



NEWSLETTER #1

Principal's Message

Welcome Back Everyone!

Welcome to the 2026 school year at East Waikiki Primary School. It has been wonderful to see our classrooms come alive again with happy, smiling faces, and to warmly welcome new families joining our community this year.

The beginning of the school year is an important time for building friendships, establishing routines and getting to know the teacher. This year we welcome some new staff, say goodbye to Mr Seiber and wish Mr Abel, Mrs Holland and Mrs D'Cruz all the best with their well deserved leave for 2026.

In 2026, we will be sending home a paper newsletter in the first week of each term. This newsletter will include key school updates, important dates and upcoming events, as well as celebrations and highlights from the previous term. We hope this helps families stay informed and connected with school life. A copy of this newsletter can also be found on our school's website.

We are also excited to continue building on our strong relationships with our community. This year, we are planning an End of Year Concert, which may be combined with our Book Award Ceremony in Term 4, creating a special opportunity to celebrate student achievements together. Please note that for Term 4 events we have included back up dates, as this time of year can bring unpredictably warm weather. If temperatures are forecasted for extreme heat, we may move events to the scheduled back up date to ensure the comfort and safety of everyone.

We have already enjoyed a wonderful start to the year with our Community Afternoon to celebrate the new playground, which provided a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and welcome new faces into our school community. Thank you to our hardworking P&C and staff for hosting and organising such a successful and welcoming event.

We look forward to working in partnership with you throughout the year continuing to ensure we provide a respectful and caring environment where our children can grow with confidence. Lastly, don't forget we have our Breakfast Club on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, starting from 8am-8.30am.

Kara Larsen
Principal

Important Dates

Term 1

Term Dates: Monday 2 February to Thursday 2 April

Monday 2 March - Labour Day
Tuesday 3 March - School Photos
Friday 6 March - School Photos
Wednesday 11 March to Friday 20 March - NAPLAN
Thursday 26 March - Harmony Day
Friday 3 April - Good Friday

Term 2

Term Dates: Monday 20 April to Friday 3 July

Friday 24 April - ANZAC Ceremony
Monday 27 April - ANZAC Public Holiday
Tuesday 28 April - Pupil Free Day
Wednesday 6 May - Parent Interviews (early finish for students).
Tuesday 12 May - Book Fair
Thursday 14 May - Walk to School Breakfast
Monday 1 June - WA Day Public Holiday
Thursday 25 June - EWPS Cross Country
Friday 26 June - National Sorry Day

Term 3

Term Dates: Monday 20 July to Friday 25 September

Monday 3 August - Pupil Free Day
Friday 28 August - Book Week Dress Up Assembly
Thursday 10 September - RU Ok Day
Tuesday 15 September - Athletics Carnival - Jumps and Throws
Wednesday 16 September - Athletics Carnival Years K to 2
Thursday 17 September - Athletics Carnival Years 3 to 6

Term 4

Term Dates: Monday 12 October to Thursday 17 December

Monday 12 October to Friday 23 October - Swimming Lessons
Monday 26 October - Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 17 November - Parent Open Night
Friday 11 December - Book Awards Assembly and End of Year Concert
Monday 14 December - Kindergarten Concert
Tuesday 15 December - Back up day for Book Awards
Wednesday 16 December - Year 6 Graduation and Big Day Out



Classes for 2026

Kindy Room 3 - Ms Kelly Graefe
Kindy Room 4 - Ms Jo Bailey
Pre - Primary Room 1 - Ms Tina De Sousa
Preprimary Room 5 - Ms Sarah Murray
Year 1 - Room 7 - Ms Kirsti Bell
Year 1 - Room 8 - Mrs Abnash Kour
Year 2 - Room 9 - Ms Mandy Jones
Year 2 Room 10 - Mrs Natalie Richardson
Year 3 - Room 11 - Ms Daele Thomas
Year 2 / 3 - Room 12 Mrs Emily Van Der Merwe
and Mrs Yvonne Britton
Year 3 - Room 14 - Mrs Rae Klinck
Year 4 - Room 15 - Ms Deb Peters and
Mrs Chantelle Ridgwell
Year 4 - Room 16 - Mr Joel Matthews
Year 5 - Room 17 - Ms Marcella Robinson
Year 5 - Room 18 - Mrs Jade Staker
Year 6 - Room 21 - Mrs Ashleigh Hegarty
Year 6 - Room 22 - Mrs Nicole Godden

Specialist Classes

LOTE/Noongar - Mrs Amy Stephen
Performing Arts - Ms Jo Biscoe
Science - Mrs Wendy Kay
Physical Education - Mr Connor Chin

AIEO - Mrs Crystal Webb

Student Wellness - Ms Sarah Puok

Meet our New Education Assistants

Jullie Blachford
Ashlee Hogermeer
Shane Skennerton
Bradley Tunbridge

Meet our New AIEO



Crystal became our new permanent AIEO in term 4 2025. Crystal is located in the Moorditj Mia room (rm19). She is looking forward to hosting a parent morning tea each term to strengthen the connection between home and school. You may also know Crystal as the president of our P&C.

Uniforms - Can you help us?

Can You Help!

We would greatly appreciate any donations of old uniforms that are still in wearable condition.

Meet our New Staff



Mrs Natalie Richardson

Hi, I'm Miss Richardson—aka Miss Rabbitson! 🐰

I'm originally from the UK and recently hopped over from Melbourne to Perth so I could be closer to the beach. I've been teaching for 15 years, predominantly working with lower primary students creating a warm, fun, and engaging learning environment.

At home, I share my space with three adorable bunnies: Dumpling (Mum), Chopstixx (Dad), and Chai (Baby)! I'm passionate about colour, creativity, and fun, and I'm a huge fan of the artist Kasey Rainbow. When I'm not teaching or spending time with my bunnies, I love enjoying delicious food, watching sunsets and relaxing in the spa. I can't wait to share a colourful, exciting year of learning and adventures with all of you!



Mrs Nicole Godden

My name is Nicole Godden, and I am pleased to be the Year 6 teacher for Room 22 and to be joining the East Waikiki Primary School community. I bring 15 years of teaching experience, primarily in upper primary, including a short time as a Deputy Principal, and have worked across several schools within the local area throughout my career.

I have a strong passion for HASS and, over the past two years, have also become a Literacy specialist, a role I am very much looking forward to continuing at East Waikiki. Having grown up, lived, and raised my own family in the Rockingham area for over 30 years, this community is very close to my heart.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family, going camping on weekends and during holidays, and escaping into a good book.

Meet our Student Leaders

Head Councillors - Tupou Niupalau
Ella McShane

Student Leaders - Nathan Weston
Natahlia Pink
Leyton Tartano
Teagan Iddon
Alexandra Oldroyd
Monica Greenaway

Faction Captains - Ariana Perry
Isaiah Debellaire
Ruby Shaw
Kaiden Surman

Important General Reminders

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Routines

To help ensure a safe and smooth start and end to each day, we ask families to please wait outside the classroom at drop-off and pick-up times.

If you are using the Kiss and Drive, please be courteous to cars behind you. If your child is not waiting at the pick-up point when you arrive, kindly continue through the drive through and rejoin the line rather than waiting, as this helps keep traffic flowing safely for everyone.

Please note that Kindergarten and Pre-primary students must be collected by a parent or a designated adult.

If You Are Running Late

If you are running late to collect your child, please phone the front office as soon as possible to notify the school. Administration staff will endeavour to pass messages on to students however, if messages are received close to home time, this cannot be guaranteed. Your support in keeping us informed is greatly appreciated.

We encourage you to discuss with your child, in the event they can't find you to come straight to the front office.

School Uniform

Wearing the school uniform is an expectation at East Waikiki Primary School and is an important part of our school culture. Our school uniforms allows for easy identification of EWPS students and creates a strong sense of belonging and pride within our community. Please ensure your child is wearing the full school uniform, including appropriate footwear that allows them to safely participate in play and Physical Education activities.

For safety reasons, jewellery should be limited to stud or sleeper earrings and a watch. Medical alert jewellery is permitted. If your child wears jewellery of cultural significance, please email your child's teacher and the school office to inform staff of its importance. Necklaces, rings and bracelets can pose safety risks or be easily lost or damaged, so we ask that these are kept for out of school times.

If your child has outgrown their uniform, we would gratefully accept any donations at the front office.

Communication with the School

If you have any questions or concerns, we encourage families to speak with your child's teacher first, as they are best placed to support classroom matters.

School-wide and class information is often shared via SMS. If your child is absent, you will receive an SMS notification—please follow the link with the reason for your child's absence, contact the front office, or email your child's classroom teacher.

SunSmart: Hats and Water Bottles

As we are currently in the warmer months, it is essential that students come to school each day with a hat and water bottle. Staying well hydrated and protected from the sun supports students' health, wellbeing and ability to learn. Thank you for helping us keep all students SunSmart. Each class has sunscreen that your child may use at their convenience.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is essential for student learning and wellbeing. Consistent attendance helps children build strong routines, maintain friendships and feel a sense of belonging at school. Even small amounts of absence can have a significant impact over time — for example, missing one day of school each fortnight equates to approximately 10% of a child's education.

If your child is absent, parents are required to notify the school as soon as possible by following the link in the SMS sent by the school, contacting the front office, or emailing the classroom teacher. If a child is not in attendance and the school has not been notified by 9:00am, parents will receive an SMS requesting the reason for the absence to support student safety and accurate attendance records.

Medication at School

If your child requires medication during the school day, parents must contact the front office and complete the required Medication Authorisation forms before any medication can be administered. All medication must be provided in its original packaging, with the child's name, dosage instructions and expiry date clearly labelled. Parents are responsible for ensuring medication is prepared correctly, including cutting tablets where half doses are required. These procedures help us ensure the wellbeing and safety of all students.

OUR COMMUNITY AFTERNOON

