

# The **WATTLE** Newsletter



**Newsletter No. 18**

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Hello Wattle Park Primary school community!

I hope this finds you fit and well, and doing all you can to stay safe. Stage 4 lockdown has no doubt made us all change the way we do things in our daily lives. School is certainly more different to anything I ever could have imagined. In thinking about what to write in the newsletter today, I reflected on how I usually mention activities and events that have either just happened or are coming up. Usually there would be information regarding camps, excursions and incursions. Initially I thought, well, I can't really do that now. However, I can because there is still a lot happening. The virtual world has provided access to a range of activities and events. Yesterday I participated in a virtual event offered by Arc Education through the Phillip Island Nature Parks Rangers and Researchers regarding the endangered Eastern barred bandicoot. It was enthralling! Similarly there are live music sites where you can be part of the audience for a live music performance such as Billboard.

Many of our artists; performance, visual, dance and music have been severely impacted financially and emotionally. Yet their industry directly impacts on our own sense of health and wellbeing as well as creating a space for social connection. So it is important to still view their gigs and support them. Fortunately our students are still able to participate in the 'State School's Spectacular', virtually. Many thanks to our Performing arts teacher Mrs Sylwia Michalska who is organising this event for our school and scheduling upcoming practice sessions for those involved.

Some students are actually thriving under the remote learning approach. Others not. While it may not be ideal, or our chosen way to operate as a community, some children are doing exceptionally well. I must mention and thank our staff because the work they are doing, is amazing. Many staff are working around the clock. Over last weekend, teachers were researching and collecting resources, preparing lessons and getting organised for the week ahead.

So thank you to our staff, thank you also to our parents for the wonderful support you are providing for your children and most of all thank you for our students, your children for all their efforts. We live in interesting times. It will become a memory, we will get through this and when we do, it will be onwards and upwards! Please do not hesitate to contact me or assistant principal Mr Steve Donohue if you need extra support with your children at this time. Where possible we will certainly seek further support from amongst our teaching and support staff if necessary.

Take care, stay safe!

***Warm Regards***

***Gayle***

WPPS is a Learning Community. We achieve this through a focus on the following 'Norms' or 'ways of treating each other'.

Respect

Encourage

Value

Care

Challenge

Responsible

I have included some photos of things that have changed around our school while you have been offsite! See if you can guess what they are and where they are!

