

From the Principal

What a start to the new school year! I'm excited to welcome many new faces to our Wangala community as our school continues to grow. We welcomed Mrs Sarah Sobczynski as our middle classroom teacher, Lauren Verhagen as an Education Support Staff member, and Natalie Kwiez as an Education Support Staff member. We also welcomed Jess Delaney, the coordinator of our new Outside School Hours Care service, and Steph Sutherland, an Educator in our service as well.

We're all excited to see the launch of our Outside School Hours Care which has been frequently used each afternoon. A reminder that you can book your children into the service on permanent days or can book in on a casual basis as well. Your child must be enrolled in the OSHC service to attend, and it is highly recommended that you enrol your child as you never know when you may need it. Bookings can be made by calling the office during school hours. We are in the process of setting up the service to enable you to claim the Child Care Subsidy. Please be mindful that we're all new to this too, so we may not always have the answers that you need!

The whole staff were beaming with pride seeing our students arrive in their new uniform on the first day. We've had some amazing feedback from many in the wider community about our eye-catching and unique uniform. We are in the process of ordering more uniforms for many of you who have inquired and will have this in stock at the school to purchase. We are awaiting the arrival of the sublimated hoodies for our senior students which also feature our unique Wangala design, but with the weather we've had lately, we may not need them for a while!

Steven King
Principal

Auslan at Wangala

Our Auslan program started last Friday with students being introduced to the Auslan language and guided to understand some key points about this language. We met Paula, who will be the Auslan teacher online and learn some basic sign to begin with. We're really pleased to offer this as our language as our staff learn alongside our students. We hope to be able to share with you some of the Auslan learning as we go.

Dates to Remember

Friday, 11th February

School Assembly at 9.00am in our court yard – all are welcome to attend!

Friday, 11th February

11.30am Year Fives – Fit2Lead Program

Sunday, 13th February

Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations

Monday, 14th February

AFL Footy Clinic for Prep – 2 students

Monday, 14th February

Kim's birthday! Make sure you wish her a happy birthday!

Monday, 14th February

AFL Footy Clinic for Prep – 2 students

Wednesday, 16th February

Go-Ride-A-Wave excursion for 3-6s!

Friday, 25th February

School Assembly at 9.00am

Friday, 25th February

Geelong Advertiser '2022 Prep Photo'

Sunday, 6th March

Clean Up Australia Day!

2022 School Leaders

Today our whole school voted for our 2022 School Leaders. This year we've decided to have a number of School Leaders from our Year Six students.

We are so pleased to announce that Dylan, Sarthak, Abby, Eve and Luci will be our leaders for 2022! They will have some amazing opportunities to improve our school and will represent our school throughout the year. Congratulations to you all!

Emergency Procedures at Wangala

Last week we practised an Emergency Evacuation of our buildings. We do this often to ensure that we all know what to do in the event of an emergency. The whole school responded really well to the siren and assembled on our school oval for roll call promptly and orderly. Part of our 'learning to learn' program at the beginning of the year is to go through these procedures and unpack the what, why and how of our emergency procedures. We have also visited our Crossing Supervisor, Mariesa, who took us through the process of crossing safely at the crossing.



BioLAB Visit

Yesterday the Grade 5 and 6 students were very fortunate to take part in an excursion to a state-of-the-art facility called BioLAB, right on our doorstep in Belmont. The students represented Wangala Primary School amazingly and it was continually mentioned how well behaved they were. We couldn't be prouder! It was a jammed packed day full of unique learning experiences, with students taking part in two sessions for the day

The first session, Brain Matters, tied in beautifully with our 'Learning to Learn' program. Students applied their knowledge to functionally test different parts of the brain, including reaction time, balance, psychology, and the effect of physical activity. The program was designed to develop students' understanding of brain function and health, and the importance of caring for your brain across a lifetime.

The second session - Science of Cheating saw students challenged to use mathematical reasoning, scientific testing, and scientific literacy skills to explore shoe technology, sport doping, and mechanical advantage. The students discovered many weird and wonderful stories of successful and foiled cheating attempts in between!

The students were fully engaged and inspired, using innovative technologies and techniques. The programs were themed using sport, and built unique experiences around several science, technology, engineering, and mathematics career pathways. It really did have the WOW factor and was wonderful opportunity for our students!



Surf's Up!

Next Wednesday, 16th February, the Grade 3 - 6 students are taking part in a two-hour surfing session in Torquay. This is such a wonderful opportunity for the Wangala Primary School students and has been fully funded under the 'Sporting Schools Grant'. All wetsuits and surfboards are provided and a note with more details will be handed out to the attending students Friday.



Oberon High School Site Update

You would have noticed that there are now no Oberon High School buildings standing! The demolition crew have worked tirelessly to pull the old building down and to begin reforming the grounds ready for a new purpose. We do not know what the land will be used for, but we are excited to take possession of the gymnasium early in Term Two as it is freshened up ready for our school to use. We are incredibly lucky as a primary school to have such a resource, something many of our neighbouring schools would be envious of! We will hire the gymnasium out to the community as well and can confirm that this will have no impact on our school site, as we will continue to retain the Pickett Crescent entrance to the site for access to the gymnasium, meaning no traffic will come through our school.