



Issue No. 1

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Date: January 27, 2021

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Principal: Miss Keliesha Barns



DIARY DATES

January

29 Swimming Lessons

February

1-4 Swimming Lessons

4-5 Miss Barns at Music Conference

8 Parent Information Night at 5pm
Governing Council AGM at 7pm

March

8 Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup

15 Governing Council 7pm

29-30 Parent Teacher Interviews

April

2 Good Friday

5 Easter Monday

9 End of Term 1, 2.20pm dismissal

Dear Families,

Welcome back to 2021! I am so pleased to be working with the Watervale School community from this year. We are sure to have a great year full of learning, growth and creating a positive school community.

Over the past month, educators have been working hard to reinspire learning spaces. There has been painting, decluttering, shifting, moving, repurposing and planning. I would like to thank them for their fantastic work and dedication in preparing for the new learning year. It has reinvigorated our spaces, enhancing the environment for our learners and families. Take a walk through the classroom and office spaces and see what you can see!

Thank you to those families who returned parent surveys and attended the parent information evening in December last year. It was lovely to share in this evening with you all and be able to discuss, brainstorm and plan for our work together beginning this year. Our discussions and information is displayed in the front office for you to see. Educators were also involved in a similar process in Week 0. From all of these answers, and with the help of the learners, we will create our vision statement. Stay tuned for more!

THANK YOU BRIAN!

Thank you to Brian Courtenay for his work around the grounds the past year. Brian finishes with us this week and we wish him all the best on his next endeavour. Brian has supported the creation of a beautiful garden space at the front of the school and brought many skills to the site. We thank him for his work and knowledge!

Whilst we are in the process of appointing a new grounds person, Brian has offered to support the school by keeping the grounds tidy. We hope to have the position up by the beginning of next week and an appointment made no later than Week 6, potentially before. We will keep you posted on the progress of this position.

COMMUNICATION DOCUMENT:

Through discussions with parents, reading of the official "Parent Survey" and working with staff we came up with a communication document which you will find in this news-

letter. You will find the ways in which we will communicate with you and your family throughout 2021. This will be trialed and can be discussed at any time; educators will also be monitoring these forms of communication.

It was very evident that SeeSaw was a popular form of communication. We ask you ensure you are signed up to this to receive updates about your child's learning and the running of the site.

If you have any questions about communication, please don't hesitate to make a time to see me.

FACEBOOK:

In 2021, the school will have an open Facebook page. This was voted on by parents in 2020. This year, will see us use this page as a form of positive promotion for our site. Consent forms will be sent home to ensure that you are happy for your child to be featured on this social media platform. This page will adhere to departmental policy and be approved by the Media team prior to opening. As educators, we feel this is an excellent way to share more about our site with the wider community.

I hope this year brings your family a positive and happy learning experience. Please make an appointment to see me if you have concerns or further questions about what is hapenign in our site. We look forward to connecting with our community and further promoting our wonderful site.

Kind Regards,

Keliesha Barns
Principal

ATTACHMENTS

Student Personal Data (please check and return)
Swimming Consent form
Swimming Lessons Permission form
Student Permission form
Uniform Order form
Family Directory
Term 1 Calendar
Communication info

WELCOME TO 2021



Our new Receptions
Amelia & Elliott



Reception-3 Class

3-7 Class



Lighthouse Award Winner for Talitha-grace Term 4, 2020



Talitha-Grace, or TG as we all affectionately know her, is a student who works hard to be an exemplary Watervale Primary School student. Kind, courteous and conscientious, TG brings her pleasant and warm demeanor to all aspects of school life. She is there for all of her peers with a kind or encouraging word and works well alongside all the WPS adults.

2020 has been a big year for us all and has demanded much of us; TG has risen to the challenge and used her last year at WPS to truly lift her own academic output in every way she can. She has been learning to utilise feedback for constructive growth and is becoming more competent at taking the initiative to critique her own work.

Her hard work and endeavours to be academically courageous are wholeheartedly commended.

It is a pleasure to have Talitha-Grace as part of our classroom and our school community. Her quiet determination, her resilience and her desire to do her best will take her far as she prepares to take the next step forward in life. Talitha-Grace is a worthy recipient of the Lighthouse Award for Term 4.

Congratulations TG!

WE'RE WORKING TOWARDS SOME BIG LEARNING GOALS!

Each year, preschools and schools are involved in an improvement planning process to ensure that their learners are successful and develop their knowledge throughout the year. At Watervale Primary School, we ensure we plan for improvement as a team to provide opportunities for growth, stretch and improvement for all learners. Through data collection, daily observations and discussion we have seen a need for improvement in literacy and number skills. Below are the goals for the School Improvement Plan (SIP) for 2021.

GOAL 1

To increase all learner's literacy skills for future education through providing quality instruction in literacy.

GOAL 2

To ensure children are reaching SEA and maintaining high bands through developing a deep number sense. Through our further work with families and educators, it has also become evident we need to work on developing culture in our site. Through our responses to the vision questions in our parent survey and through work with educators in week 0, we have developed a third goal.

GOAL 3

By embracing our community and continuing to develop relationships with everyone, we will create a positive school culture with trust and respect.

Throughout this year, our educators will share ways in which their teaching and learning programs are supporting these goals within our site. We look forward to sharing this with you in our fortnightly newsletters.

Working Bee

Do you have some time to spare?

Over the next term we will be adding jobs that are prominent to further development of our site in our newsletter. These will not have to be done at a certain time, but when it best suits you. We ask you consider these and if you have the time, we would be so pleased to see you help us these areas develop further.

AREA 1: THE CHOOK YARD

We are lucky to have chooks coming! Prior to them arriving we need:

- * The weeds cleared.
- * The chook yard moved.
- * All trees trimmed 45 cm above the ground.
- * A fence put in in line with the classroom.
- * Pea straw dispersed throughout the yard.

We thank you for our support within our site and can't wait to have our chooks!

Swimming Lessons begin This Friday, January 29

Please ensure that your child/ren have their bathers and a swimming top, towel, sunscreen, hat, water bottle and a small snack. Included in today's newsletter is a permission form and swimming consent, please return by Friday.

NOTICES

TAKE 2!

NAIDOC in Clare

Always Was, Always Will Be.

Free entry!



New date

**SAT, 30 JANUARY 2021
4 PM - 9 PM
CLARE SHOWGROUNDS**



An action-packed day of Ngadjuri activities.
Admission is free. Bring the family along and enjoy
the festival atmosphere with food, music and dancing.

Welcome to Country Painting **Basket Weaving** Clap Sticks
Animals Anonymous **Professor Flint** First Nation Sessions

Tickets essential due to COVID-19: naidoctake2.eventbrite.com.au

This project is supported by the Clare NAIDOC Committee and Ngadjuri Nation Aboriginal Corporation through funding from the Australian Government's National Landscape Program, Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council, the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board.



Please return your plastic newsletter
envelope to the school.

Thank you.

**School Bags
\$50**

FOR SALE



**Lunch Bags
\$10**

enrolments are now being taken by
PAULINE GARRARD FOR PIANO, KEYBOARD
OR SINGING LESSONS IN 2021.
Phone 8843 003802 0471 867 142 AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE YOUR PLACE.

SCHOOL TIMES

School yard supervision
8.30am
Classrooms open
8.40am
School starts at
8.50am
Recess
10.50-11.10am
Lunch
12.50-1.40pm
School finish time
3.20pm
Yard supervised until
3.45pm

Our lovely Liz Moreton is a
Justice of the Peace.

If you need documents attended to,
Liz is the lady to see!
Please call the office to make a
time to meet with her.
Liz is in the front office
Monday to Wednesdays.

Shop Lunches

The Watervale Store has
lunch orders available on
Thursdays.
Please bring in your lunch
order on Wednesday.
Thank you.

Kids Helpline

Phone:
1800 551 800
or online -
kidshelp.com.au