Mathematics

Once again this year Numeracy is an area for whole school focus with students in each year level expected to achieve a year level standard. For mathematics to make sense to children, they need to know when mathematics might help, be able to choose the appropriate mathematics and to complete mathematical tasks. Once again, this year we are implementing the comprehensive Prime Mathematics Program. This program provides children with the explicit instruction of mathematical concepts through the use of concrete materials initially, followed by pictorial representations, and then finally the abstract formation of each concept. Additionally, to encourage further mathematical thinking, we are introducing Numero across Year 3 – 6 classes and a special Parent Workshop will be conducted in this program on Tuesday 22 March at 5.30pm.

Wattle Grove Acknowledgements

There are many programs, events, learning experiences and activities which occur in and around our school each and every day. All of which are carried out by people – students, staff, and parents. We are all very proud of our school but, as is often the case in this fast pace of life, we can tend to overlook acknowledging the wonderful things that make our school the special place that it is. Therefore we would like to provide everyone with a means and an opportunity by which a little written acknowledgement can be made about something or someone in the school which you find positive – whether small or large – it’s your acknowledgement. The Acknowledgement Slips can be placed in a designated box outside the Admin. They will then be collated and passed on to the relevant person.

Professional Learning

A considerable amount of professional learning is undertaken by all staff members throughout each term. This includes Professional Learning after school, during school, on weekends, and during school holidays. This is an acknowledgement of the commitment of all levels of staff at our school who constantly strive to improve the quality of their practice. Some of the professional learning undertaken by staff this term has included: Western Australian Curriculum – Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) which will be reported on in 2017, VCOP Program (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation), Science-Inquiry Learning, Collaborative Learning, English as an Additional Language/Dialect, Kagan Cooperative learning, John Fleming Explicit Instruction and NAPLAN Writing.

Pre Primary On Entry Assessment

This term Pre Primary teachers have been assessing the children in Pre Primary as to the development of their Literacy and Numeracy skills using the Department of Education's On Entry Assessment. This assessment is conducted by all schools in Weeks 4-6 of Term 1 each year to provide detailed data on children's development of early literacy and numeracy skills. Teachers assessed students’ skills in language, reading, writing, counting and numbers. This information will help teachers plan lessons and tailor learning for each child to extend children who perform well and support those who may need more assistance in some learning areas. A Report will be distributed to parents at the end of the term.
Deputy Principal Corner:

Classroom News & Blogs

Many classes have opted to share their news digitally in a webpage called a Blog. This is short for Weblog and uses a template to make it easier for those interested to setup and share their news across the worldwide web, so now anyone can share their news about whatever they find of interest.

At school, this means classes can share all the interesting things they are doing in class and to celebrate their successes and achievements, as they go about their learning. Parents and extended family members can go to the class blog through the links on the school blog and read articles, poems and stories the students have written, view photos and video clips of various activities, incursions and excursions.

Rather than a class newsletter, a blog is alive and interactive, as you can enlarge the photos and view the videos, as well as share a comment about what you saw on the blog with them. The interesting things happening in the class can be added to the class blog on a regular basis, as they happen, keeping parents and friends up to date almost on a daily basis.

It is exciting and motivating for the students to be able to share their work and what they are doing at school in this way. The rooms that have setup class blogs so far are;

Room 5, Pre Primary, Miss Baines
Room 11, Year 5/6, Mrs McIlwraith
Room 13, Year 3, Miss Lockyer
Room 14, Year 2, Mrs Peake and Miss Gerace
Room 16, Year 2, Mrs Szczepanik
Room 17, Year 5, Mr Petch
Room 18, Year 2, Mrs Harney
Room 19, Year 3, Miss Dagostino
Room 22, Year 1, Mrs Campbell
Room 23, Year 3/4, Mr Gartrell
Room 24, Year 2/3, Miss Blechydlen
Room 25, Year 2. Miss Mills
Room 26, Year 6. Mr Sherlock and Mr Meachem
Visuals Arts Blog, Miss Randall
Music Blog, Mrs Miell
LOTE Italian Blog, Signora Isaia

There are a few more teachers who are currently in the process of developing their class blogs...

So please go and visit these class news blogs and see what interesting news they have to share and celebrate. You can access them through the school blog at www.wattlegroves1.blogspot.com.au or just Google ‘Wattle Grove Primary School’. If you bookmark the site it is easier to find the page next time you want to see what’s been added.

Classroom Newsletters now published online

To save more time and more trees, class newsletters are now published online on the school website. Just go to the website at www.wattlegroves.wa.edu.au and then ‘News and Events’ and ‘Class Newsletters’, to click on and read the newsletter you want...or to save a copy.

Stuart Meachem
Deputy Principal

Assembly News:

Thank you to Mrs Lowther and the Year 6 students in Room 15 for their assembly last week and their fantastic recital of ‘Said Hanrahan’ by John O’Brien.

Congratulations to the following Merit Certificate winners:

Week 5 Senior Assembly

Year 4/5 Rm 8  Immanuel, Jami, Toby
Year 4 Rm 11  Serpshire, Dylan, Aaryan
Year 5 Rm 12  Ida, Carlo, Jaaí, Riley
Year 3 Rm 13  Steffani, Annabelle, Sava
Year 6 Rm 15  Steven, Sai, Syreeta
Year 5 Rm 17  Jasmine, Jake, Roshini
Year 3 Rm 18  Cody, Georgia, Logan
Year 3 Rm 19  Sophie, Summer, Daniel
Year 4/5/6 Rm 21  Cameron, Ariel, Farhan
Year 2/3 Rm 23  Shajin, Teatawhai, Thomas
Year 3/4 Rm 24  Tara, Yash, Tayla
Year 6 Rm 26  Maddison, Blake, Su
"The Wattle"

School Councillors Semester 1

Maths and Numero in Class

See these photos larger in a slideshow on the school blogsite at — www.wattlegroves1.blogspot.com.au
**School Banking:**

The students’ school banking is available on Tuesday's 8.25 - 8.45am in the undercover area. It is provided by the Commonwealth Bank.

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**Science Award:**

Rm 15  Densil, Namitatulasi

**Values winners:**

Rm 15  Chandrea and Lucy

**Junior Visual Art:**

Rm 23 Year 2/3

**Phys Ed Award:**

Declan Rm 19, Oliver Rm 13, Dwayne Rm 24

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**Harmony Day:**

Harmony Day is celebrated around Australia on 21 March each year. Harmony Day is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it. It's a day where all Australians celebrate our cultural diversity.

This year, our school will celebrate Harmony Day on Wednesday 23 March with a special Parade of the Nations, in the Undercover Area at 9.00 am. We would like to see all children dressed in a national dress costume. Parents are also encouraged to dress in their national dress and attend the Parade. The continuing message for Harmony Day in 2016 is that Everyone Belongs, which means all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their background. It's also about community participation, inclusiveness and respect – celebrating the different cultures that make Australia a great place to live.

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**Easter Tuesday—Pupil Free Day**

Parent are advised that school will be closed on Tuesday, 29 March (following Easter) as this is an approved school holiday. Students do not attend on this day.

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**Early Closure on Tuesdays**

The school closes at 2.30pm each Tuesday to accommodate staff Professional Development. Children do not remain at school after this time and parents are expected to collect their children promptly at 2.30pm.

Limited after school care is provided only for students who need to travel home by bus.

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**School Development Days 2016**

A reminder to parents that the School Development Days for 2016 are:

- Term 2 - Friday, 3 June 2016
- Term 3 - Monday, 18 July 2016
- Term 4 - Friday, 25 November, Friday, 16 December

These days are pupil free days and children do not attend school. Some of these days may also differ from other schools.

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**P&C News:**

**The Uniform Shop** is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8.30am – 9.00am.

**The Canteen** operates on Wednesday and Thursdays. Orders can be placed in the classroom basket before school or online by going to www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au.

Volunteer assistants are always welcome.

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**School Board News:**

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the Wattle Grove School Community to our WGPS Board members for 2016.

- Principal - Julie Roberts
- Chair and Community Member - Joelle Greenway
- Staff Members - Kirsty Campbell, Paul Sherlock
- Parent Body - Kevin Burgoyne, Suzie Forrest, Adam Kew
- P and C representative - Rhia Bradtke

Our School Board consists of parents, staff and community members. The role of the School Board is one of setting the long term future for the school and in providing additional expertise to help the school achieve the best outcome for all of the students.

Mr Kevin Burgoyne and Mrs Rhia Bradtke join the board this year.

The Board are very keen to hear from the school community with nominations for the Term 1 WGPS Board Award of commendation. These awards are presented each term to recognise the service of individual staff members and volunteer parents and/or community members within our school community who help to make WGPS a wonderful school to work and learn in. Nominations for Term 1 Close March 31 2016.

The student councillors are again doing a wonderful job collating the classroom uniform points each week.

As a Board we are pleased to see so many children and parents assisting their children to adhere to our Uniform Policy which promotes a positive image and maintains our wonderful school culture.

WGPS Board will continue to work hard, in collaboration with the staff and community to achieve the best possible outcomes in 2016.

Jo Greenway
Wattle Grove school Chair
Board Member Profiles:

Kevin Burgoyne
I have two children at Wattle Grove Primary. Sophie in year 3 and Tony in year 5. I am both a lawyer and builder/project manager. The majority of the work I do is in contract, family and criminal law. I also look after a few construction projects mainly on the contract side of things. This year, I hope to start a local community legal service providing advice and representation to vulnerable people (mainly youth who get in trouble with the law or, elderly who need estate advice).

As a parent representative on the School Board, I am looking forward to assisting, reviewing, and providing advice in the areas of responsibility that the board has. I love the schools vision of striving to provide quality education for children in a safe and caring learning environment encouraging the achievement of personal best. That vision I will hold close to my heart in all I do on the School Board.

Rhia Bradtke
My name is Rhia Bradtke and I am thrilled to be serving as the P&C representative to the School Board this year. I have 4 daughters of which 3 are currently attending Wattle Grove Primary; Isabella in Year 4, Charlotte in Year 1 and Amelia in Pre-Primary with my youngest Matilda, attending Kindy next year.

We are looking forward to a long and wonderful affiliation with the School. We moved to Wattle Grove during 2014 and I joined the P&C soon after arriving at the School, as we feel it is important to demonstrate to our girls the value of being involved in the local community. I am excited to understand another facet of the School through my participation on the School Board and maintaining the great link between the P&C and the School Board. If you have any questions or would like to understand what is happening around the School please feel free to stop and have a chat.
Doyle

My name is Doyle and I am in Room 15. I have been at Wattle Grove Primary School for seven years. I arrived at Wattle Grove in 2008 and was in Kindergarten with Mrs Fletchers, she was really helpful. I was born in Liverpool Hospital, Sydney and brought up in Sydney. My family moved to Perth because my dad had a transfer for his work. I have a brother and two sisters my brother is in high school and two sisters have finished school.

I came to Wattle Grove and loved it from the beginning. I went to the old school up to Year One and then the new school was built. I started Year Two in the new school which was bigger and better. There were more students and more friends. I also like Wattle Grove because the staff are friendly and helpful. This school has taught me a lot; it’s been an interesting journey with the teachers.

As a Student Representative I want to achieve more by helping people and seeing a smile on their face. It has always been a joy to me when I help someone. I love this school and want to be helpful.

Namita

Hello my wonderful audience! My name Namita and I am a valued Room 15 student in my amazing school Wattle Grove Primary School where I have been for two years. My family comes from Malaysia and I settled in Australia when I was seven years old, I have one older brother who has been a school leader. My hobbies are creating new things and fun art things. Every Saturday I go swimming training. After that I go to tuition to challenge my brain.

I am an enthusiastic student and I show good leadership to the younger ones. I take my job as a student very seriously and do my roles with pride and care. In class time, I work efficiently to get my tasks complete. At recess and lunch, I make sure everything around me is clean and tidy and enjoy my time with my friends.

I enjoy public speaking as part of being a student rep. I have a lot of helpful ideas to improve my school even further. Last year, when I was a student councillor, an idea came up about younger students having more sand pit toys. I loved the idea so I voted in to make that happen.

Samara

My name is Samara and I am in Room 15. I arrived at Wattle Grove last year, at the last week of Term 3. My dad was born in England but I was born in Australia in 2004 in Fremantle. I moved to Karratha for five years then I moved to Orange, New South Wales for three years then moved back to Perth. I now live in Wattle Grove. I have a little sister who is 9 and is in Year Five and I have an 18 year old brother that still lives with us. I like to swim and I play softball with a team called Cougars.

I love Wattle Grove. I love all the teachers who have helped me through my hard working life of school. I have great friends that help me through some tough times. The school is very nice and clean. I love to challenge myself all the time and give 120% every day.

I want to help everyone; I have lots of cool ideas that can help buy new things for the school. I love helping all the younger students. I love this school and want to be a great Student Representative.

Syreeta

Hi! My name is Syreeta (Room 15) and I am your Student Representative for Term 1. I have been in Wattle Grove Primary School for seven years and enjoyed every second of it. My family is originally from India but settled in Australia in 2005. I have one older brother, Anmol, who came to this school previously. I am also a member of the Wattle Grove Baptist Church and assist in many of the church functions like the communion and offering. My favourite hobbies include singing, drawing and reading. I love our school because the people are so friendly and caring. I am a hard working student that strives to be the best person I can and give 100% to my work; I set high standards for myself. I’m very helpful, nice and friendly towards staff and my peers.

Becoming a Student Representative will help me improve my leadership skills and my cooperative ability. I can improve my public speaking and learn how to run meetings and make better decisions. Students trust me and come to me if there’s a problem and I am happy to always help and hope to be a good role model for other students.