



## Term 1

## Week 11

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## Happy Holidays!

I would like to wish all school families a restful autumn break. Please travel safely, especially if driving over the Easter period. Parents are reminded that Monday, 29 April, is a designated school development day. Our staff will be engaged in professional learning on this day. Term 2 commences for all students on Tuesday 30 April.

## High Expectations!

Throughout this year teachers will again use the term High Expectations on a regular basis. This term is often used in education (and other professions) to outline the 'higher-than-high' standards that organisations have regarding outcomes and outputs. Wideview Public School has very high expectations when it comes to students. Teachers expect students to strive for personal excellence in academic, social, emotional and wellbeing aspects of schooling. Parents have high expectations that their children will try their best and that teachers will promote excellent standards within classrooms. When teachers and parents combine to have high standards - academic, social, uniform, behaviour, courtesy - it creates a perfect climate which encourages students to strive for excellence. That perfect combination of parent/teacher collaboration not only results in our students having an understanding of what high expectations are, but also allows them to reach them!

## Lest We Forget

Today we enjoy the freedom of choice because our past generations fought for our freedom and democracy. Each year Australia and New Zealand pause on 25 April to show deep and solemn respect for those who serve and have served our nation in the Armed Services. ANZAC Day is not a time of celebration or glorification. It is a day where we reflect and give thanks for the way of life we currently enjoy because of the sacrifice of those who served to fight for democracy. As this year's ANZAC Day falls during the school holidays we will be holding our school service tomorrow **Friday 12 April at our Morning Assembly to be held after recess**. Parents/caregivers/relatives are invited to attend our school service, to stand alongside students as we honour active/retired/fallen military personnel.

## Summer or Winter

The students at Wideview Public School always look great in their uniforms. Thank you parents for ensuring your children look outstanding each day. Next Term for the first few weeks students are permitted to wear either winter or summer uniforms. If the weather is still warm, parents may choose to keep their children in summer uniform. Early next term we will inform you when we will expect all students to be wearing full winter uniform.

## Flexible Learning

Flexible learning is not just a passing fidget-spinner-fad it is in fact an educational trend. Research is supporting it as critical to enhancing learning across all ages. Part of flexible learning is about the classroom environment and providing students with choice and accommodations to suit their style of learning. Below are some of the current findings on flexible seating and why it is important to student learning.

### 1. Choice

Students feel empowered by having some degree of choice and control over their environment. Flexible seating allows students to choose where they work and with whom. It also allows them to change their location and positions as needed. Kayla Delzer says giving students choices about their physical classroom space teaches them higher-order thinking skills.

“Outside the windows of our classroom is a dynamic, fast-paced, and ever-changing world full of choices. How can we expect our students to solve problems and make choices independently if we constantly solve their problems and make their choices for them?”

### 2. Physical Health

Children need to move. Flexible seating allows them to wobble, rock, bounce, lean or stand, which increases oxygen flow to the brain, blood flow and core strength. In turn, this burns more calories and increases metabolism. It also helps keep young minds more alert and focused.

It’s no surprise that physical activity is linked to higher academic performance, better health, and improved behavior. An academic paper by Matthew T. Mahar, et al, found that simple in-class activities can boost performance. Studies suggest that children who participate in short bouts of physical activity within the classroom have more on-task behavior, too.

### 3. Comfort

An uncomfortable student, is a distracted and unproductive student. For example, picture a student who skipped or didn’t have access to breakfast. As the countdown to lunch approaches, the sound of his or her growling stomach will make it impossibly hard to hear the teacher’s voice. A uncomfortable chair can have the same affect.

Flexible seating encourages students to find their best spot to stay calm, focused and productive. As one teacher said, “There is no better way to show your support for a student-centered classroom, than creating a classroom from a child’s point of view.” In her opinion, comfortable students are engaged students.

### 4. Community

Traditional desks can make students territorial or possessive over their space and supplies. Flexible seating encourages students to share both. And, it encourages them to take turns in different locations and with different seating options.

### 5. Commitment to Learning

While research on flexible seating is limited, it’s clear that learning environments can have a direct impact on student achievement.

A 2012 study from the University of Minnesota found that students participated 48 percent more in discussions in a classroom with collaborative group seating versus traditional lecture-style seating, and also improved their performance on standardized tests.

The classroom environment where there is a variety of high, medium and low seating allows kids to move to the furniture based on their needs.

## 6. Communication

No one is naive enough to believe that flexible seating simply happens. Up front, teacher must establish some new classroom management tools. That includes creating a system to make seating choice fair and non-disruptive. It also requires introducing higher-order thinking skills, like problem-solving, and emotional skills, like conflict resolution. There's also much value in fostering turn-taking and patience – especially for a generation of kids immersed in immediate gratification.

## 7. Sensory Input

Many flexible seating options stimulate students' sense of touch. This type of stimulation can help children focus and process information. Sensory input is especially helpful for students with ADHD, ADD, and ASD.

## 8. Fun

Flexible seating helps make learning fun. The benefits far outweigh any negatives, according to Dezler "At this year's parent-teacher conferences, all of the parents stated that their child has a completely different attitude about school now. The kids love coming to school and learning, and they couldn't be happier." She offered a few final tips for parents. Foremost, it's important to bring a positive mindset. For many of us who went through traditional education i.e. desks and rows it is hard to view that there is learning going on when children are engaged in making their own decisions. To the untrained eye it will look like there is no classroom management and for many of us it is hard to comprehend how you can read laying down or write on a white board or lap table. Realistically how many of us actually read for enjoyment sitting up at a table. The above can be further quantified by student comments which have been gathered when talking to students about their learning. In a Year 3 room I asked a student "Why are you standing right now?" "Well," said the student, "we're using math manipulatives and I move better when I'm standing up than when I'm sitting down."

In a year 1 room a student was able to articulate why she was a belly reader. She loved reading on the floor while lying on her belly, her class was reading, and that's why she was sprawled out on the floor. It's great to have a 6 year old know what their own learning preferences are.

In a year 6 room a student likes that the teacher gives a choice in how they work

"Since she lets us choose, we ultimately choose what's best for us. We work better together and individually."

Another student in year 6 was able to articulate his preferred learning method He chooses a table and chair, unlike the beanbag that many of his fellow students choose. "When I get down into a bean bag and am more comfortable, it's almost like it's a bit distracting. It's not exactly the environment I want to be working in, but for the other people, clearly they have their ideal learning environments."

According to research done by Pam Moran evolving the classroom space to meet students' individual needs impacts how they learn, how they interact, and the entire classroom experience. Moran has noticed that when a learning space evolves, students' work improves immensely, their grades improve, and "just the conversations they have with each other are so invigorating to hear," Moran says.



## Gibberagong

The intrepid geographers and scientists from Year 3 and 4 took on the wilds of Kuring-Gai Chase National Park this week. We examined maps and plotted our journey through the Bush down to the mangroves. We examined the habitats of native animals and even caught some invertebrates to sketch in our journals. We had an awesome adventure and hope the native species of the park enjoy some well-earned peace and quiet tonight.



## Florimos

Congratulations to our Junior Florimo Cup team which won the Larsen Cup on Tuesday. They beat Glenorie Public School in the final 5-3.

A big thank you to Mr Bovis for coaching and leading our senior boys on the day. Unfortunately, they were beaten in the semi final by Berowra Public School who went on to win the final.

Both Mr McTernan and I were impressed by the team spirit of our students and the way they conducted themselves throughout the gala day.

Well done Wideview!

Mr Parks

Rugby League Coordinator



# Easter Hat Parade

Thank you to everyone who braved the unseasonably warm weather to watch our Easter Hat Parade on Monday. There were some amazing hats and we really appreciate the time and effort that goes into making them.



## Lost Property

Once again we have an accumulated amount of lost property and we need the assistance of parents to collect any items there. Please go to the walk through area of the rooms at the end of KH. This is facing the playground equipment at the front of the school. At the close of term, Friday 12 April, all remaining items will go to either the uniform shop to be sold as second hand uniforms, or to a clothing charity if non-school items. Non clothing items will be disposed of.



## PSSA Sports

First games start 9.30am last games finish 11.00am

### Venues tomorrow:

Netball :	Warrina St
Boys Football/Soccer :	Warrina St
Girls Football/Soccer:	Warrina St
AFL:	Foxglove Oval, Mt Colah

## Merit Awards

<b>KGM</b>	Annabelle J, Owen M	<b>KH</b>	Blair C, Anastacia G	<b>1D</b>	Jonty D, Lucy D
<b>2F</b>	Mika K, Matilda G	<b>2C</b>	Zac G, Irie A	<b>3H</b>	Isabelle G, Lucas H
<b>4AF</b>	Jack W, Annabelle S	<b>4LM</b>	Isla F, Hayden B	<b>4/5C</b>	Jade T, Tom M, Peppa H
<b>5J</b>	Angus S, Ruby T	<b>6H</b>	Blake T, Amber L	<b>6T</b>	Noah M, Meg SD



## Wideview Runners at Run West

Last weekend a number of Wideview PS students along with their parents participated in the Run West near the new zoo at Eastern Creek.

Jesse L ran 12km while Matilda & Ruby L, Grace G, Ella & Chloe M, Coen & M and Lucas & Mischa H covered the 4km course.

Well done everyone!



## School Calendar

The Calendar is updated each week. Please check regularly for any additions or changes which will be marked in red for your convenience.

Term 1 2019		
April		
Friday	12	ANZAC Assembly 11.45am
Friday	12	Last Day of Term
Tuesday	30	Students Return to School
May		
Thursday	2	Cross Country Carnival
Tues, Wed, Thurs	14-16	NAPLAN Yrs 3 & 5
Thursday	30	School Photos

# P&C Update

## Fete Update

As we draw to the end of the first term the fete committee wanted to touch base to say a huge thank you to the school community for your enthusiasm towards this year's fete. Crazy Hair Day was, well CRAZY, but also a great success with hundreds of great, quality items being donated plus \$100 cash too! And the enthusiasm of the classes in putting their hands up for stalls has been great too.

We have 16 internal stalls locked in;

- Hotdogs, drinks and lollies
- Gozleme
- Pies
- Toasties
- Milk bar (Softies, Spiders and shakes)
- Popcorn and Fairy floss
- Chocolate stall - hot choc, choc fountain with fruit and marshmallows etc
- Cake Stall plus cafe
- Snow cones and lolly Bags
- Tombola
- Face Painting and Crazy Hair
- Book stall
- Choc wheel/cash raffles
- Choc coin toss

and.....wait for it.....Dunk a teacher! Yup, we will be giving kids the chance of hitting a target to see their favourite teacher/politician or local 'celeb dunked in water in late June!!! It's sure to be a popular one!!!

On top of all this we will have the usual rides package. This year we are bringing back the Cha Cha which the big kids love. We will also have a Moving Bodies pre-school bounce zone with jumping castles and soft play galore.



We have also just locked in Snow Unicorns who will be treating our kids to rides throughout the day and our other exciting attraction will be an epic laser quest battle zone complete with inflatable obstacles for the kids to hide behind as they engage in combat with their friends!

One thing is sure - there is going to be plenty to keep our kids amused!

We have locked in over \$7K of sponsorship, have private stalls coming in thick and fast and now our





number one priority is sourcing lots of great prizes for our chocolate wheel and silent auction. This is where you come in.

Do you work for a company who could donate a prize? Does your mum/dad/brother/sister/neighbour/mate.....anyone? We would love it if the school community could help us source good quality prizes as they play such a big part in the day! Ideally, we are looking for prizes valued at \$150 each but smaller prizes are welcome too as we can always combine them with other small prizes to make super cool hampers! So please put your thinking caps on and start to ask around.....If every family in the school could source one prize from one contact the work would be done! It could be a voucher for a restaurant or experience, wine, jewellery, signed memorabilia, 2 nights' accommodation in a fancy air B and B, 6 months free babysitting. Anything that someone would pay money to secure!!! Just email [wideviewfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:wideviewfundraising@gmail.com) and let us know your ideas!

Tickets will go on sale and the laser tag and unicorns will both operate on a first come first served basis. More details in the first week of term with tickets going on sale w/b 13th May.

For now, have relaxing and enjoyable Easter breaks and we will see you Term 2!

Cheers! The Fete Committee

## **Volunteer Roles**

No P&C can run without our volunteers, we thank every one of you. However, we need to remind people that sometimes stepping in, without being asked to, and without being briefed, when another person has been given a job can be dangerous so please check before jumping in to do something. If you are unsure, please ask someone running the event. Thank you

## **Entertainment book**

Entertainment books for 2019/ 2020 are now open for sales. It's a great time to buy before the school holidays, load of great activities. Digital memberships can be shared amongst 4 devices. If you purchase the book you can collect from the office or from Michelle Bowden during the holidays. Link to purchase is:

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2001r26>

Thanks

Kath Edgar

President Wideview P&C Association

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## **Uniform Shop Opening Hours**

Thursdays 8.30am – 10.00am | Mondays (even weeks) 3.00pm – 4.00pm

We accept payment by cash, visa, mastercard or cheque instore.



The latest 2019–2020 Entertainment Memberships have arrived, and with school holidays here, there's plenty to keep the kids entertained and sensational offers for the entire family.

Purchase your membership NOW and you'll discover delicious dining, luxury retail and hundreds of valuable offers valid until 1st June 2020.

20% of every membership purchased goes to the P&C and will go towards our current school beautification projects.

#### School Holiday Activities –

Bowling Centres, Australian Reptile Park, Bonza Bike Tours – The Rocks, Calmsley City Farm, City Golf Gordon, Dural Putt Pitt in the Gardens, Event Cinema Hornsby, Featherdale Wildlife Park, Flip Out Castle Hill, Flymotion, Harbour Jet, Hunter Valley Gardens, Ice Zoo, iFLY Downunder, Illawarra Fly Treetop Adventures, Kingpin Laser Tag, Koala Park, Luna Park, Macquarie Ice Rink, Madame Tussauds, Manly Bike Tours, National Maritime Museum, Odeon Cinema Hornsby, Powerhouse Museum, SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium, Skyzone, Strike Bowling Bar, Sydney Jet Boat, Sydney Observatory, Sydney Tower Eye, Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Taronga Zoo, Thornleigh Golf Centre, Timezone, Virtual Reality Escape Rooms, Wannabees Family Playtown, Wild Life Sydney Zoo.



#### Local Dining –

Absolute Thai, Armeros Italian Eatery, Bakers Delight, Berowra Waters Inn, Brewhaha, Cafe Laurella, Espresso Warriors, Jaam-e-Jam Restaurant, Jimini's, Joyful House Restaurant, Loong Cheong Chinese, McCafe, McDonalds, Pie in the Sky, Pizza Hut, Shingle Inn, Soul Origin, Sushi Hub, The Coffee Club, Three Beans, Thyme Square Cafe.



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