

Respect

Courage



Resilience

Compassion

A Strong Beginning for a Great Future

**Steven Lynch
Principal**

Walwa Primary School

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Term 1, Monday 4th March 2019

School Review

It was fantastic to get a lot of our data and policies etc... completed and uploaded to finish the Pre Review Self Evaluation component of the School Review we are currently undertaking. Feedback from our reviewer has been that there is some more evidence to produce for a few items but we are all confident we can meet requirements. The review day is March 12 where the reviewer, Joan Sibley, my boss, Jody Grimmond, Hayden Drummond, our School Council President and two other Principals – Julie Butler from Eskdale PS and Rachel Saunders from Bethanga PS will attend the school, view more evidence, interview myself and students, view me teaching and make final recommendations. It will be a full and interesting day.

PMP

At school, for at least two mornings a week, we have been doing PMP. PMP is a program aimed at improving children's perceptual motor skills in activities such as catching, balancing, throwing, various kicks, bouncing, co-ordination, skipping and so on. The children are enjoying this and trying hard to improve. Any of these activities at home will improve their skills as well.

Science - Weather

We have been sketching the weather each day as a part of our Science unit and we have also been discussing the various symbols used to show weather on maps. We will study cloud cover next.

Cued Articulation

I have been doing cued articulation with our Prep students to help them learn their sounds. This program is based on physical cues to support where the sound is made in the child's mouth and gives them another prompt to recall the sound.

Zone Swimming

Well done Mac who attended Zone swimming on his birthday on Friday February 22nd. Mac came 4th and 2nd in two of his heats. Well done on going to zone and doing so well, Mac, especially on your birthday.

Maternal and Childcare Health Services

A meeting was held at the school on Friday February 22nd but no-one attended except myself and Meredith. We gave our thoughts about the service, and other services in town in general. The shire is keen to hear from you. They provided the below internet link for you to provide feedback by filling in a five minute survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCH-Review

There is also a feedback box left in the office. Please fill in a form giving the council feedback.

School Website

Erin and Tyrone have been working hard to update our school website. We have added our policies and information about ChildSafe. For further information about any policies or the school, please refer to our website which has more information.

Advertising

We will be accepting business card sized ads in our newsletter. If you would like to advertise a business in our school newsletter each fortnight it will cost \$25 per term or \$100 for the year.

O H and S

Kira visited last Thursday and helped me complete 15 more actions towards the school becoming fully compliant. She will work briefly with Erin this week and then Theo, an OHS consultant from the Dept in Melbourne, will attend our school in June to finish us off.

I will attend an OHS Asbestos Training session in August in Wodonga to be compliant in that area too.

As well, staff regularly complete OHS online sessions around topics such as manual handling, slips, trips and falls and so on.

Child Safe

I want to remind everyone that Walwa Primary School is a child safe school. This means that we comply with strict government guidelines about ensuring our school is an extremely safe place for children, after the family home. We are working hard to maintain these standards.

Please visit PROTECT website for further information about Childsafe requirements.

Grade 4-6 Canberra Camp 2019

This year we are going in late May to Canberra with the other small schools in the cluster.

The itinerary includes fantastic venues such as The War memorial, Questacon and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) just to name a few.

You can use your CSEF of \$125 to assist with the costs involved here if you are eligible. Also we are happy to set up a payment plan over the first two terms (or longer if needed). Please return your intention to attend ASAP for cluster numbers. Thank you to everyone who paid their \$50 deposit.

Further information will be sent home in Term 2.

Homework

I would like to see our students have an excellent commitment to their homework from the beginning of the year. Homework requirements are as follows:

Grade F/1 – home readers each night, sound and sight-word practise each night

Grades 3-6 – spelling practise, times tables, reading each night

Validation Day

Thanks to Hayley Jeffs who will be assisting in the classroom on the Validation Day of our Review on March 12th.

Homework Club

Meredith and I will be offering a homework club each Thursday after school for 1 hour from 3.15 – 4.15 beginning on Thursday February 14th. This is an opportunity for children who need assistance with a specific area to receive some support with a teacher if they are needing some extra support in an area such as maths or reading and so on.

Meredith and I will be taking turns this term trialling the project. Homework club cannot run if there is only one student as there are strict guidelines about students being in a one-to-one situation with students. Please contact the school if you would like to know more.

So far we have had 3 and 4 students attend and they have worked hard on improving some skills they need to.

Professional Development

Over the next two terms I will be completing another Literacy Course to assist us with our Writing goals for 2019. I attended my first day in Wangaratta last Tuesday and it was terrific.

Family Counselling

Free family counselling is available to us through info@gatewayhealth.org.au Please contact them on that email address for further information or to make an appointment or ring 0260228888. I am not sure if appointments are in Albury/Wodonga or Corryong so please call them to find out. If anyone in your family needs counselling please contact them for this free service.

Curriculum

As mentioned earlier the whole school will be studying a Science Unit about Weather. This unit is about weather in our area and how it occurs. The children have been sketching the weather daily.

In Maths we are currently studying 2D and 3D shapes.

We will also be working on Respectful Relationships this term and below is a link for the Level 3 and 4 curriculum I am basing it on. The kids are enjoying it a lot:

<http://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/Resource/LandingPage?ObjectId=7327c6bf-696a-41c4-8fc3-3c45dccdc8bd>

Mrs Haugen will be doing a Canberra unit and a Me unit.

In Writing we are working on Narrative Texts and are writing Aesop's fables and narrative stories. This week we will be writing some modified Fairy Tales.

Maths-a-thon

We are aiming to hold a Maths-A-Thon in Term 2. This will encourage the students to learn some really useful number facts and help raise some money for the school. There will be no fundraising in Term 1 as there was a lot for families in Term 4 last year and this term there are fees and savings needed for the Canberra excursion for grades 4-6.

Indonesian Lessons

We began our video Indonesian lessons with Bu Glenda from Mitcham Primary School last Friday. It was fantastic! These will be held every Friday from 11.30pm – 12 noon.

We also have received a special Indonesian instrument called an 'angklung' this week and Bu Glenda showed us how to play it. Thanks Mrs Haugen for building the bamboo 'angklung'. It sounds great!

Dates to Remember

- Tuesday March 5th – Cluster Principal Meeting for Mr Lynch at Tallangatta PS
- Friday March 8th – Mrs Haugen Final Day before Long Service Leave
- Monday 11th March – Labour Day Public Holiday – no school
- Tuesday March 12th – School Review Validation Day
- Wednesday March 13th – School Council Meeting – elections – 6pm
- Friday March 15th - National Bullying No Way Day
- Monday March 18th – Mr Lynch at Literacy Leaders PD in Wangaratta
- Thursday March 21st – School Review Final Day
- Friday 5th April – Last Day of Term
- Tuesday 23rd April – First day back of Term 2

WALWA PRIMARY SCHOOL IS A CHILDSAFE SCHOOL



Putting our angklung together!



Playing quoits during PMP.



Lucyvale Rail Trail Walk 'n Talk

SUNDAY MARCH 17TH, 9.30-12.30

Whats happening on the line? Join Parklands Rangers for an easy walk on the High Country Rail Trail at Lucyvale to find out. This section is the final challenge to linking the entire trail. See what needs to be done to restore the historic trestle bridges, open and improve the trail, discuss the next steps, and find out how locals can be involved.

Meet for a 9.30am start at The Needles carpark, Murray Valley Hwy, Lucyvale. Please register via our website: www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au

