



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER No. 1

8th September 2009



Dear Community members,

Now that the first week has passed with Wilson Park staff and students successfully moving to the Amaroo Primary School site, it is time to begin some regular updates.

This is a time where both schools are in transition. It has been wonderful to see both schools coming together so successfully. This is due to the hard work by staff of both schools. The main priority has been and will always remain the students.

We are going to send these updates out each week between now and the end of this term. We thought that a question and answer style update might be a good way to start.

How is everything going?

Wilson Park students are now getting on with the day to day learning which school is all about. The move to a new site has been very smooth and successful. Last week was understandably very hectic, however, the impact on both schools has been minimised.

Students are mixing very well in the playground and making new friends. Many games include students from each school and if you didn't know it you would think they have been together for a long time.

Where are the students' rooms?

Wilson Park students have moved into 5 classrooms at Amaroo.

- K/P/1 in room 12
- Year 1/2 in room 15
- Year 2/3/4 in room 18 (the LOTE room)
- Year 4/5 in room 7
- Year 6/7 in the Drama room

Amaroo students remain in their own rooms. The Drama and LOTE rooms have become classrooms at the moment. This will change when new buildings arrive.

How will school fit in all the new staff and students?

Four transportable buildings will be arriving in the next week or two. These will house Years 2/3/4 and 6/7 Wilson Park students and the ILC for Amaroo students.

Other new buildings are also being negotiated. These will provide both staff and student rooms.

Will students keep their own teachers?

Yes. It is important that all our students continue with their teachers. These are the school based people who know your children best. Your child's regular teachers are also the ones who know where your child is at.

What about school identity?

Each school's identity is important. In most ways each school remains independent so the school identity can continue. They will continue to have their own administration team, office staff, teaching staff and support staff. These are the people who help to maintain a school's identity.

How do the schools run?

This hasn't changed. You still contact the same people when needed and the same people are in charge of their areas. This includes the School Councils and P&Cs.

Where are all the Wilson Park staff?

All of Wilson Park's staff are now at Amaroo Primary School. The staff of both primary schools are performing the same roles, this hasn't changed.

Who is in charge?

The principals of each school are in charge of their own schools. They do work together on issues which might affect both schools but each school is independent. Mr Chisholm, as the principal of Amaroo PS, retains the overall control of the school site so issues like maintenance, new buildings and the long term future of the site are in his control.

Siren Times

Our siren times are based on what Amaroo is used to.

These are:-

8.50am	School commences
11.00am - 11.20am	Recess
12.50pm - 1.30pm	Lunch
3.10pm	School finishes

Uniform

Each school retains their own uniform. This is also an important part of each school's identity.

How long does this continue?

Wilson Park will be on the Amaroo site until the end of 2010. This is a central office decision based on the needs of Collie schools following the fire.

What school rules do each school have?

Each school had very similar school rules and expectations before they came together. These have not changed for either school.

Who do I go to when something comes up?

The process for issues and concerns is the same. The first step is to make contact your child's classroom teacher. If the situation is not resolved or you are not happy with the resolution, you should approach a member of the administration.

What can I do as a parent/carer?

We need you to support our schools. The most important thing to remember is that the students and their ongoing learning is our top priority. We need both school communities to accept the new structure and work together to keep our focus on our students. We are making the best of what is potentially a very difficult situation. With your ongoing commitment and support the disruption to student learning will be minimised.

Colin Chisholm and Peta Morgan