



# Walkaway Primary School Newsletter

**Newsletter #1**  
**3rd February 2020**

## **FEBRUARY UPCOMING EVENTS**

3rd Students start

5th/6th Swimming  
PP-6

10th P&C AGM 1pm

10th - 12th Swimming  
PP-6

18th Class Meetings

21st Welcome BBQ 6pm

## **MARCH UPCOMING EVENTS**

2nd Labour Day Holiday

5/6th Leadership Camp

27th NCVISSA Swimming  
Carnival

Dear Parents



Welcome to a new school year. It was lovely to see all of the students back this morning excited to be here. I am also very excited to be back after my leave in Term 4 and look forward to working with you this year. Please remember, my door is always open should you wish to have a chat.

### **Newsletters**

As there is a lot of information to come out, I have put this newsletter out early. Future newsletters will come out on **Fridays, commencing Week 3.**

### **Swimming**

Our year is off to a flying start with swimming lessons commencing this Wednesday. Forms and an information letter will come home today. Thank you so much to those parents who remembered both their child/ren's swimming forms and payment of \$60 per child this morning. Due to the lessons starting on Wednesday, I do ask that the permission forms, and enrolment forms if not sent in already, are returned tomorrow, 4th February.



### **Contact Updates**

With the swimming forms is a Student Health Care Summary which has the contact details we have for you on our system. Please update as necessary.

For various reasons, there may also be changes to your child/ren's Emergency Contact details. Please come in to see us to update these or email changes to [walkaway.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:walkaway.ps@education.wa.edu.au).



## STAFFING

We welcome Ms Susan Jones and Mrs Monique Hall to our team. Ms Jones will be teaching in Room 2 for Term 1 while Ms Heywood enjoys her Long Service Leave. Ms Hall will be taking Art and Phys Ed lessons on Tuesdays.

## SCHOOL BOARD

As you will be aware from communications last year (in the newsletter on Nov 6th and at the end of year concert), we are in the exciting position of having **3 x 3 year parent positions open this year**. There is **also a 1 year position** that has become open. Our School Board has an important role in our school and I urge you to consider nominating for these positions.



### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL COUNCILS/BOARDS

The functions of councils/boards are prescribed by the School Education Act 1999 and the School Education Regulations 2000 as follows:

#### Take part in:

- establishing and reviewing from time to time, the school's objectives, priorities and general policy directions;
- planning financial arrangements necessary to fund those objectives, priorities and directions;
- evaluating the school's performance in achieving those objectives, priorities and directions;
- formulating codes of conduct for students at the school; and
- take part in the selection of, but not the appointment of, the school principal or any other member of the teaching staff if prior approval is given by the Regional Executive Director.

#### Approve:

- a charge or contribution determined by the principal for the provision of materials, services and facilities;
- the costs determined by the principal to be paid for participation in an extra cost optional component of the school's educational program;
- the items determined by the principal to be supplied by a student for the student's personal use in the school's educational program; and
- an agreement or arrangement for advertising or sponsorship in relation to a government school.

#### Determine:

- in consultation with students, their parents and staff of the school, a dress code for students when they are attending or representing the school.

Provide advice to the principal of the school:

- on a general policy concerning the use in school activities of prayers, songs and material based on religious, spiritual or moral values being used in a school activity as part of religious education; and
- on allowing time for the special religious education of students in the school, up to a total of 40 hours in a year.

#### Promote:

- the school in the community.

### **A council/board does not:**

- manage the day to day running of the school (for example, staff management, and student assignment to classes);
- discuss individual issues relating to teachers, staff, students or parents;
- represent specific interest groups, or permit special interests to dominate the agenda of the council/board;
- intervene in the control or management of the school;
- intervene in the educational instruction of students;
- borrow money or obtain funds
- purchase property;
- exercise authority over teaching staff or other persons employed at the school; or
- performance manage the principal or any other Department of Education employee.



Nomination forms are attached to this newsletter email and are available from the office. Nominations are **due by this Friday 7th February**. Please indicate on the nomination form if you are applying for the 3 year position, the 1 year position or both. These positions will be handled separately should an election process be required. This will be determined by the number of applicants for each position. Voting processes will take place next week.

Results will remain confidential until the successful applicants have received their Department Screening.

Current Board members whose tenure is finished this year are welcome to re-nominate.

We generally have 2 meetings per term, one earlier and one later in the term. As we have so many potential new members, the days, dates and times of these meetings will be confirmed at our first meeting.

### **MOBILE PHONE POLICY**

As you will have seen in the media late last year and at the beginning of this year, the Education Department has a new mobile phone policy which comes into effect at the beginning of this year. I have attached our updated Mobile Phone Policy which reflects these changes.

Generally, should your child need their phone at school for the purpose of before and after school contact, they will be required to hand them into the office in the morning and pick them up at the end of the day.

### **CARONAVIRUS**

Thankfully we haven't been affected by this virus. I have, however, attached a letter for you explaining the Department's approach to managing this on school sites.

## P&C AGM

The P&C AGM is on next Monday, 10th February at 1pm. Our P&C welcomes new members and I encourage you to be a part of a friendly, very proactive and productive team.

We hope to see you there.

Kind regards  
Megan Barrett, Principal



## Teacher / Parent Class Information Meetings

Tuesday 18th February 2020

9.00 - 9.30	Mr Clune	Room 4
9.00 - 9.30	Mrs Clement	Room 6 (PP Parents Only)
9.30 - 10.00	Mrs Jones	Room 2
10.00 - 10.30	Ms Harman	Room 1

Parents are welcome to enjoy light morning tea in Room 3.

## WELCOME BBQ

The staff would like to welcome all parents, students, family members and the wider community to come along to the Walkaway School for a BBQ and a casual meet and greet.

**When:** Friday 21 February

**Time:** 6pm – 8pm

**Where:** The school lunch area

**BYO:** Please bring your own nibbles, drinks, meat and a salad to share.

All children attending must be accompanied by an adult.

The school will provide buns, bread, serviettes, paper plates and condiments.

We look forward to seeing you there.

