

Wentworthville Public School

QUALITY TEACHING TO MAXIMISE STUDENT LEARNING

Term 1 Week 4 2020 Newsletter



From the Principal – Denise Lockrey

Wonderful Happenings at Wenty!

Last week I had the pleasure of travelling down to Berry to support Mrs Rafidi and the 8 student leaders in our first combined leadership camp with Pendle Hill PS and Darcy Road PS. The three principals have been building positive partnerships between the three schools and this was a tremendous opportunity of building teamwork in our leaders and addressing key leadership qualities as our new leaders embark on their tasks for the year. I was very proud of all the students and the way they represented WPS.

The bus got in and out no trouble and 30 minutes later when I arrived by car, I was greeted by this...due to flooding in the area!



(Continued on page 2)

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Website: www.wentwthvil-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

Email: wentwthvil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Student Portal: <http://portal.det.nsw.edu.au>

(Continued from page 1)



I was not deterred, thankfully I was able to get in via a back road. It all added to the adventure! I joked with the children that I had rowed in to meet with them! Our students represented the school and themselves extremely well and their families would be very proud of them.



We are pleased to see our leaders develop throughout the year. I would also like to thank Mrs Rafidi who went on camp and supported the students.



Some great activities involving skills and teamwork!



Staff from Darcy Road, Pendle Hill and Wentworthville Public Schools – great teamwork at Student Leaders Camp 2020!



BUILDING UPDATE!

Demolition was well and truly happening over the last few weeks. Mr Wiles, Ms Di Chio and I got to see first-hand (in our colourful hard hats!) the demolition zone and G Block area preparation. We continue to ensure we have flexible mindsets as we move through this tricky part of construction.



CONSTRUCTION ZONE

Class line numbers for 2020

Classes will line up at the following line numbers for morning assemblies and after each break in 2020.

Line Number	Class	Line Number	Class
1	4O	16	3/4W
2	4L	17	1A
3	4G	18	1S
4	2C	19	2H
5	2M	20	2A
6	1D	21	2L
7	1R	22	KC
8	1K	23	KA
9	1P	24	KG
10	3S	25	KL
11	3M	26	KU
12	K-6M K-6C	27	KD
13	K-6G	28	5/6R
14	5/6B 5/6G	29	5/6W
15	3K	30	5/6N



1P update

1P have been busy getting to know each other, settling into routines and learning to use flexible furniture. We have been discussing the characteristics which make a good friend and reading books about friendship. We have started learning about length and how to use uniform informal units to measure things around our classroom.



★ Year 3 and Year 4 walking notes

2L

During discussions about our holiday exploits, 2L students talked about the effect that the bushfires had had on their holidays.

One of our class mates had visited Featherdale Wildlife Park. She told us about the koalas that had been injured in the bushfires and were being cared for at Featherdale.

Our koala paintings depict the koalas in the midst of the bushfires!



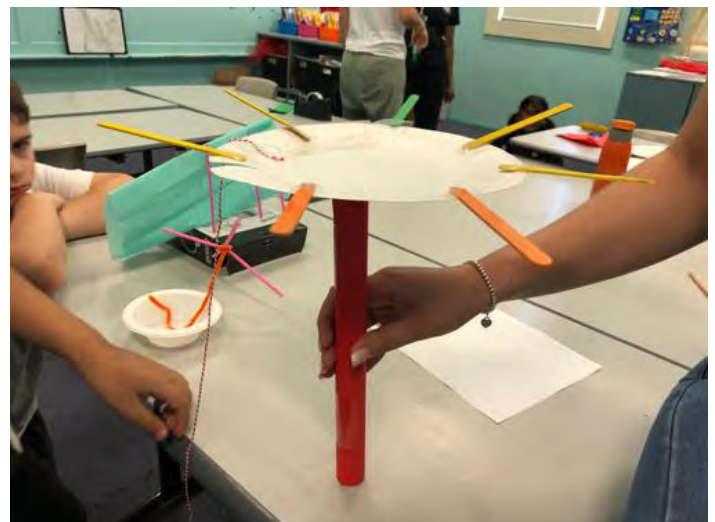
Support Unit

So far this year, students in K-6C, K-6M and K-6G have done a range of things over the last 3 weeks!

All three classes came together and learnt about bucket filling and being a bucket filler!



We had our first combined STEM lesson where we created a piece of play equipment suitable for no electricity out of a range of materials.



Students also had their first lesson of SISA on Wednesday in Week 3! They had so much fun learning different skills and dance moves.



Teachers and students were excited to begin our groups for 2020. We moved around to different classes and learnt different things from different teachers!



School Leaders Camp



From the 10th of February to the 12th of February, the School Leaders from Wentworthville Public School, Pendle Hill Public School and Darcy Road Public School attended a three day camp at Berry Sport and Recreation Centre.

The House Captains from Darcy Road came as well. When we arrived at the centre we were greeted by some of the staff at the centre (Matt and Chris). We were introduced to the area and had free time. We were very pleased with the hospitality.

It was a great time as we all participated in many team-building activities including, challenge ropes course, cable glide , rock climbing and vertical challenges, t.i.g (traditional indigenous games) and last but not least, archery.

The food was great as well as the accommodation.

Each activity we did we also faced fears like heights. The first activity was challenge ropes which was scary but helped us build our confidence. On the last day, we saw cows running from one place to another. Some of us also saw an old friend that moved from Wentworthville Public school to Darcy Road Public School.

Overall, it was a fun and enjoyable time as we had new experiences and met new friends we never knew existed over the course of the three days. As we were travelling back home some of us reflected on how the staff had control of 3 schools and how they cooked the food for this many people. We remember the staff there tried their best and gave up their own time to let kids experience cool activities.

By Lakshmi, Neeti, Anna, Simona, Zac, Le'o, Shreyas and Neel

Go to our [gallery to see more photos of the camp!](#)





Just a reminder to register for the Sentral Parent Portal so you can receive updates about events at our school. Every family has a special code to register. If you have misplaced your code please see the office or Ms Di Chio so we can facilitate this information to be forwarded to you.

Kindergarten families have been emailed a letter with their family codes and instructions on how to set up their account. A hard copy letter will come out soon as well.

The Sentral Parent Portal aims to provide parents with access to communication features about daily notices and newsfeeds about school events, send and receive absence notifications and access to our term calendar of school events. Over the year other features will also be added to the portal and families will be notified of updates via the daily notices on the newsfeed. When your child is absent you will automatically be sent a notification to provide a response for the absence. Absences can be explained via the Parent Portal app or desktop site.

I am confident that you will see the benefits of your registration immediately and be part of our journey in providing this facility to you. As we progress this initiative, I am confident that the Parent Portal will become more and more significant in your day to day management of your child's enrolment at our school.

Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Ms Di Chio for assistance. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience with our Sentral Parent Portal, and any feedback will be gratefully received with a view to adding further functionality and improvement.





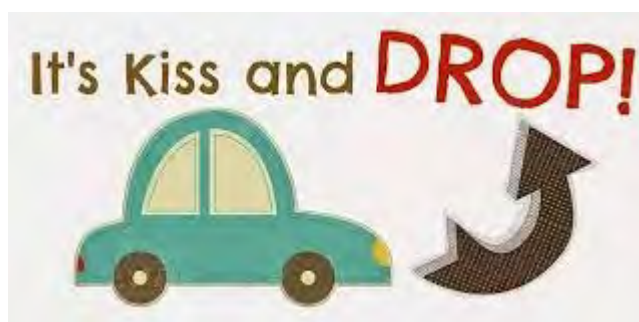
Just a reminder that there is a designated Kiss and Drop zone on Monash Street. Only families who have registered for a Kiss and Drop number may utilise the service and park in the designated space. Whilst the Kiss and Drop service is operating in the afternoon please cross safely across Monash street and not between cars parked in the Kiss and Drop zone. The safety of you and your child is paramount. If you would like to register for a number for the Kiss and Drop zone then follow the instructions below.

Go to www.schoolinterviews.com.au

Event code: **5hjp4**

Complete your details as prompted

Your child will receive a laminated number within a few days of your registration. The laminated number will be placed on the front dashboard of your car as you are in the waiting bay of the Kiss and Drop zone. All Kindergarten students will receive a laminated number in the next few weeks therefore Kindergarten families don't need to register.



School Website News

If you are looking for some information about Literacy and Numeracy, Wentworthville Public School has some excellent parent videos on our [website](#). Simply click on the link [as displayed below](#) and you will find videos on Phonics, Magic 100 Words, Reading at home, Introduction to reading strategies, Introduction to Numeracy, Introduction to Handwriting and Improving fine motor skills.

The screenshot shows the website header for Wentworthville Public School. At the top left, it says 'NSW Department of Education'. On the right, there are links for 'Select Language' and 'Log in'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: 'MAKE A PAYMENT | ENROLMENT | NEWS | NEWSLETTER | EVENTS | GALLERY'. The main header area includes the school's crest, the name 'Wentworthville Public School', the tagline 'Quality Teaching to Maximise Student Learning', and contact information: 'T: 02 9631 8529' and 'E: wentwthvil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au'. A red arrow points to the 'Literacy & Numeracy for parents' link in the main navigation menu. Other menu items include 'About our school', 'Supporting our students', 'Learning at our school', 'School Notes', 'Canteen', 'P&C', and 'Contact us'. Below the navigation is a large banner image of the school building with a text box on the left that reads: 'Welcome to our school. We develop confident, resilient, articulate students in a supportive, harmonious, diverse school community.'



Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.





My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Policy library*

The school leaving age:

Please visit the Department of Education's *Wellbeing and Learning* website

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 512

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities

EVERY DAY COUNTS...

A day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...	that equals...	which is...	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is...	This means that the best your child can achieve is...
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

Every day counts!



PENDLE HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Responsibilities Respect Rights Learning

OPEN DAY

Monday 2 March 2020 3.30pm - 5.30pm

At Pendle Hill High School we have a strong focus on literacy, numeracy, future focussed learning opportunities and learning success for all students.

Our gifted and talented and enrichment classes and selective school partnership programs build strong learning partnerships for academic success from Years 7 to 12.

Our learning and welfare programs emphasise positive behaviour for learning, caring for others and feeling safe at school.

Our students, parents and teachers work together to ensure that learning is celebrated, excellence is expected, effort is rewarded and diversity is respected.

Come and see why we are so proud of our students, our programs and our school!

- ◆ Hear about our multi million dollar new school buildings and facilities, planned for 2023.
- ◆ Hear about our student successes - university placements; further education and training; university and business scholarships; traineeships, apprenticeships and career opportunities; leadership, sport and community service
- ◆ Past and current HSC students now studying Medical Sciences; Engineering; Nursing; Arts; Accounting; Education; Information, Communication and Technology; Design; Environmental Biology; Events and Leisure Management; Health Science; Policing; Science; Business and Commerce and more at University
- ◆ Find out about our broad range of subject choices and learning opportunities
- ◆ Find out about our Positive Behaviour for Learning and STEM Programs
- ◆ Information on uniform, student welfare and special programs
- ◆ Meet students, parents and staff and see our classrooms and grounds
- ◆ See our school in action and take part in our parent workshops

Entry via Cornock Avenue, Toongabbie

Enrolments and Enquiries: 9631 9651

Email: pendlehill-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: pendlehill-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Facebook: [@PendleHHS](https://www.facebook.com/PendleHHS)

A Great Place to Learn!

Teaching and Learning

<p>Our focus is on :</p> <p>Academic excellence and learning success for all students</p> <p>High expectations and quality teaching</p> <p>Smaller class sizes to promote individual learning and achievement</p> <p>Improving student literacy and numeracy, as well as participation and engagement in learning</p>	<p>Broad curriculum choices Years 7 to 12</p> <p>Gifted and Talented, extension and learning support programs</p> <p>Strong links with Universities and TAFE</p> <p>EVET, school based apprenticeship and traineeship programs</p> <p>Specialist Learning and Support staff</p> <p>Secure internet access and interactive technology in all classrooms</p> <p>Active School to Work program</p> <p>Active Google Classroom program for learning and wellbeing</p> <p>Transition to high school programs</p> <p>STEM and future focused learning opportunities, including Robotics, Drones, Coding and Project Based Learning</p>
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Student Welfare and Wellbeing

<p>We are a Positive Behaviour for Learning School with a focus on Responsibilities, Respect, Rights and Learning so that students connect, succeed and thrive</p> <p>We believe that a sense of belonging and feeling safe at school is essential if students are to be interested and motivated in their learning</p> <p>We believe that good attendance at school is vital for student learning and achievement</p>	<p>Welfare and Wellbeing programs aim to promote self-esteem, self discipline, responsible behaviour, concern for others and ensure student safety</p> <p>Caring, dedicated and experienced teaching, support and administration staff</p> <p>Student leadership and student voice programs</p> <p>Strong and effective anti-bullying programs</p> <p>SMS communication sent daily to parents about absences and lateness to school</p> <p>Parent supported compulsory uniform - checked daily</p> <p>Parent involvement and early intervention are priorities</p>
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School Facilities and Opportunities

<p>Extensive school grounds and playing fields, with security fencing to ensure student safety</p> <p>Air conditioning of key learning spaces for student comfort</p> <p>Library, including computer access, before school, at recess and lunch</p> <p>Specialist brand new Science laboratories</p> <p>Year 7 Camp program</p> <p>Active P&C meets monthly</p>	<p>Multi million dollar school upgrade and new building program planned for 2023.</p> <p>Fully equipped and supervised Personal Fitness Centre</p> <p>Merit and reward programs for students to encourage and recognise good behaviour and active involvement in learning, wellbeing and leadership programs</p> <p>Access to a range of cultural and performing arts experiences, excursions and school to work links</p> <p>Healthy Food Canteen and on site uniform shop</p> <p>Strong and active community links program</p> <p>Grade, recreational and school sport options</p>
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PLAYGROUP

THERE WILL BE
GUEST SPEAKERS
ATTENDING THROUGH OUT
THE TERM
like Speech
Pathologist,
Early childhood Nurses

WENTWORTHVILLE
PUBLIC SCHOOL



STARTING
5TH FEBRUARY 2020
AND EVERY FOLLOWING

EVERY WEDNESDAY
OF THE SCHOOL TERM
IN THE COMMUNITY
ROOM



TIME: 9.30AM TILL
11.30 AM



TIMETABLE

9.30 am Playgroup start.
10:00 am Free Play
10:30 am Pack up & set up for craft
10:45 am Craft / Speakers
11:00 am Morning tea
11:15 am Song and story time
11:30 am Playgroup concludes



Karabi
Community & Development Services Inc

CONTACT
EMMA OR KARISHMA
ON
9631 6575



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Jan 27	Jan 28 Staff Development Day ☞	Jan 29 Students Return Years 1 - 6	Jan 30	Jan 31
2	Feb 3 Kindergarten Cohort starts	Feb 4 Got It meeting 10:30am Got It parent Info Session ☞ 2pm	Feb 5 SiSA Year Three and Year One P&C Meeting Zone Swimming Carnival	Feb 6 PSSA Meeting at Toongabbie RSL 3:45pm	Feb 7 PSSA trials Week 1
3	Feb 10 Berry Leaders Camp	Feb 11 Berry Leaders Camp	Feb 12 Berry Leaders Camp SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten	Feb 13	Feb 14 PSSA trials Week 2
4	Feb 17 Environmentors Stage One Dem 9	Feb 18 Environmentors Stage 1 Dem 9 Parent Info Session and BBQ Scripture Coordinator Meeting in Staffroom 09:30am Got It meeting 10:30am	Feb 19 SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3	Feb 20	Feb 21 PSSA Round 1
5	Feb 24 Wellbeing Week	Feb 25 Wellbeing Week SRE starts	Feb 26 Wellbeing Week SiSA Year 3 and Year 1	Feb 27 Wellbeing Week Swimming Carnival at Merrylands Pool (3-6) Beginning Teacher Network meeting at WPS 3:45pm	Feb 28 Wellbeing Week PSSA Round 2
6	Mar 2 Women in Sports Roadshow 09am	Mar 3 Grip Leadership Conference Got It Program Meeting 10:30am	Mar 4 SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten P&C Meeting SLSO Network Meeting 3:30pm	Mar 5 Zone Swimming Carnival at Blacktown	Mar 6 PSSA Round 3
7	Mar 9 Celebrating International Women's Day (8th March) Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 10 Exec - Three Rivers for Learning 09am	Mar 11 SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3 Teachers Health Visit	Mar 12 HS Selective Placement Test	Mar 13 PSSA Round 4
8	Mar 16 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 17 Got It Program Meeting 10:30am	Mar 18 SiSA Year 3 and Year 1 ILP Support Unit Meetings	Mar 19 ILP Support Unit Meetings	Mar 20 Harmony Day (TBC) (in lieu 21st) PSSA Round 5
9	Mar 23 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 24	Mar 25 SiSA Year 4/Support Unit and Kindergarten	Mar 26 Year 6 - Wheelchair Roadshow Early Stage One Three Way Goal Setting Meetings 3:15pm	Mar 27 SEAL Program Kindy - Community Room PSSA Round 6
10	Mar 30 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) 09am	Mar 31 Got It Program Whole Day Training	Apr 1 SiSA Year 2 and Stage 3 P&C Meeting Gina @ SW Softball Trials	Apr 2 3 Way Goal Setting Interviews - Year 3pm	Apr 3 SEAL Program Kindy - Community Room PSSA Round 7
11	Apr 6 Cricket Program Stage 3 (TBC) Wheelchair Basketball - Year 3 (TBC)	Apr 7	Apr 8 Got It Program Student Observation	Apr 9 School Photos	Apr 10

INSIGHTS

Managing separation anxiety at school drop-offs



Going to school for most children is a positive experience however some children can struggle making the transition from their home environment to school. It's naturally distressing to see your child upset at school drop-off but there is a great deal you can do to make school drop-offs easier for you and your child.

Breaking the cycle of separation anxiety at school

A child's clinginess, crying or tantrums at school drop-off can be disturbing for you as a parent. Despite putting on a brave face, you can feel guilty that somehow you're the cause of this behaviour. Unless something traumatic has occurred then leaving your child at school is a normal part of life, something your child will get used to. The following strategies may help eradicate your child's tears and fears when you take them to school:

Tell the story

Prepare your child thoroughly each morning for what will happen when you leave your child at school. Repeat the story each morning before school so they can fully prepare for drop-off.

It takes two

Involve your child's teacher in the drop-off process as they will be the person who must deal with an upset child. In extreme examples, at the start of term or after a long absence, a later starting time may give your child a chance to say goodbye in more relaxed circumstances.

Give me five

Rituals are both personal and reassuring so develop a special goodbye ritual that you consistently use when you leave your child each morning. Your special ritual may be simple such as a special wave or kiss, or fun such as a high five, low five, fist pump bursting into a hand explosion. Then leave quickly without stalling or looking back. Avoid making leaving a bigger deal than it what it is.

Reduce the rush

Is your child a morning star or night owl? Many children are slow starters in the morning, which can mean that they're frequently rushed and arrive at school in highly anxious states. Do all you can to reduce morning stress, which may include earlier bed and waking times; laying out school clothes the previous evening and making minimal demands on their time.

This is the place

Location carries memory so choose carefully the place you say goodbye to your child. If a kiss or hug at the school-gate means a happy child, then you've probably found your goodbye place. Experiment with your goodbye location until you find one that works.

It's your job

If goodbyes continue to cause tears, tantrums or clinginess consider, if possible, saying goodbye to your child at home and allowing another adult – your partner or another parent – to take your child to school.

If separation anxiety continues

If your child's separation anxiety interferes with their concentration and learning, prevents them from making friends, is excessive and goes longer than a month, consider getting professional support. Separation anxiety left unchecked can lead to school refusal and other anxiety disorders later on.

For professional support consult with welfare teacher at your child's school, your local general practitioner or local council for suitable health care professionals in the area.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's an award-winning speaker and the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation*, and the bestselling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. Michael is a former teacher with 15 years experience, and has 30 years experience in parenting education. He also holds a Master of Educational Studies from Monash University specialising in parenting education.