



WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 8

3rd December 2024

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From the Principal

Dear Parents.

I would like to begin my summary of 2024 with how we have finished. End of year student learning outcomes at Wandin North are incredible. The high expectations we have of ourselves and our students have resulted in us meeting and exceeding the goals that we set for 2017. We have children who are engaged with their learning, they are aiming high and are kind to each other. What I am seeing is a community truly growing and learning together and the result is a school with a strong reputation for providing children with the best possible start to school life.

We commenced the year with 40 new Preps and with the Harvest Market looming. Once again, due to the incredible effort of many people and 100's of voluntary hours, the Harvest Market was a massive success, and we raised \$37,000 profit. Profits allowed us to resurface our assembly area and complete the project. The new synthetic turf has provided a safe and engaging environment for all.

The Twilight Sports gave our new house captains their first formal leadership role. We love Twilight Sports as they are an opportunity to meet other families and for students to meet each other as a team member of either Wellington, Bailey, Victoria or Sebire. We keep our kids moving with Interschool sports, surfing, snow skiing, orienteering, cross country, photo trail, athletics, basketball, and martial arts! Many of our students achieved regional levels of competition and represented Wandin North proudly.

Many of the achievements and extras we offer at school are reliant upon the generosity of others and this year is no exception. Classroom helpers, Mothers & Father's Day stalls, camping programs, excursions and overnight sleepovers are a few examples. Our volunteers go above and beyond our expectations and contribute to the wonderful culture we have at Wandin North.

Diary Dates

Monday 9th December

School Council

Tuesday 10th December

Prep Transition 9:15am — 11:00am

Year 6 To 7 Transition

Tuesday 10th December

Christmas Family Night Picnic & Concert

(rescheduled from 3rd)

Thursday 19th December

Grade 6 Graduation 5:15pm — 9:15pm

Friday 20th December

Last Day Term 4

2025 :

Monday 27th January

Public Holiday (Australia Day
Sunday 26/01/2025)

Tuesday 28th January

Term 1 - Staff Resume

Wednesday 29th January

Students Resume Gr 1-6

Thursday 30th January

Preps Commence

Wednesday 5th February

No Preps

Sunday 9th February

Working Bee #1 9:00am — 11:00am

Wednesday 12th February

No Preps

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

Our Art Show was held at our school open night, and it was magnificent. Student artists from across the school had their Jackson Pollock inspired pieces on display and were so excited to show parents and friends. Thank you to Mrs Smith and Mrs Gibson for the monumental effort of getting everything finished. We look forward to next year's event.

Ewan and now Tim continues to offer our students guitar, keyboard and drum lessons and judging from the smiles on children's faces, our music tuition programs are very successful. We look forward to hearing from our musicians at the Christmas concert.

Thank you to all School Council members who have continued to support all the school community through their commitment to council meetings and their interest in making Wandin North Primary School the best it can be now and into the future. Mr Craig McEvoy and Mrs Sheridan Piper will be leaving School Council, and I sincerely thank them for her time and support. They have both played a huge role in improving the infrastructure at Wandin North.

I would like to thank all my wonderful staff. They work tirelessly to ensure each child is growing and learning. When I interview new teachers, I cannot measure their work ethic or internal passion for the profession of teaching, and I am truly thankful that I am surrounded by the people I work alongside at Wandin North Primary School.

In 2025 we farewell Mrs Gibson who has secured an ongoing position at Somerville Primary School, Mrs Bailey who has secured a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader position at Bimbadeen Heights Primary School and Robin Miller who will be returning to Eastern Ranges School. We welcome Jenny Cooper and Kelly Marr to Wandin North PS in 2025.

On behalf of the school community, I would like to thank all of our families for their ongoing support and wish everyone a safe, happy holiday.

"Kids can see through to the truth of the matter. While the flashy stuff can entertain them for a while, it's the steady constance of empathy that keeps them connected to us. It's the relationships we build with them. It's the time we invest. It's all the little ways we stop and show concern. It's the love we share with them of learning, of life and most importantly, of people."

Paul Bailey ~ Principal

School Saving Bonus :

As you are aware the Department of Education has rolled out \$400 per student to schools, for the School Saving Bonus (SSB) initiative.

As per previous correspondence the \$400 per Wandin North Primary School student can only be used for uniforms and/or Camps, excursions and activities.

Due to the Departments guidelines relating to a primary school level (and the wording of "text books"), it cannot be used on Wandin North Primary Schools Curriculum Contributions)

For more information about the School Saving Bonus, please visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus>

Please contact the Department of Education School Saving Bonus Team on 1800 338 663 / school.saving.bonus@education.vic.gov.au if you have further queries.

Thank you

Rachael Edwards - Business Manager

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

THE

RESILIENCE PROJECT™


To continue sharing the Resilience Project's work with the community we would like to share a bit of information on one of the key principals of G.E.M.

This term we continue to work through our Respectful Relationships Curriculum. You will notice the language, lessons and understandings from our Resilience Project journey remains embedded in classrooms and schoolwide.

In 2025, The Resilience Project teaching and learning materials aim to support young people to form evidence-based habits that will increase their capacity to deal with challenges, changes and stressors in the future. The program is a prevention initiative implemented at the universal level of preventative health.


Continue TRP at Home: To continue to support your child at home through the resilience project consider the activities from the previous newsletters and continue building strong family habits to encourage gratitude, mindfulness, empathy and emotional literacy. We will continue connecting with the community to share ideas and information to build strong, resilient families and individuals.

Big idea: Gratitude involves recognizing and expressing appreciation for the people, places and things in our lives.




Practising gratitude allows us to pay attention to what we have, increasing feelings of happiness and leading to a more positive outlook on life.

Big idea: Empathy involves understanding others' feelings and perspectives and is practised through kindness, compassion and curiosity.




Developing empathy fosters deeper connections, increases our likelihood of acting kindly, and helps us experience positive emotions.

Big idea: Emotional literacy involves learning to identify and label our emotions, as well as developing emotional regulation skills.



When we can accurately name our feelings and emotions, it reduces the impact of uncomfortable emotions and enhances the effect of positive ones.

Big idea: The practice of mindfulness is about an awareness of life as we are living it.



It allows us to be responsive to our experiences rather than being reactive, and to live with greater balance, presence and connection.

Family Habit Builder:

Every night at dinner, have each person talk about their favourite thing about that day.

Family Habit Builder:

Every night at dinner, have each person thank another family member for something they've done or said today, or give another family member a compliment.

Family Habit Builder:

Each night at dinner, ask everyone to take one mouthful of food more mindfully than the rest and think about the flavours they can taste and how it makes them feel. (They can also thank the chef!).

Respectful Relationships



This Term we are completing Topics 7 & 8 of the Respectful Relationships curriculum program.

At Wandin North Primary School, everyone in our school community deserves to feel respected, valued, and treated equally.

We believe that meaningful changes in attitudes and behaviours can be achieved when positive attitudes, respectful behaviours, and a commitment to equality are actively demonstrated across our school. By reinforcing these values through classroom learning and modelling them within our school community, we create a culture that supports and uplifts everyone.

We deliver Respectful Relationships and Resilience Project as part of our whole-school wellbeing approach.

At Wandin North Primary School, a whole-school approach inspires us to reflect on our existing procedures and school culture to ensure we consistently model respectful relationships and uphold gender equality practices across our entire school community

TERM 4 - December

We can't believe there are only a few weeks left until the Preps are in Grade One! It has been an exciting and rewarding year. The growth we have seen since the beginning of the year has been phenomenal and we are so proud of all of the Preps! We would like to thank all our amazing and supportive 2024 Prep families. You are all amazing and we will miss you all in 2025!

Literacy: In reading, we have begun exploring the comprehension reading strategies, which help us to understand the books we read. These strategies include inferring, analysing and critiquing.

In writing, we have continued writing narratives and we are all very excited as we begin to explore poetry this Term. Later in December, we will be writing letters to our Grade One teachers and Grade 6 Buddies. We can't wait to share our poems and narratives in our last Prep Writing Celebration which will be held towards the end of the year.

Numeracy:

We have been very busy in Maths with our problem solving and open-ended questions during our warm ups. We have been working very hard understanding place value to 100s and making the numbers using MABs. We have continued to read numbers on number lines and share objects fairly between 2 or 3 people. In 2024, we have so many clever mathematicians.

Christmas Concert

All the Prep children have been very excited about our Christmas concert. They have all been working very hard learning the song and even a few actions. We hope everyone enjoyed the amazing and fun night.



Dates for your Diary:

Monday 3rd December:

Christmas Family Night Picnic & Concert (Backup 10th Dec)

Monday 9th December:

Writing Celebration: 3pm

Friday 20th December:

Last Day Term 4 1:30pm Dismissal

Monday 27th January, 2025

Public Holiday (Australia Day - Sunday 26th January)

Wednesday 29th January, 2025

Students Resume Grades 1-6

Thursday 30th January, 2025

2025 Preps Commence

Reminders:

Please continue to read your child's reader with them each night and record it in their yellow reading journal. Also keep practising the alphabet letters and corresponding sounds (out of order) and Magic Words as often as possible. Any counting practise at home is a bonus and greatly benefits your child!

We would like to thank every Prep family for their support throughout 2024. We have truly enjoyed being part of your Child's learning and we will treasure all those special memories that we have made in 2024.

Zoe Abbruzzese and Teresa Salvitti

WANDIN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

What's On Grade 1

December 2024

Miss Emma Hoehne and Miss Kiera Rankin

A Community of Learners, Achieving Together

What's On in Grade 2

Literacy

In **Reading**, we have been focusing on understanding what the author has implied by using text evidence and schema. Students have also practised answering a variety of comprehension questions, distinguishing between literal and inferred meanings and providing evidence to support their responses.

In the coming week, we are learning to read fluently out loud, with particular attention to rate, phrasing, expression, and punctuation.

In **Writing**, students have explored crafting poetry, concentrating on using rhyming words and exploring different rhyme patterns. They have also focused on using syllables to create rhythm and flow in their verses.

In the coming weeks, they will begin writing letters to their Grade 3 teachers, focusing on clear structure, personal reflections, and expressing excitement for the year ahead.

Numeracy

Over the past weeks, students have been working hard to interpret different data sets in various contexts, investigate algebra problems by exploring how number sentences can be represented and connected through fact families, and examine the capacity of objects.

In the coming weeks, our focus will shift to investigating how to estimate, measure, and compare the mass of different objects, building a deeper understanding of measurement concepts.



History

Students will investigate the history of Wandin by exploring a significant person or place and uncovering their impact on the local community. They will examine places with cultural or spiritual importance, learning about their historical context and why they remain valued today. Through this, students will develop a deeper appreciation of the heritage and stories that shape Wandin's identity.

Camp Gundiwindi

The Grade 2 Students had an incredible time during their experience at Camp Gundiwindi. They embraced the challenge of outdoor activities, soaring through the air on the flying fox and conquering fears on the giant swing. The ropes course tested their balance and teamwork, while cooking damper provided a hands-on and delicious break. Rain or shine, the camp was filled with laughter, adventure, and unforgettable memories.

Christmas Concert

Tuesday the 10th of December

Important Dates

Last Day of School

Friday the 20th of December

Grade 2 Camp-

Monday the 25th of November

Carly Bell and Tim Langley

Welcome to Edition 7, 2024

Welcome to the last edition of What's On in 3/4 for 2024. We couldn't be prouder of all the students. While the students are more than ready to move onto Grade 4 and Grade 5, we are looking forward to celebrating 2024 with them in their last few weeks. Our annual Christmas Concert, meeting with our new grades and class parties to finish the year are just a few of the thing things we have planned. Here's

Literacy

This month we have a new mentor text, *Mulga Bill's Bicycle* originally written by A.B Paterson. Students have used this text to analyse vocabulary focusing on figurative language, improve fluency and also summarising.

In Writing, we are finishing our Poetry unit by publishing poems. Our final unit is writing letters, with he students writing letters to their new teacher.

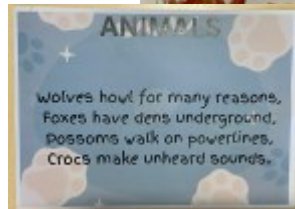
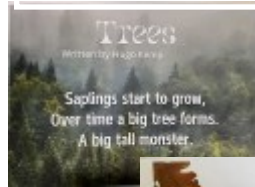
Numeracy

November has been very busy with students applying their understanding of all our different Numeracy topics in completing Essential Assessments. We have covered Algebra, focusing on Balance Equations and Units of Measurement (Perimeter, Area, Mass and Capacity). The students enjoyed using scaled instruments to measure and compare items.

Integrated Studies

The students have been learning about different explorers and their impact on modern life and also the impact they had on First Nations people. Students have created timelines and even used compasses. Students are currently researching a chosen explorer to present in an interview stye format.

Please read some of our published poems.



Investigating Capacity



Dates Coming Up

TERM 4

Friday 29th November– Free Dress for Guide Dogs Australia– Animal Theme

December

Tuesday 10th December– WNPS Christmas Family Night & Concert (*back up date Tuesday 10th December*)

Tuesday 10th December– Prep-Grade 6 Transition Day

Class Christmas Parties–

A separate note will be handed out concerning Class Parties and and Kris Kringle.

Friday 20th December-

Last day of Term 4, 1:30pm dismissal

Reminders

- ◆ With the weather warming up, please remind your child to bring their drink bottle filled with water each day.
- ◆ Please regularly check your Compass App to stay up to date with special school announcements.
- ◆ We have now covered all Times Tables. You can choose to practice these at home to improve your child's recall of them.

Emotional Literacy GEM Chat

You may ask your child/ren...



Kirsten Burrows, Georgia DeKoning, Natalie Johnson and Jenny McArdle

Reading

After learning about narrative poetry and exploring storytelling in Paul Kelly's song *From Little Things Big Things Grow*, the Grade 5/6 students have moved on to their new topic: speeches. Analysing and critiquing a variety of speeches, including TED Talks and student samples, has helped students develop the skills needed to create their own effective speeches.



Writing

In writing, students have been working hard on crafting speeches for School Captaincy applications and Grade 6 Graduation. This process has been an enjoyable and reflective experience, allowing them to consider their personal growth and their years at W.N.P.S. As part of this unit, they are also learning about effective presentation skills, focusing on expression, fluency, and positive body language when sharing their speeches.



Inquiry

As part of our Inquiry unit, *We Are All Australian*, we've had some fantastic discussions about Australia's history of migration. These conversations have helped deepen students' understanding of our shared history and the diverse experiences that shape our nation.

Homework

Just a reminder that homework tasks are due each week and include spelling words and a task from the 'Journey to Australia' grid.

Maths

After completing a busy few weeks of end-of-year assessments, the Grade 5/6 students are enjoying the current units on chance and data. They've had plenty of opportunities to collect data through surveys and experiments, organise the information into tables and graphs and identify trends. They are also exploring how data collection can help address issues in the community.



Christmas Concert

All classes have been busy working on their songs and dances. We can't wait to share them with families!

Mr Syme, Mrs Kemp, Miss Woodlock, Mrs Grisold, Mrs Eisele and Lachlan

PREP, GRADE 1 & GRADE 2 have finished their Gymnastics unit and have been enjoying playing Kickball. We have learnt 2 variations of the game continuous and running between bases. Teamwork is essential to have success when playing kickball. Teamwork includes sharing, rotating between positions, encouraging one another positively and having your best go. For the last few weeks of school P-2 will be focusing on Athletics techniques and skills. Learning the fundamental actions, movements and techniques by playing targeted games. If we have time for some comps we will!!

3/4 excelled during our TOUCH RUGBY unit. I was extremely impressed at the pace students learnt this sport's rules, which there are many. Students were able to find their position in this running game, working towards our game play. 5/6 learnt, played and dominated in our CRICKET unit!! Playing a variety of versions of cricket and practicing their bowling, batting and teamwork skills.

MARTIAL ARTS for the 3-6 students was a HIT!! Learning a variety of techniques, combinations and self-defence moves. Students focus, respect and pure determination shown was a pleasure to watch. Our instructors often said that our classes were quick to learn compared to other schools/students their age.

The Martial Arts Foundation taught traditional stances, fitness, respect, blocks, punch, kicks and intense combos. Life lessons and skills, that they will hopefully never have to use. Ask your child/ren to show you and talk to you about what they learnt. STOP, I DON'T LIKE IT!! STOP HELP POLICE and a safe word created with parents, the bug move, swinging door and why self protection is important...BUT what is the first step to take if confronted by a bully or stranger. Self defence is always the last step. Our voice is most powerful weapon.



- 5/6 All Stars Hooptime teams well done representing WNPS at the Regional level.
- 5/6 Summer Sport Day Friday 8th November—all students played hard & had an awesome day!!

- @ HOME !!**
- * TALK ABOUT...being a good sport, playing by the rules and why rules make the game more fun. Going out isn't bad it is the game.
 - * Using positive talk in sport & Phys Ed. Encourage your classmates.
 - * Martial Arts—Discuss & Demonstrate
 - * GET OUTDOORS, BE SUNSMART, GO ON AN ADVENTURE, BIKE RIDE, OR WALK & ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITIES & BEYOND HAVE TO OFFER.
 - * Have a chat...what does it mean to be SUNSMART and are you Sunsmart ready??
 - * Sunsmart.com.au have amazing links, resources & apps to help your family keep up to date this summer

Kristy Kennedy

Winners are Grinners!

As we draw to the end of 2024 we think it is high time that we celebrate our amazing achievements this year. We are now a 3 star Resource Smart School– which means we have been recognised by Sustainability Victoria for our excellent work in the areas of 'Waste' and 'Biodiversity'. Next year we will be focussing on 'Water' and hope to be at 4 stars very soon! As part of this program we won 'Emerging School of the Year' which was amazing and also came with prize money!

As you may have heard at assembly or saw in the newspaper, we just won the 'Coles and Planet Ark Sustainable Schools Competition' for our idea of putting habitat boxes and wildlife rope bridges in our school grounds. The grant was for \$5000!!!!

Our big win for animals

Schools around Australia are applying to support sustainability programs, including a habitat boxes a rain butterfly free planting area and a wheelchair accessible play area.

Wandin North Primary School in the Vana Pangers is one of the winning schools. Teacher Leanne Jarrett said the students were passionate about the environment.



Our Class Pets

We have welcomed 4 'Southern Brown Tree Frog' tadpoles this month in our HEROES room. We successfully have raised 1 to frog stage and have 2 froglets who are developing fast!



HEROES FUN!



Laura Attrill and Kristy Kennedy

WE NEED YOUR 10C CONTAINERS

Find the special bins in the office building! OR DONATE at your local CDS Collection Point

C200010624

ALL MONEY GOES TO HEROES

Wandin North Waste Warriors

Students who bring 2 pieces of rubbish or less in their lunchboxes each day will receive a bonus housepoint!

Things that DON'T count as rubbish...

- Muffin/Patty Pans
- Compostable packaging
- Recyclable packaging (such as foil, yoghurt tubs and paper wrappers)

Our Classroom HEROES Leaders will collect the housepoints during eating time.

Global Studies

As the end of the term approaches, excitement is building in Global Studies! Students have continued learning about celebrations from around the world, exploring traditions and festivals such as Halloween, Melbourne Cup, Thanksgiving, Rio de Janeiro's Carnival and Dia De Los Muertos.

We have been impressed by the students' behaviour and their knowledge of these celebrations. It's been great to see everyone so engaged and respectful of different cultures.

With just a few weeks left before the holiday break, we're looking forward to more fun activities and celebrations to wrap up a wonderful year of learning!

Important Cultural Dates in December

- 7-15th Dec: Hanukkah
- 8th Dec: Bodhi Day
- 25th Dec: Christmas Day
- 25th Dec—1st Jan: Kwanzaa
- 26th Dec: Boxing Day
- 31st Dec: New Years Eve



While learning about the USA and Canadian celebration 'Thanksgiving', the children made Apple Scrolls. In small groups, the students mashed the apples, combined with cinnamon and sugar. They then rolled them and placed them in the air fryer to cook, before taste testing!



The Junior students created their own headdress while learning about Brazil's 'Carnival'; while the Middle and Senior children created a Newspaper report about the event!

Jamie Sansom and Steph Clarke

Indigenous Art—Painting

All students have been busily working on their final pieces for the year. The Preps have been thoroughly enjoying thinking about animal movements and have made their own scratch paper. They will paint a self-portrait to end the year. Grade 1/2 have looked at birds in their environment and begun painting pictures, inspired by Katie Nalgood. Grade 3/4 students have worked incredibly hard on their portraits, inspired by Vincent Namatjira. Grade 5/6 have focused on Claudia Moodonuth's work to make expressions of everyday objects.

Prep - Artists that have inspired us this Term: Naomi Hobson, Betty Muffler and Vincent Namatjira. We have looked at line, colour, pattern, and shape.



Grade 1 & 2 Artists that have inspired us this Term: Bronwyn Bancroft, Betty Muffler and Katie Nalgood. We have focused on texture, pattern and different ways to display art.



Grade 3/4: Artists that have inspired us this Term: Naomi Hobson, Vincent Namatjira and Judy Watson. The students have been working hard to mix colours and create tone and texture in their portraits.



Grade 5/6 Students have been discussing how Aboriginal artists express ideas and meaning through various materials and techniques. In their pieces they have focused on unity, pattern and variety.



Reminders

Art pieces are still on display in our office. Please come and have a look before the end of Term!



Steph Burnage & Melanie Smith



Hello everyone!

Each week there is a nation holiday of a certain food (eg nation cake day etc.). I googled a Calander and each week we are having a treat on different days. The children love it and they get to try new foods.

Week 5: Craft- We had a couple of days off the at start of the week. We made shops/restaurants/houses. Each child got a big box, 6 piece of resin food/plates/utilises/platters/ drinks etc (that Amy bought from home for the children), small boxes, fabric and any other materials they needed. They could make whatever they wanted. The children had a blast making their own mini shops/restaurants/houses. They looked amazing! Amy found these great pieces of bark that fell off the tree outside. We added some glitter and they made pretty flowers.

Week 6: Flowers- We made all different types of flowers. We painted flowers with cardboard rolls, forks etc. We made necklaces out of beads and felt.

Week 7: food- This week, we made different types of fake foods with different materials eg sponge cakes, sponge toast, felt spag bowl etc. The children had a blast. We made and ate a different snack each day; we had jelly and pudding in a cup that looked like watermelon, gingerbread for gingerbread day, guacamole with corn chips etc.

Amy got out some huge card and all the boys made giant planes to fly outside.

Claire started to draw some amazing dragon pictures on the huge card, made some posters for her room.

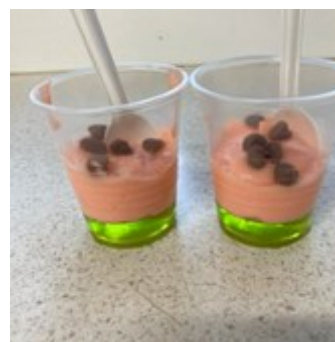
Week 8 (this week): Science- We are making playdough, exploding lunch bags, magic milk, magic balloon, mini volcanoes and our own mad scientists.

Week 9, 10 & 11: Christmas!!- The children will be making awesome Christmas decorations and some beautiful presents for someone special. I can't wait until week 9, we get to start all the Christmas activities and decorate the room.

If anyone has any questions give me a call or come and see me anytime.

VAC bookings are now open. We are open 6th January for 3 weeks.

Amy, BSC & ASC Coordinator



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Have a relaxing holiday!

Details

Pupil Free Days/ Vacation care:

6:30am to 6:00pm

Before School Care:

6:30 - 8:45am

After School Care:

3:30 - 6:00pm

Charity Project- Box Hill Hospital

We would appreciate donations of (brand new):

Colouring books

Pencils

Textas

Story books

Crayons

Note books (small)

Paper bags with handles

Brand new small soft toys

Any donations would be very grateful!

