



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kaya,

Welcome to the first edition of the school newsletter for Term 2, 2026. I want to update you on a few key things this newsletter.



Staff changes - There are a few staffing changes I want to make the community aware of. Mrs Zeverona (née Stella) has stepped into the role of Secondary Deputy Principal following Miss Sjollema's promotion to Harvey Agricultural College. Mr Wallis has joined us as a Physical Education teacher while Mrs Caratti is on leave and Miss Rhodes has returned to Waroona DHS as a generalist teacher.

I will be taking Long Service Leave for the next few weeks. During this time, Mr Olver will join the team as Principal until my return.

Time to talk - The Department of Education has introduced changes to the end-of-semester reporting process, which will result in some minor adjustments to the overall report comments compared to the previous year. As part of these changes, schools are now able to schedule full-day closures to facilitate parent/teacher meetings focused on student progress.

On Monday 27 July (Week 2, Term 3), the school will be closed for the day, and no classes will be held. Families will need to make alternative arrangements for their children during school hours.

This dedicated time will allow staff to engage more meaningfully with parents, either through face-to-face or telephone meetings, to discuss each child's progress. Further details on how to book appointments on this day will be provided alongside the end-of-semester reports.

P&C - Our Parent and Citizens' (P&C) Association volunteers do a fantastic job, often working behind the scenes to raise funds and support the work of the school, and by extension, the wider Waroona community. In two weeks' time, we will celebrate P&C Day, an annual opportunity to recognise and thank P&Cs for their valuable contributions, their role in fostering community involvement, and their support of school activities and essential resources.

I would like to sincerely thank the dedicated volunteers of our P&C for everything they do for Waroona DHS. In recent years, however, we have seen a decline in volunteer numbers, which has limited our ability to do some of the things we would like to do, including opening the canteen more regularly.

If you are interested in joining the P&C, please contact them or the school administration, we would be delighted to welcome new volunteers.

Fuel issues - We understand that current fuel issues may be concerning for some of our families.

At this stage, we do not anticipate any changes to our normal school operations or scheduled activities. Should this situation change, we will communicate with families as early as possible.

Families are encouraged to support regular student attendance to ensure the continuity of learning and to support positive learning outcomes wherever possible.

Please know that our door is always open. We value your family's place in our school community and look forward to a successful term together.

I wish you all a safe and happy Term 2.

Mr Gareth Smith

PRINCIPAL

CONSIDERATE

ASPIRING

RESPONSIBLE

ENGAGED

SAFE



FROM THE DEPUTIES Associate Principal

Hello everyone, and welcome back to what has been a very busy start to Term 2. Students have been progressing well through their lessons, and it is great to see the level of engagement that is occurring across the school. Initial data has begun to come in for students who sat NAPLAN, with the trends appearing positive, especially in Years 5 and 9. Students in Years 4, 6 and 8 will be sitting their off years tests, set up by the school to capture strengths and weaknesses in those years groups, to help teachers cater to the needs of our students.



With attendance, we have had a really positive start to the term. We had a large number of students receive a reward for 90% attendance in Term 1. There will be further rewards to recognise this effort in Weeks 6 and 11 of this term. Currently we have an overall attendance of 87.2%, with 54.2% of our students as regular attenders. We would love to get that number up over 60 by the end of the term and I encourage all students to get to school every day.

Touching on a few procedural matters. All public schools in Western Australia are moving to Compass education software; parents will have already started to receive notifications for positive engagement at school. The schools next phase is to roll out notifications when students don't meet behaviour expectations. These will commence some time in Week 5. Following this in Term 3, parents will receive a letter with their log on details and will be able to interact with the platform. Parents will be able to log absences as well as be updated with news from classroom teachers.

Finally, after reviewing procedures and consultation with the Department, we would like to let parents know about the procedure if a student is arriving or departing school at times other than a normal scheduled time. All students who are late need to be signed in through Administration, students are then free to go to class. For students who are being picked up early, parents need to go to the Administration and sign the student out. For students in Year 2 and below the parent can collect the student. The Administration will ring and ask students older than Year 2 to walk up to the administration building. If you need to drop lunch off to your child, please drop it at the Administration and the student will be notified that their lunch is there. Thank you in advance for helping with these new procedures. I hope everyone has an excellent start of the term.

Mr Matthew White
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

Primary Deputy

As we continue through the term, it has been wonderful to see students in our early childhood and primary school increasingly settled into school life and growing in confidence within their classrooms and routines.



Enrolments - We would like to extend a very warm welcome to students who started this term! We also welcome Laurence (PP) who will join us next week.

On the topic of enrolments, we welcome new Kindergarten applications for the 2027 school year. Children born between July 2022 and June 2023 are eligible for enrolment. Waroona DHS provides a strong focus on the early years and primary years, with some great opportunities for students

- Our National Quality Standard report recognised approaches to evidence based play-based learning and explicit teaching approach noting *"It is evident that early childhood educators demonstrate strong knowledge of practices that support how young children learn. Many educators acknowledged the importance of child-centred learning opportunities and are actively working towards achieving an effective blend of purposeful play-based learning and explicit teaching. This approach aligns with educators' beliefs, children's needs, and contemporary pedagogy"*
- Waroona DHS also maintains partnerships with organisations such as Telethon Speech and Hearing provides opportunities for early intervention.



If you're considering Kindergarten for 2027 and wish to do a school tour or have a chat, please reach out to our Administration or via email and we would love to show you and your child/ren around to make you feel comfortable.



Waroona District High School



KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

FOR 2027

NOW OPEN



ENROL NOW IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 4 YEARS OLD
BY 30TH JUNE 2027.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OR ONLINE.

Tel: 9782 7000
www.waroonadhs.wa.edu.au
55 Millar Street, Waroona

LILAC Day - In the lead up to Mother's Day this Sunday, students have been busy participating in *Ladies I Love and Cherish (LILAC)* celebrations, we recognise that families are diverse and students have many special people in their life who they can celebrate this day with. Across the school, students have enjoyed opportunities to reflect on and appreciate the important women in their lives through a range of thoughtful activities and creations. We hope all of the special women in our community enjoy a wonderful Mother's Day.

Primary Disco (Week 10) - Looking ahead, our primary school disco will be taking place later this term in Week 10. Our P&C are already excitedly discussing themes, and we look forward to sharing more information with families soon.

K-2 Planning - Over recent weeks, it has been fantastic visiting classrooms across our Early Childhood area and seeing the learning growth already taking place. Students are becoming increasingly familiar with classroom expectations and routines, building strong foundations for learning and independence. It has been especially pleasing to observe our Kindergarten and Pre-Primary students engaged in pre-writing experiences, developing their fine motor skills, letter awareness and confidence through hands-on activities. Learning portfolios collated by teachers have started to capture these important early milestones and celebrate student growth. Our Early Childhood staff (K-2) recently attended a Professional Learning facilitated by ACEL (Australian Council for Education Leaders) and Dr Amie Fabry (Early Years Consultant), where we will continue to build our K-2 early years classroom planning and improvements to outdoor spaces as time goes on.

Classroom Showcase – PP - Our Pre-Primary students have been immersed in a wonderful literacy-rich inquiry inspired by the story *"We're Going on a Bear Hunt"* by Michael Rosen. Throughout the fortnight, students packed bags for their adventures, created mazes and obstacle courses for their bears, designed masks, and explored problem-solving through imaginative play both inside and outside the classroom.

A highlight was the outdoor Bear Hunt showcase, where students enthusiastically retold the story and recreated each part of the journey together. Their investigations even extended into collecting "bear clues" using iPads and creating traps with tasty treats to see what might attract a bear to the playground! It has been fantastic to see such creativity, collaboration and excitement for learning.

Supporting Emotional Regulation - As part of supporting children in their learning journey, we also recognise that in early years and primary stages, students can experience very big emotions. At school, staff work closely with



students to build emotional awareness and regulation strategies, helping children to identify feelings, communicate their needs and develop calming strategies when feeling overwhelmed.

Some simple strategies families may also find helpful to replicate at home include:

- Naming the feeling (“I can see you’re feeling frustrated/sad/excited.”)
- Using calm breathing techniques such as square breathing (breathe in for 4, hold for 4, breathe out for 4, hold to the count of 4)
- Creating predictable routines
- Offering choices such as drawing, reading, movement or quiet spaces
- Modelling calm responses and problem-solving together

Supporting children to recognise and regulate emotions is an important part of helping them feel safe, connected and ready to learn both at home and at school. A great resource from Monash University uses movement as a regulation tool with some ideas you can use at home too:

<https://www.monash.edu/medicine/psych/research/projects/joy-of-moving-program-in-australia/resources/families>

Social Media / Mobile Phones & Smart Watches - Recently, we have observed an increase in upper primary students discussing access to social media platforms outside of school, particularly Snapchat, as well as increased use of smart watches and phones arriving at school. As a school, we continue to work closely with students around safe and age-appropriate online behaviours, respectful communication and the importance of healthy boundaries with technology.

We would like to remind families that the Department of Education’s “*Off and Away All Day*” approach remains in place for mobile phones and smart devices. This means student mobile phones should be turned off and stored away for the duration of the school day unless required for approved medical purposes. Smart watches such as 'SpaceTalk' or Apple watches should be switched to flight mode/school mode whilst at school. Students are welcome to keep devices stored safely at our Administration, or alternatively by discussing this with their classroom teacher for a safe storage place in their classroom (eg: bag/teacher's desk, etc).

We encourage families to regularly monitor online activity, conversations and app usage at home, particularly as many social media platforms have age restrictions and can expose children to complex social situations before they are developmentally ready to navigate them independently. Maintaining open conversations around respectful online behaviour, digital safety and balance with technology is an important partnership between home and school.

Families may also find the eSafety Commissioner website helpful, with a range of practical resources, webinars and guides available to support parents in navigating social media, online safety and age-appropriate technology use with children.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

Mrs Hannah Moore
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Secondary Deputy

Hi all,

Welcome back, I’m hoping you all had a restful and relaxing break. It has been great to have all our students back and so eager to commence their learning. Having worked at the school for a number of years, I am delighted to have the opportunity to step into the role of High School Deputy.

I must say how quickly the term flew by, with lots of incursions and excursions happening. The school was definitely buzzing! Last week, some of our Year 9 and 10 students had the opportunity to meet with representatives from the U.S. Consulate. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain insight into what studying overseas may involve, as well as explore the range of career opportunities available through the consulate.





Finally, it has been amazing to see all of our C.A.R.E.S containers in both the primary and the secondary areas filling up with the coloured tickets. When a student is seen by a member of staff displaying a C.A.R.E.S positive behaviour, the student will receive a coloured puzzle piece ticket corresponding to the values – yellow for considerate, blue for aspiring, red for responsible, green for engaging and purple for safe. We congratulate the latest students for being our winners at the latest assembly and encourage all students to continue striving for excellence.

Finally, I encourage all students to continue attending, continue making positive choice and trying their best, after all, "You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think".

Mrs Monique Zeverona
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

CHAPLAINS CHAT

Welcome back everyone to Term 2

I hope you all had a restful break and are settling back into the school routine.

My name is Demi and I'm the school chaplain here at WDHS. My role is to support the wellbeing of both students and families. I have access to a range of supports including food hampers, fresh produce, essential items and connections to community services. If things are ever feeling a little tough, or you just need a bit of extra support, please don't hesitate to reach out.

You can contact me at any time:  деми.сгогнале@уоuthcare.org.au

Looking forward to a great term ahead :)

Demi
School Chaplain (Mon–Wed)

ASSEMBLY MERIT CERTIFICATES

The following students received merits at our first assembly this term:

Year 1	Mason Hawke	Livinia Cooper	Archie MacDonald	Cecelia Nannup
Year 2	Oliver Dent	Kingston Pickett		
Year 3	Zane Knox	Harlow McDerment	Caleb Harris	
Year 4	Dean Dryburgh	Georgia Lees	Evie Nancarrow	
Year 5	Thomas Wilson	Ruby Waldon		
Year 6	Aurora Bailey	Maxwell Hardie	Allyssa Waldon	
Year 7	Kacee Weil (x2)	Mila Williams	Amber-Lee Pickett	
Year 8	Lyla Grimlinger Millie Gill	Chloe Rico Kaitlyn Walker	Lilly Wilcox	Nicholas Lee
Year 9	Chase Birch			
Year 10	Rubee Bailey	India Brown		

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, 29 May - School Development Day – Students do not attend

Monday, 1 June – Public Holiday – Western Australia Day

Friday, 3 July – Last day of Term 2 - Last bell 3:00pm

Monday, 20 July – First day of Term 3 – First bell 8:45am



PEDAL PRIX

What an incredible day for our Waroona DHS Pedal Prix teams at the first 2026 WA Pedal Prix event held at the Bunbury City Kart Club on May 2nd!

Both our Year 6 and Open teams successfully completed the challenging 6-hour race, showing determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the day. Our Year 6 team, made up almost entirely of first-time riders (with Ruby Rose bringing a little experience to the group), took on the challenge with fantastic enthusiasm and courage. The Open team, featuring students from Years 7–10, worked together brilliantly as they pushed through changing conditions, fatigue and the demands of endurance racing.

While no major placings were achieved this round, the real success was building a new racing team culture, developing confidence, fitness, teamwork and the willingness to try something completely different. Every student represented the school with pride and showed tremendous sportsmanship.

A huge thank you must go to the parents and families who supported the event. Your encouragement, assistance and enthusiasm made the day possible — without your support, opportunities like this simply could not happen. We are already looking forward to the next race!





ANZAC DAY COMMERATIONS

Our students came together as a school community to commemorate **ANZAC Day** and honour the service and sacrifice of those who have served our country.

Our students showed great respect throughout the service, reflecting on the importance of remembrance and what it means to be part of a community that values courage, mateship and sacrifice.

Each classroom thoughtfully created a wreath, which was laid at our tribute table as part of the service. These wreaths were a beautiful representation of reflection, gratitude and learning across the school.

We are proud of the way our students engaged in this important occasion with such care and respect.



Year 10



Year 9



Year 8



Year 7



Room 21



Room 28



Room 26



Room 27



Room 25



Room 24



Student Councillors





Helping kids thrive online

Webinar information sheet for parents of primary school students

General tips for supporting your child online:

- Support your child's friendships online and off by talking with them about their friends and activities.
- Ask your child to demonstrate the games and apps they use to better understand what they play, why it's fun and possible pitfalls they may encounter.
- Help build confidence by encouraging children to share their knowledge of the online world.
- Encourage routines that promote health and balance. For example, create device-free times and places in your home.
- Model your own behaviour, by demonstrating that you can put your phone down and concentrate on spending time with your child, without the distractions of being online.
- Talk to your child about who could be their 'askable adult', and when they would speak with them.

Harmful content

Harmful or inappropriate content is content that a child might find upsetting, disturbing or offensive. It includes material that shows or encourages the sexual abuse of children, terrorism or other acts of extreme violence, and material which is not suitable for children, such as pornography.

Ways to start the chat:

- Use eSafety's information on how to approach the [hard-to-have conversations](#).
- Use [The eSafety Guide](#) to learn more about popular apps, games and social networking sites including how to report inappropriate content.
- Explore [eSafety kids](#) pages with your child to discuss topics such as [I saw something online I didn't like](#).
- Learn how to [report illegal content](#).

Contact with strangers

Unwanted contact is any type of online communication that your child finds unpleasant or confronting, or that leads them into a situation where they might be harmed. At worst, it can involve 'grooming' a child — building a relationship with a child in order to sexually abuse them. How to help your child:

- Learn and discuss what children can do in [situations where they might feel unsafe](#)
- Explore [eSafety kids](#) pages so you can more easily discuss topics like [someone is contacting me and I don't want them to](#).
- Learn about the features of apps that can expose children to contact with strangers by exploring [The eSafety Guide](#).

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying of children is when someone uses online content or communication to seriously humiliate, seriously harass, seriously intimidate, or seriously threaten a child or young person under the age of 18. eSafety can help with the removal of serious cyberbullying content.

- Use [The eSafety Guide](#) to show your child how to block and report users that make them feel uncomfortable.
- Explore [eSafety kids](#) to discuss topics such as [someone is being mean to me online](#) and [people are being mean to others online](#).
- Teach your child [how and when to report cyberbullying to eSafety](#).

Resources

- Download the [online safety guide for parents and carers](#) — available in five languages.
- Use [online safety basics](#) to explore technology issues with your child, negotiate rules and get to know the technology.
- Refer to eSafety's [taming the technology](#) to set screen time tools and parental controls.
- Read eSafety's [privacy and your child](#) to help manage privacy and safety settings. It also offers advice about how to check [location settings](#).
- Explore [the big issues](#) and find out more about cyberbullying, online pornography, time online, gaming, unwanted contact and grooming by a sexual predator.

- Check eSafety's [skills and advice](#) resources—establishing good habits, hard to have conversations and using parental controls.
- Show your child how to contact [Kids Helpline](#) and learn the details of [Parentline](#) in your state or territory.
- Be smart and secure when choosing tech gifts for children by reviewing the [eSafety gift guide](#).
- If you have children under five, read [eSafety Early Years](#) for more information and resources.
- For parents of teens, visit [eSafety young people](#).
- Look at [eSafety parents](#) for advice, resources and links specifically tailored for parents' needs.
- For parents of primary school aged children, visit [eSafety kids](#).

References

- eSafety Research



Parents and carers

How to support healthy tech use as your child transitions into high school

The social changes heading into high school

As your child moves into high school the influence of peers intensifies. This includes their online social connections and how they interact online. There are changing expectations from family and community, and it is during this time the family influence shifts.



Don't expect your child to be perfect online

According to [eSafety research](#), standing up for friends, expressing ideas and emotions, forming healthy relationships, fostering inclusion and navigating [consent](#) can all be challenging for young adolescents. So, don't expect your child to be perfect during this transition.

Building resilience

Building resilience is an essential lifelong skill that may assist your child through this transition. Firstly, validate their feelings and let them know it is OK, then help them figure out what they can and can't control. Encourage a range of online and offline connections, so if key friendships change, they still have other reliable positive connections.

How your child spends time online

A quarter of 12 to 13-year-olds are concerned about not fitting in with their friends, so young adolescents are communicating online in chat groups and gaming communities to deepen their sense of belonging and provide relief from tough times.

Source: Truong, M. and Joshi, A. (2024) 'The influence of peer relationships in the middle years on mental health', Australian Institute of Family Studies, February.

What pressures may your child experience online?

Inclusion pressures: may include deciding which group/s to join, the constant need to check in on games or chat groups.

Exclusion pressures: chat and other online features can enable a young person to feel excluded, such as being left out of conversations or invitations.

Social and peer comparisons: females aged 12 to 13 and males aged 14 to 15 may be most susceptible to the negative effects of online trends such as fitness fads. This could lead to low self-esteem and anxiety.

Orben, A., Przybylski, A.K., Blakemore, S.-J. and Kievit, R.A. (2022) Windows of developmental sensitivity to social media. *Nature Communications*, 13, 1649.

Cyberbullying: AI driven body-based insults, deepfake images, voice cloning and harassment material or vague posting (cryptic messages that hint something is wrong without explaining what happened).

Gaming influencers: content targeted at tweens and teenage boys may reinforce harmful gender norms.

If a child or young person finds it hard to make friends offline, or has limited coping strategies, this vulnerability can be amplified in the online world.

If your child is the one doing the bullying?

Discovering your child may be bullying others can be upsetting, but your support can guide positive change. Talk with your child to explore what's behind their behaviour. Encourage honesty, reflection and taking responsibility, including offering a genuine apology. Support positive change and praise their efforts. Also, work together with the school to move forward.

Have conversations early and often

Having lots of little chats that match your child's age and stage of development can be more effective than one big conversation.

Ask questions about how they feel and what they know. Listen, don't judge, as this can help you understand their specific issues.

Help them to feel no shame or blame about anything they do online, and trust that they can come to you even if they make mistakes.

It may be less awkward if you chat while you're doing something else together, like taking a walk or a car trip. Starting the conversation can be difficult and there are [conversation starters](#) available.





Encourage help-seeking

Your child may find it easier to speak with another trusted adult like a cousin or aunty or uncle. Talk with them about putting together a team of people they trust and can go to if they want to chat about online. Encourage your child to use the [eSafety young people page](#). You can also check out our [list of counselling and support services](#), or go directly to [Kids Helpline](#), [eHeadspace](#) or [Beyond Blue](#).

Build your support networks

As your child enters high school your social network may change too, so it may be an opportunity to think about your own support networks. Different families and separated parents may have different approaches, and this may result in peer pressure for your family. Don't be afraid to discuss strategies with other parents at the sporting field or when picking your kids up. Reach out to your school if there are signs that things may not be right. Communicate in writing and provide specific details. Visit eSafety's [parents and carers page](#) on the main issues that impact young people online, or chat to a [parent helpline](#).

Build safety skills together

Young people need more digital skills.

- Check they know how to block, delete and [report](#) and that they understand why this is important.
- [Check their privacy settings](#) and whether they are sharing their contact details online.
- Discuss the possible pitfalls of sharing passwords and passphrases.
- Check what protections school laptops have when used at home.
- Use [parental controls](#) you feel are right for the age and experience of your child.

The [eSafety Guide](#) provides updated information on the latest games, apps and social media. This includes the recommended age to use, features that may pose risks, available safeguards and how to report inappropriate content.



Updated February 2018

COMMUNITY NEWS



Junior Hockey

Junior season runs on Friday nights at the Ivan Manning Memorial Hockey Fields (Behind the Rec Centre)

Season: Friday 15th of May – 14th August

(Please Note: Junior Hockey not held on long weekends or during school holidays)

Minky (Kindy – Yr2): 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Juniors (Yr3 – Yr11): 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Cost: Minky \$50 and Juniors \$75

To register please visit our website – Scan QR Code or <https://www.revolutionise.com.au/harveyhockey/>

For more information email harveyhockeyclub@gmail.com





STAYING SAFE ONLINE

Community Scam Awareness Session

Join our local Bendigo Bank Representative & WA Police for an informative session on how to recognise, avoid & report scams.

Learn about:

- Common online scams and how they work
- Tips to protect your personal information
- How to stay safe on social media, email & websites
- Safe online banking tips
- What to do if you have been targeted

This FREE session is open to all community members

Stay informed. Stay alert. Stay safe online.

Tuesday 23rd June

10:00 am onwards



Waroona CRC

***Followed by FREE Community Kitchen**



16 Days in WA

Help put an end to Family & Domestic Violence by educating, inspiring and advocating.

Join us in spreading awareness and making a difference.

Monday, 30th November

10am - 12pm

@

Waroona Community Resource Centre

Guest Speakers at 10:30am

Morning Tea to follow

**Please direct any queries to:
programs@waroonacrc.com.au**

or call

9733 3011 for more info.

