



Edition 65: 22 May 2020

From the Principal

Term 2 Week 4

Everyone is coming back to school

A big welcome back to our wonderful students! We need to be mindful of everyone's wellbeing during the return for our students to full time school on Monday 25th May 2020. Children were challenged primarily by a lack of structure associated with the closing of schools. Daily structure is important to everyone, but particularly to children in their psychological and emotional development. The consistency of schedules, predictable rules and consequences, and set expectations teach children how to behave, develop self-discipline and impulse control and, importantly, a sense of safety and control. Parents suddenly, had "learning from home" expectations thrust upon them and children had to adjust to a different learning environment with different rules and routines in their own home. A big learning curve for all.

Coronavirus and school closures added another level of change for children in that they were isolated from their social world of friends, teachers and other school and community connections. These were sudden and extreme changes to their usual daily routine. It was amazing to see how well everyone coped with these changes and we are very proud of our students, teachers and parents for being a dynamic team during the "learning from home" time. Well done everyone!

Now that our students are returning, they come back with previous knowledge of the expectations and routines they have at school and also back to their little social world with their friends and mentors. For some it may take a little time to re-adjust but already we have noticed over these last two weeks, that most of our students have bounced back into school so happy to be here and be back with their friends. We will need to carefully monitor and support all our student's wellbeing during this transition.



Learning from home a treasured experience!

Having read stories online from parents about their home schooling experiences, we can just imagine how hard it has been for you all to juggle "working from home" for yourselves with "learning from home" for your children. One common thread of reflection has been that parents have expressed after getting through the frustrations of it all, there has been a stronger bond forged with their children. It has been indeed a time away from the usual pressures of busy work schedules combined with rush hours, hectic timelines, and traffic stress. Snuggled up together families have discovered each other, time has slowed and magic moments have been shared. There is always something good to come out of diversity. This will always be one of those markers in history and the question on everyone's lips is, will life as we know it ever be the same? Perhaps it is best to enjoy and be thankful for what we have. Be kind, be thoughtful, keep safe and take care of those you love.

School grounds are closed to all but essential workers

Until we are informed differently our parents will not be able to access school grounds as before. As stated in our communications out this week through our App, email system, Facebook and Website, only staff and school essential workers will be able to enter onto school grounds. I know you all understand that this is for the health of our school staff. It is a work place and our teachers are essential to allow the continuation of your children's educational journey. We need them to remain well. Please support our teachers by keeping to the requirements we have sent out for students returning to school on Monday 25th May 2020. These requirements will be in place until we are notified of any changes by the Department of Education.

Update on school infrastructure

As you know a lot of maintenance work has been going on in our school during the last 2 months. Work is almost complete.

Sadly as it became apparent that our student numbers have fallen we were informed that we would lose a demountable classroom. This was designated as a quick turn-around. Over the last week we have had to make a decision on what demountable building that would be and follow through on the appropriate actions to have it ready for transport to another location where it is needed. Careful consideration was given to the decision as to what building and what benefits would happen as a result for our school. The oldest demountable building on our site was chosen. It is a classroom building that did not have access to a water source for students drink bottles or the use and clean-up of art equipment. However it meant the re-location of our 3-6E class. We made the decision to re-house them into the end classroom located on the B Block veranda where Kindergarten and Year 1 are. We were using this as a Learning Assistant Support Teacher (LAST) work area and storage. So you can imagine how busy everyone has been moving everything around because we wanted the 3-6E class to be able to operate out of their new space on Monday 25th May when all students return to school.

The area left by the removal of the demountable building will open up the middle of our school and give us the opportunity to create a suitable play space for our children with special needs and some outdoor learning areas for all our students. Exciting times ahead!

The building will be craned out within the next week and has been scheduled to be decommissioned on Monday 25th May 2020 with power, water and cabling being cut off and secured. The school has certainly been a busy old place.

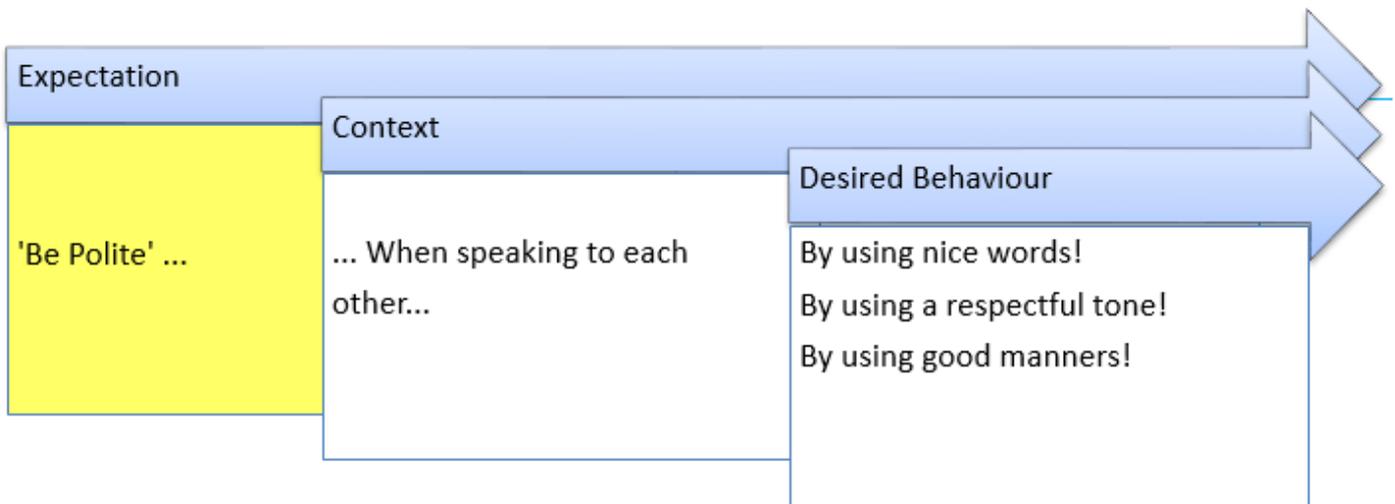
Once again thank you for your support and patience with all that is going on. It makes it hard at times for us here at school, as we have seen this week, with the media releasing information about the return of students to school before the Department of Education was informed of the decision and before they could inform schools.

We are so happy for our students, your children, to coming back to school. Please be assured we have everything in place to keep them safe. We can just imagine the excitement and smiles we will be greeted with on Monday.

Take care and keep safe

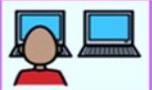
Ona Buckley and Dan Betts

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Weeks 3 & 4



This fortnight teachers will be talking to students about how to 'Be Polite' especially when they are speaking to each other at school and online. Lessons will have a focus on using nice words, a respectful tone and using good manners.

Positive Behaviour for Learning Online

Be Proud	 Try your best	 Keep your area tidy	 Feel good about your efforts
Be Co-operative	 Join in group work	 Follow online routine	 Finish your work
Be Polite	 Use nice words when talking online or at home	 'Please'	 "Thank you"
Be Safe	 Wash your hands for at least 20sec	 Only use the websites your teachers have given you	 Tell your teacher if you see something mean or rude
Be Responsible	 Check it is ok to go online	 'Check in' on time	 Take care of your device

To ensure we are being responsive to our students needs and to assist them in safely navigating the digital world teachers have continued to discuss on-line safety themes. In addition to our whole school focus teachers have been talking to their students about the importance of being safe, responsible, and cooperative, while working remotely.

If you have any questions regarding this fortnights PBL message please feel free to contact Mrs Williams in the office.

Michelle Williams
Assistant Principal Student Wellbeing

New Online Enrolment System

Online enrolment for new students is now available at our school! If your child lives within the local area and is an Australian or New Zealand citizen and wishes to enrol at our school, you can enrol them through our school website under the 'Enrolment' tab.

The Online Enrolment System is designed to provide flexibility for parents to submit an Application to enrol in a NSW Government School online at the time that best suits you. The application can be accessed on all browsers and mobile devices including iOS and Android.

The online application process is currently restricted to:

- Enrolments into **local** schools only
- Children who are Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or permanent residents
- Children who live in NSW

We offer our support and encourage you to complete your application to enrol online. If however, you do not feel comfortable completing an application online, a paper copy will be available for collection from the front office or can be downloaded from the Department's [going to a public school site](#).

If you would like further information please come and see us in the office.

Important Attendance Information



All students should be at school unless:

- they have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition
- they are currently unwell.

If your child is unwell, do not send them to school. If they are unwell at school, you or your nominated emergency contact will need to collect them immediately. Please ensure your child's contact details are up to date. If a student is absent without a medical reason for more than three days, this will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and will be followed up by the school.

If you have any questions regarding your child's attendance at school please call the office on 43 413555.



It has been wonderful to have the children phase back into Guliyali Preschool this past fortnight. It was clear the children were excited to be back, rekindling friendships with their peers and settling back into the preschool environment very comfortably. A huge thank you to our families who adhered to the social distancing measures and precautions put in place within the preschool.

Upon their return, the children have been busy in the garden, planting a variety of vegetable seedlings. We will continue to care for them over the coming months until the produce is ready for harvest. The children have also shown a great deal of responsibility using REAL TOOLS! They have been hammering nails, using screwdrivers and measuring different sized objects. We are beginning to collect materials for an outdoor risky play/loose parts learning space and would appreciate any donations from the wider school community to assist in the setup of this space (large cable reels, tyres, ply, large PVC pipes, rope, milk crates etc).

Please contact Miss Williams on whitney.williams7@det.nsw.edu.au if you have anything you may be able to donate.

Whitney Williams
Preschool Teacher



The Department of Education recently announced on that all students will resume normal attendance from Monday 25th May. We are excited to welcome all of our students back to Preschool and encourage all of our families to download the 'Skoolbag' app to receive the latest updates from our Principals Mrs Buckley and Mr Betts.

Science at Home

'The Exploding Lunch Bag'

Here's a little science experiment you can do at home. You can practice your chemistry skills by mixing two chemicals in a lunch bag to see what happens! But we want to do a science experiment, so we need to record what happens and try to discover why it happens.

What you will need;

A zip lock lunch bag
A bottle of vinegar [about 5% acetic acid]
Baking Soda [Bicarbonate of Soda]
Measuring spoons



Directions:

1. Measure one teaspoon of Bicarbonate of Soda and place in your lunch bag
2. Measure one tablespoon of vinegar and place in the bag THEN quickly close the bag.
3. Observe and record what happens.

Then do this experiment again but change one element of your experiment. Some suggestions are; double the amount of bicarbonate of soda, increase the vinegar, use a smaller lunch bag. Whatever you like but record what you do and record the results.

After you have done three or more changes review what happened.

What did you conclude? Why do you think this happened? You can let me know the next time you are at school.

Mr Owens
Science co-ordinator

School Counsellor



Accessing School Counsellor Support



Moving forward into Term 2, if you or your child/children would like some extra support, I will be available for appointments either in person at school or via the phone, on Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 2pm. If you would like to arrange an appointment, please contact the school office to arrange a time.

Montana Wood
School Counsellor

Chaplain's Corner



Hi Students!

I hope you are all doing well. This week I have a fun challenge for you to complete. My challenge is for you to find a new hobby! A hobby is an activity that you enjoy doing. Hobbies can include things such as: dancing, sports, art and craft, finger knitting, reading, baking, necklace making, painting, bike riding, and so much more!! Trying new things makes life fun and interesting. It also helps us to learn and develop new skills. What will you try this week?

Have a look at some of the things you may like to try below!

Miss Campbell
The School Chaplain



Library News



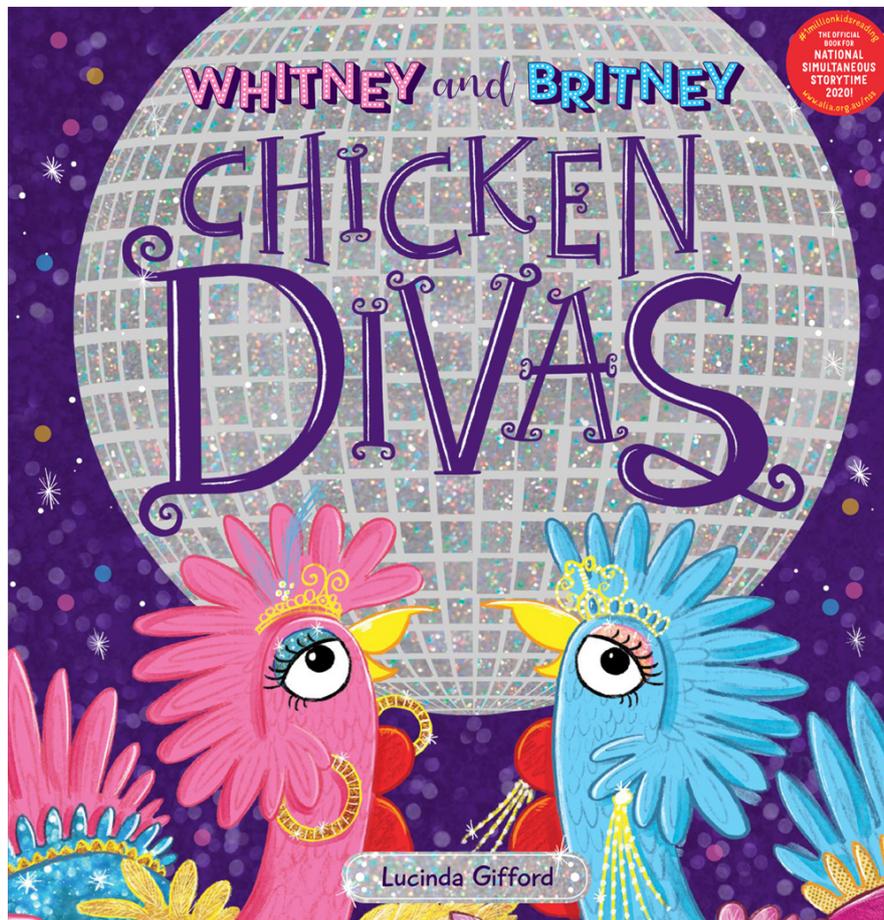
Book Club

Orders for issue 3 have now closed. Issue 4 will be available for orders in the next few weeks.

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge

The NSW Reading Challenge is up and running. Students are able to log their reading using the online reading log. See Mrs Walker if you need any help. Go to the website for information

<https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html>



Woy Woy Public School will be participating in this year's National Simultaneous Story Time event.
Date: Wednesday 27th May 2020. See the website for further details <https://www.alia.org.au/nss>

Aspire Home Reading



Congratulations to the following students who have reached their 25, 50, 75 & 100 nights of home reading!

25 Nights Alyssa Holden 3/4B, Noah Brown 3/4B, AJ Joffrin 3/4LB, Bella Healey 3/4LB

50 Nights Imogen Graham 3/4B, Noah Brown 3/4B, Claire Zhu 3/4LB, Bella Healey 3/4LB

75 Nights Elisha Newcombe 3/4B, Claire Zhu 3/4LB, Bella Healey 3/4LB

100 Nights Elisha Newcombe 3/4B



Messages from the Office

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

****** Unless your enquiry is a matter of urgency please restrict entry into our office area ******

Office Hours

School phones are manned from 8.30am until 3.15pm. The office window is opened at 8.30am and closed at 3.00pm however office staff are available until 3.15pm. There is a teacher on duty at the bus lines until 3.20pm.

Changes to Going Home Arrangements

Could you please ensure that your child is aware of how they will be going home in the afternoon. If these arrangements change during the day it would be appreciated if you could contact the office prior to 2.00pm to ensure that the message is passed on to your child.

Skoolbag APP and Website

You can download the WWPS Skoolbag APP to both iPhone and Android devices. Event updates and important information will be sent out via our Skoolbag APP and you can record your child's absence from school here as well. You will also find our School website at <http://www.woywoy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/> which is regularly updated with events happening in our school. The School email address for correspondence is woywoy-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Student Mobile Phones

Students who bring their mobile phone to school are asked to leave them at the office on their arrival and collect it at the end of the school day. Students are not permitted to have their phone with them during the day. It is also helpful if their name is on their phone.

Late Arrival / Early Departure

If your child is late arriving to school or needs to leave early for an appointment, a partial absence slip is to be collected from the school office prior to going to your child's classroom. This slip is given to the classroom teacher.

Payment of Money to the School

School fees and activity costs can be paid by credit card via the Woy Woy Public School website (<http://www.woywoy-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>) using the 'Make a Payment' tab.

If you are making a cash payment please place the money in an envelope with the child's name, class and the reason clearly noted. We have cash collection envelopes at the school office for your use. All money is to be given to your child's teacher. When making payments for multiple children, separate money and envelopes for each child is appreciated, as it is very time-consuming to sort out at the time of receipting.

Annual Permissions

Please keep a look out for permission booklets going home with all students next week. Booklets will contain all general permissions to be signed and returned to the school.

Thank you

Linda Goldsmith – School Administrative Manager

This past week both the Federal and State Governments announced an easing of restrictions because of a sustained flattening of the COVID-19 infection curve. While this is positive and welcome news, the pandemic continues to be a challenging and evolving situation for all of us.

This health crisis has changed our usual way of living for the time being. We are humbled by the wonderful Australian spirit in the community as well as the tireless work and positive collaboration of our educators at Woy Woy Public School ensuring our students continued their learning on-line and transitioning to a full return to face to face learning swiftly. We ask all parents/carers to respect the directives and procedures put in place to ensure the safety of staff including restricting access to the site (playground, classrooms) for any adults who are not deemed essential visitors from Monday 25 May.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents/carers who have asked how they can help during these unprecedented times. The staff are incredibly grateful for your kindness and expressions of appreciation. Your well wishes, kind gestures, and messages of support have been inspirational. The Office Bearers, on behalf of the school community have asked how we can help also. At this point of time, there has been no specific requests from the school, however, we are sure we will be informed if there is a future need and will respond accordingly.

Uniform Shop

****** Every Thursday | 8.35am - 9.00am | CA Room ******

From Thursday 28 May, the uniform shop will be resuming operation. Please ensure that social distancing rules are adhered to when visiting the shop.

Online orders are also being processed and delivered to classrooms or to the office. You can download an order form anytime from this newsletter or the school website under the "Our P&C" tab. The uniform shop email address is wwpsuniforms@outlook.com.

We will notify the community of any changes to uniform shop operations via the school's communication channels - Namalata, apps and FB updates.

Next P&C Meeting of 2020

At this stage, the Association is unable to provide any future meeting dates that comply with the current Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order 2020. Our aim is to meet in Term 3 on Wednesday 12 August, and we look forward to seeing you then. In the meantime, we continue to operate cautiously and sensibly.

Joshua Owen
Acting President
WWPS P&C



Snack Shack News

Welcome back everyone

Our canteen is open for breakfast, lunch and recess.

We do encourage online ordering, flexischools.com.au

Children can use cash to purchase breakfast, snacks and ice creams and any other counter items at all the breaks.

Thank you

Anne
Canteen Supervisor



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SCHOOL BUS SERVICES UPDATE

With the recent announcement of social distancing on bus services, Busways wants to clarify that school services are not affected and will not have limited capacity.

Service operations

School services will continue to operate as normal, with no student to be left behind. NSW Health advice is that children are at lower risk of contracting COVID-19. Transport for NSW and Busways have increased cleaning measures on board bus services and will continue to monitor transport usage to support students travelling safely to and from school.

Our policy is that no school student will be left behind and as such, school students will be given priority over other passengers on regular route services even if this means a service goes over physical distancing capacity. Adults may have to wait for the next service or choose to get off if they're not comfortable with how many customers are on a service. All services will continue to operate to a normal timetable until advised otherwise. Please remind students that they are still required tap on and off with their Opal card or show their school bus pass when boarding.

Current COVID-19 advice

It's important to continue communicating to students that we all have a responsibility to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Where possible, students should maintain social distance from each other on board bus services. If different school groups are boarding a bus, each school should maintain social distance from the other and students should always maintain a safe distance from their bus driver, where practically possible.

Busways has continued to exercise additional procedures for all Busways employees to follow in order to limit any chance of the virus spreading. This includes issuing employees with hand sanitiser, requiring employees to wash their hands every time they enter and leave a worksite, employees staying home if they're unwell, and minimising the handling of cash.

For any further questions, please contact Busways' Customer Experience team at infoline@busways.com.au.

Regards,

Sarah Langthorne
Customer Experience Manager
[email replies go directly to - infoline@busways.com.au]