



WAGIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Providing an empowering environment for life-long learning



Newsletter, 13 March 2019

The term continues to very busy as we roll through the midway point. It was delightful to see so many of the students and you at Woolorama on Saturday. Thankfully the rain eased a bit on the Saturday so everyone could enjoy all the activities. The whole event is a credit to the local community. I could see the incredible amount of work that had been put in by the organisers and, of course, local community members came out in force in support.

Change in Assembly Day and Time

The school is putting in place a change in assembly day and time so that they can be organised with minimal class disruption and also take advantage of cooler mornings and fresher students.

Our next assembly will therefore be on Friday, 22 March commencing at 9:00 am and will be conducted by Mrs Little's Pre-Primary class. Parents are certainly welcome. We look forward to seeing you here.

Staffing Information

I can confirm that Steve Quartermaine will be commencing at the school on Thursday, 21 March as the Acting Secondary Deputy. He will remain in the position until, at least, the end of the term.

My understanding is that other matters related to the staffing of the administration of the school are currently being worked through. The end date of my tenure at the school still remains undetermined. Please be assured that I will continue to work hard to ensure that the school is a safe and harmonious learning environment.

While there is a lot of work to do there are many things that I enjoy about the school, the community, staff, parents and, of course, the students.

School Council Meeting

The first School Council meeting for the year will be conducted in the library at **5:30pm on Thursday, 14 March**. The School Council is made up of staff and parent representatives and the principal who discuss and develop school directions. We also approve any changes to school policy, strategic planning and the annual school budget. An effective School Council works well together and benefits the school greatly.

Our current School Council chair is Anita Longmuir. We have met to discuss the agenda which includes the structure of the school day.

Structure of the School Day

The proposal to change the structure of the school day included these times:

8:50 am	Instruction session 1 commences
10:40am	Recess
11:00 am	Instruction session 2 commences
12:40 pm	Lunch
1:20 pm	Instruction session 3 commences
3:00 pm	End of school day

This structure has been slightly changed from the one I put out earlier but the most important point is that the commencement and closure of the school day remains at 8:50am and 3:00pm respectively.

I have had nothing but positive feedback about the proposal from staff and parents who have seen or emailed me. Feedback is still welcome. I thank those who have taken the time to communicate their thoughts to me.

Mobile Phones at School

The students have been permitted to have their mobile phones in their bags and with them during recess and lunch time (but not instruction time). I can see that this has its own problems as we have had a few phones damaged and their owners get upset and frustrated. I believe it would be best if phones were not brought to school. I leave this in your capable hands.

"Good" Safe Play

We have developed processes to help students play in a safe and friendly manner. This includes ensuring that they:

1. Play in the appropriate areas.
2. Are supervised closely.
3. Are assisted to play fairly with other students.
4. Resolve disputes without aggression.
5. Use equipment properly and safely.

6. Walk in areas that are high traffic.
7. Do not shout out unnecessarily, scream and squeal (hearing these makes supervisors think someone may be seriously hurt).

Many of our students play really well and are willing to play with their peers. It's always lovely to see this. On occasions we have students who do need support to behave and we work with these students on a needs basis.

I do have one concern that I need full parent support with and that is the requirement for students to follow a staff member's instructions in a timely manner without backchat, belligerence and argument. We have too many students who think that a staff member's instruction, particularly in the playground, doesn't need to be followed. Please let your child know that you expect them to follow instructions when required. That would be appreciated. Thank you.

Ideas for School Ground Improvement

Have you got some ideas about how you would like the school grounds to be improved or developed? I would love to hear from you. It would be great to have a range of possibilities that we could put in place to improve certain areas. I do love the work that has been undertaken in the Cluster playground. It's fantastic. So now, what's next? Your idea might just be worth following up.

Conclusion

I continue to meet many of you and have been impressed with the friendly supportive approach. Thank you for being so welcoming. Remember, you are always welcome to come in and discuss your child, your ideas to enhance the school and to make personal connection. Have a great weekend coming up.

Regards
Brian Lee
Principal

Brian.Lee@education.wa.edu.au



Movie Night

We are having a movie night on **Thursday, 28 March 2019**. Price will be \$8 which includes movie ticket, popcorn and lollybag. There will also be a sausage sizzle for \$2 with additional drinks and lollies available for purchase. All proceeds to Leadership Camp. Stay tuned for movie title.



New Assembly Time

Our next Whole School Assembly will be showcasing our amazing Pre-Primary class and is scheduled for **Friday, 22 March**. Please note it will be conducted in the morning immediately after students go to class at **9am**. Please contact the school if you have any questions.



Interschool Swimming Carnival

Wagin will be taking a team to the Interschool Swimming Carnival in Lake Grace on **Friday, 22 March 2019**. Participants are reminded that the bus will be leaving WDHS at **8.00am** sharp and will be returning by 3.15pm.



Secondary Assistance Scheme

Is your child in Year 7-12? Do you hold a Centrelink Family Healthcare card, Centrelink Pensioner Card or a Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Card? You may be eligible for up to **\$350** towards school expenses. **Applications close Friday, 12 April 2019**. More information is available from the front office.

Event Quick View

Thu 14th March
[School Council Meeting](#)

Fri 22nd March
[Interschool Swimming Carnival](#)

Fri 22nd March

Whole School Assembly
Thu 28th March Hawaiian Bike Riders
Mon 8th April Whole School Assembly
Fri 12th April Last day of Term 1
Sat 13th April to Sun 28th April School Holidays

[Click here to go to our Events Calendar](#)