



The Slate

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Pathways to the future

Thursday 20th August 2020

Hi Everyone,

Good-bye Mrs B

An update on our staffing for Term 4 and beyond. Jules and husband JB have decided to leave the area and relocate to Kiama in New South Wales. Unfortunately for us, but fortunately for them, they have decided they would like a 'sea change.' I have advertised the position and will let you know when an appointment is made. We wish them all the best for the future.

At Home Learning

Once again we have found ourselves in a very challenging situation with at home learning. We have demonstrated in the past how adaptable we are to change and how we can make the most of the situation we have been placed in.

The success of our students and your children is heavily reliant upon us all working together to best support them in their learning. Please try to stay positive – I know it's hard – and remind students we are doing this to ensure the safety of our community, so that we can return to normal schooling as soon as we can.

We have a lot more students coming to school for on-site supervision than we did in term 2. There appears to be a misconception that students on-site are being taught. This is not the case.

The program delivered on-site is the same as the learning program delivered to students in their homes. Students learning on-site will be **supervised** by school staff but follow the teaching and learning program provided by their classroom teacher. This is so students learning at home are not disadvantaged. As the chief medical officer has said, "the safest place is to be at home."



How can you support your child?

What did we learn from talking to parents and students at the end of term

two about what made learning at home successful?

Overwhelmingly, the response was:

Routine

Expectations

Suitable learning space.

A timely reminder for the wearing of masks and for drop off and pick up times for your child/ren. To minimise the risk to children one parent wrote ... "they are going to drop off at a time where other parents won't be all in the carpark at once." So, in light of this, please do not sit and chat in the car park – please leave as soon as your child is dismissed.

Encourage healthy eating habits and make sure students drink enough water and have regular breaks.

Have a great fortnight

Wendy



Birthday

We would like to wish Ruby a very happy 9th birthday. We hope you had a fabulous day.

Three cheers!!!

Foundation

I know this is a challenging time once again and I appreciate all the work you are doing with your children.

In Literacy, we have been practising our handwriting and our colouring – this improves our fine motor skills. All the work the students are doing is based around our theme of 'chickens.' We have looked at the 'Life Cycle of the Chicken' - listened to and read a mini book, practised handwriting and ordered pictures in the life cycle.

In maths we practised our addition of two and sometimes three numbers together and this week we have been introduced to picture graphs. We have graphed bears, chickens, cars and eggs to show our understanding.

Students have also participated in weekly library, Art, Science and Phys. Ed. lessons. Thanks for your commitment and the uploads on Dojo. It's great.

Wendy

Senior Room

Well, even though we didn't want to go back to remote learning for the second time I must say that I think the kids and their families are doing an amazing job. It is great to see so many kids putting up posts that demonstrate their learning... and what's even better is when they share in their reflections how fun they are finding the various activities. In this crazy world in which we live, if we can find some "happy" then I think we are in a good place and our kids are definitely role models in this! Now...in literacy our focus has been building our vocabulary by learning new words and their meanings in different contexts. We have been broadening our vocabulary not only in our daily reading but through learning about "Chickens and Eggs", and even incidentally when we are reading the rules of our maths games.

We have been focusing on writing information reports and the kids have really consolidated this skill and are able to use the formal structure and apply it to their writing. We have continued our SMART spelling program and Literacy Planet has been a great tool to help us learn our words.

In maths we are focusing on multiplication, and it is great to see that the feedback I am generally getting from the kids is "this was easy but some bits were tricky"...perfect! As our chickens continue to grow it has been fantastic that each child now has their chicken that they can measure, weigh and cuddle each Friday when they pick up their learning packs. We have also been able to integrate a range of learning activities based around our "Hatching Chickens" unit of work, even though we are learning remotely...yeah! As well as learning about our chickens we are also having fun doing a variety of "egg - speriments" and learning how to write a formal science report. In PE we are using a few different platforms and resources hopefully we are providing our kids with some variety in how to keep active while having fun.

*Thanks to everyone for their commitment to daily Webex it helps the wheels turn smoothly!!

Jules

Book Club

Please find order forms in your pack for book club. Due date is Thursday 3rd September.

Media Release

Local Jobs Blitz

Locals are being encouraged to apply for 31 new jobs at the Rural City of Wangaratta under the Victorian Government's *Working for Victoria* fund.

Under *Working for Victoria*, Council will provide jobs for unemployed people – whether they have lost their jobs due to the impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19) or have been without work for a longer period of time.

Rural City of Wangaratta Mayor Dean Rees said the \$500 million Victorian Government initiative is matching people that have lost their jobs with employers who need additional staff.

He said the council was successful in applying for the fund after it was announced earlier this year.

Council will offer roles on six-month terms in jobs ranging from business recovery officers to outdoor roles including drainage and street furniture maintenance officers

"The Rural City of Wangaratta is really pleased to take part in *Working for Victoria* and is looking forward to welcoming our 31 new employees on board," Cr Rees said.

The positions will begin to be advertised in the coming weeks.

To find out more about the *Working for Victoria* fund and to register your interest in applying for one of the jobs at Rural City of Wangaratta visit www.vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria

For further enquiries regarding this media release, please contact Steven Burke, Media and Communications Coordinator on 03 5722 0862.

Dates for your calendar:

Morning Check-ins via Webex

Mrs B – 9am

Mrs Walker - 9.30am

Mondays - Library Webex with Mrs Davies 2.30pm

Thursdays - ART Webex with Mrs Earles 2.30pm

Fridays pick up of home learning packs. 12 – 3pm

Fridays measuring and weighing chickens.

18th September – Last day of Term 3

5th October – First day Term 4

Council recently launched the Business and Community Recovery Grants Program. This program aims to provide financial support to businesses and community organisations within the Rural City of Wangaratta who have experienced disruption and hardship due to the devastating bushfires of January 2020 and/or the COVID-19 pandemic.

Grants up to \$10,000 are available for projects including capital works, equipment, training and professional development, web design and e-commerce, events and celebrations.

Applications are currently open and will close at 4pm on Friday 11th September 2020. Grants will be announced in late October. We encourage all potential applicants to get in touch via recovery@wangeratta.vic.gov.au or call Kate Clark (0421 516 316) or Katie Gibson (0405 150 304) to discuss their project.

All information including the grant program guidelines and application form can be found at www.wangeratta.vic.gov.au/recoverygrants