



Education

Wairoa School

An individual journey in education

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Wairoa School

Term 1 Week 1 Newsletter

Wednesday 29 January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back for 2020.

It is wonderful to welcome back our students who are ready for an exciting year of creative, connected and productive learning opportunities.

This year we are delighted to welcome our new students and their families to Wairoa School. We hope your time with us is full of happy times and great education. I know that your child's educational journey will be supported by our dedicated and enthusiastic staff who demonstrate professionalism and commitment to education. At Wairoa School every student is known, valued and cared for, supported by our highly skilled staff.

I welcome back our staff who are establishing class and school wide routines, which will facilitate a smooth start to the school year. Our students will be participating in additional activities during the term. These activities involve considerable planning by the staff. Please return any permission notes and money promptly which will assist with the organisation of these activities.

Student diaries have been provided to each student to communicate between home and school. Important school notes and messages will be included in these along with class information. Please check the diary daily and acknowledge any messages received from the class teachers. Absence slips have also been provided for your use, as it is important to provide a written explanation for each absence.

Safe and Supportive Environment

Student Absences

If your child is absent on any day, please contact the office to advise them of your child's absence and forward a written explanation to the teacher upon return. We are required to keep records of all absences. If you and your family are traveling overseas you will be required to complete an application for Extended Leave for our records. Please contact the office if you require forms.

Sickness

If your child is unwell please do not send them to school. Illness can travel quickly within a school which may place other students and staff at risk. If your child becomes unwell whilst at school, the office staff will contact you to advise you.

Externally funded service providers delivering health, disability and wellbeing services to students

The Department of Education has guidelines about access to students at school by externally funded service providers.

There are 4 key steps:

- 1. Ask the school in writing**
- 2. Discuss with class teacher the details of the service and possible time options.**
- 3. Principal considers your request taking into account the needs of your child, other students and the operations of the school**
- 4. If agreed, the service needs to enter into an agreement with the school and meet**

All current and new requests will be in line with these guidelines and arrangements for 2020 will need to be considered by the school staff once a request has been made by the parents. Class time tables are currently being established and therefore any previous 2019 arrangements and times will need to be adjusted. A 2020 schedule will need to be agreed upon with school staff. It is expected that arrangements for 2020 service provision will be in place by week 4-5 of term 1.

The parent request letter is attached to this newsletter.

Please contact the school if you have any questions. Please use the student's diaries to communicate to their teacher and call the school if you wish to make an appointment to see your child's teacher.

School Uniform

Students are encouraged to wear the school uniform each day. As the weather warms next term please ensure your child's uniform is clearly labelled. I ask parents to support and encourage their child to wear the correct school uniform.

The summer uniform includes:

- Navy blue shorts
- Pale blue polo shirt
- Navy blue fleecy jumper
- Black shoes or appropriate sports shoes

Swimming Costumes

Swimming at Wairoa School is an engaging and enjoyable activity for all students.

To ensure your child accesses the swimming program in 2020, please provide a swimming costume and towel in a swimming bag. **All items must be clearly labelled with your child's name.** These items will remain at school for the year.

If your child wears a nappy, you are required to provide appropriate protective swimwear so, all students can enjoy the benefits of swimming in a safe environment.

We would recommend the "Splash" range of protective swim wear particularly the **Jammers** - Child and Adult and **Board shorts** - Child and Adult. These are available for purchase from

<https://www.littleoggs.com.au/disability/>

We thank you for your support with this requirement for your child's participation in the swimming program at Wairoa School.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

A very big PBL welcome back to everyone for 2020 and a special welcome to all our new families! At Wairoa School we follow a Positive Behaviour for Learners system and have three 'be' rules in our school:

- Be Safe,
- Be Respectful and
- Be a Learner.

This system provides us with a common language as well as opportunities to model positive and appropriate behaviour for our students. Please join with us in using this language at home with your child. During Term 1 our focus is Be Respectful. This is highlighted as orange and will include our Harmony Day celebrations later in the term.



2020 SCHOOL TERM DATES

Term 1

Wednesday 29 January – Thursday 9 April

Term 2

Tuesday 28 April – Friday 3 July

Term 3

Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 September

Term 4

Monday 12 October – Wednesday 16 December

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 26 February	School Photographs
Wednesday 4 March	Zoo mobile
Wednesday 4 March	Friends of Wairoa Meeting @1pm
Thursday 19 March	Harmony Day Celebration

Assisted School Travel

What are my responsibilities as a parent?

- Be ready 15 minutes before the pickup and drop off time
- Wait outside of your home for transport
- Help your child get into the vehicle, ensure your child is safely seated with seat belts done up according to the road rules
- Provide an Australian approved child restraint or booster seat where appropriate (AS/NZS 1754)
- Provide additional equipment if required for safe travel such as seat belt buckle covers, specialised transport harnesses and any medical equipment
- Assist travel staff in loading and securing your child and their mobility equipment such as wheelchairs and walkers
- Communicate any additional needs your child might have on transport to the school and travel staff
- You must be present at the drop off point to meet the vehicle
- Call the driver and school if your child is going to be absent from school
- Contact the school if your details or circumstances change such as work commitments, address or phone numbers
- Speak with the school if your child's health needs changing



Short term accommodation (respite) for children with disability.

Uniting have a newly developed service: Belfield House, it is a Short-Term Accommodation Service (Respite) for children 7 – 17 years of age with a disability. Services are funded by a child's NDIS plan via their core supports or Uniting can negotiate a payable fee for service.

Belfield house offers children and young people a safe, fun and homely environment to come and stay overnight, while providing parents and carers an opportunity to have a break and rest.

To find out more please visit our website

<https://uniting.org/services/services/uniting-disability/uniting-belfield-house>.

Stays are available in times of emergencies, unplanned stays or regular visits.

Uniting can be contacted on 0408 194 658 or at disability@uniting.org



Education
Public Schools

Every Day Counts...

A day here or there doesn't seem like much but...

When your child misses just...	That equals...	Which is...	And therefore, from Kindy to Year 12 that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of school	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed!

Every day counts!



Novel Coronavirus in New South Wales.
29 January 2020

The NSW Ministry of Health and NSW Department of Education have recommended that any student who was travelling in China (including Hong Kong) over the past 14 days should not return to school or child care services this week, as the coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks.

Students who returned to Australia more than 14 days ago and have shown no symptoms are able to return to school this week.

There has been a small number of cases of confirmed Novel Coronavirus in New South Wales. In accordance with national public health guidelines, exclusions only apply for those who are a:

- Confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus – exclude until medically cleared
- Close contact of a confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus – exclude for 14 days since last contact with the confirmed case

Close contact is defined as living in the same household, 15 minutes face-to-face contact with a person with confirmed coronavirus in any setting, or sharing a closed space with a person with confirmed coronavirus for more than 2 hours.

The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. Advice about not attending school would be provided to these close contacts by the Ministry of Health.

Consistent with current guidelines, staff and students who are unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve. In accordance with our current practice if any child becomes unwell we will implement our infection control guidelines and follow the advice provided by the Ministry of Health as appropriate.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely and take advice received from NSW Ministry of Health and NSW Department of Education to ensure we are responding to the situation appropriately.

Externally Funded Service Providers Delivering Health, Disability and Wellbeing Services

Request from Parent / Carer

Student:

Service provision requested: (eg physio, speech).

Name of service provider: Phone contact of service:.....

Email of Service:

Therapists name:.....

Expected outcome or goal of the service:

The service is;

Intervention

Observation

Frequency of service

Session Time

Duration of service

Weekly

30 minutes

Term 1

Fortnightly

45 minutes

Term 2

Monthly

Term 3

Other

Term 4

Please indicate how the service goals will link to your child's educational personalised learning and support goals.

I understand that a decision will be made regarding the provision of therapy services during school hours for my child by the school leadership team.

I understand that if there is no suitable times or learning space available in my child's class the service cannot commence, rather, the request will be placed 'on hold' and reviewed at the end of the semester.

I have provided relevant documents relating to the above services such as therapists reports.

Parent/Carer Name (print)..... Date.....

Parent/Carer Signature.....

Please return this to the school so services during school time can be considered.

Contact the school is you wish to discuss this request.