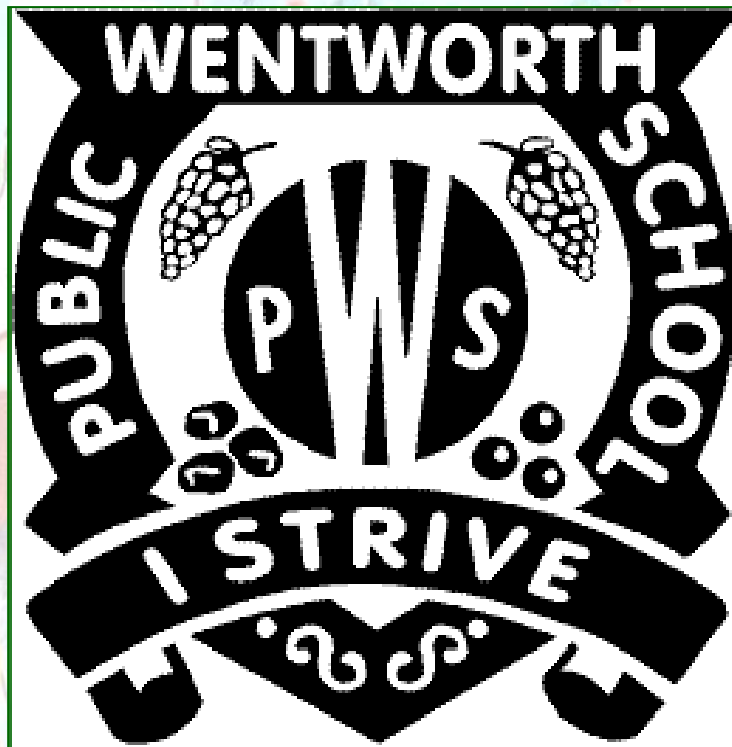


WENTWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL



INFORMATION BOOKLET

Phone: (03) 50273146 or
(03) 50273489

Fax: (03) 50273778

Email: wentworth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: www.wentworth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/wentworthpublicschool

WENTWORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

INFORMATION BOOKLET

Welcome to Wentworth Public School. We look forward to a happy and productive educational relationship with your family.

This booklet is an introduction to our school. We have tried to cover as many topics and procedures as possible. If you find that your questions have not been answered in this booklet, or need more detail, please feel free to approach any member of the school staff. If they cannot answer your query, they will refer you to someone who can!

Wentworth Public School prides itself on providing students with happy, safe and engaging educational opportunities.

The school caters for the needs of our students in a positive, pleasant and welcoming environment.

The school staff is committed to planning and providing engaging learning experiences that cater to the individual needs and interests of all students. We also strive to support the social, emotional and physical needs of all students.

All teachers are involved in ongoing professional learning to ensure our children benefit from the most up-to-date educational trends.

The school has access to specialist services, including a School Counsellor, Speech Pathology, Dental Services and Occupational Therapy.

Parents are welcome to come to school with their children at any time. We welcome parents into our classrooms, parent organisations and activities. Your support is vital in assisting us in delivering a range of opportunities for your child.

The school attracts additional funding, based on locality and the needs of our students. This enables us to assist by subsidising excursions and performance and providing classroom requirements for all.

Wentworth Public School provides many special activities for its students, who are encouraged to participate fully in a varied and exciting array of activities including:

- Support programs in literacy and numeracy, with additional programs provided under the "Early Action for Success" initiative.
- Specialist music programs, including a school band elective.
- Specialist sports programs
- A "Buddy Class" program for all classes.
- Lunchtime games, sports, crafts and special interest groups, run by staff and students.
- Specialist support in technology and future-focused learning
- A "Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden" program.

The school also provides:

- Spacious classrooms that are well-equipped and well-maintained, with heating and cooling throughout.
- Large playing areas with access to basketball courts, playground equipment, Kitchen Garden and oval. Imaginative play areas, a large sand pit, toys and sports equipment is also available to students.
- A well-resourced library
- Monitored access to on-line resources for all students through the school's computer network. Every effort is made to ensure technology keeps pace with current demands and that students have a chance to develop responsible digital citizenship.
- A 'state-of-the-art' kitchen.
- A "Values Education" program that is taught in all classes.
- Religious Education instruction
- Music Tuition, using private tutors. (Information regarding this is available upon request.)
- A School Canteen, offering healthy food options, that operates each Friday.
- A breakfast program and supported lunches that are available to students who require these.

Wentworth Public School Values

- Show respect for everyone and everything
- Be an active listener
- Work and play safely
- Be honest in words and actions
- Be polite and consider others
- Have a go and stay on task

Wentworth Public School Rules

1. Comply with the Wentworth School's Fair Values Code.
2. Attend school regularly; be punctual and present notes to explain absences.
3. Follow the instructions of school staff members.
4. Complete all required work carefully and to the best of your ability.
5. Be responsible, polite and courteous.
6. Be respectful of yourself and of the rights and feelings of others.
7. Keep yourself and others safe.
8. Respect and care for school buildings, school property and the property of others.
9. Try to wear school uniform every day.
10. Be an active citizen and responsible community member

STAFF FOR 2018

School Executive

- Mrs Cath Eddie - Principal
Miss Sandra Marziano - Assistant Principal and Year 4-5 teacher
Ms Bernadette Fundak - Deputy Principal, Instructional Leadership

Classroom Teachers

- Mrs Jenny Halls - Year 6
Ms Leanne Byrnes - Kindergarten/Year 1
Miss Yvette Pomroy - Year 1/2
Mr Brian Gray - Year 3/4

Specialist and Support Teachers

- Mrs Jodi Garraway - Learning Support/Welfare
Mrs Tamie Farley
Miss Chloe Suckling
Mr Donald Robinson - Music
Mrs Ruth Gebert - Kitchen Specialist
Miss Jordana Shields - Rural Area Relief

District Support Staff:

- Ms Carmen Jewell - School Counsellor
Mrs Patricia Slade - Itinerant Teacher (Hearing)

School Administration and Support Staff:

- Mrs Janet Shields - School Administrative Manager
Mrs Di Canning - School Administrative Officer
Mrs Denise Kitt - School Administrative Officer
Ms Patricia Jones - Aboriginal Education Officer
Mrs Fiona Cullinan - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Kacey Pohlner - School Learning Support Officer
Mrs Annie Karwath - School Learning Support Officer
Mr Vince Hartwig - Garden Specialist

General Assistants:

- Mr Stephen Nicholls
Mr John Woods

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accidents

Despite care and supervision, accidents do happen at school. No treatment is permitted in the school, except First Aid. This is only an immediate, temporary measure given by a teacher or school assistant in the case of accidents. In the event of a serious accident, an Ambulance will be called to the school or the child will be taken to the family doctor (if available) or the hospital. Every effort will be made to contact and advise you under these circumstances. However, the school cannot accept responsibility for expenses incurred in seeking medical attention for sick and injured children.

Wentworth Public School is covered by the NSW Ambulance Scheme.

Please help us to take the best possible care of your children by advising us promptly of illnesses, allergies, asthma or any physical disability that your child may suffer.

Address

Please advise us if you **change your address or telephone number** so that our records and ability to contact you in an emergency are accurate.

Changes in Emergency Contact Person should also be advised.

Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory. Parents whose children are absent should inform the school immediately by written note, telephone or personal message.

If your child arrives late to school or you wish to pick them up early, you must sign them in or out in the front office of the school.

If a student is regularly absent from school, without a reason, the Home School Liaison Officer will be notified and the parent/carer contacted.

Book Club

At regular intervals, children may order reasonably priced, good quality books, through the Ashton Scholastic Book Club which operates through the school. Participation is optional.

Canteen

The school canteen operates every Friday. Price lists are sent out with the newsletter or are available from the school office.

Captains/Prefects

At the end of the year, the election of Captains and Prefects for the following year takes place. The students elect two captains, two vice captains and two prefects.

The students elect house captains and vice captains early in Term 1, before the swimming carnival.

Concert

The school holds a biennial concert that involves all students. 2019 is a concert year and it is anticipated the concert will be held towards the end of Term 3. Students also participate in other performances throughout the year.

Craft/Art Smocks

It is suggested that protective smocks/old shirts be used in certain lessons where normal school uniform may be spoiled.

Community Involvement

All families are encouraged to support the school in order to build a strong community that supports the education of all students.

At various times, during the year, requests will be made for parents and interested citizens to assist teachers on a voluntary basis, in such areas as, reading programs, craft, sports, music, excursions, kitchen/garden etc. If you are willing to become involved in these programs, you will not only have the opportunity of actively contributing to the education of your children but you will also be able to participate in and observe, the educational processes and programs being undertaken by your school.

Our students are also involved in community programs, including supporting Murray House, "Meals On Wheels" and the "Red Cross Op Shop".

Custody of Children

The school should be advised, in writing, of any special custody arrangements concerning students. If there is parental separation, divorce and/or one parent denied access to a child as a result of a court order, the school should be informed and the Principal shown the court order. Confidentiality will be maintained, unless the Principal is otherwise advised.

Dental Clinic

Wentworth Public School has the Dental Van attend our school at designated times during the year. Parents must supply initial permission and from then on, regular check-ups and necessary work is carried out for all students.

Enrolment Procedures

Children who attain the age of five (5) years, prior to **1st August**, may enrol at school at the beginning of the school year.

Children enrolling in Kindergarten are required to produce documentary evidence of birth date, name and immunisation. An Early Learners program runs on Friday mornings during Term 4 of each year for children who intend enrolling at **Wentworth Public School** the following year.

Kindergarten students participate in individual 'Best Start' interviews during the first two days of the new school year. These are scheduled by the class teacher, with the parent, during Term 4 transition. The Kindergarten class usually commences on the third day of the school year.

Excursions

All classes participate in excursions throughout the year. These range from walking excursions to visit points of interest around the town to overnight and week-long camps. Each class teacher will inform you of any excursions in which your child will be involved. The school supports these excursions as an integral part of implementing the school syllabus. Please inform the school if you require extra support.

Homework

Homework is provided regularly by each class teacher and is designed to support your child's learning. Students should be able to complete most tasks with little support, as it should be familiar to them.

One of the most important aspects of homework would be the opportunity for your child to read. In the younger years, this usually means practicing reading by repeating a familiar book several times and should be supported by parents reading to their children as often as possible. Older students should have time set aside to participate in personal reading that builds reading mileage. Children should be building to extended periods of reading of at least 20-30 minutes per day in Years 3-6.

Mathematics activities that support speed and recall of number facts (dice and card games, etc) are really useful and great fun for all the family. Ask your child about some of the activities they do at school and provide some time to play them at home.

There are also many computer and iPad apps that reinforce spelling, maths and reading concepts. If you have a computer, iPad, tablet or smart phone available, ask at school for some recommendations. These are a fun and efficient way to support your child at home. A limit on screen time is recommended, but 20 minutes a day could be a 'hassle-free' homework option!

Infectious Diseases

Under the Public Health Act and Department of School Education regulations, some common infectious diseases require children be kept from school to prevent the spread of infection.

Disease

Period of Exclusion

Chicken Pox - 5 days after the first spots appear.

Infectious Hepatitis - Until the child has recovered and for one week from the first signs of jaundice.

Measles - 5 days from appearance of rash.

Mumps - Until child has recovered and for one week after the appearance of swelling.

Rubella (German Measles) - Until fully recovered and for at least 6 days after rash appears.

Whooping Cough - The family doctor should be consulted.

Impetigo - The family doctor should be consulted. If the sores are treated and properly covered, children are allowed to attend school.

Head Lice - Until appropriate treatment has begun. (Pamphlets are available from school).

Ringworm - Until appropriate treatment has begun.

Scabies - Until appropriate treatment has begun.

Library

The school places great importance on providing a well-resourced library for students. It is well-supported by funds from the School's P&C and Canteen.

The library is open at lunchtime on Mondays and Tuesdays and all classes participate in weekly lessons, where they are strongly encouraged to borrow books that interest them. Learning how to browse the collection and choose books is an important skill for all.

Library Bags

To protect library books, children are required to bring a cloth library bag. Library Bags are available from the office for \$10.

Lost Property

All items that children bring to school should be clearly named. Any lost property is taken to the School office.

Medication at School

No child will be permitted to take medication (including Panadol) at school without the written authority and instruction of parents. If your child is asthmatic, the school needs an asthma plan from the doctor.

Newsletters

To keep you informed of school news and happenings, newsletters are sent home with the eldest child in each family. These are distributed on **Wednesday** afternoon. When children are absent on the day of distribution, we will endeavor to make sure notices are sent home at the first opportunity. Spare newsletters are always available from the School Office.

Parents can receive Newsletters by email, if requested.

Newsletters are also available on the School website: www.wentworth-schools.nsw.edu.au

Important information is also regularly updated on the school's Facebook page.

Office hours

The school office is open from 8:30am to 3:30pm each day.

PARENT ORGANISATIONS

Wentworth Public School encourages parent involvement in the functioning of the School. For the education process to have maximum effectiveness, it is essential for parents to take part.

Parents and Citizens' Association

All parents of children attending this school, as well as, all interested members of the community and teachers, are invited to be members of the Parents and Citizens' Association. The P&C Association meets each month. The day and time is determined by the committee at the Annual General Meeting. Meetings are advertised in school newsletter. All parents, caregivers and community members are welcome.

The P&C's basic aim is to provide involvement for parents and assistance to the school. The P&C is also involved in making recommendations to support decision making in the school planning and resource allocation process.

Aboriginal Parent Advisory Group

A forum runs for Aboriginal parents to give advice on cultural and curriculum teaching for indigenous students. Parents come together on an informal basis, as arranged by the Aboriginal Education Officer

Performances

During the year, we select groups to perform at the school. This allows the students to be exposed to high quality musical, drama and dance items.

Details of these performances will be forwarded to parents in writing. Usually, these require an additional fee that is subsidized by the school. If you do not wish your child to be involved in these activities, you will need to notify the school, as they are considered a part of the school's educational program.

Presentation Night

Presentation Night is held in Term 4. All children and parents are invited to attend this evening. Presentations will be made for academic, citizenship and sporting achievements. It is a celebration of the achievements of all students and should be shared by all members of the school community, regardless of whether a child is receiving a special award or not.

Religious Education

Specialist personnel conduct Religious Education classes at **Wentworth Public School**. This is held each Friday morning.

The School must be notified in writing, if you do not wish your child to attend religious instruction.

Reporting to Parents

Wentworth Public School uses the following methods to report to parents:-

- Twice yearly, in June and December, by a formal written report on your child's progress, covering all aspects of his/her education.
- Parent/Teacher/Student interviews during Terms 1 and 3. Class information evenings/afternoons are held in Term 1.
- Informal visits to the school (you are always welcome).
- Discussion of your child's progress (requested by teacher, counsellor or parent).
- Informal/formal phone calls/emails, routinely as required.

School Assemblies

Whole School Assemblies are held every Monday morning at 9:30am. Parents and family are encouraged to attend.

On other days, students will line up at their class' dedicated area when the morning music plays. Special activities that are happening during the day will be announced in class and will be advertised on the whiteboard in front of Room 6. A short assembly is held after recess each day.

School Banking

Children can use a Bendigo Bank Account at the school, through the Wentworth and District Community Bank. School banking takes place Wednesday morning. Children need to present their books and money to Mrs Shields at the front office.

If you wish to open an account, this should be arranged through the bank.

School Terms 2018

Term 1: Tuesday 6th February to Friday, 13th April, 2018

Term 2: Tuesday, 1st May to Friday, 6th July, 2018

Term 3: Tuesday, 24th July to Friday, 28th September, 2018

Term 4: Monday, 15th October to Wednesday, 19th December, 2018

School Times

Students should not be at School before 9:00am when formal supervision begins, unless they arrive on buses. On call supervision is provided for bus travellers in Room 6.

Teachers on duty - 9:00 am

School commences - 9:25 am

Lunch - 11:50am to 12:40pm

Recess - 2:00 pm to 2:25pm

School finishes - 3:30pm

If supervision before 9am is required, due to work commitments, you will need to contact the Principal.

School Photographs

A commercial photographer is engaged to take the school photographs. Individual, as well as class photographs, may be obtained.

School Telephone, Email and Website

The school telephone numbers are **0350273146** and **0350273489**. Telephone calls to teachers should be made before school, at recess, at lunch or after school. This ensures teaching time is not disrupted. Messages left for staff will be answered promptly.

Fax: 0350273778

Email address: **wentworth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au**

Website: **www.wentworth-schools.nsw.edu.au**

Wentworth Public School is also on **Facebook!**

Note: Students are only permitted to use the phone in an extreme emergency.

Sport

Sport and Physical Education play an important part in the life of the students at **Wentworth Public School**. All children are placed in Sporting Houses; Murray (blue) and Darling (red). Annual carnival days are held each year in Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country.

School Counsellor

Our School Counsellor visits regularly and supports class teachers in providing for the diverse needs of our students. The Counsellor conducts assessments when required, assists children with learning and behaviour difficulties, and provides advice to students, teachers and parents.

Transfer of Pupils

Children transferring to this school should produce a "Transfer Certificate" from their previous school.

Parents requiring a transfer for their children to another school should apply at the office for the necessary transfer papers. It is appreciated if parents make sure that all school property is handed in before leaving, especially library books.

Uniforms

All children are encouraged to wear school uniform. The school has polo shirts, windcheaters, shorts & track pants available at a very reasonable price. Order forms are available from the office or on the school website

Summer

Boys - Gold Polo shirt and bottle green shorts, white socks with leather shoes, sneakers or enclosed sandals.

Girls - Gold Polo Shirt with bottle green shorts, white socks with leather shoes, sneakers or enclosed sandals.

Winter

Boys & Girls - Gold polo shirt with green track pants, bottle green windcheater or zipped jacket, sneakers and white socks.

All students must wear a bottle green wide brimmed hat or legionnaire cap for Sunsmart play. Hats may be purchased from the school for \$10 (Available from the School Office, any time).

All items of clothing should have the student's name clearly written. It's suggested that names be written on the brim of hats and on the hem of jumpers, as tags can be torn off.

Valuables

Excessive amounts of money, expensive items of jewellery, toys, and items of particular sentimental value, should not be brought to school, due to possibility of loss or damage.

The School takes no responsibility for lost/damaged valuables.

Voluntary Contributions

Fees are voluntary, but greatly appreciated by the school to ensure we can offer a wide variety of special programs and provide all equipment that your child requires.

School Fees are: Years 3 to 6 - \$100 per child inclusive of a \$60 Kitchen Garden fee.

Kindergarten to Year 2 - \$40 per child. Fees are capped to a maximum of \$250 per family.

Payment can be made in a lump sum, or a payment plan can be arranged to suit your family's situation. Payments can be made at the School Office or on-line.

At times, the school will require additional payments for other programs and performances.

These include visiting performances, swimming programs, special sporting events and excursions.

If at any time, you experience difficulty in providing these payments, please ensure you discuss the matter with the school principal. Our policy is that no child should miss an educational activity due to financial difficulty. This being said, your prompt response to payment requests is greatly appreciated to ensure activities can be arranged efficiently.