



Wongan Hills District High School

Wongarette

Issue 4 25 March 2020



Congratulations
HINDS



It has been a significant and challenging time since the last Wongarette was published a fortnight ago. As a school community we must look after ourselves and loved ones and apply common sense, give factual information and have a practical approach to COVID-19. The school has produced a Coronavirus Plan which was sent out yesterday on Skoolbag and reference made on the schools Facebook page.

As a school we have had constant information from the Education and Health Departments to make sure that we are doing our best to maintain high hygiene standards and cater for our staff and students.

Personally I would like to applaud my staff at Wongan Hills DHS who have had their students at the centre of what they are doing and the professionalism shown in this challenging time.

A reminder on how to minimise the spread of COVID-19

- Frequently wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, or by using an alcohol based hand gel
- Refrain from touching mouth, nose or eyes
- If coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with a paper tissue or into your flexed elbow. All students have been taught the 'Dab Cough'
- Practice social distancing – avoid close contact with anyone if you, or they, have a cold or flu-like symptoms.
- Maintain a distance of at least 2 metres.

What we are doing

- Providing handwashing liquid soap in every toilet.
- Providing alcohol based hand wash in every classroom, public area, reception, common areas etc. Science classes will be making extra supplies in their classes to ensure we do not run out – recipe as provided by the World Health Organisation.
- Class based instruction in handwashing technique and personal hygiene practices for sneezing and coughing.
- Deeper cleaning and sanitising of common surfaces daily.
- Providing antibacterial cleaning equipment for students and staff to wipe down all equipment after use including iPads, laptops, keyboards etc.
- Direction for all staff and students to remain at home if ill. Students who become ill at school to be kept isolated from others until collected by parents.
- Cancellation of all large scale and interschool events including assemblies, camps, incursions and excursions.
- Reminding students to 'social-distance' during recess and lunch times.



Department of Education Directive

The Director General of Education, Lisa Rogers has given all schools the following directive;

VOLUNTARY ABSENCE

"Students whose parents have chosen to keep them home, without seeking medical advice, will not be provided curriculum work and activities. The priority for staff is to maintain focus on classroom learning programs."

SCHOOL CLOSURE

"In the event of school closure, during instructional time, the school will make every effort to provide appropriate materials to minimise disruption to student learning."

Tips for Talking With Children About The Coronavirus

The following information is taken from our Coronavirus Plan.

Children will inevitably pick up on the concerns and anxiety of others, whether this be through listening and observing what is happening at school or at home. It is important they can speak to you about their own concerns. Do not dramatise and only provide the facts. Hearsay and opinion can be biased. The last thing you need is stressed kids to add to your anxiety.

[Answer their questions](#)

Do not be afraid to talk about the coronavirus with children. Given the extensive media coverage, as well as access to social media, it is not surprising that most children are aware. Providing opportunities to answer their questions in an honest and age-appropriate way can reduce any anxiety they may be experiencing.

You can do this by;

- Speaking to them about Coronavirus in a calm way
- Asking them what they already know so you can clarify any misunderstandings they may have
- Letting them know that it is normal to experience some anxiety when new and stressful situations arise
- Give them a sense of control by explaining what they can do to stay safe eg washing hands, staying away from unwell people, social distancing etc.
- Do not overwhelm them with unnecessary information eg death rates
- Allowing regular contact eg by phone, Zoom, Skype, FaceTime etc to people they worry about eg Grandparents to reassure them that they are okay



[Talk about how they are feeling](#)

Explain to your child that it is normal to feel worried about getting sick. Listen to your child's concerns and reassure them that you are there to help them with whatever may arise. It is important to model calmness when discussing the Coronavirus with children and not alarm them with any concerns you may have. Children will look to you for cues on how to manage their own worries so it is important to stay calm and manage your own anxieties.

[Limit media exposure](#)

It is important to monitor children's exposure to media reports. Frequent exposure can increase their level of fear or anxiety. Try to be with your child when they are watching, listening to or reading any news so you can address their concerns and questions promptly.

Due to the Coronavirus we are unable to have parent helpers attend the school at this time and parent interviews will need to be conducted via phone.

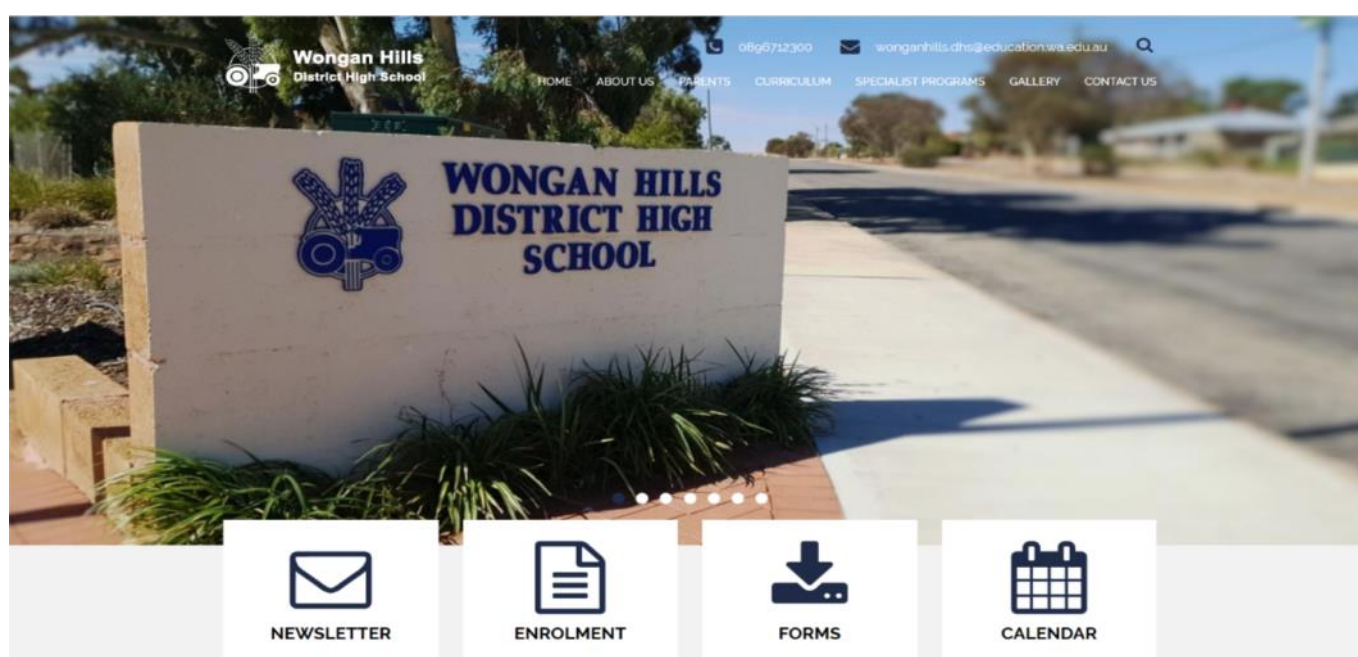
NAPLAN 2020

As you would have heard on the news, NAPLAN 2020 has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus. This enables schools to focus on the teaching and learning of our students.

New WHDHS Website

The school has been developing a new webpage and we are pleased to have it go live tomorrow. The webpage will be very important in our current situation and this is another way the school can communicate what is happening. The website can be accessed on

www.wonganhillsdhs.wa.edu.au





IT'S **UP** TO ALL of US

During the last few weeks Room 8 has been working on improving our persuasive text writing. As part of this, we researched, wrote and collaboratively edited topics within the Climate Change theme. I have included some paragraphs to give you a taste of what the Year 5/6 group published.

William Freestone's The Plasticzilla

Is it life or death? Do you know we are in a war against plastic but we can win this war! Reduce!

Reuse! Recycle! You know it you've heard it now you need to join the fight!



Horrible Heat, Terrible Tree Cutters, Landfill Loser by Summer Breen



Do you hate the heat? Do you love trees? Are you angry at landfill? Don't worry! We can help Earth by getting rid of climate change. We need to take heat away, stop people from chopping trees down and put the right stuff in the right bin! No more climate change! No more climate change!

Let's Stop CLIMATE CHANGE! By Claire McDonnell

Okay, we all know CLIMATE CHANGE is destroying this soon to be trashed world! But guess what we can fix it! All we need is everyone to jump on board to fight the waste war! Some things that are causing CLIMATE CHANGE are: electricity, pollution and food wastage.



So LISTEN UP to hear what you can do and what you have already done.



WHAT can
we do?

Do You Want to Hand Our Home Over to
Climate Change by Jessica Booth

What can we do? We can't stop climate change, but we can slow the process/prevent it! There are many things that can be done: cutting down on electricity, riding a bike, composting, planting trees and using solar power.

Save Yourself by Luke McGill

To conclude, I believe we need to up our game in preserving our world; if people keep this up the effects will be irreversible. If

people think it is bad now, think again, our population is only getting bigger.

UP YOUR
GAME

how can I help?

Let's Help Save Our Earth from Climate
Change by Eve

Come on let's save our world from climate change! Have you been wondering how to help save our world from climate change? Well there are a few simple steps that you can do. If you would like to know I will be talking about the electricity we use and how we can use less of it, solar panels and how amazing they are and compost bins and what goes in them. So keep on reading or

you are putting your life on the line!

REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE



Inter House Swimming Carnival

Issue 4





Friday the 13th of March was the Wongan's first carnival of the 2020 decade! With a combination of novelty swimming events, sprint and long distance races, plus TikTocking, made the day one to remember! To the credit of all participants it was inspiring to see students overcome their fears and dive into the water demonstrating persistence, perseverance and incredible sportsmanship.

Congratulations to all the Champion and Runner Up athletes of the day.

| Year Group | Champion | Runner up |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Year 4 | Van Oberthur Leah Abbott | Zac Keefe Holly Stephenson |
| Year 5 | Benjamin Anspach Cameron Whyte | Mitchell Siegert Eve Sewell |
| Year 6 | Bailey Lambert Paige Wigmore | Lockie Stephenson Matilda Oberthur |
| Year 7 | Rhett Breen Katie Taylor | Drew Hartley Safira Shanks |
| Year 8 | Dylan Cotter Hannah Boyce | Molly Giedraitis |
| Year 9 | Samuel Anspach Ava Godfrey | Riley Holden |
| Year 10 | Erin Simpson | Milayna Giedraitis |

This year was the 3rd year that Wongan Hills ran the prestigious 200m Individual Medley event. Congratulations to all students who participated in the event. There were over 13 seconds shaved off some of the times of the previous year!

| Year Group | Swimmer | Time |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Primary Boy | Benjamin Anspach | 4:13.96 |
| Primary Girl | Paige Wigmore | 4:19:39 |
| Secondary Boy | Samuel Anspach | 3:21.34 |
| Secondary Girl | Erin Simpson | 3:42.20 |

These days are not only about winning the races. Participating at the best of your ability means you're supporting your house and earning points for their total. Congratulations to Hinds for being the overall winners of the 2020 Interhouse Swimming Carnival. With only 56 points between 2nd and 1st it was an incredibly exciting day!

1st Hinds 1545

2nd Ninan 1489

3rd Mocardy 997

My final words are words of thank you to all the Wongan Waves Swimming Club, staff, parents, family, and community members who come on down and support the school and the students. Your support of these events means so much to Wongan Hills DHS and the students.



Congratulations

Logan Breen on winning the AFGRI Easter Colouring In Competition.

Pictured here with AFGRI Wongan Hills branch manager Brendan Barratt, Logan's picture is on display at the AFGRI Wongan Hills branch.



Wongan Hills District High School
Term 1 2020

TERM PLANNER

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------|---|---|--|---|--|
| 8 | 23 rd March Student Leadership Camp Postponed | 24 th March Indonesian Day - Cancelled Kindy | 25 th March Wongarette → | 26 th March Assembly 9am - Cancelled Kindy | 27 th March Interschool Swimming Carnival - Cancelled |
| 9 | 30 th March | 31 st March Kindy | 1 st April Year 7 Immunisations | 2 nd April Kindy | 3 rd April Pre Primary Excursion- Postponed |
| 10 | 6 th April | 7 th April Kindy | 8 th April Wongarette | 9 th April Kindy Students last day of term. Free Dress Day - Easter | 10 th April Good Friday |