

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kaya / Welcome to the latest edition of School News. I take this opportunity to welcome everyone back from what I hope was a restful and enjoyable holiday period. A special welcome to the new families that have joined us this Term. We hope that you will enjoy being a part of our school community.

2023 NAPLAN Results

We will hopefully be sending the individual student reports home to parents early next week. Whilst we don't have the full suite of results as yet, once checked the reports will be ready to be sent home for parents to see how their child went in this testing. The reporting for NAPLAN 2023 has changed considerably so parents are asked to read the information that is sent home with your child's NAPLAN report.

Writers' Festival

Throughout weeks two and three of this term students will have the opportunity to hear from a variety of authors both in person and online, as a part of our writers' festival. Thanks to funds from the P&C we have been able to arrange this valuable experience to further develop students love for writing and reading. We look forward to being able to share some of their experiences later this term.

Book Week 2023

This year we will be holding our Book Week dress-up day on Friday 25th August. The theme for the 2023 Book Week is Read, Grow, Inspire. Reading is a pivotal skill that we hopefully learn early and use throughout our lives. Celebrating books and reading is therefore an important part of what we do. We hope everyone will get in the spirit.

EduDance

EduDance commences next week for all students from Pre-primary through to Year 6. We love to see all of the students involved and enjoying themselves with this experience. If you have yet to return your child's permission slip or pay please do so promptly. The EduDance concert is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday 20 September, which will be accompanied by an open night for classrooms.

Faction Athletics Carnival

This is another major event that happens during Term 3 every year. Our athletics carnival will be held as follows:

- Jumps, Throws and distance events - Tues 29 August
- Main Carnival Day - Friday 1 September

The main carnival day will again be held over at Lathlain Park on the open oval next to the Eagles headquarters. We thank West Coast for their support with this event again in 2023.

School Photos

I have been asked a few times about School Photos this year. These will be taken on 20/9—21/9, which is in the last week of this term. We have a new photography company engaged this year to take photos.

Change to Working With Children Requirements

Important changes to Working With Children requirements come into effect this term and impact our parent volunteers. More detail on the changes can be found page 3 of this newsletter.

Have a great fortnight everyone!

Rick Walters

UPCOMING EVENTS / IMPORTANT DATES

Mon 24 July	Year 4 PEAC Testing	Thurs 3 August	Cross Country Interschool
Tues 25 July	Welcome Assembly PP—Yr 6	Friday 4 August	Newsletter
Tues 1 August	Senior Assembly Room 13	Tues 8 August	Junior Assembly Room 9
Wed 2 August	P & C Meeting	Thurs 10 August	Be You Meeting 5pm

Finding it hard to get your child to school?

Information for parents on school refusal, anxiety and attendance

School refusal can cause stress and upset for the whole family. Parents can often find it hard to understand why and become worried about whether their child is telling them everything that's going on. The student can often feel 'safer' at home and the thought of going to school can be overwhelming. However, repeated school refusal can negatively impact your child's learning and development.

WHAT IS IT?

Anxiety

At some stage, every individual will feel anxious when faced with a difficult situation. During difficult times, you can support your child to cope with anxiety in effective ways, and in doing so, enhance their resilience. Anxiety can become a problem when it is persistent and prevents your child from enjoying normal life experiences for a long time.

School refusal

School refusal is when a child regularly displays high levels of distress and reluctance about going to school, leading to prolonged absences. Your child may say that they feel sick, either prior to leaving for school or during the day through repeated visits to the school nurse or sick bay. They may complain of a headache, sore stomach, nausea or tiredness. Behavioural symptoms may include tantrums, crying, avoidance or defiance.

It is important to understand the concerns your child may have about school in order to work towards resolving the situation. As such, the school may advise making a referral to a psychologist to help.

WHAT CAN CAUSE IT?

- Change of school
- Separation anxiety - where the child experiences overwhelming feelings of distress when parting from their parents or family home
- Anxiety about a parent leaving, or losing a parent. The child may be fearful that something bad will happen to their parents while they are at school such as:
 - parents divorcing or running away
 - having friends whose parents have separated and fearing that it may happen to theirs
 - fear of a parent becoming ill again after recovering from prior illness.
- Family stress
- Academic pressure or problems
- Not getting along with teachers
- Fear of not having friends
- Bullying
- Moving house
- A change in a parent's job
- A change in home circumstances



SCHOOL REFUSAL: STRATEGIES FOR PARENTS

Instead, acknowledge that school refusal is not a disorder, but your child's way of responding to an underlying fear or anxiety.

It is essential for you to be able to recognise early warning signs. There are several steps you can take to help:

- See a doctor
- Don't allow your child to stay at home
- Give clear and firm messages about school
- Talk and listen
- Avoid a battle or negotiation
- Focus on the good things about school
- Keep your goodbyes at school short and reassure your child you will see them at the end of the school day.
- Form a partnership with your child's teacher
- It is better to arrive late to school than not at all
- Minimise any 'benefits' for staying at home
- Ignore crying and tantrums
- Lead by example
- Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep

Be You - School Refusal Fact Sheet (2019) <https://beyou.edu.au/fact-sheets/development/school-refusal>

Hearspace - Understanding School Refusal (2019) <https://headspace.org.au/friends-and-family/understanding-school-refusal>

Learning Potential - School Refusal, Australian Government (2020). <https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/articles/school-refusal>

OTHER SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

Important changes to Working With Children Check requirements

We thank all our parents who generously volunteer their time and energy to support our school community. There are some changes to the Working with Children Check policy, to ensure the safety of children when we have volunteers in the school.

If you would like to volunteer at our school, you will need to sign a 'Parent and child volunteer declaration form'. You cannot volunteer if you have a current Working with Children Negative Notice or Interim Negative Notice.

These changes affect parents who are engaged in volunteer work. For example, you are considered a volunteer when you assist with activities such as reading sessions, day excursions, canteen duties, helping at a sports carnival or carrying out P&C duties.

You are not a volunteer when:

- picking up and dropping off your child
- observing events like school assemblies
- attending parent and teacher interviews
- visiting the uniform shop.

If your circumstances change, and you are issued with a Negative Notice or Interim Negative Notice after completing the 'Parent and child volunteer declaration form', you must advise the principal.





A current Working with Children Check is required by all other family members and friends over 18 years of age who want to volunteer.

It is a collective responsibility to ensure the safety of our children. We appreciate your ongoing support and dedication to our school community.



We are grateful for and value our volunteers – here's how you can help keep kids safe when you're doing unpaid work at a school.

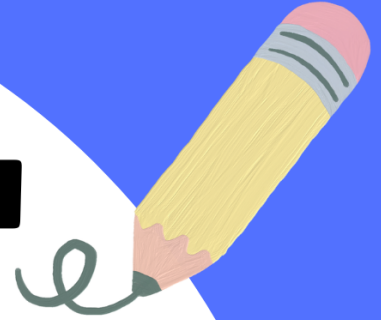
Before you volunteer at a school, we will ask you to **complete a Parent and child volunteer declaration form**. You will be asked to complete the form annually if you want to continue volunteering. Child volunteers are volunteers under 18 years of age.

 You are volunteering	When you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• complete an unpaid practicum or work placement as part of your educational or vocational course of study• coach or umpire sports• mentor students• help out in a classroom.
 You are not volunteering	When you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• are enrolled at a school and doing unpaid child-related work with other children at the same school• watch an event, like an assembly or sports carnival.
 You cannot volunteer	When you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have a current Interim Negative Notice or Negative Notice.• have submitted the form and are issued an Interim Negative Notice or Negative Notice – you must alert the principal.
In addition to the declaration form, you need a Working with Children (WWC) Check	
 You need a WWC Check	When you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• do any paid child-related work at a school• volunteer after you turn 18 years of age.

If you are not sure if you need a WWC Check or to complete the Parent and child volunteer declaration form, please speak with the school office staff.

Lathlain Primary

WRITERS' FESTIVAL



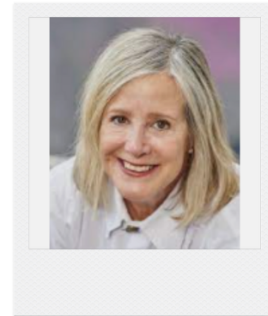
Wednesday 26th July - Friday 4th August

FEATURING:

Frané Lessac - Visiting Author

Writing workshop with all year levels

Wednesday 26th - Friday 28th July



Littescribe Writing Festival

Australia's largest online, interactive writing festival for schools. 20+ author workshops, available live and on-demand plus a year of writing resources.



Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August

Lathlain Junior Newsletter

At least two students from each classroom will be selected to be published in a Junior Newsletter. Students are encouraged to engage in the mini-writing festival activities or to create any text inspired from the festival activities/author visit.

Thank you to the school's P&C for their generous contribution towards this event.



CELEBRATING ROOM 7

Room 7 joined with other Year 1 classes to do rotations for this years NAIDOC activities. In Room 6, they made damper. In Room 7, they made Noongar season spinners. In Room 8, students did dot painting and in Room 9 they coloured hands. The students had a wonderful time mixing with the Year 1 students from other classes. The students thought the best part was eating the damper plain or with honey.

