



Walkaway Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter #18
20th November 2019

NOVEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

18th—22nd Book Fair

19th P&C Meeting 2pm

22nd NCVISSA Summer
Carnival

DECEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

4th P&C Meeting 1pm

5th School Board Meeting
1.30—3.30pm

12th Graduation Concert
6pm start

19th End of Term Four



Dear Parents & Families,

HALF WAY

It is hard to believe that we are now just over halfway through the term with December just around the corner. It is lovely to return to Walkaway for the last seven weeks of term and catch up with some familiar faces.

SAD NEWS

We have all been deeply saddened by the heartbreaking news we received on Monday morning regarding the passing of Tabitha Hamersley. I know that the school community will be thinking of the Hamersley family at this time and will be there to support and love them through this devastating time.

2020 PLANNING

As part of the planning process for 2020 staff have spent some time looking at 2019 NAPLAN results to identify learning focus areas to address in 2020 classroom programs. Sometimes we can identify gaps in a child's results as being the result of poor attendance (missing key sequences of lessons when concepts are taught and applied), learning difficulties, gaps in whole school programs or gaps in teacher planning & assessment. By taking advantage of our small student numbers we are able to look closely at individual students' NAPLAN results and identify areas of strength and weakness. Through this process staff have identified gaps in NAPLAN achievement that are common across year 3 & 5 and will be addressed in classroom programs in 2020; these areas include: increasing vocabulary, using calendars, timetables and maps, 3D shapes, working with informational texts, addressing common phonological weaknesses, improving the use of paragraphs in writing, using verb tense and including elaboration and detail in written work. I am looking forward to presenting this information in more detail to the school board at the final meeting for the year in early December.

NCVISSA Summer Carnival

Students are looking forward to competing at the NCVISSA Summer Carnival on Friday. The carnival is a lot of work for staff and the parents who have volunteered their time to help out and transport students and I appreciate the effort from everyone. I am looking forward to a great day with some healthy competition. Bringing together several schools for a carnival is a big job and I hope that everyone attending will recognise the effort put in by our hosts Northampton District High School and support all teams positively.

End of Year Reminders:

With so much going on in coming weeks there are a few key dates to plan for.

UNIFORMS & BOOK LISTS: please remember to order your child's uniform requirements and book list before the end of the year. Please check the Voluntary Contributions, Fees & Charges information for details about booklists and other requirements. If you are planning on ordering your booklist online then you have until December 6th.

END OF YEAR CONCERT/GRADUATION: The end of year concert and graduation will take place at 6:00pm on Thursday December 12th at Walkaway Hall. Students are required at the hall by no later than 5:45pm. Teachers will send home instructions about costumes required in coming weeks.

Movements or changes to your child's enrolment: If you are aware that your child's enrolment may change next year or that your child will not be attending Walkaway PS in 2020 please notify the school office to assist with our planning. Similarly if you are aware of any families that may be new to the area or may not yet have enrolled their child/children please encourage them to contact the school before the end of the year.

As always if you have any questions or feedback regarding anything happening at school please contact the appropriate staff.

Thank you Norah Flanders

Ouch! Summer arrived with a bang last week and we all felt it. Let's hope we won't get much more of that before the end of term.

The last Kindy orientation was held on Friday and once again it was a lovely morning. Thank you to Miss Smith, Mrs Holliday, Mrs Garratt and the three Year Five girls for your help. We held the parent information session and morning tea this time and it was great to welcome our Kindy parents. We have five families entering school for the first time, so it was lovely to get to know them and we hope they enjoy their school journey.

We have finally chosen our concert song (Thank you Mrs Austin), so get ready to hear it being sung in the car for the next four weeks!

We are half way through the term, so our Christmas activities will increase from now on, along with the excitement and anticipation! The fairies are watching and it's time to look for Santa's whiskers in the playground. It's fun for big and little people!

Along with concert and Christmas, we still have work to do. The Copy Cats are doing a great job of learning their magic words and their writing skills continue to impress me. We are starting to learn the basics of how to write a narrative now. The children are loving being able to use their imaginations. There are lots of unicorns as characters! The Kitty Cats name writing skills have developed nicely and they are doing really well with their counting and number recognition.

Due to the hot weather, lots of play is going on at the water trolley. We haven't needed to change anyone yet as it doesn't take long for them to dry out.

Looking forward to a smooth, happy end to the year. Mrs C

This week's cute quote's beginning statement had me on alert for a minute, as I thought he meant he was going to do it right now in the room, until he finished the sentence! "I'm going to do a dangerous thing.....be a fireman!"



R

Week six and everyone in Room One is busy multiplying and measuring.

O

We wrote letters to Santa which we will be posting down at the Walkaway Post Office. Copies of the letters will be sent home so parents can admire the quality of the work that went into them.

O

The students have been enthusiastically learning their lines in readiness for the 'Night of Nights', the End of Year Concert!

M

Book lists for next year will be coming home this week. All students in Room One have calculators, headphones and art shirts. These will be kept at school and given out to the students at the start of the new school year. Library bags will be sent home along with books and pencil cases. To save money and resources, if parents would like to pop into class before or after school to check what their child is likely to need next year they would be most welcome. Some students still have quite a lot of unused supplies left.

I

Ms Harman



Another fortnight has flown by!

We are very busy in all learning areas trying to get things finished.

R

This Friday is NCVISSA Summer Carnival so we have been busy practicing cricket, basketball and T Ball.

O

I will send an email out soon regarding our Christmas Concert and what to wear as we are still finalising our item.

O

We have some great information reports that students have been working on about Police Officers.

M

We are investigating Gum Trees for Science, what they have in common and what creatures live in or near them.

I

In Art we have a few different types of printing to experiment with over the next few weeks.

We had a visit last week from Jude's new furry friends and they were so cute.

Regards Ms Heywood



R

Well getting to the business end of the year and it is not slowing down. I know everyone is busy this time of the year, and some of us get a tad tired. We need to remind ourselves of the values of honesty, hard work and being friendly which have all been encouraged this year in Room Four.

O

Presently, I am finalising some assessments and aiming to cover any concepts that need extra work in preparation for next year and working on the writing of final reports for the students.

N

The expectation is that all students will continue to do their best and be respectful to all in our school community. I thank all parents and caregivers for your support.

M

Our School Concert and Graduation is fast approaching. Students are asked to wear a plain top in either RED, GREEN or WHITE and casual bottom.

The Year six students are asked to wear their Leavers' shirt for Graduation.

Class party will be held at lunchtime on MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER

Clean up day is WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER.

H

We continue our study on Volcanoes in Science, and I look forward to the presentations next Monday which the students have been working on over the last week and a half. We will work on more Measurement and Algebra in Maths and started revising some of the Comprehension skills in Reading.

Thank you once again for your support with your child's education.

Mr Clune



**SAVE THE
DATE**



**WALKAWAY COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS TREE**

21ST DECEMBER

**PROUDLY HOSTED BY WALKKAWAY TENNIS
CLUB**

**Term 4 School Banking Dates
8.30am till 9amin Room 3**



**4th December
18th December**

**Come to our
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**



Dates Mon 18th–Fri 22nd November 2019

Times Before & After School, Lunchtime

Place School Library