

SCHOOL WANGGA

School

Talk

We are committed to quality teaching, high expectations and success for all students.

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Principals Message

We have had several visitors to the school in these first three weeks with our secondary students being well supported by SIDE teacher visits and Regional Learning Specialists. DBCA (formerly Parks and Wildlife) have also been working alongside primary classes and beginning to build up the Year 7/8 Turtle Camp that is happening at the end of the year.

Our ANZAC Day ceremony at the school was very moving with its relocation to the lower oval and thank you to **Mrs Jennifer Conwell** for coordination of this with our Student Councillors.

Our first assembly is next week and will be hosted by Room 4 and looking forward to families visiting their child's class after this. It may be an opportunity to read with your child to tick of one of the **100 Nights of Reading** that has only recently been introduced.

I am aware that several excursion notes have also been distributed in this last week including the year 5/6 Camp, Career Expo for our year 9-12 students in Karratha, School Choir performance at the Elders Moring Tea and the Science On-Country learning at the termite mounds.

A big thank you to the **P&C and Ms Jackie Bickendorff** for their planting of the school garden. We are looking to open the school garden in the morning for students to come and help with weeding and other general maintenance. More information to follow.

Lisa Campbell

At Onslow School we acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which our students lie and are educated. We acknowledge and understand that Elders, parents, families, and communities are the first educators of their children, and we recognise and value the cultures and strengths that our First Nations people bring to the classroom.

Secondary Teaching Team

Our secondary teaching team has expanded in the last two years with ongoing shifts to accommodate the increase in student numbers. Currently, 54 secondary students are enrolled with a structure of Year 7 - 8, Year 9 – 12, and Future Pathways classes.

School of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) support with curriculum delivery and assessment for English, Mathematics, Science, HaSS and Languages. We were fortunate to



have some of the SIDE teachers visit last week along with the Regional Learning Specialist to support our Year 11/12 students.

Design & Technology, Health & Physical Education, the Arts and Career Education being provided by teacher on site.

Our teachers in the secondary are -

Ms Mercedes Ralph Year 7 – 8 Mathematics/Sciences/HPE

Ms Fiona O'Shea Year 9 – 12 English/HaSS/Arts

Ms Danielle Pell Future Pathways D&T, Career Education, Work placement

Mrs Susan Buzan Deputy Principal Year 11/12 mentor

We are very excited by what has been able to be achieved in the last two years to raise the profile of secondary education at Onslow School.

Onslow School Council

The Onslow School Council has filled its membership with the following parent, staff, and community representatives –

Tara Colum (Chair) Adam Conwell (Vice-chair) Danielle Pell (Secretary)

Jess King Amie French Talya Quinn

Suzanne Wilson Tamara Mott Adele Marchment

The School Council is looking to understand what the school community has questions about and to respond to these during the meeting that is happening on the 20 May.

If you have a question for the School Council, please this QR code.

Questions need to be related to programs and school priorities, eg. What is the meaning of the Supportive and Inclusive Environment as part of the 2024 – 2027 Business Plan?

Voluntary Contributions and Charges

A question that is frequently asked, what are the Voluntary Contributions and Charges for.



Voluntary Contributions is allocated to the different budgets for materials, service, and facilities. This includes textbooks, eg. Spelling Mastery, web-based curriculum resources/materials, photocopy materials, computer leases...

Charges is for the extra cost of optional items, eg. school photos, camps, excursions and are costs for which payment is compulsory for your child to participate in the activity.

Voluntary Contributions and Charges are endorsed each year by the School Council and distributed with the Personal Items List at the end of the year.

There is a 27% return rate on the Voluntary Contributions and would hope that understanding how this is an important part of our school budget we can increase this to over 60%.



100 Nights of Reading

In keeping with our commitment to improving our students' reading abilities we have launched the "Onslow 100 Nights of Reading" Challenge. There is an enormous amount of research and evidence to suggest that reading at home with your child every night for 5-10 minutes (depending on your child's age) has a significant impact on your child's ability to read.

Notes have gone home on Monday and information sent to our class parent representatives. To participate in the challenge, each child from Pre-Primary to Highschool will be given a recording sheet. Students who read for 20, 50, 75 and 100 **school nights**, and complete the recording sheet will be recognised and celebrated as they reach each milestone.

All types of reading count in this challenge and all we ask is that you spend 5-10mins each night reading with your child. Here are some at home ideas to bring stories into your routine:

- Have your child tell you a story about the pictures they are seeing.
- Choose a novel or story from your own childhood and read a few pages to your child together before bed.
- Choose some books from the community library to read.
- "Homework" reading counts.
- Tell a story passed down from or about their parents, grandparents, and elders.
- Pick something from the Premier's Reading Challenge List and double up on the rewards!

Things to be aware of:

- this is not a "100 books" challenge and this is opened ended, there is no time limit.
- "Missing" a night will not be penalised life happens, and work commitments are tricky!!
- It's **not** a race, if two three nights per week is what you can commit to then go with that!

Thank you for supporting this whole school initiative.









Dates to Remember

Tuesday 14 May – Karratha Career Expo (Yr.9-12)
Wednesday 15 May – Room 4 Assembly and Open Classroom
Monday 20 May – School Council Meeting
Friday 24 May – Red Riding Excursion (PP-Yr. 3)
Monday 27 May – P&C Meeting
Tuesday 28 May – School Photo Day
Wednesday 29 May – Elders Morning Tea
Monday 3 June – WA Day Public Holiday