



Walkaway Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter #7
29th May 2020

JUNE

UPCOMING EVENTS

1st Western Australia
Day Public Holiday

3rd P&C Meeting 1:30 at
hall tables

5th Lunch order day

9th Edward the Emu

CANCELLED

19th NCVISSA Winter
Carnival **CANCELLED**

22nd — 26th Book Fair

24th Room 6 Assembly

CANCELLED

JULY

UPCOMING EVENTS

3rd Last day Term 2

22nd First day Term 3

Dear Parents

We have enjoyed having our home school students join us back at school. Our school has a very positive atmosphere with staff commenting on the enjoyment we gain from doing our duty. Students are participating in a variety of play with groups of all ages being incorporated. It's a pleasure to be at Walkaway Primary School.



OFFICE ATTENDANCE

A number of our students are participating in our new programs, MiniLit and MacqLit, which was purchased for us by the P&C. This is a literacy intervention program which helps build their skills in a small group or one on one situation. They involve Education Assistant's (including Mrs Holliday who also shares the school officer role) and myself implementing the program 4 mornings each week. This will mean that on mornings when Mrs Carlshausen isn't in the office, we are all involved in teaching which means the office is unattended for this time. We do check for both phone and School Star messages in between these groups so please leave a message for us and we will respond as soon as we are able. This is particularly important during these times when the Department is requiring parents to not come on the school grounds.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Due to COVID, the Department has supported schools in reallocating the School Development Day we had scheduled for Day 1 of this term. I discussed this with the Board and staff and we have decided to make the new school development day at the beginning of Term 3. Therefore, dates for next term will be

Monday 20th July (scheduled **School Development Day**)

Tuesday 21st July (**School Development Day**—COVID rescheduled)

Wednesday 22nd July (students first day back for Term 3)



ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

Each year we review and reflect on our data, strategies and practises which is an important part of our improvement cycle. Each year we publish the results of these reflections and goals for further improvement or development in an Annual School Report. Our report is now available for viewing on our website [2019 Annual School Report](#)

REPORT FORMAT

With the regular attendance of many students being lower over this time, the breadth and depth of the curriculum covered throughout Semester 1 may have been reduced. For this reason, schools are not required to include A to E grades on this year's Semester 1 student reports. It also means that your child's attendance may not be reported, and any written comments may provide less information on their progress than usual.

Walkaway Primary School reports will have:

- ◆ Progress statements for English and Maths
- ◆ A general comment
- ◆ Attitude, Behaviour and Effort Marks
- ◆ An effort mark for subjects other than English or Maths
- ◆ A general comment which will focus on progress in learning areas other than English and Maths

This semester, you will find that the progress comment structure will be the same/similar across the classrooms. The progress information, however, is individual to your child and will give you a clear indication of their current achievements and a goal /s for further development.

With schooling returning to normal, Semester 2 reports will reflect this and therefore provide the usual, more detailed information on your child's progress and achievement.

COMMUNICATION

We value communication with our parents. Our staff employ a number of different ways of communicating including email, phone calls, face to face and, can now use Seesaw. Pre-arranged parent meetings can now occur onsite after school hours, respecting the social distancing guidelines.

I encourage you to make contact with your child's teacher should you have any concerns or would like any information on the progress your child is making at school.

For Seesaw, today I will send home information for Seesaw Families. Some classes will continue to use Seesaw Class (which is the app you had at home to support learning from home) in school. For home now, we would appreciate it if you would download Seesaw Family. Teachers, at times will forward messages or share student successes through Seesaw.

2020 KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS

For Semester 2, starting next term we look forward to welcoming our Kindergarten students on

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.



Kind regards

Megan Barrett, Principal

Kindergarten



We are now calling for enrolments for our 2021 kindergarten and PP-6 classes. If you know of any students in, or moving to, our community, please make sure their families have contacted us so we can ensure they receive all of the information they need to make enrolment an easy and smooth process.

You can call us on 99261008 or email walkaway.ps@education.wa.edu.au.



Information will follow in the coming weeks as to how we will manage this COVID style...I can assure you we have some creative plans as we want you all to benefit from this great opportunity to purchase quality books for home or gifts.

ROOM 6

It is nice to be back to normal after our COVID interruptions. Thank you very much for doing such a great job of home schooling during this time. We are going to continue to do individual munch and crunch for at least the rest of this term. Please continue to send fruit in an individual container or as an easily eaten single piece. We are not using the drink fountain so please continue sending a water bottle every day.

Our theme this term is growing. We have planted beans and tomatoes and have all made a hairy caterpillar. The rain has helped them to really get a move on! We are collecting seeds from our fruit and some vegies such as capsicum, to compare and see if we can grow them. We are also observing a sweet potato growing to learn that not all plants grow from seeds.

On Fridays when Room One join us, we have been finishing off our unit on Protective Behaviours. We have now established our own safety networks and the children should be able to tell you who they have chosen in theirs. We also do Drama and have fun in a variety of ways. One is to make a name web with a ball of wool. We sit in a circle, call a name and roll the ball of wool to them. By the time everyone has had a turn we have made a web!



All of us in Room 6 would like to say a VERY BIG THANK YOU to Julz and Ms Myers for the wonderful job they are doing keeping our school so clean and safe from infection. What a huge challenge they faced on Monday after the storm. It is bad enough for all of us dealing with our own clean up at home never mind school as well.

We would also like to thank our wonderful P&C for funding our new shade area. We were just getting into the swing of using it for extra outdoor activities when COVID struck. We can now get on with enjoying it again. It is great protection from the sun and rain.

It is wonderful to see how independently all children are coping with our morning routine. Since returning, everyone is getting along and keen to participate and learn.

I hope you all enjoy the long week end and can get rid of the dirt and enjoy some more rain! Mrs C



ROOM 1

Things are gradually returning to normal. Everyone in Room One has settled back into school routines and are enjoying being able to work and play with their school mates. We are concentrating on skip counting and measuring length in Mathematics and the students are enjoying their weekly session with Mrs Barrett working on addition and subtraction strategies. We have been very busy comparing and contrasting things in both English and History. We have had a delicious time in Science tasting mixtures and observing changes in food when different temperatures are applied to them. Mikayla has written a class report for our newsletter and Harper has recounted her playground experiences.

Ms Harman



'We are all working hard and doing lots of Science. We are giving out pies and sausage rolls, also pasties every Friday for two terms. We are taking good care of the school. The only thing is, people are leaving their rubbish on the ground and other kids find it and they're the ones who pick it up and I think the kids that have left their rubbish there should pick it up.' **Mikayla**

'At school me and my friends play at the sand dunes. We play Minecraft and we use trees for our kennels and houses. We have the sand dunes as our play area.' **Harper**

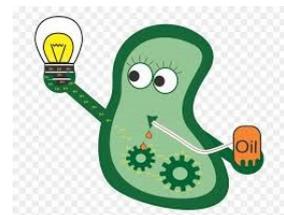
ROOM 4

WOW The term is flying by! It is great having all of the students back on deck. All of the students have come back invigorated for learning and working with their peers. We are working well through our Spelling Sounds. We will be commencing our third list this term. We have developed our Narrative writing skills as well over the last couple of weeks and developing the vocabulary that we use in our writing. We want to engage our audience and keep them reading on. Some of the plans and work will be used for the Randolph Stow Competition, which is coming up. I hope that Walkaway does as well as it has done in the 4 years that we have been involved in it. A credit to our little school.

Thank you to all the parents and what you did with your child/ren at the close of Term 1. It was certainly different. Thanks Mrs Barrett for guiding us so well and keeping us informed on the developments which occurred.

I would strongly encourage students to work on their Times Tables at home, as we have been doing some fraction concepts in class, it is imperative that Basic Fact knowledge in tables is automatic. Students should be working on mastering their 7, 8 and 9 tables over the remainder of the semester. Our 10s knowledge will also be useful with the coverage of measurement activities. We have started Numero Challenges on a Friday morning, these are proving a great team building time and use of Mental Strategies.

During science we are investigating MICRO-ORGANISMS. There are some interesting observations made and recorded. I can't wait for this coming Wednesday's Science investigation. I hope we are able to control the micro-organisms that we have been growing!!



Thank you for your positiveness and support over this trying time and I look forward to the continued support you have shown me. Mr Clune

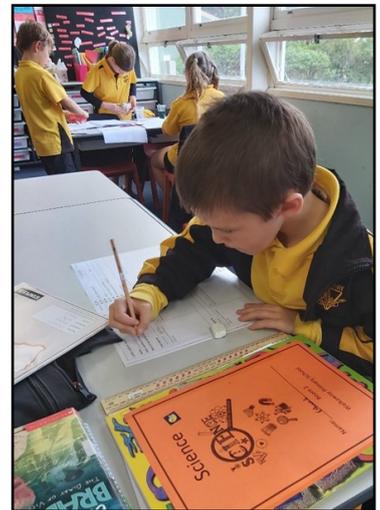
ROOM 2

We are starting to feel like a normal class again now that everyone is back at school. Its fantastic to have everyone back. Thank you to everyone for putting in so much effort into your learning at home. We had some very skilled Seesaw families who used all the tools and activities really well.

What a storm we had on Sunday! So much dust going everywhere we don't want it. Very upsetting for farming families especially. I hope you weren't too badly affected.

Here's a little bit about what we are up to.

This term we are exploring Natural and Processed materials in Science and we have conducted two experiments so far. Last week we explored different fabrics to see if they will "Rot or Not" we have to wait for a few weeks to find out. This week we have explored the properties of fabrics to see if they will leak, soak or repel water.



We are working on keeping our bodies and minds healthy and discussing sleep, exercise, screen time, socialising, healthy eating, drinking water & hygiene in Health.

We are working on the /oe/ sound, the /er/ sound, the /ar/ and the /l/ sound in spelling at the moment. Students need to remember to say the sounds as they write them down so their brain can see the spelling of that sound as they write what they hear (multisensory approach). Some tricky spellings are ough (though) (dough), /er/ ear (pearl), /ar/ al (almond, calm), /l/ ol (petrol) el (diesel).

In Maths we are investigating strategies for Multiplication and Division and exploring number patterns.

Have a great fortnight everyone.

Regards Ms Heywood

GROWTH MINDSET

GROWTH MINDSET is about recognising that mistakes are okay...we can use them to learn and grow. To do this we need to be able to persevere and show resilience. Here are some examples of well known people who have overcome rejection, adversity and challenges to become successful:

J.K. Rowling



How she failed...

Many years ago there was a woman named Jo who lived in Scotland. Jo loved to write. She got up every morning and found something to write about. After finishing her first story about a boy named Harry Potter, she wanted to share it with the world. Jo took her book to the best publishers across England. All of them rejected her novel!

A novelist and screenwriter

How she overcame her failures and succeeded...

Jo didn't give up. She asked her agent to keep trying because she was confident in the story she had written. Even though she sometimes felt confused by the rejection, she pushed forward. After a year of trying, a publisher in London finally accepted her story and she published her novel under the name J.K. Rowling. She finally got to see her novel in stores and in children's hands. She wrote a whole series of books about Harry Potter. Because Rowling believed in herself, she never gave up!

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Michael Jordan



How he failed...

There's no question that Michael Jordan is one of the best basketball players ever. But when he was in high school, he didn't make the team at first! Other players were in awe of his skill and speed. But the coach was worried that Michael was too short and wouldn't play well in games. Michael didn't make the team and was downhearted.

A professional basketball player

How he overcame his failures and succeeded...

Michael was determined to improve! He joined a less competitive team, and put his energy into developing his basketball skills. He practiced for hours day and night! Michael's coach couldn't deny his dedication. He watched Michael become an even greater, more focused player! After college, Michael went on to become one of the most well known athletes. Even as a pro, he experienced failure and made mistakes when his team needed him most. But Michael views failure as a way to figure out how to better himself for the future.

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Serena Williams



How she struggled...

Almost twenty years ago, Serena started playing professional tennis. She was only fifteen, and she was thrilled! But soon after she started playing professionally, a lot of people criticized her. They made hurtful comments about her appearance and her family. Some of these people never believed she could succeed.

A professional tennis player

How she overcame her struggles and succeeded...

During these hard times, Serena felt like she failed. At that time her family gave her their love, strength, and support. And she decided to hold her head high and focus on her game. She believed in herself. She had the confidence and perseverance to succeed. Twenty years later, she holds the world record for winning 23 Grand Slams, the biggest matches in professional tennis. She lives her life like she plays tennis: with strength and conviction. A true champion on and off the court!

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Lady Gaga



How she failed...

There was once a girl named Stefani who grew up in New York City. When she was only five years old, she could play whole songs on the piano! When Stefani was older she started performing her music. In time, a record label signed a contract with her! Unfortunately, the label decided not to record her songs.

A singer, songwriter, and actress.

How she overcame her failures and succeeded...

Stefani felt defeated. Then she remembered that from a young age all she wanted was to be a musician. So she kept on working: writing lyrics, playing piano, and singing her songs. Soon she got her big break! You might know Stefani by her stage name: Lady Gaga! When you hear her name, you probably think of a famously successful and talented pop icon. But she'll tell you herself that success is difficult. The bumpy road to reaching success was worth as much to her as achieving her goals.

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