



Wales Street Primary School Newsletter

Date: 10 December 2020

Term 4, Number 3

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Events

Friday 11 December 2020

Grade 3 & 4 Sport Day
Foundation Luke the Magician Inc

Tuesday 15 December 2020

Grade 6 Graduation

Wednesday 16 December, 2020

Students meet their 2021 Teacher

Thursday 17 December, 2020

Final assembly @ 3pm

Friday 18 December, 2020

Curriculum Day (Pupil Free)

The yard is supervised before school from 8.45am and after school until 3.45pm. Students must not be dropped off and left alone before 8:45am. Any student in the yard unsupervised before 8.45am will need to go to our school aged care program.

An important reminder that any change of address or contact phone numbers needs to be updated with the office. This includes work numbers and emergency contacts. It is very important that the school is able to contact families in the event of an accident or illness.

Recess: 10.40am–11.10am Lunch eating time: 12.50pm–1.00pm Lunchtime: 1.00pm – 1.50pm School Finish: 3.30pm

From the principal.....

2020 class structures

We are fast approaching the end of the term and with the year we have had, there is a lot to do in preparation for a new year. The building works are continuing to be on schedule and we are preparing for the decanting of grade areas in readiness for the start of next year. There has been some movement in enrolment due to the impact of the pandemic and we have been working to confirm our class sizes and staffing over the past few weeks.

Our class structure for 2021 will be 26 classes:

- Foundation A, B, C D
- Grade 1 A, B, C, D, E
- Grade 2 A, B, C, D
- Grade 3 A, B, C
- Grade 4 A, B, C, D
- Grade 5 A, B, C
- Grade 6 A, B, C

We are finalising grade placements and staffing this week in preparation of our **Meet the Teacher day on Wednesday 16th of December**. All students will transition to their new grade and meet their 2021 teacher. Some grades will not be able to visit the physical space that they will be in due to the building works but will be told where they will need to be for next year by their new teacher.

Final Assembly

With the current easing of restrictions, we are now able to host an outdoor event to celebrate the end of the year. We will hold our traditional last assembly on the oval on **Thursday 17th December** at 3pm with all classes attending.

We ask that only **one** parent per family to limit the numbers on the oval and so we can maintain social distancing with the exception of the grade 6 parents who can both attend if they wish. The grade 6 students will have the opportunity to perform their graduation dance for the school and say their final farewell. We will be dismissing the students at **3.30pm** from the oval for the last time for 2020, capping off an extraordinary year!

Class formation

Due to the extended lockdown this year, we prioritised keeping the younger students in Foundation and Grade 1 together as class groupings for 2021 as they move to grade 1 and 2 because they are establishing friendships and to minimise disruption to their social groupings.



Contact Us

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PYP Learner Profile Attributes

- Open Minded
- Principled
- Reflective
- Courageous
- Thinker
- Caring
- Communication
- Inquirer
- Knowledgeable
- Well Balanced

PYP Attitudes

- Appreciation
- Enthusiasm
- Cooperation

The older students in grade 2-5 have been given a chance to nominate their friendship preferences so that we can reorganise the classes for next year and social connections are considered. We ensure that all students have one of the friends on their list so that they have a friend going with them to their new class while allowing them the opportunity to expand their friendship groups. To achieve a balance in the 2021 grade 3-6 classes we have considered class numbers, behaviour, gender balance, academics and social connections to form new classes for the next year. As we say every year, it is always important to have a friend connection as well as meeting and working with different children to build resilience and confidence.

Specialist programs for 2021

For 2021 we will continue the same allotment of specialist programs. Grade 1-6 class will have one semester of Italian and one semester of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) as well as one session weekly of ART and PE. All classes will have one Performing Arts lesson per fortnight. Over the course of 2021, our students will be able to experience five specialist areas taught by teachers who will support the classroom PYP units of Inquiry through their speciality. Foundation students will be taught Italian for the whole year and their STEAM learning will be integrated into their Discovery time with their class teacher.

Tutor initiative

As promised by the state budget, all government schools have received funding for 2021 to employ tutors to support any students who have been impacted by this year's pandemic and have not made the expected growth. There will be a flyer from the DET sent to all families in Compass with more information about this program. It is limited funding for 2021 only. We are in the process of organising the employment of staff and development of a teaching program to deliver an effective program to support students who have been identified as needing this extra support. Parents will be notified next year if their child is to be a part of this program.

Special thanks

A big thank you to our Wales Street Social group, Fete committee and parent volunteers who have been working away to find new and innovative ways to navigate through a severe lockdown to still support the school and fundraise as much as possible. We managed a Zoom Trivia night, the Mango drive, the silent auction, jam sales and mask sales, a wine auction (still going) and online second hand uniform shop this year which was an amazing effort.

Our school council has also had a big year, meeting online since March and working through the building project, Nature Play, COVID 19 issues and appointment of a new principal.

I would like to thank our parent representatives who worked on school council this year:

- Royce Monk, Nick Crowhurst, Heather McDonald, Michael Greenwood, Kellie Marks, Fiona Clarke, Kylie Price, Tim Sheedy, Matt Courtney and Richard McElhinney

And our staff representatives:

- Anna DeVos, Louise Scally, Luisa Kalenjuk, Pina Tarquinio and Robyn Owens

- Creativity
- Confidence
- Commitment
- Curiosity
- Integrity
- Empathy
- Tolerance
- Independence
- Respect

Staffing changes

We will be saying goodbye to four of our long standing staff members who will be taking different pathways for 2021.

- **Anne Graham** will be retiring at the end of this year. Anne has been working at WSPS for the past 18 years teaching all grade levels and being involved in many aspects of student voice such as overseeing many China trips, Junior School Council and expedition groups.
- **David Altis** will be taking a year of long service leave and we wish him a safe and productive year ahead. David has a long service history at our school, being a teacher here for over 30 years and he has a great knowledge of the school's history along with some fascinating ghost stories! David intends to retire in early 2022.
- **Seraphim Kyprianou** has been at WSPS for over 6 years teaching predominantly in the grade 4-6 area and has accepted a new promotional position as a Learning Specialist at Macedon PS. This is an exciting opportunity for Seraphim to share his Mathematic expertise and we wish him all the best for the future.
- **Rebekah Richardson** has been a teacher at WSPS for nearly 11 years and has taught all areas of the school. Rebekah has decided to develop a new business using her psychology degree to create a social skills program and has also accepted a new role as Wellbeing officer part time at Reservoir West PS. Rebekah has been a great contributor to the school, serving as a team leader for many years and sharing her passion for social emotional learning across the school.

We wish them well in their new endeavours and thank them for their contribution to our school community. They will be missed.

We are looking forward to welcoming our 3 new staff members to wales Street PS;

- **Michelle Turner**- who has worked in Sue's class during her absence this year and a regular relief teacher at WSPS
- **Raphael Richards**- who has been a regular CRT at the school this year
- **Georgia Prince**- a new staff member to Wales Street

Our teacher assignments for the grade structure for 2021 will be emailed next week. Semester reports will be released on Compass on Monday 14th December.

Three way conferences

Our three way conferences held online were a great opportunity for students to share with their teachers and parents their learning for this year and discuss their progress during remote learning and back at school this term. After the year we have had, it was important to acknowledge the hard work that everyone has done to support the children's learning program this year. The online format for future interviews and conferences will be considered next year as it enabled many working parents to be present without a longer time commitment that is associated with onsite meetings. We will discuss this further next year.

Jenny Deeble
Principal

WSPS Principal Appointment

I am pleased to announce that Jennifer Deeble has been formally appointed as the Principal of Wales Street Primary School (WSPS). Jenny has been at WSPS for over 10 years spending most of that time as Assistant Principal. She has played a leading role in implementing the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program.

For the past 18 months Jenny has held the position of Acting Principal and during that time, she has:

- Successfully lead the school through the COVID19 pandemic with a transition to remote learning and back to onsite schooling.
- Built a team of Learning Specialists and Leading Teachers to deliver the goals of the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) including the Primary Mathematics and Science Strategy and the workshop model for Literacy.
- Managed the \$4.1m capital works program to commencement of works.
- Guided the school funded Outdoor Classroom and Nature Play project to appointment of the builder.

Please join me in congratulating Jenny on her appointment and wishing her well with the next phase of Wales Street's journey to becoming an even higher performing inquiry learning school.

Royce Monk
WSPS School Council President



**Authentic, Fun + Interactive
wellbeing workshops for girls**

Girls develop confidence,
self-esteem, self-awareness and
resilience
through movement, music, vibrant
discussion,
active games with props, role play
and art/craft.

TUE 19th JAN | SHINE | BRUNSWICK EAST
WED 20th JAN | SHINE | BRUNSWICK EAST
Visit Eventbrite or Instagram for times and further details

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/shine-powerful-kids-present-a-girl-power-workshop-tickets-130548619435>

BOOK NOW!

Rebekah Richardson
<https://www.facebook.com/powerfulkidsworkshops>
Instagram @powerfulkids_workshop





WALES STREET SOCIAL PRESENTS

A VERY MERRY WINE AUCTION

8-16 DECEMBER 2020



www.32auctions.com/WalesStWine