



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,

It is important that all children feel that school is a safe place where people will care about them, where their needs for support, respect and friendship will be met, and where they will get help to solve problems. When these are met, children develop a sense of belonging at school, which is important for children's mental health and wellbeing.

Children who feel that they belong at school are happier, more relaxed and are more motivated to learn and be more successful with their school work. Making friends and having a positive relationships with teachers helps children develop a sense of belonging at school.

Parents and carers can work with school staff to help create a bridge between home and school. When the adults responsible for children take a positive interest in what happens at school it helps children feel at home.

Some ways in which you can do this are:

- Find out about what's happening at the school and what your child is learning and join in information sessions.
- Make time to talk to your child about what they are doing at school.
- Let your child's teacher know if they are having difficulties at school.

The focus for the first weeks at school is to build school environments to support student belonging. Our 'Getting to Know You' interviews this week has further supported this. We would like to thank all parents for meeting with your child's teacher.

SeeSaw Information Night

Thursday night last week we had 140 families attend our SeeSaw information session. It was wonderful seeing so many families interested in the school's chosen platform to share student learning. A special thanks to Mel Edwards, Isabel Dunn and Tarnii Eade for presenting on the evening.

Extra-curricular student activities

Weetangera students will have a number of extra curricula activities to participate in this year. From running club to choirs and ensembles, there is something for everyone. For full information regarding each activity please refer to the attachment. We hope to see many children there!

Don't forget our Swimming Carnival is on Friday 23 February. Please send in student notes ASAP.

Danielle Hoogland

Newsletter No. 2
15 February 2018
Term 1 Week 2

COMMUNITY DIARY

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

February

- 20 P&C AGM 7pm
- 23 Swimming Carnival

March

- 14-16 Years 4,5,6 Camps
- 15-16 Year 3 Camp
- 21 Whole School photos

★ **ASSEMBLIES - 9:15am** ★

★ **Friday 16 February** ★

★ **Whole School** ★

★ **Hosted by Year 1** ★

★ **Friday 2 March** ★

★ **Junior Assembly** ★

★ **Hosted by Year 2** ★



INSERTS

P&C AGM
Invitation Letter

Extra curricula
activities

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Parent Reps. Yvonne Gray 0414817680; Alex Nockels 0414914006; Janine O'Keefe 0411286853; **Community Rep.** Tomasi Wainigolo; **Principal** - James Barnett 62057488;
Teacher Reps. - Isabel Dunn and Erwin McRae

Weetangera School
Southwell Street
Weetangera ACT 2614
Telephone: 6205 7488
Fax: 6205 7487
Canteen: 6207 7483

Please read our web site:
weetangeraps.act.edu.au

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen is now back in action for 2018. We are looking forward to making lunches and providing snacks for your children.



THEME DAYS

Every Thursday at recess will be theme day and we will be selling food relating to that day's theme.

- Week 2 - Chinese New Year
- Week 3 - fruit week
- Week 4 - vegie week
- Week 5 - C for Canberra
- Week 6 - camp canteen / St Patricks
- Week 7 - Harmony Day
- Week 8 - Easter
- Week 9 - Weetangera Games
- Week 10 - Weetangera Games

To ensure your child's lunch goes to the right unit please make sure you update Flexischools for class and unit.

NEW FAMILIES

Welcome to Weetangera School, the easiest way to order lunch is via Flexischools. We do also accept paper and coin lunch orders through the lunch tubs in class.

* An updated menu will be coming home soon.

Finally, all parents, grandparents and carers are always welcome in the canteen for a cuppa and a chat.

THINK BEFORE YOU PARK....AND KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE!

With school now back for the year we are encouraging all parents to make parking safety a priority!

This means:

- keep clear of 'no stopping' and 'no parking' zones
- don't park in bus zones on school crossings, across footpaths or driveways; and
- don't double (or triple) park!

Remember - it's okay to park a little further away from the school and walk the rest of the way!

Consider - having a pre-determined meeting spot agreed with your kids. That way if you are a little late, they know where to wait.

Think – visibility around schools, your car may be blocking the view of crossings for other motorists. Also be mindful when entering or leaving parking spots – look twice!

Be kind – to other road users and pedestrians and also if you see any parking officers in the area – they are doing their job and working to keep our kids safe!

Note - Licence Plate Recognition (or electronic

chalking) vans are now actively monitoring schools. Penalties range from \$114 upwards to \$600. Details at www.act.gov.au/accessCBR

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

The Second hand uniform stall will re-open on Monday 19 February and continue each Monday of term from 2:30pm to 2:55pm in the old hall. Prices remain \$2 for a jacket or jumper, \$1 for anything else. As always we appreciate donations of good quality branded school clothing. If you have any enquirers, please contact Sam at ms_samantha_jane@hotmail.com.

SCHOOL BANKING

I have decided to put School Banking on pause for this Term. If anyone wishes to discuss this further or if any parents wish to volunteer their time in the future to support this program, they can contact me on 0432441613 or this email: bree.lawler@gmail.com Thanks for all your help.

COLES SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS VOUCHERS

For those parents who normally shop at Coles, we would like to inform you that Weetangera School is registered for the 'Sports for Schools' program they are running at present. There is a box in the front office for any vouchers collected and possibly another at Coles Belconnen Mall.

Happy collecting.

Something to ponder

- Cats spend 66% of their life asleep
- 1 nautical knot equates to 1.852 Kph (1.150 mph)
- An average person will spend 25 years asleep

READING AT THE TANG 8:30am to 8:55am

The library is open every morning for students with accompanying parents/carers to sit quietly and share a book.

ALL WELCOME

SCIENCE

I am excited to be continuing my role as a specialist teaching Science again this year and look forward to working with students from Years 1–6 again.

Year 1: Up, down & all around

In this unit we will be exploring the local environment and landscape around us. We will be making observations about the world around us and how considering how natural or man-made features can change over time. We will also look at short and long term patterns that occur such as the appearance of the moon and stars at night, the weather and seasons.



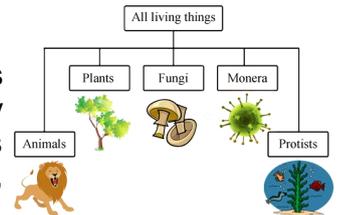
Year 2: Waterworks

In this unit students will explore how water is one of Earth's natural resources. We will look at where water comes from, what water is used for in various locations and ways we can be responsible with our water usage. The stages of the water cycle will also be a central focus in this unit.



Year 3: Feathers, fur or leaves?

In this unit we will be exploring and identifying the difference between living and non-living things. We will have opportunities to learn how to group living things based on observable characteristics and learn to distinguish ways in which they are similar or differ. We will also begin to classify living things into broader groups such as animals and plants, as well as more specific groups such as mammals, amphibians, fish and reptiles.



Year 4: Friends or Foes?

In this unit we will be exploring how living things depend on each other and their environment to survive. We will focus closely on the relationship between flowering plants and insects, and how they all play a vital role in the continuation of species. Students will have hands on opportunities to observe and reflect on the parts of a flower involved in pollination and how the process of pollination occurs.



Year 5 and 6: Animal & plant adaptations

This will be a fascinating unit exploring how certain plants and animals have adapted to survive in extreme environments such as the desert and polar regions. We will learn about how plants and animals have developed specific structural and behavioural adaptations that allow them to function efficiently and survive. We will then build upon this knowledge and consider how the future survival of these particular plants and animals could be affected if changes to the environment occurred.



Lauren Domio

FRENCH

Welcome back to school for a brand new year! This term in French, we will be refreshing our basic skills and building upon them. All grades will be learning greetings and manners, to varying skill levels, in the French language. We will be spending time practising our French aloud to our friends and peers to improve our pronunciation and listen to the rhythm of a different language.

From Kindergarten through to Year 2, we will be identifying some differences between France and Australia, looking at location and what it means to be in a different part of the world. We have some amazing maps and globes that show us how far away France is from Australia.

Years 3-6 will be investigating some countries of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (French speaking nations) and the influence of the French on different cultures around the world. Did you know that Ghana and Cyprus are both observer nations of la Francophonie?

Our aim this year is to get students involved, enthusiastic and engaged in learning the French language and about different countries around our world.

Bienvenue et à bientôt!

Mel Edwards

This year, Weetangera will be utilising the free app, Duolingo, to support our learning. This app is available on Android, iOS and via a website if your child would like to learn more at home (or perhaps you would like to have a go at learning another language!). The app is recommended for ages 8+

duolingo

MUSIC

All classes will have a 40 minute lesson in the music room. During this time students will learn new songs, play a wide variety of tuned and untuned percussion instruments, dance, learn about rhythm and notation, explore the history of music, experience music from other cultures, listen to a range of musical works, experiment with composition and use online tools to enhance their musical knowledge.

Those in Years 5 and 6 will be preparing for our next school musical, which will be performed in Term 3.

There will be opportunities for students to join the Senior and Junior Choirs and for those in Years 4-6 to join the Percussion Ensemble. Year 4 students will be invited to join a new Recorder Ensemble. Those in the Year 6 Brass and Percussion Band will continue to learn through the IMP programme and a new Year 5 band will commence after individual assessment.

Children have a natural love of music and I look forward to helping all Weetangera students realise their musical potential.

Dr Jan Lloyd Jones



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

During Term 1 our emphasis on Physical Education will be body alertness, balance and movement. Breathing and floor or ground exercises as well as energy warm ups will be our pre-lesson activities before each session.

Perceptual skills will be on hand eye coordination and ball tracking. In preparation for our swimming carnival we will work on body strengthening, whole body movement as well as deep breathing and breath holding.

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|-----------|---|
| Years 1/2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Deep breathing and ground exercises2. Perceptual Skills - Balance and tracking3. Throwing and catching while walking, jogging and running |
| Years 3/4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Body Balance and Movement – keep to line2. Perceptual Skills - forward / backward
left / right3. How to hold the tennis racquet in long ball4. Ball tracking, throwing and catching |
| Year 5/6 | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Body strengthening and Balance - ground / floor exercises including movement2. Basic tennis skills - Racquet handling
Ball Tracking
Positioning and movement
Working with a partner |

Mr A

