

Week 4, Term 1

Friday 21 February 2025

What are Restorative Practices?

Warami (Hello),

This week at our Meet the Teacher Night, Marion from Real Schools joined us to share the work we have been doing in Restorative Practice over the past 12 months. So, what sets this approach apart? The key distinctions can be summarised in the following categories:

Language

Restorative Practice involves open communication and dialogue among all parties involved in the conflict or harm. It employs informal approaches such as affective language and more structured processes such as restorative circles or conferences, where participants can share their perspectives, express emotions, and work towards mutually agreed-upon solutions. In contrast, adversarial methods typically follow a formal legal process involving courtroom proceedings, lawyers, judges, and prescribed rules. The process is more adversarial, with each party presenting their case and a third party (judge or jury) making decisions based on presented evidence.

THE CHEAT SHEET

1. Restorative practice is an alternative to adversarial methods
2. Focuses on repairing harm and restoring relationships
3. All parties have input
4. Encourages students to take responsibility for their actions

Mindset

In Restorative Practice, the primary focus is on repairing harm and restoring relationships. The objective is to bring individuals impacted by a conflict or wrongdoing together, fostering communication, empathy, and understanding. The emphasis lies in resolving issues collaboratively and instilling a sense of responsibility and accountability. On the other hand, adversarial methods, often associated with traditional legal systems, concentrate on determining guilt or innocence, applying punishment, and upholding societal norms with a primary focus on establishing a winner and a loser through litigation.

Coming Soon at Werrington County PS...

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7	10 Mar	11 Mar	12 Mar NAPLAN Test Window	13 Mar NAPLAN Test Window PLP Afternoon	14 Mar NAPLAN Test Window

Conduct

Restorative Practice engages in conversations where all parties have a say in the resolution process, with decisions made with a focus on repairing harm. Adversarial methods, in contrast, place decision-making in the hands of the authoritarian person, such as a teacher, parent or coach. The process is more formalised and may not prioritise the active involvement of individuals affected by the conflict.

Role of Authority

Restorative Practice serves as a transformative approach, empowering individuals entangled in conflicts to embrace responsibility for their actions and actively contribute to collaborative problem-solving. The role of the authoritative figure in this context is more akin to a facilitator, guiding the process with the intent of fostering open communication and understanding, rather than imposing decisions. In contrast, adversarial methods lean on an authority figure, be it a teacher, parent, or coach, who assumes a disciplinarian role, dispensing punishments in an attempt to elicit behavioural change. This stark contrast highlights the restorative approach's emphasis on shared responsibility and constructive dialogue, while adversarial methods often rely on a top-down enforcement model.

In summary, restorative practices prioritise repairing harm and restoring relationships through inclusive processes, while adversarial methods prioritise legal outcomes, punishment, and a more formalised decision-making process.

NAPLAN (Years 3 and 5)

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake. NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.



NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum. Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 13 March and finishes on Monday 25 March 2024. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week. Last week students in Years 3 and 5 were given information about NAPLAN to bring home, this information was also sent out via our ENews APP.

If you have any questions or concerns about NAPLAN, please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher.

Uniforms

We would like to thank the school community for their support in the change to our new school uniform. We have been overwhelmed by the number of parents eager to purchase the new uniform this year and last year.

This year is the final year of our two-year phase in period. This means that students can still wear our old white shirts or the new navy shirts. From the beginning of 2026, only the new navy shirts and dresses will be able to be worn. Please reach out to the office if you have questions or concerns.



Celebrating Birthdays and Lessons Involving Food

We love to celebrate the birthdays of our students. To ensure the safety of our students and to comply with the Department of Education's Foods in Schools Procedures, last year we introduced some new measures to reduce the risk of allergic reactions.



Birthdays – please send pre-packaged items that are in individual servings, some ideas include: multipacks of Freddos, Lollies, Chips etc or small stationary items like fancy pencils. **Please do not send home made cakes, biscuits etc.** Cooking In Class – all lessons involving food will have a permission note with the details of the food being used.

Congratulations Mrs O'Shea!

During the school holidays Mrs O'Shea and her husband welcomed their baby into their family. Lucas John O'Shea was born on the 3rd January, both Lucas and Mrs O'Shea are doing well.

Yanu (Goodbye)



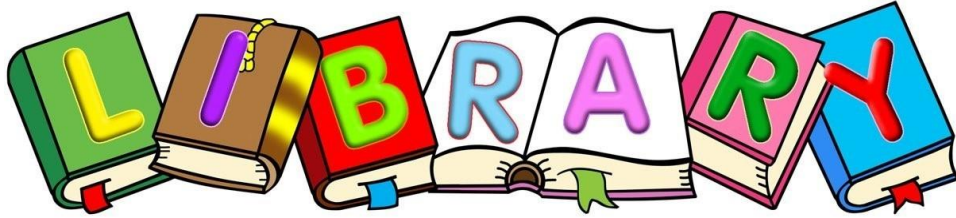
Mrs Belinda Clarke
Principal



Congratulations to our Merit Award Winners from...

Week 4	KLD	KT	K-2K
	Audrey Rosanna Ziggy-Mai Jack	Elayna Kobe John	Wendell Imran
1FD	1G	2B	2K
Leo Lucas Beau Jonah	Billie Aminah Blake Madden	Zayne Thea Jakai Neena	Zora Georgia Temika Ashton
1-6R	3/4R	3/4P	3/4M
Kairon Will	Reagan Quinn Nate	Scarlett Jack William Lily	Kaiden Kendrick Rhianna Norah
4-6G	5/6G	5/6M	5/6ST
Cooper Riley	Imogen Riley Noah Conor	Hayden Hunter Earrin Harrison	Maycee Bentley Riley Mia

Students' names are only included if the school has permission to publish, therefore some classes may only have one or no names listed



Library lessons have now commenced for all classes. Students are encouraged to borrow for personal reading. All students in Years 3-6 will borrow a book that stays at school for quiet reading time. Students wishing to borrow a book to take home need a library bag. Please remember to keep your books in a safe place.

Books that become lost or damaged beyond repair will need to be paid for.



If a book has become damaged, please don't repair it. Just include a note advising me that the book needs repairing, and I will attend to it.

When is my child's library day?

Mon: K-2K & 1-6R
Tue: 3/4R, 5/6G & 5/6ST
Wed: KLD, 1FD, 1G, 2B, 2K & 5/6M
Thurs: KT, 3/4M, 3/P & 4-6G



Thank you, Mrs Baxter
Teacher Librarian, PRC & Book Club Co-ordinator



2025 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

Artwork by Matt Ottley

This year our school has once again decided to register for the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. The challenge is a special initiative to foster a love of literature and to encourage children to read widely for leisure and pleasure.

The challenge for students in **K-2** is to experience 30 books from the K-2 Premier's Reading Challenge booklists by mid-August 2025. You can read these books to your child or the student can read them independently. 20 of the books **must** come from the PRC list. The remaining 10 are free choice.

All students who successfully complete the challenge will receive a signed certificate from the NSW Premier. Our school library has many of the books on the booklists already in the library for the students to borrow. You may also read PRC books that you have at home or that you borrow from the local library.

For students in K-2 who participate at home, I will also be issuing my own incentive certificates once a student has read 10, 20, & 30 books.

All students in Years 3-6 will be completing the PRC as part of their wide reading in class and keep their reading record in the library.

Please note: Students no longer need a permission note to participate in the PRC. However, if for any reason you do not wish your child to participate, please advise the school. The permission note below is for students K-2 who are completing the Reading Challenge at home.

For further information please visit the website. <https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>

I invite all students to take up the challenge as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten permission note is also acceptable. ☺

Mrs Baxter
Teacher Librarian

Mrs Clarke
Principal

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To Mrs Baxter

The following students (**K-2**) wish to undertake the Premier's Reading Challenge **at home**:

_____ (name) _____ (class)

_____ (name) _____ (class)

I understand that it is a condition of entry that students who enter and successfully complete the Challenge will receive an official PRC Certificate.

Signed _____ (Parent/Guardian)

KLD





KT



IFD



IG



2K



2B



Teacher Feature

This week our student leaders got to know a bit more about the 3 new teachers who have joined us at WCPS this year.

Mrs Cotsford

How long have you been teaching? 19 years at Glendenning, Glossodia, Llandilo and now WCPS.

Blues or Maroons? Blues, of course!

Where is your favourite holiday destination? Laurieton on the North Coast of NSW.

Would you rather eat a freeze-dried cockroach or a freeze-dried cricket? A cricket.



Mrs Rooney

Have you worked at any previous schools? Yes, Lethbridge Park and Werrington.

How long have you been teaching? 1 year.

What NRL team do you support? The Panthers.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? Japan.

Mrs Zeeman

How long have you been teaching for and how many schools have you taught at? This is my 7th year of teaching and this is my third school.

Would you rather have 30 million dollars or 30 million friends and why? I would choose 30 million dollars because 30 million friends is too many. I could look after my family and friends.

What was your favourite food as a child? Mangoes.

What NRL team do you support? Panthers.

Did you have any other occupations? I used to be a travel agent.



NAPLAN

National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy Information for parents and carers

- All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in Australia do NAPLAN tests in March each year.
- NAPLAN tests students' skills in reading, writing and maths.
- The test questions are presented in Standard Australian English dialect.
- Students read some of the questions and listen to others with headphones.
- The tests will get easier or harder, depending on how students are going in the test.
- Students do four different tests. The names of the four tests are:



Writing



Reading



Conventions of language
(spelling, grammar and punctuation)



Numeracy

- Students in Year 3 will do the Writing test using pencil and paper. Year 3 students will answer the other test questions on the computer.
- Students in Years 5, 7 and 9 will answer all their test questions on computers.
- Teachers will help students get ready for NAPLAN tests.
- Schools will get their students' results. The school will then give parents/carers a report showing their own child's results.
- Parents/carers can talk to the teacher about these results.
- NAPLAN shows how students are going all over Australia. People who work in the Australian Government, state and territory education authorities and schools use NAPLAN results. The results let them see which schools are doing well and which schools might need help.

Talk to your teacher if you have any questions about your child doing the tests.
For more information on NAPLAN, visit nap.edu.au.



Our School Values and Expectations

We are Curious, Collaborative
and Compassionate

Step 5 Purple Slip				Principal	
Step 4 Red Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 3 Orange Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 2 Yellow Slip				AP Reflection Time	
Step 1 Name on Chart				AP Reflection Time	
Verbal reminder				AP Reflection Time	
Back on track and Chill Zone				AP Reflection Time	
You can turn this around 😊				AP Reflection Time	
Think it through				AP Reflection Time	
Take some deep breaths				AP Reflection Time	
Move on from the mistake				AP Reflection Time	
Time to have a chat				AP Reflection Time	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking when someone else is talking Using the furniture in the wrong way Using equipment in the wrong way Not sitting on the floor correctly Distracting yourself or others Leaving rubbish on the floor 				AP Reflection Time	
Implementation of Berry Street/Bill Rogers Strategies to assist in turning behaviour around. If behaviour is repeated student moves to yellow step				AP Reflection Time	
Throwing objects in the classroom Back chat Not following instructions Not completing your work				AP Reflection Time	
If behaviour is repeated student moves to orange step				AP Reflection Time	
Not following instructions after being asked multiple times Not keeping your hands and feet to yourself Hurting others on purpose Using rude or inappropriate language when speaking to someone Wrong place at the wrong time multiple times, on purpose				AP Reflection Time	
If behaviour is repeated student moves to red step				AP Reflection Time	
Drawing on school or another person's property Hitting, punching or kicking because you want to hurt someone Stealing Repeatedly being disrespectful or disruptive Repeatedly not keeping your hands to yourself Bullying Cyber bullying Racist language Repeatedly using rude words Repeatedly in the wrong place at the wrong time				AP Reflection Time	
If behaviour continues student moves to purple step.				AP Reflection Time	
Continually doing the wrong thing Brought a weapon to school Being physically violent and attempting to harm others				AP Reflection Time	

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Term 1, 2025 Overview

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7	10 Mar	11 Mar	12 Mar NAPLAN Test Window	13 Mar NAPLAN Test Window PLP Afternoon 3.15 – 4pm	14 Mar NAPLAN Test Window
8	17 Mar NAPLAN Test Window	18 Mar NAPLAN Test Window	19 Mar NAPLAN Test Window K-6 Assembly 2.15pm	20 Feb NAPLAN Test Window	21 Feb NAPLAN Test Window Newsletter Day
9	24 Mar NAPLAN Test Window	25 Mar NAPLAN Test Window Try Cricket Day Student Leadership Team Excursion	26 Mar Term 1 Recognition Assembly 2.15pm	27 Mar	28 Mar
10	31 Mar	1 Apr	2 Apr Term 1 Principals Assembly 2.15pm	3 Apr	4 Apr P&C Colour Run Newsletter Day
11	7 Apr	8 Apr Easter Hat Parade 9.30am	9 Apr	10 Apr	11 Apr ANZAC Service Last day of Term 1
Term 2 Week 1	28 Apr Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today.</i>	29 Apr Staff Development Day <i>Students do not attend school today.</i>	30 Apr	1 May	2 May 3-6 Cross Country
2	5 May	6 May Mother's Day Stall	7 May 3-6 Cross Country Back Up Date K-6 Assembly 2.15pm	8 May	9 May School Photos Mother's Day Afternoon Tea 3.15-4pm Newsletter Day
3	12 May	13 May	14 May	15 May	16 May
4	19 May	20 May Try League Tag Day	21 May Zone Cross Country K-6 Assembly 2.15pm	22 May Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.30 to 8pm	23 May Newsletter Day