



Wongan Hills District High School

Wongarette

Issue 11 29 July 2020

BIVOUAC 2020





We have had a great start to the term with students getting down to their schooling. I hope that everyone had a great break and are now looking forward to getting back to normal school programs in another challenging term. This term is full of activities that include Meckering Cross Country, Interhouse and Interschool Athletics Carnivals as well as Countryweek in week 10.

Reporting to Parents

This afternoon parents and caregivers have been invited by the school to meet with their child/rens teachers to have a conversation about their child's progress so far in 2020, by reflecting on the recently distributed reports. This is not the only time that you can have a conversation with your child/ren's classroom teacher/s. Please do not hesitate to contact the school to organise a meeting time or communicate directly with the classroom teachers.

Parent Communication and Access to Classroom

At the end of last term, we put out a survey to parents and carers to get feedback on parents in classrooms. I thank everyone who took the time to complete it and some of the very detailed answers that were given. As a school administration we have gone through the results and taken on board some of the suggestions on how we can apply them at the school. I will be meeting with Sandra Hartley and Peter Whitfield being the School Council Chair and P&C president respectfully to look at the survey feedback. A group of staff will be looking at a revised parent communication policy with the feedback from the survey being some of the information that will be used. This policy will then be presented to school council for discussion and endorsement.

The COVID restrictions as stated previously have brought about unexpected benefits with parents and carers not coming in the classrooms before school. These include:

- ✓ An increase in independence and resiliency of students
- ✓ A reduction in separation anxiety for children, especially in the younger years
- ✓ An improvement in social skills for students and much improved settling in the mornings
- ✓ A far more productive routine for teachers and students without interruptions
- ✓ A considerable improvement in punctuality

Some of the issues that have existed that we must consider in these discussions are:

- ✓ Disruption to morning routines for both students and teachers
- ✓ Parents interacting with children other than their own, causing issues
- ✓ Noise from parents gathering in groups distracting children in classes
- ✓ Parents standing visibly waiting outside classrooms at the end of the day instigating students to cease work earlier than warranted

Currently while these discussions are going on we will continue with no parents in classrooms at the start of the day.

- *Parents may wish to come into the class at the end of the day once the students have exited the room.*
- *We are looking at certain afternoons where the classrooms will be open for parents/carers can come into the classrooms with their child to see what they have been doing and talk about their work.*



- *Parent rosters are being developed and conducted by each teacher depending on their needs in supporting the children's learning.*
- *Parents are encouraged to make a time with a teacher if they need to have a meeting. Other methods like Email and the communication book or diary are regularly used by parents to contact staff.*

A further reminder that people that come onto school grounds need to come through the front office if not picking up or dropping off children and please be aware of the physical distancing required. All volunteers that are on school grounds are required to sign in and out through the front office as part of our emergency procedures requirements.

No Hat No Play

Thank you to parents and caregivers for supporting the school with the wide brimmed hats that started being enforced at the start of this term. It is important that we protect our students from the serious issue of skin cancer. Each classroom continues to have sunscreen for students as another measure.



Change of Assembly Day

The Assembly scheduled for Thursday, 20th August will now be held on Tuesday, 18th August at 2pm. Please find an updated Term Planner on the [website](#).

Art on Display

The junior primary have some of their amazing art work on display at the Wongan Hills Art Society located in The Station. Pop down and have a look!



Secondary Students

Secondary Elective Discount for Semester 1

In light of a shortened term 1 (school closed in week 9 and 10) due to COVID 19, a discount has been applied to all Semester 1 Secondary Elective charges equivalent to 10 % (2 weeks out of a total of 20 weeks).

There are many charges still outstanding from Semester 1 Electives and these are now payable. Statements will be mailed home in Week 4.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me during office hours 8.30 to 3.30.

Kellie Anspach

Manager Corporate Services

P & C MEETING

MONDAY

3RD AUGUST 2020

7PM

AUTUMN BAR CAFÉ



After some COVID -19 restrictions were lifted and following some very quick planning by Miss Dedman, 27 brave Cadets and 4 Instructors set off to their annual Bivouac on the 29th of June. We had an interesting start to our camp where we couldn't hike in because of the weather so we drove in and got a car and truck a little stuck in the mud. Some of the activities we did were: paracording, archery, Mt Matilda hike, Master Chef Cook off, Glow stick dancing, night games and Team challenges and also made smores.

With the weather being windy and at times wet, the cadets had to rush to get all their tents up. Due to COVID-19 no cadets were allowed to share tents or cooking utensils with anyone. Ms Marshall came out and stayed there for a night. Night games were a bit different this year and we had to try and social distance as much as we could. Each night (when the weather didn't turn on us) we played night games and had a bunch of fun and bonded greatly with the other cadets.

The Mt Matilda hike was led by Miss Peters and Jai and it wasn't the full track because it was about to start raining. With all the cadets getting tired, wanting a shower and getting back in their own warm beds the last night finally came and the cadets were pumped. Cadets participated in the glow in the dark glow stick dance challenge. Cadets did these in their teams that they got put in on the very first day. Once cadets had that filmed and done we did a whole one where everyone participated. Bed time came and that was the last night. Morning then came and cadets were eager to get back to school and get home. What a camp these cadets and instructors had!

By Molly Ruby and Hannah.

Thank you!

The Cadet unit would also like to thank the following people for their assistance before, during and after camp –Stefan Crossen, Michael Godfrey, Colin and Wendy Fowler, Daniel Fowler and Neil McQueen. Without these people camp may not have been possible and we couldn't thank you enough.





The Secret She Keeps

Book Review by Milayna

The Secret She Keeps, written by Michael Robotham, is portrayed as a psychologically tense book with thrilling drama. The story follows the lives of Agatha Fyfe and Megan Shaughnessy. Megan does not know Agatha however, Agatha knows everything about Megan from where she lives to where she meets her yoga class friends. Although the two women have not met, they have one thing in common; secrets that could tear down a family or build one up.

We are introduced to Agatha as a pregnant middle-aged woman trying to support herself off her job. We are taken into Agatha's personal life and introduced to the idea of Agatha, pretending to be Pregnant, so later in the book she can steal Megan's baby. Michael Robotham wants the readers to feel sorry for Agatha and her loses. Towards the end of the book, the readers are introduced to Agatha's plan to steal her friends' baby straight from the hospital.

We are introduced to Megan in the second chapter as mother of two with another baby on the way. She is described as a happily married women but a with a little secret that could ruin her family. Michael wants the readers to know that Meghan has a beautiful family, adoring friends, and soon, the perfect newborn son. Once her newborn is taken, we feel sorry and bad that Meghan did not get to have a connection to her son before he was taken away.

The themes in the book are easily recognisable as broken trust, manipulation, and family. The theme broken trust is spread out all through the book. For example, when Agatha decided to become close friends with Megan and gain her trust just to break it when she stole Meg's newborn child straight out of the hospital. The author wants us to feel sorry for Megan and for her newborn being abducted and feeling hatred against Agatha for stealing him from his true mother. Manipulation is a big theme towards the end of the book. With Meghan's baby's life in Agatha hands, Agatha decided it was the best decision to give the baby back to the true mother. Except, Agatha manipulated the police and Megan, stating she would only give the child to Meghan or she would kill the baby. So, nobody could have the baby. Lastly, the theme of family relationships is all through book but more clearly towards the end. When the newborn was stolen, Megan and her husband try and keep her family together against their loss and the media.

I believe Agatha's had trouble having a baby, so she turned to stealing babies so she could finally be a mother. The book is so clearly written, that you feel like you know what Meghan and Agatha both went through.

