

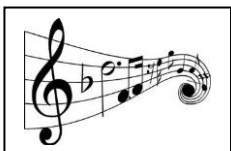


Dear friends and families,

Term 4 has started with high levels of energy and enthusiasm by staff and students alike. This term goes so fast and there is still so much to achieve. There is still nearly a quarter of the years' learning to complete, celebrations of all the hard work and achievement and of course the farewells of staff and our wonderful Year 7 students.

Preparing for 2017

Staff are currently working to create the class groupings for 2017, trying to develop combinations that will provide your children with the best learning environment for next year. Our staff have a deep understanding of your child and the relationships they have with others but if you have any other information that you feel will assist us in shaping the class groupings, please contact the school via principal@wgs.sa.edu.au or phone and leave a message with the front office staff. This information will be considered with all other factors. The school does not consider requests for specific teachers.



Music & Arts Showcase

Next Thursday, 3rd November, the talented WGS musicians and vocalists will be showcasing their talents for the whole school

community. The performances will be led by Mr Brian Monger and include performances by the band, choir, violinists and ensemble.

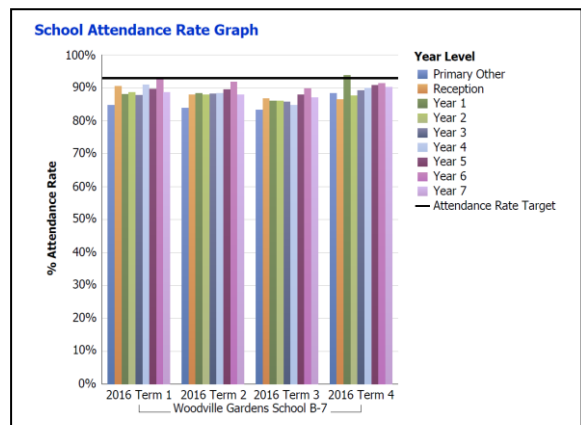
The hall will be open from 5:30 with the first item starting at 5:45, finishing at 7:00pm.

Families are invited to celebrate these talented students and acknowledge all the hard work that has gone into producing the concert.

Attendance data – Year 1 Success

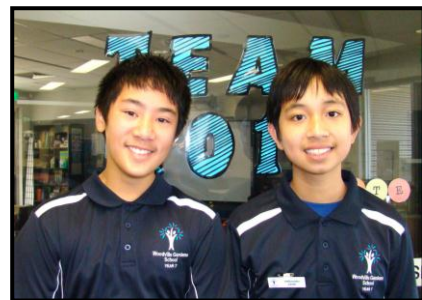
Whilst many factors have impacted on our schools attendance data eg illness and family holidays, we must also reflect on the success of the Year 1 classes.

Despite all these influences they have achieved the state target of 93%! Unfortunately the rest of the school has more work to do as we have slipped further behind this target. At the same stage last year we were achieving 88.0% attendance, compared to the 2016 average of 86.9%.



Max Fatchen Literary Award

Jason Tran and Andy Le have been recognised for their entries in the 2016 Max Fatchen Literary awards.



Both boys ranked highly; with Andy ranked 4th overall and Jason achieved a credible 6th out of 264 entries. This year's competition required children to create poems using the theme, "Australian Animals" for inspiration.

With thanks,

Fiona Voigt,
WGS Principal

Green Learning Area



Genius Hour in the Green Building

Beginning in term 3, the green building began exploring our interests and passions through Genius Hour. During Genius Hour, our classes were given an hour to explore a topic of interest; generating questions, ideas and answers and then presenting our findings at the end of the unit.

What is Genius Hour?

“Genius hour is a movement that allows students to explore their own passions and encourages creativity in the classroom. It provides students a choice in what they learn during a set period of time during school”

- Geniushour.com

What are the origins of Genius Hour?

It is not exactly clear where Genius Hour started but one of its places of origin includes Google. Google, allows its engineers to spend 20% of their time to work on any pet project that they want. The idea is very simple. Allow people to work on something that interests them, and productivity will go up. Google’s policy has worked so well that it has been said that 50% of Google’s projects have been created during this creative time period.

- Geniushour.com

How did Genius Hour start in the Green Building?

Students were introduced to the idea of genius hour through YouTube clips and whole class discussions. Three rules were highlighted by classroom teachers in order to direct and drive students and their choices.

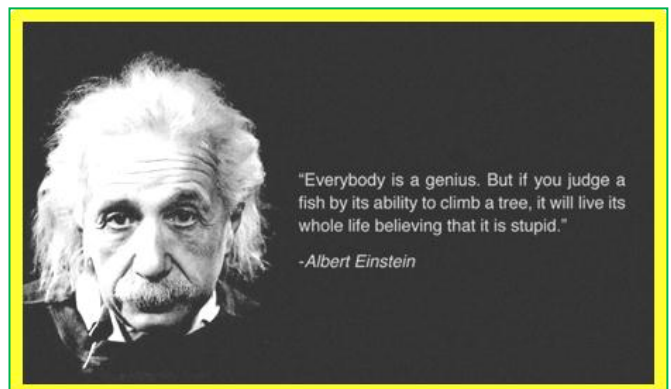
1. There must be a driving question(s)
2. Project must involve research-not answered immediately by Google for example
3. Project must be shared-product/presentation to class/bigger group/forum

“Genius hour gives you the opportunity to research and learn more about something you love. It helps you become an expert in an area and gives you the chance to teach other students what you know”

Sehaileen Kaur (Room 8.12)

“The purpose of ‘genius hour’ is to think outside the box, to learn more about our passion and to share new and interesting ideas with others in the classroom and school”

– Stephanie & Crystal (Room 8.12)



"I was interested about the solar system. I wanted to know why can't we survive on other planets and what force holds our planets together. I learnt that you can't survive on other planets because there is no oxygen or gravity. I also learnt that the force of the Sun holds our planets together in the solar system."

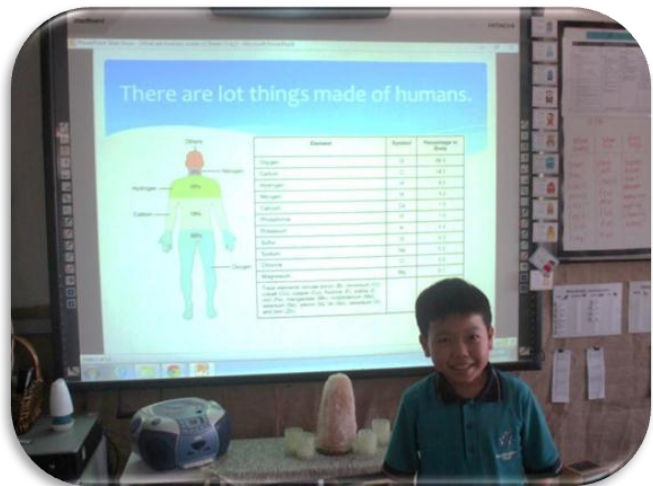
Jamila (Room 8.08)

"I researched drones. I chose to look at how they work and how high they can fly. I learnt that there are insect bug drones too! I enjoyed Genius Hour because it was fun and I like working towards a goal."

Felix (Room 8.07)

"I wanted to know how does electricity work and can electricity survive in a thunder storm. I learnt that there are machines which help make electricity at the Power Station. I did a Power Point and learnt computer skills."

Zoe (Room 8.08)



"I researched how the Syrian War started and if there was a way to stop it. I liked Genius Hour because I like thinking and finding out about stuff. I will be presenting my project as a stop motion video."

(Abass Room 8.13)

"I researched what are humans made of because I want to know more about humans and their body parts. I like Genius Hour because it makes me smarter."

Richard (Room 8.13)

"I researched New Zealand and looked at what has changed since I lived there. I also wanted to find out where to find gold in New Zealand. I enjoyed Genius Hour because I found out more information about New Zealand that I didn't know before."

Amani (Room 8.07)

You are invited to the



Arts Showcase

Showcasing a selection of visual arts and live musical performances by our students.



Thursday 3rd November
5:45-7pm
Woodville Gardens School Gym



Reading in the Park with Parker

Thursday 27th October

5:30pm—7:00pm

by the Parks Theatre

Children's Week event launching

'What's in the Egg?'

in Chinese and Vietnamese.

FREE BBQ, Cool 4 Kids, storytelling and activities



Special guest appearance by Parker the Pelican!

Read, talk, sing, rhyme and draw with your child from birth.

Keep your kids smiling

SA Dental Service



At the School Dental Service, dental care is FREE for all babies, children not yet at school and most children to age 17.

The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Call us now for an appointment!
 Parks School Dental Clinic
 Phone: 8243 5629

