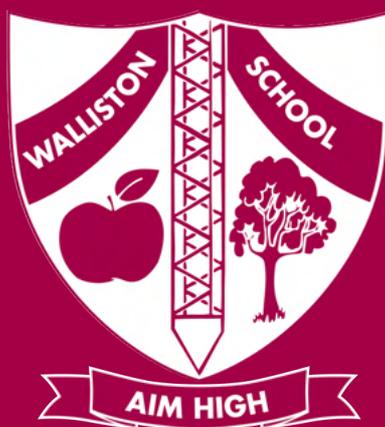




Walliston Primary School

2023 Parent Information Booklet

Experience the Walliston Way



 wallistonprimaryschool.wa.edu.au

 11 Dianella Road, Walliston, 6076

 walliston.ps@education.wa.edu.au

 (08) 9291 2000

Important Information

Department of Education

Phone: 9264 4111

School Contact Number

(08) 9291 2000

Email Address

walliston.ps@education.wa.edu.au

School Postal Address

11 Dianella Road, Walliston
WA 6076

Facebook

Walliston Primary P&C Community
Walliston Primary School

Twitter

@WallistonPS

Website

www.wallistonprimaryschool.wa.edu.au

School Office Hours

8:00am - 3:30pm

Principal

Craig Mainard

Deputy Principal

Michael Gilders

Manager of Corporate Services (MCS)

Kylie Della-Franca

School Officer

Tammy Freakley



WELCOME TO WALLISTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Walliston Primary school enrolls families, not students. The school engagement of parents with the school goes back to its foundation and is embedded in our school's culture.

As educators at Walliston PS we want our children to be academically robust; significantly astute; physically sound; artistically creative; morally and ethically prepared; self-reliant and independent in their learning; technologically adept; media-wise; globally and environmentally aware.

The challenge of meeting the needs of tomorrow's young adults is impressively met at Walliston Primary. We have an experienced, well-qualified, enthusiastic body of staff; outstanding specialists in Music, Art, Italian, Digital Technologies and Physical Education; attractive grounds and buildings; excellent teaching and learning resources; and the energy and will to help children joyfully discover and develop their potential.

The best we can achieve for each child will be the result of partnerships; strong relationships between staff, students and parents, but also with other schools, local businesses, service organisations and other government and non-government organisations.

Working together we can achieve success which results in lifelong learning. At school, we build on the foundation laid by parents and we encourage parents and carers to become actively involved in school life. Parents can assist in partnership by ensuring their child is fully equipped to take full advantage of all that is offered at the school. Please encourage and talk to your child as much as possible. We look forward to a happy and productive year.

Regards
Craig Mainard
Principal



THE 'WALLISTON WAY'

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Walliston Primary School's vision is for every child to grow, and “AIM HIGH” through; a strong sense of COMMUNITY, creating a CONNECTED Culture, and inspiring CREATIVE minds for the future.

AIM HIGH

Walliston Primary School is located in a bushland setting at one of the highest points in the hills, east of the city of Perth. Our school motto “Aim High” refers not only to our geographical location but to the expectations we place upon ourselves as educators and our expectations of our students. A large amount of retained natural bush and native shrubs enhance the spacious school grounds. Walliston Primary School is a pleasant place in which to learn and to work. Our school has built a reputation for care, equity and excellence. Students and staff are proud of the results and the high standards that are consistently achieved.

WALLISTON WAY

The “Walliston Way” describes our school wide pedagogy and provides all with a consistency of teaching, learning and assessment. Our mission at Walliston Primary School is to work together as a learning community to develop, “The Walliston Way” with a focus on COMMUNITY - CONNECTION - CREATIVITY.

WALLISTON SCHOOL'S ETHOS

Our school operates with a focus on the child and their capacity to learn in different ways at different stages of their schooling. Learning is more than an academic pursuit; it is a 'total picture', which provides a balance between a student's intellectual, physical, emotional and relational needs. This is reflected through our play-based inquiry curriculum through to the use of collaborative activities, technology and explicit instruction as children move through the school.

The Walliston Primary School staff promote the best possible learning environment where students are enthusiastic and honest, helpful and sympathetic to one another, are courteous, have a sense of humour, and take pride in belonging to this school. We want the students to develop healthy bodies and minds so that they will be able to enjoy all forms of activity associated with the school and be able to make worthwhile and creative use of leisure and recreational time.

Excellent schools have a deeply ingrained philosophy that promotes learning and respect for the individual student. The progress of the student as a learner is the most important objective of Walliston Primary School. Student self esteem, a positive environment characterised by exemplary student behaviour, parental support and involvement, effective and efficient management and attractive school environments are all essential components of the Walliston School culture.



SCHOOL ESSENTIALS

SCHOOL TERMS 2023

Semester 1

Term 1: Wednesday 2 February - Thursday, 6 April

Term 2: Monday, 24 April - Friday, 30 June

Semester 2

Term 3: Monday, 17 July - Friday, 22 September

Term 4: Monday, 9 October - Thursday, 14 December

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Term 1

Monday 30 January

Tuesday 31 January

Term 3

Monday, 17 July

Term 2

Friday, 2 June

Term 4

Monday, 13 November

Friday, 15 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Term 1

Tuesday, 26 January (Australia Day)

Monday, 6 March (Labour Day)

Friday, 7 April (Good Friday)

Term 3

Monday, 25 September (Queens Birthday)

Term 2

Tuesday, 25 April (ANZAC Day)

Monday, 5 June (WA Day)

TERM PLANNER

Each term the school will create a term planner highlighting key events and other important information for that term. The term planner is emailed to parents at the start of each term, and can also be found on the school website and school app.

HOURS OF INSTRUCTION

8.30am Students arrive at school (classrooms open their doors)

8.45am Lessons commence K - 6

10.35am Morning recess

10.55am Lessons commence

12.35am Outside play

1:05pm Lunch

1.20pm Lessons commence

2.25pm Tuesday Early Close

3.00pm School finishes Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

LUNCH PERIOD

There is a lunch period of fifteen minutes when students must sit in a designated area to eat lunch. In 2023 students from Year 1 - 6 eat together with their class teachers at the end of their outside play time.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

For safety reasons students are encouraged not to arrive at school before 8.30 am. Students who arrive before 8.30 am must go to the undercover area and remain there until 8.30 am. At 8.30am they may go to class. No play occurs prior to school. Supervision is provided from 8.15 am until 8.30am.

SCHOOL PLANNING

WALLISTON PRIMARY SCHOOL BUSINESS PLAN

Our school business plan has been developed in conjunction with students, staff, parents and members of the wider community. It sets a clear strategic future for the next three years, which will support our students to be successful lifelong learners. Our Priorities are centred around the key Curriculum Areas of Literacy and Numeracy as these are the corner stones of building solid understandings in other learning areas. Our other Priorities are developing 21st Century Teaching and Learning environments and building Emotional Intelligence with our student group.

The strategies and milestones contained in this plan indicate the level of progress towards achieving our three priorities:

- Literacy & Numeracy
- Future Focused Learning
- Emotional Intelligence

A copy of our school business plan can be found on our website. Alternatively, drop into the office to pick up a hard copy.

PRIORITIES FOR 2023

LITERACY and NUMERACY

We aim to provide solid evidence based teaching experiences which will enable all our students to reach their full potential. Walliston Primary School has a range of levels of student achievement and by providing quality teaching aimed at improving student outcomes we will ensure that all of our students are demonstrating improvement throughout the year. Our high achievers are catered for through well planned in-class activities which extend them both vertically and horizontally. Students who are experiencing difficulties are provided with assistance through targeted and well planned intervention programs provided by highly trained staff.

FUTURE FOCUSED LEARNING

Walliston Primary School provides opportunities for children to be creative and innovative through an integrated, future focused curriculum, catering for the diverse learning styles of children into the 21st Century. Our school environment is set up to provide our students with the most up-to-date technology to enable all of us to engage in providing a 21st Century learning environment. Future Focused Learning provides learning environments that are flexible for teaching and engaging for student learning.

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Our students are our highest priority. By providing them with the tools to develop emotional intelligence we provide them with the strategies to resolve problems and issues that arise on a daily basis. These strategies are modelled and taught by staff and are embedded in our school's culture. Students are assisted through our SAER programs, PBS Programs, Documented plans where appropriate and the programs undertaken by our school chaplain and teaching staff.



ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL EDUCATION ACT

The School Education Act 1999 requires children of compulsory school age to attend school (applies to all students from Pre-primary). When a child is unable to attend, legislation requires that parents/caregivers forward written notification providing a reasonable cause for the absence of their child. The Department of Education classifies any student below 90% as an attendance risk.

Family holidays during school terms are not encouraged. School holiday periods provide a considerable amount of time for families to enjoy holidays. Absence during school terms disrupts children's learning and their social development with friends. A written note, providing dates and reasons for the holiday, is to be forwarded to the Principal for consideration.

STUDENTS LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

It is important to note that no child may leave the school grounds during the school day without the knowledge and permission of the school Administration. Students sent to school are in our care and are our responsibility during school hours and this includes lunchtime. If students are required to leave during the school day, parents must come to the front office to sign students out. Parents are not permitted to go to classrooms.

ABSENCES

A note or phone call is required explaining all absences. A Medical Certificate may be required to explain prolonged absences.

Families can notify the school of student absentees via our School Website.

The school supplies blank 'Absentee Notice' sheets for parents to complete and return to class teacher with their child/children, when they have been absent from school.

LATE TO SCHOOL

Classroom doors open at 8:30am every morning. Students arriving late (after 8:50am) must come directly to the school office to collect a late note before going to the classroom.

PUNCTUALITY - Every minute counts!

8:30am	Your child has arrived in time to settle well and has the best start possible. You will have time to settle your child and give any messages to the teacher.
8:45am	Your child has arrived just after most children and will need to get organised quickly and enter the classroom quietly. You may not be able to give any messages to the teacher.
8:50am	Your child is late and has missed the beginning of the school day. Being late a few minutes can be unsettling for your child and they will have missed the preview of the day with the teacher.
8:55am	Arriving at 8:50am, you will need a note from the office. Your child is severely disadvantaged having missed the morning routine and revision activities. You will not be able to interrupt the teacher as they will be in full swing teaching the class.

FINANCES

CONTRIBUTIONS & CHARGES

The Department of Education's Regulations permits the Principal, through the School Board, to request from parents Voluntary Contributions of up to \$60 per student for facilities in the school.

The contribution that Walliston Primary School requests from each family is \$60.00 per child, K - 6. The contributions collected will be used to supplement school expenditure across various areas in the school. For example Literacy resources, Mathematics resource materials (iMaths, Mathletics), Health & Physical Education resource materials, classroom activities, photocopy materials, Science materials etc. This money is spent during the 2023 year.

We thank our families in advance for making this important payment.

P&C ASSOCIATION

The P & C Association also requests a donation of \$35.00 per family to supplement its various fund raising activities along with a further \$10.00 to help fund our Chaplaincy. This money provides an opportunity for families to assist the Association in its endeavours towards the provision of better grounds and play equipment, learning aids and literacy programs, just to name a few.

SPECIFIC PROGRAMS CHARGES FOR 2023

Dance & Band:

Costs of \$35.00 per student (5 one hour lessons and a dance social Pre Primary to Year 6). Family participation in this event is encouraged. If your child takes up a position as a school band member, there will be a cost of \$50 for the ensemble director.

In-Term Swimming

Costs \$55.00 per student: In Term Swimming Lessons for Years PP - 6 will be held from 19 - 28 July 2023(Term 3) at Belmont Oasis Swimming Pool.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Payment is preferred up front for the above items but may be made at any time prior to commencement of the program. Excursions and Incursions are charged for as they occur during the year.

To assist with our budgeting, it would be appreciated if the Contribution (\$60/child) is paid as soon as possible, preferably by the end of February, to enable early use of these funds to purchase programs/goods required.

Payments can be made directly to the school's bank account using the "Pay Anyone" option through your online bank account. Please clearly state student/family name and reason for payment eg Ben Wright Rm2 Swimming. Last year a number of people used this facility by making regular fortnightly deposits to pay off the Contributions & Charges. We are more than happy for this to take place.

Preferred method of payment other than cash is Direct Deposit.

Our bank account details are as follows:

Account Name: Walliston Primary School

BSB: 016341

Account Number: 340914351

FINANCES

STUDENT REQUIREMENT LIST

At the end of each year parents are given a requirements list indicating items required for the following school year. Although the school has a recommended supplier you are not obliged to use this supplier. To develop habits of neatness and pride in work, it would be appreciated if parents would cover all books in which written work will be done by the student throughout the year.

Stationery supplies should be regularly checked and replenished.

MONEY COLLECTIONS CHARGES

At times it will be necessary to ask parents for additional sums of money for camps, bus fares, excursions etc. It is the school's practice to minimise these expenses so these charges are carefully considered.

- All activities requiring charges are voluntary (extra-curricula).
- Non payment means nonattendance (unless by prior arrangement).

EXCURSIONS

Educational and sporting excursions are arranged for classes throughout the year. Written information is sent to parents prior to excursions, and parents must provide their written consent in order for their child to attend. It is desirable that all class members participate in planned excursions which are part of the teaching program. To find out more, please contact your child's classroom teacher.



DRESS CODE

SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniforms help develop school tone, ethos and spirit. Our students are expected to wear the designated school uniform. The Walliston School Board endorses this requirement.

It is our belief that there is a close correlation between a student's appearance and the attitude they display. Where students are neat and tidy in their dress there is usually a carryover to neat and tidy work habits and to acceptable behaviour.

Parents are asked to ensure that their children are dressed in school uniform.

Spare uniforms are held in the office for students who are unable to come to school correctly attired.

SCHOOL COLOURS & SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The school colours are maroon and black. The following items are available from the uniform shop:

- School Polo Top
- Faction Polo Top
- School Zip-up Jacket
- School Fleecy Zip-up jacket
- Black Shorts with piping
- Black Track Pants with piping
- Black Skort
- School Dress
- Wide Brim Hat
- Bucket Hat
- School Bag
- Black Sports Skirt



Parents are asked to ensure that students have appropriate closed in shoes, runners or joggers suitable for running. Thongs, boots and sandals are inappropriate for school, even in hot weather, as they do not provide sufficient support and protection for their feet as students run around and play during the day. Students are also involved in Physical Education activities and Sport each week.

SUNSMART SCHOOL

As part of our School Dress Code a wide brimmed school hat (for maximum protection) or bucket hat is required when out in the sun throughout the year. We have a No Hat - No Play in the sun policy.



PERSONAL STANDARDS

All students are asked to maintain hair cleanliness, and if long, to keep it tied back. Standards of personal cleanliness are regarded as the student's own responsibility. Parents are asked to regularly check children's hair for head lice.

WEARING OF JEWELLERY

Students should not wear jewellery, makeup or nail polish to school. It is unnecessary and jewellery (especially earrings) can be dangerous during play and physical education activities. For safety reasons earrings are not to be worn to school (except for plain studs or sleepers). Personal adornments are unnecessary and are discouraged.

FACTION SHIRTS

All siblings from the same family are placed in the same faction. Interfaction sporting competitions are held during the year. As well, a separate, weekly faction competition is run. For this competition points are awarded by teachers for classroom work etc.

Faction colours are green, purple and teal. Factions names and colours are as follows:

- BICKLEY - Green
- CRYSTAL - Purple
- KADINA - Teal

Faction polo tops are to be worn when participating in faction sports and on assembly days.

UNIFORM SHOP

The P&C Association runs a Uniform Shop at the school; opening times are every Thursday from 8:30am to 8:45am or by appointment. Uniform Shop Order forms are located in the front office. All uniform items can be purchased through the shop. Many extra items, including school bags and library bags are also available.

Second-hand clothing of good quality is also available at a reduced price.

The Uniform Shop is located on the school oval adjacent to the teacher's car park.

MARKING OF CLOTHES

All articles of clothing which can be removed - (tracksuits, jackets, shoes, t-shirts, etc) must be clearly marked with the child's name. This is very important as we accumulate a lot of lost property. Children's hats should be clearly marked with their full name.

LOST PROPERTY

A container for lost property is located in the Weston block outside Room 2 and also in the Annetts block outside Room 10. All found clothing will be placed there and parents wishing to look for lost property should report to the office. At the end of term all unclaimed "lost property" will be recycled



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SCHOOL (PBS)

At Walliston Primary, we value respect and positive relationships with others. While we strive daily to do the right thing, we acknowledge that there will be times in our students' lives where they make the wrong choice and, as a result, cause harm to their relationships with others.

At Walliston Primary, we actively support students to acknowledge how their behaviour impacts upon others and to then take responsibility for restoring their relationships by accepting the consequences for their actions. Students are encouraged by school staff, as they work to equip children with both the language and confidence to resolve situations where relationships break down.

To meet our school vision we have created School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) Guidelines. The purpose of which, is to develop and implement School wide Behaviour Support to improve behaviour, teach social skills and foster a positive attitude towards learning to achieve higher educational outcomes. It is our intention that this will develop a school culture which is consistent and based on a common language which is used by all.

PBS is an evidence based, whole school approach to behaviour management, where school behaviour expectations are clearly defined and taught and positive behaviour is rewarded and celebrated. It is a framework that will improve student academic and behavioural outcomes and ensures all students have access to the most effective behavioural practices and interventions possible.

OUR BEHAVIOURAL EXPECTATIONS

Based on staff, student and parent input, our whole school behaviour expectations are built around:

- We are Respectful
- We are Kind
- We are Learners

As part of the PBS program, we establish clear expectations for the behaviour we expect in all areas of the school. We explicitly teach those expectations to the students and reward them frequently with positive notes and prizes for their great behaviour.

“If a child doesn’t know how to read, we teach.

If a child doesn’t know how to swim, we teach.

If a child doesn’t know how to multiply, we teach.

If a child doesn’t know how to behave, we teach? We punish?”

Shouldn't we be able to finish the last sentence as easily as the other 3?



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

TEACHING EXPECTATIONS

Throughout the school year, students are taught how to behave according to our behaviour expectations. Teachers will help students learn what the expectations “look” and “sound” like in every setting during the school day. These lessons will be retaught and reinforced throughout the school year, and become a regular part of our instructional program.

WAMOs

Acknowledging and reinforcing positive behaviour is one of the best ways to change inappropriate behaviour and encourage expected behaviour. “WAMOs” are given to students when they demonstrate positive behaviours, along with an explanation as to which behaviour expectation they have demonstrated. The use of a common language is central to the PBS process and is used by every member of the school staff when reinforcing expected behaviours. By earning “WAMOs,” students are able to work towards individual points, faction points and whole school rewards (or incentives). They also go into the draw for a ticket to our 'WAMO' award which is drawn at every assembly.

The acronym WAMO originated from the four original school factions: Weston; Annetts; Mason; Owen.

PBS CHARACTERS

As part of our PBS journey, Walliston Primary School is excited to introduce Lizzy Learner, Respectful Roo and Kind Kulbardi as our PBS characters. Keep an eye out for our PBS characters at every assembly and join in with the fun as the students welcome the mascots into our assembly area.



REPORTING TO PARENTS

ASSESSMENTS & REPORTING TO PARENTS

The school's assessment schedule is tied to classroom programs. Assessment in the school is a cumulative process. The Reporting Schedule for 2023 is part of the Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting policy. Forms of reporting to parents may include:

- Introductory meeting or interview
- Open Night
- Learning Journeys
- Interviews
- Diaries, letters etc.
- Work samples
- Formal Reports

SCHOOL REPORTS

Written reports are distributed via paper copies to parents at the end of Semesters 1 and 2 in each year. All students will receive a formal report detailing their progress and achievement in key learning areas, indications of student attitude, behaviour and effort as well as detailed comments and an opportunity to request parent interviews. Parents are reminded to contact class teachers throughout the year to discuss their child's progress.

NATIONAL TESTING (NAPLAN)

Students in Years 3 & 5 are tested nationally in Numeracy and Literacy in weeks 7 & 8 of term 1. The literacy test includes testing reading, writing and spelling ability. These tests give the school, the parent and the student valuable information which may assist with forward planning.

TEACHER-PARENT MEETINGS

It is hoped that parents and teachers will have informal contact on a regular basis throughout the school year. For the times when a longer, more formal conversation is required it is best to organise a meeting with the teacher.

Each year, Walliston Primary School coordinates a number of opportunities to meet with parents. In term 1, each class teacher will organise a Parent Information Session to explain class routines and answer any questions. In term 2, this is followed by a formal 10 minute meeting between teacher and parent to discuss strengths and concerns for each child. In term 3, students will share their class successes by showcasing their classroom at a whole school open night.



MEDICAL AND SAFETY

MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Please advise the office if your child suffers from a condition that requires our attention and support. This includes conditions such as asthma, allergies or other medical conditions. It is important that you provide the school with an Action Plan provided by your family doctor if your child has a known medical condition. A confidential record of students with specific conditions is maintained within our electronic records system.

MEDICATION

It is preferable that prescription and non-prescription medication is administered to your child at home before and after school. However, we acknowledge that medication may be required to be administered whilst your child is at school. If this is the case, you must complete the appropriate Health Care Plan which can be obtained from the front office.

Arrangements for the dispensing of all medication should be made through the school administration and updated annually. The instructions need to include an advice from a doctor. Staff members are not allowed to distribute analgesics to children.

For safety reasons students should not have medicines in their possession or in their bags (except Ventolin).

SICK CHILDREN

Students who are sick should not attend school. In fairness to other students, to the staff and to themselves, they will be more appropriately cared for if allowed to recover at home.

SICKNESS & ACCIDENTS

In the event of a student being sick or being involved in an accident, parents are contacted. All parents are required to make sure that the school has a current telephone number and an emergency contact on our records. The school does not have adequate facilities for minding sick students. They should be kept home until well. Information on enrolment cards needs to be kept up to date. Any changes in telephone numbers (home, work or mobile), addresses and emergency contact numbers should be recorded at school promptly. Please see the Manager Corporate Service (MCS) or School Officer when updating information.

STUDENT SERVICES - HEALTH AND PSYCHOLOGY

A school psychologist and a school nurse regularly visit the school to help deal with routine matters as well as referrals, from staff or parents. Students receive three routine health checks during their primary schooling. Parents are advised if a problem arises.

The school psychologist may assess students with a problem that is affecting their learning. Parents will be involved in action recommended. Parent permission is necessary if formal testing is undertaken.

The school also has access to other support services including Speech and Occupational Therapy.



HEALTH ISSUES & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Chicken Pox & Measles

Exclude from school re-admit 7 days from appearance of spots or pimples only if well and then preferably on a medical certificate.

Mumps

As for measles but exclude for 14 days.

Ringworm

Exclude from school. Re-admit only on medical certificate indicating that the child is no longer likely to convey infection.

Rubella

Exclude from school readmit 7 days from the subsidence of symptoms [sore throat and rash], only if well, preferably on medical certificate.

Scarlet Fever

Exclude from school re-admit 10 days from appearance of symptoms and only on medical certificate.

Scabies

Intensely itchy rash - exclude from school until cured.

Head Lice/Nits (Pediculosis)

Must be excluded from school until hair has been treated with correct solution. It is preferable if nits have been removed from the hair after treatment. We are required to report severe contamination to Community Health School Medical Service.

School Sores (Impetigo)

Exclude from school while medical treatment is being undertaken.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are a reoccurring problem in primary school students. By checking your child's hair regularly for symptoms it is easily treatable.

Treatments are available from the school or your local pharmacy and are easy to apply. Symptoms of head lice include:

- General: Child scratching his/her head excessively
- On Pillows: Fine black powder or pale coloured material
- In the Hair: Signs of lice or eggs (nits), cream or coffee coloured specks close to hair roots
- Lice: Small white or greyish parasites the approximate size of a pinhead

IMMUNISATIONS

Children should be fully immunised before starting Year 1. The school requires a copy of immunisation records.

4 Years:

Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliomyelitis (DTP) Measles, Mumps, Rubella,

Every 10 years:

Tetanus toxoid - against Tetanus

DENTAL THERAPY CENTRE

This centre currently operates from Walliston Primary School. Parents need to take their children for appointments.

Centre Phone Number: 9291 6808



COMMUNITY

SCHOOL BOARD

In Independent Public Schools, such as Walliston PS, the School Board plays a key role as the peak governance body. The board takes part in establishing and reviewing the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions, and evaluates the school's performance in achieving them.

The School Board meets four to six times a year and consists of eight members;

- 2 members of staff
- 4 parents or caregivers
- 2 community members
- the principal

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (P&C)

The Walliston Parents and Citizens' Association meets at the school on a regular basis. All parents and other citizens of our community are most welcome and are encouraged to attend. The P&C is a great opportunity for parents, teachers and community members to support the learning and infrastructure of the school

P & C Association meetings are held twice a term on a Tuesday evening (7.00pm) in the Library Resource Centre. You will be reminded of the P & C meetings as they arise, via newsletters (see Diary of Events). The Annual General Meeting of the P & C Association is held early in the year (Feb). New parents into the school are encouraged to take an active role in the association.

Funds raised by the P&C contribute to the funding of programs and facilities within the school, which makes for a better educational experience for our kids!

P&C CLASS PARENT REP

In 2023, the P&C are continuing with the concept of a P&C class representative to assist with P&C initiatives as well as improving communication between classroom teachers, the school and parents within each class. P&C Class Representatives are valued members of our community and their time and commitment are very much appreciated by all members of the school community. Our Class Representatives are a key link between the P&C Committee and our whole parent community. Our P&C Class Representatives will help build a positive parent community by working together and providing support to both our parents and staff by nurturing communication and enhancing "The Walliston Way". Our P&C Class Representatives would act as a liaison between the P&C and the parents of their respective classroom/year group. Roles and responsibilities of the P&C class rep will be shared at the P&C AGM, as well as at the Term 1 Parent Information teacher meeting, where class teachers will be asking for volunteers which are then passed on to the P&C executive team.



CONNECTION

ASSEMBLIES

These are held throughout the year and take place in the new CAA (covered assembly area). School assemblies are hosted by one of our classes three times a term, on Friday mornings commencing at 9:00am. Merit awards are presented to selected students and families are notified 2 days prior that their child will be receiving one. We love having all of our parents and community members at school to see our students perform and celebrate their successes. Assemblies aim to last for approximately 30-40 minutes. Dates are published in the school newsletter, in the Term Planner and via our website.

NEWSLETTERS

It is the objective of this school to keep parents fully informed about school activities. Newsletters are a vital communication link and are emailed out to parents to view and share with the children. Please notify the office if you are not receiving your copy. They are emailed out on the Wednesday preceding an assembly. See Diary at end of this booklet.

Newsletters can also be downloaded from the school website or a hard copy can be collected from the office.

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

The School Chaplain helps address pastoral care needs within the school.

He co-ordinates the Buz Program (Social and Emotional Wellbeing) from PP to Year 5, the Rainbows Program, A Grief and Loss Program and a Year 6 Leadership Program. The Chaplain participates in excursions, one on one mentoring, camps, fundraising activities and lunchtime sports. He is available each Monday and Friday and may be contacted through the school.

COMMUNICATION

Quality communication at all levels is a key component of our operations. We acknowledge the role of parents as partners and welcome your involvement and communication. We aim to communicate effectively with our diverse community, and therefore we use a range of strategies and mediums to suit the different needs and preferences of parents and caregivers. Please ensure that your phone number and email address are provided to the school and are always up to date. It is also important to make sure emails from the school do not appear in your spam folders.

Walliston Primary School utilises a number of platforms for communication. Notifications will be sent home from the office or class teachers and will be displayed on a school letterhead. The school will often use email, the school website and school app to share news, events, reminders and newsletters via these platforms. SEESAW is also being used from K-6 to share news and student learning. Our senior primary classes will utilise the departments CONNECT platform for student work. Walliston Primary School P&C has an active social media Facebook page, which is run by the P&C.



CREATIVITY

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

In 2023 students in years PP–6 will have specialist instructions in Physical Education, Music, Art & Italian.

We will be running an academic extension program for a select group of students from Years 3 - 6, with a focus on STEM skills.

A Primary Extension and Challenge program is conducted offsite for selected students in Years 5 and 6 and Kalamunda SHS runs an Academic Extension Program for selected Year 5 and Year 6 students.

SCHOOL FACTIONS

All students belong to one of three factions: [Bickley](#), [Crystal](#) or [Kadina](#). Faction sporting events include the swimming carnival (Year 3-6; Term 1), cross country (Years 1-6, Term 2) and athletics carnival (Kindy to Year 6, Term 3). Students can also win points for their factions by collecting 'WAMO's' (see Positive Behaviour Expectations section).

KITCHEN GARDEN

Each year our year 4 students participate in the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program. Parents are often encouraged to assist with the class kitchen and garden sessions.

SCHOOL CHOIR

The school choir plays an essential part of our school community. The school choir is open to students from Year 3 to Year 6, and school choir practice will run every Wednesday from 2:10pm - 3:00pm. The school choir often performs at the school ANZAC service, the Kalamunda RSL Dawn service, an assembly item and an additional community event through the calendar year.

SCHOOL BAND

In 2023, our school band will operate similar to 2022. The bands will be coordinated by a music specialist from our community and will work in partnership with families of selected students. Bands will consist of one mini concert band and will perform at a local event at the end of the year. Cost to participate aims to cover the music specialist.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC (IMMS)

Selected students in Years 3 - 6 have the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument. The choices this year are violin, classical guitar, clarinet, trombone and trumpet for Year 5. On accepting a position in the IMMS program, it is expected students to continue with the program up to the end of Year 6.



WALLISTON EXTRAS

ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT TO RECEPTION

All visiting teachers, entertainers, builders, tradesmen etc. who visit the school while students are present require a Police Clearance. All staff have a current "Working With Children Check" card.

New requirements of volunteers and other staff working with children mean that volunteers (other than parents) may need to undergo a "Working with Children" check. Information on the requirements is available from the office.

ORDERING LUNCH

Students in all classes can order lunches online on Monday, Wednesday & Friday each week. Menus and prices are available online through the QuickCliq App. Lunches need to be ordered before 9am on the day required. Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds to order, or to buy their lunch. The lunches are provided by the Walliston Deli.

ROAD SAFETY

Students, who live from Cephalotus Road north towards Kalamunda, should cross over Lawnbrook Road where the Crosswalk Attendant is on duty before and after school. A Crosswalk Attendant is also on duty at the corner of Canning and Grove Roads.

Students riding bicycles to school need parental guidance and training with respect to road safety. This will be reinforced at school, but the parental role is vital. Please observe road safety rules.

Please note that bicycle helmets must be worn. Bikes can be chained to bike racks in order to minimise theft. Everyone must dismount before entering the school grounds and walk their bicycles and scooters whilst on school grounds. Please note, leaving bicycles at school are done at your own risk.

PARKING & PICKING UP/SETTING DOWN STUDENTS

Increasingly, parents are driving their children to and from school each day. One result of this is that the front of the school tends to become hazardous before and after school. Cars, students on foot and on bicycles make the possibility of accidents very real. Please note parking areas and utilise the "Kiss & Drive" facility. Please also note the 40kph speed zone.

Please take care when moving off from the school after pick up or set down and please remember that the Staff Car Parks (off Dianella and Lawnbrook Roads) are not to be used as a pick up and set down point for children. Please observe and adhere to the Parking restriction signs, respecting local residents and access to their driveways.

Extra parking for parents has been provided on the corner of Cephalotus Road and Lawnbrook Road.

Parking zones around the school may be enforced by the City of Kalamunda Rangers.

CONCERNS

If you feel you have cause for concern about any aspect of the school's activities, please let the teacher, Deputy or Principal know about it. If other parents talk to you about anything to do with the school that they are not happy about, tell them to come in and let us know. No problem can be solved if we don't know of its existence. Early knowledge of concerns can often resolve problems quickly.

WALLISTON EXTRAS

BIRTHDAYS

You are welcome to send a cake to school with your child on their birthday. Small cupcakes are preferable and much easier to share with classmates than a double sponge that needs surgical equipment to divide it into 26 pieces! Please do not send food that contains nuts. We appreciate your cooperation in being aware of these products and avoiding them being present at school. Please check with classroom teacher on whether there are any students in the classroom with other food allergies.

BOOK CLUB

Scholastic book club order forms go home twice a term. Orders and payments are made online only. Books usually take 2-3 weeks to arrive. Our Book Club P&C Representative coordinates this program.

LIBRARY

Walliston PS is extremely fortunate to have an amazingly spacious and well-equipped Library available to students and staff. Classes visit the Library once a week to borrow books; please ensure your child brings their library bag to school on their class's borrowing day. Students can also access the Library at lunchtimes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

If there are formal arrangements in place that relate to the custody and access of your children, particularly in relation to any Court Orders or other formal directions that may be in place, please provide the necessary information and copies of documents to the principal at time of enrolment. If, in the future there are any changes to the arrangements/orders on file, please advise the principal. The school strongly encourages all families not to involve the school in any family disputes.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The school provides opportunities for Year 6 students to take on formal leadership roles in the school. There are two school captains, six faction captains and three student councillor positions. Information about the nomination process is given to Year 5 students in Term 4, which is followed by an Australian Electorate Commission (AEC) voting system. Students who are selected have opportunities to build their skills with time management, organisation, public speaking and responsibility, laying the foundation for future leadership roles as they grow older.



WALLISTON EXTRAS

HOMEWORK & TIME ALLOCATIONS FOR HOMEWORK

Homework for primary school children should be minimal so a balance of play, rest and exercise can be achieved. In the early years homework should largely be informal and non-compulsory. As children move towards the upper primary years, they should progressively be exposed to more structured homework requirements in order to facilitate a smooth transition to secondary school through the development of good study habits. Homework should always be seen as a vehicle to enhance student learning outcomes and foster positive school/home partnerships.

Homework is still an important component of the learning process and is preparatory, supplementary and supportive of work covered in class. Homework is never set just to keep students occupied. It is important to remember that we encourage parents to read regularly with students, encourage them to write / draw, answer their questions, encourage opportunities to become part of clubs, afterschool sport, swimming lessons and visit different places and play outside.

Homework allocation varies from teacher to teacher and over year levels. Generally it may be set daily Monday to Thursday, with a focus on spelling and timetables. For upper year levels 20 minutes of homework each night may be expected of students. Less is expected of middle primary students and in years one and two homework usually relates to reading. Please remember more is not necessarily better.

If students have difficulty completing any homework they should talk to the teacher. Alternatively the parent could indicate the difficulty in a note on the homework page. Please contact the teacher if there are any questions regarding homework.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Students should not bring expensive personal items such as jewellery, toys or games to school. Teachers cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to this property. The Department of Education's Insurance policy does not cover personal belongings. Mobile phones are not to be used in school. Mobile phones and electronic devices should be handed in to the front office before school in the morning and collected after school each day.

MOBILE PHONES

In October 2019, the State Government announced a new Student Mobile Phones in Public Schools policy to take effect from the start of Term 1, 2020. The policy requires all public schools to implement a ban on the use of mobile phones for all students from the time they arrive at school to the end of the school day. Students are not permitted to use mobile phones, or smart watches, on school premises for any reason unless supervised by a staff member and with permission.

These devices;

- Are brought to school at the students' own risk. The school does not accept responsibility for these devices.
- Mobile phones are to be kept in the teachers desk or front office at all times and must be switched off or on silent.
- Smart phone communication and notification alerts must be switched off.
- Are not to be used to call home in an emergency. This is the duty of the school and the administrator/ teacher in charge.
- Are not to be used to call home in the event of a mishap at school or because belongings have been forgotten unless at a teacher's discretion and under the supervision of the teacher – in the main, these events are to be dealt with by the school. Parents will be informed of any events that have impacted on their child.
- Are not to be used for any purpose that has not been explicitly authorised by the school.
- Are not to be used to harass, bully or intimidate students, staff or anyone else.
- Breaches will be dealt with as per the school's Behaviour Policy.



ONE LAST THING

AT HOME

Parents often ask, 'What's the most important thing I can do at home to help my kids at school?' The answer? Set them up for reading success.

THE EARLY YEARS

A child's experiences and home environment during their early years of life have a strong and measurable effect on their literacy skills before they reach the classroom. Many studies indicate that children's emergent literacy skills significantly predict reading test scores in later years, reinforcing the importance of home environments on early literacy development and reading achievement.

Engaging children in play-based literacy activities encourages the development of phonological awareness, vocabulary and oral language, as well as other knowledge essential for learning to read. For example, by playing word games, using rhymes to explore the sound structure of the English language, and teaching them about the alphabet, letter-sounds and print concepts through directed, play-based activities.

Parents can also enhance their children's vocabulary and oral language through informal activities, such as providing access to books and educational toys, reading books together, and trips to the library or museums. One of the most effective things parents can do is TALKING with children, listening, and answering their questions. Once children start school, parents should continue to foster reading development. [Here are some strategies that can assist:](#)

READ TO THEM!

Reading to your children helps them develop a love of books and reading. While bedtime is traditionally story time, don't limit yourself. Keep books in your car, in your bag, by the couch, and even by the bathtub. That way, reading can easily be made part of the day. Also, keep books on low shelves, on the floor, in toy boxes, or anywhere else your children can reach them.

Of course, reading to your kids is not the only thing that will help them learn to read; high quality phonological awareness activities and a structured synthetic phonics program, such as we have at Walliston PS, are the most important things. However, children that are read to at home almost always come to school with more advanced reading skills than those who don't.

HAVE PLENTY OF MATERIAL

Books aren't the only thing children can read. Posters, maps, magazines, recipes and newspapers are great reading material. Computer games and apps that emphasise reading skills may also be useful for your school-age children.

LISTEN TO THEM READ

From the day your children begin sounding out letters, concentrate on how they're doing. Try to include some 'read aloud' time - where they're reading to you - in your everyday routine. You can offer them praise and catch any early problems before they have time to become habits. Show you're excited about what they are reading and learning.

MODEL GOOD READING HABITS AND LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Your children need to see that reading is a lifelong skill and a form of entertainment. Take them to the library to choose books and choose some for yourself too. If you can, when reading newspapers, magazines or online articles, discuss what you read with your children. This shows children that reading isn't only schoolwork - it's something that's an integral part of everyone's life. Also, limit the amount of time spent watching screens, and try to model this yourself. For example, insisting that electronic devices are put away at mealtimes is a good way of limiting screen time.

LET THEM CHOOSE

Within reason, allow your children to choose their own reading material. If they choose what to read, they'll be more likely to actually spend time reading. Entrust your kids with choosing their library books and looking after them whilst they're on loan.

ASK THE TEACHER

Ask your child's teacher if your child has areas in which he or she may need extra help. Also, make sure to let the teacher know if you've noticed any reading problems at home. Working with the teacher and school will ensure your child's continued reading success.

ONE LAST THING

AT HOME (Continued)

MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

Just 15 minutes of reading per day can change your child's life. It is a skill that comes only with practise and, like any form of exercise, the more - the better. When combined with the explicit, age-appropriate reading instruction at Walliston Primary School, home reading can take your child's literacy development to the next level.

AT SCHOOL

If you would like to get involved with the school community, here are some examples of ways to volunteer at Walliston Primary School. Please do not hesitate to speak with either the Administration staff or P&C representatives for more information.

IN THE LIBRARY

- Label and/or cover books
- Shelve resources
- Read to children
- Help on the circulation desk (issue and return books)
- Help children to shelve or find books

IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASS

Each class requires different needs so please speak to your classroom teacher, but these are some examples

- Listen to children read - Individually, Guided Reading Groups
- Put up displays of student work
- Act as a Class Parent Representative
- Assist with shelving resources
- Attend excursions

AROUND THE SCHOOL - INSIDE

- Join our fabulous P & C
- Assist in the Uniform Shop
- Welcome new members of our school community
- Assist clubs, choir & band
- Book Club
- Coordinate or assist with a fundraising or community event

ACROSS THE SCHOOL - OUTSIDE

- Improve school sustainability eg recycling, compost etc.
- Coach a sports team
- Work in our Kitchen Garden
- Working Bees & General Maintenance
- Assist teachers and children at pick up
- Help at the sports carnivals
- Assist with set/pack up for carnivals and community events
- Help with BBQ's







Experience the Walliston Way

**Community
Connection
Creativity**



Experience the Walliston Way

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