

Werrington Public School Term 3 Week 4, 18th August 2025

Dates for your calendar!

18th August

Limelight Performing Arts Showcase

19th August

PJ Day

20th August

PSSA Zone Athletics Carnival

21st August

3-6 Assembly 2pm Hall

22nd August

BMNDF Dress rehearsal

28th August

Book Parade & Author Visit

K-6 Assembly cancelled

1st September

BMNDF rehearsal & Matinee performance

2nd September

Canteen nugget meal deal

3rd September

Fathers Day Stall

4th September

3-6 Assembly 2pm Hall

5th September

PSSA Winter Gala Day



Principal's Message

Education Week "Ignite Your potential" – Open Day

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our "Ignite Your Potential" Open Day in week 3. It was wonderful to see so many families watching the performance showcase presentation, visiting classrooms and enjoying a picnic/BBQ lunch. To the organising committee, our office & support staff, the P&C and all staff, who helped make the day a success, a very big thank you.

Book Parade and Author Visit

Our Book Parade will take place next Thursday, August 28th, at 9:30 AM on the field, with the theme "Book an Adventure!" The P&C will host a cake stall during recess. The Book Parade will conclude at recess, followed by a presentation from our visiting author, Jacqueline Harvey. Please note that the last day for payment for the author visit is Thursday, August 28th.

Blue Mountains and Nepean Dance Festival

Our dance groups will perform at the Joan Sutherland Centre on Monday, September 1st, with a 10:00 AM matinee and a 5:30 PM twilight performance. Tickets will go on sale at 9:00 AM on Monday, August 18th, and can be purchased directly from the venue, either in person or online. Tickets are sold on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to purchase them as soon as they are available. Please note that tickets are not sold through the school.

Buroinjin Tournament

Last Friday our 3-6 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students participated, with Werrington County PS, Cambridge Park PS and Cambridge Park High School in the Buroinjin Tournament at the Penrith Valley Sports Centre. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to build connections across schools and celebrate culture through sport and connection. Thank you to Mrs Gigg, Miss Sheridan and the staff and students at Cambridge Park High School for this fantastic opportunity.

Upcoming excursions and camp

We have a number of stages participating in events in the coming weeks please ensure that any permission, medical forms and payments are made by the due dates. If you are encountering any difficulties with this or any queries, please contact Mrs Mallia in the office.

NAIDOC Celebration – The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our NAIDOC celebration at the end of last term, despite the weather. A special thankyou to Glen and Jirah Liddiard for their engaging presentation. Thank you also to Mrs Gigg for organising the day and our Aboriginal Dancers who opened our celebration!

Kindergarten 100 Days of School Celebration

Kindergarten celebrated 100 days of school at the end of last term with a farm filled celebration- thank you to our Kindy teachers for their organisation and all our families who helped us celebrate!

School Reports

Semester 1 reports were distributed last term. If your child was absent on the last day of term, and you have not received their report, please inquire at the office.

School Uniform Donations

We welcome donations of second-hand, clean uniforms in good condition to support families in need, including our refugee families. If you have uniforms your children have outgrown, please send or drop them off at the office during school hours.

P&C Meetings

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Friday, 19th September, from 2pm to 3:00pm in the Camp Australia Room next to the library. This will be our AGM. We welcome all parents and carers to join us.

Werrington Wise Award Assemblies

These will be held on Monday 22nd September at 9.30am for K-2 and 10.15am for 3-6. If your child has eligible awards, please hand these into the office by Monday 15th September to enable the awards to be processed. You will receive a letter advising you if your child is receiving an award.

Enrolling Kindergarten 2026 Now

We are now accepting enrolments for Kindergarten 2026. We need to submit our anticipated numbers to the Department of Education in August. You can complete an online enrolment via our website or contact the school office if you require assistance..

Late Pick Up

Minor Delays - If you experience a minor delay in the afternoon, please contact the school office on 9623 7077 so we can advise your child to wait for you at the office. All students who are not picked up on time will wait in the office for a parent or carer to arrive.

Major delays - If you are delayed longer than 10 minutes, Camp Australia is available for after school care. It is free to register. You only pay for the days you are booked in. Go to https://campaustralia.com.au/ to register.

Little Hoots – Friday Playgroup

Our playgroup operates every Friday from 9:15 AM to 11:00 AM in the before and after school care centre adjacent to the library. If you have a baby, toddler, or preschooler, please join us for fun and socialising.

Dogs on School Grounds

Recently, we have had a number of dogs brought onto the school site without permission. If your dog needs to be with you then please keep it on a leash and wait outside the school grounds. Under the Companion Animals Act 1998 (NSW), Section 14, dogs are prohibited on school grounds unless permission is granted by the principal. If your dog falls under the following categories, please seek permission from me for your dog to accompany you onsite.

- 1. Assistance or Service dogs are accredited and specially trained to assist an individual person with a disability. Assistance dogs have undertaken a Public Access Test (PAT) and meet the NSW standards for public access rights. The term assistance dog is the generic term for a guide, hearing, or service dog, specifically trained to perform identifiable physical tasks and behaviours that assist a person with a disability in order to aid in quality of life and/or independence.
- 2. Farm working dogs may be used on school farms and must be under the control of the teacher, farm assistant or person in charge of the activity at all times.
- 3. Visits by organised groups or programs for school incursions includes such programs as Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program offered by the Office of Local Government.
- 4. School support dogs are used in schools to provide emotional support, companionship or well-being support. They are often known as therapy, emotional support or companion dogs. For the purpose of these guidelines, any dog in a school used to support student wellbeing (other than accredited assistance dogs) will be referred to as school support dogs.

Nut Allergies

To ensure the safety of children with life-threatening allergies to nuts, please refrain from sending foods containing nuts with your child. Items labelled "may contain traces of nuts" are acceptable. We also encourage you to speak with your child about the importance of not sharing food and drinks at school.

Teacher Professional Learning

Regularly, teachers and staff undertake professional learning to keep up to date with the latest theory, research and practice in education. Many of these are held after school hours! These sessions include:

- · Mrs Brandies and Ms Flynn attended Choice Theory Training;
- Ms Watts attended Functional Learning and Support Team;
- · All teaching staff participated in HSIE and Creative Arts new syllabus familiarisation and scope and sequence development;
- · Mrs Avery attended Metropolitan North Principals Conference;
- · Mrs Bridges, Mrs Allen, Mrs Fitzpatrick and Mrs Marin participated in Practical AI for Inclusive Education;
- · Mrs Mason attended the network Phonics check in.

These sessions are an important way for the school and staff to keep up to date with best practice and the latest developments within the Department of Education (DoE) and the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA).

Have a great week,		

Mrs Avery

Principal

There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island.

-- Walt Disney

Premiers Debating Challenge News

The Werrington Mighty Panthers Debating Team, made up of Aishleen, Breena, Bree and Diva from Year Five Have now completed their first four rounds of the 2025 Premier's Debating Challenge. We won our first round arguing the negative case for the topic: 'That teacher's should use lollies and chocolates as rewards for their students'. Working well together, they tabled an impressive list of reasons teachers should not use lollies and chocolates as rewards. Our debaters cited obesity, diabetes, allergies, depression, tooth decay and choking as possible hazards. Their arguments were well thought out and they thoroughly convinced the adjudicator, thereby securing a WIN, in our first ever debate as a team. Our opponents were all in Year Six making our win even more impressive. We returned to school full of excitement and confidence ready for our next challenge.

We then had two loses, losing on technicalities, such as not rebutting our competitor's arguments well enough, or not expanding our points strongly enough. Learning from our experience we then took out another WIN in round four, with the topic: 'All school children should do all their school work on screens.' We argued for the negative, and convinced our adjudicator that children should NOT do all their work on screens. Once again Werrington Mighty Panthers Debaters successfully argued their points, citing, online bullying, screen addiction, laziness and damage to eyesight as good reasons to stick to pen and paper. Their convincing rebuttals of the opposing teams arguments secured them their second WIN. Our debating team are now in a strong position to continue competing in the Premiers Debating Challenge, with final results still being counted.

Well done, Werrington Debaters. We are proud of you.

Photos are before, during and after debates and range from nervous pre-debate smiles, to concentration during the debate, and exultation after our wins.









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Road safety



Keeping your child safe when driving to and from school

Here are a few tips to help keep your child and others safer at the beginning and end of the school day:

- Make sure your child is fastened in a child car seat that is suitable for their age and size.
 The seat should also be correctly fitted in the vehicle.
- Stay under the 40km/h speed limit in school zones and look out for children who may be about.
- Watch for flashing lights on buses. They let you know that the bus is picking up or setting down children who may be crossing or about to cross the road. You must slow down to 40km/h when bus lights flash, unless a lower speed limit applies.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Slow down and prepare to stop near any crossings around the school. At a supervised crossing, follow the directions of the school

- crossing supervisor.
- Always park and turn legally around schools.
 Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your child off and pick them up on the school side of the road. Calling out to them from across the road is dangerous – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- Always help your child get in and out of the vehicle through the 'Safety Door'. The 'Safety Door' is the rear kerb side door of the vehicle. It is away from passing traffic and safest for your child.



For more information on keeping children safe in the road environment visit the families section on safetytown.com.au





Road safety

Wearing helmets and riding safely

Wearing helmets

Your child must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place – it is the law. The helmet must be standards approved, securely fitted and fastened on your child's head. It should be buckled firmly so it fits without wobbling or slipping to the sides.

Always remember to check that your child is wearing a helmet whenever they are playing or riding on wheels, including:

- Bikes
- Foot scooters
- Rollerskates
- Skateboards
- · Rollerblades.

Riding safely

Although your child may quickly learn to pedal, steer and brake, they are not ready to cycle near traffic or on the road. Until they are at least 10 years old, your child should ride off-road, away from vehicles and driveways.

The safest places to ride bikes, scooters and skateboards are within fenced areas. This helps your child from riding or falling onto the footpath or the road. A child aged between 10 and at least 12 should ride away from busy roads.

Children under 16 and adult riders accompanying and supervising them may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling.

Riders need to take special care at driveways where vehicles may be driving in or out.

On shared paths, riders are encouraged to leave a metre of space from pedestrians, where possible.

When crossing the road, riders must dismount and wheel the bicycle across the road as a pedestrian.

Children learn safe road user habits from you and will continue them when they are old enough to travel alone.



For more information on keeping children safe in the road environment visit the families section on **safetytown.com.au**



Key road safety messages to share with your child in Kindergarten to Year 4

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- · Ride your bike away from the road

Key road safety messages to share with your child in Years 5 and 6 $\,$

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- · Ride your bike away from busy roads







How to be a connected parent

with

Lael Stone

Parenting speaker, educator and author



Tuesday 2nd September 7:30pm AEST

Click or scan to register

























Before and After School Care

