

WESTPORT PUBLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN A CARING ENVIRONMENT



Monday 6 May 2019

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you had a relaxing break and are ready for another productive term. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new students who have started with us this term. I hope that you enjoy your time here at Westport Public School.

At the end of last term we had the Easter Hat Parade. Even though I was not able to attend, I heard it was a great success. Well done to all the students and parents!

It is fantastic to start the term off discussing how wonderful our students were at the ANZAC day March on 25 April. The students were very well behaved and enjoyed the opportunity to display their appreciation for those who have served our country. Our leaders did a great job presenting and placing the school wreath. It was also great to see so many parents and people from Port Macquarie at this important ceremony. Thank you parents and staff for giving up your time to help.



This week we are looking forward to viewing short movies under the theme Films by the Breakwall. Film by the Breakwall is a Hastings Valley Community of Schools (HVCS) event that aims to spark creativity and imagination in students through visual literacy and film.

The 'Film By' initiative provides a rich opportunity for students to develop their film making skills as a part of classroom programs focused on enhancing understanding of Visual Literacy.

Film By The Breakwall will be hosted with community partner, Majestic Cinemas over two star-studded evenings. Short films will be shown on the big screen showcasing the talent of students from across all public primary and secondary schools in the Hastings Valley.

Date: Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 May

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Venue: Majestic Cinema, Horton Street, Port Macquarie

Have a great week.

Tony Johnston
Principal

Coming Events for Term 2

Friday 10 May	P&C Mother's Day Stall
Wednesday 15 May	P&C Meeting in School Staffroom
Wednesday 15 May	Cross Country at Wayne Richards Oval at 11:30 am
Friday 17 May	PSSA Rugby League Knockout
Monday 27 May	Lower North Coast Cross Country
Wednesday 19 June	Dance Festival

Term 2 Assembly Timetable – 1 pm in the School Hall

Kindergarten – Year 2	Year 3 – Year 6
	Week 2 – 4 Waratah
Week 3 – K Wattle	Week 4 – 3 Bottlebrush
Week 5 – K Flame	Week 6 – 3 Silverfern
Week 7 – K Jacaranda	Week 8 – 5 Hibiscus
Week 9 – 2 Bluegum	Week 10 – Silver Assembly

Stewart House

Stewart House donation drive envelopes are being sent home today. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please place your donations in the envelope and return it to school at the front office. All donations of \$2.00 or more are eligible to enter the draw for a family holiday valued at \$4,000. You will need to write your name, address, phone number and school on the envelope. The envelopes need to be returned to the school by Friday 17 May.

This will be the main fundraiser for Stewart house this year at Westport Public School. Thank you for your support of this worthwhile charity which helps children in our public schools including Westport Public School. Children from our school attend Stewart House at various times and always have a wonderful time. Thanking you for your support

Toni Lawes



Canberra Excursion:

Payment – In Term One, a deposit of \$100 was paid and an additional \$50 was due by Thursday 11 April.

Payment Plan

Friday 31 May	\$100 paid by this date
Thursday 4 July	\$100 paid by this date
Friday 23 August	\$100 paid by this date
Thursday 26 September	\$100 paid by this date
Friday 8 November	\$80 (approximately) paid by this date

All payments are to be paid to the office, eftpos is available. **You are very welcome to make payments at any time or pay the outstanding amount prior to 8 November, 2019.**

Year Six Shirts

We have extra shirts for sale. If you would like to purchase one, please see Mrs Osborne.

Year Six Fundraising for Year Six Farewell

Notes were sent home today about the chocolate fundraiser competition, Year Six students are asked to bring in a 180gram block of Cadbury or Nestle chocolate. The blocks of chocolate will then be used to play a fundraising game that all students across the school can participate in for the cost of a gold coin. All funds raised go towards covering costs of the Year Six Farewell – hire of the room at the Westport Club, the DJ, decorations, and the cakes.

Elders Olympics

At the end of Term 1, nine of our Year 6 students participated in an excursion to Stuart's Park as volunteers. Their volunteer work consisted of helping the Elderly play games in the annual Aboriginal Elders Olympics held in Port Macquarie on Thursday 11 April. All students had fun and enjoyed spending quality time with Aboriginal Elders from across the state of New South Wales.



The Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is now open weekly for fittings and cash sales, every Monday and Thursday from 8:30 am to 10:00 am.

Students and families wishing to purchase uniforms online by using electronic payment methods (EFT) can do so anytime via www.flexischools.com.au

Westport Public School P&C

The P&C is a very important organisation which supports the school and all the students, who benefit greatly from the funds they raise each year.

Some of the amazing activities the P&C organises and supports include the running of the Canteen, Free Breakfast Program, the Uniform Shop, Mother's and Father's Day stalls, the Colour Run, Bunning's BBQ's, the Life Education Van plus many more.

The P&C are always looking for more fantastic volunteers, so please get involved and support your students and school. Your time and generosity will always be greatly appreciated.

For more information concerning any aspects of the P&C including the roles of executives, please refer to the NSW P&C federation website: <http://www.pandc.org.au>

P&C General Meeting

All parents, carers and friends are invited to attend our P&C meetings.

The meetings are informal and informative and are scheduled to be held every third Wednesday of each month, in addition to the AGM in March each year.

Where: School Staffroom

When: Wednesday 15 May at 6:30pm

P&C Mother's Day Stall

A wide variety of gifts will be available to purchase for Mother's Day from the school hall on Friday 10 May. The gifts are priced from \$1 - \$10.

Please come along and buy your wonderful mum, Grandma or Nana a gift to let her know how much she means to you.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Got It! Tip of the Week

Notice emotions both in yourself and in your child, especially when they are at a low intensity. Simply recognising your emotions and the cues you get from your body will help you become sensitive to your child's experience of emotions. Once you're aware of your child's feelings, you can then begin to support her to manage them. You may wish to keep an *emotion diary* to increase your awareness of the thoughts and feelings that come up for you and your child throughout the day. You can write down your emotions, your child's emotions, the cues you get from your child's body language, what you say, and how your child responds.



DVD Emotion Coaching: Four Parenting Styles and Five Steps of Emotion Coaching

NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2019

Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process - it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

What is assessed?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

In 2019 most students across Australia will sit NAPLAN online.

Feedback in the first year of NAPLAN Online showed that students engaged well with online assessments. One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test automatically adapts to a student's test performance. The test presents questions of higher or lower complexity, depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills.

There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

To get an idea of what the online assessment looks like, visit the public demonstration site at nap.edu.au

How can I help my child prepare?

Help your child prepare by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply try their best. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance. Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs are a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of coaching providers. NAPLAN is about assessing learning progress in literacy and numeracy.

Will my child sit NAPLAN on paper or online?

In 2019, your child will sit the NAPLAN online tests. However, children in some other schools across Australia will sit the NAPLAN paper tests this year. Federal, state and territory education ministers have agreed that all schools will move online by 2020. State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online.

As students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the test online or on paper, results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale. To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit nap.edu.au

Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment.

Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should first discuss the use of any disability adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on NAPLAN Online disability adjustments or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

NAPLAN Online 2019 timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is extended from three days provided for the paper test to nine days. This is to give schools more flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices. The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 14 May and finishes on Friday 24 May 2019.

The online tests must be taken in the following order:

Test	Duration	Order	Details
Writing	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 40 min. Year 7: 40 min. Year 9: 40 min.	To be completed in the first two days	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test on day one only
Reading	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the writing test	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts
Conventions of language	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	To be completed after the reading test	This test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	To be completed after the conventions of language test	This test includes number and algebra; measurement and geometry; and statistics and probability

What if my child is absent from school on assessment days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule. Individual students are not permitted to sit NAPLAN online tests after Friday 24 May 2019.

How is my child's performance measured?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at nap.edu.au/TAA
- visit nap.edu.au

For information about how personal information for NAPLAN is handled by ACARA, visit nap.edu.au/naplanprivacy