



Warradale Primary School

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Teaching and Learning Update Friday 5 November 2021

KEY DATES & REMINDERS

****School Closure Day - Friday 19 November (Week 6)****

R-5 Swimming - Marion Outdoor Pool, Monday 8 - Friday 12 November (Week 5)

6/7 Illawonga Camp - Swan Reach, Monday 8 - Friday 12 November (Week 5)

6/7 Graduation - Morphettville Park Football Club, Wednesday 8 December (Week 9)

Student Leadership

This year we established 6 student ambassador groups: Learning, Communication, Health and PE, Technology, Performing Arts and Grounds-Environment. Students involved have had opportunities to take an active role in their focus area, and the balance of feedback from all involved has been very positive. Current Year 4/5 students are now in the process of nominating themselves to be involved in the ambassador initiative next year, and in the process, are learning more about the roles and responsibilities undertaken by each group and the expectations that go with being a student leader. Classes have had discussions with leadership about this opportunity and students are being supported in class to complete a nomination form. Students are able to nominate the groups that they are interested in joining in order of preference. Once the groups are finalised, students involved will participate in an orientation/training day to prepare them for 2022.

Children's University

On the evening of Thursday 4 November, students who participated in the Children's University (CU) program this year attended the annual CU graduation ceremony in Bonython Hall at the University of Adelaide. CU members who accrued a minimum of 30 hours of learning in their *CU Passport to Learning* were invited to graduate with other members of the CU community. Each graduate wore the special CU cap, gown and sash and received their certificate of achievement at the formal ceremony attended by university executives, special guests, school leaders, CU coordinators, family and friends. Congratulations to all students who participated in 2021, your commitment and perseverance in completing an outstanding year of independent, extra-curricular learning is a great example for other Warradale students to follow. Big thanks must also go to our brilliant CU Coordinator Samantha Wilks who again contributed countless hours of her own time to assist our students to engage with the program, maintain their passports, and attend the graduation event.



R-5 Swimming

Students and staff are looking forward to participating in the annual Water Safety Program next week. We have received the following information from the program's coordinators regarding COVID restrictions, with the program running as per last year's arrangements:

- School staff only to attend – SSO staff have been rostered to support class teachers/students at the pool
- Student/staff to enter/exit through the side gate to comply with the centre's social distancing requirements
- Students to wear bathers and t-shirt/rashie, dressing gown, slip on shoes, goggles and towel to the pool
- Students will change out of their swimming attire back at school due to change room restrictions

We thank all parents/caregivers for your support with adherence to the above guidelines. These parameters are set by the program providers and subject to change, pending any further update in advice from SA Health or the Education Department.

Classroom teacher cover

Thank you to those parents/caregivers who have recently provided respectful feedback regarding teacher replacement this year. Replacing classroom teachers who are not available to teach on any given day represents an on-going challenge for all schools. Teachers can be unavailable to teach in their classroom for a range of reasons, including but not limited to personal/family illness, scheduled retention or long service leave, collaborative curriculum planning, student support, leadership/administration cover, transition planning and support, site improvement work and professional development. With respect to any absences due to urgent pressing necessities, we always try to secure and assign the best available Temporary Relief Teachers (TRT). When a teacher's absence from their classroom is planned, we aim to ensure as much continuity as possible by employing TRTs (pending availability) who know our students, classes and school context. Our teachers understand better than anyone that communicating temporary arrangements with parents/caregivers ahead of time minimises the impact on student learning and wellbeing. With significant school improvement actions on-going at our site, particularly around improving curriculum delivery and developing consistent whole school approaches to teaching and learning, the reality is we have had to release a number of our teachers from their classroom duties more regularly than would typically be the case this year.

Cyber safety

A number of concerns have arisen this term around student device use, particularly with regard to students protecting their log-ins/passwords and using the internet in a safe and responsible manner. While there has been no major issue or incident to date (thankfully), it is timely to remind all students and families about the importance of protecting personal information when using online platforms and digital devices. Parents should closely monitor their children's device and internet usage and ensure their children are only accessing age-appropriate content. Young children should not use social media or messaging applications without direct supervision from a parent/guardian and content classifications on online games should always be adhered to. Our students receive constant education and information about how to stay safe online and be responsible digital citizens and consumers of appropriate online content. As a school, we are investing a significant amount of time and resources into giving our students and staff better access to digital tools for learning, so that they can develop the skills and capabilities required to be active and successful local and global citizens. A suite of free training sessions and resources designed to help Australians have safer and more enjoyable online experiences are available on the eSafety website at www.esafety.gov.au/parents

10 INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

- 1 Don't block all access to technology. Help your child learn to use tech **safely** and **positively**.
- 2 Take an **interest** in your child's favourite apps or sites. Co-view or co-create at times.
- 3 Be the parent. You're in charge. Set **boundaries** and consider using filtering software.
- 4 Create a family media **agreement** with tech free zones such as cars, bedrooms, and meals.
- 5 Teach your child what **personal information** they should not reveal online (YAPPY acronym).
- 6 Help your child learn to **filter** information online and navigate fact from fiction.
- 7 Navigate digital **dilemmas** with your child. Avoid using devices as rewards or punishments.
- 8 **Balance** green time and screen time at home. Focus on basic developmental needs.
- 9 Don't support your child to sign up for sites with **age restrictions** (e.g. 13+) if they're underage.
- 10 **Learn more**: Explore reliable resources for parents so you can educate yourself.

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