

Wangi Wangi Public School - update

Dear parents and carers,

Today the premier and health officials announced the continuation of the current lockdown for the Hunter and the Lake Macquarie LGA. This means that we will continue our operational status at level 4 restrictions. Level 4 restrictions are what is currently in place:

- minimal onsite supervision for children of essential workers only
- no parents or carers or volunteers allowed onsite
- one unit of work made available for students in both online and offline formats

This week our school has seen a dramatic increase in students attending school and we have attendance levels that are significantly above other schools in the Lake Macquarie and Newcastle area.

I want to remind all our families that there is minimal supervision on site at our school for those students who cannot be educated at home, for example if their parent or carer is an essential worker. All students and families will be supported with **learning from home** materials and resources via our Google Classrooms and Paper Packs ready for collection each Tuesday.

If you are working from home, and your child is able to be educated from home, please keep them at home.

I want to thank all the families who have continued to support our community by keeping their children at home to minimise movement in the community. Get in touch with your teacher to discuss any additional needs for your child or family to support you to continue learning from home.

Vaccinations for school staff

To ensure a COVID-safe return to school, all NSW public school and preschool staff on-site to support the staged return of students will be required to be fully vaccinated. Any contractors, volunteers or people on site who require a *Working with Children Check* will also be required to have 2 doses of vaccination before returning to our school. Our staff have been encouraged to book appointments for whatever vaccine is available as soon as possible. The Department of Education will continue to work with NSW Health to prioritise vaccinations for all staff across NSW.

All NSW school and preschool staff will be required to be fully vaccinated by 8 November.

The department's COVID-19 webpage is constantly being updated, and outlines the restrictions in our schools as well as other useful information and resources to keep you up to date and supported.

Face masks

Teachers and all school staff are required to wear face-masks while in enclosed spaces with other people and whilst interacting with students on the playground. It is mandatory for all students in Year 7 or above to wear face masks while at school. Primary school students are encouraged to wear a face mask. This means if you want your child to wear a mask, they can. Students will also be reminded to practice good hand hygiene at school with our ample supplies of hand-sanitiser. If you would like your child to wear a mask at school we have access to disposable masks.



Wangi Wangi
PUBLIC SCHOOL

Beach Road
Wangi Wangi NSW 2267
PHONE 4975 1312 **FAX** 4975 4238

EMAIL wangiwangi-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
WEBSITE www.wangiwangi-p.schools.nsw.edu.au
FACEBOOK wangiwangipublicschool

Learning from home

On behalf of the teaching staff, we would like to thank parents and carers for supporting us with our teaching programs. We know this is challenging, stressful and sometimes might lead to conflict with your child. Our advice is – *do what you can, when you can, as best as you can!* We have tried to create learning opportunities for your children to keep them engaged, keep their learning moving forward with the options of online and offline content. Teachers are recording videos to explain tasks and demonstrate what is expected to students. Many of you have commented that these are greatly appreciated. We are also ensuring that each day's online classwork is available from 6:00am. This allows any parents or carers to hop online and have a look at the day ahead. Our teachers are also holding zoom check-in wellbeing meetings three times a week with students. The reason I am point this out is that our team are going above and beyond to support your child's education and wellbeing. As I said at this week's P & C meeting, I am so proud to be part of our team and our school community as I know every teacher, every member of staff is doing their utmost in this extremely challenging period.

Thank you to those of you who have shared your appreciation of our efforts. Your kind words, positive feedback and just saying "thank you" means a lot.

Week 10 – Wangi Wangi Wellbeing Wednesday

This Wednesday 15 September, is *Wangi Wangi Wellbeing Wednesday*. On this day we are asking you to **ditch the tech** and embrace offline sporting and wellbeing activities that will be shared next week. This will be an opportunity for you and your child to enjoy some of the activities on the image attached. There is also a trick shot challenge and a Newcastle Cricket *design a bat competition*. On Wellbeing Wednesday, teachers will also be engaging in offline activities and will not be contactable online. We are looking forward to seeing some of our student's photos and videos on Thursday 16 September. Congratulations to Miss Whipps for organising this wellbeing initiative to support our school community.



New laptops – Google Chromebooks

Yesterday we received delivery of 25 new Google Chromebooks (laptops). These devices will ensure a greater number of students have access to technology. Our current fleet of windows laptops are aging and as a school team, we decided to embrace the Chromebooks. These devices are much easier for our students to login to Google Classroom. We intend on continuing with Google Classroom content for some student learning tasks once students return to school. These devices will be stored in the PC storage hubs that the P & C kindly purchased for the school at the beginning of the year. Mrs Bubendey is currently very busy installing necessary software and setting up PC storage hubs – thank you Mrs Bubendey.



Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN results

This week schools were delivered Year 3 and 5 students NAPLAN results. Parents and carers have been contacted about delivery options, with the main one being results being mailed to current home addresses. If your address details have changed, please contact the school and update us with your new details.

Our data indicates very strong results in our Year 3 cohort. 61% of Year 3 students achieved in the top 2 bands for reading and 55% for numeracy. The average score for both reading and numeracy was far above the state average. Our Year 5 student results were also pleasing. 42% of the cohort achieved at or above expected growth in reading and 53% in numeracy. Given the interrupted year our students experienced in 2020, these results are impressive. Teachers will be analysing more NAPLAN data next where we will unpack areas of literacy and numeracy that we need to focus on further as well as celebrate our successes. If you have any questions about your child's NAPLAN results, please contact your child's teacher, Mrs Peterson or I.



Thank you for your ongoing support. Stay safe and remember – WWPS is where amazing happens.

Lee Englefield

Principal

9 September 2021