



3 February 2020

TERM 1

WEEK 2

Principal's News

WELCOME

Last Friday, we welcomed 14 new Kindergarten students to our school. To these students and their families, we extend a special welcome and wish them a long and happy association with our school. Most of our new students coped very well with the introduction of 'big school'. They waved mum, dad, aunts, grandma and grandpa off, without any hesitation. When I visited the classroom, every child was happy and comfortable in their new environment. Congratulations to parents for the preparations you have made over the last six months to get them to this point. I also thank and congratulate our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs AJ Rabbetts, for her efforts to ensure the children remained happy and comfortable. Kindergarten will spend the next few weeks getting to know their new environment, establishing routines and making new friends.

I also welcome to our school a number of new families whose children began at Brooklyn Public School from Years 1-6. We will make it our top priority to ensure your children feel settled and happy in their new school too. To this end we have placed each child with a buddy from their class to help show the children around. If you are unsure of any procedures please don't hesitate to see your child's teacher or contact the school office.

I wish to thank our staff who have worked consistently over the holidays both on and off site to prepare for our students.



CALENDAR DATES

WEEK 2-TERM 1 2020

Tues 4 Feb	Band Big Blow
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WEEK 3-TERM 1 2020

Thurs 13 Feb	Yr 6 Gibberagong Leadership Camp
Fri 14 Feb	Yr 6 Gibberagong Leadership Camp Summer PSSA begins

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon 17 Feb	Mariners—Soccer Skills (for 6 Mondays)
Tues 18 Feb	Seniors Cruise
Wed 19 Feb	Welcome BBQ 5.00pm Meet the Teacher 5.30-6.30pm
Tues 10 Mar	Zone Swimming Carnival
Thurs 12 Mar	Selective High School Test
Fri 20 Mar	Harmony Day
Fri 27 Mar	Sydney North Area Swimming Carnival
Thurs 9 Apr	Yrs 5/6 Riverside Theatre Last Day of Term 1

Welcome BBQ

The school will be hosting a Welcome BBQ for all Kindergarten families as well as new families to our school, on Wednesday, 19 February 2020. I hope all Brooklyn families are available to join us on this evening. Notes will be sent home this week and we look forward to seeing you all then.

Class Formations

I would like to explain the way in which classes are formed at BPS. Parents may not be aware of the hours that are put into planning the best class structures to create the most positive learning environment for all children for the year. The process begins towards the end of the previous year and involves further refinements right up until the day the classes are formed.

A great many factors are taken into consideration and include the following:

Department requirements in relation to class sizes

The Department of Education has mandated the size of classes from K – 6. The formula is designed so that on average across NSW, no class need exceed a certain number in each grade.

The principal is also advised to form classes in the best interests of all children. It is quite common for composite classes to be formed. Parents often have questions or concerns when across stage composites are formed but I can assure you that differentiated instruction ensures learning is tailored to meet individual student needs. I have put much thought and effort into what I believe to be in the best interest of all students at the school and I am confident that the structure is the most appropriate for our context. All teachers at BPS are committed to ensuring individual student needs are met and that each child will reach their full potential.

I will ensure teachers are supported in planning effective programs to cater for students in different stages. As such I am employing an additional teacher for 2 days a week, above the school entitlement, to provide enrichment as well as learning support to assist in catering for individual student need. I myself will also be providing direct in class support to build the capacity of teachers, support students in the classroom and ensure quality teaching and learning at BPS.

I am really excited about this positive start and look forward to a fantastic year of learning at BPS. I thank parents for their support of my decisions for the effective running of the school as positive family-school partnerships contribute to improved educational outcomes and student wellbeing. Schools are productive places when everyone is working together and we encourage open communication and positive partnerships.

If you would like to discuss this further, please join me for an informal chat over a cup of tea and biscuits in the library on Tuesday afternoon from 4pm.

Please also be aware that enrolments are still continuing to come in. A plan is in place, should our numbers continue to grow.

Today, children in Years K – 6 have been placed into 2020 classes as follows:

2020 Classes

Class	Number of students	Teacher
K/1	21	Mrs AJ Rabbetts
2/3	25	M Paul Teunis
4/5/6	26	Mrs Dionne Mitchell

Support Programs

RFF Library	Mrs Penny Broome
RFF Creative & Performing Arts (Music Term 1)	Mrs Penny Broome
Instructional Leader & in class support	Mrs Kelly Cartwright
Additional Learning Support & Enrichment	Mrs Kelly Apps (2days a week)

All teachers are entitled to 2hrs per week of non-face to face teaching for planning and preparation. This is called relief from face to face teaching (RFF). During this time each class is taught by the RFF teachers. We offer Library and Creative and Performing Arts during the RFF program.

School Psychologist

Mrs Colleen Meehan has been appointed to our school as our school counsellor.

Administrative Support

School Administrative Manager	Mrs Debbie Aselford
School Administrative Officers	Mrs Roz Bird Mrs Lynette Hodder

Meet the Teacher Information Evening

The Meet the Teacher information sessions this year will take place after the Welcome BBQ on Wednesday 19 February. These meetings provide an opportunity for parents to meet their child's classroom teacher, hear about routines, programs and expectations. Educating your child is a three-way partnership, between the school, the parents and the child. It is important we all work together and play an active role in supporting the students. This evening is not an opportunity to discuss individual children. Parents wishing to speak with the teacher about their child may organise an appointment directly with the teacher. Later in Term 1, we will be organising meetings with each family to discuss your child's progress.

Wednesday 19 February	
Welcome BBQ	5pm
K/1	5:30pm
2/3	6:00pm
4/5/6	6:00pm

Coronavirus

Current advice from the Australian Government Department of Health for parents in regards to the Novel Coronavirus is:

- Any student and staff arriving in Australia *from 1 February 2020* who has been in mainland China or transited through mainland China (not just Hubei province) is excluded from school and child care services for a period of 14 days from the date they left mainland China as the Novel Coronavirus' incubation period can be as long as two weeks.
- Any confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded until they are medically cleared to return
- Close contact of a confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus will be excluded for 14 days since last contact with the confirmed case.
- Any student and staff arriving *before 1 February* our previous advice remains that students and staff who were in Hubei province are excluded from school or child care services for 14 days, and those who were in the rest of China are requested not to not attend school or child care services for a period of 14 days after leaving China.
- More information can be found at [NSW Health](#).

Students who returned to Australia from mainland China more than 14 days ago and have shown no symptoms are able to return to school.

The Ministry of Health has processes in place to identify any close contacts of cases confirmed in Australia. Advice about not attending school would be provided to these close contacts by the Ministry of Health.

There has been a small number of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus in NSW.

Consistent with current guidelines, staff and students who are unwell with respiratory illness should remain at home until symptoms resolve.

In accordance with our current practice if any child becomes unwell we will implement our infection control guidelines and follow the advice provided by the Ministry of Health as appropriate.

The Department of Education will continue to work with the Ministry of Health to monitor and respond to the unfolding international novel coronavirus situation.

Swimming Carnival

Last Friday Brooklyn Public School participated in their combined annual swimming carnival with Cowan Public School. All of our competitors showed fantastic spirit and enjoyed a wonderful day. Details of any students moving onto the next level of competition will be published in a subsequent newsletter. A special thank you must go to the parents who kindly volunteered their time to support our swimmers and assist with time keeping as well as the teachers for organising an extremely successful day.

Skool Loop App

I urge all parents to download the Skool Loop App on their mobile phones and devices. We use this regularly as a means of updating and reminding you of events.

Medication

Parents please remember to send in to the office all medications and Epipens that were returned to you before the holidays. It is very important to ensure all medications are in date and have not expired. Also ensure all medical and asthma plans are up-to-date when you return them to the school. Thanking you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Kelly Cartwright
Principal
3 February 2020



Swimming Carnival

- perfect day for
a swim!



Health and Safety is everyone's responsibility.

Your Child's Medical Needs

Information about allergies, asthma, diabetes and medical procedures helps us support your child's health and wellbeing. Please provide relevant information to the school.

Please note: Information you provide will only be used or disclosed in order to support your child's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

First Aid



Our first aid officers are Deb Aselford and Roz Bird. First aid is administered in the School Office building. If you injure yourself while on site please go to the office or ask someone to alert the first aid officer. They will assist you.

Live Life Well @ School

KIDS EATING HEALTHIER FOODS

What to pack
for

Crunch & Sip

Pack a water bottle
and a container of bite
sized pieces of fruit or
vegetables ready to eat
in the classroom.

Choose an easy to eat
fruit or vegetable that
isn't messy.



For more ideas see:
healthy-kids.com.au/crunchsip-healthy-snack-ideas



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District



Try A Dance Class

- ❖ JAZZ
- ❖ BALLET
- ❖ BARRE ATTACK
- ❖ PERFORMANCE GROUPS
- ❖ TAP
- ❖ ACRO
- ❖ HIP HOP
- ❖ LYRICAL

FROM 2 ½ YEARS - ADULT



Email: Jan@BelcastroDance.com

Phone: 0408 473 803

Enquire Now For 2020