

# WARRAWONG Public School NEWSLETTER



11 March 2021  
T1 Wk 7



## Dates for the diary!

### Monday, 15 March

Easter Raffle tickets for sale until 31 March

### Tuesday, 16 March

StEPS Statewide Eyesight Screening

### Monday, 22 March

Aboriginal PLP conversations

### Thursday, 25 March

Harmony Day - **WEAR ORANGE SHIRT**

### Friday, 26 March

. School Cross Country

. Nachos and Burrito Lunch

### Wednesday, 31 March

. Icecream Day RSW

. K-2 Easter Hat Parade 2pm



## COVID Restrictions Eased

We are pleased to announce an easing in the COVID Restrictions applying to schools. Parents and volunteers are now able to attend the school.

This means parents are able to return to assemblies, sporting carnivals and face to face parent teacher learning conversations.

However, all visitors must practice social distancing (1.5m), correct sanitising and follow signing in and out procedures as prescribed by NSW Health.

## Aboriginal Personal Learning Plans (PLPs) - 22 March

Aboriginal PLPs conversations will take place Monday 22 March 2021 we will be discussing Personal Learning Plans with parents of our students who identify as ATSI. We encourage all parents of our ATSI students to attend as this is a great opportunity to discuss your child's aspirations, interests, talents and goals. It is also a fantastic opportunity to meet your child's 2021 teacher. Traditionally it has been a fun, relaxed afternoon, we look forward to seeing lots of people here!

## Run Club/Cross Country Carnival - 26 March

Our Cross Country Carnival will take place on Friday 26 March 2021. In the mean time, in preparation for the carnival, our teachers will be organising Run Club again this year. Since its inception Run Club has improved our students' performance at the District Athletics Carnival. Run Club takes place at 8:30am each morning. Please encourage your children to attend.

## Parents and carers calling the school

We are experiencing large amounts of parents calling the school to leave messages for after school arrangements for their children. It would be appreciated if all parents make arrangements with their children BEFORE school.

## Cash payments at school

When you make cash payments for uniforms or excursions, please ensure you provide us with the correct money, as it is difficult at times to provide change.



## Merit Award Winners T1 Week 7

KC

Senkita UC, Nahlia D, Robert PC

KM

Hezekiah M, Ellie W, Astin WA

1J

Kaiden C, Baw R, Riley Q

1/2B

Scott S, Salem DS, Parani W

2P

Malia A, Mareta L, Binda WA

3/OJ

Frank N, Jubilee DS, Amelia R

3/4M

Shkeya K, iara A, Hezron T

4T

Holly B, Isabella M, Shilah M

5H

Levi B, Taliana A, Jelena R

5/6B

Gary H, Safran DS, Tiana R

6F

Char R, Saige P, Mason S

K/6K

Tia W

3/6G

Nathan P, Olivia G

K/6S

Jaiden P

K/6N

Gizelle A

## Assembly Awards

Newsletter Page

2P

Foyer Display

-

Playground Focus

Canteen

Focus Area

Wear your uniform

## Harmony Day 2021

This year Harmony Week runs from 22-26 March 2021. The theme is "Everyone Belongs". Our Harmony Week will culminate with celebratory events on Thursday and Friday of week 9.

We ask that students come to school wearing **ORANGE** on **Thursday, 25 March** or if possible in traditional dress representing their family heritage.

Students will participate in a variety of activities on these days.

International food day will be a Mexican lunch on **Friday, 26 March**, supported by our P&C Committee.



## Library News

### New Books:

The library has been busy getting new books ready for our students to borrow from all stages. The students are excited to see these lovely new books and they are already finding their way into classrooms and Library bags to go home.



### Library Monitors:

I am delighted to be asking for students interested in training to be a library monitor to put their names forward in the next 2 weeks. This is an opportunity for students to take on an important leadership role in the school, they will attend library training sessions, learn new skills and be ready to assist with daily tasks in the library.

### Book Club:

Issue 2 of Book Club will be arriving soon. Just a reminder that there are no paper order forms or cash taken at school for Book Club. All orders and payment can be made conveniently online. The school receives points from teacher and student orders to support buying new books for our school library.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at school.

## Follow these easy steps!

1. Simply grab your child's Book Club catalogue and either SIGN-IN or REGISTER your account.
2. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for), then select your SCHOOL and your CHILD'S CLASS.

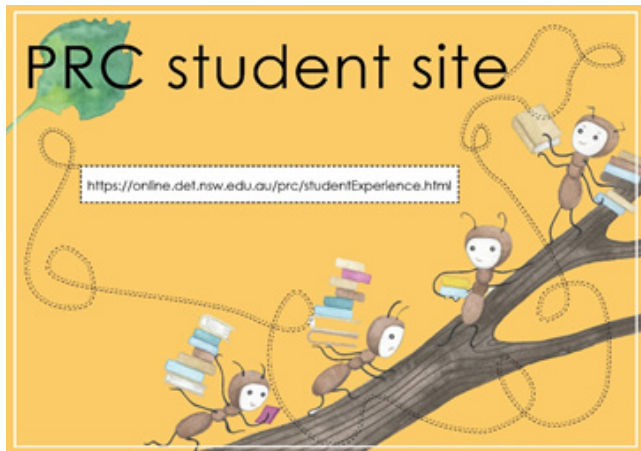
*Note: You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school.*

3. Click on ORDER and enter the item number from the Book Club catalogue.
4. All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholasticks will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date.

### Premiers Reading Challenge 2021:

The Premier's Reading Challenge starts this week, March 1, and closes on August 20, 2021. Please refer to the step by step instructions to help parents and students log in and get started. Teachers in Stage 2 and 3 classes have been allocated sheets for students to record their reading on ready to enter online. This can be entered online, book by book, or when the student has reached their target number of books for their stage. I have spare sheets in the **library if needed**.

## How do students log in to the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge website?



On the PRC website homepage, click on the NEW STUDENT SITE image.

It will take you to the PRC student site.

Then click on LOGIN in the top right hand corner. This will take you to the NSW Department of Education portal login page, students need to enter their username and password here:

**If you do not know your username or password for the PRC website, please see the PRC coordinator at your school, or ask your teacher to help you find out your login details.**

### Public School Students

A link to the Premier's Reading Challenge website can be found in the Student Portal under the Learning section. Students are also able to add a link to the PRC in the My Link List section to make the PRC easier to find.

The URL to use is <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/studentExperience.html#/>.

Public school students can also log in directly to the PRC website using their Department of Education (DoE) username and password. These are the same details a student would use to access the Student Portal and the computer network at school. If you are unaware of your username and/or password, please contact your class teacher and ask for your Student Portal username and/or password.

Students who have participated in the Challenge previously can log in to the PRC website using their existing PRC username and password. Students who are attending a new school but have previously participated in the Challenge, need to notify the school's PRC coordinator.

## Health conditions

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enroll your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

## Head Lice

We have a number of children with head lice at school and notes have been sent home to those affected classes. To control the spread, it would be appreciated if parents could regularly check and treat their child immediately once the signs of eggs appear.

## Thought of the Week

*"It always seems impossible until it's done."*

*Nelson Mandela 18 July 1918 - 5 December 2013*

Have a great week and stay safe !

**Wayne Farquhar**  
Principal



### **Keep up to Date by**

Downloading the Warrawong P.S. School Enews app to get alerts, newsletters and reminders or follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/WarrawongPS/>



# NAPLAN Online – information for parents and carers



2021

## Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Federal, state and territory education ministers agreed that all schools will gradually transition from the current paper-based NAPLAN to NAPLAN Online in order to provide a better and more precise assessment that is more engaging for students.

State and territory education authorities will determine when their schools move online. The current plan is for all schools to transition to NAPLAN Online by 2022.

One of the main benefits of NAPLAN Online is tailored (or adaptive) testing, in which the test presents questions of higher or lower complexity depending on a student's performance.

Tailored (or adaptive) testing is designed to assess a wider range of student abilities and to measure student achievement more precisely. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions more challenging than usual; they may be taking a more complex test pathway. A student's overall NAPLAN score is based on the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly.

## Why do students do NAPLAN?

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The assessment provides parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process – it does not replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

## What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Students are assessed on the same literacy and numeracy curriculum content, regardless of whether they complete the tests online or on paper. Results for both formats can be reported on the same NAPLAN assessment scale.

To find out more about NAPLAN Online, visit [nap.edu.au](http://nap.edu.au)

## What can I do to support my child?

On its own, NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for and students are not expected to do so.

You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and by reminding them on the day to simply do their best.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

Ensuring students are familiar with using devices, typing on them and navigating through programs is a part of student learning and a requirement of the Australian Curriculum from the first year at school.

NAPLAN Online is not a test of keyboard skills. There are variations in how fast and well a student can type – just as there are variations in how fast and well a student can write by hand. Year 3 students will complete the writing test on paper.

Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

See the types of questions and related functionalities available in the NAPLAN Online assessment at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](http://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site)

## Participation in NAPLAN

All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are expected to participate in the annual NAPLAN assessment. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments. You should discuss the use of any adjustments for your child with your child's teacher.

A student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

## NAPLAN Online timetable

The assessment window for NAPLAN Online is nine days instead of the three days provided for the paper test. This is to give schools flexibility in scheduling and accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN Online assessment window starts on Tuesday 11 May and finishes on Friday 21 May 2021.

The online test scheduling requirements are detailed in the table below.

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
<b>Writing</b>	Year 3 students do a paper-based writing test (on day 1 only)  Year 5 must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only)  Years 7 and 9 must start on day 2 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 2 and 3 only)	Year 3: 40 min. Year 5: 42 min. Year 7: 42 min. Year 9: 42 min.	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
<b>Reading</b>	To ensure online schools are able to complete NAPLAN tests within the nine-day testing window, Years 7 and 9 students can start with reading on day 1; however, writing must start on day 2 as the writing test takes priority over any rescheduled reading tests from day 1  To be completed <b>before</b> the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
<b>Conventions of language</b>	To be completed <b>after</b> the reading test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 45 min. Year 7: 45 min. Year 9: 45 min.	This test assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
<b>Numeracy</b>	To be completed <b>after</b> the conventions of language test	Year 3: 45 min. Year 5: 50 min. Year 7: 65 min. Year 9: 65 min.	This test assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability

## How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student has demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be issued by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN test results used?

- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to better identify students who would benefit from greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas to improve in teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results at [myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au)

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](https://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](https://nap.edu.au)

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy)