



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Kaya,

Welcome to the first edition of the school newsletter for Term 1 2024. Welcome to our new parents, our new students in kindergarten and those families that have joined us in other year groups across the school. You have chosen to come to a dynamic school that is growing in numbers. I also welcome Mr Zwaan to our High School as our Science and Physical Education teacher.

A very hot start to the school year has not deterred staff and students from hitting the ground running with our core business of teaching and learning. The school has a calm, happy and productive feel as the students have settled into the academic year. With the current hot weather in mind, I would like to remind you of our bushfire procedures for both pre-emptive closures and should a bushfire start during the school day. These procedures can be found on our website via the tabs "Parent Information" and then "Important Information", or by clicking the link below:

[Parent-Information-Bushfire-Procedures-for-Waroon-DHS-2024.pdf \(waroonadhs.wa.edu.au\)](https://www.waroonadhs.wa.edu.au/Parent-Information-Bushfire-Procedures-for-Waroon-DHS-2024.pdf)

We were humbled by the positive feedback in last year's National School Opinion Survey regarding the school's commitment to teaching and learning and its sense of community. The support of the parent body is integral to the success of a school, and it takes effort by all stakeholders working together to provide a positive learning environment for our students.

The P&C urgently require parents to fill the role of **President** and other **Executive** roles. Please contact me or the P&C if you can help by taking on a role that will ensure the school can continue to support students to learn in a family friendly environment.

Later in the year I will also be looking for parent members to join the School Board, again please contact me if you have an interest in this important school governance role.

Finally, I wish you all the best for the year ahead.

**Mr Gareth Smith**  
**PRINCIPAL**

## FROM THE DEPUTIES

### Whole School Initiatives Deputy



Hello everyone and welcome back to an exciting school year. 2024 promises to be a big year and we are kicking it off with a very busy Term 1. Students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 are busy preparing for NAPLAN which will occur between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March. NAPLAN testing is undertaken by all students in these year groups across Australia and provides a snapshot of information about student progress across the country. The data that is provided by NAPLAN will also help align the school's strategic direction and identify areas of strength and weakness that the school can reflect on.

Outside of this, teachers have been working incredibly hard getting to know their new students and beginning the process of teaching the new years curriculum. Having visited all the classes across the school, I can confidently say that our staff have thrown themselves into this 100%. Our wonderful Education Assistants are complimenting this work by providing targeted support to those students who require it and assisting students with Additional Needs.

In 2024 attendance will continue to be a focus of the school. Studies have shown that missing as much as one day a fortnight can have an impact on a student's education, as this represents only attending school 90% of the time. I would encourage everyone to remember that "everyday counts" and to attend school every day. If a student is home sick, please notify us of this.

It has been a busy start to the term and I wish all students much success with their endeavours in the year to come.

**Mr Matthew White**  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**



## Primary Deputy

Welcome to our first Newsletter of the year! I write this article in the middle of the heatwave that is making this summer one of the hottest I can remember!

We have had such a great start to the year! Behaviour, both in classrooms and the playground has been outstanding. Walking around the primary school during the morning sessions, one can see the fantastic work ethic of our students. I also acknowledge the good work of our staff as the lessons organised are well planned and engaging!

This year we will have a 3-week focus on our different CARES virtues. The last three weeks we have been looking at CONSIDERATION – we are considerate when we communicate positively with others. During this focus we discussed the need to use our “Please” and “Thank You” as well as speaking in a kind and caring manner. The next 3-week focus is ASPIRING – We are aspiring when we set goals and aspire to achieve them. We produced a short video shown at the last assembly to explain what this would look like for students. This will also be taught in class this week.

Also, please ensure your child has a hat to wear during playtimes and during Physical Education sessions.

Have a great 2024!

**Mr Carl Carulli**  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**



## Secondary Deputy

Week Five is upon us. Our High School students have returned from their summer holidays and have got straight into working hard, asking questions and demonstrating the school’s “CARES” expectations. It is a short term, so it is wonderful to see so many students taking their High School studies seriously.

The Year 7 students attended a Team Skills’ Bushrangers camp in the second week of the term. It was a fantastic opportunity for all students to get to know each other. I had a wonderful afternoon collaborating with a team on paddle boards. We played a variety of games on the paddle boards with some of the time off the boards and in the water, which was great fun on the warm day.

Each year we ask Parents and Carers to work with their children to familiarise themselves with the online “Connect” system. I again encourage you to engage with your child and the connect system as teachers have placed substantial amounts of their curriculum material online (Connect system). COVID is still active in the community and already students that have been away sick have been able to keep up with their studies. Those High School students that have their own devices will have a seamless transition to and from school.

High School students will have the opportunity to attend a reward later in the term as part of the Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) rewards program. All that a student needs to do is have a 90% or above attendance rate and no withdrawals/suspensions during the term. We expect the vast majority to achieve that target and enjoy an afternoon outside the school classroom.

As the Year 7’s and 9’s will be completing their NAPLAN this term it is important they do their very best as it may mean that they will prequalify for the OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment) and thus not have to sit the tests in Years 10, 11 or 12. A great reason for them to do their absolute best.

**Mr David Mattin**  
**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**



## Important Dates

Wednesday 28 February 2024	WDHS P&C AGM (new members welcomed and wanted)
Monday 4 March 2024	Public Holiday – Labour Day Western Australia
Friday 8 March 2024	Whole School Assembly
Thursday 21 March 2024	Harmony Day – we encourage students and staff to wear Orange
Monday 25 March 2024	Parent   Teacher   Student Meetings (commences at 2:30pm)
Thursday 28 March 2024	Last day of School for Term 1
Thursday 28 March 2024	Whole School Assembly
Friday 29 March 2024	Public Holiday – Good Friday (Easter)
Monday 15 April 2024	Term 2 commences (First bell at 8:45am, early close 2:20pm)



## ASSEMBLY MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following students received merits at our first assembly this term:

<b>Year 1</b>	Harlow McDerment	Lacey Burgoyne		
<b>Year 2</b>	Georgia Lees	Max McGregor		
<b>Year 3</b>	Brodie Ireland	Jack Lee		
<b>Year 4</b>	Sophie Burnell	Baylen Thomas	Misha Rico	
<b>Year 5</b>	Cooper Baker	Cavalli Dias	Chase Horstman	
<b>Year 6</b>	Archie Slack	Shane Finley	Nicholas Lee	Deegan Johnson
<b>Year 7</b>	Riley Watts	Aaliyah Hill		
<b>Year 8</b>	Savanna Bonham			
<b>Year 9</b>	Darien Eastcott			



### Everybody Belongs!

Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds.

It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

We encourage students to wear **orange** on Thursday 21 March 2024 to show their support.



Students in Ms Jaxon's Room 24 enjoyed Sweet and Sour Chicken, Asian Vegies and Jasmine Rice with a Prawn Cracker as they celebrated the Year of the Dragon





## P&C INFORMATION

# WDHS P&C AGM

**Wednesday 28 February 2024**

starting at 9am

in the P&C Hub

(dismountable on Hill St)

All Committee Positions Opened

\$1 to be a financial member

Please support our school

### STUDENT ABSENCES

**HOW TO LET WAROONA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL**

**KNOW YOUR CHILD WILL BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL**

SMS – 0417 932 820 | EMAIL – [waroona.dhs@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:waroona.dhs@education.wa.edu.au) | PHONE 08 9782 7000

SICKNESS | APPOINTMENTS | OTHER ABSENCES

Where possible schedule outside school hours

Prior to the day of absence from school notify using above methods

Unexplained absences can impact Good Standing



## SCHOOL STUDENT BROADBAND INITIATIVE

The Australian Government School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI) is offering free home internet for eligible families with school-aged students until 31 December 2025.

To be eligible, families must:

- have no active broadband service
- have a device capable of accessing the internet
- live in premises where they can access a standard NBN service
- have a child living at home who is enrolled in an Australian school.

The free broadband starts from the day the service is activated with a participating internet provider. Families will not be placed on a paid service by the internet provider at the end of the free service without consent.


For more information and a list of participating internet providers, visit [NBN Co School Student Broadband Initiative](#) or call 1800 626 269.

If you think you are eligible and want to self-nominate for the free broadband offer:

- call the National Referral Centre on 1800 954 610 (Monday to Friday, 10 am to 6 pm Australian Eastern Daylight-saving Time)
- visit the [School Student Broadband Initiative website](#).

For technical support in more than 100 regional and remote communities throughout Western Australia, contact [your local Community Resource Centre](#)

The poster features a yellow background with a purple gradient at the bottom right. It includes the Government of Western Australia logo and the Department of Education logo. The text is in purple and black, highlighting the \$350 benefit and the application deadline of 28 March 2024.

 Department of Education

**Shaping the future**

# Secondary Assistance Scheme

Years 7 to 12 you may be eligible for up to:

# \$350

towards school expenses

If you hold a:

- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card.

**Applications close 28 March 2024**

**Ask School Reception for more information.**