



DATES TO REMEMBER

**Thursday 13th April - 12:15 End of Term Assembly
- 2:00pm EARLY DISMISSAL**

Friday 14th April – Good Friday School Holidays start

Monday 1st of May 2017 Student-Free day

Tuesday 2nd of May 2017 Term 2 starts

9th- 12th of May 2017 NAPLAN Tests for Years 3, 5 & 7 students

Friday 2nd of June 2017 Student-Free Day

Dear Families,

Governing Councilors 2017

Governing Council held its first meeting Tuesday evening and we welcomed three new members: Jo Sherwell, Leanne Jones and Kormal Taitly.

The Office bearers are as follows: Chairperson & Deputy -Edward Deane & Jo Sherwell, Treasurer – Anna Supramaniam (Leanne Jones to be understudy) and Secretary – Lee Biglow

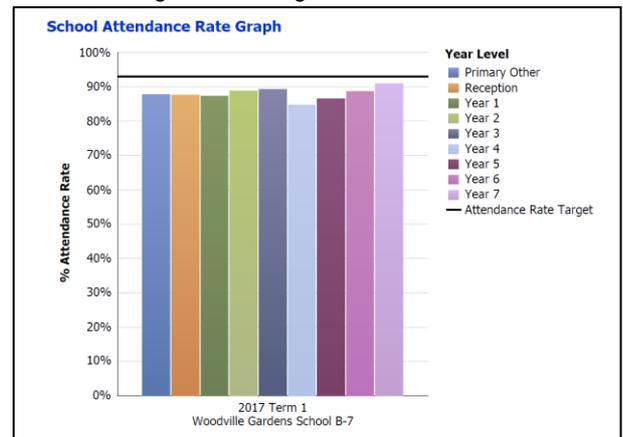
Our agenda covered the Children's Centre Outdoor Learning Centre, approving the budget and discussing options for families after school to alleviate the front office congestion.

WGS Governing Council 2017: Edward, Jo, Van, Tiffanie, Fiona, Carla, Leanne, Kormal, Anna, Tamsin, (Absent – Amy and Lee)



Our Term 1 Attendance rate of 88.2% has slipped below last years' Term 1 comparison of 89.6%. This term has been impacted by considerable illness and the ongoing chronic absenteeism of several

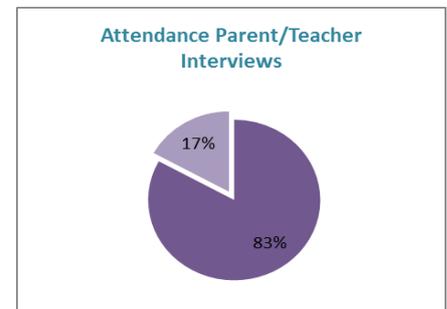
families. Notably the Years 6/7 classes have achieved higher than their younger peers. This goes against the State trend, where all too often, the Upper Primary students' attendance declines significantly. *Let's all set ourselves the goal of improving our attendance in order to break the 90% barrier by the next of next term – remembering the SA target is 93%*



Fantastic support – Parent Teacher Interviews

I would like to acknowledge the efforts, firstly of staff (Teachers & Bilingual Officers) and all those families who took time to

value the learning of their children by participating in Parent/Teacher Interviews. We especially appreciate those who engaged by using a translator, acknowledging the extra effort it takes to listen and share through a second language. 83% of families have participated with more scheduled next week.



Congratulations to Anna Bakker who has won the Deputy Principal's position at Challa Gardens. We wish her all the best in her new role knowing that she will be missed by families, students and staff alike.

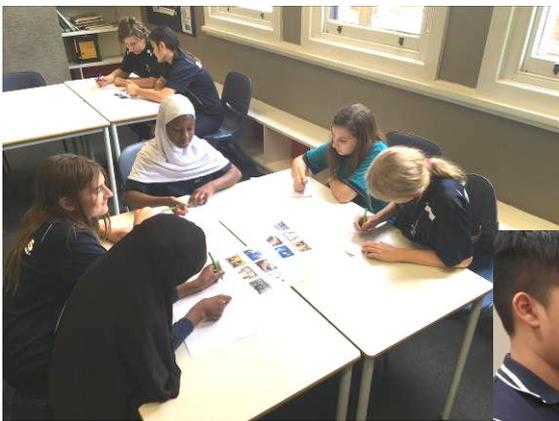
With thanks,

Fiona Voigt,
WGS Principal

Our year 7 students recently went on a special excursion to
Woodville High School
So they could experience

A TASTE OF HIGH SCHOOL

The Woodville High School team organised a fantastic program for the day which even included a pizza lunch! Students recognised the familiar faces of past students of WGS, some of who were our hosts for the day.



I enjoyed dancing and watching the basketball game and also seeing my friends.

I enjoyed visiting Woodville High School because I liked trying out the violin and the trumpet.



Students were fortunate enough to see and participate in a range of activities, some of which included:

- Thinking skills in the 'learning hub'
- A digital technology workshop
 - A dance workshop
 - A drama workshop
 - A music performance
- A musical instrument come and try session
- A basketball match starring players in the WHS Indigenous basketball program

I liked the nice and welcoming teachers and enjoyed the music and dancing lessons.

I enjoyed drama and music. The sport was amazing because we moved around a lot.



I really enjoyed playing volleyball with some of the high school students.



Naplan

In Week 2 of Term 2, on **Tuesday 9, Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 May**, students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy, or NAPLAN, as it is commonly known.

Skills that will be tested include: reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation and numeracy.

These tests are done here at school and are considered just another part of the curriculum.

It is important for you and your child to know that NAPLAN is not a pass/fail test. It simply looks at what level students are achieving in literacy and numeracy against National Standards and compared with student peers throughout Australia.

NAPLAN cannot be studied for and students are not expected to do so. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that it is just a routine part of their school program, and to urge them to do the best they can on the day.

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in NAPLAN testing.

Later in the year we will send parents an individual student NAPLAN report that you can use to view and monitor how your child is progressing.

More information is available on the NAP website. <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests.html> Below is an example of a typical NAPLAN question for Year 3 Numeracy.

5 Mitch has these coins.



How much money does he have?

\$0.36 \$0.46 \$1.25 \$1.35

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact Graham Wegner, Assistant Principal.
graham.wegner@wgs.sa.edu.au

FREE READING SUPPORT PROGRAM

Would your child benefit from some extra support with reading?

The Smith Family's *student2student* program matches students with trained high school buddies who listen to them read over the phone a few times a week.

Last year, 95% of participating students improved their reading over the course of the program.

The 18-week program aims to improve students' reading and confidence. Students need to be 8 to 14 years old to participate in the program.

****Applications close 26th May****

For more information please contact:

Tania Marshall-Bates (Program Coordinator)
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