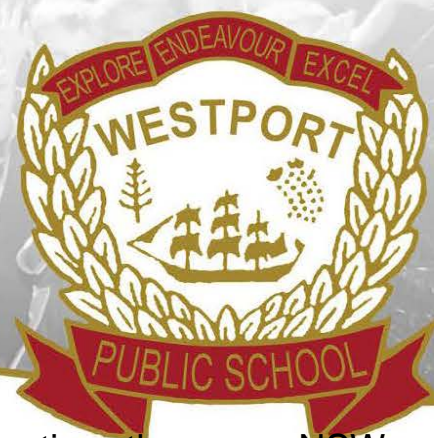


# WESTPORT

## PUBLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN A CARING ENVIRONMENT



**Monday 6 June 2019**

Welcome to Week 6. This term is certainly moving quickly! It has been a very busy week with some major events taking place.

### Lower North Coast Cross Country

Our students participated in the Lower North Coast Cross Country last week and performed very well. Three of our students will be going on to the next level. Well done!



### Reconciliation Week Assembly

The school conducted its Reconciliation Week Assembly on Tuesday last week and it was well attended by all. We had a visit and talk from the members of the Clontarf Foundation where they discussed what Reconciliation meant for them. The theme for Reconciliation Week this year was "Grounded in Truth – Walk Together with Courage". Thank you to Aunty Marilyn for organising this excellent event.



### School Community Charter

As a public school we are promoting the new NSW Government School Community Charter. Please see attached. This document outlines the responsibilities of all stakeholders in contributing to learning environments that are collaborative, supportive, cohesive and respectful.

In supporting the development of this collaborative, supportive and respectful culture, I feel that it is both helpful and respectful to clearly define the boundaries of issues that may contribute to misunderstandings and damaged relationships.

### What is OK in the area of Communication?

What is OK	What is not OK
Having a concern and contacting the school to discuss the problem with the class teacher.	Coming to the school office or the classroom and demanding to talk to some straight away.
Making a time to talk through an issue with a staff member when you are calm and in effective control.	Yelling at or abusing any staff member, either over the phone or in person.
Talking calmly and respectfully to staff.	Swearing at any staff member in any situation, at any school event.
Making a mutually convenient time to meet with your child's teacher by contacting the school office.	Expecting to talk to the class teacher in the morning while students are entering the classroom.
Visiting the classroom at an agreed time to view your child's learning environment.	Entering the classroom when the teacher is not present.
Contacting a staff member of the school via the school contact number or email.	Contacting staff members regarding a school issue directly through either their personal mobile number or direct email unless you have been specifically invited to.
Making an appointment with the Principal, Deputy Principal and Assistant Principal to discuss an issue and reporting to the front office prior to entering office areas.	Coming to the school and bypassing the office to enter one of the office areas.



# School Community Charter

**Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

## What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



## Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- to be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- to be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work together with the school

© NSW Department of Education



We create collaborative learning environments

We all play a part

We work in partnership to promote student learning

## Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process: [education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students](https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students).

## Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

## Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



Collaborative.  
Respectful.  
Communication.

School Community Charter  
education.nsw.gov.au

All staff are governed by a Code of Conduct which is revised annually. We are all human, are imperfect and at times lack the ability to draw on our most effective behaviours, however, what we need to collectively remember is that we are all working together to achieve the very best outcomes for your children. This is done most effectively through clear boundaries, respectful communication and interaction. When issues do occur, having these clear boundaries assist all individuals to reflect, work out what went wrong and plan for more productive interactions in the future. I would like to thank everyone for their role in making this happen.

Have a great week.

**Tony Johnston**  
Principal

## Term 2 Assembly Timetable – 1 pm in the School Hall

Kindergarten – Year 2	Year 3 – Year 6
	Week 6 – 3 Bottlebrush
Week 7 – K Flame	Week 8 – 5 Hibiscus
Week 9 – 2 Redgum	Week 10 – Silver Assembly

## Coming Events for Term 2

Monday 3 June	Snake Tails
Thursday 6 June	Public Speaking Finals Year 3 & 4 – 9:15 am Year 5 & 6 – 10:15 am
Wednesday 18 June	Dance Festival
Friday 21 June	North Coast Cross Country
Wednesday 26 June	Athletics Carnival
Friday 5 July	Primary Treat Day Last day of Term 2
Tuesday 23 July	First day back Term 3

## Canberra Excursion: 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	\$60 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**



### Girls Netball

On Tuesday 28th May, our netball girls played against Wauchope Public School. The Wauchope team dominated the game, however our girls should be highly commended for showing co-operation, resilience and a 'never give up' attitude. Every single one kept fighting, even in injury, until the last whistle. They should be super proud of their attitude towards the game. Well done!



**Lisa Burton**  
**Netball Coordinator**

### A Day at Oxhill Farm

Last Wednesday, Stage 3 and Staff went to the Oxhill Organic Farm to learn about the animals and plants. We have learnt that weed killer and 'fake' fertilizer is bad for the soil because it kills the worms and kills all the bacteria. We also saw how the cows are milked and that the cows pregnant in their third trimester got a rest so they didn't have to worry about getting milked.

Then we saw the pigs getting fed. Then we saw the egg laying chicks and the meat chicks and how they eat fish for protein since the grass is very dry. They also move the chicks because it is good for the soil so it doesn't stink. The farmers also let us pick the chickens up. Everyone was running around like crazy! Farmer Chris helped some kids catch some chooks. We all loved petting the fluffy chickens and scaring everyone who was afraid of them. But the farm also stunk.

By the end of the day, everyone was exhausted because of how much fun they had! With that, I can say the excursion was a success!

**Rae Venice.**  
**Student**

