

Hot off the press
Week 6 Term 1

Yandelora
School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past 3 weeks we have had a number of wonderful events at the school which have given opportunity for our families and community members to visit our school.

We held our first meet the teacher evening. This was very well attended with nearly all families coming along to school to visit. It was so exciting to see students, parents and staff enjoying conversations with each other, having a cup of tea with cake or biscuits, and getting to know each other better. The real purpose of this event was to enable all families to have a tour of the school and see the full site. We moved in so quickly that we were unable to bring families in prior to students start dates. This evening was so successful and one of many new traditions that we will keep as the years continue.

To support working together to meet the learning needs of all the students we have over the past week held most of our Personalised Learning and Support Planning meetings. These meetings enable us to work collaboratively with you to ensure all of your child's learning needs are met. We thank all the families who have attended for their time.

We understand attending can be very difficult for some families and some alternate arrangements have been made where necessary. It was very encouraging on the evening to see the large number of students who came in happy to be back at school after hours.

We are incredibly grateful to the ever growing and changing group of community members who are covering books at Yandelora. So efficient have they been that we have nearly done all the books we have so far, and will be searching for new jobs for this wonderful group of community members. Not only have we had parents, grandparents, siblings we have also had people who just 'want to be a part of Yandelora'!

How exciting is that!!

On Monday the 5th of March the Narellan AECG (Aboriginal Education Consultation Group) Met at Yandelora School. We were very honoured to host the first meeting of 2019. It was exciting to hear from all the local schools in regards to what they are doing in their school in terms of meeting the needs of Aboriginal students as well as teaching non aboriginal students about the first Australians. We were able to proudly tell of the privilege of having an Aboriginal name for our school, and the significance of the Lyrebird Tailfeather on our emblem. Soon we are working with the team to learn more about the Name Yandelora and to write a very special Acknowledgement of Country that our students can give at all meetings. We will be looking at other ways of communicating the Acknowledgement, including augmented forms of communication.

At Yandelora we have a commitment to ensuring that all staff have currency in their professional knowledge. Each week we participate in professional learning afterhours, delivered at the school. For the most part we use this time to develop our shared curriculum knowledge and to write height quality programs across the school. On Tuesday evening next week we are participating in shared professional learning with Narellan PS and Cobbitty PS. Together we will be learning about trauma, its impact on students and how we can better meet the needs of the learners by understanding better their mental health.

Jacquie Lockyer
Principal

Uniform

This week an order form went home for additions to our beautiful uniform. This includes high quality tracksuits, a lovely large brimmed hat, and a library bag. A big thank you to one of our parents Brooke Troy who sourced a wonderful product from a well priced supplier, who will be able to provide these uniforms additions, with the school emblem.

We also have had a sample dress made up. It is beautiful and has been designed with a pleated skirt so that it will sit well for our wheelchair users and allows room for movement for students. The colours compliment the beautiful shirts we have and we have opted for navy collar and cuffed sleeve which looks really smart. This uniform, like our shirts has been especially designed for Yandelora. We have attached photos of 2 of our wonderful students happily modelling the uniform. Please share with us your opinion of the dress option for the uniform. The price will be forth coming, if families are interested we will get the dress uniform orders ready.



PHONE CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL

We are still waiting for our landline phones to be installed. We have been given a number of mobile handsets and the schools landline numbers have been diverted to these phones. Sometimes sadly they drop out. We apologise for this. Continue to call the schools main operating number 4648 0057 or the mobile number I gave to each family at the enrolment meeting 0499 790 860. We thank you for your patience and assure you that students safety and contact with the school has not been compromised in any way while we resolve these issues.

ASSISTED SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Assisted School Transport is an incredible arrangement that supports families to transport their children to schools. The application process is quite complex, and making changes can be time consuming. As routine organisation is important for the students- and I like routine too, we have informed the drivers of the order they are to arrive in the afternoons. We don't have a first in best dressed system. This ensures that students know when their bus is due to arrive and which order they will transition to their bus. It also means that drivers are arriving and displaying safety in the carpark. We have negotiated with families to try and get students home at times that best meet their needs, and in particular have ensured that the buses which are first to leave are those where students need to travel a long way each day. Buses that travel to the Wollondilly area are first to leave so that the students can get home at a reasonable time, buses who take students locally leave last. Throughout the weeks we have made small adjustments to the orders to try and meet all student's needs. Our driveway easily fits 4 vehicles at once. We support the students to transition to the vehicles all at once, so all 4 vehicles have students safely seated prior to leaving. Once all children are safely in their seats and no students are waking near buses we allow the buses to leave.

YANDELORA SCHOOL P&C

On Wednesday the 13th of March all families have been invited to attend the school if they wish to discuss the possibility of beginning a P&C for Yandelora. This is a wonderful opportunity as the school P&C will be able to support the school in so many incredible ways. I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the evenings meeting. I encourage all families to consider attending. It is an opportunity to get to know each other, build relationships and support all areas of the students learning. A note went home earlier this week regarding this meeting, we will send home another reminder closer to the date.

From the Classroom



Who are We?

Teachers

Rebekah Harkin (Bek) AP
Patrick Mathews (Pat)
Charmaine Cohen (Char)

SLSO's

Tania Rees
Megan Lees (Megs)
Wendy Wilkinson

Meet Block F

You are
Somebody's
reason to
SMILE

What have we been learning about?

We have been working hard on our number skills, reading, writing and increasing our known bank of sight words and sounds. We have been engaging in lots of fun hands-on activities that are designed to assist in developing our fine motor skills.

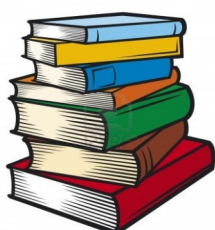
Upcoming Learning

We will be studying an integrated unit based on 'The Earth's Environment'. We will be learning all about some of our native Australian animals and the different habitats they live in. We are all looking forward to learning more about the different Australian environments and our amazing animals.



Up Coming Events 2019 Term Dates

Parent helpers
Thursdays & Fridays
Book covering in library



P&C Wednesday March 13th
Library 7pm

School Walkthrough Tuesday
March 19th 9.30am-10.30am

Crazy Sock Day for Downs
Syndrome Thursday March 21st



Term 1

Friday April 12th Last day of Term 1
School Holidays

Term 2

Monday 29th April Staff Development Day

Tuesday 30th April Student's return to school

Friday July 5th Last day Term 2
School Holidays

Term 3

22nd July Staff Development Day

23rd July Students return to school

Friday 27th September Last day Term 3
School Holidays

Term 4

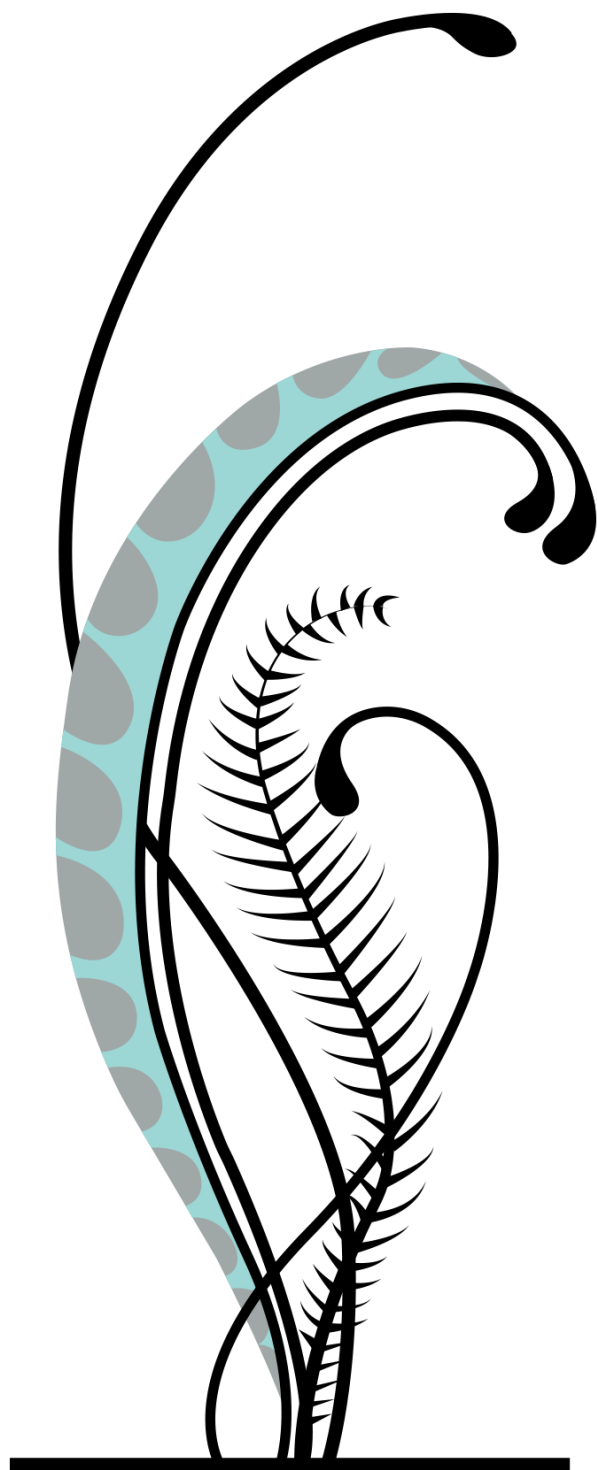
Monday 14th October
Students and Staff return to school

Wednesday 18th December
student last day for 2019

Thursday 19th Staff Development Day

Friday 20th December Staff
Development Day
Christmas Holidays begin.





**"There is no
power for change
greater than a
community
discovering what
it cares about."**

MARGARET J. WHEATLEY

Yandelora
School