



# White Gum Valley Primary School

## Information Booklet 2024

### Pre-Primary to Year Six



*As a Water Wise School, we encourage the use of re-usable containers to reduce plastics waste*

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# OUR VISION

**‘The empowerment of students to meet the challenges  
of a rapidly evolving world.’**

**‘The valuable contribution of the community to  
support student learning.’**

**‘The need for students to respect themselves, others,  
the school and the wider community.’**



**‘The provision of a safe and supportive learning  
and working environment for all students and  
staff.’**

**‘The recognition and celebration of diversity and  
differences in our society.’**

**‘The need for students to grow academically,  
socially, emotionally, physically and creatively in a  
positive and enjoyable and inclusive learning  
environment.’**

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Office Hours and Contact Details

### Office Hours

Monday to Friday  
8am to 4pm

### Address

29 Hope Street  
White Gum Valley WA 6162

**Phone** (08) 9435 6900

**Email** [whitegumvalley.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:whitegumvalley.ps@education.wa.edu.au)

**Website** [www.whitegumvalley.ps.wa.edu.au](http://www.whitegumvalley.ps.wa.edu.au)

### Useful Numbers:

**Education Security:** 9264 4632

**Dental Therapy Unit:** 9335 8758

**Hazel Orme Kindergarten:** 9335 2857

**Horizons Before and After School Care:** 9433 3911

## USEFUL INFORMATION

### School Banking Details:

**BSB:** 066 107 **Account:** 0090 1498

**Name:** White Gum Valley Primary School

**Bank:** Commonwealth Bank

**Ref:** Student Surname

### Term Dates 2024

**Term 1** Wednesday 31 January to Thursday 28 March

**Term 2** Monday 15 April to Thursday 27 June

**Term 3** Monday 15 July to Friday 20 September

**Term 4** Tuesday 8 October to Thursday 12 December

### Staff Professional Development Days:

**Term 1** Monday 29 January and Tuesday 30 January 2024

**Term 2** Friday 28 June 2024\*1

**Term 3** Friday 16 August 2024\*2

**Term 4** Monday 7 October and Friday 13 December 2024

**NOTE:** Students do not attend school on these days.

\*1 Last Day of Term 2

\*2 Network Conference for Schools

### Hazel Orme Kindergarten

Hazel Orme Community Kindergarten is located on Samson Street, White Gum Valley. The kindergarten is a community based, community run and partially community funded educational facility for Kindergarten aged children, offering a combination of half and full day programs. A parent information booklet is available from the office. The contact number is 9335 2857.



# About Our School

Kaya! Welcome!

Our school has a long and valued history reaching back to its establishment in 1901, and your involvement in our future is welcomed. We are heading into our 123rd year of providing education and a sense of community to the students and families of White Gum Valley.

White Gum Valley Primary School is ideally located in the area of Fremantle. With its country look, historic buildings and community atmosphere, the school prides itself as both environmentally and historically aware. We are proud of our incredible grounds, which includes areas for play, events and reflection.

These grounds include:

- our green space for athletic carnivals, lessons and daily play
- a range of sustainable native plants in our Centenary Garden
- our variety of interactive stations in our Sensory Garden
- the Koolbardi-Waardong Garden with our 12 stepping stones relating to each Noongar season

Our area has a rich and important history, as it was once an important meeting place for Aboriginal people and has provided a welcome community for immigrants from post-World War countries such as Italy. Today, it is a popular area due to its close location to downtown Fremantle.

White Gum Valley Primary School provides an engaging and warm environment to encourage students to reach their potential and become confident and happy citizens. Our motto, *Take Pride (Woomboodin Kadak)*, encourages students to do their best and take pride in their efforts across all learning areas. As a school, we teach and model to our students how to be Respectful, Organised and Safe, as these form our three behaviour expectations that we follow from Pre-Primary to Year Six.

Our members of staff are a compassionate, capable and devoted team, dedicated to the welfare of our students. We celebrate the diversity of our student body and pride ourselves on being an inclusive school with the enrolment of children from a range of learning contexts.

We offer several specialist programs including Italian, Music, Physical Education and Art. We participate in interschool sport, various competitions both locally and within our district, as well as an assortment of exciting incursions and excursions with authentic links to our learning programs.

We integrate technology into our classes and learning activities via banks of laptops, iPads and interactive whiteboards. We make environmentally friendly and sustainable approaches a priority in our school via many different avenues:

- installation of 6kw solar panels
- water saving devices
- harvesting rain water for toilet usage
- energy efficient lighting
- Nature Play areas
- green wall gardens
- recycling bins for paper, phones, batteries, cans and cartridges for the school community

We believe that every student and their family helps to build the wonderful and unique culture of our school, and we cannot wait to welcome you to our community.



# General Information

## **ABSENCES**

The Education Act requires that children who are absent for any period of time must notify the school with an explanation of the absence. We prefer explanations to be written or emailed, but if this is not possible a phone call or verbal message to your child's teacher is sufficient. Parents are requested not to send sick children to school, for the sake of their health and that of other children. Notes are sent home regularly if there are unexplained absences. Parents can advise school of absences by calling 9435 6900 or using the online absence form on our website.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

Schools produce an Annual Report outlining their achievements for the year. A copy is placed on the School website. A copy is also produced for the Department of Education's Schools' Online Website. [www.education.wa.edu.au](http://www.education.wa.edu.au)

## **ASSEMBLIES**

These are held on Thursday mornings, approximately every 3 weeks in the covered assembly area at 8:50am. They last for approximately 30 minutes and include an item, school reports, as well as the presentation of certificates and awards.

## **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE**

Horizons Childhood Learning Centre offers Before and After School Care located on the White Gum Valley Primary School campus. During the school terms before school care is available Monday—Friday between 7.00am—8.45am and after school care is available Monday—Friday between 2.30pm—6.00pm. Horizons Childhood Learning Centre also offer vacation care. For further information, please call 9433 3911 or email: [Southfremantle@horizonschildcare.com.au](mailto:Southfremantle@horizonschildcare.com.au)

## **BELL TIMES**

The school start time is 8.50am. The day concludes at 3.00pm. Recess is between 11.10am-11.30am and lunch is between 1.20pm-2.05pm.

## **BOOKLISTS**

A list of recommended items is issued at the end of each year for the following year from Pre-Primary to Year 6. Our school uses Champion Education. However, parents can access any bookseller, but it is important to note that some workbooks may not be readily available everywhere. The personal items booklist from Champion has to be returned during Term 4. Items can be picked up at the end of January from the school library.

## **CANTEEN**

The P & C operates our school canteen with Bev as our manager. The canteen is open on Wednesdays and Fridays each week. Lunch orders are required to be placed at the canteen before school. The canteen sells morning snacks. A summer and winter menu is available. The canteen can only operate with volunteer parent help. Please contact the school if you are able to put some time aside to assist.

## **COMPLAINTS**

The staff of the Education Department will make every effort to promptly resolve enquiries, concerns and complaints, preferably at the local area where appropriate, in accordance with principles of procedural fairness. In the first instance matters should be raised with the teacher and then the Principal.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS AND CHARGES**

At the end of each year the School Board will endorse the Charges and Voluntary Contributions for the following year. These along with the personal items book list will be published to assist parents with budgeting. In accordance with the provision of the Education Act the School Board has set the Voluntary Contributions figure at \$60.00 per child, 3 or more children in one family pay \$50 per child. This is requested via the Personal Items Booklist distributed at the end of the year. Payment is appreciated before the end of Term 1 so that we can maximise the spending of these funds on the current group of students.

## **CUSTODY**

Parents need to inform the school and provide documentary evidence if a child and/or family is subject to any custody or protection arrangements through the court system.

## **DUTY OF CARE**

The school owes a duty of care to students between 8.50am to 3.00pm. This level of care diminishes as the children get closer to home before and after school. Children are not encouraged to be at school before 8.30am or after 3.10pm as supervision cannot be guaranteed. Children are asked to sit at the covered assembly area until 8.45am. Children who stay on the school grounds after school must be under the care of an adult. Students from Pre-Primary to Year 4 if riding, should be accompanied by an adult. It is a requirement that all students wear a helmet.

## **EARLY ARRIVALS**

School officially starts at 8.50am. For Year 1—6 students who arrive from 8.00am, they are asked to wait in the covered assembly area where they will be supervised. Where possible, no children are to be on site before 8.30am unless circumstances prevent them from being there any later. Children are released at 8.45am to make their way to their classroom and prepare for the day. Pre-Primary students must be handed over to the teacher and collected by an adult, unless other arrangements are made. Pre-Primary doors open at 8.45am.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

The school has a policy which deals with emergency situations. The plan outlines procedures to be followed to manage potential situations which may lead to emergencies developing and procedures to be followed both during and after any emergency. The school undertakes evacuation drills. Each classroom has a plan for staff to follow in case of an evacuation or lockdown.

## **EXCURSION POLICY**

The school has a comprehensive excursion policy. No child will be allowed to attend an excursion unless the necessary forms and (if required) money, have been returned to school by the due date. At the end of each year parents are informed of the likely costs of excursions for the following year.

## **FACTIONS**

There are three factions—Green (Challenger/Nodjam), Gold (Parmelia/Yoont) and Purple (Success/Wooyan Mirda). When enrolled, children are placed in a faction depending on sibling or faction numbers. Various school events are organised with a focus on student factions.

## **LABELLING**

All students' clothing and belongings need to be labelled with their name. Ongoing checking on a regular basis is needed as the names do fade with regular washing.

## **LATE ARRIVALS**

All students, from Pre-Primary through to Year 6 are required to be at school in sufficient time to prepare for the school day. Children arriving after the start of class sometimes find it difficult to organise themselves and their equipment if a lesson has already started. Children arriving after the siren require a LATE note from the office.

## **LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS**

Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds unless accompanied by a parent or they have a note from home. Parents needing to take a child out of school during school hours must complete a Department of Education Standard Leave Pass at the office before taking their child.

## **LIBRARY**

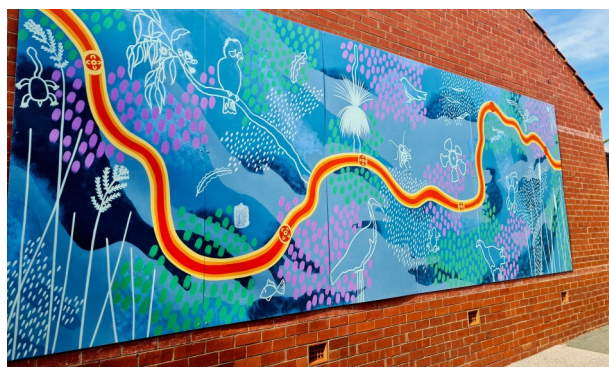
Children have access to our well equipped library. Classes are rostered to borrow books. Each child requires a library bag.

Lost or damaged library books will incur a charge. The library is open each day during the lunch break.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

Lost property that is not labelled is kept in the Music Room. Unclaimed items are displayed and later recycled if owners cannot be found.

Honesty certificates and items not claimed, including money/trinkets/toys, are handed to children who find them after a term.



## **MEETING WITH TEACHERS**

Parents are encouraged to meet with staff to discuss matters concerning their children. Please contact the office to arrange a mutually convenient time. Meetings are usually held during a teacher's release time (DOTT) or at other mutually convenient times. Before and after school meetings are difficult to organise unless prior arrangements have been made. This is particularly so in the mornings when teachers are preparing for the day.

## **MESSAGES FOR CHILDREN**

Parents are requested to limit phone messages for individual students to **matters of urgency** due to our limited number of office staff.

## **MOBILE PHONE**

It is acknowledged that at times access to a mobile phone by students is important to keep in contact with parents. A Department mobile phone policy is in place for students to follow.

### **Procedure:**

Any student requiring a mobile phone at school for afterschool, the parent/caregiver contact must:

1. Abide by this set of rules.
2. Understand that the school is not responsible for the loss or damage of any phone brought to school.
3. Parents to inform the school that their child has a mobile phone at school on a permanent/short term basis.
4. Remember that the phone is not to be accessed by students before/at/after school, on the school grounds.

The school forwards urgent messages during the day to students when requested to by parents. This may help alleviate the need for a mobile phone by some students.

## **MONEY COLLECTION**

**ALL** cash money collection is done via the class teacher, before 10.00 am. The correct amount of money for excursions, incursions etc is to be sealed in an envelope with the permission tear off slip. Please write details clearly on the front (name, room number, amount, excursion/incursion)

## **OR**

alternatively you may pay for excursions or school Voluntary Contributions directly into our bank account:

**BSB: 066 107 Account: 0090 1498**

**Name: White Gum Valley Primary School**

**Bank: Commonwealth**

**Reference: Student Surname & name of excursion/incursion ie. LAP for lapathon**

## **NEWSLETTERS**

A school newsletter is produced fortnightly on Fridays. All families receive a copy via email, CONNECT or the school website. A paper copy is available from the front office. Other notes/letters will come home from time to time. Spare notes are available from the class teacher. In line with current practice, only the first names and year group of students will be used in the newsletters.

## **SCHOOL WATCH**

School Watch is part of the Department of Education's security system. Please report any suspicious activity by calling **9264 4632**.

## **UNIFORM SERVICE**

The P&C operates our Uniform Service with Nina as Uniform Shop Convenor. The uniform shop is open every Monday afternoon 2.45pm to 3.15pm. A uniform order form is available from the front office.

## **UPDATING PERSONAL DETAILS—ENROLMENT INFORMATION**

It is important that these details are kept up to date, particularly phone contacts (including emergency contacts), medical details, address and custody information.



## VALUABLES

From time to time students bring valuables to school to show for 'News' or play with during recesses. We advise children to hand 'News' items to the teacher for safe keeping. Other toys, jewellery, electronic games/equipment should stay at home unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. Please refer to our mobile phone policy on our website for more information.

## INTERNET USAGE

Our school provides access to online services through the Department of Education. These increase the range of teaching tools available to staff and enhance the learning opportunities available to students.

The Department's online services currently provide:

- individual email accounts for all staff;
- access to the internet, with all reasonable care taken by schools to monitor and control students' access to web sites while at school;
- access to the online teaching and learning services such as web-conferencing, digital resources and online learning activities;
- access to online file storage and sharing services; and
- access to Portal services from home if the home computer is connected to the Internet.

Please note that while every reasonable effort is made by schools and the Department to prevent student exposure to inappropriate online content when using Department provided online services, it is not possible to completely eliminate the risk of such exposure.

You should be aware that the Department has the right to review, audit, intercept, access and disclose messages created, received or sent over Department online services. Logs of email transactions and Internet access data are kept for administrative, legal and security purposes and may be monitored. Similar to other corporate records, emails and Internet access records are discoverable in the event of legal action and are subject to provisions of the [Freedom of Information Act 1992](#).

You should also be aware that general internet browsing not conducted via the Department's network is **not** monitored or filtered by the Department. The Department encourages close family supervision of all Internet use by children in locations other than school, and strongly recommends the use of appropriate Internet filtering software. The E Safety Commissioner office has helpful information for families.

## ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USAGE AGREEMENT

If you use the online services of the Department of Education you must agree to the following rules:

- I will ask the teacher first before using the school computer.
- I will not give my password out to others.
- I will not let other people log-on to my account without checking with the teacher first.
- I will tell the teacher if I think someone is using my log-on account.
- I will tell the teacher if I see anything that makes me feel uncomfortable.
- I will only use work from the internet if I have asked the teacher.
- If I download work or pictures from the internet I will say where it comes from.
- I will not give out my name, phone number, address, name of the school, photographs or other details about myself or others without checking with the teacher first.
- I will take care when using the computer equipment and will not change the computer settings.
- I will not use the school computers to be mean, rude or unkind about other people.

I (student) understand that:

- If I use the internet or my log-on account in a way that I shouldn't I may not be able to use these for a period of time.



## ***PUBLISH WORK/IMAGES OF STUDENTS***

We require permission for work and/or images of your child to be taken during school activities and published. Work or images may be used for the purposes of educating students, promoting our school and/or promoting public education.

If you give your permission, we may publish images of your child and/or samples of work done by your child in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, online and printed school newsletters, magazines, reports and other materials; school websites; Department of Education/Government of Western Australia online and printed information; and online and printed external media. If published, third parties would be able to view the photographs and work.

A signed consent form means you agree to:

- images of your child and samples of your child's work being published as many times as required in the ways mentioned above; and
- your child's first name only being published in our newsletter. Family names will not be published unless we seek permission.

Work/images captured by the school will be kept for no longer than is necessary for the purposes outlined above and will be stored and disposed of securely.

Consent will remain effective until such time as you advise the school otherwise.

## **Department Information**

### ***COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES***

The school has formal agreements with Horizons, Playgroup Association and a local music teacher for the use of some of our school facilities. Fremantle Tennis Club also access our courts before school.

### ***DOGS***

Parents are asked **not** to bring dogs onto the school grounds or have them tied at entry/exits before and after school. This is a safety requirement for the well being of our school community. After hours signage outlines that dogs are not to be on the grounds during the school week between 7:30am—5:30pm. Thank you for your understanding.

### ***SMOKING***

Smoking is not permitted on any part of the school grounds as per Department of Education regulations. Unless approval is given, drinking alcohol is also not permitted on the school grounds.

### ***VISITORS***

All visitors to the school must report to the office first, to sign in and out.

### ***WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK***

All adults working with children over an extended period of time including overnight camps, are required to apply for a 'Working with Children Check' card. The application form is available from post offices.

Any parents who may assist in classes or on excursions are required to fill out a 'Confidential Declaration' form which is available from the office.

**Grandparents and other family members are required to obtain a Volunteer Working with Children card before commencing to work with the children.**



# Health and Wellbeing

## ACCIDENTS

In case of accidents parents will be phoned and first aid given to children. If a parent or emergency contact cannot be contacted, a child may be taken to a local G.P or a hospital emergency department. ***It is important that emergency contact numbers are kept up to date.***

## MEDICATION

If a child requires emergency medication or possible treatment for a condition or is to take regular medication at school, the Principal must be notified so that an action plan can be negotiated. The school has a record of each child's medical condition. Please alert the office as needed if the child's medical information needs to be updated. Medical Action Plans are reviewed every 12 months.

## DENTAL THERAPY UNIT

The children are given the opportunity to be enrolled at the Beaconsfield Dental Therapy Unit. Appointments are sent directly to parents to attend as required. The unit can be contacted on 9335 8758.

## HEADLICE

Headlice are often present in school communities. Parents are requested to develop a routine by checking their child's hair on Fridays and treating the hair if necessary over the weekend. The Health Department encourages a 10 day treatment using conditioner. It is important though that the hair is combed with a fine tooth comb during the 10 days to remove any new hatchlings. Students with shoulder length hair should tie up their hair during school hours. Notes are sent home to parents of all students in a class if head lice activity is noticed. Parents can contact the office to pick up Health Department background sheets on head lice. Headlice awareness sessions are run across the school as needed.

## ILLNESS

Children who are not well need to remain at home for recovery and to lessen the potential of other children becoming sick. Children sent to the sick bay will be observed for a short time and parents rung if they continue to be unwell. ***It is important that emergency contact numbers are kept up to date.*** If a child contracts a notifiable disease, such as measles, mumps, whooping cough or Rubella, please contact the school immediately so we can send a note home to the School Community. Further information can be obtained from the Health Department 1800 022 222.

## NUT AWARE

We are a 'Nut Aware' school, so please do not send any food containing peanut butter, nut based spreads or nuts.

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The school has access to a School Nurse, Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer, Chaplain and a School Psychologist. Parents wishing to use these services should contact the teacher or the Deputy Principal. Parents must sign a consent form before the School Psychologist can arrange to work with a child.

## POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOLS

At our school we take pride by being: **Respectful, Organised and Safe**

Our focus on positive behaviour includes:

- Giving Faction cards to students who display R.O.S.
- Having a weekly raffles to acknowledge students who receive faction cards.
- Faction points being awarded to students who have worked towards various goals and rewards.
- Certificates based on R.O.S. as well as "Aussie of the Month" being given out and sent home after assemblies.



### **White Gum Valley Primary School aims to:**

- Create a positive environment within the school and classroom so that staff, students and parents/caregivers can work together.
- Create a caring school environment where the rights and responsibilities of the individual are recognised and respected.
- Recognise those members of the school community whose exemplary behaviour promotes a positive and caring school environment.
- Establish a set of expectations that protect people and property.
- Establish a clear and consistent process that sets out to support students to make positive behaviour choices.
- Offering additional support to students who demonstrate ongoing behaviour challenges.

### ***Preventing and Managing Bullying at White Gum Valley Primary School***

WGVPS believes that the working environment for students and staff should be safe and free from violence, harassment and bullying of any kind. Our safe working environment is outlined in our statements of individuals' rights. Bullying, violence and harassment are not tolerated because they infringe on our fundamental rights to safety and fair treatment. All members of our school community are committed to ensuring a safe and supportive environment where all members have the right to be respected and have a responsibility to respect each other. WGVPS recognise that no two bullying incidents are identical, and a diverse range of strategies may be required.

Incidents of bullying may be managed individually, within a group, a specific class, year level or whole school. WGVPS recognises we need to work in partnership with families to offer our parent/caregiver group support to deal with and effectively manage bullying incidents that their child/ren may encounter or be involved in. We recognise in doing so parents/caregivers may support their child through an incident. Our school Behaviour Management Policy aims to empower our students with the social-emotional skills to deal with conflicts as they arise. This approach is founded on developing a school culture of resilience, acceptance, empathy and tolerance of self and others.

Further information on our Behaviour Policy can be located at <https://whitegumvalleyps.wa.edu.au/information/school-policies/> on our School website.

## ***DRESS CODE***

### **Introduction**

White Gum Valley Primary School has a dress code for all students. This code has been established under the Education Act guidelines, in full consultation with the school community and ratified by the School Board. The policy is reviewed regularly. Acceptance of enrolment assumes an agreement that the enrolling student will dress within the guidelines of the code, including any negotiated exemptions.

The school community believes a school dress code:

- Fosters and enhances the public image of the school;
- Assists in building school and team spirit;
- Ensures students are safely dressed for specific school activities; encourages equality among students.

### **Advice to students on the Dress Code**

Students should ensure that they take appropriate protection from the sun when outdoors.

### **Availability of Dress Code Items**

- Items in the designated school colours may be purchased from any clothing or department store.
- Second hand school clothes will be available at the school.
- Uniforms may be purchased from the P&C Uniform shop at school. These items are: polo t-shirts, shorts, faction t-shirts, zip front jackets, and hats. Skorts are also available for sale.
- Students whose families may experience financial difficulties regarding the purchase of a uniform should contact the Principal to discuss their situation.
- All tops must either be plain (no slogans or multi-coloured designs) or have only the school logo.



## Modifications to the Dress Code

Students who, for religious, health, ethnic or other reasons, wish to modify the school dress code are required to make an appointment with the Principal. Staff will be informed of any student granted a modification to the dress code.

Students not following the dress code will receive:

- Discussion with the class teacher on the benefits of a dress code;
- Discussion with the Principal if necessary on the benefits of a dress code;
- A letter to parents if required;
- Assistance/support in obtaining suitable clothing, if necessary; and
- A pass for an agreed length of time for dress modification.

Students not following the dress code may be denied the opportunity to represent their school at official school activities. These include sporting and social events, and excursions. Students not wearing the approved hats during outdoor activities, including recess and lunch breaks, will be required to remain in designated shade areas.

## Dress Code Requirements

Our school colours are red, white and black

- Red polo shirts with collar, with or without an emblem
- Red coloured zip jacket with emblem
- Red plain tops
- Black shorts
- Black skort
- Black long pants/track pants
- Red and white checked dress
- Plain black leggings can be worn under skorts, skirts and dresses but not as a uniform item by themselves
- School hat with a toggle, wide brimmed hat or legionnaire cap
- Special event clothing (Leavers' shirt /coloured faction shirts)
- Appropriate footwear i.e. no thongs, sandals without backs, Ugg boots

**Jewellery** — Items of jewellery can be easily lost, and are not encouraged at school. Hoop earrings, large necklaces and bracelets are not permitted for safety reasons.

**Make-up** — Make-up is not permitted at school. However, in special circumstances we do make allowances if a child has a skin condition.

**Hats**—The School Board have endorsed the bucket hat, wide brimmed hat and the desert flap hat.





# Programs

## **HOMework**

The school has a homework policy which may involve reading, mathematics, spelling and/or phonic lists as well as consolidating concepts taught in class. The policy was put together with the assistance of the School Board. All children should be encouraged to read at home. From time to time children may have work to complete or a project to do.

Parent support in encouraging children to complete these activities would be appreciated. The school encourages children to enter into a wide range of competitions during the year. A homework policy approved by the School Board is available on the school website.

## **ART**

All children in Years 1-6 have a specialist art lesson once a week. For the protection of their normal school clothes, children are required to have suitable protective clothing. An old adult sized shirt is an ideal item.

## **ABORIGINAL EDUCATION**

Our school has access to an Aboriginal and Islander Education Officer (AIEO) who works with students on Mondays and Tuesday mornings. She supports our Aboriginal students by listening to reading, assisting with writing/maths and checking on homework. Part of the AIEO's role is also to liaise with parents to promote educational opportunities for their students. Staff use the Western Australian Curriculum to enable the delivery of learning area content at the same time as developing knowledge, understanding and skills relating to Aboriginal histories and cultures addressing the Aboriginal Curriculum Cross-Curricula priorities. The school has a RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) in place across the school. This is updated yearly.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC/MUSIC**

Children in Year 5 and 6 who have been identified by a selection test have the opportunity to participate in the Instrumental Music program based at Fremantle College. These children attend one music lesson a week and are given the opportunity to participate in the Junior Band. The School also has a music specialist who undertakes one lesson per week for all students from Pre-Primary to Year 6. Our School uses the Kodaly method of teaching music.

## **LANGUAGES**

Students from Years 1 to 6 undertake one 55 minute block per week tuition in the area of Italian.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Students have access to a physical education specialist for one 55 minute block per week. Each class teacher also provides programming in skills work and fitness for a further hour.

## **PEAC—PRIMARY EXTENSION AND CHALLENGE**

Students in Years 5 to 6 who have been identified by the PEAC testing program in Year 4 have the opportunity to participate in this District run program. Selected students who are exceptionally talented academically can enrol in offered courses. There are 3 course cycles per year.

## **OUR SCHOOL VISION (2023-2025 BUSINESS PLAN)**

White Gum Valley Primary School supports:

- Students to grow academically, socially, emotionally, physically and creativity in a positive, enjoyable and inclusive learning environment.
- Students being empowered to meet the challenges of a rapidly evolving world.
- A safe and supportive learning and working environment for all students and staff.
- Our students demonstrate respect for themselves, others, the school and the wider community.
- The recognition, acknowledgement and celebration of diversity in our community.
- The valuable contributions of our community to support student learning.

Our school has a rich history that we share with our students, as well as a focus on environmental initiatives and an appreciation of the Arts, Information Technology and Physical Education. We actively promote the teaching of higher order thinking skills and various programmes with our students.



## **LEARNING AREAS**

Schools organise subjects under learning areas. There is a requirement that we teach literacy and numeracy for up to 50% of the week and that each child undertakes a minimum of two hours per week of physical education. Other learning areas include: LOTE (Languages other than English), HASS (Humanities & Social Science), science, technology, arts, STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Maths) and health education. Students are given opportunities to develop connections between the different learning areas. Knowledge, skills, understandings, values and attitudes are integrated across all learning areas.

## **CATERING FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS**

With the assistance of our Deputy Principal, School Psychologist, Chaplain and AIEO (Aboriginal Education Worker), our Student Services Team support students with various social, emotional and educational needs. Group and Individual Educational Plans, class support, special needs education assistants and various programmes are implemented to assist with the progress of these students.

Aside from Letters and Sounds, Heggerty Decodable Readers and “Talk 4 Writing”, in 2023, the School introduced Spelling Mastery and Sounds Write for years 3-6.

## **Parent Communication**

The school uses a variety of communication strategies when working with parents.

These include:

- Welcome afternoon in February
- Class meetings and once a term curriculum outlines
- Newsletter emailed and sent through CONNECT each fortnight. Paper copies are available from the front office.
- Formal reports in June and December
- Open Evening in Term 4
- Three weekly Assemblies
- Special events/class activities and excursions
- Annual Report/ Two yearly surveys/ NAPLAN
- School Website/ CONNECT for parents
- P&C/ School Board information [P&C Website]



## **PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

The White Gum Valley P&C Association is a vibrant team of dedicated and inspired parents who volunteer their time to fundraise for the school. They organise a range of interesting fundraisers that have given our school a wonderful community focus.

Our P&C has the following sub-committees—Class Parents; Grounds; Canteen; Diversity and Inclusion; Uniform Service; Social Media; Grants; Sustainability and Fundraising.

## **SCHOOL BOARD**

The School Board established in 2017 undertakes a variety of functions including: reviewing the school Business Plan; Assisting with the evaluation of the school’s performance; reviews our dress codes, student Code of Conduct; school charges; sponsorship agreement as well as promoting the school to the wider community.

The Board consists of five parents and 4 staff members. Meetings are held twice a term and are open to the school community.





*White Gum Valley Primary School kaadatj ali ngalang  
kaadadjiny-miya-p nyin Wadjak Noongar boodja-k.  
Ngalak kaadatj Noongar  
moort wer Birdiya, koora koora, yeyi wer boordakan.*

*White Gum Valley Primary School acknowledges that our school  
stands on Wadjak Noongar country.  
We show respect for past, present and future Elders and families.*