



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to week 4! In this edition, we are focusing on the **Dangers of Social Media.**

Social Media has become a part of life for many of us. I for one am very happy I did not grow up in my teenage years with an opportunity to post publicly everything I did. However, this is exactly what we are giving our students the ability to do when we allow them to access social media. We are asking our children to be responsible online when they have not dealt with being responsible in the real world.

Many social media accounts have an age of access to these sites as being 13 years or above. Legally students should not have an account before this. This also is before we would allow them to do many other things that we would require them to be responsible for. The school has three sites on social media. One public site on Facebook, one private group on Facebook for sharing with families and one Instagram account. If your child is a part of any other group than these three, we would recommend that you monitor these groups as they have no affiliation with the school.

NWCS stance is for students to not have social media in general. This allows a child to learn how to communicate face to face and the school sees less problems spill over into the playground. Most of the problems that I myself have to deal with at school are due to Social Media bullying, that does not actually happen at school. This makes it hard to deal with as words on a screen can be deleted, can be manipulated and can even be read the wrong way. There is no emotion on the screen, and you cannot see the pain it is causing the other party.

Here are some risks and benefits to weigh up when considering if your child is ready for social media.

#### Risks

- Being exposed to inappropriate and upsetting material
- Giving your child the ability to upload inappropriate content (Embarrassing or Provocative photos or videos)
- Sharing Personal Information
- Cyberbullying
- Exposure to targeted advertisements and marketing and data breaches
- A false sense of connectedness (Students can have 1000 friends and still no emotional connection to any of them)

#### NWCS CALENDAR:

FEBRUARY 25  
CCYC

MARCH 23  
7&10 Immunisation Clinic

MARCH 31  
Good Behaviour Day

MARCH 31  
End of Term 1

APRIL 2-4  
Easter Weekend

APRIL 21  
Start of Term 2



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## Risks Cont'd

- A false sense of Confidence (it is easier for students to speak poorly about others if they are doing so through a screen, than they would face to face.)
- Students compare their lives to celebrities and people who are only showing you 'highlights' of their own lives.

## Benefits

- Digital Literacy (Which they learn safely in class)
- Digital Creativity
- Connectedness to extended Family
- Keeping in touch with special interest groups

### **How can I help my child transition into social media use?**

Through use of the school values of Respect, Wisdom, Bravery, Temperance, Justice, Compassion and Service. Through teaching our children these values we can help them to make better choices online.

How to stay safe when using social media?

- Know how to block people on your platform and understand that it is ok to block someone without feeling bad
- Know what a Pop-up is and understand the risks of clicking on them.
- Accept friend requests only from people you know.
- Understand that taking screenshots is ok
- If you are concerned about what you are seeing or being told on social media, please share it with a safe adult.

Understanding the safety aspects of social media will help you and your child to navigate the platforms more effectively.

When we deal with each other online, please make sure we do so with respect, patience, compassion and wisdom. This will help us as a school family to be more harmonious and work together.

"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." Colossians 3:15-16

God Bless,

Brayden Morton

## PRIMARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL AWARDS CONGRATULATIONS!

**Eliza Jeffrey:** being helpful

**Justace Schultz:** showing maturity

**Aalijah Robbie:** amazing work in HASS

**Summer Stichter:** great effort in Maths

**Eomer Caoyo:** rising to the challenge in Maths

### **Great Sentences**

Dason Caperida

Eomer Cayao

Meila Morton

Grace Velde

### **Wonderful Paragraphs**

Starly Ackland

Dason Caperida

Eliza Jeffrey

Grace Velde

Annabelle Orr

Alaska Scheermeijer

Justace Schultz

Summer Stichter

### **Helping Others**

Meila Morton

**Respect** - The following students showed respect to their peers and staff.

Frances Cameron

Jesiah Tuaoi

Dawsyn Latassa

Matilda Vanderwerf

Scott Allen

Elana Tuaoi

Tarkine Stafford

## VALUE OF THE WEEK

This week's value:

**Temperance/  
Self Control**

Next week's value:

**Compassion**

# GENERAL

## Staff Changes

We want to welcome Miss Jenay Menzie as part of the school office team. Miss Jenay will be working on reception as of this Friday 26 February. Mrs Wendy McKay will only be available on Wednesdays and Thursdays if you need to discuss anything relating to fees and other payments. For all other enquiries please feel free to contact us any other time during school business hours.

## Seatbelts & Bus Safety

It has come to our attention that students are removing their seatbelts whilst traveling on the bus. It is illegal to ride on a bus without a seatbelt if one is provided. Our driver will be fined if pulled over. If your child is found not wearing their seatbelt they will not be able to ride on the bus, and any fine given to the driver will be passed onto the parent to pay. Parents please talk to your children about travel safety and wearing their seatbelt on the bus. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Bus Travel

Our buses are currently full. If students are to go home from school any way other than their normal way, we **MUST** have a note or phone call earlier in the day, advising of the change; otherwise the student will be sent on their normal bus. Letting us know also helps other families that may be able to use the service that day. Thank you for your help in this.

## Pickup from school

We thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support with the new arrangements for picking up your children.

## Yr 7 & 10 Immunisations

Thank you to all those parents of Year 7 or 10 student for sending back your forms. If you haven't already done so we ask that you do it promptly. Our immunisation clinic will be happening on Tuesday 23rd March with boosters happening on Wednesday 15th September.

## What should you do if your child has to stay away from school?

It is recommended that if your child/ren are away from school for more than three (3) days that you supply the school with a medical certificate. A written note explaining the reason of why your child is away is also recommended for all other absences that are more than three (3) days.

If your child is absent from school notify the office on the day between **8.30 - 9.00am**. This can be done by phone, SMS or send a note in with a sibling. Alternatively, an absentee form can be filled in on the SKoolbag app. This helps us be more efficient and saves us interrupting your day at home.

# BIBLE CRUMBS

## WHAT IS YOUR VALUE?

*"How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered! I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!"  
Psalms 139:17,18*

I am so excited to see how school makes a concerted effort to drive the importance of our school values. We have seven core values that reveal who we are and what we strive to be in our little corner in Penguin. These values are: Respect, Compassion, Justice, Service, Temperance, Wisdom and Bravery.

It will be my aim to harp on these values during chapel to the point that our students memorise and understand what each value means and how we practice these values as students of North West Christian School.

Having a core set of values is so important. Have you ever stopped to think what your non-negotiable values are? If not, then I'd encourage you to discover them. If you had only two values that you would die for, what are they? As you think about the answer, you begin to realise that there are values that we need to uphold.

There is a story in the Bible where the city leaders try to trap Jesus by asking whether or not the Jews should pay taxes to the Romans since they are the ruling power. If Jesus says yes, then he is a traitor to the Jews, if Jesus says no, then they will report treason to the Romans. But instead Jesus asks them, "who's image is on this coin?". They answer, "Caesar!"

Jesus responds by saying, "Then give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and give to God what belongs to God." The city leaders left in amazement and never dared to ask the follow-up question, which should have been, "Well what belongs to God?" They didn't ask because they knew the answer. The Bible tells us in Genesis 1:27 that we were made in God's image, and in essence, we belong to God.

This is a marvellous thing! The fact we belong to God means that we are valued beyond anything we can try and put a number to. We are so valuable so to Him that He would risk His immortality to die on the cross so that you and I could understand how much we are valued.

I hope and trust that we work together in reminding yourselves, your children, our students that your value is beyond anything that can be numbered and God is always with you.





# eSafety guide

Online bullying can have a devastating impact on young people, whose online life is a key part of their identity and how they interact socially.

Cyberbullying behaviour takes many forms, such as sending abusive messages, hurtful images or videos, nasty online gossip, excluding or humiliating others, or creating fake accounts in someone's name to trick or humiliate them.

Your child may not tell you if they are experiencing bullying behaviour online because of a fear it might make things worse for them or they may lose access to their devices and the internet.

## Signs to watch for

- being upset after using the internet or their mobile phone
- changes in personality, such as becoming more withdrawn, anxious, sad or angry
- appearing more lonely or distressed
- unexpected changes in friendship groups
- a decline in their school work
- changes in their sleep patterns
- avoidance of school or clubs
- a decline in their physical health
- becoming secretive about their online activities and mobile phone use

Check out [esafety.gov.au](http://esafety.gov.au) for options on how to help and please share your concerns with us.



North West Christian School



## Little Learners

### Discovery & Play-Based Learning

For babies to school-aged children  
9:30am to 11:00am  
Every Monday during school Terms



## New Education and Training Requirements for Year 10 Students

Whatever a young person wants to do in life, there is a pathway to take them there. It all starts with education and training. Students now in Year 10 are the first group of young people required to stay in education and training for longer under the Education Act.



Young people with full-time employment (or other specific circumstances) can apply for an exemption, so they can leave education and training early. There are processes to assist young people plan and stay involved in education and training:



Together, these changes will support more students to stay in education and training and achieve qualifications that will improve their life chances and choices. Young people have a wide range of options to meet the requirement to stay in education and training:



To find out more, see:

- [Year 10 Transition Statements](#) explaining how schools help students plan and make the transition to education and training after Year 10
- [Education and Training after Year 10](#) explaining the options after Year 10 and when a young person can leave education and training
- [Anything Can Happen](#) for real stories and videos on Tasmanian education pathways.

