

Singleton Heights Public School Newsletter

Term 4

Week 3

29 October 2020



R E S P E C T | R E S P O N S I B I L I T Y | E X C E L L E N C E

Principal's Report

Congratulations to the eleven students from Years 3 to 6, who graduated from the Children's University program on Tuesday. This year has obviously had a huge amount of impact on children's learning, but these committed students were still able to collect their 30+ hours of extra-curricular learning outside of school classroom hours. Well done, boys and girls!



Kindergarten Orientation Sessions

We are really looking forward to having our 2021 Kindergarten students start their Orientation sessions next Wednesday, 4th November. Information about our Kindergarten Transition program was sent out last week, to parents who have children enrolling in Kindergarten for next year. We have developed a different model than from previous years, as restrictions are still in place for parents coming on to the school site in large numbers.

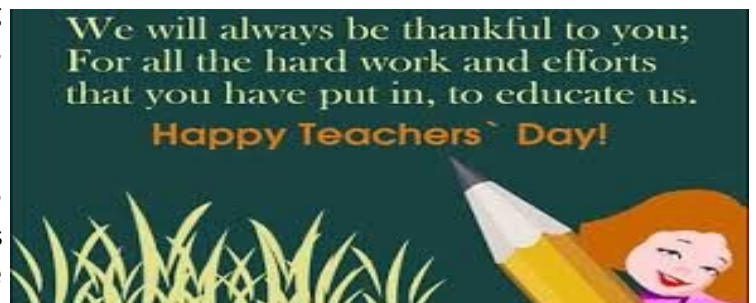
There will be four orientation sessions, instead of three. The dates will be 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November. Students/families will be given an allocated time for their orientation, as current protocols don't allow us to have all students and parents on site at the same time. We are really looking forward to having the children on site in the near future. Exciting times!

World Teacher's Day

This Friday, Australia celebrates World Teacher's Day. I have decided to shout the teachers a BBQ breakfast, so they can kick start their day with some sustenance. But I would also like to just say a few words about our teachers.

Our teachers work really hard to inspire and motivate our students and they make it their core business to value and care for their holistic wellbeing, and we genuinely strive to provide support for your children to connect, succeed and thrive in the school environment. We have the most amazing teachers, who are committed to quality education, focused on authentic learning.

They dedicate copious amounts of time to plan and prepare engaging lessons every day, in all subjects, and they are constantly looking for ways to improve the educational outcomes of the children in their care. Let's celebrate how lucky our community is, to have some inspirational teachers!



Our Vision: POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS, AUTHENTIC LEARNING

Presentation Day

Our Annual Presentation Day will take place in a different format this year. We will not be hosting the Presentation Day at the Civic Centre, instead, we will be presenting student awards in our hall over the course of the day. Students in the relevant cohorts will participate as an audience, however, we will need to wait and see whether restrictions are eased to allow for parents on site for this assembly. At this stage, we still cannot have parents attend large gatherings at school, but updates on this are on their way.

COVID-19 UPDATE

NEW GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVITIES AT NSW SCHOOLS

COVID Guidelines Update

Over the next few weeks, the NSW Department of Education will release updates around COVID restrictions. The following timeline has been communicated to schools, in relation to the relevant activities that restrictions may change around:

- Week 4 the next release of updates to the Advice for staff page which will include updates on existing arrangements and additional guidance on:
 - i) End of year presentations and award ceremonies and other activities
 - ii) P&C meeting arrangements
 - iii) Professional learning days
- Week 7 (week commencing 23 November) – review and further updates on the Advice for staff page where required
- Week 8 (week commencing 30 November) – release of Term 1, 2021 COVID-19 guidelines to support planning for next year
- 18 January 2021 – Review and updated of Term 1, 2021 COVID-19 guidelines to confirm advice for schools based on the most recent Health advice.

Aboriginal Dance and NAIDOC Day

Our Aboriginal students are again accessing our Learning Community dance teacher, Emily, as we welcome her back on Fridays. Our Stage 2 (Year 3 and 4) students will be dancing with Emily tomorrow.

Our NAIDOC celebrations will take place on Friday, 13th November. Emily will be taking our three Kindergarten classes for some cool dance instruction during the day, and all of our classes will be immersing themselves in cultural activities throughout the day as well.



Music Count Us In

Next Thursday, 5th November, our school will participate in the online Music Count Us In celebrations. Normally, our students would gather together in our school hall to sing together, however, they will all be watching the performances and joining in from their classrooms.

Remembrance Day

The school will be holding a commemorative ceremony for Remembrance Day on Wednesday, 11th November. Parents will not be able to attend this event, due to COVID restrictions. We will be holding the ceremony on the school lawn, adjacent the flagpoles.



Attendance

Congratulations to 1C, who were the winners of the attendance trophy for this week, after having only 3 absences in Week 2. They will get to host Mari and the attendance trophy for this week. Well done!

2021 Start Dates

The NSW Department of Education has announced that, in 2021, schools will have two Staff Development Days (student-free days) to start the year, on Wednesday, 27th and Thursday, 28th January, meaning that students will return to school on Friday, 29th January. Kindergarten students will start school on a different day, as these students will undertake Best Start Literacy and Numeracy Assessment, prior to starting. Kindergarten start days will be published in the near future.



Classes 2021

Firstly, please inform the office if your family is relocating in 2021. Also, in the coming weeks, the school will begin planning for classes in 2021. In this process, teachers, school executive and the Learning Support Team, use professional judgement to very carefully ensure the correct placement of students in classes for next year. Occasionally, parents or carers have a specific concern for the wellbeing of their child for consideration in this process. If you have a specific concern, it is important to, firstly, share your concern with the child's class teacher as they may have a different perspective to add. Having done that, concerns can be put in writing to the attention of the school principal and submitted to the office. Concerns or requests pertaining to the child's social, academic or emotional wellbeing will be carefully considered within the process. Under the principle of equity, requests for specific classroom teachers for 2021 will not be considered. Submissions might include a comment on a child's capacity to relate to other children, or perhaps a style of teaching that a child has responded positively to previously. The organisation of classes is a process which is carefully planned. If you have a specific concern, submissions need to be received by the office prior to Friday, 27th November, 2020. It is usually not possible to move a child to a different class once rolls have been established.

Social Media in Primary Schools

With COVID-19 changing the fabric of our social interactions, children have quite possibly been spending a lot more time on digital devices and interacting across many apps and social media platforms than they normally would. Recently, I have had several incidents reported to me about student issues on social media, and inappropriate behaviour that comes with some of this interaction. I cannot stress enough, of the toxicity and danger of social media apps and sites, when not used appropriately and not monitored and controlled. Children in primary school are not old enough to be able to have a social media account on at least the following apps:

Snapchat – Minimum recommended age: 13+

Facebook – Minimum recommended age: 13+

Instagram – Minimum recommended age: 13+

TikTok – Minimum recommended age: 13+

Among Us – Minimum recommended age: 18+

The following link has resources and webinars to support parents to better educate their children about the use of social media and the restrictions that should be placed around access to these apps and many more. Please take the time to visit this website, particularly if you are having difficulties controlling your child's screen time.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>



Learning in 2A



2A have been busy this week doing a range of activities including stories in library, learning their bridging words and looking at ways to save energy.



CURIOUS CREATURES, WILD MINDS

Last week Singleton Heights celebrated a wonderful Book Week parade, with everyone getting into the spirit bringing to life many curious, imaginary and creative creatures. With the weather on our side, the parade was held in our back playground to spread our students out to comply with COVID requirements. The winners of our parade were: -

Class	Student	Character
KM	Lilly	Bluey
KS	Isla	Fancy Nancy
KT	Lezanie	Bookworm
1D	Hunter	Mr Shark
1K	Jack	Creeper
1C	Isabel	Witch from Room on the Broom
1K	Jack	Creeper from Minecraft
1/2W	Joseph	Harry Potter
2A	Brian	Star Wars
2H	Jackson	Max
2L	Hannah	Gruffalo
3C	Ella	Tiger
3W	Bradley	Curious George
3/4S	April	Ray from Star Wars
3/4V	Bella	Ruby Red Shoes
4B	Jack	Dr Watson
4L	Daphne	Cheshire Cat
5L	Amber	Leopard
5O	Brianna	The Grinch
5/6M	Riley	Mr Shark
6H	Kealah	Imposter
6T	Eboni	White Witch
K-6K	Zedakai	Weirdo

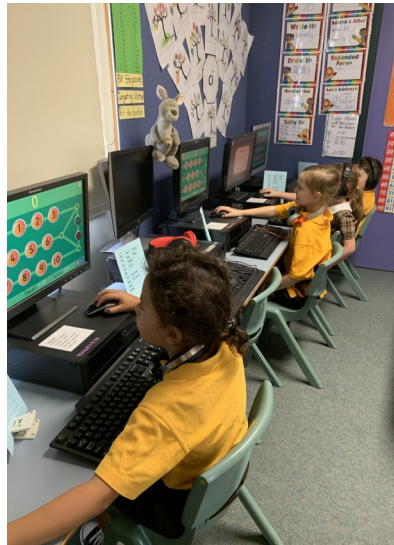


ARE YOU MOVING? IF YOU ARE MOVING AT THE END OF THE YEAR AND WON'T BE ATTENDING SHPS IN 2021, OR HAVE ANY CHANGES IN YOUR CONTACT DETAILS. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE ASAP.



Mari in 1K

Mari has had a lovely time in 1K this week and has been very busy. The students have also taken great care with Mari, giving her lots of attention. Mari has watched students doing their maths and English work, reading and doing PE outside. Mari ate lunch with us every day and even wore a mask in the Book Week parade. We are keen for her to visit us again soon.





for Supporting our Breakfast Club

 Singleton Heights Bakery

 SINGLETON
Neighbourhood Centre Inc.

 MADER
NEW SOUTH WALES

GLENCORE Australia

PBL Assembly Awards 3-6



Class	Student
3C	Caleb K
3W	Verity H
3/4S	Eli Mc-S
3/4V	Amelia S
4B	Grace A
4L	Paige P
5L	Kaleisha B
5O	Sophie T
5/6M	Lucy G
6H	Seren H
6T	Rosalia Mc-S
K-6K	Josh R



Can you help?
Second hand
uniforms are needed
for sick bay.

UNIFORM SHOP

DO YOU WANT TO BEAT THE RUSH?
Order uniforms for 2021 now
on Flexischools!

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 4

TUESDAYS
Sports | 4-6pm
Drop in and play some sports with us, new activities weekly.

WEDNESDAYS
Dungeons & Dragons | 4-6pm
Create your character and join in on the game.

THURSDAYS
Film Making | 4-5.30pm
Learn screenwriting, filming technique, performance, editing, and more.

FRIDAYS
Teen Anxiety Support Group | 4-4.30pm
A safe and assisted support group for young people.

Topical Trivia | 5.30-6pm
Questions based on the past week's events and news.



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 SINGLETON
YOUTH SERVICES