# walchacentralschool

#### K-12 NEWSLETTER

A JOURNEY OF LEARNING FROM K TO 12

HAPPY AND SAFE STUDENTS

5 November 2021



# From the Principal's desk!

Last week we farewelled our Year 12 students at an online graduation assembly. It was an emotional and heartfelt send off recognising 13 years of schooling and their resilience and determination after a second year of senior school during COVID. Year 12, along with their Year 11 peers have commenced Stuvac (study vacation) to complete their final preparations for HSC exams which commence Tuesday 9 November. We wish all our Year 11 and Year 12 students the very best for their exams and their future plans. We welcome Year 10 and Year 11 students to the new year with rollover commencing 15 November for our seniors.

I am looking forward to our first Literary Festival on 9 November. A huge thank you to Mr Stanton for his organisation of this fantastic opportunity. To be able to engage with high quality authors and illustrators is a real privilege and yet this year is only the beginning of many wonderful plans for the Literary Festival to grow. I am also looking forward to Festival Friday which is being held on 10 December. A huge shout out to Karen Barnes for her super planning for this event. I look forward to welcoming you back to some great activities over the next few weeks.

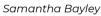
Amanda Cooper Principal

#### Year 12 Farewell and Leadership Assembly

On Wednesday 27 October, an assembly was held to farewell our outgoing Year 12 students. Congratulations to all of these students and good luck in your upcoming exams.

This assembly also included the induction of the 2022 senior captains, Dacian Andrews and Charlize Haling. These students along with the rest of our current Year 11 received their senior badges acknowledging their position as the Year 12 class of 2022.

Our primary captains and vice captains for 2022 were also announced. Fletcher France, Matisse Pascoe, Alexander Gunn and Jack McKern will be inducted to their roles at presentation day later this term.







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#### PROTECT YOUR EGG!

Year 4 has been learning all about the importance of wearing a helmet. We experimented with how best to protect our eggs from cracking and how a helmet can do the same for our heads. Unfortunately, not all of the eggs could be saved.



#### MATHS

Maths has seen us planning a trip using public transport time tables, maps and our money knowledge to budget the trip. If anyone needs help planning a trip or reading a train time table, call on Year 4!

We have also been putting our multiplication skills to the test to find the area of Miss Wood's farm and the grassed area outside.



We have greatly enjoyed reading Charlotte's Web and are so very close to finishing!



Bianca Wood



We are very excited to tell you that Walcha Central School now has fully installed and operational Cooler Classrooms equipment, thanks to the NSW government investment of more than \$500 million dollars over five years to improve indoor comfort and air quality in public schools around the state.



Reverse-cycle air conditioning will now keep learning spaces comfortable during hot summers and chilly winters while fans and fresh air ventilation systems maintain healthy air quality.

To increase energy awareness and keep running costs low, smart outdoor weather monitors linked to interactive control systems are installed. These enable students and teachers to make energy efficient decisions to improve classroom comfort. By creating healthy and comfortable learning environments at our school, our students can focus on what matters - learning.





Year 5 have been making models of certain playground equipment that they would want in the playground. They have been using recycled material to make their designs. The students made a plan and then had a 1:20 scale to use. They had to justify the materials they would use and why. One of the groups made a bridge and described why they wanted that bridge and used those particular materials.









Year 5 & 6 are doing long stitch for art. They have had to draw out their design and then make it on the long stitch netting with their chosen colours. A student from Year 6 is making a beautiful long stitch using the first letter of

their name and diamonds around it. A member from Year 5 is making a cactus in a pot. All students from Years 5 and 6 are enjoying working together and long stitching.



## Debating

The Walcha Warriors debating team have won all the debates in their zone and now are at the second debate in the finals.

The debating team is Matisse Pascoe 2nd, Sienna Cooney 1st, Olivia Mckenna 3rd, and Hayley Mortimer 4th.

In debating there is a one hour prep time and then the debate starts. Each student goes back and forth until the last person has spoken.





Year 6 have been working on their solar system projects and have made a model of all the

planets. They went in groups of 3 to 4 students and made what they thought the planets looked like. They made their diorama out of what they wanted.

One of the groups decided to make their own moon and not using what everyone else did and were creative. Some of them used LED lights in the back to give them more of a spark.



Year 5 are doing animations such as flip books and pivot in library and are finding it really interesting.

Year 6 are investigating how to find fake news by identifying

what's true and what's fake. They have been very successful so far and have achieved lots.

Matisse, Sienna and Hayley

# DOWN AT THE AG FARM

We have been very busy down at the Ag farm recently. Our pasture is growing well and the sheep are enjoying it. The classes have been busy installing new fencing and end assemblies.

The sheep have been shorn and new lambs are arriving daily.

Our heifers have all calved and the students are eagerly awaiting their return from Sugarloaf to watch them grow.

Years 7 & 8 have looked at the application of GPS in agriculture and have used a GPS tracking collar on one of our cattle to show where they like to hang in the paddock, how often they go

to water, and their general movements around the farm.

The 9/10 Ag class recently completed the UNE 'Soil your Undies' challenge and were fascinated to see how a cotton pair of undies, that were buried for only 8 weeks, had begun to break down from the microbes in the soil. They have also been helping to complete some sections of new fencing.

Stage 6 Primary Industries have completed their course and have engaged in many of the current projects around the farm. We wish them all the best for their exams and the start of their new chapter next year.

Our show steers are growing well and are still being prepared for Northern Schools Steer show in November. The students have been breaking them to halter, grooming, washing and clipping them each week and they are looking fantastic. With the guidance of our senior members, the junior end of the team are now stepping up and taking on the big roles.

The Cattle Club would like to say a big thank you to Abbey, Olivia, Sophie and Jess for all that they have taught them and wish them all the best for next year.

We would like to also thank all of our cattle donors for the steers we have in at the moment, without you, cattle club would not be possible. Thank you to M and J Ireland, N and J Dunn, B and H Scrivener, J and B Lyon, M and C Mackaway, R and M Ireland and G and S Lord for donating steers for us to use and show with our livestock team.

















Farewell and Good Luck Year 12, 2021

On Wednesday 27 October we farewelled nine Walcha Central students from the class of 2021. They have now completed their formal schooling and will sit their HSC exams.

The students were excited to be finished with school, but it is an emotional time for their Year Advisors, Emma Ireland and Tony Bozza. Having to say goodbye to a great group of teenagers that they helped guide for the past six years is never an easy undertaking.

They all have bright and successful futures ahead of them and we encourage them to make the most of any opportunities that come their way.

We wish all of them every success in their HSC exams and know they will give it their best shot. Good luck and we hope all your dreams and aspirations for the future come true.

Thank you Year 12 and remember that everyone is proud of how far you have come and anticipate seeing how far you will go.

Emma Ireland and Tony Bozza (Year Advisors)









## Literary Festival



Walcha Central School's first annual Literary Festival will take place during class-time on Tuesday 9 November. Some of Australia's most popular authors and illustrators will be zooming in to speak to year groups at venues around the school.

Guest speakers include 'Real Pigeons' author Andrew McDonald and illustrator Ben Wood, children's author and stand-up comedian Oliver Phommavanh and Young Adult novelist and screen-play writer Kirsty Eagar.

The Literary Festival will be a great celebration of reading and writing at WCS and there is no cost for students to attend.



We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to the elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of indigenous Australia.

# BREADESTAGS for wheelchairs

We are collecting bread tags!
The bread tags are recycled, raising funds to buy more wheelchairs for disadvantaged people, mainly in South Africa.

Collection points are in each Primary classroom and in Home Zone in the high School.

Make sure to bring in your (plastic) bread tags!





Calendar  11 12 10 11 13 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	CALENDAR See website for more details www.walcha-c.schools.nsw.gov.au
2 November	ICAS assessments began
3 November	Rugby league Skills Sessions began
9 November	Literary Festival
9 November	HSC Examinations begin
15 November	Year 11 2022 Rollover
16 November	Year 12 2022 Rollover
22 November	Awards Assembly
1-15 December	Swim School
8 December	Year 12 Formal
10 December	Presentation Day
10 December	Festival Friday @ Walcha Showground

# Kindergarten Transition Day

The 2022 Kindergarten students have visited Walcha Central two times this year, once on Friday 8 October and another on Friday 22 October 2021.

They have read about The Kissing Hand and The Ugly Duckling. They have also done a number of art works, number games and some games outside. They also got to play with playdough, pattern blocks and some sensory tools.

The transition students have been supported by the Primary Captains, Mrs Swain, Mrs Ussher, Lissie and Karen. We all believe that the transitioners had a wonderful time playing and learning at Walcha Central School.





















The vegetable patch has exploded with produce this Spring. Garden Club have started harvesting the broad beans planted earlier in the year by 3R. We have been sharing our lettuce and spinach with Sue in the canteen. The peas are now being picked and we are watching the corn, beans, cucumber, eggplant, tomatoes, and zucchinis grow.

Thanks to the Woolworths Junior Landcare Grant we have planted our apple trees and kiwi fruit vines. We can't wait to eat the fruit!



#### **BOOK PACKS**

Throughout 2021 our students have not been able to participate in extra-curricular activities such as excursions, due to COVID-19 restrictions.

As a way of compensating students and families, the decision has been made that Walcha Central School will provide book packs for all students in 2022.

Equipment lists will be sent home to parents later in the year, to enable families to obtain items such as pens, pencils, calculators and class supplies needed to start 2022.



NSW Department of Education has advised that Walcha Central School will be part of a Before and After School Care hub.

The service will be conducted at Walcha Central School and

will be available to all students in Walcha. It is expected to commence on the first day of Term 1 2022.

Further information will be distributed at a later date.



#### **School Hours**

<u>K - 6</u> Start—9am Finish—3:10pm



Years 7-12 Start—8.50am Finish—3:10pm

facebook.

There is no supervision before 8:40am. Please do not send your child to school before 8:30am.

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS NOT COMING TO SCHOOL:
Please contact the school by either:
Phone: 6777 2777
Or

Email: walcha-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

For all the latest updates and information follow us on Facebook.



#### STUDENTS LEAVING SCHOOL THROUGHOUT THE DAY

If you require your child to leave school during school hours for unavoidable appointments, please ensure that you **send a note** to school with them.

Primary students should give the note to their teacher, who will send your child to the front office to sign out at the time you request.

Secondary students should have the Deputy Principal sign their note before school, then students must give their teacher the note to allow them to be released from class at the requested time.

Secondary students must come to the front office to sign out before leaving the school grounds for any reason.



### **COVID REGULATIONS**



As Walcha Central School is still rated as a Level 3 school, the following conditions continue to apply as updated for 8 November 2021.

Secondary students are **required** to wear masks indoors and it is **recommended** that primary students also wear masks indoors. This will remain in place for the remainder of Term 4. Students must not attend work or school if unwell, even with mild symptoms of COVID-19. Any person with any COVID-19 symptoms must be sent home and not return to school unless:

- they have isolated for 10 days, when no medical certificate is available
- they have a negative COVID-19 test result and are symptom free.

In circumstances where children have other medical reasons for recurrent symptoms, a letter from their GP is sufficient to negate the requirement for a negative test.

Anyone who is unwell with COVID-19 symptoms is strongly encouraged to get tested and self-isolate until a negative result is received.

The NSW Government has introduced mandatory QR codes across a range of additional settings, including schools. All staff and visitors permitted on school sites will be required to check in and check out using the specific QR codes. Staff can assist those who do not have access to electronic devices.

No non-essential visitors are permitted to enter the school, unless arranged by the school

STUDENTS MUST BE DROPPED OFF AND PICKED UP FROM THE GATE IN ANGLE STREET

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

BUSES WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN NORTH STREET AS USUAL

Secondary students MUST wear a mask on the bus