



# Walpole Primary School Newsletter

## Nature Culture Future

*important  
dates*

25 May – Parent Connect Program {Kindergarten students}

27 May – National Simultaneous Storytime

29 May – Staff Development Day {no students to attend}

1 June – WA Day public holiday

5 June – Interschool Cross Country {East Manjimup PS}

12 June – Room 1 assembly



## CROSS COUNTRY

The students recently competed in the School Cross Country at the Walpole Country Club. They all tried their best and competed well, which was also shown in their training in the build-up to the event.



 **CROSS COUNTRY****The results for the events:****K-1 event**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Leo Schultz
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ginger Machner
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cade O'Brien
- 4<sup>th</sup> Vada Burton

**2-4 event**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elijah Cochrane
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Felix Machner
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Lucas Cleary
- 4<sup>th</sup> Harvey Nistelberger

**5-6 event**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Deed Neill
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Isabelle Anning
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nithula Ranamuka
- 4<sup>th</sup> Lucas Nguyen

Blue faction were the overall winners with a score of 294, with Greens overall score 222.

Thank you to all Walpole PS staff for their support in the cross-country training and the School Cross Country event. I would also like to thank the Walpole Community for coming along to the Cross Country!





# ROOM 4 CAMP

Our Room 4 students, Mrs Rushton, Mrs Barrow, Mr Klose and parent helper Martin Cleary all had an absolute ball on camp at the end of Term 1. Camp Quarunup was a beautiful setting, with a gorgeous coastline and very interesting history. We were very well looked after by their team, and we were treated to some amazing weather as we explored the surrounds and participated in activities. Other sites we visited included Laserscape, the Historic Whaling Station, The Museum of the Great Southern, The Brig Amity and Albany Windfarm. Once again, we would like to express our appreciation to the Walpole Op Shop for their generous grant which covered the cost of transport to and from camp, as well as for the day we spent out and about. We extend this appreciation to a local community member who also made a generous donation to support the camp being accessible for all students and families.

Please enjoy some happy snaps and student reflections from the camp.



Before we set off.



On the bus, ready to go



# ROOM 4 CAMP



Team building games at Laserscape.



Gorgeous morning walk and beach clean up along Uredale Walk Trail



Winners of the tallest structure made from newspaper



# ROOM 4 CAMP



Guided tour at Discovery Bay, Albany's Historic Whaling Station



Albany Wind Farm visit on the way home.



Afternoon of basketball, frisbee and fishing on the jetty (no fish caught, but a Mr Klose did retrieve the frisbee from the water... twice)



 **ROOM 4 CAMP****Student and Staff Reflections**

*My favourite part of camp was when we walked on the beach and saw Breaksea Island – Nithula*

*My favourite part of camp was dinner because every day we had something new – Lucas C*

*Something memorable about camp was when Mrs Rushton and Mrs Barrow woke up the girls and said there were whales, but it was April Fools! - Chloe*

*My favourite part was the Whaling Station because we saw a 3D movie - Finlay*

*I loved getting shells – Emma*

*Something memorable about camp was walking back from dinner and Simon and I gave Mrs Rushton a scare by jumping out of a bush! - Isabelle*

*Laser tag was 10/10. It was so fun. - Simon*

*My favourite thing about camp was when I got to go to the Whaling Station – Savanna*

*My favourite parts of the camp were the lasagne and shooting Mr Cleary at Laser tag – Jai*

*Something memorable about camp was the chess games I played with my friends – Tyler*

*My favourite part of camp was Laserscape – Shae*

*My favourite parts of camp were the Talent Show and Laserscape – Rosie*

*I loved how we could spend some time with our friends - Claudia*

*My most memorable moments were performing the Nutbush and 'I'm Still Standing' with the students during the Talent Show, followed closely by Mr Klose painstakingly retrieving the frisbee from the ocean rocks .... and then the wind catching it as he threw it back, blowing it straight back in! – Mrs Barrow*

*My favourite part of camp was walking back to the cabins with the three year 6s and throwing pebbles into the bush. Everyone thought it was a ghost, got scared and ran back. I think the whole camp could hear the screams! - Mrs Rushton*

*My most memorable part was the talent night. There were some really good, funny acts and I was impressed by the participation and creativity of the students. It was really good to get to know all the students and all the teachers. I enjoyed my time. - Martin Cleary (parent volunteer).*



## From the Principal

*by Stuart Klose*

Kaya, parents and community members of Walpole Primary School,

Congratulations to all of our students on their outstanding efforts at last Friday's Cross Country Carnival, held at the Walpole Country Club. It was fantastic to see every student giving their best on the course. You should all be incredibly proud of the determination, resilience, and sportsmanship on display throughout the day. A sincere thank you to the many parents and family members who came along to support our students, and a special mention to those who bravely joined in the run themselves! Well done to Rob Bain on taking out the coveted parent medal—an impressive achievement!

Congratulations also to all of our student winners for their excellent performances, and well done to Blue faction for claiming the overall victory. It was a terrific team effort.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Mr Nisbett for his organisation of the event and to Mr Coldrey for his work setting up and packing away the course. Your efforts ensured the day ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all.

Mr Nisbett will be sending out invitations to those students selected to represent Walpole Primary School at the Interschool Cross Country event in Manjimup in Week 7. We wish these students the very best of luck. It was great to see the first order of our new faction shirts arrive just in time for the carnival. The students looked fantastic in their new colours. As a reminder, faction shirts can be worn every Thursday (sport day). Our next order closes on Friday 29 May—please ensure you get your orders into the front office before this date.

Please note that our next Staff Development Day will be held on Friday 29 May. Students are not to attend school on this day as staff will be engaged in professional learning. This will be followed by the public holiday on Monday 1 June, giving students a well-earned four-day break before returning for the second half of Term Two.

Our school website is currently unavailable as we work on building a new, more user-friendly site that will serve as a central source of information for parents and families. I am aiming to have the new website live by the end of this term.

A reminder to families to please contact the front office by 2:00pm if there is a change of plans for your child when catching the bus. Recently, late changes or lack of communication after this time have caused confusion for staff and students, as well as delays to bus departures. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Finally, if your child is displaying cold or flu-like symptoms, please keep them at home until they are no longer contagious and are well enough to return to school. We are currently experiencing a number of illnesses within our community, including staff absences, and are finding it challenging to source relief staff.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.





# NEWS ROOM 1

## Walpole Op Shop Grant

We would like to say a huge thank you to the Walpole Op Shop for generously providing Room 1 with a grant to purchase a new classroom mat. The students absolutely love it and have been so excited to use it during our learning time, group discussions and story sessions. Your kindness and support towards our students and learning environment is greatly appreciated by everyone at Walpole Primary School.



# NEWS ROOM 1

## Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

A huge thankyou to all the Mum's, Nanna's, Grandma's and other special people for attending our Mother's Day afternoon tea.

We had an awesome afternoon having fun decorating and eating delicious biscuits, colouring in, being hairdressers with the dolls, playing with play dough and enjoying spending time with our loved ones! It was a fantastic turn out and we appreciate your support and involvement with your child's learning.





## NEWS ROOM 2



The students of Room 2 hosted Friday's assembly with an informative recount of their recent UR Walpole WOW cruise as well as some enthusiastic dance moves to a song about raising the good energy in a room. All students spoke well at assembly and the repeated practice of their lines meant they seemed quite comfortable speaking to their school peers, staff and families. Of course, they all enjoyed the chance to dress up and there was much discussion during the week of outfit ideas.

Term 2 is all about UR Walpole, with this year's theme of **electricity**. Students' have been learning a lot across all subject areas, demonstrating curiosity during classroom discussions and experiments, developing their vocabulary around electricity terminology and participating enthusiastically in learning activities. Our WOW cruise was a success, as it always is with the amazing WOW crew at the helm. Students enjoyed the range of experiments and activities and it was so inspiring to see many students use the activities to ask deeper questions about how electricity works. There are some future scientists in Room 2!

By the time this newsletter hits your inbox, Room 2 will have had their second planned excursion, visiting the Walpole Mini-Pumped Hydro System. Part of our focus with the UR Walpole theme this year in Room 2 is investigating renewable energy and how it can benefit the environment and communities, so this excursion will help students see a real-life application of a concept they have been learning in class.

A recent focus in Room 2 is developing skills to work effectively in a team.



 **NEWS ROOM 2**

Learning how to work effectively with others helps children build important life skills such as communication, problem-solving, listening and empathy. Teamwork also encourages students to share ideas, support one another and develop confidence in social situations. These skills are valuable both inside and outside the classroom and help create a positive and inclusive learning environment for everyone. In Room 2, we regularly use collaborative learning activities to help hone teamwork skills.

Lastly, Room 2 recently achieved 1000 classroom Dojo points and we had a class vote to choose a reward. Students chose to have a show and share session. We have a busy class schedule so students don't have a 'news' day that they can share special times or items with their peers. The show and share classroom reward was a big hit! We even had some baby guinea pigs and a dog visit us. It was lovely to hear students share how much their special item meant to them and answer their peers' questions.





# NEWS ROOM 4

Room 4 has had a wonderful start to the term! Our theme this term is all about electricity, with a special focus on lighthouses. We are currently reading the novel 'The Lighthouse Girl', by Dianne Wolfer, which is told from the perspective of Fay, a young girl who grew up on Breaksea Island near Albany. Although Fay's story is based on real historical events, some parts of the novel are fictional. Fay's father was a lighthouse keeper, and she wrote letters to soldiers during World War I.

In Writing, Room 4 has been learning about informational texts, with a particular focus on lighthouses and electricity. Students have been developing their skills in creating "sizzling starts" to hook the reader and make their writing more engaging. We are now working on building tension by adding interesting facts, using short, sharp sentences, and painting vivid word pictures to enhance our writing and capture the reader's attention.

## Sizzling Start

*As the bright fire lights the cliff, the glistening fire guides the ship to sea. While the fire lasts for days, the ship knows where to go. This was one of the first lighthouses in history.*



BOOM! The fire's glow saved millions of lives! Guiding ships through the treacherous waters, Full of jagged swordlike rocks and great white sharks with just a bonfire on the side of an enormous cliff! Yes do' not be fooled the first lighthouse was a... FIRE!!!!!!





# NEWS ROOM 4

In Maths this term, Room 4 has been learning about fractions on a number line and developing a deeper understanding of how fractions are represented and compared. Students have also been improving their subtraction skills through Ninja Maths and using a variety of addition and subtraction strategies to solve different types of mathematical problems.

In HASS, we are learning about the history of Albany and exploring the important role the lighthouse on Breaksea Island played in guiding ships safely into the harbour. It has been wonderful making connections between our learning and what we experienced on camp. We are enjoying discovering how lighthouses worked, why they were needed, and how they helped people many years ago. We are looking forward to learning even more fascinating facts about lighthouses and how they began.

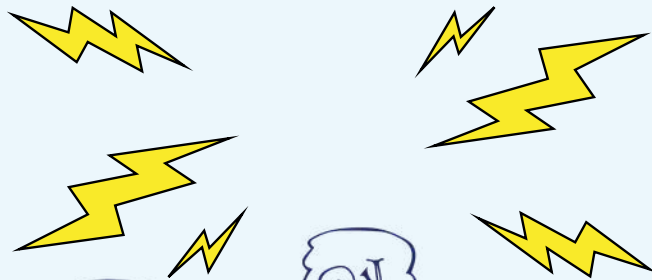
In Week 3, we went on a magical WOW Wilderness tour where we explored the beautiful Walpole River. We were lucky enough to spot stingrays swimming through the water and enjoyed learning about the amazing environment around us. During the tour, we took part in many exciting hands-on science experiments that taught us all about electricity and how it works. Did you know that electrons are all around us? We discovered how electricity moves and powers everyday things, making our learning both fun and interactive.

In Health, we have been exploring the Zones of Regulation and discussing tools and strategies we can use to help ourselves when we are in different zones. We have also been very busy in the kitchen garden, planting, chopping, and cooking with produce that we will use in future recipes.

It has certainly been an exciting, engaging, and busy start to the term for Room 4!



# NEWS ROOM 4



 **NEWS ART**

To complement their class novel study, Room 4 students created clownfish collages inspired by the novel *The Thing About Oliver* and the artwork of Pete Cromer. The story explores what it feels like to be the “odd one out.” Oliver sees the world differently, and that is what makes him special. The novel highlights the importance of inclusion and ensuring everyone feels they belong. Just as a clownfish relies on an anemone for safety and shelter, we all need a place where we feel accepted and secure.

Inspired by Pete Cromer’s distinctive style, the children created their own colourful clownfish collages. Rather than drawing every scale or fin in detail, Cromer simplifies animals into bold geometric shapes, such as ovals and triangles, alongside playful organic shapes. This approach creates a sense of fun, movement, and individuality. Using these techniques, the students collaged their own unique clownfish artworks.

At the beginning of Term 2, all classes had the opportunity to create paper poppy flowers inspired by the artwork of Georgia O’Keeffe in acknowledgement of ANZAC Day. The completed flowers have been combined to form a beautiful collaborative display in the art room.





# NEWS ART



# KITCHEN GARDEN

Our students have been busy working collaboratively in multi-aged groups to explore the importance of recycling, reducing waste and composting. Together, they designed and created informative posters using the different coloured bins to sort items that can be reused or recycled, food scraps for compost, and rubbish that belongs in landfill. Through these hands-on learning experiences, students are developing a greater understanding of sustainability and how we can all help care for our environment.

We have also enjoyed spending time in our kitchen garden observing the wonderful growth in our garden beds. Students have been excited to harvest fresh spinach, tomatoes, lettuce and apples, while learning about where our food comes from and the importance of growing and caring for healthy produce.

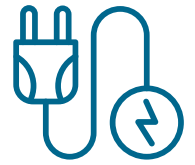


# KITCHEN GARDEN





# TECHNOLOGY NEWS



Term 2 is always an exciting time with our UR Walpole program and this year's theme of ELECTRICITY is driving our Design and Technology learning. Each class is working on a unique project, focussing on a different aspect of electricity. The Room 1 students are continuing with their Food Technology focus, investigating the many ways electricity is used food production, specifically in farming. The focus in Room 2 is electrical safety, with the students exploring ways to stay safe around electricity. They will be designing creative ways to share the safety messages.

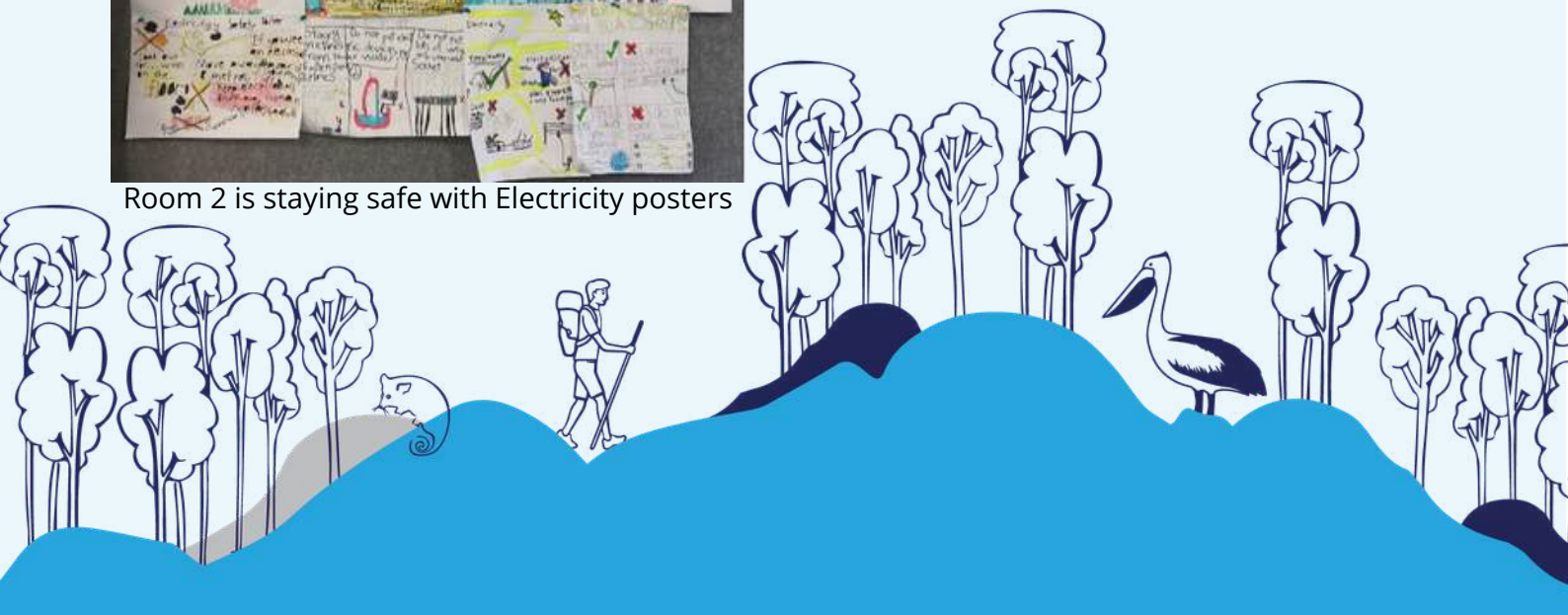
The Room 4 students are in the initial stages of designing and building a push/pull vehicle. The connection to electricity will be revealed later in the term... stay tuned!



Room 4 designing and building their push/pull vehicles, with the help of Mr Liddelow.



Room 2 is staying safe with Electricity posters





# LIBRARY NEWS



**BOOK WEEK 2026 WEEK 6 TERM 3** " A SYMPHONY OF STORIES" This year's CBCA Book Week theme is " A Symphony of Stories", using delightful illustrations by local Western Australian Illustrator Briony Stewart.

We all have so much fun dressing up for Book Week, it's never too early to start planning your costume for next term.

Term 2 is off to a great start, our library is stocked with fantastic new fiction and non-fiction titles. Thanks to our teachers who have encouraged the children to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge, it's wonderful to see their continued enthusiasm for Tuesday Library Day

2026 CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

SYMPHONY OF  
STORIES



22-28 August 2026





# CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations on receiving a merit certificate at our last assembly.

## ROOM 1 WINNERS:

- Leo Schultz
- Ginger Machner

## ROOM 2 WINNERS:

- Ned Belgrove
- Luna Burton
- Elijah Cockrane
- Zoe Vega
- Harrison Clark
- Felix Machner

## ROOM 4 WINNERS:

- Nithula Ranamuka
- Tyler Spinks
- Chloe Strickland
- Isabelle Anning



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## ROOM 2:

- Ned Belgrove 8/5
- Naomi Godawaththage 15/5

## ROOM 4:

- Rosie Pollard 27/5
- Lucas Nguyen 31/5
- Shae Thomas 10/6
- Shawn Skippings 11/6



HAPPY BIRTHDAY





# COMMUNITY NEWS



## You Are Invited

Join Kristi from Earth Parenting and Margot from Uplyft for a free parent-child creative session.

Relax and connect with other parents while the children explore natural materials, crushing and creating together.

Morning tea provided.

Monday 25 May 2026 | 9.30 - 11.30am

Walpole Primary School

All welcome - no RSVP required

Supported by





## CONTRIBUTIONS 2026

Contributions have been set at \$60.00 per child for 2026. Payment of these enables the school to support your child's education by providing materials, services and facilities such as:

- cooking ingredients
- materials for arts and crafts, design and technology, and science activities
- class sets of resources
- access to educational software systems such as Mathletics.

This equates to \$1.50 per week or \$15.00 per term. The school is very happy to support families wishing to set up a payment plan, please contact the office and organise to meet with the Manager Corporate Services.



## BUS NOTIFICATION

To assist the smooth departure of the school buses, **could you please contact the office via phone or email before 2pm** if there is to be a change in plans for children getting home. Please also contact the office regarding ongoing changes such as participation in after-school sport on Wednesdays (when running).



## FEELING UNWELL

Families are reminded that if your child is unwell with flu like symptoms that they stay home until their symptoms resolve.

To ensure the safety of our students, parents please make sure that the office has the most up to date medical details for your child.





*email your  
newsletter  
items to:*

walpole.ps@education.wa.edu.au or dropped off at the office by 3pm Monday of newsletter week. Newsletters this term will be made available from our website on Friday of Week 5 and 10.



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