts please if possible.

The School Photographer **will not accept orders on photo day** (closing date was last Friday).

Late orders can be processed online after photo day (excluding sibling photos) however a fee will be charged.

Sporting News

North Coast Tennis Trial Results

Calan and Ivy played for the Mid North Coast Tennis team at the North Coast trial last Monday. Calan played 5 matches, winning four and losing one. Ivy played 4 matches, winning two and losing two. Calan made it to the playoff round against the top two players from each pool. He was successful in being selected into the North Coast team! Congratulations to both students on your outstanding achievements in tennis so far this year.

Tennis Knockout Competition Results

Last Thursday, our Tennis Knockout team of Calan, Ivy, Jack M and Romey, played South Grafton PS in the first round of the knockout competition. The team won all matches, winning the day 49 points to 14. Well done team!

North Coast Swimming Carnival

Best of luck to Cooper, Claye and Klancee tomorrow when they compete at the NC Swimming Carnival in Casino. Cooper will compete in 12 yrs 50m free, snr 50m backstroke and snr 50m butterfly. Claye will swim the junior 50m backstroke and 10yrs 50m free. Klancee will compete in the 12 yrs 50m free, snr 50m breaststroke and the snr 50m backstroke. Good luck to you!

Mid North Coast Rugby League Trials

We wish Jed, Kye and Nash (11 years division) and Nayte, Jack, Billy and Cooper (Open age division) the very best of luck when they trial for selection in the MNC Rugby League teams in Coffs Harbour this Friday,

MNC AFL Trials

On Friday 8 March, Jack, Leyton and Leo travelled to Woolgoolga to trial for the Mid North Coast AFL team. The boys first had to complete a warm up, then they had to perform set drills before playing the trial game. Congratulations to all of them on their selection into the MNC side.

MNC Hockey Trials

On Monday 11 March, Sam, Eli, Levi and Oliver played in the Mid North Coast Hockey trials in Grafton. The boys were put through a series of skill sessions and a game. Congratulations to Sam who was lucky enough to be selected in the MNC team! Sam will play at the North Coast Hockey trial next Wednesday in Coffs Harbour.

MNC Basketball Trial Result

On Tuesday 12 March, Hayden travelled to Coffs Harbour to trial for selection in the MNC Basketball team. The students started off with stretching and drills before playing three short games. Hayden enjoyed the experience but missed selection this time. Well done, Hayden.

Community Sport

Community Sport will continue this week for primary students. Some students may bring home a reminder note regarding money outstanding from the first few weeks of sport. Thank you to students who have remembered to bring their sport money so far.

Sport money collection will occur every Thursday after morning assembly so we can start sport immediately on Friday. Please send your child's sport money on a Thursday each week.

Costs and equipment needed each week:

Hockey - Cost \$6 All equipment is provided however, participants must have their own mouth guard, hat and water.

Tennis - Cost \$8 All equipment is provided. Please take a hat and water.

Ten Pin Bowling - Cost \$6.50 Bottle of water is optional.

Touch Footy – Cost \$5 Please have a hat and water.

Gymnastics - Cost \$8. Take a bottle of water.

Futsal - Cost \$5.50 Take a bottle of water.

It is important that all students remember their sport money each week as we are using community venues, which depend on income to remain open. Students who fail to pay for their sport two weeks in a row will still go to their venue but will not be able to participate. Please contact the school if there are difficulties covering the cost of weekly sport.

P & C Easter Raffle 2024

Our annual Easter Raffle is happening again this year. Tickets have gone home with students. We are asking if each child could please donate an Easter egg for the raffle, and bring them to the school office by Friday 22nd March.

In the past we have had a fantastic response and are able to offer a large number of prizes and it would be wonderful if this year was the same. Your support is greatly appreciated. All funds raised by the P&C are used to purchase resources for the school.



Please return tickets and money to school by Friday 22nd March and the raffle will be drawn on Thursday 28th March at the Easter Hat Parade.



HARMONY DAY

Harmony Day is being celebrated at Westlawn Public School on Wednesday March 27.

Students are encouraged to come to school dressed in clothes that symbolise or are the colour of their culture. Alternatively, students can dress in orange as a symbol of Harmony Day.

Students will be celebrating the day by discussing their background with their classmates and completing Harmony Day themed artworks and activities.

We look forward to seeing students in their cultural dress.



NEW FINANCE SYSTEM - SCHOOL BYTES

We are excited to advise that our school has transitioned to an upgraded School Bytes Finance system this week.

The School Bytes Finance portal provides flexibility for you to conveniently make payments, download receipts and view historical payments any time day or night.

Payments made online will display as OSCHOOLSONLINE 0000 PARRAMATTA AUS on your bank statements moving forward.

Please refer to the flyer on how to download the new School Bytes app and follow the instructions to set up your portal.

There are parent help guides available on the app to assist you with making payments through the parent portal.

A flyer for the School Bytes Parent App. At the top, the School Bytes logo is on the left, and the text "School Bytes" is on the right. Below this, "Parent App" is written in large white letters, followed by "Available now!" in blue. Underneath, it says "Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below." in white. The center of the flyer features a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes sections for "Finance", "Activities", "Documents", "Payment History", "Forms", and "Attendance". Surrounding the phone are several circular icons representing different app features: a calendar, a credit card, a document with a checkmark, a bell for notifications, a group of people, and a speech bubble. At the bottom left, a "Key Features" box lists: "Get real time push notifications from your school", "Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions", "Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts", and "View the school calendar and news". At the bottom right, there are two buttons: "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play".



Getting on Track in Time – *Got It!*

We would like to thank the parents and carers who took the time to complete and return the *Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ)* form that was distributed to all Kindergarten-Year 2 students in Term 1. The results of the *SDQ* helps to identify children who would benefit from being included in the *Got It!* Group Program.

The *Got It!* Group Program will be running in **Term 2 & Term 3** at Westlawn Public School. During Weeks 7-9 the *Got It!* Team will be in contact with parents and carers of children from the following classes, who would benefit from consideration for inclusion in the *Got It!* Group Program running in Term 2 at Westlawn Public School:

- 1P,
- 2C,
- 2M, and
- 2W.

Children from the remaining K-1 classes who would benefit from consideration for inclusion in the *Got It!* Group Program running Term 3 at Westlawn Public School, will be contacted during Term 2.

By completing the questionnaire, you have also helped us gain a better understanding of the needs of the children and their families at Westlawn Public School.

If your child is in the classes listed above and you have not been contacted for the group and have concerns about your child's behaviour or social emotional wellbeing, please contact your child's GP for support and referral options. Alternatively, the Family Connect and Support Service at Social Futures can provide support to access a broad range of services to help your family cope better. You may wish to contact them on 1800 327 679 or frs@socialfutures.org.au

If you are waiting to be contacted for the *Got It!* Group Program running in Term 3 at Westlawn Public School and have current concerns about your child's behaviour or social emotional wellbeing, please contact Stage 1 Assistant Principal, Kate Goodall on 02 6642 7466 to discuss further.

Want to know more about the *Got It!* program?

Check out the *Got It!* video
<https://youtu.be/dphTbRyX5Kk>

Want to contact the team?

Phone the Northern NSW *Got It!* Senior Clinician
Brittany Smith on 02 6603 0932
or email NNSWLHD-GOTIT@health.nsw.gov.au

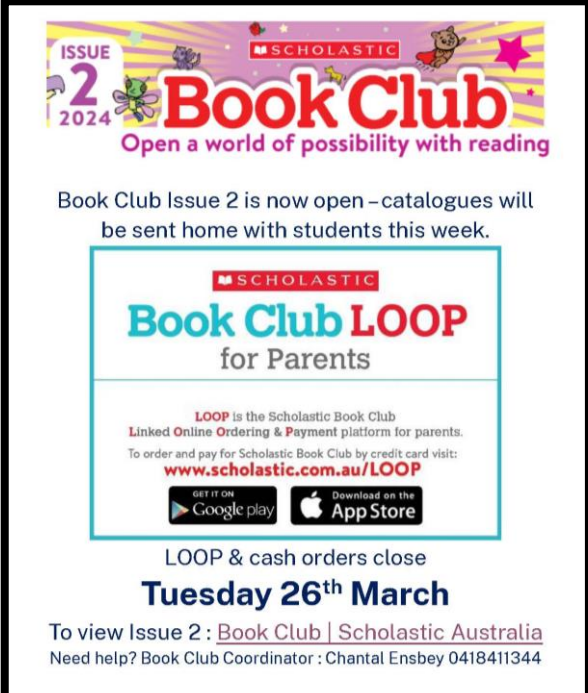
We would like to thank the whole school community for your commitment to improving the wellbeing of children and families.

Book Club Issue 2, 2024 is now open.

LOOP & cash orders close 26 March.

To view the online

catalogue: <https://www.scholastic.com.au/book-club/book-club-parents/book-club/>



ISSUE 2 2024 **SCHOLASTIC Book Club**
Open a world of possibility with reading

Book Club Issue 2 is now open – catalogues will be sent home with students this week.

SCHOLASTIC Book Club LOOP for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

GET IT ON Google play | Download on the App Store

LOOP & cash orders close
Tuesday 26th March

To view Issue 2 : [Book Club](#) | [Scholastic Australia](#)
Need help? Book Club Coordinator : Chantal Ensby 0418411344

New to Book Club? Check out the handy parents

guide: <https://issuu.com/scholastic-australia/docs/scholastic-book-club-parent-guide?fr=sODVIMDMONDU5MDI>



2024 Grafton Show Farm Produce Pavilion

Free Entry Calling all Juniors 12 years and under

Best Decorated Fruit or Vegetable

Winner will receive a **Ice Skating Party @ Big Banana** for up to 10 kids

Enter online <https://showday.online/show/grafon>
Drop entries @ Produce Pavilion on Wed 17th April

THE BIG BANANA FUN PARK
COTTS HARBOUR



ARE YOU A 7 TO 9 YEAR OLD?

DO YOU WANT TO PLAY SOCCER?

Come join our club!

REGISTER AT
WWW.PLAYFOOTBALL.COM.AU

PIC•COLLAGE

TERM 1 2024 CALENDAR

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
January / Feb 1	29	30 School Development Day	31 School Development Day	1 Students return	2
Feb 2	5	6	7	8	9
February 3	12	13 Meet the Teacher Info Night 5pm	14 Westlawn PS Swimming Carnival at Maclean	15	16 Years 3-6 Community Sport begins
February 4	19	20 MNC Tennis Trials Grafton	21 Debating workshop Woolgoolga	22	23 Years 3-6 Community Sport MNC Cricket Trials Coffs
Feb / Mar 5	26 Clarence Basketball trials	27 Clarence Swimming Maclean	28	29 MNC Swimming Coffs	1 Leaders Induction Assembly 12.50pm Years 3-6 Community Sport
March 6	4 Got It! K-2 teacher interviews NC Cricket Trials	5 Got It! K-2 teacher interviews NC Cricket Trials	6 MNC Hockey Trials Grafton	7 Clarence RL Trials	8 Years 3-6 Community Sport MNC AFL Trials Woolgoolga
March 7	11 NC Tennis Trials	12 MNC Basketball Trials Woolgoolga	13 NAPLAN	14 NAPLAN	15 NAPLAN Years 3-6 Community Sport
March 8	18 NAPLAN GOT IT PARENT INTERVIEWS LIFE EDUCATION	19 NAPLAN GOT IT PARENT INTERVIEWS LIFE EDUCATION	20 NAPLAN GOT IT PARENT INTERVIEWS LIFE EDUCATION NC Swimming Casino SCHOOL PHOTO DAY	21 NAPLAN LIFE EDUCATION SCHOOL PHOTO DAY	22 NAPLAN Years 3-6 Community Sport LIFE EDUCATION Easter Raffle tickets due MNC Rugby League Trials Coffs
March 9	25 NAPLAN LIFE EDUCATION Got It Parent Interviews	26 LIFE EDUCATION Got It Parent Interviews	27 NC Hockey trials HARMONY DAY	28 NC AFL Trials EASTER HAT PARADE 9.30AM	29 GOOD FRIDAY
Apr 10	1 EASTER MONDAY	2	3 NC Basketball Trials	4 Westlawn PS Cross Country Carnival at school	5 Years 3-6 Community Sport
April 11	8 NC Rugby League Trials	9 Clarence Touch Footy Trials	10 Green Rewards Day Infants	11 Green Rewards Day Primary NSW PSSA SWIMMING	12 Years 3-6 Community Sport Ends NSW PSSA SWIMMING LAST DAY OF TERM