

Principals Message

The Importance of Attendance

The more time your child attends school the greater their opportunity to learn, create social connections and improve their wellbeing.

Why attendance matters

Your child may fall behind in their subjects and this can have an impact on their learning in the long term. Missing school for students means missing assignments, time with friends, an important math lessons or getting picked for a sports team. All Australian school-age children are legally required to attend school every day.

What you can do

You can help build positive attendance habits by:

- helping your child learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- making sure your child arrives on time from the start of the school day, ready to take part
- reducing disruption to learning where you can, by planning any necessary appointments outside of school time
- contacting your school to explain any absences (within 7 days of the first day of any absence)
- making sure any holidays or medical appointments are taken outside school hours
- working with the school to encourage and support regular attendance.

Reasons for missing school

If your child misses school for any reason, please contact the school within 7 days to explain why. If your child needs to arrive late or leave early, please notify the school.

If you have difficulty getting your child to school on time every day, please also contact your school.

School staff are here to support you and your child to help them come to school.



Getting your school's help and support

If you are concerned about your child's attendance at school or any other issues that may affect their attendance please speak with the school. It is important that schools and families work together to find solutions to improve attendance.

Every parent has trouble getting their child out of bed and off to school now and then. However, if your child is regularly asking to stay home and seems upset or worried about school, it could be a sign of a bigger problem if your child:

- seems upset or worried about going to school
- refuses to go to school, and always asks to stay home
- has a history of school refusal in the past.

School refusal is different to 'wagging' or 'jigging' because it comes from a child's anxiety about school.

SAFE HANDS

KIND WORDS



Seeking Information and Photos for New Elders' Posters

Wilcannia Central School is currently looking at adding new posters to our Elders' Gallery. If you are interested in adding Elders to this project, please send photos and information about your Elder to the school email: wilcannia-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au Please contact the school on 08 8091 5801 if you have any questions.

Preschool

Preschool have been exploring the lifecycle of a butterfly and we made shelters for our mini beasts using the wooden blocks and duplo. Rylee has been helping us play musical chairs and duck duck goose. In the sandpit we investigated sand and water. When we added sand to the water the water disappeared and the sand became sticky a bit like when you make a cake. We can build things when the sand is like this as it sticks together. When we don't have water in the sand it falls through our hands easily and you can't make sand castles.



Wantaali

We have had an epic term in Wantaali! There has been one day of 100% attendance and many more with only one muurpa missing from our class... we hope that we can hit that 100% even more in Term 2 and beyond!

Wantaali have been working hard to develop a growth mindset this term, and know that our brains get stronger the more we try hard things. Every day, we try our best in all learning activities and never give up.

An exciting experience this term has been learning to read and play music... watch this space for some up and coming ukelele and percussion musicians!

Secondary

Secondary are pleased to welcome Ms Mary Angley back to Wilcannia. Ms Mary returns with new skills in Drama and music from her scholarship and performance experience in Berlin, Edinburgh and Hobart Tasmania. She will be with us for at least the next three weeks.

During Term 1 in Secondary we have also launched a rewards system to encourage Responsibility and Striving in class. Our secondary students can now redeem their rewards at recess, lunch or at the end of the day. Students who consistently demonstrate Striving and Responsibility can also work towards larger rewards such as sports equipment or other items by request. We look forward to meeting the needs of our students by rewarding their effort and achievement in learning.

