



Willans Hill School News

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7 Feb 2018

Challenging,
engaging and
innovative learning

Building a
professional learning
community

Making sense of the
world

Welcome to 2018

On behalf of the staff at Willans Hill School I would like welcome new and returning students, parents and carers. We continually strive to improve the quality of education that is offered to students at the school. Improving safety across the school has been a major priority in the last 2 years. This year we have moved our junior and senior schools to not only provide adequate space for the older students in our school but to also create a closer link with the senior and middle areas. This will enable us to operate following a high school model and therefore provide students with opportunities similar to their peers in other schools.

The school, in collaboration with the community, developed a shared vision in 2016 which was reviewed in 2017. This vision provides the school with the foundation for the values, beliefs and goals that we all work towards. To achieve this vision, we need to work in partnership with our community.

"Every student has the ability to learn, achieve and succeed. Together we nurture, guide and foster successful learners in a safe, respectful learning environment, recognising the capabilities of all students. Encouragement is provided to build and foster relationships to empower every student to make valuable contributions within their community."

On Tuesday 13 February a Parent Teacher Evening will be held at the school and we extend an invitation to all parents and carers to attend this evening. I would encourage all parents/carers to engage with the school P&C as they do an amazing job in supporting the school, particularly in raising funds to enable students to achieve and succeed while at school. From 26 February to 9 March parents and carers will be invited to participate in meetings to set educational goals for their children in 2018. If you have a problem or concern, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher, the Assistant Principal in the relevant area, or me.

The following changes have been made to the recess and lunch breaks at the school.

Primary

Recess – 10-10.15

Play Break – 11.15-11.45

Lunch – 12.45-1.15

High School

Action Break – 10-10.15

Recess – 11.15-11.45

Lunch – 12.45-1.15

This is happening for a number of reasons which include:

- Students have breaks outside earlier in the day to avoid being outside in the afternoon heat.
- Frequent shorter physical breaks help students to remain engaged throughout the day. Shortening the amount of unstructured time also minimises the likelihood of inappropriate behaviour.
- The afternoon session is longer which allows increased time to engage students in learning.

The school executive this year is as follows:

Janelle Urbanavicius – Primary School

Pamela Steer – High School – years 7&8

Amanda Cappello – High School – Learning and Support – Years 9&10

Marg Maher – High School - Stage 6 – Thursday and Friday – Years 11&12

We have appointed a number of additional positions this year to extend and improve the opportunities available to students at Willans Hill.

Sports Coordinator – Jessica Murray

Primary School Creative Arts Coordinator – Sandra Blanchard

High School Creative Arts Coordinator – Shirley Taylor

Student Representative Council (SRC) – Maddie Imrie

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Expression of interest for Assisted Travel Support Officer (ATSO) position

The Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) often provides additional support to students with disabilities on transport. Assisted Travel Support Officers (ATSOs) support students with complex health or behaviour needs to ensure their safe travel to and from school. If you are interested in temporary part-time work as an ATSO the following website contains information on how to apply for the position.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/astp/atso>

For further information please contact ASTP on 1300 338 278 or email ASTP at atso.astp@det.nsw.edu.au

BLUEARTH

This year the school is very excited to be working with the Blue Earth Foundation. Bluearth staff will visit the school every 2nd Tuesday, starting this week, to deliver evidence-based programs in the school; to train teachers; and to use physical activity to develop students' social and emotional wellbeing as well as their physical health. A brochure is attached to this week's newsletter to provide parents and carers with further information regarding the Bluearth Foundation.

Staff List for 2018

Class 1 - Teacher: Janelle Urbanavicius	SLSO: Nadine Haisell
Class 2 - Teacher: Sara Obst	SLSO: Owen McDonell
Class 3 - Teacher: Sandra Blanchard	SLSO: Anthea Weeks
Class 4 - Teacher: Shirley Taylor	SLSO: Ann Moore/Amanda Allen
Class 5 - Teacher: Pamela Steer	SLSO: Noha Youssef
Class 6 - Teacher: Maddy Imrie	SLSO: Lynda Williams
Class 7 - Teacher: Peter Clark	SLSO: Pippa McPherson
Class 8 - Teacher: Jessica Murray	SLSO: Lyn Davies
Class 9 - Teacher: Marg Maher	SLSO: Jane Lindner
RFF - Kirsty Cochrane	SLSO: Suzanne Murphy
RFF - Ryan Farrell	
Office Term 1 - Jacqui Howell	

Gabby Sheather
Principal



Carers Workshop

When: Wednesday 14th March 2018
Where: Wagga Wagga RSL
Dobbs Street, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650
Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm
Registration from 9:00am
Cost: FREE
Register: online at www.aspect.org.au
Contact: Kerry Ritzrow
P: 02 8868 8504
E: mailto:kritzrow@autism spectrum.org.au

Aspect Practice would like to invite you to attend a specialised workshop focusing on the wellbeing of carers of children with autism.

This workshop will look at the needs of parents and those caring for a child with autism in a home environment and will focus on the importance of self care and the use of family strengths to build strong, resilient families who can adapt and ensure that they are well equipped to support their child with autism.

This workshop is being presented by our Aspect Practice Specialist Victoria Wood. It is run through the Building Blocks for Carers program.

It is free to attend the workshop. A light morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Places are limited so ring Kerry on the below number or email to confirm your attendance. You can also register online. We strongly encourage parents to attend. If you are a professional please contact Kerry to discuss if this is relevant to you. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our Presenter

Victoria Wood, Social worker BSc (Hons) Social work (UK) Victoria has over 14 years experience working with children and families with complex needs. Victoria joined the Aspect Team October 2015. Victoria was recruited from the UK 5 years ago for her insight expertise and experience in the field of social work.

Victoria has extensive experience in assessment, behaviour support and collaborative practice.

Victoria takes pride in ethical practice using a person centred approach. Victoria is passionate about developing the role for social workers in the field of A.S.D.

Save the Date

Tue 13 Feb	Parent Information evening 6.30-7.30
Fri 16 Feb	PLSP booking times preferences due
Thurs 22 Feb	Vaccinations Years 7,10-11
Mon 26 Feb – Fri 9 Mar	PLSP Meetings
Fri 30 Mar – Mon Apr 2	Easter long weekend
Fri 13 Apr	Last day of Term 1

Nathanael



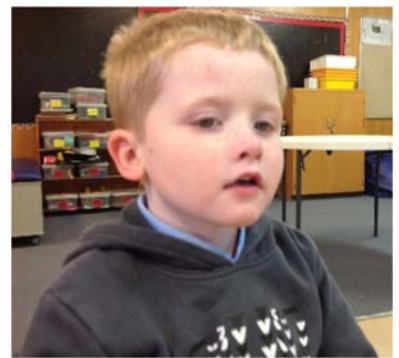
Jai



Welcome Class 1



Kasey



Ryan



Class 2
busy at
work



Class Awards

Class 1	Ruby, Kasey and Ryan	Settling into class well
Class 2	Chayse Camery	Settling back into school in a positive manner
Class 3	Cooper Camery	Independently identifying letters in words
Class 4	Cody Manning and Cooper Hallcroft	A positive start to High School
Class 5	Katelyn Daley	Great focus in Science
Class 6	Ephram Abdel-Malak	A great start to Term 1
Class 7	Nikayla Greer	Making a positive start to 2018
Class 8	Marcus McKenzie	Great writing in Work Education
Class 9	Charlie Crouch	Fantastic effort in writing

School Expectation Awards

Max Wighton Being responsible– being a learner

News around the school

The school has purchased new furniture for classrooms across the school.



Reminder

A reminder to all students, parents/carers that at Willans Hill we have an important safety rule to remember at school: 'hands down'.

Transport

Please remember to ring your transport provider if your child is not attending school on any day. This is a requirement of the Department of Education.

Newsletter in 2018

In 2018 the school will be changing from weekly to fortnightly newsletters. We hope this will improve the quality of the information we can provide to our community.

Late Arrivals and Early Departures

If your child arrives to school after 9:00am or needs to leave before 3:00pm you need to sign them in/out at the front office as per Department of Education policy. Staff will then take your child to or from class. Please do not go to the classroom yourself.