# VERRINGTON COUNT Y PUBLIC SCHOOL

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THOUGH PERSEVERNICE

John Batman Ave, Werrington County 2747 Phone: 9673 2711 Fax: 9623 1337

TERM 1 WEEK 6

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

At a glance......



Calendar

#### Term 1

Week 8 17.3.20 P & C meeting 7pm 19.3.20 Harmony Day

Week 10 3.4.20 Penrith Cup

Week 11 8.4.20 ANZAC – S3 Paceway 9.4.20 Last day of Term 1 10.4.20 GOOD FRIDAY

#### **Lost Property**

Jackets and prescription glasses

Please enquire at the office

All our students have settled into the new year very well and are producing quality work. Again this year, our teachers have continued to provide many extra-curricular opportunities such as dance groups, choir and sporting events. Over the last 2 weeks the students have been involved in auditions for many of these initiatives. Information will be sent home about student's commitments to these activities.

Congratulations to our star swimmers who attended the District carnival last week. You were all amazing!! Special congratulations to our stars who have made it to the Sydney West Carnival next week.

Thank you for everyone's understanding and support over the last couple of weeks. We have experienced a few unpleasant incidences, including our slithering visitors. We called in the experts who were able to guide us when making decisions about the safety and wellbeing of our community. We also have had the misfortune of having a break-in. We lost a number of our laptops last Monday morning. If you see anything that concerns you or looks suspicious after hours please contact School Security on 1300 363 778.

#### **Best Start**

Reports for the Kindergarten Best Start assessment which took place with your child before they started school will be sent home with your child shortly. This gives information to you and the teacher about their skills in many areas. It also gives you a variety of activities you can do at home that are addressed to their needs.

If you have any concerns in regards with these reports do not hesitate to contact your class teacher.

#### Student Safety

If your child rides their bike or scooter, regardless of age, to and from school each day they need to have a correctly fitted helmet. This is part of our child protection and safety policies. If your child has been reminded about their helmet, the next time they do not have it they will not be allowed to ride home.

There have also been a number of concerned parents and neighbours contacting us about the school pedestrian crossing. Please ensure your child is supervised around this area.

#### **Back Gate**

Due to our increased enrolments and the congestion this creates with parking at the front of the school we will be opening the back gate. These will be restricted to drop off and pick up times. Access will be via the truckpit gate.

Morning - the gate will be **opened at 8.30am and closed at 9.10am.** Afternoon - the gate will be **opened at 2.50pm and closed at 3.10.** 

These times will be strictly adhered to as we need staff to open and close the gates as well as monitor the students to ensure their safety.

#### P and C

We recently had our first P and C meeting for the year. We have the majority of our executive positions filled. The Treasurer position remains unfilled.

We had a large attendance at our meeting and have arranged a lot of exciting events for our school community throughout the year. Supper was also provided – yum. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March starting at 6.30pm.** All are welcome.

#### **Photos and Privacy Agreements**

Due to child protection laws and considerations we ask all parents to be very mindful when taking photos of other children in our school grounds and putting these onto social media sites and the internet. Some parents do not want photos of their children or themselves placed on these sites for many and varied reasons. As a school we have to seek your permission to have your child's photos, names and work published in our newsletter, on our school website and other forms of the media. If you do take a really great photo of 'our kids in action' we can check our files and we may be able to use in our website or in our newsletter.

#### **School Contributions**

This year we are asking for a fee of \$50 per child with a limit of \$100 per family.

This payment assists the school in covering the cost of updating our equipment including technology, reading material and paper, sporting and maths equipment. Please assist us in providing the extras for your child through paying this fee as soon as possible.

#### Our school website

Please check out our school website at: www.werringcty-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

We will be continually updating the calendar which includes information for upcoming events but also contains permission notes that can be downloaded. In the coming weeks we will be adding photos and information on important events.

#### **School Times**

It is essential to your child's education that he /she attend school on time every day.

#### School begins at 9.00a.m.

Many children arrive late and then have to line up to have their arrival time noted by our office staff – this is a departmental requirement. Unfortunately these are the same children time and time again. Please make that extra effort to have your child at school on time so they are not missing out on valuable lesson time.

#### There is no teacher supervision before 8.30am

#### **Contact Details**

If the contact details we have at school need updating can you do this ASAP. These include phone numbers, address and most importantly the emergency contact details. It is school policy that only the people named on your child's contact card are allowed to pick them up early or they will be the one contacted in case your child is sick or injured.

If you have court papers or AVO's we need a copy of these to be able to enforce them. These also need to be updated when applicable.

#### SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY

# DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH THE SCHOOL CAR PARK

This is a dangerous area for our students. We currently have our students and their parents and toddlers having to access this in the morning and afternoon. Our staff have been patrolling this area and have been abused by drivers. **IT IS NOT OK.** Our students and community safety is paramount.



### Safety tips for drivers using a Drop-off and Pick-up zones (Kiss and Drop)

- •Always drop off or pick up your child from the designated zone and follow the school's procedures.
- •Drivers should remain in their vehicles at all times in the Drop-off and Pick-up zone.
- •Make sure children use the Safety Door (the rear footpath side door) to get in and out of the car.
- •Make sure the handbrake is applied when the vehicle is stationery.
- Always park legally.
- •Avoid dangerous manoeuvers such as U-turns and three-point turns.

#### Enrolments 2020, 2021 and beyond

Great news for our Jordan Springs families!

As you are aware Jordan Springs PS will be opening in Term 3 this year. Many of our families who live in Jordan Springs have been asking what this means for them in regards to enrolment at our great school. The great news is that the Department of Education has informed us that as you enrolled at Werrington County PS as local enrolments you will retain that status meaning that you can choose to continue on with your enrolment at Werrington County PS and any future siblings will also be able to enrol at Werrington County PS in the future. You will also be able to enrol at Jordan Springs PS if you choose. We are delighted to be able to let you know this and take away the anxiety and confusion that many of you have been feeling. We look forward to a long and continuing association with our children and families who are a part of our Werrington County PS community.

Tracie Duclos Principal

#### Library

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Should you wish to order books through the Book Club, please help us to help you by doing the following:



- 1. Return the completed order with the exact amount of money by **FRIDAY 20th March.** Money should be in a sealed envelope. As teachers do not open the envelopes, **no change can be given**.
- Take care! Coins easily fall out of some envelopes, so check before sending to school.
- 3. CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO SCHOLASTIC AUSTRALIA
- 4. Write your child's name and class on the envelope and return it to the office.
- 5. If you wish to collect the order from the office, please indicate that clearly on the order form. You will be contacted once the order is ready for collection.
- 6. <u>Please note that all orders are not processed until the closing date.</u> Orders then take approx 5 -10 working days to arrive back at school.

We also have another way of paying for Book Club. See below for an explanation.

Mrs Baxter Teacher Librarian



## LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, LOOP makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our iPhone and iPad app from the App Store or get it on Google Play for Android.

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child's class
- Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club catalogues
- · You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date
- There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!

For a quick how-to-order video, log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP and click on HELP in the top menu.





# **Garden and Recycling**



We are continuing our gardening and recycling programs this year. If you would like to assist us with gardening you are welcome to join us Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes. Please enquire at the office. Garden produce and eggs will be for sale most Wednesday afternoons after assembly. These funds are utilised for continuing to fund our sustainable projects.

Our can and bottle bin is close to full and we would love to see if we can have it filled by the end of term. If you would like to donate your cans and bottles from home we would gratefully accept your donations. Our collection efforts will have raised \$1000 when the bin reaches its full capacity.

With thanks Mrs Beeby



## The 2020 PRC is off and running! Congratulations to the following student:

10 book merit certificate (K-2) James Kilbourne

Your certificate will be presented at the next K-2 assembly.

### It's not too late!

We currently have over 60 K-2 students participating in the PRC at home. If you would like your child to participate in the PRC at home please fill out, sign & return the note below.

The permission note below is for students K-2	who are completing the Reading (	· ·
To Mrs Baxter		
The following students (K-2) wish to undertake	the Premier's Reading Challenge	at home:
	(name)	(class)
	(name)	(class)
I understand that it is a condition of entry that s Challenge will receive a PRC Certificate.	students who enter and successful	lly complete the
Signed	(Parent/Guardian)	



# Can I include books from home and/or the ones that I may borrow from the local library?

Of course! Simply use the search box on the PRC website to locate the ID number and record them on your child's PRC card.

#### I have some books at home that might be on the PRC list. How do I find out?

The official PRC booklists can be found at: <a href="https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html">https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html</a> or you can use the search box that can be found on the top right hand side of the PRC Homepage.

# My child is in Years3-6 and does not bring their PRC card home. Where do they record books read at home and/or from the local library?

Students are now able to record books read from home or from the local library directly onto their online PRC personal reading record. Just keep a record of what they have read as I will be teaching students how to do this from the beginning of term 2.

#### Can my child read more than 1 book from a series?

For an approved PRC series, students can read **any three titles** which will count as official PRC books in their reading records. **Other titles** read from the **same series** will show as Personal Choice books. The limit on series books encourages students to read a variety of genres and authors, rather than reading books from a few series or by the same author.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to come and ask! I am more than happy to help.

Mrs Baxter Teacher Librarian



As part of our campaign against fare evasion, and our on-going commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from your school, Busways conducts regular checks of School Opal card.

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a

Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding our buses.

This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service we are able to provide to your school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear under utilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go online to <a href="www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/">www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/</a>

Students who are ineligible for School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on our buses.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

