

EastEchoings

Warwick East State School January 2026 Issue #01

From the Principal's Desk

Around the Classes

Welcome to 2026 with Warwick East State School! We trust that all families have had a wonderful break from the school routine, refreshed ready for the 2026 school year ahead.

Many thanks for your attendance at book drop off and the first day of school. It helps a lot with settling our young people in.

I have enjoyed seeing excited students making new starts for the year. They are very quickly settling into school routines with a focus on maximising learning. Well done to staff and parents in their support for transition programs that have enabled smooth new starts.

Last week as I worked with staff in preparation for the year ahead, I was impressed with the commitment of each staff member in ensuring our school is a happy and safe place for students to maximise their learning. It was obvious to me that the staff at Warwick East State School have your children's best interests at the centre of their priorities.



A special thank you to:

- our cleaning and facilities staff – for working hard to get our grounds and facilities ready for the start of school
- our teachers for preparing their classrooms to be inviting and ease students back to school routine
- our teachers who backed up for another PD on the Saturday before school started
- our parents and carers who have ensured that students are ready to learn with their uniforms and school equipment



Got a Concern?

A problem shared is a problem halved.' If you have a concern regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us now that students and staff are settling into routine.

For students, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. For school wide matters, please contact a member of administration through the office.



“Everyday,
Everyone is
Learning to Live
and Living to
Learn”



Students with Allergic Reactions – Being Allergy Aware

We have several students in our school with known severe allergic (anaphylactic) reactions. You can assist by being Allergy Aware.

If your child has an allergy:

- Tell the school about your child's allergies when you enrol them.
- Before your child starts school, give the school a copy of your child's ASCIA Action Plan.
- The ASCIA Action Plan should be completed by your child's doctor or nurse practitioner.
- Meet with the school to talk about what the school can do to care for your child while at school, at excursions and on camps.
- Give the school one of your child's adrenaline injectors (in date), along with any other medication (such as antihistamine and asthma reliever medication).
- Let the school know if your child's allergies change and give the school a copy of the updated ASCIA Action Plan.
- Work with the school to plan for activities that involve food (such as food technology lessons or social occasions) and talk to the teacher who is organising the activity.
- If your child is attending a school camp, talk to the teacher who is organising the camp or activity. Ask them for the contact details of the camp caterer so that you can talk to them about your child's food allergies.
- Teach your child about their allergy. This will depend on your child's age, allergies and abilities.

Children with food allergy need to:

- Learn about the food they are allergic to.
- Learn how to talk with others about their allergies.
- Wash their hands before and after eating.
- Not share food.
- Only drink from their own water bottle.
- Only eat food provided by a trusted adult who knows about their food allergies.
- Tell a teacher if they feel unwell.

Children with insect allergy need to:

- Learn about the insect they are allergic to.
- Learn how to talk with others about their allergy.
- Keep their shoes on when playing outside.
- Be careful when at outdoor swimming events if they do not have shoes on.
- Drink from a container with a lid and be careful if drinking from cans.

If your child does not have an allergy your family can support allergy aware schools in the following ways:

- Help the school look after children with allergies by supporting the ways the school reduces the risk of a child having an allergic reaction.
- Talk to your child about how everyone has different health needs and teach them to be respectful of the needs of other children.
- Teach your child about how to care for their friends and other children with allergies.
- Caring for children with allergies includes:
 - Washing hands before and after eating.
 - Not sharing food.
 - Only drinking from their own water bottle.
 - Telling a teacher if their friend is sick.



Away for the Day

A reminder that students are to leave their phones and devices at the office for the day.

Newsletters

The newsletter is distributed every fortnight via email, school website or a paper copy can be collected from the office. Please ensure your email address is current.

School Start and Finish Times –

Student Safety

Our school aims to provide adequate supervision for students before and after school. To ensure your children are safely supervised, please note the details below.

- Our school day commences at 8:50 am and concludes at 3:00 pm.
- There is supervision from 8:30 am each morning. Students are not to arrive before 8:30 am unless they are arriving on one of the early buses.
- A bus roll is kept to assist in managing students travelling the school buses from school. Please ensure that your child is aware if they need to catch the bus in the afternoons so they can inform staff each day.
- Students should be collected at 3:00 pm each day. Should a student not be collected at this time, students are asked to wait in the office area so parents can be contacted. This also reduces the worry for students when (it happens to us all) they are forgotten or parents get 'caught up.'

Forestry car park and access through gates

Please note that there is no public access through the double gates in the forestry. This is to ensure the safety of your children.

Parade Mondays – 1:50 pm in the Hangar

Parades are a great celebration for students. Parents are invited to attend parades with parents being informed when students are receiving an award. Parades are not held on the first Monday of each term. You are cordially invited to attend parade.



Enrolments and Staffing

Staffing arrangements for 2026 were on the basis of projected enrolments. Our staffing will be confirmed depending on enrolments on Thursday 6 February. Please ensure that students are in full attendance before Thursday 6 February. If you have any concerns or issues with your child being in attendance by this time, please contact the school office. Class staffing will be confirmed after Thursday 6 February.

Attendance

- Please let our office know if your child is to be absent and the reason for the absence using the Absence Line. Reasons may include medical/dental/mental health appointment, funeral or sick. Unfortunately, reasons such as leisure activities, shopping, visiting friends and relatives, celebrating birthdays, fishing and truancy are likely to be categories as an unauthorised absence.

While our focus is to have every student at school every day to maximise their learning, if they are not well, they should not be at school.



Information Privacy – Photographs in the school setting

It is essential to realise that the taking of photographs in the school environment and then the sharing of these outside the school setting is subject to Information Privacy Laws. Upon enrolment (and updated as situations change), parents complete a media permissions form that provides permission or not for the school to use student work and images in promotions and publications that may go beyond the school setting. One cannot assume that any or all students have permissions.

If you wish to take a photograph in the school setting, please check with the class teacher before using the camera/capture device so that they can ensure the appropriate permissions have been given. Even if you are taking a photograph of just your child, it is a good idea to get the permission of the teacher and then show the teacher the image afterwards. This just provides some security around this issue. Similarly, displays on notice boards with class lists of students' names should not be photographed.



Insurance Cover for Students

Students undertaking physical activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the Department of Education, Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students.

Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver. It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

Spotlight on Literacy

DIBELS: Reading Screening

Why it matters:

At the Beginning of Year (BOY) we use brief, one-to-one measures to check foundational reading skills (e.g., phonemic awareness, letter-sound knowledge, decoding, fluency, comprehension). It's fast, reliable, and helps us spot who is "on track" for reading success and who needs extra support early.

In our classrooms

DIBELS benchmarks happen three times a year—Beginning of Year (BOY), Middle of Year (MOY), End of Year (EOY)—within set windows. Classroom teachers administer the screening for their students. The data guides classroom instruction and interventions (e.g., small-group phonics, targeted phonemic awareness practice) and help us monitor growth. Teachers are also then able to administer progress monitoring subtests between benchmark testing to check progress, if required.

At home

- Keep reading aloud with your children, particularly those in the younger grades, for vocabulary and the building of knowledge.
- When your child reads and gets stuck on a word, encourage sound-by-sound decoding and praise accuracy first, speed later.
- Make it routine: short, consistent practice wins.

Our BOY screening window begins in week 3 and will be completed by the end of week 5. As East is in its third year of administering this screener, majority of the students are quite familiar with the routine and therefore it is relatively stress free. Please contact me if you or your child, has any questions or concerns around the DIBELS screening.

HPE in 2026

Students need a hat, water bottle and appropriate uniform for HPE, we do lots of running, jumping and leaping and skorts/shorts and t-shirt work best for PE. Students will also need a hat with a brim to participate in lessons.





Student of the Week

Congratulations

PREP C	KALYN
PREP S	SUMMER
1/2B	ELANOR
1/2E	TEDDY
1/2F	SOPHIA
3/4K	KOBE
3/4P	OLIVIA
3/4S	CHARLOTTE
5/6F	LEVI
5/6MG	MYA
5/6S	DANAH



Office Reminders:

- Students arriving after 8:50am in the morning must report to the office for a late pass.
- If your child is away from school please phone the SCHOOL ABSENCE LINE 4660 5860 and leave a name, class and reason. Or email admin@warwickeastss.eq.edu.au
- If you receive an "unexplained absence" letter please complete and return to the office ASAP. Family reason, family matter, etc. is not a valid reason. These will be classed as unauthorised absences.



admin@warwickeastss.eq.edu.au



4660 5888