



Wauchope Public School

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**Term 4 Week 6
Newsletter**

**Thursday
21 November 2024**

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Upcoming Events

Thursday 21 November

- Crazy Hair and Sock Day - Year 6 Fundraiser

Thursday 21 November to Friday 22 November

- Lions Club Eye Tests - Kindergarten and Year 1

Monday 25 November to Friday 6 December

- Intensive Swimming Scheme

Tuesday 26 November

- House Captains Election

Wednesday 27 November

- Aboriginal Kinder transition 10:00am -10:45am at WPS

Thursday 28 November - Friday 29 November

- All Preschoolers Orientation 9:30am - 10:30am

Friday 29 November

- Cool at School Year 6 Fundraiser

Tuesday 3 December

- Years 6-7 Statewide Orientation Day at Wauchope HS

Wednesday 4 December

- Aboriginal Kinder transition 10:00am -10:45am in Community

Thursday 5 December

- Kindergarten Twilight Evening 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Friday 6 December

- Gold Reward Barbecue

Monday 9 December

- K-2 Presentation Day - 9:30am



Obstacle Colour Rush

Social Media

I'm sure everyone has seen or heard in the media the concerns and debate re social media and the damage it's causing young people. It's important for parents to take a moment to reflect on the impact that social media can have on our children's well-being. While these platforms can offer opportunities for connection and creativity, they can also expose our children to risks, including online bullying and inappropriate content.

We encourage you to engage in open conversations with your children about their social media use. Here are a few suggestions to help keep them safe:

If they are not legally old enough

to be on a social media platform then don't let them on it. Delete the App. Why take the risk?

Set Boundaries: Establish clear rules about when and how long your child can use social media. Consider designating 'tech-free' times, such as during family meals or before bedtime.

Educate about Privacy: Talk to your children about the importance of protecting their personal information online. Ensure they understand the risks of sharing too much and encourage them to keep their profiles private.

Recognise the Signs of Bullying: Be vigilant for signs that your child may be experiencing or witnessing online bullying.



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Wauchope Public School

Excellence, Opportunity and Success

Student Leadership Speeches



Several talented boys and girls delivered their leadership speeches yesterday. Students in Years 3, 4, 5 and staff then voted to elect our final eight student leaders who will include two school captains, two vice captains and four Prefects.

It is a great honour to be a prefect at our school. Congratulations to all candidates for taking the risk or chance to put themselves forward for this role.

I'm sure successful candidates accept victory graciously and those who don't quite get the votes, also accept the decision well! This sort of empathy and resilience sets excellent leaders apart from the rest.

I will endeavour to send a letter home to each of the candidates' parents tomorrow. The actual eight roles will be announced at the 5/6 Presentation Day on Thursday 12 December.

House Captains

Once we know who our eight student leaders are, we will then have our House Captain election on Tuesday 26 November. Please note if a student is voted into one of the eight leadership roles, they are not eligible to participate in the House Captains election.

Encourage them to speak up if they see or experience anything hurtful. However, if they are not on it then it can't happen online.

Promote Positive Online Behaviour: Reinforce the importance of kindness and respect in all interactions—both online and offline. Encourage them to support their peers and report any negative behaviour they encounter.

Lead by Example: Model healthy social media habits. Show your child how to balance online interactions with face-to-face connections.

Together, we can foster a safer online environment for our children. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring their safety and well-being.

2025 Kindergarten Orientations

All our new 2025 Kindergarten students are invited to attend big school next week between 9:30am and 10:30am on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 November.

Please mark in your calendars a fun night on Thursday 5 December between 5:00pm and 6:15pm. The children will get to sing, dance and make some Christmas craft at our Kinder Twilight evening.

K-2 will have a Christmas concert on Tuesday 17 December. Our new families are welcome to attend to join us for a few carols.

P&C Obstacle Colour Rush



Friday was such a fun day for our students. Not so much fun being slimed but everyone else seemed to really enjoy it! Congratulation Aspen for being the highest fundraiser and to all the prize winners. Special mention to KSS for being the highest fundraising class. I hope to be invited to the pizza party. Thank you to everyone who supported the fundraiser in any way. Special thanks to Graham Seers Cyclery who donated a magnificent \$799 bike as the major prize. Congratulations to our P&C and WPS staff especially Mrs Beach for a sesational day!

Crazy Hair and Sock Day

Apologies for the late change with this Year 6 Farewell fundraiser. It took Year 4 students to point out to us that both Year 4 and 5 go swimming on a Friday and that would ruin their hair and possibly the pool.

Year 6 Cool at School Day

This is a fun fundraiser Year 6 do where they organise fun games or challenges with small prizes. They are raising money for their Year 6 gift to the school. The cost is \$5 for three or \$10 for six activities. Purchases are made via School Bytes. The day is on Friday 29 November.

Presentation Days

Please see the dates and times below.

- 9:30am Monday 9 December - Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 class awards
- 9:30am Tuesday 10 December Years 3 and 4 class awards
- 9:30am Thursday 12 December Years 5 and 6, and leadership awards

Busways



Reminder to parents and carers:

Apply now for 2025 school bus travel passes

Dear admins and teachers,

To help students get ready for the 2025 school year, bus passes are open for application now at Transport for NSW website - we encourage parents and carers to apply early to make sure their children receive their 2025 bus pass before the start of the new school year.

Could you please share the information below before the end of Term 4 to help your parents and carers prepare their children early for their bus journey to school next year.

Please share on your school channels – email, text, social media or website!

Sincerely,
Busways Customer Service team



Getting to school by bus in 2025

Will your child be catching the bus to school next year? Applications are now open for a Bus Travel Pass. As it's a busy time of year, we highly recommend you make this application before the end of the year. It's also good to check the bus timetable to make your child's journey to school as easy as possible. Here is how it works:

Bus passes

- All students catching the bus in 2025 will need a school travel pass.
- Under the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS), eligible students can apply for free or subsidised travel between home and school.
- For more information about the School Student Transport Scheme and how to apply for a school travel pass, visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#> from a desktop computer.

Bus timetables

Busways is the school bus operator that runs your schools' bus services. To find your child's school bus timetable visit the Busways website by using the following steps:

- Go to busways.com.au/nsw
- Click on 'school services' in the navigation bar and then proceed to 'school timetables'
- Enter the school's name in the field that says 'enter a school name'
- Select the school's name and the timetable should open on your device. If you are unable to find or search for the school's name, use the drop-down menus on the same web page to find the school.
- Once the timetable is opened, you will be able to identify which school bus services are available in your area for your child to use.

Rural and regional school travel

Apply online for free school travel in rural and regional NSW. You only need to complete one form, even for journeys using more than one operator.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for free school travel, students may need to live a minimum distance from their school:

- Years K-2 (Infants)**
There is no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary)**
More than 1.6km straight line distance or at least 2.8km walking.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary)**
More than 2.0km straight line distance or at least 2.8km walking.

Who needs to apply

You only need to apply if the student has never been approved for free school travel before. Students in a shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody) should submit a separate application for both addresses.

How to update your details

You need to update student details online if the student is changing their name, address, school or campus, or their Transport operator. You can update them at transportsw.info/ssts-students

Frequently asked questions

Does the approved free travel include travel outside school hours?
Approved free school travel is only for travel to and from school. So for travel after hours, on weekends or during school holidays, students will need to buy a ticket.

What if there's no public transport in my area?
In areas where there is no public transport, you may be able to get a subsidy for driving the student to school. For details, visit transportsw.info/ssts-students

How do I apply if the student needs to travel from two addresses because the parents live separately?
Each parent for the student if aged 16 or over needs to apply separately for each address. The same minimum distances apply.

How to apply for free travel for the first time

You can apply for free school travel for next year from the start of Term 4 this year.

Step 1

Once you have enrolled your child at the new school, apply online by giving your home address and telling us which bus company the student needs to travel with between home and school. You can apply online at transportsw.info/school-students

Step 2

The school then confirms to us that your details are correct.

Step 3

We will then work on your application. You will get an email confirming if the student is approved for free travel. If so, we will tell your local bus company who may send a school travel pass (if needed) to your school or, in some cases, the bus company will contact you directly about travel arrangements.

A parent or guardian must apply for students aged 16 years and under. Students who are 16 years and over must apply for themselves.

What my card will look like



Want to know more?

For more information, visit transportsw.info/school-students. For help in your language, call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.

Apply for information on how to apply for free school travel to the Department of Education, Transport and Infrastructure, Locked Mail Bag 961, North Sydney, NSW 1585. For more information, visit transportsw.info/school-students



Student Numbers for 2025

I am requesting that if you know your child won't be returning to school in the first few days (possibly an extended holiday or stay at the grandparents) to notify me in writing that your child/ren will be returning to Wauchope Public School (with date if known). This is so we can include them in our student numbers. These numbers are vitally important as once I have submitted them, staffing confirm the allocation of teachers and office staff we will have for 2025. Sometimes one or two children can give us an extra class and teacher or alternatively we could lose a class/staff member.

It is also vitally important that you notify the school if your child won't be attending WPS in 2025 for the same reasons as above. Thank you in advance.

Enrichment Classes

Recently students in Years 4 and 5 have undertaken a series of tests to assist us with decisions re placement in our Year 5/6 enrichment class. There were many students participating and as a result some children who sat the tests have been unsuccessful. I would ask that you talk with your child about how competitive this process is, how clever they are just for getting to sit the test and that we always need to look at the positives if we miss out on anything in life. For example, some students perform better in a mainstream class where they are at the top of the class, achieving success, feeling good about themselves compared to possibly just scraping into an enrichment class and not feeling that they are being successful.

Intensive Swimming

These lessons start next week. Please ensure your child has the correct gear i.e. towel, plastic bag etc. Thank you, Mrs Best, for this monumental piece of organisation. Very complicated.

Lions Club Eye Tests



Today we have welcomed members of the Tacking Point Lions Club who are providing free eye tests to the students in Kindergarten and Year 1 who returned the pink permission note.

Mr Cameron Osborne
Principal

P&C

Mega Christmas Raffle



From the P&C

A heartfelt thank you to our incredible school community for helping us raise an impressive \$27,126 at this year's major fundraising event! All profits from this event will go towards purchasing shade shelters for the Outdoor Kitchen Café and the quiet play area.

A big shoutout to our amazing volunteers who contributed on the day: Mandy, Amber with Joey, Felicity, Sue, Barbie, Warren, Tyn, Jessie, Sabrina, Sarsha, and Sonia, who is always working hard behind the scenes. Thank you, Ruth, for the delicious Colour Rush Canteen menu specials!

A special thank you to Mrs. Beach. We couldn't have made this event as successful without your creativity! And to all the school staff who supported this event and had fun on the obstacle course too!

Thank you to our wonderful teachers, Mrs. Beach, Mrs. Smithwick, Mr. Geary, Mrs. Lovett, Mrs. Pucket, Mrs. Buczko, Mr. Beard, Mr. Grech, and Mr. Osborne, who volunteered to be slimed, making this event extra special for the students!

Well done to the students who did an amazing job sliming them: Elliot, Beau, Hazel, George, Aspen, Tyler, Lincoln, Ruby, and Mandy! And a special well done to Aspen, who raised a HUGE total of \$1,182!

Thank you to our event sponsors: Graham Seers Cyclery, One Agency Port Macquarie-Wauchope and Wauchope Dental.

Event Donors: Deadly Science, Billabong Zoo Koala & Wildlife Park, Domino's Wauchope, Paintball Pete's, Wauchope RSL Reflections Bistro, Toy World Wauchope, Wildnets Adventure Park, Hydro golf and Putt Putt and The Davis Farm inc.

Kindest regards

Kerry Lopresti

President - Wauchope PS
P&C Association



Come join the P&C, we have loads of fun!

Next meeting is on Thursday 12 December at 6:30pm.

Please contact us via wauchopepsandc@gmail.com

Congratulations to the Obstacle Colour Rush 2024 Winners:

Highest Winners	Name	Class
Over all	Aspen C	K-6RF
Highest K-2	Matilda H	1MB
Highest 3-6	Cooper H	3KD
2nd Prizes		
K-2	Elliot H	KSS
3-6	Hazel B	3SS
SL	Flynn S	K-6BB
3rd Prizes		
K-2	Levi G	KSS
3-6	Dominic G	5/6BB
SL	Beau H, Samuel M	K-6BC, K-6BB
Highest Class		KSS

Highest in each class			
KNB	Hunter C	2JC	Lincon D
KVW	Ayah L	2JB	Kayden D
KJL	Judd M	3SS	Caleb G
KSS	Avarnii B	3KD	Oakely B
KLR	Jason S	3WW	Billy B
K-6BC	Kyharne R	3/4MH	Ella T
K-6RT	Frankie E	3-6JG	Lily P
K-6HP	Christian G	4RB	Hunter W
K-6RF	Kaiden T	4AD	Lachlan D
K-6SR	Mason S	5CG	Alexis H
K-6BB	Lena B	5CR	Finn B
1KB	Isla S	5AL	Tyler R
1MB	Jack B	5/6BB	Tyler B
1LF	Alera L	6ML	Ella R
1MH	Lucien M	6JS	Savannah S
2MM	Robert D	6DB	Vienna M



