



Newsletter No 5  
7 April 2017

[www.walpoleps.wa.edu.au](http://www.walpoleps.wa.edu.au)  
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### Dates to Remember

Wednesday 26 April	<b>First day of term 2</b>
Wednesday 26 April	Diane Wolfer- author visit
Thursday 27 April	2pm School <b>ANZAC Ceremony</b>

### PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS

It's been a busy term and hopefully, the holidays will give the students and staff the opportunity for a well-earned rest.

The first Monday back will be a School Development Day for staff. Teachers will explore Brightpath and Phase 2 of the West Australian Curriculum.

Brightpath is an assessment tool that enables teachers to make highly reliable assessments of student achievement. The software records the results of assessments and provides information to teachers so that they can develop programs to meet the needs of individual students. Many schools across the state are using the tool which allows us to compare and moderate samples.

Phase 2 of the West Australian Curriculum includes Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, the Arts, Design and Digital Technology, Health and Phys Ed. Teachers are currently using the new curriculum and will report on these areas next term. The student report will look slightly different to allow for the changes.

**Students will return to school on Wednesday, April 26.**

### NAPLAN

NAPLAN testing will take place in Week 3 (May 9-11) for the year 3 and 5 students.

There is no need to practice with them at home. The test is just a

snapshot of what your child can do. It generally tells teachers what they already know about the child/class but can give us comparisons with other students across Australia. It also highlights areas of strength and weakness.

### Visiting Author

Diane Wolfer, an Albany author, will talk to the year 2-6 students about her books and her writing processes on April 26. Diane will make the link between her books, "Lighthouse Girl" and "Light Horse Boy" and ANZAC. The school will cover the cost of Diane's visit.

### Attendance

Attendance at school is very important. If your child misses a day, they often find it hard to pick up on the information covered while they were away.

Around half of the students attended school 98-100% of the term. Those here every day include: Blayde B, Tia B, Harry C, Keira E, Kalel FH, Mae P, Leah H, Matilda H, Connor H, Freya M, Luke M, Grace R, Lyndon R, Oryan SP, Amber V and Jade V.

Those here all except one day include: Megan B, Lara H, Jorja K, Tristan K, Mei P and Anabelle S.

Congratulations on those students and their parents for consistency and reliability.

On a disappointing note, ten students attended less than 90% of the time. This means they had the equivalent of a day off per fortnight.

### Merit Certificates

PP	Ryan O, Peyton MW
1	Freya M, Leah H,
3	Pia G
4	Jorja K, Annabelle S
5	Chantelle M
6	Jade V, Tia B, Danias SM, Connor H

**Aussie of the Month –James M**

### Voluntary Contributions

**\$60.00 per student**

**\$20.00 per family – P&C Levy**

Thank you to the families who have paid school fees. Remember, it is less than one day at Day Care. Although this is voluntary the money assists with providing computer equipment, Athletics and school resources.

Payment can be made by cash, cheque or direct deposit.

Schools bank details are:

*Walpole Primary School,  
BSB 306 009  
Account No. 419 756 0*

### Walpole NAB Auskick 2017



Auskick starts Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.  
Walpole Town oval from 3:15pm.  
**Kindy-yr 6 boys and girls.**

Kidsport [dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport](http://dsr.wa.gov.au/kidsport)  
and registration and payment of \$65  
is now online at

[www.aflauskick.com.au](http://www.aflauskick.com.au).

For more information, please contact  
Cheree Kirkwood. Auskick coordinator  
0437 166 121

### JUNIOR NETBALL

The Rec Centre would like to provide a Junior Netball program on a Wednesday afternoon for our primary school kids during term 2.

We are looking for a parent or carer who would be interested in running a 6 week program of skill, drills and games to keep our kids active and learn how to play netball. If you are interested please contact Karen at the Centre on 98401345.



### Why Helping At Home Is Good For Kids

There's strong evidence that feeling useful builds resilience in children, but how much and what sort of work are modern parents asking kids to do?

Next time your child complains about chores, tell them it's for their own good.

Giving children meaningful household tasks and the autonomy to complete them may be key to making them more resilient and capable in later life. But are we giving them enough opportunities to feel useful or are we leaving them on the shelf, wrapped in cotton wool?

#### Insight into Family Resilience

The idea that it is important to foster a child's capacity to help others goes back to ground breaking research published in the 1970s on the impact of the Great Depression on US families that suggested many kids thrive when the going gets tough.

By analysing longitudinal survey data, US sociologist Glen Elder discovered that among families hit by poverty during the Great Depression, people who were infants at the time, and so wholly dependent on adults, struggled throughout their later lives to overcome their circumstances.

But he found that those children who were aged 9-10 when the Depression hit and threw their families into poverty tended to instead do much better later in life. Importantly, they outperformed their peers whose families had been unscathed by the Depression. Professor Elder theorised that these children benefited from increased self-esteem by having to roll up their sleeves and help out.

But if required helpfulness helps build self-esteem and resilience, what then is happening with children now when most enjoy a standard of living that the Depression kids could only have dreamed of? Do we need to be providing more opportunities for children to feel useful and worthwhile? How much responsibility is too much?

#### Changing Times

Child welfare expert and honorary professorial fellow in social work at the University of Melbourne, Professor Dorothy Scott, worries that modern Australian children may be missing out on the self-worth that comes from doing meaningful help for others. She notes that in the past the family was an economic unit in which everyone needed to work and contribute to keep food on the table.

But in the wake of the technological and digital revolutions, she argues that families are now units of "passive consumption". She suggests modern children may be at risk of losing some of the resilience that appears to come from being useful and helping others.

"The historical shift in families is very clear. When the family was an economic unit, children were an important part of it. But now in our consumer society, children have only a minor role to play in terms of contributing to the household," says Professor Scott, a former Foundation Chair in Child Protection and the Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia.

"Positive psychology talks of resilience being related to factors like being part of something larger than yourself as an antidote to the passiveness that comes from a consumer society. The hypothesis is that by promoting required helpfulness and contributing to the wellbeing of others we might be able to help children build their own identity. – Andrew Trounson

<http://www.generationnext.com.au/2017/02/helping-home-good-kids/>

