



Weetangera School

Successful Learning Through Caring and Sharing



ACT
Government
Education

Weetangera School is an
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL
Avoiding eggs and all nuts

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to 2019 at Weetangera School!

We welcome you back to the next chapter in the lives of your children, one in which we trust that they will continue to grow and thrive through our school community together. Not just doing our best but meeting the challenges, learning from the outcomes and celebrating our successes. We look forward to forging strong and lasting relationships with everyone, as together we support your children on their pathway at Weetangera School.

As this school year begins, we as educators and parents, have an enormous gift to give, and the responsibility of enhancing the lives of all our students and community. Helping our students grow and succeed. It is our duty to continually serve as role models. But more than that, it is our responsibility to make a positive and lasting difference to the children in our care.

As adults and educators, it's our job to inspire students to dream big and then to show them that we believe the dream is possible. Every minute we spend with our students we are preparing them for their preferred future. What is important is that we all see that there is potential in our children. Once we see potential in them, they begin to see it in themselves. Each year at this time, a new beginning emerges and we see classes full of potential with mental elasticity and complex problem solving skills, critical thinkers, creativity, people skills, STEM skills, SMAC skills (social, mobile, analytics and cloud) and interdisciplinary knowledge to become leaders of the future. The potential is there; it is our responsibility to see it, to encourage it, and let our children know that, without a doubt we believe in their dreams.

As we begin this year, let us approach it with boldness and courage. We will continue to ignite passion in what we do, guided by our commitment to excellence, to drive and sustain the quality of our learning and high expectations and for us as a whole school community to seek ways of how we can continually improve. Our approach to teaching and learning is constantly reflected upon to evolve to meet these challenges, to give our students the best opportunity to engage with their preferred future.

I thank in advance our parents and carers for your unwavering support that you continue to give to the school. We have been able to grow as a school community because of the opportunities that you have given us, as well as the affirmation and feedback that has allowed the school to progress. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work together to realise the potential of each child at Weetangera School.

Small positive steps can dramatically enhance a child's learning experience. And when we do this together, we will be doing all that we can to make that positive difference. I urge all of us to take action. Let's take the small steps needed to make our school and our community an even better place to learn, to work, and thrive. The happiness and academic confidence of our students is our priority at Weetangera School.

5 Tips for back-to-school online safety – information from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner

Tuesday 5 February was Safer Internet Day which is an annual, worldwide event to help encourage a better internet. The beginning of the school year is a

Newsletter No. 1
7 February 2019
Term 1 Week 1

COMMUNITY DIARY
Inclusions may be added in the diary at the front office.

February

- 11-15** Parent Teacher Interviews
- 19** P&C AGM 7:30pm Staffroom

March

- 1** Swimming Carnival
- 14-15** Year 3 Camp
- 27-29** Year 4,5 & 6 Camp

ASSEMBLIES - 9:15am

8 February 2019

No Assembly

15 February 2019

Whole School Assembly Hosted by Year 1

Attachments

AGM

Student Supplies and Voluntary Contributions Board Nomination Form

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Parent Reps. Yvonne Gray 0414817680; Alex Nockels 0414914006; Janine O'Keefe 0411286853; **Community Rep.** Tomasi Wainigolo; **Principal** - James Barnett 61422600; **Teacher Reps.** - Virginia Hambly; Natarsha van den Boogaard

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Weetangera ACT 2614
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Please read our web site:
weetangeraps.act.edu.au

good time to review online safety and get ahead of any issues that may arise. A recent blog post published by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner provides parents and carers with [5 tips for back-to-school online safety](#): Parent responsibility, being mindful of sharing e.g. your child's first day of school and other milestones; [know the signs for cyberbullying](#); [set screen time limits](#); use tools such as [parental controls](#) and [privacy and reporting tools](#); and [stay engaged](#). The [Office of the eSafety Commissioner](#) website is a great place to visit to keep pace with the latest in online safety for children and young people all year round.

Getting To Know You Interviews

In Week 2, we will be holding *Getting To Know You* Interviews from Monday 11 February to Friday 15 February. These interviews are a conversation between you and your child's teacher, and are an opportunity for teachers to receive as much information as possible from you. Interviews are expected to take approximately 10 minutes. Each teacher will roster their available days and times on the website. For these interviews we are using an internet-based booking system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). It will save time for parents, staff and students! Using this system you will be able to book the interview times that suit you best from any internet-connected computer. Please contact the school if you need access to a computer. Please access the system as follows:

go to the school's home page and newsletter page www.weetangeraps.act.edu.au click the PTO icon as shown here ...



enter your surname and PIN, provided on the slip which will come home tomorrow.

Full instructions are provided after you log in.

Communication

For all new parents and anyone who has changed their email address from last year, please send in your email address for receiving the weekly newsletter. If you no longer require the newsletter to be sent to you please let us know and we will remove your name from the list. If you did not receive your newsletter today by email and were expecting to, please send your details to jim.watt@ed.act.edu.au

Reading Challenge

Research continues to tell us that the more students read, the more fluent they become and the better they comprehend. In an effort to increase our students' pleasure of reading as well as to instil in them a lifelong love of reading, who are not only motivated to read great books but also love reading in its own right. In 2019 we will be setting another Weetangera School Reading Challenge!!

Yours faithfully

James M. Barnett
Principal

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The School Board is responsible for the school's strategic direction (operational matters are the responsibility of the Principal), and meets at least once a term between February and November. The following positions will be vacant from Saturday 31 March 2019: 3 x P&C members.

Nominations for these positions are open from Monday 4 February 2019 and will close on Friday 15 February 2019. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of positions, voting will take place between Monday 18 February and Monday 25 February 2019. Please consider becoming a member this year. Forms attached.

CANTEEN NEWS

If you need a break from making lunches or your child is keen to sample the wonderful food our canteen has to offer, you will be pleased to know we begin operating from Wednesday 13 February. If you are new to the school, we recommend you open a Flexischools account (www.flexischools.com.au) for quick and easy ordering. We would also love anyone who has any spare time to pop in and lend a hand. We hope to see you soon.

Dear Weetangera Parents,

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our school is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Twice a term, during the school year, we will send home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. We recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and because they are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school safe and sound and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at scholastic.com.au/LOOP or using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! We hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classrooms, however, there is never any obligation to order. We know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Sincerely,
Kylie

Book Club coordinator
Weetangera School

