



NEWSLETTER

1ST DECEMBER 2023 #8

Email: walkaway.ps@education.wa.edu.au

WHAT'S COMING UP IN DECEMBER

7TH END OF YEAR CONCERT

8TH BOOKLISTS ORDERS DUE

10TH P&C XMAS TREE

13TH LAST DAY OF TERM FOUR

WHAT'S COMING UP IN JANUARY

24TH OFFICE OPEN 8-4PM

25TH OFFICE OPEN 8-4PM

26TH AUSTRALIA DAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

31ST FIRST DAY OF TERM ONE FOR
STUDENTS (PP-YR 6 ONLY)

Welcome to

KINDERGARTEN

Kindy Days for Term 1 & 2
Monday & Tuesday
Starting 5th February



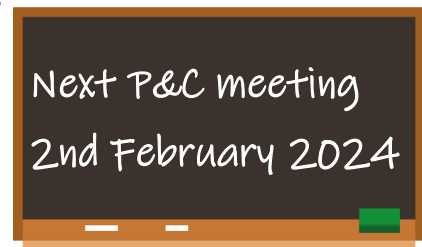
Student Progress

As we approach the final weeks of the school year I am reminded as I read student reports of how much we fit into a year at school. It is pleasing to read about the progress that students have been making across many learning areas as well as their social and emotional development. For some students this has included overcoming some challenges and working towards personal learning goals. I commend students and teachers on the hard work that goes into the year-on-year progress that we can see clearly in end of year assessments. I also want to acknowledge the families who work with us to support their child's education. We appreciate the effort that families make to ensure that their children are prepared for school each day, that they have adequate sleep, good nutrition, structure and routines that support learning, feel loved and that the values of the home mirror the values and expectations upheld by the school and community. Without this support from you children can find the transition from home to school tricky and this impacts on their learning. So thanks to those of you who support your children in this way.



School Board and P&C 2024

Organisations like the school board and the P&C make up the foundations that uphold the school vision and values and they are a great way to be actively involved and contributing to your child's education. I have very fond memories of my time as a parent on the P&C at Watheroo Primary School when my own children were younger, and I am now involved as a boarding parent representative and as my youngest child approaches the end of his schooling I reflect back on the wonderful people I have come to know and the enjoyment I have had from being part of these communities. Similarly with the school board I would encourage people to consider nominating for a position when the time comes in 2024.



NCVISSA Swimming

Congratulations to all those students who competed in the NCVISSA Swimming Carnival last week. Well done to Caitlyn Naisbitt, Mikayla Cole and Emma Thomas on their age group championship success. Thank you to all the parents who came along – Walkaway had by far the best cheer squad out of any of the towns on the day! With the summer holidays approaching I hope that more of our families take advantage of the facilities in Geraldton and the lessons on offer. Next year the Department has reduced the in-term swimming programs from 10 lesson per students to 8. This will mean that we will have swimming lessons for only 4 days in March. Based on advice from swimming instructors we elected to only trial students who had passed Stage 5 at the most recent swimming lessons, unfortunately that was only 18 students out of 32 students in year 3-6. I would like to encourage you to consider accessing swimming lessons or taking your children to the pool yourself to help your child to improve their swimming ability so that we can increase the number of competitors in 2024.



Please let us know if you will not be returning in 2024

What are your
PLANS



With the school year almost complete we have been working on planning and budgeting for 2024. It is really important that we have an accurate picture of our enrolments for 2024. If you are not intending to return to Walkaway in 2024 or there is some uncertainty around your plans for next year please drop me an email and let me know what your circumstances are.

norah.flanders@education.wa.edu.au

Walkaway Principal 2024

As most of you will be aware I will not be returning to Walkaway Primary School in 2024. I have accepted a position at home in Mingenew as the Mingenew Primary School Principal. While I am looking forward to the much shorter daily drive, I am sad to be saying goodbye to the staff and students at Walkaway. The school is a hidden gem on the edge of Geraldton and a place that provides a nurturing and calm learning environment for staff and students. The Department of Education, via the Midwest Regional Education Director (Mrs Lisa Criddle) are currently working towards appointing the next school leader, who I am certain will enjoy Walkaway as much as I have. As soon as this process has been completed and approved, I will inform the community and can start planning for a positive handover so that this person gets the best start possible.

Christmas Concert & End of Year

Students and teachers are currently preparing for the end of year concert (Thursday 7th December at 9:00am). We are all looking forward to celebrating the achievements of students as well as saying farewell to the graduating Year 6 students and some of their families who have been part of our school community for many years. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the concert. Please remember to bring your chairs and your cheers.



Kind regards,

Norah Flanders 

Principal



GRADUATION & END OF YEAR CONCERT



Undercover Area on Thursday 7th December

Please be seated for a 9am start



Please BYO chairs

Reserved seating will be provided for the families of Year 6 graduates



The P&C will be providing tea and coffee and ask if you could kindly please bring a plate of morning tea to share.



LAST CHANCE to help out our P&C Fundraising efforts for 2023!

The P&C will be selling raffle tickets for a pushbike at the Graduation and Concert. Don't forget to bring some change.

Tickets: \$2 or 3 for \$5

Thank you Lara Dalton MLA for your generous bike donation and to the families of Walkaway Primary School for your continued support throughout the year.

We hope to see you there!



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of WA (Inc.)

ICPA^{WA} *Your* **Voice for**
Regional Education

ICPA WA supports families to access education at all levels from Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary through to Tertiary

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Who we represent:





- Regional primary and secondary schools
- Distance Education / School of the Air
- Small rural and remote schools
- Government and Non-Government
- TAFE and Apprenticeships
- Agricultural Colleges
- University

We assist with:

- Information & Communications Technology
- Tertiary Access & Accommodation
- State and Federal Allowances
- Early Childhood Education
- Special Needs Education
- Boarding Facilities
- Teacher Training
- Student Travel

Help us by adding your voice to our Membership
To join
<https://icpa.com.au/wa>

Like us on

The work we are doing is for the COUNTRY KIDS of OUR COUNTRY

Walkaway Tennis Club in conjunction with Walkaway P & C Association is proud to host the Annual

Walkaway Christmas TREE

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO TOWN !!!!!??



SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH
**** All Welcome ****

Venue : Walkaway Community Hall
Time : 4.30-9pm
(tennis starts at 6pm for anyone wanting to join in prior)
RSVP via the Facebook Event Page
NO BYO - Bar Open
Burgers and Sausage Sizzle on Sale

Santas little Helper Gift to be delivered to the Walkaway Store prior to Event

2024 UNIFORM ORDERS

Due by Tuesday 5th December



Term 4 2023 Planner FOCUS: Kindness our Community

WK	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
9	4	5	6	7 End Of Year/ Graduation Concert AM	8	9	10 P&C Xmas Tree
10	11	12	13 LAST DAY of SCHOOL! <small>HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!</small> For students	14 School Development Day	15 Office Open (am only)	16	17

2024

Term 1 2024 Planner

Welcome to

KINDERGARTEN

Kindy Days for Term One
Monday & Tuesday

	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN		
	January 24 Office Open 8-4pm	25 Office Open 8-4pm	26 AUSTRALIA DAY Public Holiday	27	28		
1	29 Office Open 8-4pm	30 Office Open 8-4pm	31 STUDENTS BEGIN	2 P&C Meeting 10am	3	4	
2	5 	6 	7	8	9	10	11
3	12 	13 	14	15	16	17	18
4	19 	20 	21	22	23	24	25