



Wee Jasper Public School

The Bugle

Term 4, Week 10, 2022 | Principal - Michelle Andrews



Wee Jasper Movie Night this Saturday. Tap and Go will be available. Full details inside.

School Spectacular 2022

Our very own Bella and Chichi performed at School Spectacular at Olympic Park, Qudos Bank Arena, Sydney with D'Arts dance group recently and the rest of the school was invited to watch on Friday, 25 November. It was an amazing day with lots of talent and entertainment across New South Wales and even from other Yass Valley schools. Here's what Year 4 student Dubie thought of the duo's performance: "It was so fun because I knew what their dance was and I could dance in my seat while watching them." Read more about our experience on page 13 and see photos on pages 14-16.



Bella and Chichi and their dance group at School Spectacular.

• Phone: 02 6227 9652 • Email: weejasper-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au • Website: weejasper-p.schools.nsw.gov.au
Address: 6443 Wee Jasper Road, Wee Jasper, NSW 2582

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wiradjuri, Ngunnawal and Wolgalu nations, and pay our respect to Elders past, present and future • Proud member of the Binit Binit Learning Community

WEE JASPER
**MOVIE
NIGHT**

and

BBQ

PLEASE JOIN US!

**At: Wee Jasper
Public School**

**Saturday the 10th of
December**

**BBQ Starts at 6:30pm
Movie Starts at 8pm**

**COST: \$10 ENTRY
CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE**

**Entry fee includes:
Dinner, movies and snacks**

**BYO:-
Chairs or Picnic Blanket**

In This Issue



Students prepare for swimming with Ms Helen Cathles.

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2023 Staff

- Teaching Principal – Michelle Andrews.
- School Administration Manager – Wendy Griffiths
- General Assistant – Alan Rowling
- School Learning Support Officer/School Administration Officer – Mary Goulding
- School Learning Support Officer/School Administration Officer – Helen Cathles
- Part-Time Teacher – Kim Rowling
- Assistant Principal – Curriculum & Instruction (Virtual) – we are still part of the NSWDoE trial, and the newly-appointed APCI will be announced soon.



End of Year Celebration

WEE JASPER PUBLIC SCHOOL

STUDENT PERFORMANCE SANTA VISIT SCHOOL AWARDS

COME AND CELEBRATE OUR
STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS.

You're Invited

FRIDAY, 16 DECEMBER

5:30 PM - SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR THE CHILDREN

6 PM - FORMALITIES BEGIN

Please contact the school if you are bringing children to meet Santa.

BYO nibbles, snacks and drinks.

Wee Jasper P&C will provide dessert, tea & coffee.

02 6227 9652

Term 1, 2022, Weeks 1-6, Calendar

WEEK 1 JANUARY	MON 23	TUES 24	WED 25	THUR 26 Australia Day	FRI 27 Staff development day
WEEK 2 JAN/FEB	MON 30 Staff development day	TUES 31 K-6 students first day <i>Ms Andrews, Mrs Rowling & Mrs Cathles</i>	WED 1 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>	THUR 2 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>	FRI 3 <i>Ms Andrews & Miss Mary</i>
WEEK 3 FEBRUARY	MON 6 <i>Ms Andrews & Miss Mary</i>	TUES 7 Swimming <i>Ms Andrews & Mrs Cathles</i>	WED 8 <i>Ms Andrews & Miss Mary</i>	THUR 9 <i>Mrs Rowling & Mrs Rout</i>	FRI 10 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>
WEEK 4 FEBRUARY	MON 13 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	TUES 14 Swimming <i>Ms Andrews & Mrs Cathles</i>	WED 15 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	THUR 16 <i>Mrs Rowling</i>	FRI 17 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>
WEEK 5 FEBRUARY	MON 20 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	TUES 21 Swimming <i>Ms Andrews & Mrs Cathles</i>	WED 22 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	THUR 23 <i>Mrs Rowling</i>	FRI 24 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>
WEEK 6 FEB/MARCH	MON 27 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	TUES 28 Swimming <i>Ms Andrews & Mrs Cathles</i>	WED 1 <i>Ms Andrews</i>	THUR 2 <i>Mrs Rowling</i>	FRI 3 <i>Mrs Rowling & Miss Mary</i>

KEY DATES



Craft in between swimming.

FIRST DAY BACK

31 Jan

SWIMMING

28 March

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Monday, 19 December

Tuesday, 20 December

Friday, 27 January

Monday, 30 January

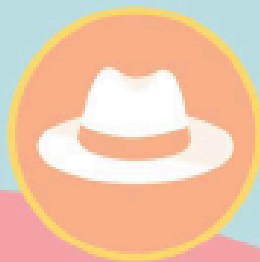
Slip

Slop

Slap

Seek

Slide



have fun
in the sun



Principal's message



Wee Jasper Public School students.

Does the fun ever stop at Wee Jasper Public School? Students, our 2023 incoming Kindergarten students, staff, parents, and community members had an absolute ball today at the P&C-coordinated Colour Run. We all enjoyed the obstacle course, the colourful mess and getting wet from the fire truck. Thank you to our hard-working P&C and community members for helping us all to have so much fun and become so messy! I know the 'adult' kids loved it too.

We hope our local community and visitors to Wee Jasper can come along to the Movie Night Fundraiser this weekend (Saturday, 10 December). Everyone is welcome to enjoy the pop-up outdoor screen on our school grounds and watch the movie 'Lightyear', and enjoy a BBQ dinner and snacks. Please see the advertisement in this newsletter for more details (page 2). Funds raised from this evening will go towards supporting our P&C who financial contribute to our school's exciting initiatives.

Congratulations to all our students for another remarkable year of learning and opportunity. They are delightful students who love learning and playing with each other. We cherish their respectful interactions and how they maximise every opportunity presented to them. Their gratefulness and politeness are always appreciated and we admire how they maintain these traits. We hope our community and families can join us next Friday, 16 December, from 6 pm, for our annual Presentation Evening and Concert at Wee Jasper Memorial Hall (details on page 4). Remember to bring along your snacks and drinks and watch our students perform and be acknowledged for their tremendous efforts. This year, we have a special treat for you, as the students perform our new school song for the first time, co-written by the students and Mrs Kim Rowling.

The past four weeks have flown by. As you can see from our final newsletter for 2022, our students have participated in a range of exciting experiences. Our school, supported by our families, seeks opportunities for our students to connect with their local community. Thank you to Mr Jean Luc for volunteering to deliver French language lessons to our students. Their final lesson for the year is next Wednesday. What's more, our local artist, Janet DeBoos, not only delivered eight workshops to our students, but also opened up her home and studio to our

Parents & Citizen

Dear Wee Jasper Community,

We would like to thank you all for your continued support of our small P&C throughout 2022.

Without our beautiful community, we could not possibly raise the funds that we do. We would particularly like to thank the following people who go above and beyond to support our students:

- ★ Helen and Tim Cathles
- ★ Shannon and Jenny Kellet
- ★ Janet Smith
- ★ Carol Webeck
- ★ Helen and Ian Cathles
- ★ Luke Apps and Tiffany Sturgess

We hope to see all of our community at the End of Year Celebration on 16 December.

With thanks,
WJPS P&C executive

Contacts:

- President, Helen Cathles - thecathles@gmail.com
- Secretary, Bridgette Cathles - bridgette.cathles@gmail.com

Wee Jasper Public School's vision

Our school will remain the heart of our small rural community. Here, core values will be learned and lived, as every learner is fully engaged and challenged, in preparation to making their contribution to our complex and dynamic society. Every student will be known, valued and cared for and experience a secure sense of belonging and connection to this school, community and land. All students will be literate, numerate and curious. We will continue to see the diversity of our community as a pedagogical strength and draw upon our diverse human and natural resources to sustain learning. In this way, we will counter the potential disadvantage of living in a small, remote community.

Principal's message

families for Intergenerational Ceramics Day (photos on pages 23-34). Stay tuned for when families can pick up their kilned artworks. Thank you also to our swimming teacher, Helen Cathles, for our Term 1 and Term 4 lessons.

Our school also looked for opportunities for our students to be part of something bigger. This year, two of our students danced at the NSW School Spectacular, supporting the D'Arts dance troop. The girls performed brilliantly and were true ambassadors for our school. This unique and rare opportunity will remain in the students' memories for a long time. Staff transported Kindergarten-Year 4 students to Qudos Arena to watch their first matinee performance. I believe they enjoyed themselves as much as the performers did. A special encore screening of the whole show will be televised on Channel 7 on Saturday, 23 December at approximately 10:30 pm – after Carols in the Domain.

Students at Wee Jasper Public School have always enjoyed being active. Recently, the students participated in tennis lessons with Craig Barnard and we look forward to continuing these lessons in Term 1 next year. Our younger students also participated in the annual T-Ball Arabin Cup at Binalong with Mr Morrison. They had a blast playing a new game with other students. Our Stage 3 students benefited from the opportunity to join local small schools for their Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Camp. However, I believe the students have loved their swimming lessons with Helen the most, especially on the hot days.

Today, we completed our Kinder Transition program. Our three new Kindergarten students had a fun final session with the Colour Run. They understand that we learn and have fun together with friends and caring staff at Wee Jasper Public School. We know when they start school on Tuesday, 31 January 2023, they will be confident and happy to walk through our gates.

Congratulations to Bella who has also completed her transition program into Yass High School. The Transition Camp, Yass Road Show, Taster Lessons, and the recent Orientation Day have also left Bella feeling confident about her next educational setting. Bella has also graduated from her Journalist Cadetship with Ms Hannah Sparks. Bella has written many articles for our *Bugle*, which we have all enjoyed and worked in close consultation with Hannah. This started off as a weekly face-to-face cadetship and morphed into an online working relationship. Bella has done a wonderful job of showing initiative, meeting deadlines, and stretching herself creatively. Bella was also been joined by Chichi in the later part of the year.

A massive thank you to our *Bugle* newsletter team. Hannah Sparks, Mary Goulding and Bella Yevrem have created a thoroughly enjoyable community newsletter and it brings me great joy to deliver it to our local community. Thank you to all the students, staff and community members who have contributed to the articles. We look forward to providing our community with more school and community correspondence in 2023.

I wish to acknowledge and thank our incredible team who work at Wee Jasper Public School. Their professionalism, sense of humour and comradery make me the luckiest teaching principal in Australia. Our local children are known, valued, and cared for by all staff. It is wonderful that every year we attract such talented and dedicated staff – thank you!

We farewell and thank Ms Hannah Sparks, Mr Jack Morrison, and Mrs Erin Casey, who have all gained employment in their chosen fields closer to Canberra. All three staff members have exceptionally high expectations for their performance and the compassion they show our students is divine. We wish them every success and know there will always be a little piece of Wee Jasper in their hearts.

Thank you to our hard-working P&C and our families for your ongoing support of our school. Our staff wish all our families and local community a very happy and safe Christmas. It is a wonderful time to reflect, dream and remind ourselves of what is important. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone! See you in 2023!

Michelle Andrews
Teaching Principal

School News

Stage 3 trip to Broken Bay Camp

By Chichi and Bella



Chichi and Bella at Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.

On the way there

We were picked up in Yass and got time to meet the kids we were going to be spending the next five days with. After that, we got on the road. On the way there we got a bit hungry, so an amazing teacher went up and down the bus handing out lollies that people had donated to us. But the lollies just weren't enough, so we stopped at a lovely park in Mittagong. We had lunch and a bathroom break, then we were back on the road. Two-and-a-half-hours later we arrived in Sydney. We had a second break and then the next leg of our trip went so fast that before we knew it, we were on a ferry on our way to Broken Bay.

Monday

On Monday, we were introduced to the rules of clean cabins. The rules were whoever had the cleanest cabin out of the boys and girls would get lollies before dinner - the games were on!

Everyone spent ages cleaning every inch of the cabins and about 30 minutes later the time was up. The teachers started with the girls' cabin (Banksia Lodge). Our hearts were racing while waiting patiently for the search to be over. Next was the boys' cabin (Wallaby Lodge). The teachers slowly walked out and made a dramatic pause before announcing that the girls had won! We leapt off the chairs and did a victory dance.

Then we headed for breakfast. Ham and cheese on toast with fluffy pancakes and yoghurt were served to wake us up and get us ready for the first activity, which was archery. We ran down to archery and were split into teams to decide who would go first. Team one had someone who got a bullseye first try! We were still very energetic after archery, so we went for a hike up to a forest to do teamwork activities, such as making a bridge or going through a spider web with a blindfold on.

School News

Stage 3 trip to Broken Bay Camp continued...

By Chichi and Bella



Bella and Chichi on a forest/beach walk.

This helped us to make friends and learn teamwork. We needed a break after a big day, so we got free time and went to the basketball court to play there. As soon as we knew it, it was time for dinner. After dinner, everyone sprinted to the basketball court for the night activities.

Tuesday

On Tuesday, the boys won the cleanest cabin. For breakfast that morning we had croissants and more ham and cheese on toast. Next up was orienteering. We were put into groups of three, given a map and a piece of paper to write the letters and numbers we found. When we found everything, our group went back to the meeting spot to receive a word search. If you finished that fast, then you could do another. After running around frantically for ages, it was getting hot, so next was raft-building near the pool. The idea was to create a raft that someone in your group could get in and ride to the other side of the pool

and back. We had fifteen minutes to do this, so everyone rushed to get their supplies. The options of supplies were oil crates, pipes, and rope. After the time was up, everyone rushed to the end of the pool. We slowly put the rafts in and put the lightest person on the raft. Suddenly, Matt (the instructor) blew his whistle and we rushed off. Before we knew it, it was lunch. We had chicken salad sandwiches. Finally, it was time for free time, so we headed to the oval for a play. It went so fast that it was time for dinner already. And just like free time went fast, so did dinner, so we went down for night games.

Wednesday

The boys won the cleanest cabins again. For breakfast, we got scrambled eggs on toast with fruit cups. The morning activity was to go to a secluded beach, so we hopped on a tiny boat and headed to the beach. When we got there, we went for a little forest walk and found heaps of rubbish

School News

Stage 3 trip to Broken Bay Camp continued...

By Chichi and Bella



Bella catches her first fish.

from when it was flooded! We stayed there for a while and built shelters. When we got back, we took a swimming test in the pool. If you wanted a yellow wrist band (which meant you could only swim in shallow water) all you had to do was walk back and forth in the shallow part. If you wanted a blue wrist band (which meant you could swim anywhere), you had to do the same as yellow and swim to the end and tread water for 20 seconds. I got a blue wristband. After that it was lunch, so we got an amazing beef wrap! Then it was time for free time, so we went to the basketball court. Soon enough, it was time for dinner, then night games.

Thursday

On this day we did disc hockey. We were in groups of four. We found the posts with chains around it to catch the disc. We used a map to find the checkpoint and to write down points of who and how many times we got it in. I had a lot of fun. It

was serious and competitive, but in the end we all won.

We also had a disco on Thursday. All the small schools came to the disco but not the high school. We did trivia and games - it was so fun. At the end of the disco, we were so tired.

Friday

On the last day, we went to the beach and had lots of fun. We went swimming and played in the sand. We played beach battle and we won, of course.

Trip home

The trip home was long. We had to go on a ferry for 30 minutes and on the bus for about seven hours. I had four naps when we got to Yass. I was so excited.

School News

Meet our two new students



Imogen and Kaelynn

Students asked their new friends about life at Wee Jasper Public School.

Imogen

Bella: What is it like going to a small school and why?
Everybody cheers each other up and they include me.

Bella: What is your favourite activity to do at school?
Playing with all of the toys and instruments, monkey bars and with everyone.

Bella: What is your favourite thing about Wee Jasper Public School?

Everyone is nice to each other and that it is fun, pretty and calm here.

Bella: How has Year 1 been for you and why?

It has been fun because I can play more. It's a little bit harder but I got through it! I get more fun things to do here.

Kaelynn

Tilly: What do you like about maths?
Playing with the Playdough and the Unifix cubes.

Chidinma: What do you like about Wee Jasper?
It's pretty.

Five seconds with Ms Binks



School Psychologist Nicole Binks

Nicole Binks is a School Psychologist and will continue visiting Wee Jasper Public School in 2023.

Nicole started working in NSW schools in 2020 and has worked in various schools across the region, from Yass to Braidwood. She is based in the Queanbeyan area.

Nicole has worked in small schools before – but not as small as Wee Jasper! She shared that she is learning a lot about the unique experiences of a small school setting.

Her passion lies in working with children and young people to support them with their engagement at school, whether that is around mental health, learning difficulties, disabilities, or big transitions...

Nicole is experienced in cognitive behavioural therapy and is working towards her endorsement as a clinical psychologist.

Nicole has enjoyed her time out at Wee Jasper Public School meeting all the lovely students.

School News

Remembrance Day



Students watch the service and craft poppies with Ms Andrews.

On Remembrance Day, next year's Kindergarten students were at school as part of their orientation. They joined the rest of the students to learn about the significance of poppies, watch the service at the Australian War Memorial on TV, and craft poppies out of flower petals, lead by Ms Andrews.

Making a splash



Bella and Chichi at the aquatic centre.

We like to give our students as many experiences as possible at Wee Jasper Public School. A recent example of this was taking Bella and Chichi to the aquatic centre in Sydney while on excursion to School Spectacular. It was a great opportunity for the students to put their recent swimming lessons into practice and enjoy the benefits of city living.

School News

Kinder Transition



Older students supporting younger students.

As part of Kinder Transition, younger students formed groups and rotated through several maths activity stations.

Our three eldest students (Bella, Chichi and Dubie) showed their leadership skills as they assisted the pre-Kinder students at each activity.

By Mr Morrison

What we thought of School Spectacular

We asked students what they thought of their recent involvement in School Spectacular. See the next two pages for all our photos.

What were the highlights of School Spectacular?

Bella: The biggest highlight was the first and last performance. The first performance was a highlight because it was the very first experience of School Spectacular and our school was a part of the audience. The last performance was also a highlight because it was the end of a hard-working week.

Chichi: We got special food like homemade cheesecake, lasagna and beef noodles.

Attending School Spectacular was a real privilege. How did you benefit from the opportunity?

Bella: This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that not many people get. I benefited from it because I learned more dancing skills and performed them in front of a large audience.

Chichi: I helped with the D'Arts group so that was fun and nice to be part of. It was special because not many schools got in.

What did you learn about yourself from the experience?

Bella: I learnt to work hard and try my best. I also learnt that I am more willing to help people when needed.

Chichi: I am better at dancing than I thought. I'm good at helping people with a disability.

Would you recommend this opportunity to other students? Why/why not?

Bella: I would recommend it because it was a great opportunity to help people and be a part of an amazing show.

Chichi: I would recommend it for some people because it is worth it, but some people may not like it because it's a five-night stay.

Tell me about one of your favourite moments.

Bella: When I first got to meet Breanna. She was so sweet and great to dance with.

Chichi: When the school and my mum came to watch our Friday show.

What else would you like to share about the experience?

Bella: I would like to add that the costumes we wore were amazing and very comfortable. They were also extremely colourful.

Chichi: It was a great experience and good opportunity.

School Spectacular Rehearsals

Ms Andrews, Chichi and I attended the School Spectacular rehearsal on Monday, 14 November. It was a chance for Chichi and I to meet our dance partner, Breanna, who travelled from Anson Street School in Orange. Breanna is a really nice girl. She is really good at dancing and is a better dancer than Chichi and I.

Words by Bella.



School Spectacular



School Spectacular



T-Ball Cup

Mr Morrison and the students travelled to the Arabin Cup T-ball tournament in Week 7 in Binalong. They made a team with students from Wallendbeen Public School and soon understood the dynamics of the game. Their training with Ms Latham and Ms Andrews stood them in good stead. Most pleasing of all - after a long and exhausting day - was seeing all the students work together to help move our equipment from the fields back to the bus!



Swimming

Students have enjoyed swimming lessons with Helen Cathles again this term. They have practised floating, kicking and their strokes with the aid of small and giant floats.



1. DEFINE



2. BRAINSTORM



iSTEM PROCESS

3. DESIGN



4. PROTOTYPE



5. EVALUATE



7. COMMUNICATE



6. ITERATE



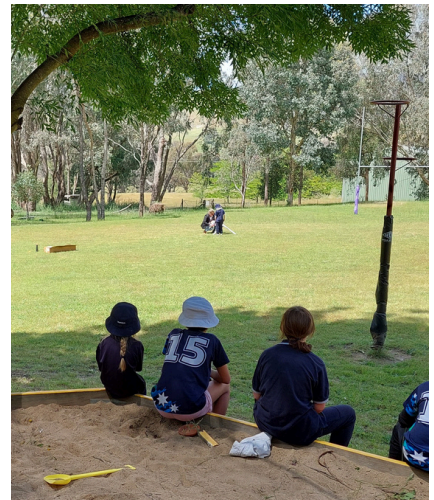
STEM

Mrs Kemp has been helping students better understand and practise using the STEM process (1. define a problem, 2. brainstorm solutions, 3. plan your solution, 4. develop and make it, 5. test and improve it, 6. evaluate and share it) this semester by making water bottle rockets. Students considered how a soft drink bottle could be modified to fly smoothly on a controlled flight after being launched with air pressure.



STEM

The students brainstormed different fin and nosecone designs with Mrs Kemp, and set about making and attaching them to their bottle. Mrs Kemp has brought her bottle launching kit twice this term, allowing students to test their prototype, then modify it for better performance in time for the next launch.



Intergenerational Day

Intergenerational Day was created to bridge the gap between young and old people. At Wee Jasper Public School, this day invites students to spend time with parents and grandparents. This year, we were incredibly fortunate to also share the day with internationally-acclaimed ceramicist Janet de Boos, who also calls Wee Jasper home. She helped the three generations (students, parents and grandparents) connect on the day by teaching them how to work together with clay.



Intergenerational Day

We were so lucky that Janet offered her studio, skills, resources, time and expertise and that all Wee Jasper Public School families could attend Intergenerational Day on Saturday, 12 November. Thank you to Luke for cooking the BBQ perfectly, and to everyone else who supported the day's success.



Tennis Coaching

We were very lucky to have Craig Barnard from Active Tennis Coaching provide students with two half-day lessons on Tuesday, 15 and Tuesday, 29 November. Using the refurbished community tennis courts (thanks to our General Assistant, Alan), students worked on their foot work, hand-eye coordination and ground stroke technique (forehands and backhands).



Community News

Wee Jasper Brigade update

By Luke Apps
Deputy Captain/Training Officer
Wee Jasper Brigade



Kaiden, Abi, Tilly and Bella on the Wee Jasper Brigade fire truck during a visit earlier this year.

Wee Jasper Brigade would like to welcome Shannon Kellett and Scott and Nicola Hinds who are currently going through the application process to join.

We held meet-and-greet interviews with the three applicants over the course of last week, with all three very keen to join our brigade.

After our final interview, we had another interested person arrive and ask about joining, so hopefully that will bring our new total up to four.

Again, I urge anyone who is interested in becoming a member to contact myself or Tim Cathles for further information.

I am also hoping to commence training again very soon.



WEE JASPER

DISTILLERY | EST. 2018



Locals are invited to see the distillery and enjoy a FREE drink! Need a last-minute gift? A 10% discount will apply on all bottles.

WWW.WEEJASPERDISTILLERY.COM.AU