

WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

Learning

Belonging

Respecting

Celebrating

Term 1 Week 5 Newsletter

23rd February 2024



Bronwyn Paxton

School Priority - Partnerships

At Woody Point Special School, we believe in the power of diversity, respect, and understanding. As part of our ongoing commitment to these values, we have worked to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) for our school



What's a Reconciliation Action Plan?

Simply put, a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is a special plan that helps our school build positive relationships with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities. It's not just about saying sorry for the past; it's about taking real steps to make sure everyone is treated fairly and respectfully.

Why have we developed a RAP?

We are proud to say that our school is like a big family, and just like in a family, we want everyone to feel included and valued. By writing a RAP, we're making sure that we learn from the past, celebrate the unique cultures of First Nations peoples, and create a school where everyone belongs.

Would you like to know more about the RAP?

We want every parent to be a part of this journey! Here's how you can get involved:

- **Share Your Thoughts:** Look out for opportunities to share your thoughts and ideas about how we can make our school even better.
- **Learn Together:** Join us for workshops and discussions where we'll learn more about the history and culture of Indigenous peoples. It's a chance to grow and understand together.
- **Support Our Goals:** As we set goals to make our school more inclusive, your support and encouragement are crucial. Every small step counts!

Woody Point Special School
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85 Georgina Street, Woody Point QLD 4019

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🌐 www.woodypointspecs.eq.edu.au
📘 www.facebook.com/WoodyPointSpecialSchool/



WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

What's Next?

We have started to work on an action plan for this year that details the steps our school will take towards reconciliation. This plan will be shared for consultation and feedback and we invite you to have your say.

Remember, this isn't just a plan; it's a journey towards a school community where every child feels proud to belong.

One of the actions within our RAP is to make stronger connections with local elders and First Nations peoples. Last Friday, Byron, our Community Education Counsellor (CEC) hosted the first Yarn Up for the year and invited Cory from Wuppa Ka'wan Support Services to speak with families about the importance of connection to Country.





WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

New Building Updates

We are excited to see our new building progressing so well and we were fortunate enough to have a tour of the site last week. It is really starting to take shape!





WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

School Start and Finish Times

A reminder to all parents that school starts at 8.50am and parents may drop students off at the bus/drop off waiting area from 8.30am. Please note that staff are not available prior to 8.30am to assist with supervision and transition. Please be aware that classroom staff are not available prior to 8:30am as they will be preparing for the day and attending meetings.

If you arrive after 8.50am, your child will need to be marked off the roll at the front office and will receive a slip to give to the class teacher to inform them that they have been marked as in attendance.

The official finishing time for the school day is 2.50pm. Parents may start arriving for pick up from 2.30pm but please note that teachers will still be finalising end of day routines and you may need to wait for your child to arrive at the designated waiting area. If you wish to pick your child up prior to 2.30pm please speak to one of our administration staff who will organise an early pick up.

Please also be aware that we require written notification if someone other than a parent is picking your child up (e.g. grandparent, carer etc). Please provide details of this person as we will be required to check ID and if necessary confirm pick up arrangements with you.

Individual Curriculum Plans

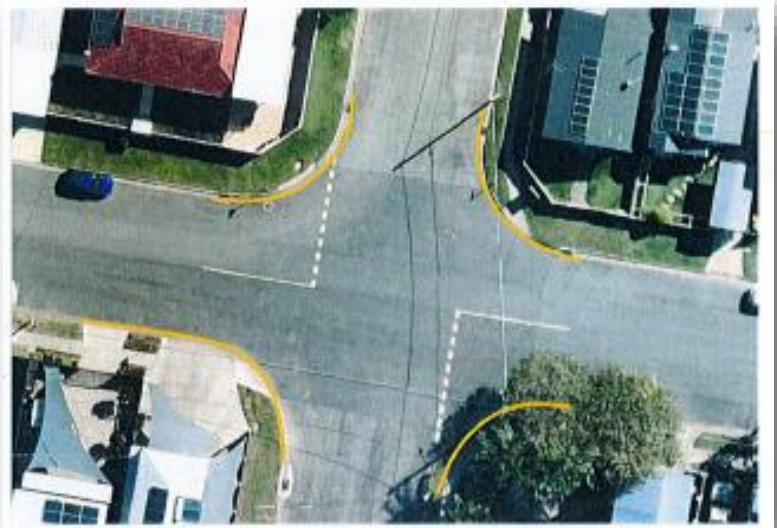
Over the next couple of weeks, teachers will organise a meeting with parents to discuss your child's progress in the early weeks of school as well as to discuss individual curriculum planning for the semester. Individual Curriculum Plans (ICPs) are required for all students who are accessing curriculum below the year level standard. The plans outline the year level that each student is working at and what the targeted learning will be for that student for the semester. This information is then used when teachers write report cards at the end of the semester. Whilst addressing the Individual Curriculum Plan is one part of this meeting, it is also an opportunity for us to get to know your child better and for you to share the wealth of knowledge that you have about how your child learns best so that we can work in partnership to ensure your child has access to quality learning experiences.

Parking in View Street

In response to concerns raised by local residents regarding motorists parking too close to the intersection of View Street and Blakeney Street, Woody Point, during school pickup hours, Council have begun installing yellow no standing line marking (refer to the diagram on the right). The purpose of this line marking is to reinforce the existing Qld Road Rules that restricts vehicles parking within 10m of the intersection.

With this in mind, we ask that parents/ carers who drop off and pick up their children are mindful of the need to allow for

as many parents as possible to access the carpark and vacate carparks as quickly as possible to allow other vehicles to enter. We apologise for the inconvenience but by working together, we can make these temporary arrangements run as smoothly as possible.





WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

Madonna Jensen



Brianna Shaw



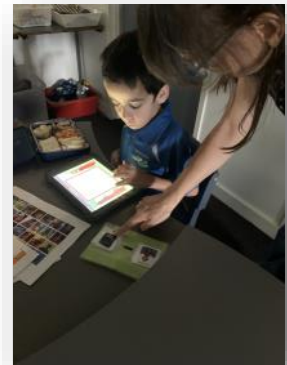
Communication with Madonna and Brianna

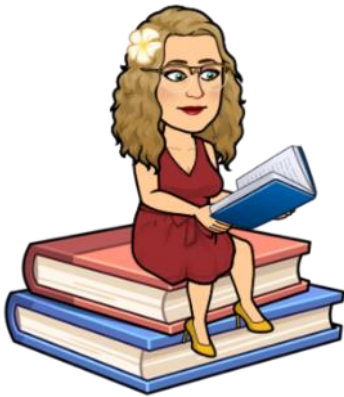
At Woody Point Special School, we are committed to supporting our students to be able to communicate effectively anywhere, with anyone, and at anytime. In a busy school day 'anytime' can mean during activities in the classroom, during playtime, or in those in-between moments when transitioning from place to place. This term we are focusing specifically on supporting

communication during our morning transitions - that moment when our students first arrive at school and head to class.

You can support your child to be ready for a day filled with communication and learning by:

- Establishing a consistent getting ready routine at home. You may even like to use some visual support tools to help your child to know what is next in the routine.
- Prepare your child for any special events or changes to normal routine by talking about what to expect or reading a social story together.
- Talk with your child about what to expect from the school day
 - ◇ Talk about the people they will see and connect with at school - their teachers and friends.
 - ◇ Talk about some of the activities your child enjoys and may get to do at school
 - ◇ Refer to photos of school people or fun school activities to help your child to understand
- If your child has an AAC system, make sure that it is nearby to chat throughout the morning. You can model words and phrases that your child may wish to say (e.g. GOOD breakfast, WHERE are my shoes?, let's GO)



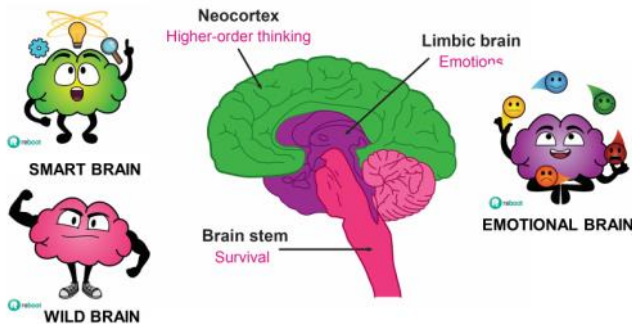


Teaching and Learning Corner

Teachers are now well and truly into the heart of what we do, which is teaching all our amazing students, your children. Some of you may have already met with your teachers, to share in the amazing plans for learning for your child this semester. Others of you may not have yet had your meeting, but I know you will all enjoy participating in this process to share what is important learning for your child.

We are eager to hear from you, exactly what you value for your child's learning this semester. Is it, the importance of ensuring your child is developing their communication, literacy and numeracy skills or is it the importance of developing personal and social capabilities? Knowing what is important to you, allows teachers to select and focus in on what is most important for your child.

It is also important to know if there are other areas, like health, safety, emotional wellbeing etc., you feel are focus areas for your child's engagement in learning. Last newsletter we shared with you the Whole Brain Teaching and learning approach that all teachers follow in their classrooms.



We recognise that if we are not supporting (feeding) your child's 'wild and emotional brains' their ability to focus and engage in planned learning 'smart brain' is just not possible. We are eager to work with you, to know what strategies work at home, so we can support, where possible, those same strategies at school, to provide the most successful learning environment for your child at school.

During your Parent / Teacher meetings, teachers will also be seeking your agreement (endorsement) for the focus of learning for this semester for you child. This focus of learning identifies what is the most important learning for your child

at this time. Teachers develop an Individual Curriculum Plan (ICP) for accessing the Australian curriculum learning areas of **English, Mathematics, Health and Physical Education, Science, Humanities and Social sciences, The Arts, Technologies and Languages**, based on these learning needs. Students will either have a:

- Highly Individualised Curriculum Plan focusing on communication, literacy and numeracy skills and / or personal and social capabilities

OR

- Different Year Level Partial Plan focusing on accessing an earlier Year Level achievement standard from the Australian curriculum from Prep, Year 1 or Year 2 or above, over more than one year.

Some additional information has been attached to this week's newsletter to assist in explaining what is an ICP.

Additionally commencing this year, we are excited to be utilising Version 9 of the Australian Curriculum. What this means is, for our students accessing a Highly Individualised Curriculum, the focus for learning opportunities have broadened, enabling us to focus our teaching and learning on more than just communication. I have attached a pamphlet from the education department that helps to explain the changes in ICPs for students accessing a Highly Individualised Curriculum. We are really excited to provide this for our students. If you would like any further clarification, please speak with your class teacher, or contact myself, we are all happy to answer any questions you may have.

Jenneclair Tottman

Head of Teaching and Learning



WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

PEL I Can



Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

Hi Everyone,

My name is Pel and I am the Woody Point Special School PB4L mascot. My job is to help students with the 3 whole school expectations of:

I CAN BE A LEARNER

I CAN BE SAFE

I CAN BE RESPECTFUL

Each fortnight on Parade I help hand out the awards for the students who have been displaying the whole school expectations.

I also choose one student from each sector of the school who has been working really hard to receive the prestigious *Golden Pelican Award*.

Our Golden Pelican Award winners were:

From Early Phase

Kendrick I can move calmly around school.

Jax I can ask for help.

From Middle Upper Phase

Evan for being safe, kind and patient when helping his peers move around the school. We are so proud of you!.

Focus for weeks 5 and 6 are:

I can be a LEARNER



I can ask for help.



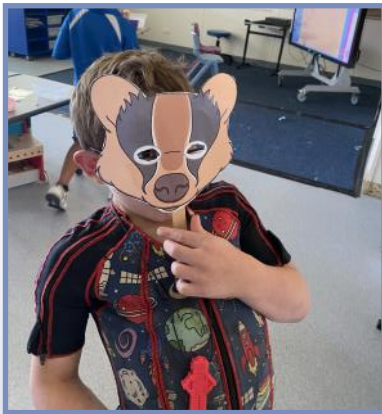
From the classroom....

Early Phase 10

Welcome to the vibrant world of EP10! Students are flourishing in an atmosphere filled with friendship, discovery, and joy. From forging new bonds to building a connection with their teachers, our students are embracing the excitement of learning and growing together.

We are enjoying sensory play, painting, puzzles, building blocks, and water play with our friends and teachers. We are also learning life skills such as taking turns and maintaining a clean and tidy space. We look forward to continuing this enriching journey of exploration, friendship, and learning.





From the classroom....

Middle Upper Phase Five

MUP5 students have settled into their new classroom and are learning new routines. The students really enjoy interacting with the smartboard technology and are very focused during routine power-point sessions. This term we will focus on building strong relationships, reinforcing routines and exploring people and places near and far.







From the P&C

Volunteers needed! The P&C are seeking your help. We have emailed a nomination form to parents/caregivers. If you can support the P&C, please fill in the electronic form and submit it. We also have paper copies available on request—let the office know if you would like one sent home with your student.

Reasons why you may consider volunteering to help the WPSS P&C

- To make a difference in students' lives
- To provide positive support to students and the school community
- To develop personally or professionally to:
 - ◇ build networks
 - ◇ build your reputation as a reliable and essential contributor
 - ◇ learn new skills and abilities
 - ◇ develop your leadership, management and organising skills
 - ◇ explore the possibility of different career paths
 - ◇ add to your resumé for a job
- To meet people
- To influence and create change that builds and improves students' economic and social outcomes in our school community
- To contribute to a positive school community
- To provide support for the best educational outcomes for all students

The Woody Point Special School P&C Association members work with the principal and the school community in a creative and dynamic partnership to help the school achieve the best possible educational outcomes for all students.

Would you like to be influential in the Woody Point Special School community?

P&C Fundraisers for 2024: which one of the following fundraising events would you like to have input into?

- Easter Raffle (drawn end of March)
- Pie Drive (orders delivered June 19th to 21st)
- Colour Fun Run (End of August)
- Celebration Day Christmas Raffle (Second Week of December)
- Containers for Change

Do you have a new idea for 2024? Share your thoughts with us!

- Lendable fun games that are educational for families at home
- working bees
- coffee mornings
- [P&C Qld Awards](#) nomination



WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

Department of Education

Individual Curriculum Plan (ICP)
Information for students, parents and families

More information
The requirements for providing an ICP in all Queensland State Schools are detailed in the *P-12 Curriculum, assessment and reporting framework*:
<https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/stages-of-schooling/p-12>

Department of Education

Changes to Highly Individualised Curriculum Plan (HICP)
Information for students, parents and families

More information
The requirements for providing a HICP in all Queensland State Schools are detailed in the *P-12 Curriculum, assessment and reporting framework*:
<https://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/stages-of-schooling/p-12>



Young Carer Support and Connect

Recognising, supporting and empowering Young Carers to reach their full potential.

LITTLE DREAMERS

Chat to us for more info:
info@littledreamers.org.au
1800 717 515

Who is Little Dreamers? We're Little Dreamers, Australia's leading Young Carer organisation. We support young people aged 4 to 25 who provide care for a family member impacted by disability, chronic or mental illness, substance use, or frail age.

Young Carer Support and Connect has been developed to connect Young Carers to social supports and develop strengths and strategies to cope with every day challenges, both within and independent of their caring roles.

We've crafted a comprehensive program suite addressing the five primary risk areas Young Carers often encounter: education, employment, mental and physical health, as well as social and financial wellbeing.

The nitty gritties:

- No direct cost
- Flexible delivery options - whether it's online or in-person, we come to you
- Evidence-based programs with trained and passionate facilitators who 'just get it'
- Professional youth counsellors available
- Pathway into additional support options with Carer Gateway

Interested? Scan the QR code to enquire and be connected with a member of the Little Dreamers team!



All of our programs are offered in **Carer Gateway regions**.

To find out more about Carer Gateway, please visit:
www.carergateway.gov.au.

Our Programs:



PEER SUPPORT

A fun and engaging eight week program that encourages Young Carers to form connections, focus on their strengths, and feel empowered as they move through various topics & activities.



COACHING

A capacity building, goal orientated program helping Young Carers to identify their goals and learn how to balance their needs with the needs of the people they care for.



COUNSELLING

Employing a therapeutic, strength-based approach, we cultivate a secure and supportive environment where Young Carers can discover their identity and effectively navigate life's challenges.



Who is a Young Carer?



Chat to us for more info:
info@littledreamers.org.au
1800 717 515

A Young Carer is a young person aged 4 to 25 who provides, or intends to provide care, assistance or support to a family member affected by disability, chronic or mental illness, substance use, or the impacts of older age.

Some examples of a Young Carer's responsibilities include:

Sorting out medication
Setting up appointments
Attending appointments
Looking after siblings
Organisation

Physical & emotional support
Communicating for others
Helping with mobility
Cooking
Budgeting

Dressing
Laundry
Showering
Cleaning



Little Dreamers acknowledges that a young person does not need to be the sole carer or primary carer for their life to be impacted by caring responsibilities. Young Carers are not defined by geography, culture or socio-economic factors and their roles vary in every family.



Did you know?

It is estimated that there are more than 750,000 Young Carers in Australia.



1 IN 10 YOUNG PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA HAVE CARING ROLES IN THEIR FAMILY.



IT'S ESTIMATED THERE ARE **2-3 YOUNG CARERS** IN EVERY SINGLE CLASSROOM.



2 IN 3 YOUNG CARERS EXPERIENCE MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES AS A RESULT OF THEIR CARING ROLE.

Apply for support:

littledreamers.org.au/apply-for-support

@LittleDreamersAustralia

www.littledreamers.org.au



WOODY POINT SPECIAL SCHOOL

WPSS P&C
Easter RAFFLE

Tickets

1	=	\$2.00
3	=	\$5.00
7	=	\$10.00
15	=	\$20.00

Your Choice!
Buy tickets to win one of these great prizes!



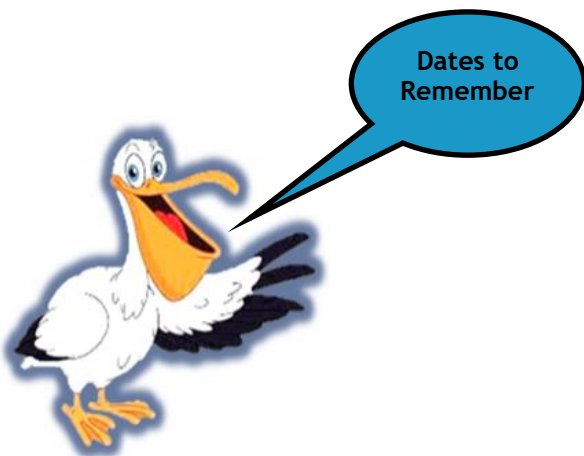
A Nintendo Switch OLED **OR** Dreamworld Annual Pass
Entry for 2 Adults & 2 children

OR **Over \$500 Value** **OR**

Village Roadshow Annual Pass **OR** Australia Zoo Annual Pass
Entry to 4 theme parks for 1 Adult 2 children or 2 Adults & 1 child Entry for 2 Adults & 2 children

Drawn Wed 27/03/24

Made with PosterMyWall.com



- **Mon 5th Feb to Fri Mar 1st**—Parent/Teacher Meetings
- **Wed 28th Feb**—Silly Socks Day
- **Wed 6th to Thur 7th March**—Fluoride and Varnish Program
- **Thur 21st March**—Harmony Day
- **Thur 28th March**—Easter Bonnet Parade