

Wollongong Public School Fair Discipline Policy

The Merit System

The Merit System is designed to support and reward the majority of students who consistently display appropriate social, classroom and playground behaviour. There are four steps in the system and all awards remain valid for one school year.

Step One Wow Awards

A system of 'WOW' awards has evolved within the school such that meritorious behaviour can readily be rewarded by any member of the teaching staff throughout the school. These are simply printed and illustrated voucher style tickets which can be readily transported to various school activities. They are given to children as teachers deem fit when instances of exemplary behaviour, effort or performance are observed in or out of the classroom. The teachers will always sign or at least initial these awards. Their use as either a component or the basis of classroom reward system is also recommended. Children are invited to save these awards and when they have collected ten they should submit them to their teacher to qualify for a bronze award.

Step Two - Bronze Award

Bronze awards can only be achieved by the accumulation of ten 'WOW' awards. In special instances the Principal or his/her delegate may choose to make a special bronze award after consultation with the staff. Special awards of this nature might be considered for exemplary behaviours such as:

- Citizenship
- Good manners
- Helpfulness to staff or other students
- Exemplary behaviour
- Positive attitude

Note: In K-2 classes, a Bronze is awarded for Student of the Week and 3-6 classes award a Citizen of the Week award.

Step Three - First Silver Certificate

Once five Bronze awards have been achieved, a Silver certificate is gained. The certificates for this level will be presented by the Principal at a Whole School Assembly. In addition, an invitation will be forwarded to the Parent/Caregiver inviting them to attend the presentation ceremony. The student will also be acknowledged in the School Newsletter.

Step Four - Second Silver Certificate

Students receive a second Silver certificate after receiving a further five Bronze awards (a total of 10 Bronze awards or 100 Wows). The second Silver certificate will be presented by the Principal at a Whole School Assembly. In addition, an invitation will be forwarded to the Parent/Caregiver inviting them to attend the presentation ceremony. The student will also be acknowledged in the School Newsletter. Students receiving their second Silver certificate are also invited to a Special Morning Tea.

Step Five - Gold Certificate and Medallion

Once a student who has received a second Silver certificate receives an additional 5 Bronze awards (a total of 15 Bronze or 150 Wows') a student is eligible to be considered for a Gold certificate and medallion. This is the highest accolade available from Wollongong Public School and is awarded to a student who displays outstanding work ethic and behaviour.

Note: A student who has gained a Silver or Gold Certificate, but who has or is receiving behaviour support through the Yellow slip system, including the Welfare committee, will have the receipt of their Silver or Gold certificate reviewed.

Assembly Certificates

Each week during our assemblies, class teachers award two Merit Certificates to students in recognition of their work in class.