



# Weetangera School

'Our vision, as a community, is to inspire  
a passion for learning'



**ACT**  
Government  
Education

Weetangera School is an  
ANAPHYLAXIS AWARE SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we welcomed back students in Preschool, Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. It was wonderful to see all their smiling faces and being able to bring the normality of school back to their lives.

We understand that as students return there is some anxiety around what we have been through and how the students may settle back into school life. In each of the classrooms a focus as students have returned, has been on their safety, wellbeing and re-establishing the relationships they have with their peers and staff. We ask you to remember during this transition that...

*"Academics are second to relational safety. Because if you want them to learn, they have to feel safe. With school resuming in most states after weeks of lockdown, many kids will be busting to see their friends and get out of the house. But for some, the thought of returning to the classroom is enough to induce a bout of anxiety."*

There is a great article for us all to read on how to best support students as they transition back to the classroom. The article can be found here: <https://www.abc.net.au/life/helping-kids-with-the-transition-back-to-school/12247052>.

Throughout this time, we have seen many community members doing extraordinary things to support others. I would like to share with you one particular example.

## Embrace the Journey

"I, Samantha Mein, am a former Weetangera School student who is currently in Year 11 and has created a community newsletter with some peers. We are trying to share hope and happiness during this time of change. Our newsletter aims to lighten the mood, provide study tips for students, and suggest recipes, entertainment, science and art activities, and more! We have already released two newsletters and intend to release one on the first day of each month for the foreseeable future. Our website, where we will post all the newsletters, is <https://embracethejourneyn.wixsite.com/mysite>. We would welcome any contributions to the newsletter, such as stories or artworks. If you would like to contact us or receive the newsletter by email, we can be found at [embracethejourneynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:embracethejourneynewsletter@gmail.com)."

## Student Drop off and Pick Up

In the last week we have been supporting students to be dropped off to and picked up from the school within the social distancing guidelines provided. Just a brief reminder that students should not be entering or exiting the school through the front office unless they require support to get to their classrooms. This is for the safety of all within the school environment.

Danelle Hoogland

## Newsletter No. 14

21 May 2020

Week 4

### COMMUNITY DIARY

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

May

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**ASSEMBLIES 9:15 am**

**ALL ASSEMBLIES  
POSTPONED  
UNTIL FURTHER  
NOTICE**



**Attachments**

### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

**Parent Reps.** Yehuwdiy Dillon - 0458 866 937, Amy Begley - 0403 498 397, Vijaya Porwal

**Principal** - James Barnett 61422600; **Teacher Reps.** - Natarsha van den Boogaard;

- Virginia Hamby

Weetangera School  
Southwell Street  
Weetangera ACT 2614

Telephone: 6142 2600  
Canteen: 6142 2621

**Please read our web site:**

# PS... Creative expression

## Creative Expression

As a famous person, Samuel Taylor Coleridge once said, 'The dwarf sees farther than the giant, when he has the giant's shoulder to mount on.' In each newsletter this term we will include a perfectly interesting event to expand everyone's mind and take an imaginative leap to stimulate creative expression to encourage our students to respond. This week with a written response!

## Today in 1846....

Three Scottish short men danced a Scottish Reel for Queen Victoria.

The shortest person ever lived was Gul Mohammed of India. Seven years before his death he had reached the height of 57cm.

The average length of a newborn is 48cm.

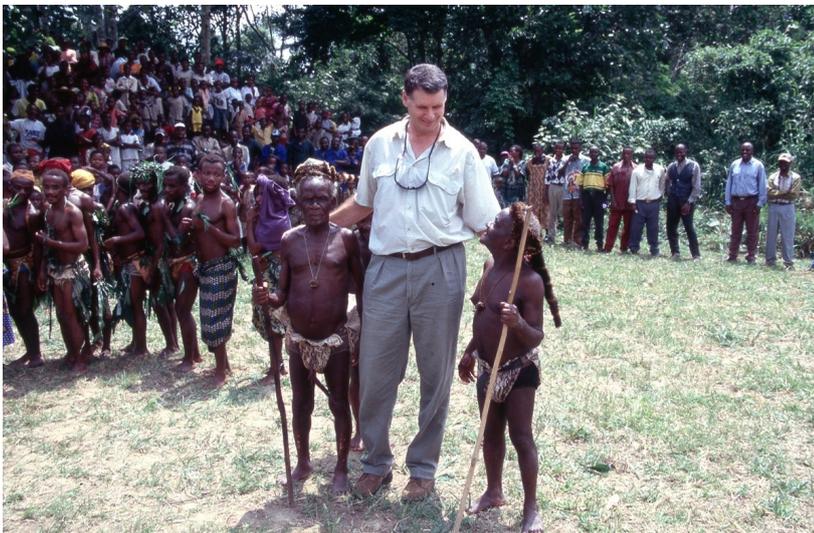
The Mbuti pygmies from Zaire are the shortest tribe in the world, averaging 137cm.

## Word of the day...

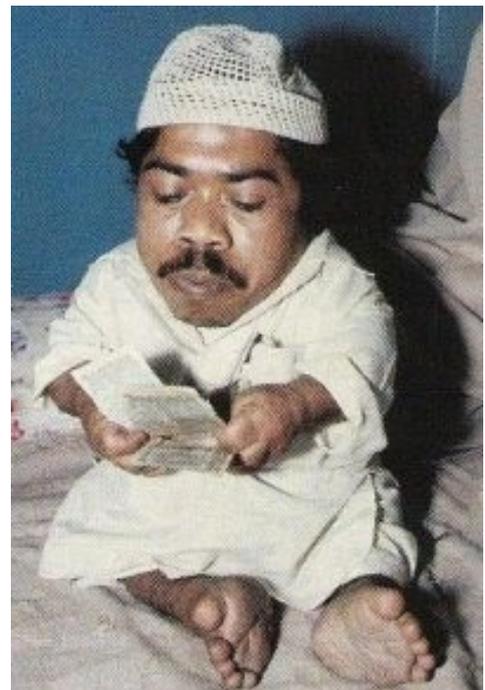
Pygmy – A member of an African Tribe of short people. From the Greek 'pugmaios' (dwarf)

## Imagine...

How would your life change if you were only 60cm tall? How would your bedroom, home, travel, school life, and social life change? What if you were 260cm tall? Would that be better or worse? Write about a typical day in your life, either as a very small person or a giant.



Mbuti pygmies from Zaire



Gul Mohammed

# Pps...

## A message to our teachers from the Weetangera School Board

COVID-19 changed our lives suddenly. In the face of this great trial the teachers of our school have worked tirelessly to support our children.

As a school community we have something very simple to say to our teachers, school leaders and staff; thank you.

Thank you, for countless hours reimagining education, for innovating and for supporting the continued learning and wellbeing of our children. In an ever-changing landscape your professionalism was inspiring; through you we were able to become the partners in learning our children needed.

Thank you, for the myriad of ways in which you encouraged, supported and drove a sense of community. The connectedness our children experienced provided a buffer from the other risk factors they were facing. From Google meet-ups to curriculum connecting their lives to home and normalcy – we as caregivers saw, understood and deeply appreciated your care.

And finally thank you, for doing all of this whilst also caring for your own families, children and loved ones.

We understand that the work is not yet done but must convey to you our true impression; you have taken this great challenge not as a burden but as an opportunity - and we as a community cannot adequately express the appreciation and gratefulness we feel.

School Board Members

# RETURNING TO SCHOOL



To support the safety of staff and students at Weetangera School, parent/carers are encouraged to drop off and collect their children **WITHOUT** entering the school building, noting that some children may require additional support.

For any inquiries, please report to the front office **via** the main entrance.

*Thank you!*

## COVID-19 and our library

### ACT Region School Libraries Network –

#### Library timetable for the foreseeable future

- Only 1 class plus 2 adults are allowed in the library at any one time for their library session
- The library will be **CLOSED** for the 8:30am morning reading and at 1:20pm lunch time

#### Return and cleaning of library books for the foreseeable future

- **Current industry and WHO advice is to quarantine plastic-covered books for 48 hours**
- All books in the library have been cleaned
- Returning books will go through Oliver, then the status will be exchanged to QUARANTINE and unable to be borrowed
- Quarantined and cleaned books will be placed on a **blue trolley** and stay there for 48hrs then shelved, please **DO NOT TOUCH** these books
- Books are **NOT** to be shared or swapped by children until quarantine period is over
- Returned items that cannot be cleaned on return (e.g. non-plastic covered books) must be left for 24hrs prior to being returned to the catalogue system
- Clean your hands prior to and after handling books and other borrowed items
- Keep returned and other borrowed items separate from regular items
- All returning books to be placed in the returns box if a teacher is not in the library