

Newsletter

Every Student Matters, Every Moment Counts



Number 2 • Term 1 • Week 4 • 22nd February 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we move towards the end of Week 4 our enrolments have settled at 760 students, 52 more enrolments than the beginning of last year.

Thank you to all school community members for adhering to the latest health advice asking parents to wear masks and to not enter classrooms. As the number of cases increases, we are expecting further changes to the daily operations of our school. Later this week, I will be sending out information to parents outlining the actions the school will be taking based on a series of scenarios ranging from school closure to the isolation of individual classes. This will explain how we will be delivering the curriculum should any of these scenarios present themselves.

SCHOOL REVIEW

Every three years, public schools are required to undergo a School Review whereby two reviewers meet with staff, students and parents to establish that the school is progressing well. Our School review will be held on Wednesday 9th March. Following this review, the school receives a formal report which I will post on our website.

SWIMMING LESSONS (PP – Yr 6)

Students in all public primary schools have the opportunity to attend swimming lessons for two weeks of the school year. These lessons are very valuable and provide students with the opportunity to become competent swimmers over time. I strongly recommend that all students participate so they have increased confidence around water and are able to help themselves (and others) if they get into difficulty. *It is well known that children who do not learn to swim as a child do not take the time to learn as an adult. Having your children learn to swim as a child is doing them a favour for later in life.*

Students from Wellard (PP – Yr 6) will be participating in swimming lessons in Weeks 7 & 8 (Group 1) of this term and Weeks 1 & 2 of Term 3 (Group 2). Students going to swimming later this term would have received a swimming note last Thursday (EC 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8, Rooms 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 23, 24, 25)

Due to the size of Wellard PS students will now attend swimming lessons in two different groups. Lessons are not available to Kindergarten students as they only attend 2 or 3 days a week and they are too young to organise themselves. Lessons will take place at the Kwinana Requatic Centre. Students will travel to and from the pool by bus. Please note that we have engaged the services of a bus company that provides seatbelts for the safety of students and staff which does increase the costs slightly. The cost will be \$60 per child which includes the cost of the bus as well as pool entry. **Can you please ensure you use your child's full name as the reference when you pay though direct deposit so we can easily identify your child.** The lessons are provided at no cost to parents.

KINDERGARTEN/PRE-PRIMARY BIKE RACK

I want to make parents aware that we have a bike rack behind the Kindergarten and Pre-primary area where younger students can place their bikes or scooters. The entry is in between the oval and the early childhood area. The external gate is locked early in the day but I do suggest you lock up your child's bike or scooter to ensure no one is able to remove it.

KISS AND DRIVE

I ask that parents DO NOT stop in the main car park to drop off or pick up their children unless they drive into a carpark. Doing this causes an increase in congestion making it unsafe for all concerned. The Kiss and Drive along Jaspar Bend is designed so that parents of Yr 1 – 6 students can park, drop off and pick up their children and then drive off.

CAR PARKING

Thank you to all parents and carers for being tolerant and patient as we seek solutions to our car parking issue. Some parents may wish to park on the eastern side of the oval as we are now opening the gates to the oval of a morning and afternoon. Please DO NOT drop off or pick up your child by stopping in the middle of the carpark.

BEFORE SCHOOL READING

We have a wonderful program in place where adults throughout Wellard PS listen to children read before school. This begins after children unpack their bags and organise themselves for the day. The program begins around 8.35am and concludes at 8.50am at siren time. I strongly encourage parents to have their children at school by this time so they have the opportunity to participate. When we listen to students read we focus on fluency, accuracy, expression and comprehension. Over the years I have seen children develop in confidence and gain real interest in reading for enjoyment. This becomes noticeable as children move through the grades into upper primary. A child who accesses this reading time will experience approximately an extra 12 hours of reading time a term which equates to 48 hours over the year. *A Year 6 student leaving our school after completing all years of school at Wellard will have had the opportunity to read for a maximum of 336 hours (51.6 school days of reading)!!*

ON ENTRY ASSESSMENT

Over the next few weeks our pre-primary students will be doing the On-entry Assessment Program. Conducting this assessment early in the year ensures that the teachers have information about the current skills and understandings of each child to assist in the planning and delivery of targeted learning programs that address the needs of each individual, especially those who may require early intervention or extension. The assessment period is during Weeks 3 – 6 of Term One.

STATIONERY ITEMS

Parents are asked to ensure that students come to school with all of the stationery items as per the booklist. If students do not have the appropriate items they are at a disadvantage and become anxious because everyone else has the right equipment and they don't.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY (LABOUR DAY)

As Monday 7th March is a Public Holiday, students do not come to school. Labour Day, also known as Eight Hours Day in Tasmania and May Day in the Northern Territory, commemorates the granting of the eight-hour working day for Australians. It also recognizes workers' contributions towards the nation's economy. It is an annual public holiday and its date varies across the states and territories. Enjoy the long weekend everyone!!

SCHOOL UNIFORMS – HATS AND JACKETS

It is great to see all of our students wearing the school uniform to school. *Parents are reminded they need to purchase the school jacket prior to the arrival of the cold weather.* Hats are now available to be purchased

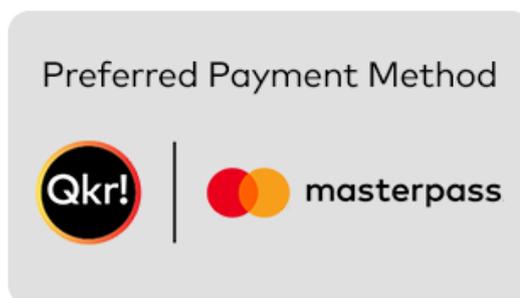
online. *ALL students are expected to wear the school hat with the emblem.*

CRUNCH AND SIP

The Crunch & Sip program is an easy way to help kids stay healthy and happy! Crunch & Sip is a set break to eat fresh fruit or salad vegetables and drink water in the classroom. Students re-fuel with fresh fruit or vegetables during the morning or afternoon, assisting physical and mental performance and concentration in the classroom. This gives kids a chance to refuel, a bit like putting petrol in a car. *Each day students bring fresh fruit or salad vegetables to school to eat in the classroom at a set time. Each child has a small clear bottle of water in the classroom to drink throughout the day to prevent dehydration.* Through Crunch & Sip, schools demonstrate their commitment to nutrition education in the classroom, by making links with the curriculum and creating a supportive school environment. The Crunch & Sip break gives children the opportunity to eat the piece of fresh fruit that might otherwise be left in their lunchbox or not be eaten at all.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Payment of Voluntary Contributions is now due. Funds raised through these contributions are used to purchase resources etc. to complement the educational programs we run throughout the school. Thank you to those families who have already paid their contributions. *As a school we are always conscious of the costs we seek from parents in relation to educational activities.*



Kindergarten – Year 6 - \$60 per child per year.

Our preferred way of payment is by using our Qkr App, please see attached PDF for details.

School contributions can also be paid at the office or by direct deposit

Account Name: Wellard Primary School
(Please use the student's full name as reference)
BSB: 066 040 Account Number 19901412

STRANGER DANGER

As it is the start of the school year, I urge you all to talk to your child or children about walking safely to and from school. Following are some suggestions to help your child/children stay safe. Please ask your child to:

- Always travel in company
- Walk on the right hand side of the road so you face oncoming traffic
- Wherever possible, leave space between yourself and the roadway
- Stay in areas that are well lit
- Stay in view – avoid going into areas that are hidden from view (such as parkland bush or behind shopping centres) and plan trips to avoid such locations
- Be alert – earphones and headphones can reduce your awareness considerably
- If you have a mobile phone, have it turned on and ready to dial an emergency number
- If a passing car stops nearby never get too close
- Do not hesitate to run from a situation in which you feel at risk
- Provide this advice to brothers and sisters, especially if younger
- Report suspicious behaviour to parents, school and the police, noting number plates of cars and/or clothing or distinguishing features of individuals.

Remember to call 131 444 or the local station to report an incident to police or 1800 333 000 to reach crime stoppers. Only call 000 in case of an emergency.

Geoff Miller

Principal

Email: geoff.miller@education.wa.edu.au

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Chaplain Talk

A big hello to all Wellard parents, carers and guardians,

My name is Sinead O'Dea and I am the new chaplain at Wellard Primary. In this new segment I wanted to take a little time to share some information on stuff that is relevant to your family and our community.

Cyber Awareness

Today I wanted to share a little bit on Cyber Awareness. Let's face it, we live in a digital age. The majority of current primary school children have access to a device with the internet, and as many of you may have experience, they love to use it! Playing games or watching shows... Kids love the internet.

Stay in the Loop!

It is hard to keep up with what new games or apps your kids are into, and what is age appropriate for them. One week its Minecraft and the next it is Road Blocks! It is important to stay on top of what apps kids are using, and that they are using it in a safe way.

The ESafety Guide is a platform to keep you in the loop. It is a list of the current apps, games, and social media. The site includes:

- The platforms logos and features.
- What it is used for.
- Age Guidelines (who else is online with them).
- How to protect yourself and report inappropriate content.

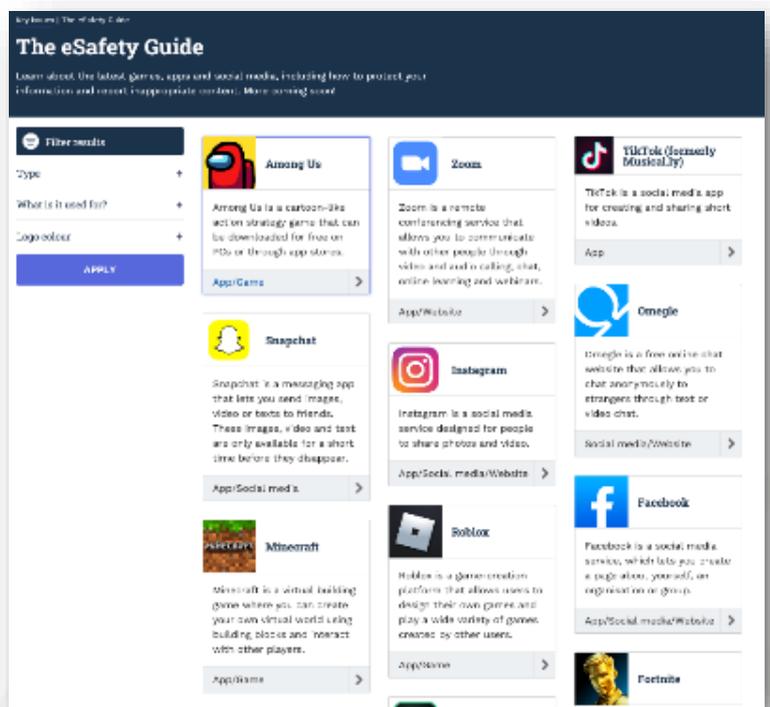
This guide can be found at www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide

The eSafety Commissioner Webpage has a very large range of free resources and free webinars available for parents and students www.esafety.gov.au

Getting a good understanding of how popular games and platforms work is the most effective way to make sure your kids are safe while also living their #bestlife.

Until next time. have a great week!

Sinead O'Dea
School Chaplain



As the challenges of COVID start to creep up on us, the P&C will be working on different strategies to raise much needed funds for Wellard Primary.

If you are keen to help, please contact the P&C as helpers are always welcomed, big or small.

Dress Up Day

Friday the 11th of March is Dress Up Day. The theme is come dressed as the profession you want to be when you grow up! Use your imagination and look forward to seeing all the fabulous costumes. Just bring a gold coin donation to participate, all funds raised will be going towards the Wellard Primary Sustainable Garden Project.



Wellard Primary
BRING A COIN AND DRESS UP, FRIDAY 11TH MARCH

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?
DRESS UP AS YOUR DREAM JOB

A BASKETBALLER?
A TEACHER?
A DOCTOR?

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TOWARDS BUILDING OUR SUSTAINABLE GARDEN

Canteen Volunteers

To ensure the continued operation of the canteen we need to continue to ask for your assistance, especially Thursday and Friday as this is the busiest canteen days.

If you have any time you could give, big or small we would love to hear from you. You can contact Linda, the canteen manager via the school's

reception during school hours or via the Facebook page.

Upcycled Uniforms

Do your kids keep getting bigger? Please consider donating your children's old school uniforms or purchasing uniforms second hand.

Uniform Donations are HAPPILY accepted at any time and can be dropped off at the school reception. All proceeds go towards the P&C Fundraising which this year is supporting the Schools Sustainability Garden.

Uniform shop opens Tuesday's 2:30pm-4:30pm at the front office, **CASH ONLY.**

Containers for Change

Many thanks to all the families who have already started making a change and donating to the P&C, to date we have raised just over \$600. A fantastic effort of recycling and raising money!

Please consider joining the change makers, teach your kids about the environment & support the P&C to raise funds for our Schools Sustainability Garden. Keep those cans and bottles acquired through the festive season.



All you need to do is:

1. Collect eligible bottles at home
2. Deliver to a collection point like Exchange Depot WA - Containers for Change in Kwinana
3. **Quote scheme ID: C10407164 to donate to Wellard P&C**

contact: wellardpandc@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook @wellardpandc

'KISS AND DRIVE' ZONE
~Please Read Carefully~

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wellard Primary School has a 'Kiss and Drive' zone, where parent/caregivers in the morning can drive in and drop students (Year 1 - 6 students only) off. At the end of the day students wait by the 'Kiss and Drive' zone to be collected as their parent/caregiver drives through. **Please note**, that parents/carers of Kindergarten and Pre-primary children may use the "Kiss and Drive" if previously arranged with their classroom teacher.

Cars will need to follow the route highlighted on the map for safety and traffic flow reasons.



Procedure for 'Kiss and Drive' – Morning Drop Off - 8:30-8:50am

- The 'Kiss and Drive' zone is clearly sign posted on 5 car bays on Jasper Bend.
- Children must use the footpath side door, preferably the rear of the vehicle to exit.
- Apply your handbrake while the children exit your vehicle.
- Cars will need to follow the route highlighted on the map for safety and traffic flow reasons.
- **Do not leave your car at any time when using the 'Kiss and Drive' zone.**
- **Your children will be assisted across the car park to the gate at Teaching Block 2.**

Procedure for 'Kiss and Drive' – Afternoon Pick Up - 3:00pm-3:20pm

- Children cross the carpark at the supervised crossing outside Teaching Block 2.
- Children assemble at Jasper Bend Walkway at 3:00pm for Parent pick up. A member of staff will be there to supervise children.
- The 'Kiss and Drive' zone is clearly sign posted
- 'Kiss and Drive' entrance for cars commences on Jasper Bend - Cars will need to follow the route highlighted on the map for safety and traffic flow reasons.
- Drivers wait in line on the school side of the road and move forward as the line progresses from Jasper Bend. Do not block the entrance to the car park near the Teaching Block 1.
- **Do not leave your car at any time when using the 'Kiss and Drive' zone.**
- When you pull up at the pick-up point, apply your handbrake.
- Children must enter the vehicle from the footpath side
- Wait until your child is properly restrained before moving off.
- Parents/Carers MUST remind their child they will be picked up at the 'Kiss and Drive' when they are dropped off. Also, remind him/her to quickly make their way to the 'Kiss and Drive' gate immediately after they leave their classroom.
- **It is possible for older students (Year 4 – 6) to collect younger siblings from Kindergarten and Pre-primary and then proceed to the 'Kiss and Drive' Zone. This must be done promptly and prearranged with your children's teachers.**

Safety Considerations

- Please be considerate of other road users and ensure you are not blocking off roads or drive ways.
- We strongly encourage parents to observe a 20km/h speed limit during drop off / pick up times
- Never double park or do a U-Turn close to the drop off / pick up zone
- Parents must never park and leave vehicles for any length of time in the Kiss and Drive zone.
- **Do not stop your car within the car park. This is a safety concern as there are many cars reversing within the car park.**
- **Please use the cross walk when entering the school.**

Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you have any questions.

Kind regards

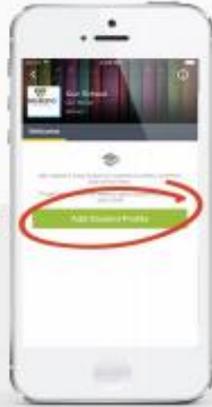
Geoff Miller
Principal



masterpass

Add your children's details in Student Profiles

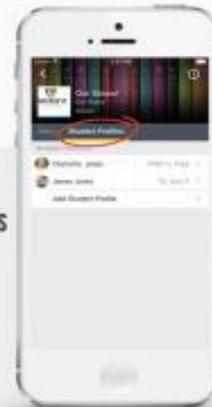
Select
'Add student profile'



Add each
child's details



Manage each
child's details in
Student Profiles



Purchase school items

Select a menu
from our school



Select child
you are
ordering for



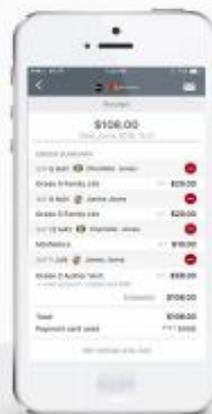
Select your items

Tap 'Checkout'
then confirm and pay



Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



At checkout select which card to
pay with.

Pay with any cards accepted
by the school.

Once your payment is approved you
can continue to the home page, or
view your receipt.

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:

- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'

Search for our school name

