

## Knowledge & Success

# **2 0 2 4** TERM 2 : ISSUE 1



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Term 2 is well underway, and it is proving to be another very busy term. We have had a number of new enrolments so I would like to take the opportunity of welcoming our new parents who have joined the Two Rocks P.S. family this term. Please don't hesitate to contact the administration team if you need and assistance or advice.

In week 2 we had our ANZAC Assembly our School Councillors and Head Boy, Naete and Head Girl, Sienna-Lee all did a fantastic job reciting the very moving poems This was organised and hosted by Mrs Wagstaff.

We also held our Wacky Wednesday, Mental health Day in week 2 which was a great success the day was designed for students, staff and parents and care givers to have a fun day full of laughter. The fantastic IGA donated our sausage sizzle a huge thank you to them and to all our fantastic parents who helped on the day, we made a very impressive \$1,368. A huge thank you to our wonderful parents/carers who joined in the fun and also to Miss Wildish who planned, organised and supervised the day. I am reliably informed that next year's Wacky Wednesday will be even bigger so hopefully more parents will join us to have fun.

Last week we held our Mothers Day stall and a raffle. We raised a very impressive \$3000 from the stall and \$135 from the raffle. A big thank you to our parents for supporting us.

Our Year 6 students were on camp at Busselton this week accompanied by their teachers Mrs Joubert, Ms Scholte and assisted by Mrs Pinches. the weather has been great, and they are all having a really good time.

Our Transition to Kindergarten program for 2024 is well underway with Mrs King organising this for us this year assisted by Mrs Nolan.

A reminder about Reading Nights, make sure you are not only reading as often as possible, but that you are tracking these in your diaries and handing them in regularly for your teachers to tally. We are shooting for a new record this year and reading is so important.

We are monitoring attendance very closely. Everyone needs to be at school in order to learn. The more days that are missed the harder it is to catch up and this creates added stress socially and academically. If you child is unwell, we require a doctor's note upon their return. As an added incentive we are going to run some prizes that will be raffled to students whose attendance is over 90%. Each semester we will have 2 x \$100 gift cards.



Next week commencing Monday 20th May we have our annual Book Fair which is organised by Mrs Walker who always does an exceptional job. The funds raised goes toward the book awards at the end of the year and for resources across the school.

On Wednesday 22nd May we will be participating in the annual National Simultaneous Storytime, this year the book is Bowerbird Blues by Aura Parker. We will be meeting in the undercover area to listen to the story together. This has once again been organised by Mrs Dodds.

A reminder that the long weekend is coming up and that the students will be enjoying a longer weekend whilst the staff at Two Rocks P.S participate in Professional Learning which will include all the Network Schools so that we can ensure that we are consistent across the network and meeting the needs of our students when they reach high school.

Our annual Music of the Night concert will be held on Thursday 30th May. This concert gives our talented students the opportunity to showcase their talents. As we can only accommodate 200 guests tickets which will cost \$5.00 will be limited to 2 per family. It will commence at 4:00pm with snacks and drinks available for purchase. We will let you know when and where tickets will be available for purchase.

On the 14th June we are participating in the Winter Carnival at Splendid Park this will involve many of our Year 5 and 6 students who will participate in team events of their choosing from various sports including AFL and Netball.

As you can see the second half of term two will also be very busy.

Elizabeth Wildish



This year's Harmony Day was marked by hosting an International Food Festival at our school. Students enthusiastically participated by bringing in dishes from their cultural backgrounds to share with their classmates, fostering a celebration of our school's cultural diversity. This event served as an opportunity to promote cultural respect and deepen our understanding of different cultures represented within our community. Harmony Day embodies our commitment to inclusivity and fostering a sense of belonging for all. Throughout the day, students engaged in sharing information about the dishes they brought, participated in Harmony Day activities, and enjoyed sharing this with their parents, making it a resounding success. We would like to extend out thanks to all parents who joined us for this special occasion, contributing to the appreciation for diversity within our school.





We held our ANZAC Day assembly on Monday morning (22nd April 2024) Week 2 of Term 2. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to Ms Tracey Roberts MP for the donation of the beautiful wreath and her beautiful speech on the day.

Thank you to our lovely Mrs Wagstaff for organising this meaningful event and to our parents for their attendance and support.

Students from Years 1 to 6 were in attendance. Our Head Boy, Naete and Head Girl, Sienna-Lea represented the school to lay the wreath to honour those we lost during the war. The ceremony was completed with a graceful performance from the school choir group conducted by Mrs King.





This year marked the second year of our awesome Wacky Wednesday!!!

It was wonderful to see our students happily entered the school with fun costumes ready to seize the wacky day with a lot of exciting activities throughout the day.

A huge thank you to Ms Wildish for organising this event and not to forget, a big thank you to all the staff for their helps and support on the day. We also would like to thank the parents for participating and making the day memorable for our students. It was so lovely to see all students happy and smiling.

















**AROUND** THE SCHOOL Wacky Wednesday































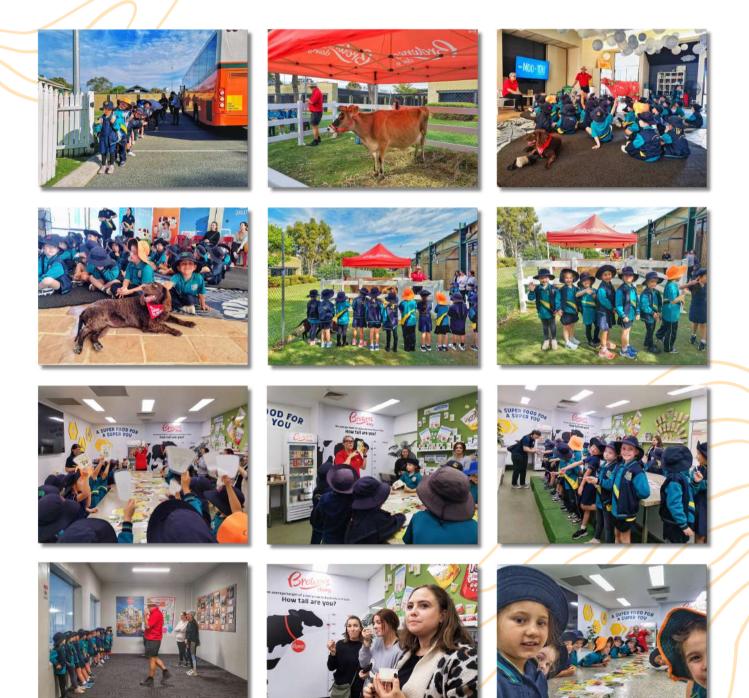


At Two Rocks Primary School's annual cross-country carnival, students displayed remarkable determination and camaraderie. We've had a cloudy day that created perfect conditions for long distance running. The event buzzed with excitement as children from all grades ran their hearts out, cheered on by enthusiastic peers and proud parents. The races concluded with a short ribbon presentation, celebrating not just the winners, but all participants who gave their best and supported one another. Furthermore, congratulations to the top five runners of each category that qualified for the interschool cross country carnival in Gingin on the 24th of May.





The Pre-Primaries had a wonderful excursion to Brownes Dairy! We were met by Farmer Damian who showed us around the factory and told us lots of interesting facts about the Dairy and all the different products made by Brownes. He told the students all about his dairy cows and how the milk gets to us at the shops. The students loved seeing the factory floor where all the milk was being produced and were so excited to be able to taste test several different flavours of yoghurt. We loved meeting Curly Sue the dog at the Dairy and the highlight of the excursion was getting to milk a real cow! The students, teachers and parent helpers were thrilled to get a yoghurt or milk drink treat to take away from the excursion.





**AROUND** THE SCHOOL Pre-Primary Excursion

































Term 2 has started with much anticipation and excitement for our camp to Busselton. In Chemical Science students have been exploring changes to materials and are thoroughly enjoying the hands on experiments. Our novel, Call of the Wild has inspired extremely interesting discussions! In maths we continue to develop our understanding and application of mental mathematical strategies to solve multiplication of decimal numbers, converting decimals to fractions and percentages.









We have been busy as always in Year 5! Towards the end of last term we joined the rest of our school by celebrating Harmony Day with an International Food Festival. We got to try food from all around the globe! Lots of us discovered new favourites. We also participated in "Wacky Wednesday" which was lots of fun. We spent our morning relaxing with mindfulness acitivites, and the rest of the day participating in exciting games and challenges.

In the classroom we have continued to enjoy our novel study on Charlotte's web. We are learning a lot of new vocabulary from our work on this text. In Maths we have been learning how to multiply two-digit by two-digit numbers. In Science we have been focusing on states of matter and in HASS we have started a new geograppy unit.











The students in Year 4 have been flat out this term in all learning areas. In History, we have been discussing Aboriginal culture and their strong connection to Country. In Math we have learnt many different subtraction strategies and have been converting between grams and kilograms. In Literacy we have been focusing on the main idea of a text and identifying text features in books, such as a heading, diagrams, captions and a glossary. In cooking we made cheese and pizza or vegemite scrolls. In Week 3 we also participated in Cross Country where everyone positively participated. Congratulations to all our runners!





What an exciting start to the term we have had in Year 3! In Literacy, we have started learning about recount writing and wrote a recount about our day at Charnwood Park for Cross Country. In Maths, we have started to learn about kilograms and litres and enjoyed measuring the capacity of different containers. We loved making Oobleck using custard powder in Science, which helped us learn about how things can change what state of matter they are. We are learning about connection to Country in HASS. We also loved dressing up in our wackiest outfits for Wacky Wednesday!





We started off the term with a shoelace incursion where we practiced tying a cool shoe lace pencil case that we got to keep. We also loved Wacky Wednesday which was filled with lots of fun games and activities. In Literacy, we wrote impressive recounts about our holidays and are now writing narratives which we really enjoy doing. In Mathematics, we continue to blow our teachers away with how we are adding and subtracting two-digit numbers using the formal algorithm. We have also enjoyed measuring almost everything we could see with a 1m ruler. In Science, we are learning about life cycles including the lifecycle of a butterfly and frog.













### The Year 1s have settled straight back into Term 2!

In English, we have read continued to read books and learn new vocabulary from them! Our favourite part is making up actions to help us remember their meaning and using them in our writing! We have been learning to add using different strategies in Maths, including counting-on, number lines and skip counting. In Science, we have been learning about Living Things and what they need to survive. We are putting our knowledge to the test by designing and creating bird feeders!

We participated in Cross Country this year for the first time! We had lots of fun and made our teachers proud!

A highlight of this term so far was Wacky Wednesday! We had a blast playing at all the rotations and loved dressing up. We enjoyed participating in mindfulness activities the rest of the day and of course the icy-poles and hot dogs.





We have had a great start to Term 2! In Literacy the students are learning to sequence the events in stories and have been learning lots of new Vocabulary words such as cosy, strong, huge and cranky! We have also began our spelling program and have seen some amazing results so far! This term in Science we are studying Chemical Sciences and we are looking at the properties of materials such as rubber, plastic, wood, paper and cardboard. In Design Technologies we are learning all about the products from animals and the production of milk. We loved our excursion to Brownes Dairy and loved the chance to milk a real dairy cow! In Hass we have been doing Geography and learning all about houses and what materials they are made of.















The Kindy students have been busy improving their gross motor skills outside of the classroom. We have been assessing the skills of balancing on one foot, sprint run, climbing safety on the equipment and hopping on one foot.

In Maths they have been practising writing numbers and learning more about patterning and sorting of objects.

In English they have been learning using the Jolly Phonics programme and have learnt the letters S, A, T, I, P and N so far. They have also enjoyed the craft activities to support















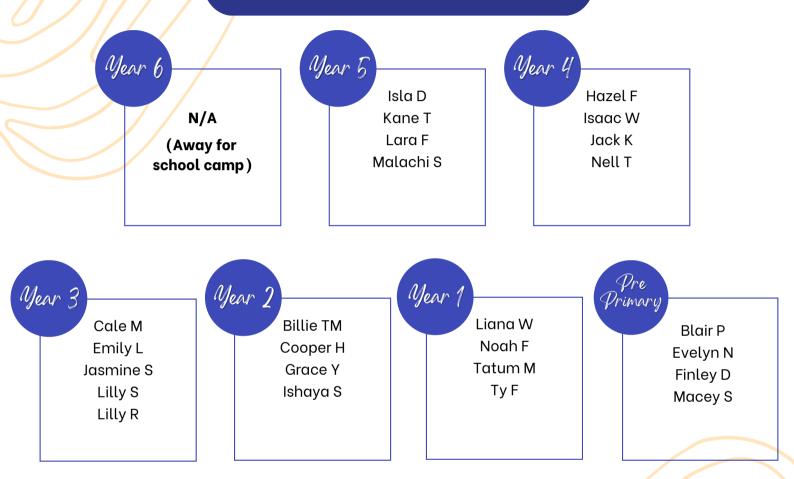


## IMPORTANT DATES TERM 2 (WEEK 6-11)

Events	Dates		
	Start	Finish	Year Level
Book Fair	20/05/2024	24/05/2024	KIndy - Year 6
National Simultaneous Storytime	22/05/2024 (Week 6 - Wednesday)		PP - Year 6
Interschool Cross Country	24/05/2024 (Week 6 - Friday)		-
National Reconciliation Week	27/05/2024	30/05/2024	Kindy - Year 6
Music of the NIght	30/06/2024 (Week 7 - Thursday)		
Winter Carnival	14/06/2024 (Week 9 - Friday)		
RAC Incursion	24/06/2024 (Week 11 - Monday)		Kindy
Year 4 Assembly	26/06/2024 (Week 11 - Wednesday)		PP- Year 6



## Honour Certificates



# **Aussie of the Month**





# Attendance Lucky Draw

As part of the school's efforts to raise the attendance rate of all our students, we are offering another \$100 voucher reward for two students who achieve a minimum of 90% attendance for the Semester! Student names will be drawn from a hat and the winners will be announced in an assembly towards the end of Term 2. A plush toy will also be rewarded to a Kindergarten student who achieves a high attendance rate.

Attending school regularly is so important to build knowledge and skills for future learning. It also allows us to maintain our friendships and enjoy all the social interactions school has to offer. Families, please help us to promote a positive attitude towards attendance; every day matters!

We would like to introduce our new martial arts club that is opening near your beautiful school. Martial Arts are a lot more than what most think it is. We teach discipline, respect, and focus while making healthy life choices physically and mentally. We believe this is important for your student's age group.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require further information.



every school day counts!



# Mother's Day Raffle Winners

Our lucky winners of the Mother's Day Raffle are Itmara O and Julia D who both won a box full of goodies to spoil them on their special day. Thank you to everyone who were a part of this fantastic prize.





## How Parents Can Safely Introduce Their Children To News and Current Affairs

Most children will eventually consume news and current affairs programs but is there a way for parents to minimise the impacts of distressing media. While much attention has been drawn to the detrimental impact of violent video games on children's developing brains, there has been relatively little discussion regarding the negative effects of news and current affairs programs children are exposed to.

When people consume news and current affairs, it's hard to escape tragic events, from natural disasters, acts of terrorism and events that include loss of human life.

#### But do we stop to consider what distressing media is doing to our kids?

#### **HOW CHILDREN ARE IMPACTED**

Research undertaken by the Audience Research Department of the Netherlands Broadcasting Corporation found young children who are exposed to news and current affairs programs can be impacted so much that they start viewing the world as a scarier place. Research was undertaken through random telephone interviews with 537 Dutch children, with 48.2 per cent of respondents stating they have a fear reaction to watching adult news.

The study found children aged 7-12 were most afraid of interpersonal violence and natural disasters such as fires, accidents and other disasters.

Researchers from the study even found children's symptoms are like a trauma response – including intruding thoughts (memories that pop into a child's head, nightmares, repeated discussion around events), avoidance (refusal to talk about news events, or to participate in school activities) and changes to arousal and reactivity (increased irritability and anger outbursts).

#### EVEN SUBTLE EXPOSURE NEEDS TO BE MONITORED.

Even when children are playing in the background, if adults have the news on, children can be listening in. Children under the age of seven might not understand the content, which can cause confusion, therefore raising worry and anxiety. This is because children under the age of seven do not have the brain function to mentally manipulate information, and they can't see things from another point of view.

Older teens, meanwhile, generally gain much of their news content from the internet and social media, meaning some parents are not aware of how much, or what, they are exposed to. However, due to their age, they are able to have a greater understanding of different perspectives.

### **GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT**

According to psychological therapist <u>Annie Gurton</u>, different age groups require different strategies when it comes to consuming news and current affairs:

Children under the age of seven may perceive televised events as live occurrences, leading
them to believe traumatic incidents are recurring when they see repeated broadcasts. They are
likely to be greatly disturbed by images depicting suffering, crying or violence.



- **Between 7 and 12 years old**, children tend to grasp that news reports convey events that have already taken place. They are increasingly capable of empathising with victims, and they may get anxious about the safety of themselves and their family when encountering distressing stories.
- **Teenagers aged 13 and olde**r tend to exhibit heightened emotional responses to distressing events, often experiencing fear and deep concern for their own and their family's safety. They may project such events into the future and worry about potential risks. However, they are also capable of reasoning and understanding statistical explanations, which can provide reassurance and alleviate their anxieties.

There is no magic time frame for parents to introduce their children to news and current affairs, however it is important that we consider not just the age, but the maturity and understanding levels of the individual child.

### WE DO KNOW IT'S IMPORTANT FOR CHILDREN TO TAKE A BREAK FROM THE COVERAGE

Setting a viewing limit of 30–60 minutes before encouraging children to get up and do something else is important. A perfect opportunity to support children to know more about the world, without exposing them to the potential downside of the news, is to teach them about why you need to censor their viewing. This can help teach children to regulate their emotions, by expressing themselves when they see things that are upsetting. This might include empathising with young children under the age of seven by saying something like: "I know you really want to watch the news, but some media can report events that are not safe for you to hear." For an older child, it could be: "I am happy for you to watch the 'good news' stories, but other events that are televised we need to watch together."

The **<u>Raising Children Network</u>** has some fantastic tips for parents of school-age children when it comes to distressing news events:

- **Turn off and take a break** this might mean allowing families 30 minutes to catch up on the main headlines, but then getting up and doing something else.
- Give age-appropriate information children will cope better if they have age-appropriate
  information given to them. For example, during fire season you might talk to your children about
  how, due to the extreme heat, the ground gets very dry, resulting in an increase of fires. This is
  why we have total fire ban days to reduce that risk.
- Talk to your children explain, at an age-appropriate level, what they have watched and allow for open communication about what has happened. Allow them to ask questions and reflect.
- Monitor your children's reactions to the news ask them how they're feeling and share how you're feeling.

At school we have many ways of dealing with the impact of the News on our students. Many classes access the Behind the News which is used to introduce students to the world of the News and Current Affairs. We have a Counsellor at school every week which students can access we also have a system where students who need to "talk to someone can fill out a slip of paper and nominate an adult they wish to talk to, believe it or not some of the students have actually nominated me.

### By, ELISE WAGHORN - ABC MEDIA



## **Operating Hours**

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE 8:00AM - 3:30PM (Weekdays)

> SCHOOL START TIME 8:30AM

### SCHOOL FINISH TIME 2:45PM

A reminder that,

Friday (Week 7), 31/05/2024 and Tuesday (Week 8), 04/06/2024 are Staff Development Days, students do not attend.

Monday, (Week 8), 03/06/2024) is WA Day. School will resume on 05/06/2024.

Thank you.

Library Day Term 2, 2024

### LIBRARY TIME TABLE

<u>Monday</u> Year 1 Year 6

<u>Tuesday</u>

<u>Wednesday</u> Year 4

<u>Thursday</u> Pre Primary Year 3

> <u>Friday</u> Year 5 Year 2