



Sheoak Grove Primary School Newsletter

Week 2, Term 3 2021

From the Principal

Welcome to Semester 2! We have a big Term 3 ahead of us and we are looking forward to hosting many events across the 10 weeks ahead.

One of our major focus areas for this term will be our **attendance** patterns. So far in our very short history we have had significant parts of our three terms effected by COVID-19 and lockdowns in the Peel Region. However, our data indicates that this isn't the only attendance concern we have.

During our first semester this year we had only 63% of our students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 maintain a **regular attendance pattern**. Regular attendance is defined by an attendance rate of 90% or over. Even a 90% attendance rate means a child misses 1 day of school a fortnight, which equates to **20 days** a year. Four school weeks is a very large amount of learning time to loose annually. Your child's attendance rate is included in their Semester Report.

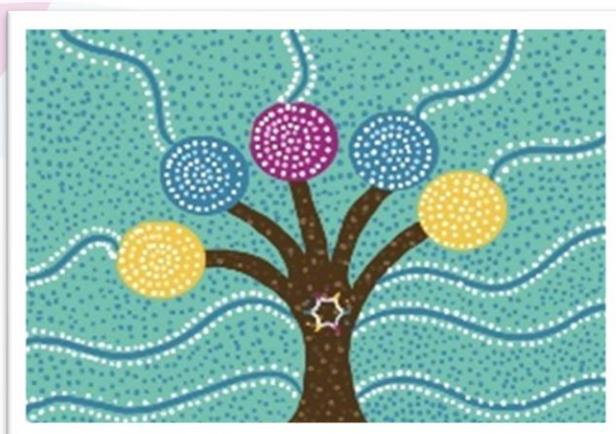
Missing school days **directly effects learning and educational progress**. Every day of school is important. I cannot stress that enough. Our data, as early in our history as we are, indicates that both Monday and Friday attendance rates are lower than the days in the middle of the week. These days also coincide with the highest proportion of unauthorized absences. Every day of the school week is equally important and I urge our school community to consider this when making plans for recreational time.

Our school community is working hard to build a culture of excellence in public education. Our students need to have the opportunity to **shine, grow and connect** on every school day possible.

Next week we will release our inaugural **Business Plan** on our website. This plan

describes our priorities and directions for the next three years while we continue to build the foundation for our school community to thrive. It was co-written by our School Board and our staff and we are very much looking forward to continuing to implement the strategies that are described within it.

The artwork featured in the plan (below), and across all of our school documents for the life of the plan, was created by Mrs Rosie Paine. The painting represents Sheoak Grove Primary School. The sheoak tree at the centre is the **koort** (heart) of our school. It symbolises our connection to the **Noongar boodja** (Country) on which our school sits and serves as our Acknowledgement of Country. The sheoak tree, branded with our school logo, also symbolises our school's vision and values of *Shine, Grow, Connect*. The circles atop the sheoak tree represents each of our Improvement Drivers. These are the five key areas to drive improvement across the school in its formative years. The lines leading out from the sheoak tree represent the school's continual growth, development and connection. It is our commitment to inclusivity and belonging ensuring a cohesive, collaborative and safe community where everyone is challenged and supported to be their best every day.



We will also be releasing our Positive Behaviour Support Behaviour Matrix on our website next week. The matrix is the centre piece of our WA Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) plan and it describes the expected

behaviours for the students of Sheoak Grove. More information will be available on the website when the matrix 'goes live' next week.

I hope that we get to see you all at one or more of our school events this term. Please check out the 'Dates to Remember' section of this newsletter for upcoming events.

Thank you to the awesome students in ECE 3 who hosted our assembly so fantastically well this morning. They did a wonderful choral speaking version of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Craig Stanners
Principal

Sustainable Sheoak

Our Waste Wise committee is working on ways to make our school more environmentally sustainable. In week 5 of this Term our Year 5 students will be conducting a rubbish audit of our school so discover how much of our daily waste is recyclable. Keep an eye out for those results!

The first major sustainability initiative our committee will begin in Week 5 of this term. This will be our **Trash Free Tuesday** program. On Tuesdays we will ask families to reduce the waste we produce at school. We will be giving families tips on how to reduce lunchbox rubbish and other things in the couple of weeks between now and Week 5. We won't have bins on those days, so all rubbish that comes from lunchboxes will need to go back with them. Staff included! All waste from crunch and sip will be collected and will go to chickens (if you have chooks, let us know).

Other initiatives will be introduced over the rest of this term, and we are looking forward to having a positive impact for our local environment.

P&C Thank You Day

Last Friday 23 July was P&C Association Appreciation Day. Our hardworking P&C give so generously of their time to arrange fun activities and raise much needed funds for our school. Thank you, we really appreciate all you do!

Here are some of our Pre-primary and Year 1/2 students showcasing some of the equipment purchased with funds raised by the P&C.



Important Dates to Remember

Tuesday 3 August – Pre-primary 100 days
Thursday 12 August – State Cross Country
Friday 13 August – Room 5's Assembly
Friday 20 August – Crazy Hair Day
Thursday 26 August – Author visit – Book Week
Friday 27 August – Book Week Parade

Pre-Primary Applications 2022

Our current Kindergarten students should have received an application form along with a letter from our Principal to apply for pre-primary 2022. If you reside within Sheoak Grove's Local Intake Area, please hand this application form along with a current immunisation statement to the school office as soon as possible.

Feature Faction

Over the next few newsletters we will be featuring each of our faction names and the meaning behind them.

This fortnight we are taking a closer look at:

Condil



Condil is the Noongar name for the Sheoak tree. The Sheoak tree flowers in the Noongar season of Djilba (August – September) and Kamarang (October – November). Traditionally Noongar women gave birth under Sheoak trees because of the softness of the needles/leaves. The leaves of the Sheoak tree were also used for bedding in mia mias (shelters). As George Walley, a Noongar elder, stated at our school opening “when the wind blows through the Sheoak trees, there is a soothing sound that would help the babies to sleep”.



P&C News

The next P&C meeting will be held this Thursday 12 August at 5.30pm in Room 16. New members are welcome to attend. There are fantastic events coming up that will be discussed at the meeting.

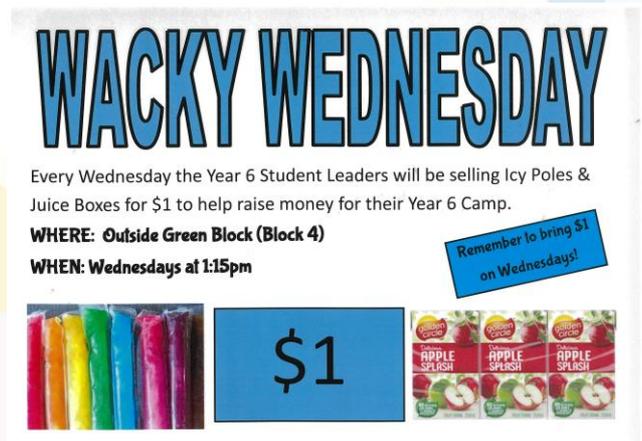
'Crazy Hair Day' will be held on Friday 20 August. Come to school with a gold coin donation to raise funds for our Breakfast Club and show everyone your fun, crazy hair style.

Then in September it will be time to *Ready, Set, Glow!* with our school disco being held on Friday 17 September. Permission slips will go home with students early next week.





Wacky Wednesday Wacky Wednesday is back! Icy poles and fruit boxes are available for \$1 from Block 4 during lunchtime. Thank you for supporting our Year 6 fundraiser.



Tranby College are inviting Year 5 and Year 6 students to get a taste of senior school by being a Year 7 for a day. If you would like further information, please contact the school office.

Year 6 Fundraising

Cash for Containers

Mrs Nash and the crew in Room 15 are continuing to collect cans and bottles in their Big Blue Bin. If your family would like to donate or would like a bag to collect, please visit Room 15.



Year 6 Camp

In Week 4 of this term our intrepid Year 6 group will be in Dwellingup on their camp. They will be involved in many challenging activities including:

- archery tag
- raft building
- kayaking
- abseiling
- rock wall climbing
- mountain biking
- flying fox
- commando course: and
- an excursion to Tree Top Adventures

All in 4 days and 3 nights! They will be tired when they get home, but they will have met a lot of challenges and learned a lot about themselves and each other.

Our students did an awesome job in fundraising for their camp, subsidizing the fee by over \$140 each. Well done everyone, and we all hope you have a fantastic time at camp!