



# Walpole Primary School Newsletter

## Nature Culture Future

*important  
dates*

February 27 – School Board meeting

February 28 – P&C meeting

February 29 – URWalpole meeting

March 4 – Labour Day Long Weekend

March 8 – Assembly Room 4

March 22 – Assembly Room 2



## STEM IN ACTION





## ENGINEERING/STEM IS WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT THIS TERM IN D AND T

Who says math has to be taught using pencils, paper and books? Learning about measurement is integral to the building and constructing of projects by all students this term, and the application of applied mathematics embeds the importance of math in our everyday lives. It also helps answer the age-old mathematics question - "why do we need to know this stuff"?

Pre-primary students are using rods to understand number value. They are using a ruler to measure the rods and then create mazes from various materials that they have measured and cut to size. They are then learning how to place the measured elements to form their mazes.

The structure of towers is being examined by the year one, two, threes. Students have been looking at how towers use engineered modules for strength and stability. They are making their own modules to construct strong, tall towers.

Year four, five, Sixes have been researching bridges and bridge construction to gain an understanding of how bracing can enhance the strength of materials. They have been taking materials that are in and of themselves relatively weak, then using a variety of techniques to strengthen them.



## From the Principal

*by Stuart Klose*

The Noongar Season 'Bunuru' is represented by the colour orange and is the hottest time of the year. Bunuru is the hottest time of the year with little to no rain. Hot easterly winds continue with a cooling sea breeze most afternoons – if you're close to the coast.

Traditionally this was, and still is, a great time for living and fishing by the coast, rivers and estuaries. Because of this, freshwater foods and seafood made up major parts of the Noongar people's diet during Bunuru.

Bunuru is also a time of the white flowers with lots of white flowering gums in full bloom, including jarrah, marri and ghost gums.

Kaya and welcome to our first newsletter for the year.

We have had an excellent start to the 2024 school year. It is always a great pleasure to walk around our school and see contented students happily engaged in learning. We extend a warm welcome to the new families who have joined our school community this year.

I would like to congratulate all our students for demonstrating resilience in launching into the new school year. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the effort of our Year 6 students to live up to our goal of creating a cohort of student leaders. It has been fantastic to see our Year 6 students stepping up as a role models and taking on new responsibilities.

I would like to welcome Mrs Annette Burrow to our school. Annette has very quickly settled into Room 1 as our permanent KP Teacher. It has been great to see all the hands on, play based learning that is happening and our students have settled in very quickly. If you haven't yet met Mrs Burrow, please feel free to drop in and introduce yourself.



## From the Principal

by Stuart Klose

### School Development Days for 2024

Please save the dates for our School Development Days for 2024. These are the days which we devote to professional learning for staff so students do not attend on the following dates:

- Friday 26 April (ANZAC Day Thursday 25 April)
- Monday 15 July (First Day Term 3 will be Tuesday 16 July)
- Monday 11 November
- Friday 13 December (Last Day of Term 4)

### Pre-emptive School Closure

Thank you to our parents and carers for their support and understanding with our pre-emptive school closure on Tuesday 20 February. It turns out that the actual conditions exceeded that of the forecast and was a very uncomfortable day. Please inform the office if you weren't directly informed of the school closure so that we can update your best contact details.

Each year we have multiple whole school evacuation drills so our students are well rehearsed and prepared in the event we should ever need to evacuate. The below is a summary of this procedure:

- Based on advice from DFES and/or Emergency Services students are evacuated
- The signal to do so is a continuous school emergency siren (airhorn)
- Staff assist students to evacuate in an orderly and calm manner to Room 7 where they are accounted for – this is the building identified by DFES as the safest in the event of a bushfire.
- Designated staff ensure no students, staff or visitors have been missed in any locations around the school.

In the event of a real fire:

- Parents receive emergency text message alert via our new "Message You" service and notification on Dojo to inform you of student's relocation. Please keep in mind that we ask that parents not collect students until instructed it is safe to do so.
- At all times the school's actions will be guided by the DFES Incident Controller and Emergency Services. They determine when it is safe to return to classes and notify families that it is safe to collect student.



## From the Principal

*by Stuart Klose*

### Swimming Lessons 2024

This year we were blessed with four out of five perfect days for swimming lessons. Our students demonstrated wonderful levels of resilience in attempting to pass one or maybe even two swimming stages. Unfortunately, the bus let us down on the final day of lessons and we had to call in a replacement to return our first group to school. This resulted in the second group not making it to their final lesson. We will finalise costing of the lessons over the next week. This will result in a credit to your account or refund if you have already paid.

### Everyday Counts

Congratulations and thank you as our attendance is currently sitting at 93%, what a great start to the year.

We know that every day of school attendance does make a difference to a child. We would be grateful if you could let us know why your child is absent by contacting the office on 6871 0200.

### NAPLAN – National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy

This year, NAPLAN is being conducted in a 9-day testing window from Wednesday 13 March to Monday 25 March.

NAPLAN is the Australia-wide National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy. All our students in Year 3 and 5 are expected to participate in tests for Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy. NAPLAN provides a snapshot of your child's level of achievement at this point in time, but it is only one component in a range of assessments which inform us about your child's needs.

If Year 3 or 5 families have any questions or you are concerned about your child's participation in NAPLAN, please contact their class teacher or myself, NAPLAN Co-ordinator.

Thank you for your support in enabling our great school to get off to a positive start in 2024.





Welcome to the new school year! The Walpole Primary School P&C is kicking it off with our AGM on Wednesday 28th February from 5pm, at the school staff room. We would love to invite new members to join us, meet our group and see what we are all about.

We also have two positions available: Vice President and Secretary. the outgoing VP and Secretary intend to remain on the P&C as general committee members and will provide ongoing support to the new position holders. Please touch base if you would like to nominate.

The main goals we are working towards in 2024 include upgrades to the school playground and supporting excursions, incursions, camps and other school events that benefit our students.

The P&C meets one to two times per term, with as little or as much time as you can spare for our fundraising activities. If you are curious and would like more information, please feel free to contact the school or any of our friendly members. For those that aren't aware, there is also a Walpole Primary School P&C Association Facebook page where we post details of upcoming meetings and fundraisers. We look forward to seeing some new faces!





## CONTRIBUTIONS 2024

Contributions have been set at \$60.00 per child for 2024. Payment of these enables the school to support your child's education by providing materials, services and facilities such as:

- cooking ingredients
- materials for arts and crafts, design and technology, and science activities
- class sets of resources
- access to educational software systems such as Mathletics.

This equates to \$1.50 per week or \$15.00 per term. The school is very happy to support families wishing to set up a payment plan, please contact the office and organise to meet with the Manager Corporate Services.



## BUS NOTIFICATION

To assist the smooth departure of the school buses, **could you please contact the office before 2pm** if there is to be a change in plans for children getting home. Please only contact the office by phone, text or email. If your child is on the bus and you pick them up, please sign your child out through the office before leaving.



## FEELING UNWELL

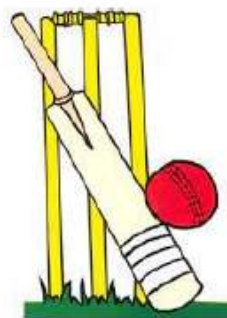
Families are reminded that if your child is unwell with cold or flu like symptoms that they stay home until their symptoms resolve.





# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## Walpole CRC -Term 1 Sports Activities **CRICKET**



Where: Walpole Oval  
When: Wednesday 28th Feb  
Wednesday 6th March  
Wednesday 13th March  
Wednesday 20th March

Time: 3:15pm to 4:15pm  
Age: 5 years and up

Please note: Children under 6 need adult supervision. Only children participating in the activities will be supervised.

Come on down for a game of cricket, learn some skills  
and have some fun.

**Free - All Welcome!**

Proudly supported by



Walpole  
Community Resource Centre





# *Thank You*

MASSIVE THANK YOU TO WALPOLE WEIGHT WATCHERS FOR THEIR GENEROUS  
DONATION AND ONGOING SUPPORT OF WALPOLE PRIMARY SCHOOL.





*email your  
newsletter  
items to:*

walpole.ps@education.wa.edu.au or dropped off at  
the office by 3pm Monday of newsletter week.  
Newsletters this term will be made available from  
our website on Friday of Week 3, 7 and 10.



08 6871 0200

1 Swan Street Walpole WA 6398

walpoleps.wa.edu.au

walpole.ps@education.wa.edu.au