

SCHOOL PURPOSE

To provide a learning environment in which students are given the opportunity to develop their individual potential and to acquire skills, attitudes and knowledge to enable them to become responsible members of a changing society.

IMPORTANT DATES!



Wed	15 Feb	PBS Buddy Class 1.50pm Parent/Teacher meeting 5.30 - 7pm
Thur	16 Feb	C1, C2, C3 Assembly (Yr 6 students)
Mon	20 Feb	School Board Meeting 6pm P&C Meeting 7pm
Wed	22 Feb	PBS Assembly 1.50pm



Wirrabirra School is an **ALLERGY FRIENDLY SCHOOL**. What does this mean? It means that we will respect the individual needs of students who have identified allergies (with care plans) to such products as nuts, kiwi fruit, milk and eggs to name a few. In particular, food products that have nuts or are made from nuts should **NOT** come to school - ie: peanut paste, Nutella and nut bars. Our canteen is "nut free" and "kiwi fruit free" to accommodate individual students with special needs.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Parents, Carers and School Community



★ WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

On behalf of all staff, I would like to welcome everyone back to school for 2017. The children I have been speaking with have all spoken positively about their holidays and in the same breath, been very happy to get back to school to see their friends. Since the end of last year, we have enrolled thirty four new students for this year which have been accommodated within the class structures set up. We have four new or returning staff to Wirrabirra PS. I would like to welcome Mr Lucian Watkins as our Music Specialist four days per week. Already he is making a positive impression with the students with his musical talents. Mrs Calah Preece has joined us for first term while Mrs Van Dalen is on leave and brings her experience of the Victorian system added to her prior experience in WA as a teacher. We have two staff returning to Wirrabirra. Mrs Woodmansey has returned from time in a Non-Government Kindergarten to teach our Kindy C group. Lastly, Ms Jennifer Mohr has rejoined us to

teach one of our PP/1 classes and been warmly welcomed back by her past students she has again. I look forward to working with you all this year and achieving excellent progress with the children.

The full list of staff and classes can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

★ EDU-DANCE

I'm sure you will remember the great response we had from Edu-Dance last year when all students participated in ten dance workshops built around high energy dance and movement, culminating in two concerts that were received very positively by the many parents and carers who attended.

It's that time of the year again and you would have received notes last week outlining the program and the cost to families. One of the real strengths of this program is the way classes work together to learn the dance and perform as a team and I ask you do everything possible to make sure your child has this opportunity. Please talk with your children to find out more about what they are learning and set aside some time for the final performances. Many families have already forwarded money envelopes and posted these in the return box at the front office. Thank you.

★ CLASS TEACHER MEETINGS

At the beginning of each year we provide a time for parents and carers to meet with their child/children's teachers. The purpose of these meetings is twofold, giving those who work an opportunity to meet the teachers and secondly for your teacher to provide an overview of class processes and procedures. The meetings also allow families to ask questions on the learning programs being presented, timetables, specialist programs, what the expectations are for students and how they may be involved in their child's learning and school. As these meetings are in a public forum, questions you may have specifically about your child would be referred to a private meeting.

The table below outlines a 30 minute timeslot for each class to meet. Unfortunately for those with children in multiple classes there may be some overlap where parents / carers may need to split and attend concurrent sessions. If you are unable to attend, I encourage you to make a time to meet with the teacher and discuss the program for this year.

Please note Kindergarten meetings were held in Week One.

Meetings will be conducted next **Wednesday 15 February starting at 5.30pm and finish at 7pm.**

Parent / Class Information Meetings Wednesday 15 February 2017	
5:30pm to 6pm	A6, B2, C1, C2, C3, C5, C6.
6pm to 6:30pm	A2, A4, B3, D1, D4.
6:30pm to 7pm	C4, A3, A1, A5

★ POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT ASSEMBLIES AND BUDDY CLASS ACTIVITIES

This year we will continue to have three class assemblies each term. Instead of interruptions to the other Thursday afternoons we will have our PBS assemblies every second Wednesday between lunch and early close at 2.30pm. At these assemblies teachers will present the PBS teaching focus for that fortnight as a skit before 20 students' Eco Slips are drawn from the barrel to spin the prize wheel. On the alternative Wednesdays classes will buddy up to review the skit and reteach the focus behaviour. Each of the two classes will then present Honour Certificates. Parents of these children will be invited and all other parents will be welcomed to attend these Buddy Class sessions to see the PBS program in action and celebrate the awards with the classes.

This change has freed up blocks of valuable time in the term on Thursdays to allocate to important learning and will provide parents and carers with opportunities to be involved at the class level with our PBS program.

★ P&C AND SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

The School Board and P&C will meet on Monday 20 February starting at 6pm and 7pm respectively.

We have many new parents joining Wirrabirra and I encourage you to attend the P&C meetings to find out more about our school and have the opportunity to bring your skills and knowledge to help further improve our school. At the P&C there will be a report from the School Board which will outline the work being done as we progress in our first year as an Independent Public School.

★ SPECIAL THANKS

I thank all parents for the excellent support to make the start of the year so smooth. Children have returned ready to begin a great year of learning organised with all their equipment and looking fantastic in their uniforms. Thanks to Denise who had all our Year Sixes in their Graduation shirts by the end of Week One. The children were delighted and feel like the big ones already.

Please make use of the Wirrabirra School App to keep up with information and to send us a message if your child is away from school. You can also read the newsletter on the App. We will also send the Newsletter electronically if we have your email, so please make sure all details held in the front office are up to date.

★ PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS

As part of our commitment to keep children safe, all staff have participated in training on Protective Behaviours for Children. This Semester all classes will complete a ten week learning program with their teachers on Protective Behaviours. As a service to parents we are offering an information session on the program and an opportunity to ask questions about what will be presented.

"Protective Behaviours" is an internationally acclaimed personal safety and child abuse prevention program endorsed by the Department of Education in Western Australia. Please take some time to visit the web site

<http://www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au/>

for additional information and videos on the program.

The 10 main Protective Behaviours Topic areas included in the program are;

- **Theme One - "We all have the right to feel safe at all times" & feelings**
- **Early Warning signs** – The physical sensation we experience in our body when feeling unsafe or excited.
- **Safety Continuum** - Safe/ fun to feel scared/ risking on purpose/ unsafe **Problem solving** - How could someone feel safe even if...?
- **Theme Two- "We can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is and secrets".**
- **Networks** – Identify adults that we can talk with and ask for help if we feel unsafe/scared/worried.
- **Persistence** – Persisting in asking for help until you feel safe again.
- **Body Awareness and Ownership & Private and Public** – Parts of the body (including teaching and using the correct anatomical names for private parts of the body). Private and Public areas/ Private and Public behaviours.
- **Personal Space** – Social distance & **Safe and Unsafe Touch**
- **Assertiveness** – Body Language/tone of voice/ NO GO TELL
- **Theme and Program Reinforcement**

I encourage you to visit the website and attend the parent workshop to find out how to reinforce the Protective Behaviours messages, concepts and strategies at home. If you are interested in attending a Parent Session on the program please register your interest at the front office. Once I have an idea of those interested I will set up a Parent Workshop.

Regards, Steve Richards, Principal

Please collect your old household batteries and ring pulls and bring them to the Environmental Science Room or put them in the box outside of the Primary School Office for recycling.



Thanks

ESC NEWS

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to 2017! We have had a great start to the new school year with all the students settled and back into routine, many with big smiles and some great stories about their holidays.

We have several new students who have joined us and we welcome Sophia and Perry who are both in Kindy in B5, Isabella in Pre Primary in B5, Mark in Year 1 in B4 and Justin in Year 3 in B1. We extend our warm welcome to the families of these students as well and look forward to working alongside you in your children educational journey.

Edu-Dance has started this week. Notes have gone home in regard to participation and payment for the program. Please liaise with your child's classroom teacher in regard to the program and your child's participation. The fee to participate is \$30.00. Please see Linda or Julie in the office if you would like to establish a payment plan.

Teachers are currently organising to carry out IEP meetings with all families in the next 3 weeks. If teachers have not already contacted you they will be shortly to coordinate a time in which you can meet.

A note was sent home on the first day of school outlining some protocols we would like parents to adhere to throughout the year. If you did not receive this note please request another copy from either your classroom teacher or the office.

Our Expectation this week is 'Greet people in a friendly way'. We will be practising this over the next fortnight and would appreciate if you could help by practising this at home. The students are being taught to look people in the eye, smile and say "hello".

The next P&C meeting will be on Monday 20 February at 7:00pm in the staffroom. The P&C is always looking for new members to help and support. If you would like to help and become involved with our school community, please come along.

Don't forget we always have a display of photos and children's work in the ESC admin area, so feel free to come on in and have a look. Photos and up to date information is also posted on the website regularly (www.wirrabirraesc.wa.edu.au) so log this into your favourites and have a browse. Don't forget our messaging system can be used to inform us of any absences or messages for the school. At times, we will send families information via this message system as well. The number to program in your phone is 0438960869. This number is monitored between 8:00am and 4:00pm on school days.

We are looking forward to a very busy and productive Term 1 and look forward to sharing the journey with you all. Feel free to contact us with any queries or concerns you have.

Kind regards

Julie Dawson

Principal

Wirrabirra Education Support Centre



Uniform Shop will now be open Thursday mornings from 9.30am - 10.30am. Volunteers desperately needed.



PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS

Walk or ride to school if you can. Research has shown that exercise has many positive effects including improved health and wellbeing and better learning outcomes at school. Walking or riding to school instead will help relieve congestion and reduce your carbon footprint through less car emissions. If it's too far to travel on foot or bike, consider being dropped off at a safe place closer to the school and walk the rest of the way.

Chaplain's Chat

Hello everyone,

Welcome both new and old students, families and staff to 2017 at Wirrabirra.

For those who may not be aware, my role is to provide caring, confidential, pastoral support for the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of our students, families and the whole school community. I am available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8.30am until 4pm in the Parent Information Centre near the Uniform Shop. You are welcome to visit for a chat, a cuppa, to find out more about the chaplaincy service, or to discuss any concerns you may have.

In the meantime, I pray this year brings all that is good into your lives and that you have success in those things you wish to accomplish. As we are aware though, life will also bring problems, challenges and obstacles to our plans, and sometimes even crisis. To have a sense of hope at these times can carry us through and help to maintain focus until we reach our goal or resolve our dilemma. Hope is to have 'confident expectation'. May you be imbued with hope for the year ahead.

God bless

Helen Ivatts

YouthCARE School Chaplain



PBS EXPECTATION

Greeting people in a friendly way

COMING HOME TODAY

- ☺ Term 1 Wirrabirra Term Planner
- ☺ Safety Around Schools

WIRRABIRRA SCHOOL STAFF 2017

ROOM	YEAR	TEACHER	EDUCATION ASSISTANTS
A1	Year 2	Sheri Cheeseman	
A2	Year 1/2	Calah Preece, Hazel Van Dalen	
A3	Year 3	Kate Doepel	
A4	Year 2/3	Maree Clark	Desley Green (Sp Nds),
A5	Year 1	Jen Matthews	
A6	Year PP/1	Hailey Weaire	Julia Parker
B1	ESC Year 3/4	Rajpal Rikhranj, Prithi Dias	Jodi Belton, Michelle Bormolini, Kerri Flynn, Sharon Millson, Chantelle Patterson, Alyson Walker
B2	Year 3/4	Nikki Nish	Desley Green (Sp Nds),
B3	Year 3/4	Kim Reibel	Desley Green (Sp Nds),
B4	ESC Yr 1/2/3	Clare O'Brien, Prithi Dias	Jan Hudson, Kelli Johnson, Karlee O'Farrell, Naomi Teichelman, Marie Whild
B5	ESC Yr K/PP/1	Alicia Ylias	Sharon Butterfield, Dallas Erceg, Jennifer McKellar, Gorana Nikolic, Sarah Taylor, Marie Whild
C1	Year 5/6	Antonia Scarnicchio	
C2	Year 6	Natalie Scott	
C3	Year 6	Ben Knight	Jo Carr (Auslan Interpreter), Lee Tarrant (Auslan Interpreter)
C4	Year 4	Geoff Smith	Desley Green (Sp Nds),
C5	Year 5	Helen Waller	
C6	Year 4/5	Jacqui Needham, Sharnelle Pratt	
D1	Year PP/1	Jen Mohr	Sue Barclay
D2	Kindergarten	Vivienne Woodmansey	Sara Hewitt
D3	Kindergarten	Bianca Neilson, Lisa Spencer	Iris Fisher
D4	Pre-Primary	Halemah Jukes	Desley Green (Sp Nds), Karen Meredith
TLC	ESC Yr 4/5/6	Rebecca Scoble Wood Prithi Dias	Tina Allen, Grace Dillon, Sylvia Edwards, Marie Lebon, Nikki Sims
<u>SPECIALIST AREAS</u>		<u>PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMIN / OFFICE</u>	
Music	Lucian Watkins	Principal	Steve Richards
Physical Education	Belle Connolly	Deputy Principals	Linda Sparks, Ann-Maree Melvin
Library Skills/Geography	Kris Trenberth	MCS	Josie Askwith
ICT Lit	Terry Lucich	School Officers	Diane McAuliffe, Tammy Jensen
LSC/Support	Erin Svean	Library Officers	Dianne Steel Jessie Tait Robyne Williams
	Kylie Oldridge	Chaplain	Helen Ivatts
	Terri Sommer	Support E/A	Sara Hewitt
		School Psych	Jodie Bell (Tues)
WAIDE V/Teacher		<u>ESC ADMIN/OFFICE</u>	
Gardener	Joanne Parkes	Principal	Julie Dawson
Cleaners	Danny May Emma Dunne	MCS	Linda Trouchet
Canteen Manager	Tracy Denham, Jacqui Bengel, Minyoung Shin	School Psych	Cassandra Zek
School Nurse	Rebecca McBride	Speech Program	Jo Sutton
	Jen Reddy	IT Program	Tash McFarland