

Numbat News

STRIVE TO EXCEL



Pingelly PS



25 March 2020

Administration:

Phone: (08) 9887-2000 **Email:** pingelly.ps@education.wa.edu.au

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School fees may be paid via EFT Payment

BSB. 633 000 Account # 1234 71468

Please use your surname and initials as reference when making a payment.

Dates to Remember

- * **Thursday April 9**
LAST DAY OF TERM 1
- * **Tuesday April 28**
FIRST DAY OF TERM 2

PLEASE NOTE: The Uniform Shop is currently closed. If you require uniforms or want to place an order, please call the front office on 9887 2000.

Dear PPS Families,

So much has transpired over the 2 weeks since our week 6 newsletter. COVID-19 was on the radar but not at the point of dominating our whole lives. Over these 2 weeks, we've made significant adjustments to school routines with social distancing, handwashing and general hygiene practices just as important as regular curriculum delivery. As of Tuesday, nearly half the school was absent, with this number to no doubt increase over the remainder of the week. This is really a trying and testing time for us all. Teachers are trying to provide a continuity to learning but their classes are half empty. Parents and caregivers are trying to isolate their families, teach their children and maintain a state of normality yet we are not in normal times. We are all simply doing our absolute best to manage each day and the overall pervading unknown. I want to thank our staff and our families for their response to this ever-changing landscape. I believe at Pingelly PS, our school and its community have applied a common-sense approach to this rising unknown. I'm proud of how our students have remained calm and gone about their days. I urge us all in the coming days and weeks to do the same and protect our children and families from stress and anxiety, and the increasing presence of COVID-19. We all need to do our parts and our Government is directing us to respond to social distancing measures – remove all unnecessary points of contact, reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Staying safe and healthy is priority.

Amidst all of the COVID-19 madness, there are positives. I am really pleased to announce that Mrs Alyssa Lee is the successful applicant for the recently advertised teacher position. Mrs Lee is now a permanent staff member at Pingelly PS, and I'd like to congratulate her on her appointment.

We recently posted to families to ensure that their contact details – home or mobile phone, home address, and email address – are up to date. Please contact the office if needing to update any contact details.

Starting tomorrow (Thursday) new measures take place restricting parents and caregivers on school grounds. As difficult as it may be, please support this measure and drop your children at any of the perimeter gates.

Communication to families is coming out very fast with new measures and changes regularly announced. For clarity around anything announced through school correspondence, please email the school at pingelly.ps@education.wa.edu.au. All office staff receive emails at this account and your enquiries will be responded to as soon as possible.

Whilst COVID-19 has impacted the availability of sport equipment, it hasn't impacted the creativity and engineering skills of our students. This expansive dwelling is the result of the Minion Club's efforts to create a safe and sturdy base for its members. I'm really glad that our students are engaging with loose parts and imaginative play as they've all worked together.

Take care,

Rob McArdle
Principal





Handwashing became very scientific last week, when *Mrs Sewell* demonstrated the correct method to wash our hands, using soap or handwash and water, then rinsing and drying well.

A 'magic' blue light detected the areas on the students' hands where the soap and scrubbing hadn't reached.

So it was back to the wash trough where they practised reaching all those tricky little spots.

Washing along to the tune of 'Happy Birthday' or counting to 20 helped to remember how long they need to keep scrubbing for.



Year 6 Newsletter Report by Abbey L and Taylym F

Interviewing Miss Gale

What was your first impression of Pingelly Primary?

I saw it as a lovely small country town school with well mannered students and friendly staff. I also saw it had a good sense of community.

What class do you teach in our school?

I teach a little group of 17 wonderful year one students.

What is the best thing about being a teacher?

Being a teacher is very rewarding when you see their smiling faces.

What is the worst thing about being a teacher?

The work never stops and it takes up a lot of your time at home as well!

Why do you like teaching this class?

I like this class because they are energetic, eager to learn and they all make me laugh!

What classes have you taught before?

I have taught every class from Kindy to year 6 as a relief teacher. Now I'm a full time teacher, my first class was this year one class.

What encouraged you to become a teacher in the first place?

Well, I love spending time with kids and watching them grow and develop and reach their goals!



IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Have you changed your phone number or email address recently?

It is vitally important that we have your latest contact details so that we can keep you up to date with the latest important information.

Please call the front office on **9887 2000** if your details have changed.

TELL US

If you have changed your:

Name, address, phone number, email address, etc.



Walker Learning at Pingelly Primary School

The Walker Learning Approach is a philosophy of teaching and learning that spans from preschool through to the lower, middle and upper primary years. At Pingelly Primary School we are implementing Walker Learning in the Kindy and Pre-Primary classes, to begin with.

The Walker Learning Approach is a pedagogy that underpins everything that happens in a day, a week and a year – and informs every moment of the teacher's intention to teach (planning, scaffolding, modelling, observing and directing). The classroom environment has defined spaces for learning – individual, small group and large group – that have all materials, resources and equipment provided. Individual records and observations are taken of the children in relationship to learning objectives and their development. Opportunities for individual interests are provided by the teacher. Positive relationships between students, teachers and families are vitally important.

What does this mean for the Kindy and Pre-Primary classes?

There are some core elements of Walker Learning that are being implemented in Kindy and Pre-Primary. These include:

Investigations - a block of time every morning that has hands-on experiences that allow for students to explore previously taught concepts and give students the time and space to explore their interests, that then are used as a springboard into the more formal teaching of the day. Investigations experiences are planned intentionally by the teacher and build on the development of the child, family and community interests and events and school curriculum.

Focus Child - The focus child of the day works with the teacher for a short time – building relationships, consolidating skills and reviewing concepts. The teacher makes notes throughout the day on specific developmental observations – socially, emotionally, language, physical and cognitive domains.

Reporter and Photographer - two children are chosen daily to be the Reporter and Photographer. They are directed by the teacher to a task during investigations and they are required to share during Reflections what they achieved. An example of this may be: Photographer – find and photograph collections of '5'; or the Reporter – report on what happens in the Block Corner during Investigations.

Tuning in and Reflection - Tuning in involves reflection and revision of literacy, numeracy and social intentions for the week; Focus child, Reporter and Photographer tasks and scaffolding in front of the group, and intentional direction to areas of the classroom for learning opportunities. Reflection time is the 'springboard' into formal teaching and includes reviewing tasks by Focus Child, Reporter and Photographer, the teacher modelling skills and concepts from Investigations and acknowledging freebies – children who demonstrated skill or achievement during their learning; followed by resetting the environment for the rest of the day.

What does Mrs Lee think? : "I have found the Walker Learning Approach has enabled me to build really strong & secure relationships with my students. Investigation Time also supports the formal literacy and numeracy lessons that occur during the rest of the day, as the children love to repeat and practice newly learned skills and knowledge, and share their learning with others.

What does Mrs Bassett think? : "The Walker Learning Approach allows the students the time and space to explore their interests and practice their skills in fun and enjoyable experiences. The students settle quickly into Investigations and are demonstrating their skills through playful learning. Their engagement in the activities and their growth in developmental domains is evident."



UNIFORM SHOP

is currently closed. If you require uniforms - or want to place an order, please phone 9887 2000

LUNCH ORDERS

Commencing on Thursday, 26th March 2020, parents / caregivers will need to directly place lunch orders by contacting Arola's Café on 9860 6808. For the interim, the school will no longer be handling lunch order forms and money.

SCHOOL DROP OFF AND PICK-UP

School drop off commencing on Thursday 26th March:

Parents / caregivers will be required to drop off and collect their children from perimeter gates. We are respectfully asking that for the foreseeable future, parents / caregivers refrain from entering classrooms and offices. We acknowledge that this may cause some distress for your children, however staff will be posted at perimeter gates to assist.

Following from this, in the event that your child needs collecting early, please phone the office and we will arrange for your child to be brought to you. Additionally, please do not visit the office, rather make contact via phone 9887 2000 or email pingelly.ps@education.wa.edu.au

LIBRARY NEWS

Most Pingelly PS students will be very familiar with the book 'The Magic Faraway Tree' by Enid Blyton. We have a Faraway Tree in the corner of our library and some classes have been listening to the story during their library time each week.



If your children would like to continue listening to the story...or if you would like to introduce the audiobook story (read by Kate Winslet), then follow the YouTube link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2M2CeZO-XU>

or search "The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton You Tube".

Happy listening!

NUMBAT NEWS NEWSLETTER

Over the past few years Pingelly PS has been working towards a totally paperless newsletter. This year we have managed to reach all of our school student families electronically, but have still printed a few copies for distribution around town for the town community.

This week the decision has been made not to place any paper copies out in the community. If you hear of anyone who would like to read the 'Numbat News' please direct them to our web page www.pingellyps.wa.edu.au or our Facebook page 'PingellyPS'

DAY	DATE	EVENT CALENDAR
Thursday	April 9	Last day of term 1
Tuesday	April 28	First day of Term 2