



WILLUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

CONNECT | ASPIRE | RESPECT | EMPOWER

NEWSLETTER | TERM 4 WEEK 6

NOVEMBER 22, 2023

Congratulations Jarbada

More photos page 5 »



"Together we thrive"

Key Dates

Whole School Assembly
Fri 24 November

Spring Fair
3.30pm-5pm
Wed 29 November

Twilight Concert
5.15pm-6.30pm
Wed 29 November

Year 6 Graduation
4.30-8.30pm
Tue 12 December

Last Day of Term 4
Fri 15 December

Sports Day 2023

By Melanie Jones
Principal

Our much-loved Sports Day was a huge success. Congratulations to Jarbada on winning the 2023 Sports Day shield. We had such a great day and thank you to everyone who came along to watch and join in the fun.

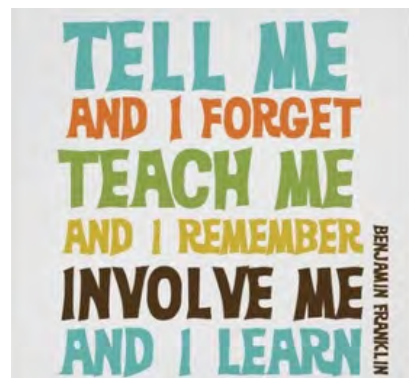
Thank you to the parents and carers who could help out with cake baking, cake stall sales, bbq cooking, events and judging. We also appreciate the support of the local community groups who ran golf, hockey and netball. Thanks to DJ Funk who organised the sound. A great community day and the weather was kind. ☀

2024 Class Placements

Thank you to everyone who gave feedback in their child's class placement for 2024. We had close to 150 requests from parents.

Class placements will be sent home Wednesday 13 December. Please be advised this is final and there will be no opportunity to move students.

Principal's Quote of the Week



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

CLASSES 2024 –By Willunga Primary Leadership Team

We are set to begin the class placement process in preparation for the 2024 school year. This is a lengthy and complex task involving teachers and the school leadership team to place each child in a learning environment that supports them to be successful.

Class Groupings: Each year, class groupings are configured based on student enrolments across all year levels and as per the Department for Education's policy and procedures.

At this stage of our planning, we take our best estimate of how many students will be in each year level for next year, including our new intake of Reception students to start the year and, for the first time, a mid-year intake..

Straight / Composite Classes: Due to varied numbers across each year level, composite classes (split, multi-age) will be formed along with straight year levels. Composite classes are no different to straight year level classes where a range of student abilities and learning dispositions exist. Grouping students in mixed year levels is a practical necessity and in fact provides flexible options to place students who have differing maturity, social and learning needs.

Teachers work closely in professional learning teams to plan learning programs catering for a range of ages and abilities in every class, whether they are composite or straight.

Staffing Arrangements: Typically, there are changes to staffing each year. This may involve: new teachers arriving, teachers leaving, teachers returning from or taking leave, teachers increasing / decreasing their fraction of time, and teachers who may be teaching a different year level to their current one.

In 2024, a number of teachers will be working in part-time capacity where some classes will be shared over the school week by two teachers – this is referred to as 'tandem teaching.'

Class Placement: In placing students in classes there are many factors to consider, including; learner achievement, the social and emotional needs of students, behaviour, gender, special needs and friendships.

Positive Learning Partners – Friendships

- Every effort is made to place students with at least one friend.
- Teachers have already invited students to complete a confidential survey where they listed up to 4 friends with whom they would like to learn alongside next year.
- Friendships often change for students from year to year. Students are encouraged to develop new friendships each year, which is a life skill.
- In some cases, teachers find it advantageous for some students not to be placed together.
- Friendships across classes and year levels are supported and encouraged at play times. Good friendships thrive and grow in these times. Parents are well placed to support these friendships beyond the school day.
- A child placed with a 'best friend' will often work and play exclusively with one another, which does not promote the social interaction we try to foster. Although friendships are an important consideration in the placement process, the priority is to place students in the best class group for their learning.

Please note that in the placement process the following requests will not be considered:

- for specific teachers
- to not have a specific teacher
- to be / not to be in a composite class

Teachers and leaders factor in their knowledge of each child and how they engage in learning and interact with others to make balanced placement decisions. We expect class placements to be completed by the end of Week 8, with placements shared with students and families in Week 9 when students will meet their new class and teacher on Wednesday 13 December. Staff members will not disclose the composition of proposed classes prior to this formal announcement.

Please rest assured, a great deal of thought, planning and time goes into forming new classes. It is the responsibility of the Principal to make the final decision on class structures and the placement of students. We respectfully ask that you trust us in making these important decisions.

Pastoral Care Worker News -BY SUE CAMAC



MasterChef winners will be announced at Week 6 Assembly!

I have been talking to a number of different parents about the way cost of living is going up and how many grocery items have jumped in price considerably in recent times. At our last Parent Morning Tea, some parents were also talking about ways they have changed and reduced the number of people to buy for at Christmas time. The following is a good thought leading into the Christmas season...

From IPS Innovating People Solutions www.eap.com.au for the holiday season:

The true spirit of the Christmas season is giving, not just in money but in time. Many people may have tight budgets with the changing economy; however, long after the gifts have gone what they will have are memories of time spent together. Spend your time having fun with people you love. Share memories and laughter'

Finance News By LISA PINDER, Business Manager

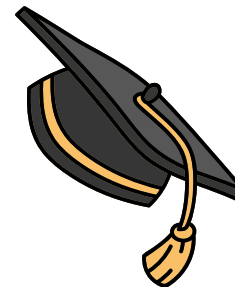


2023 Material & Services Charges

As it is nearing the end of the 2023 school year, we would appreciate payment of all outstanding school Material and Services charges as a matter of urgency. Thank you to all the parents/ caregivers who have paid. It is greatly appreciated. Please remember that school fees are legally recoverable. All unpaid fees as at 15th December 2023 will be forwarded to the Department for Education Debt Collector.



Year 6 Graduation



We are nearing the end of the 2023 school year and students are excited that Graduation is fast approaching.

Graduation this year will be held at:

Lloyd Brothers Function Centre

Tuesday 12th December 4:30pm–8:30pm

The event will include a performance by the graduating students, a formal ceremony followed by dinner and a student-only disco to celebrate the completion of primary school. The Formal Ceremony will include the presentation of certificates and awards.

After the Ceremony...



Parents will leave and students will be seated for a Graduation dinner with their Year 6 friends. A disco will follow. Parents and caregivers will be required to return to Lloyd Brothers Function Centre by 8:30pm to pick up their child. Families are welcome to attend the Formal Ceremony, however, **numbers will be capped at 4 guests per graduating student**. Graduating students are expected to be dressed in neat and semi-formal, age-appropriate attire. Please no tracksuits, thongs or sports attire. Refer to the permission note handed out last week. We look forward to sharing this very special milestone with our Graduating Students.

This year the awards will be as follows:

Award	Year 6
Arts Award Presented by Casey Haasbræk	1 student
STEM Award Presented by Kim Higgins	1 student
P.E Award Presented by Mogann Nair	1 student
Civics and Citizenship Award Presented by Kate Schipper and Leon Bignell	1 student
Academic Award Presented by Lisa Hunt	1 student
Jamieson Award (School Values) Presented by Nicky Brunning (Governing Council)	2 students
Lori Dillon Award (most improved) Presented by Melanie Jones/SSO team at the End of year assembly	1 student- any year level

