



THE CHRONICLE

Wagga Wagga Christian College

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear WWCC Community,

New Beginnings

There is nothing like the nerves felt in the first day at a new school, butterflies in the stomach, sweaty palms, wondering will anyone like me, hoping that you don't do something really embarrassing, or hoping that you have the right books, room, uniforms and so this list goes on! Today was that day for many at Wagga Wagga Christian College. We had 34 new Kindergarten children start - they are all very cute - and many other new students throughout the school. Not to mention a first day for the new Principal! I am very pleased to report that it was a very successful beginning for all concerned and want to welcome all families new and not so new to the Wagga Wagga Christian College community.

A Gift with a serious responsibility

During the first Secondary assembly I was able to share about my educational hero. Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani woman who fought for the right to be educated in a part of the world where women are not allowed to go to school. She is a woman of great courage and tenacity who stood up for what she believed in. It is with this in mind that I encourage all students of Wagga Wagga Christian College to see what we have here as a gift from God. We have a government that funds education, we have the freedom to choose the type of school



To ALL Students Returning to School

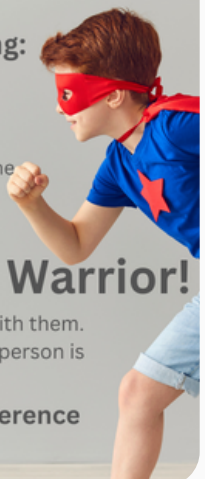
If you see any of the following:

- another student struggling to make friends
- another student being picked on
- a student who is new, shy or not with the "in-crowd"
- a student who is eating lunch alone

Be a Leader! Be a Warrior!

Say hi. Smile to them. Ask if you can sit with them. Include them. You never know what that person is facing inside or outside of school.

Your kindness will make a difference in someone's life.



that we would like to be educated in and we are able to access education regardless of gender. This is often something that we take for granted. This is a blessing (even though going to school sometimes feels like a chore!) and with this blessing comes a responsibility. A responsibility to work hard and make the most of it so we can take the gift that God has given us and use it to help further His kingdom.

Professional Development

To help our students use this gift from God well the staff have undergone some professional development themselves on the Staff Days before students started. We looked at Essential Assessment, Reggio Emilia, FACTS (our Student Management System) and Child Protection training. It was a strong start to the year by our dedicated team.

Principal Drop In

I would love to meet as many parents as possible so if you see me in the playground or the car park please do come over and say Hello! We also have a drop-in time where you can come and have a chat to me without an appointment on Friday mornings from 9:00 to 9:30am.

New Families Welcome Dinner

On Thursday the 1st of February we have a Welcome Dinner for all new families to the College. We hope you can make it and we look forward to sharing with you the vision of the College and how you can partner with us in educating your children. It is also a fabulous opportunity to get to know other parents in the community.

My deep hope for this year is that as a community we can flourish and thrive together as we work out the College vision of In Christ, partnering with families in providing excellent academic and practical education, preparing students to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly before God."

Kind regards,
Mrs Lisa Domicich
Interim Principal

“My deep hope for this year is that as a community we can flourish and thrive together as we work out the College vision”

MRS LISA DUMICICH
INTERIM PRINCIPAL

Prayer Points

GIVE THANKS

- For a new year
- For the appointment of Mrs Lisa Domicich as Interim Principal 2024
- Rest over the Summer break
- Our College!

PRAYER FOR

- Settling of new students, families and staff
- New Families Welcome Dinner this Thursday
- A great year of learning and connection

NEW STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Mr Simon Gellert *Defence School Mentor*

Tell us a bit about your time and experience as a Chaplain and in the Defence world.

I joined the Army Reserve in 2006, I hoped to join as a carpenter as I was already qualified in that area, but the army didn't want reserve carpenters at the time. So I joined the catering corp to learn to feed an army. At basic training I met the Chaplain and asked him what was required to become a Chaplain, he told me a degree in theology and 2-5 years in church ministry. I felt God put his finger on me to leave carpentry and go to bible college, and despite telling God He had the wrong bloke, He won and as a family we moved to bible college to begin studies. Then a few pastoral roles in Baptist churches and a few unexplained delays I moved from cooking to Chaplaincy in 2020.

I enjoy the opportunity this role has in being available to hear people and their struggles and joys, with confidentiality and being able to share my faith in Jesus Christ and experience of God as good and worth following.



Do you have any advice for students/families experiencing change?

Engaging in new relationships can be tough, especially when you may have just left some very good relationships behind, however my experience is that putting effort into building deeper friendships, while risky, has wonderful rewards in the long run. While sometimes relationships are strained and bring pain, God is big enough, and loves you enough, to hear your pain and bring his peace and comfort.

When it feels a bit overwhelming do some breathing exercises and gather yourself. Try to get enough sleep...(I need work in this area too).

What are you looking forward to at the College?

A new role working in a community of people who love God and want to live their lives growing in knowledge of Him and this wonderful world he has created. The clearest picture we get of this wonderful God is in Jesus Christ and His life, teaching death and resurrection. This truth undergirding solid academic education and the opportunity to be part of that is what excites me.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I enjoyed riding a motorbike on the farm we lived on before moving here, but might have to find another outlet. I also enjoy working with my hands, building things or cooking food. And spending time with my family.

Mrs Sarah Gregor

Preschool Educator



My name is Sarah Gregor and I'm so blessed to be joining WWCC as a Preschool teacher.

I completed my bachelor of Early Childhood in 2010 and have been working in the industry for over 13 years.

I love seeing children succeed in their accomplishments, discovering and investigating new things. I am excited to share in children's experiences, see them grow, learn and develop. Being a part of a child's learning is rewarding and developing a trusting and strong relationship with a child and their family is something I believe is important. I look forward to building strong connections and relationships with the children and families and caring for each child as God's unique creation.

In my spare time I enjoy spending quality time with my husband and two children, we enjoy bike riding, playing board games and going on new adventures!

Mrs Erin Harrison

Visual Arts Teacher & Learning Support

Tell us a bit about your time and experience as a teacher/art teacher.

Art is about creative thinking and communication – it's teaching this that I love most. Giving students the skills to share their voice through different artforms whilst showing them the artistic voices and perspectives of others is so valuable and fulfilling.

What do you love most about art?

I've been an art teacher for around 16 years. For 10 of those years I taught at St Philips Christian College on the Central Coast in a K-12 school. For the last 6 years I taught at a specialist school catering for young teen parents. It was teaching in this context that I found my passion for supporting students who have learning difficulties and barriers to their learning.

What about the College have you enjoyed so far and is there anything you're looking forward to?

Wagga Christian College has a beautiful welcoming and Godly atmosphere that is actively fostered by the passionate staff that work here. I am looking forward to being a part of that community, teaching art and being involved in the area of learning support across the school.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time, when I'm not hanging out with my family, I'll be making stuff out of clay, or maybe drawing and doing some watercolours, I've got an unfinished weaving floating around – the options are endless.





PRAYERS & PREPARATION FOR THE NEW YEAR

There is no better way to prepare for the new school year than through prayer. College staff came together for a powerful prayer walk around the College during morning devotions last week, covering every prayer point and every area with blessings.

Last Wednesday saw the return of all staff and included devotions and meetings led by our new Interim Principal Mrs Lisa Dumicich, who introduced herself and expressed her deep hopes for this year.



FIRST DAY BACK!

What an amazing beginning to the school year! Many cheerful faces, enthusiastic parents, and excited staff members. A heartfelt welcome to all the new students joining us; we're excited to get to know you and wish for your smooth transition into our community.

Let's make 2024 a fantastic year!

[SEE THE FULL STORY & PHOTOS . . .](#)



2023 WENT OUT WITH A SPLASH!

It was a hot end to the term and Primary School ended the year with a splash! We held our first teachers versus students water battle, with the students the clear winners and teachers walking away drenched, but we all enjoyed the time to laugh and have fun together.

[SEE THE FULL STORY & PHOTOS . . .](#)



RIVERSIDE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Making a joyful noise, many WWCC music students, from Year 2 recorder players, our very youngest Strings players, percussionists, to our senior musicians, took part in the Riverina Conservatorium of Music Riverside Christmas concert last night. What a wonderful evening of celebration and a testament to much hard work by teachers and students alike. Thank you to the Conservatorium for their partnership with the College and to the many sponsors who made the event possible.

LOVIN' SPORT



LUKE HITS A HOME RUN!

During the Summer break, Luke Anderson, our standout softball player, proudly represented the ACT team at the national softball championship. The competition spanned from January 2nd to 7th, featuring 2-3 games per day. Despite facing some losses, the team showcased exceptional sportsmanship.

A notable moment for Luke unfolded during the match against South Australia. With mere seconds remaining and the team needing 2 runs to secure victory, Luke hit a home run, clinching the win for the ACT and achieving his year-long goal.

Impressed by his skills, the ACT team has invited Luke to continue representing them in the upcoming season and participate in trials for the Under 18s team. If everything goes as planned, Luke will head to Western Australia for the national competition next January!

Well done Luke!

The Board of
Wagga Wagga Christian College



INVITES YOU
to attend the

New Families
WELCOME DINNER

FEB **01** 2024

5:30pm - 7:30pm

An opportunity to learn more about Wagga Wagga Christian College and to enjoy a BBQ dinner together with other families.

Arrive by 5:15pm for fully supervised activities for children (aged 3 years & up) in the TLA (Library Building) for the first part of the evening. Then children will join adults for dinner.

Please RSVP by Thursday 25 January for catering and planning purposes with your child supervision needs & any dietary requirements to Community Relations
community@wwcc.nsw.edu.au

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



WAGGA WAGGA
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

OPEN NIGHT

TUESDAY 5 MARCH
4:30 - 7:30PM

IMAGINE!

PRESCHOOL - YEAR 12

TOURS

OPEN CLASSROOMS

2025 INFORMATION SESSIONS

PERFORMANCES

WWCC.NSW.EDU.AU
401 KOORINGAL RD
WAGGA WAGGA

College Counsellor

• EMPOWERMENT • WELLBEING • AFFIRMATION



How do you feel about returning to school? Name it to tame!

Going back to school after the holidays is a transition that can be challenging to navigate. Perhaps your filled with positive emotions, perhaps there's more hesitation. How would you describe your feelings as we commence term 1 2024?

People can readily identify Happy, Sad and Angry and Pixar's 2015 animated film Inside Out popularised Disgust and Fear to the common palette. But did you know recent scientific studies suggest there are at least 27 distinct emotions that account for the human range of feelings? (1)

Being able to label what you are feeling has been shown to reduce the severity of the emotion and allowing us to work through them and develop skills to deal with them in the future. Labeling the emotion supports moving the feeling from our primitive downstairs brain responsible for feeling (limbic system) to our upstairs brain (pre-frontal cortex) which governs higher order thinking. Giving a name to the emotion takes it from a sometimes overwhelming, unknown feeling, to something with a title and boundaries around it.

Simply put, we name it to tame it.

Sometimes we may need a little help to enrich our emotional vocabulary, so I've included a feelings thesaurus to help us out.

Next time we are experiencing a big emotion remember give it a name using the thesaurus if you need to. After all naming it, tames it.

(1)[How Many Different Human Emotions Are There?](https://www.berkeley.edu)
(berkeley.edu).

the very small Feelings Thesaurus

ANGRY ANNOYED THREATENED FRUSTRATED REPULED AGGRESSIVE OUTRAGED RESENTFUL OFFENDED DISGUSTED FURIOUS	HAPPY OPTIMISTIC GRATEFUL GLAD CONTENT CHEERFUL FULFILLED DELIGHTED SATISFIED JOY SENTIMENTAL	SAD DISAPPOINTED POWERLESS BORED PAIN GRIEF HURT DOWN EMPTY HELPLESS DEPRESSED DISCOURAGED
PEACEFUL CALM TRUSTING SAFE RELAXED BALANCED LOVING NURTURING GROUNDED GENTLE CONNECTED	SURPRISE SHOCKED EMBARRASSED DUMBFOUNDED STARTLED DAZED BEWILDERED AMAZED ASTONISHED TAKEN ABACK	FEARFUL WORRIED NERVOUS ANXIOUS HESITANT CAUTIOUS VULNERABLE FRIGHTENED SCARED OVERWHELMED STRESSED
SHAME LONELY REJECTED ISOLATED HUMILIATED INADEQUATE INSIGNIFICANT JEALOUS IGNORED AWKWARD ABANDONED	EXCITED AMUSED SILLY ENTHUSIASTIC THRILLED ENERGETIC PLAYFUL CURIOUS HOPEFUL HYPER AWE ANIMATED	POWERFUL PROUD COURAGEOUS IMPORTANT BRAVE CREATIVE SUCCESSFUL FIERCE INSPIRED DARING

Whole-school Wellbeing



Whole-school
Wellbeing

Our school is committed to providing a learning community that values and promotes the interconnectedness of wellbeing and academic engagement. This year we are partnering with the Association of Independent Schools NSW, to strengthen our whole-school practices and processes for developing and supporting student mental health and wellbeing.

The AISNSW Whole-school Wellbeing initiative will involve our staff in professional learning focused on developing knowledge, understanding and capacity to further support student wellbeing with an increased awareness of evidence-based approaches that we can apply in classrooms and beyond.

In addition, we will learn from renowned academics and participate in networking opportunities with a diverse range of Independent schools who are also taking part in the initiative.

We are looking forward to commencing the initiative and further developing our school's framework for whole-school wellbeing.

For further information, please contact Geoff McLean, College Counsellor.

**To get in touch with the
College Counsellor**

phone the College on 6923 8888 or
email: g.mclean@wwcc.nsw.edu.au



Come join our warm and welcoming playgroup for fun, stories and craft.
Wednesday mornings term time @ 10 am
St Aidans church hall 62 Coleman st
Ph- 6925 0522
Email- playtime@staidanswagga.org.au





CHURCH COMMUNITIES YOU ARE WELCOME!



Connect online and discover meeting times and more with the following church communities:

