



Crown Street Chronicle

Term 1

Week 3

Wednesday 8 February 2017

W: www.wwps.nsw.edu.au E: wollongwst-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au T : 4229 209 F: 4226 5057

CALENDAR

Term One

Monday	9 February	6pm Green Team Meeting in staffroom 7pm P & C Meeting in staffroom
Sunday	12 February	Bunnings' BBQ
Wednesday	15 February	3:45pm Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Meeting at Bellambi Public School
Wednesday	1 March	2:10pm Assembly – 4/5M Item
Thursday	2 March	6pm Green Team Meeting in staffroom 7pm P & C Meeting in staffroom
Thursday	9 March	Selective High School Placement Test
Monday - Thursday	13-16 March	Life Education visits
Wednesday	22 March	District Swimming Carnival 3:45pm Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Meeting in our school hall
Wednesday	29 March	2:10pm Assembly – 3/4H Item
Thursday	6 April	6pm Green Team Meeting in staffroom 7pm P & C Meeting in staffroom

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Our school has enjoyed a wonderful start to the 2017 school year. Our enrolments have reached 243 students, which means that we are able to operate with ten classes this year. It has been a fabulous first couple of weeks at school, with lots of wonderful teaching and learning occurring in each classroom.

I very warmly welcome all of our new families to our school. I am sure that you are going to treasure the years that you spend as part of our Wollongong West community.

Our 2017 Kindergarten Children

Our children starting "big school" have settled into school life extremely well. It has been an absolute delight to witness the joy, excitement and wonder of our children as they explore this new chapter of their life. Mrs Degotardi and Mrs Farmer are to be congratulated and thanked for their efforts in ensuring our little ones feel safe, secure and happy as they commence their learning.

Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong



Staffing Changes

There have been some last minute staffing changes for our school in 2017. Miss Beth Hadley will be teaching our English as an Additional Language / Dialect program while Mrs Jane Carnevale is on leave. Our school counsellor for 2017 will be Mrs Alissa Rose. She will be working at our school each Friday and alternate Wednesdays.

Data Talks

This year, our teachers will be engaging in fortnightly data talks with our Instructional Leader, Mrs Heritage, to discuss where students are currently sitting on the continuum of learning in literacy and where to next. These regular opportunities for rigorous data analysis and planning of targeted learning will ensure each student is accessing a personalised and focused curriculum at the point of need of each child. These talks will build upon the excellent work that our teachers do everyday in ensuring maximum attainment of learning outcomes for all of our children.



Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong

Our BYOD Program

Our Bring your Own Device (BYOD) program is proving very successful in our Stage 3 classrooms. Our children are accessing our curriculum in new and innovative ways. Yesterday, 5/6K were exploring the power of having a growth mind set when learning. Children were using individual devices to collaborate on a group task, visible on the class interactive whiteboard, using the learning app, Padlet. There was wonderful learning occurring using exciting and future-focused learning practices!



Any child who is participating in our BYOD program, must return a signed contract to school, prior to bringing a device. Our BYOD policy and contract are available on our school website or at our office.

Class Information

This week, class teachers will be sending home with your child information regarding school supplies that your child will need for this year. Details will also be sent home regarding our Parent-Information Sessions that will be held where parents/carers will have the opportunity to meet class teachers and be presented with information regarding class programs and routines.

Permission to Publish

Today, an updated Permission to Publish note has been sent home with some children. This note will give us permission to publish photographs of your child on school publications, including publications on our school website. While many families have already completed a similar document in previous years, our school is asking that this updated version be signed and returned. This is because we have conflicting permission from some families on our school's historical records. If you have any concerns or questions regarding this note, please contact me.

Assemblies

This year, we are modifying our assembly schedule with the goal of maximising learning time in the classrooms. Assemblies will be held in our school hall on some Wednesdays throughout the year at the time of 2:10 – 3:00pm. At each assembly, a class will perform an item, with opportunities for additional groups, such as our school choir to perform throughout the year as well. Reminders will appear in our newsletter to inform parents about upcoming items. Here is a planned schedule for assembly items for 2017.

Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1 March – 4/5M	10 May – 5/6H	2 August - 5/6K	25 October – KF
29 March – 3/4H	31 May – 3/4B	23 August – 1/2SL	15 November – KD
	21 June – 1/2T	13 September - 1/2M	

We are hoping that by providing these dates early in the year, parents will find it easier to alter previous arrangements to attend these assemblies.

Road Safety

I ask that all community members assist us in keeping our children safe on the roads surrounding our school. The drop-off and pick-up zone on Phillips Avenue can not be used for parking and no u-turns are to be performed across double lines. Please proceed to the end of Phillips Avenue to turn around. All parents and carers must be on the look-out for children using the crossing on Phillips Avenue. A ranger will be in attendance at our school over the coming days to enforce road rules.

Skoolbag

In 2017, our school will continue to use the Skoolbag App as a form of communication with our families. If you have not downloaded this free app please visit the Apple App Store or Googlestore and search Wollongong West Public School. Any parents who already have downloaded this app need to update their push notifications for 2017 by selecting *more* (bottom right hand corner), choosing *setup push notifications* and then selecting the class in which your child has been placed.

Learning Labs at UOW

Congratulations to James, Emily and Josephine in Year 3, who participated in the Learning Labs program at the University of Wollongong throughout the January holidays. This valuable program is offered to children who are bright and inquisitive in a variety of learning areas. The workshops are held each January and July and I encourage parents/carers to consider providing your child with this opportunity in future school holidays. Congratulations to our Year 3 children who participated in this exciting opportunity during our Summer holiday.

Teachers Are Learners Too

This fortnight, teachers have undertaken many exciting opportunities for professional learning:

- Mrs Degotardi and Mrs Farmer have attended training to enhance their understanding of the Best Start Kindergarten Assessment and how to use this data to inform teaching and learning programs.
- This afternoon, teachers will be participating in training with the staff from Coledale Public School and Mount Keira Demonstration School to learn about Visible Learning principles and the how to make learning intentions and success criteria known to children.
- Tomorrow, I will be attending a Principal Network Meeting to learn more about school planning and evidence-informed practice.
- Next week, all teachers will be meeting in stage teams to collaboratively plan teaching and learning programs, making use of assessment collected in the first few weeks of the year.

It has been a very busy and action-packed first few weeks of the school year. Please remember that I can be contacted in person at the office, by telephone on 4229 2096 or by email – michelle.deebank@det.nsw.edu.au . I am very much looking forward to our P & C meeting this Thursday evening, where I am hoping many new families will be able to attend.

Warm regards,
Michelle Barnes
Principal (relieving)

Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners
Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong

Swimming Trials Carnival



On Thursday 2 February students participated in the Swimming Trials carnival at Western Suburbs Pool Unanderra. Children competed in events against students from our school and also students from Mount Kembla and Mount Keira schools. The purpose of this carnival is for students to achieve their fastest times in the 50m pool events and gain a position in the school team for the district carnival.

We had 31 wonderful competitors aged 8-12 years attend on Thursday. Students competed in 100m freestyle, 50m freestyle, breaststroke, backstroke and butterfly and 200m medley. A huge well done to Thomas, Emily, Kate, Mali and Gabby for participating in all events.

I would not be able to organise a carnival such as this without the help of parents and carers who volunteered to time-keep in very warm conditions throughout the afternoon. Thank you very much to Sam and Zanes "Mor Mor", Manula and Hesali's dad, Llewlyn's dad and Ronan's granddad. Also a big thank you to Jacob and Thomas' mum for volunteering to keep our children safe by walking along the side of the pool for every event. Thank you also to Miss Horner for coming along to record all the results. It was a very busy afternoon for all involved.

Congratulations to all of our children for their excellent efforts and sportsmanship throughout the day. Miss Horner and myself were very impressed with the positive attitude and behavior displayed.

The school team to represent at the Central Wollongong District Carnival on Wednesday 22nd February will be announced this week.

Mrs Jenine Hickey
Sports Co-ordinator



Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club has already started for our children this year. Children are welcome to attend this initiative each Wednesday and Friday morning from 8:30am on the lower level of our school. This program, co-ordinated by the Gateway City Church, provides a healthy and hearty breakfast for many children at our school at no cost to parents.

Canteen

Our school canteen, under new management in 2017, is providing delicious and nutritious food for our children each day. Please remember to place lunch orders at the canteen before school each day. Thank you to our wonderful volunteer parents who are assisting Mel in the canteen.

P & C NEWS

We would like to welcome all the new families to the School and look forward to meeting you at P&C Events throughout the year. You can keep up to date with all the events by our Facebook page – just search wollongongwestpac and like the page!

Upcoming Events

Thursday 9 February from 6-7pm – Garden Club Meeting

Held in the Teachers Staffroom, all welcome to join us.

Thursday 9 February from 7pm – P&C Meeting

Held in the Teachers Staffroom, all welcome to join us. We will have a couple of Executive Committee positions on the P&C becoming available, Treasurer & Secretary. If you think this might be of interest to you why don't you attend the meeting?

Friday 10 February from 2pm – Halloween Carnival Planning Meeting

Outside the School Hall - we encourage all parents/carers that can help in some way with the Halloween Carnival to attend the Planning Meeting. The Carnival is a major fundraising event for the School this year and we need your help to make it a success!

There are plenty of things that will need to be done, big or small, so don't be concerned if you can only do a little (or a lot!)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sunday 12 February – Bunnings BBQ

We have been offered this wonderful opportunity by Bunnings to help fundraise for the School. We have filled most shifts available, please check the whiteboard outside the School Hall for any spots that may be left or contact the P&C via Facebook or email wollongongwestpac@gmail.com if you wish to help.

SAVE THE DATE Friday 27 October 2017 – Halloween Carnival

Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong

**WE HELP
YOU RISE**

nikolovskilawyers



Wollongong West Public School would like to thank and acknowledge NIKOLOVSKI LAWYERS for their wonderful support in funding our Stage 3 'Best You Can Be' school diaries.

St George Illawarra Dragons' players and our Dragons' female ambassadors draw from their own lives to motivate students to be the best they can be in all aspects of life. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their day-to-day routines, their physical and mental wellbeing, and how they treat others in order to be the best they can be. A welcome inclusion, in the 2017 diary, is a reading log with students aiming to make the 100 club and enjoy incentives along the way.

*The diary has recognition from the University of Wollongong as a 'best practice' teaching and learning resource in the key learning area of **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**.*



ILLAWARRA SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL
RESPECTFUL | RESPONSIBLE | LEARNERS

Gura Street, Berkeley NSW 2506 | PO Box 78 Berkeley | T: 02 4271 1099 | F: 02 4271 3511
illawaspor-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au | www.illawaspor-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

SUPPORTING TALENTED ATHLETES THROUGH EDUCATION



**YEAR 5 & 6 OPEN NIGHT
MONDAY FEBRUARY 20TH**

Illawarra Sports High School Hall
Information session and a tour of the school

Contact the school for more information

Respectful, Responsible and Safe Learners

Principal (relieving): Michelle Barnes Crown Street, West Wollongong