



From the

PRINCIPAL'S DESK

with Fiona Yeats

Dear Parents and Carers,

Students have settled in very well and I would like to thank parents and staff for their efforts in making this happen. Thank you also to the number of proactive parents, who had, already arranged or had meetings with admin or teachers to discuss areas of concern regarding their children for this year. Working together to ensure we are all on the same page is most important for your child/ren.



Please download the Compass App if you haven't already. More and more we are using this as our first means of communication to parents. This will include any school events as the year goes on and I would hate to see students miss out from parents not having the app and missing the event.

Remaining booklist items can be brought in at any time. If you are experiencing financial hardship and may require additional support to provide your child/ren with the required items, please discuss this with any of Karen Marshall, Lesa Simpson or myself.

No doubt parents, and students, have noticed the number of new split system air conditioning units we have in the school. As we were unable to source an additional teacher for Semester 2 last year, we have put that funding towards improving our air conditioning in the school. I would also like to thank our P&C Association who have also contributed funding to enable us to do even more classrooms than we could have funded ourselves.

Just a reminder to parents that students should not be on school grounds before 8.30am as we do not have staff available for supervision. Our bus runs are also timed so that bus students do not arrive before 8.30am either.

SCHOOL BOARD VACANCIES

We have 3 of our parents who are finishing their 3 year term on our Board at the end of Term 1 this year and we would encourage parents to nominate for these vacancies. The board of an independent public school works with the school community to achieve the best outcomes for students. It plays an important role in contributing to good school governance so that school resources are used efficiently, and community expectations and the school's priorities reflect the needs of students. I would encourage interested parents to explore the following Department of Education link which has more detailed information about School Boards and exactly what the roles and responsibilities of School Boards are. <https://www.education.wa.edu.au/school-councils-boards>.



You can also speak with any of our current parent members Renae Millsteed, Sara Betty, Dillan Elliott, Meagan Pontifex, Stephen Whyte or Natalie Read to learn more about why they see value in being a board member at our school.

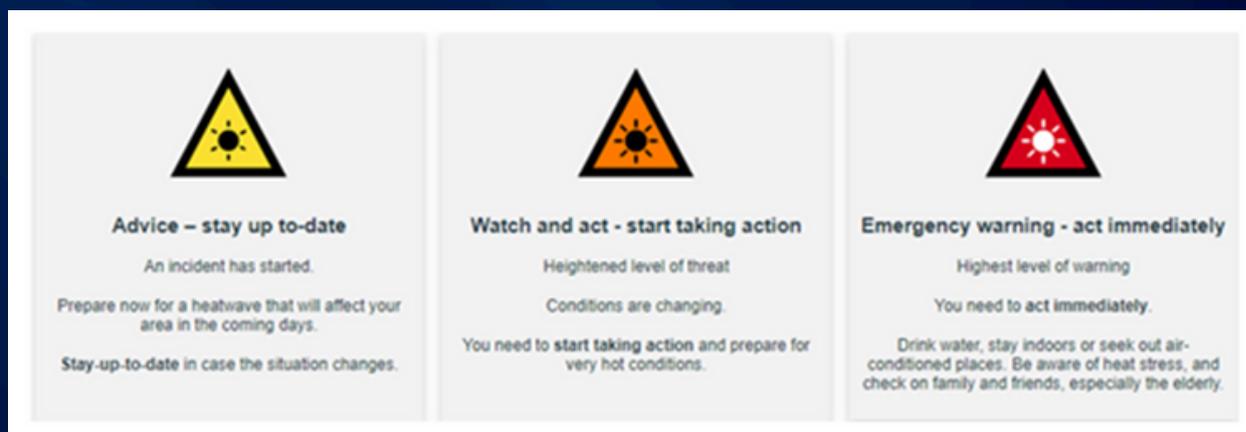
Board terms will officially commence in Term 2 as it takes a while for the nomination process and screening processes to be finalised. If you wish to nominate as a parent representative, please email Kellie Anspach by Friday 27th February at 3pm kellie.anspach@education.wa.edu.au.

Fiona Yeats
Principal



SCHOOL RESPONSE FOR EXTREME HEAT AND HEATWAVE CONDITIONS

You may be aware there are new heatwave alerts available in WA. This is initiated by WA Health.



The Department of Education now requires us to monitor weather conditions more closely and this will impact a number of activities during extreme heat and heatwave conditions. In our situation the following is likely to occur:

·During Term 1, and potentially at times during Term 4 there will be no physical education lessons. Students will do additional health lessons instead. Then in the cooler weather of Term 2 students will do extra physical education lessons and there will be no health lessons. Students will do additional health lessons instead. Then in the cooler weather of Term 2 students will do extra physical education lessons and there will be no health lessons. At times, physical education may include indoor activities such as dance or yoga.

- Carnivals are likely be cancelled during heatwave conditions.
- Classes will not be doing outdoor activities.
- Outdoor play and access to play areas in breaks will be limited and classrooms opened up for movies, games, reading etc.

The following is more detailed information for parents:

Supporting students during extreme heat

Supporting students during extreme heat events is a shared responsibility between parents and schools. We want to assure you that the school will take action to support the safety and wellbeing of your children during extreme heat.

Parental support

- Parents and caregivers are encouraged to pack extra water, sunscreen, and ice packs in their child's lunch box.
- If you believe your child's health may be impacted due to the extreme heat event:
 - * we invite you to discuss your concerns with a member of the administration team.
 - * you may choose to withdraw your child from parts of the school program in negotiation with school staff. (this if designed for those students with specific medical conditions)

School operations

- The school will remain open.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to stay hydrated.
- Our Extreme Heat and Heatwave Action Plan will be invoked, which includes measures to manage indoor temperatures and limit outdoor activities.
- Outdoor activities may be suspended or modified during the heatwave period.
- For any planned excursions, we will ensure that venue operators have plans in place to deal with heatwave conditions.

Health and safety measures

- Air-conditioners and fans will be used.
- Windows, curtains and/or blinds will be closed.
- Refrigerated medications will be kept cool with ice packs in case of a power outage.
- Staff will monitor for signs of heat-related illness and apply first aid as needed.

Student and staff guidelines

- Outside play will be limited and alternative indoor activities will be provided during break times.
- Physical education lessons and other vigorous activities will be modified or postponed.
- As always, water bottles will be allowed in classrooms.
- Sunscreen stations will be established for staff and students.

For the latest information and advice, please refer to the Department of Health's website: www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/articles/f i/heatwave-be-prepared-for-extreme-heat

Your child's health and safety are our top priority, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this period of extreme heat. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

School News

2026 STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS



Congratulations to the **18 students from Year 5 & 6** and the **12 students from Year 7-12** who **nominated for Student Council** this year.

On Monday, these students had the **challenge of speaking in front of a large audience** of fellow students and teachers. Some were **visibly nervous** while others **exuded confidence**. Some **started with a joke (or even a magic trick)**, others just calmly and quietly spoke about their **desire to be a student leader**. When all speeches were made, staff and students carefully considered what they had heard and cast their ballot! **Results will be announced** to students by the **end of the week** and formally announced to parents and community members at the **Assembly in Week 4 (26th February)**. Congratulations to these 30 students on the **time and effort** that went into writing some truly **amazing speeches** - we are looking forward to helping you turn some of your **ideas into reality!**

OFFICIAL

SCHOLASTIC

Book Club

Dear Parent,

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our class is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$3).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at scholastic.com.au/LOOP or using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Sincerely,

Andrea Bear

Library Officer



ONLINE ORDERS ONLY


Book Club LOOP
for Parents

Hang
me up in your
classroom!

Healthy reading habits are forged through Book Club.
Parents can order books easily through the
Scholastic **LOOP** platform.

- 1** Log in, or create a new account at scholastic.com.au/LOOP
- 2** New parents can follow the Wizard to set up a child's profile
- 3** Click the ORDER tab, and select the child's school and Issue of Book Club
- 4** Select your child's name
- 5** Enter the product item number from the Book Club catalogue
- 6** Apply promotional codes that children may have earned from previous issues
- 7** Make a payment via credit card
- 8** Feel great about the Scholastic Rewards that have been earned for the school



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scholastic.com.au/LOOP





WHDHS

Attendance Incentive Program 2026

We are please to announce that students who attend school for 85% across Terms 1 to 3 this year will be elegible to receive a FREE pool pass for the 2026/2027 season.

We would like to acknowledge the very generous support from the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu who have made this possible. This idea has stemmed from discussion at our school Board meetings.

How many days is this?

Pre-primary to Year 12 students can't miss more than 21 days of school over the 3 terms, Kindergarten students can't miss more than 10 days of school over the 3 terms.

A few things to note:

- attendance on excursions, camps, carnivals and workplace learning still count as being 'present' at school
- individual cases will be looked at carefully as in some cases there may be exceptional circumstances, this can only happen if reasons have been provided for each absence
- we have kept this under the Department of Education's expectation of 90% attendance to allow a little bit of leeway
- this is 21 (or 10) days across the 3 terms, not for each term
- please see Fiona Yeats if you have any questions





	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2nd February	3rd February	4th February	5th February	6th February
	Term 1 Commences School Psychologist	Kindy School Chaplain <i>Student Leadership Nominations Open</i> School Psychologist	School Chaplain	Kindy School Chaplain	<i>Student Leadership Nominations Close</i>
2	9th February	10th February	11th February	12th February	13th February
	Kindy <i>Student Leadership Speech & Elections</i>	Kindy Class Information PowerPoint sent to Parents School Psychologist	Wongarette School Board <i>nominations open</i> School Psychologist	Kindy	
3	16th February	17th February	18th February	19th February	20th February
	P & C AGM 6pm Library	Kindy School Chaplain School Psychologist	School Chaplain School Psychologist	Kindy School Chaplain	<i>Student Update forms and online consent forms due back</i>
4	23rd February	24th February	25th February	26th February	27th February
	Kindy MDSSA meeting Miling 4pm School Board Meeting 6:30pm Library	Kindy <i>Country week fundraising meeting (yr 7 -10)</i> 6pm Yoowitj 10 Year 6 Camp fundraising meeting 6pm Yongka 8 School Psychologist	Wongarette	Kindy Assembly 9am Student Council	Interhouse Swimming Carnival Parent help required
5	2nd March	3rd March	4th March	5th March	6th March
	Labour Day <i>Students Do not attend</i>	Kindy School Chaplain <i>Student Council Event Disco Year 1 – 10</i> School Psychologist	School Chaplain <i>School Board nominations close</i> School Psychologist	Kindy Photo Day School Chaplain	Back up IH Swimming carnival
6	9th March	10th March	11th March	12th March	13th March
	Kindy Student Leadership Camp	Kindy Student Leadership Camp School Psychologist	Wongarette NAPLAN Parent Teacher Meetings 2:40pm – 5:00pm School Psychologist	Kindy NAPLAN	NAPLAN
7	16th March	17th March	18th March	19th March	20th March
	NAPLAN	Kindy School Chaplain NAPLAN School Psychologist	School Chaplain NAPLAN School Psychologist	Kindy School Chaplain NAPLAN	NAPLAN
8	23rd March	24th March	25th March	26th March	27th March
	Kindy NAPLAN	Kindy <i>Assembly 9am – Kwilena 1</i> School Psychologist	Wongarette School Psychologist	Kindy	Interschool Swimming Carnival Parent help required
9	30th March	31st March	1st April	2nd April	3rd April
	School Board Meeting 6:30pm Library Back up Interschool Swimming Carnival	Kindy School Chaplain School Psychologist	School Chaplain Student Council Event – <i>Easter Movie Night Year 1 - 12</i>	Last day term 1 Kindy School Chaplain	Good Friday <i>Students Do not attend</i>