

SINGLETON HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Term 4

Week 5

5th November 2021



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

Thank you all so very much for being so supportive of our school community as we saw the first case in the Upper Hunter to cause a school closure from a positive COVID 19 case in our school. Please be respectful of the community members involved in this situation, they will be going through a lot of emotion around this and it is important that certain information remains confidential. Please be assured that processes are in place to communicate with families as quickly as possible to ease your mind, but the decisions that are made are outside of my control, they are in the hands of the NSW DoE and NSW Health. I must follow their advice and protocols before sharing any information from our community. I appreciate those families who were patient in waiting for advice to come through.

Mari Badges

In fabulous news, we saw many students receive Mari badges over the past two weeks, and I am happy to announce that Jasper S in Year 4 is the second recipient in the school to receive his SILVER Mari badge this week. An amazing achievement, Jasper.



Our Vision: POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS, AUTHENTIC LEARNING

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I was also lucky enough to finally share in a Pizza Lunch with our Mari badge recipients from Term 2 and Term 3. We had a lovely little get together and enjoyed a yummy lunch to celebrate the awesome achievement of these students, in earning a Mari badge. Congratulations to Mia B in 1K who was drawn out to be Principal for a day later this term.



Term 4 NSW Department of Education Roadmap

From Monday, 8th November, all schools will be moving to Level 3 restrictions. Our school community is already on Level 3 restrictions; however, some further easing can now occur.

A combination of layered COVID-safe plans and measures will allow us to prioritise student and staff safety and keep our school open. To do this, **the following guidelines will be in place:**

- Students, staff and visitors must not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms.
- All staff and adult visitors on the school site must be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination.
- Masks are required indoors for all staff, adult visitors and strongly recommended indoors for primary students. Masks can be removed when eating or exercising.
- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.
- Adults should maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.
- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practical.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees - following square metre guidelines.
- Students should avoid mingling with other class and year groups when moving around the school.
- Students and staff will maintain good hand hygiene and schools will continue with enhanced cleaning, including high touch points.

Our school will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4 2021, with the following activities allowed in a COVID-safe manner:

- Assemblies and presentations are allowed outdoors, with cohorts separated and physical distancing in place. Fully vaccinated visitors (including parents and carers) are only allowed to attend if completing a specific role (such as presenting) and at the invitation of the school.
- Community use is allowed outside of school hours (including P&C meetings) with COVID-safe plans in place – in line with public health requirements.
- Dancing, bands, ensembles and music classes will be allowed within cohorts. However, everyone must wear masks while playing instruments indoors. Other instruments that rely on breath or require a mask to be removed to be played, as well as singing and chanting, are not permitted in Term 4.
- Excursions are allowed outdoors (and indoors where sole use of the premises is available).
- Incursions are allowed indoors and outdoors where cohorts are kept separate.
- Graduations and formals are allowed within cohorts, either on school sites or at external venues – with COVID-safe plans in place and physical distancing adhered to.
- School sports are allowed, including inter-school sports and access to indoor and outdoor pools (from 1 November).
- Transitions and orientations are allowed in a COVID-safe way that minimises mingling between students.



OOSH Facilities coming to SHPS

Next year, our school will be operating an Out Of School Hours (OOSH) facility on our school site. This opportunity has been identified by the NSW Department of Education through surveys that were sent out earlier this year. Currently the OOSH team are seeking tenders to operate on our school site, and hours of operation, as well as transport etc will be negotiated throughout the rest of this year. Keep an eye out for more information, however, this will be a very convenient service for our school community. Students from Mt Pleasant PS and Singleton PS will also be offered placements in the OOSH program at our school. Big news!



Remembrance Day Ceremony



The school will be holding a virtual Remembrance Day ceremony next Thursday, 11th November. Mrs Daubeney will be putting together a video of the commemoration ceremony that each class will watch, and student leaders will be talking through the class intercom during the ceremony, to read various texts related to this very special day.

Kindergarten Orientation

Our orientation dates have been set for Kindergarten 2022.

Students must be enrolled to attend. Please call the school on 6573 1363 to organise an enrolment package.

Sessions will be held in 3 groups during these days on:

Thursday 11th November

Thursday 18th November

Thursday 25th November

Please keep an eye on the mail as we will send you a letter with the time and details for your child to attend. If you do not receive this please contact the school office.

We look forward to meeting our Kindergarten students for 2022.

Save the DATES

Year 6 to Year 7 High School Orientation – Tuesday, 23rd November

Presentation Day – School Hall – 1st December – Note: COVID guidelines - Assemblies and presentations are allowed outdoors, with cohorts separated and physical distancing in place. Fully vaccinated visitors (including parents and carers) are only allowed to attend if completing a specific role (such as presenting) and at the invitation of the school.

Year 6 Summer Fair – 3rd December – fete-style stalls created by our Stage 3 students (3-6 only)



Term 4 Mari Badge Pizza Lunch – Wednesday 8th December

Year 6 Farewell – Friday, 10th December Note: COVID guidelines - Graduations and formals are allowed within cohorts, either on school sites or at external venues – with COVID-safe plans in place and physical distancing adhered to.

e-Safety Parent Guide to Online Gaming

Attached is a flyer inviting you to join the eSafety Commissioner's expert education and training team for a free live webinar that provides parents and carers with an understanding of the benefits and risks of online gaming. It is designed for parents and carers of young people aged 8-13 years.

The two webinars being offered are:

15th November - 12:30pm-1:30pm

24th November 7:30pm - 8:30pm

Register at: esafety.gov.au/parent/webinars



SCHOOL UNIFORMS



Our Uniform shop is currently closed
Orders can be placed via the Flexischools app and the order will be delivered to your child's class.



Are your contact details up to date?

Please contact the school office on 65731363 if any changes need to be made.



Students in Years 5 and 6 are busy preparing for their Summer Fair.

They have been kept busy writing their business plans to present to Mr Graham.

They are asking for donations of lollies and chocolates to be used as prizes.

Please donate

Give your donations to you class teacher.



DATES TO REMEMBER



08/11	9/11	10/11	11/11 Kindergarten 2022 Transition Sessions	12/11
15/11	16/11	17/11	18/11 Kindergarten 2022 Transition Sessions Library Stocktake	19/11 Library Stocktake
22/11 Library Stocktake	23/11 Library Stocktake	24/11	25/11 Kindergarten 2022 Transition Sessions	26/11
29/11	30/11	1/12 Presentation Day	2/12	3/12 Summer Fair