



15 FEBRUARY 2021 TERM 1 WEEK 4

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

#### **WELCOME**

### **Meet the Teacher Information Evening**

Thank you to all parents and carers that joined us on Wednesday night for the 'Meet the Teacher' parent information session. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to connect with families and for you to meet your child/ren's classroom teacher for 2021.

As mentioned in previous correspondence, parent teacher interviews will take place towards the end of Term 1, giving each family an opportunity to discuss their individual child's progress. Should you wish to talk to your child's classroom teacher before then, please organise an appointment with the classroom teacher through the school office.



#### **School Bus**

It has come to our attention that a number of students are either forgetting their opal card or are not scanning on and off the bus in the morning and afternoon. As you are aware, bus runs are allocated based on demand. The scanning of opal cards is the means in which data is collected to identify demand for certain bus routes. If students are not scanning on and off the bus, they are not counted in the data and it may look like the demand for a particular service is not there. Services or routes may be cancelled or deemed not viable if it appears the demand is not there.

#### Hats, sunscreen and water bottles

There have been a number of hot days recently and we ask that all students remember to bring their hat and drink bottle to school each day. We understand that on occasions students may forget these items. School bubblers are available to be used to refill drink bottles throughout the day and students are asked to play in shaded areas during the day if they forget their hat.

# <u>Summer Interschool Sports Competition</u> (previously known as PSSA)

The summer interschool sports competition is nearly upon us. This Friday will be the first game of the season. Please ensure that your child's permission note and payment has been received at the school office before Friday in order for them to participate. If any student still has their jersey at home from last year, they are asked to return it to school tomorrow.

CALENDAR	
Tuesdays	7.45am Performance Band meets
Thursdays	7.45am Senior Jazz Band meets
Thursdays	8.15am Beginner Band meets
Week 4	
Wed 17 Feb	AGHS & ABHS School Visit
Thurs 18 Feb	AGHS & ABHS Year 6 Experience Day
Fri 19 Feb	SISC (PSSA) / Tennis
Week 5	
Mon 22 Feb	Footsteps Dance
Fri 26 Feb	SISC (PSSA) / Tennis
What's Coming Up	
Thurs 4 Mar	P&C AGM & General Meeting
Mon 1, 8 Mar	Footsteps Dance
Mon 1 Mar	Scripture lessons begin

# <u>Interschool Sports Competition</u> Code of Conduct

Students, parents and coaches agree to participate in the Interschool Sports competition and adhere to the Interschool Sports competition Code of Conduct, to ensure a friendly competition remains as an area of growth and development for our students. The primary code is that all players experience fun, opportunity and skill development. Players along with their coach, have revisited the Code of Conduct and these students have brought a copy home to read and sign with their parents. Our school has had a long and valued relationship with other schools in the competition and we look forward to its continuation. Please support us by reading and adhering to the code. I wish teams the best of luck this Friday in their first game of the competition.

# **Learning Support**

Throughout 2021 learning support in K-6 will be overseen by the Learning Support Team (LST). This team is the key to ensuring that all students' learning needs are addressed. The Learning Support Team consists of the Principal, the School Counsellor, support teachers and class teachers who are referring. At the weekly Learning Support Team meeting, students' learning needs are discussed per class teachers' referrals. Referrals are prioritised, and if support is deemed appropriate, it may be provided in a variety of ways.

The options available at Brooklyn Public School are as follows:

- consultation between parents and teachers to <u>make adjustments</u> and accommodations to programs
- Counsellor assessment
- the implementation of intensive Literacy and Numeracy support
- implementation of transition programs from Preschool to Kindergarten and from Year 6 to high school
- regular reviews of students' progress
- regular reviews of students' behaviour

### Crunch 'n' Sip

For some children it is a long time between breakfast and their first meal break at 11:10am. When they are hungry they lose focus in the classroom, are tired and can be grumpy. For this reason, the school introduced the Crunch 'n' Sip initiative. This is a short break at 10:00am for students to stop and eat pre-cut fruit or vegetables or sip water, sent from home.

While they are eating, they may be listening to their teacher read to them, hear other students' daily news or another listening activity in their classroom. Parents are asked to ensure fruit & veg is available in their child's bag for this break.

### **Cyber Safety Update**

As the school year gets underway it is timely to remind parents of the dangers of online activity for children. The Commonwealth Government has dedicated significant resources to support parents ensure the safety of their children online. If you are yet to do so, please access the webpage of the E-Safety Commissioner:

https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents.
Another fantastic resource can be found at: https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides

### Scripture at BPS

Scripture classes are in the process of being finalised and are expected to begin in Week 6 (Monday). Please notify the office if there has been a change to your Scripture preference.

Special Religious Education (SRE) is delivered by providers that are approved by the Minister for Education for that purpose. Classes that we offer are based on the availability of trained volunteers from these organisations. At this stage, we will offer a class as follows:

Interdenominational

Students not attending SRE are given supervised alternative meaningful activities. Students will continue with the same arrangement as the previous year. If you are unsure of the class your child will attend, or would like to make changes to the class they have attended previously, please contact Toni Kirk in writing on:

brooklyn-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

#### Get tested!

Parents and carers are reminded that students must not attend school if they are unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms. Students must return a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom free for three days prior to returning to school. Many thanks to the parents that have been providing screen shots of text message results to our office and for supporting the effort to maintain community safety.

### **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.

#### Skool Loop App

I urge all parents to download the Skool Loop App on their mobile phones and devices. We use this app regularly as a means of updating and reminding you of events, as it is the quickest and easiest way to relay information.

# Kelly Cartwright Principal





# <u>P&C AGM</u>

& General Meeting

Thursday 4th March— Time to be confirmed!







Ku-ring-gai High School is a community that values individual worth and contribution. Our school ensures excellent student centred, coeducational and comprehensive education with a positive focus on developing students through future focused learning.

Visit us on our open days: Friday 26th February and Wednesday 3rd March Bookings Essential

For bookings and further information visit: kuringgai-h.schools.nsw.gov.au



Contact us 02 9144 3477 | 403 Bobbin Head Road Turramurra North kuringgai-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

# Anything is possible.



#### PROVIDING INNOVATIVE & SPECIALIST LEARNING SPACES

Set amongst 10.8 hectares of beautiful bushland adjoining the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, our students derive significant benefit from these natural, tranquil surroundings as they provide a relaxed atmosphere in which to learn and socialise. Our expansive grounds feature two full-sized soccer fields, a full-sized hockey field, tennis courts, and basketball courts. In 2020, we unveiled the refurbishment of 15 learning spaces across the school, including music and drama amphitheaters, the construction of a new multipurpose hall and an additional two performing arts learning spaces. This exciting project has delivered innovative learning environments for the next generation of young minds.

#### OFFERING AN EXPANSIVE CURRICULUM

As a small secondary school we have the advantage of offering smaller classes and individual learning programs; whilst maintaining our ability to offer a wide range of HSC courses from VET Entertainment Industry to Physics. Further, our innovative Talent Enrichment Program allows our students, in Years 7 to 10, to develop their talents, skills and interests. The Talent Enrichment classes run for two hours, once a week. Students are encouraged to choose classes that will build on their existing capabilities and strengths.

#### CONNECTING TO THE WORLD AROUND US

Ku-ring-gai High School offers a wide range of opportunities both in and outside the classroom that promotes a sense of connection to the world around us. Students are able to connect their learning with their lives outside of school through authentic learning experiences such as Creative and Performing Arts opportunities such as Schools Spectacular, Leadership opportunities, and Community opportunities such as the NSW Rural Fire Service Secondary Schools Cadetship Program and the PCYC Fit to Learn Program.



#### CREATING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Each year group at Ku-ring-gai High School follows a wellbeing program that aims to meet the personal and social needs of students and to enhance students overall wellbeing. We have a strong wellbeing structure to support our students; in addition to all school staff, we specifically have Year Advisers & Assistant Year Advisers, Head Teacher Year Groups, School Counsellors, Deputy Principal and Principal who are all invested and committed to ensuring all of our students have a sense of belonging at our school.

#### **FOSTERING A CREATIVE CULTURE**

Students have the exciting opportunity to be involved in the long-standing culture of Creative and Performing Arts at Ku-ring-gai High School through our innovative Talent Enrichment Program, a wide range of arts-focused subjects in our curriculum and the use of our new facilities. Additionally, students enrolling in Year 7 can apply to be a part of the Northern Academy of the Arts Program; a scholarship program whereby students who demonstrate an exceptional talent in the Creative and Performing Arts are able to extend their expertise in their chosen field.

#### THEIR SUCCESS IS OUR SUCCESS

With our small class sizes and strong wellbeing support network, our alumni community maintains a connection to staff and the school long after graduation. We value our students achievements and celebrate their success; for example Amelia Guan from the class of 2018 is currently a student at the New England Conservatory in Boston USA, Reece Propser from the class of 2017 is working as a performer at Disneyland Paris, and Geraldine Hakewill from the class of 2004 is an actress known for the lead role of Chelsea Babbage in the 2016 Australian drama series Wanted.

INSPIRE | CHALLENGE | CREATE | RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY | PERSONAL GROWTH