



8 NOVEMBER 2021

TERM 4 WEEK 6

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWS



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

### COVID Restrictions—Level 3

As announced by the Minister, from today (8 November), all NSW schools will move to updated Level 3 settings that bring school operations more in line with what is allowed in the community. I would like to update you on the key changes that will be in place at our school from Monday 8 November and for the rest of Term 4.

### **Keeping us all safe on school grounds**

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 students in Year 7 or above, 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.

### **From 8 November**

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.

## CALENDAR

### **Week 6**

Mon 8-Thurs 11 Nov	Book Fair Book Viewing
Wed 10 Nov	Footsteps Dance
Thurs 11 Nov	Remembrance Day Service
Fri 12 Nov	School Captain Speeches

### **Week 7**

Mon 15-Thurs 18 Nov	Book Fair Book Purchasing
Wed 17 Nov	Footsteps Dance OC Placement Test
Fri 19 Nov	NRL Sessions—all classes

- 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.

### **Parents and carers on site to support school operations**

Fully vaccinated parents and carers will be allowed on-site to support curriculum delivery, student wellbeing activities and school operations (for example canteens and uniform shops). Parents and carers must check in using the school check-in and show proof of vaccination on entry to the school site.

### **Student Attendance**

We are extremely grateful for the support that our school community has displayed with students returning to onsite learning at school. All students are now expected to have returned to school and we are unable to support learning from home. We appreciate that the return to school has been challenging for some and we are here to support you in any way we can.

Our students have displayed wonderful resilience in the manner in which they have returned to school and are happily engaged in learning when I visit the classrooms.

Thank you to parents/carers for all of your ongoing support with your child/ren's return to school.



### **Reports**

Teachers are currently writing the adjusted Semester 2 reports for students. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who have completed the student and parent/carer reflections on learning from home. Your observations are an important part of your child's learning this semester. Reports will be sent home in Week 11.

### **Intention to Apply for Year 7 Placement in a Selective High School in 2023**

Selective high schools cater for academically gifted students with high potential who may otherwise be without sufficient classmates at their own academic standard. Selective high schools help these students to learn by grouping them with students of similar ability, and by using specialised teaching methods.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2023, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 10 March 2022.

Detailed instructions on how to apply and the link to the online form will be available in early-October 2021 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

Applications open on 19 October 2021 and close on 17 November 2021. You must apply before the closing date.

You must submit only ONE application for each student.

### **Opportunity Class Placement Test**

As communicated in previous newsletters, the Opportunity Class Placement Test has been rescheduled to Wednesday 17 November 2021. The test will be one computer-based, 60 minute session and will be held here at school.

Parents will receive "Test Authority" advice by email on **Wednesday 3 November 2021** and a test information bulletin at the same time which will provide further detail including how students can familiarise themselves with a computer-based sample test. Test information was also sent by email to parents from the school on Thursday 4 November.

### **Student Data**

Now that students are back onsite, they are completing a number of assessments including PAT and check-in assessments, to assess their literacy and numeracy skills. The prime purpose of these assessments is to inform teachers of the students' next steps in learning.

In addition, this data evidences student progress as part of Strategic Direction 1: Student Growth and Attainment. In this target area we aim to improve reading and numeracy skills for all students K-6 each year. This information provides teachers with areas of strength and development for individual students and will also be utilised to plan learning for 2022.

### **Arrangements for the 2021-2022 Bushfire Season**

Our school has been identified as Category 1, and in a bushfire prone area.

To ensure the health, safety and welfare of students and staff, the NSW Department of Education has determined that on days when a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating is issued for our area, the school will temporarily cease operations. This is based on information obtained through a bushfire assessment of our school arranged by the Department.

A Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating does not mean there will be a catastrophic fire, but rather weather conditions that could pose a high risk for a bushfire. The rating is a proactive measure to ensure staff, students and the community remain safe. This is likely to occur on a very small number of days during the bushfire season, if at all.

The school will receive notification of a Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating on the day before the forecast is issued. To assist the school in contacting all parents please ensure that you have provided us with up-to-date home or after hours contact details. You can also check Skool Loop for up to date communications on school operations.

Please contact the school on 9985 7315 if you would like any further information about this matter.

### **Tell Them From Me Parent/Carer Survey**

This Term, our school will be participating in the Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school.

These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carers views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted over Term 3 and early Term 4. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

To access the survey for our school, go to: <http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/4p77f>

### **Tell Them From Me—Student Survey**

Like many other public schools in the state, our school will participate in a Department of Education initiative: The Tell Them From Me (TTFM) student feedback survey (Years 4-6). The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

The TTFM survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide us with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them.

The survey is confidential and is conducted online. It typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will be administered during school hours. An 'opt-out' consent was sent home with students on 5 November.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au>

### **Remembrance Day**

On 11 November we will hold a special assembly to commemorate Remembrance Day. A minute's silence will be observed and dedicated to those soldiers who died fighting to protect the nation. Students are asked to bring a flower to school to place under the flagpole.





### **Miss Munnings is getting Married!**

On Saturday 6th November Miss Munnings got married! We wish her and Declan all the very best for their exciting future life together and look forward to welcoming back to BPS Mrs Bennett!



6/5M had an amazing class party on her last day of school before the wedding and so much fun was had!

**Kelly Cartwright**  
Principal



*It is my favourite time of year!*

*The Scholastic Book Fair has landed at Brooklyn Public School!*

All the staff are very excited that the Book Fair has arrived in BPS' lovely library space.

To keep things in line with the COVID regulations, the Book Fair will be run a little differently this year.

Week 6 will be *Look and See* time only where students will have the opportunity to visit the Book Fair in class groups throughout the week and during Library time on a Thursday. This is the time to fill up those Wish Lists and count your pocket money. *We will not be taking any sales in Week 6.*

Week 7 will be *Buying Time*. Students will again visit the Book Fair throughout the week, with the last opportunities to purchase being on Thursday, 18 November during Library time.

Unfortunately, this year we cannot have adults visiting our Book Fair, but teachers will be on-hand to help students write out their Wish Lists and help pick out the books they are after.

Can't wait to see you there!

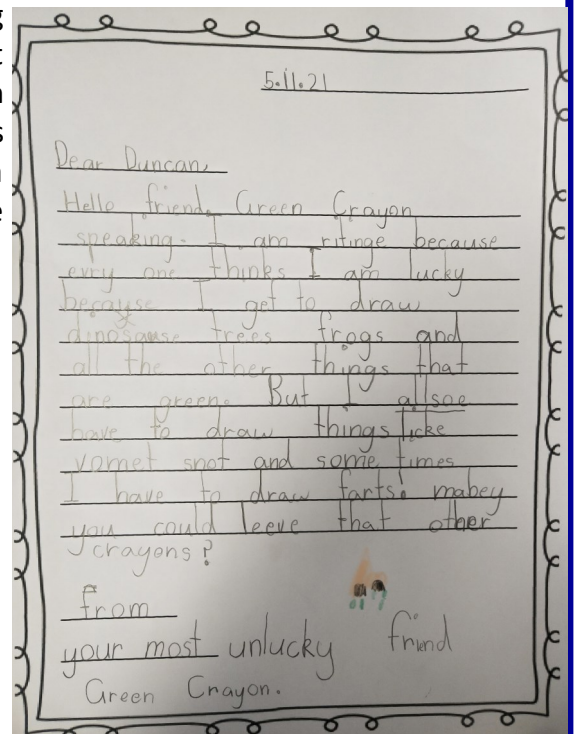
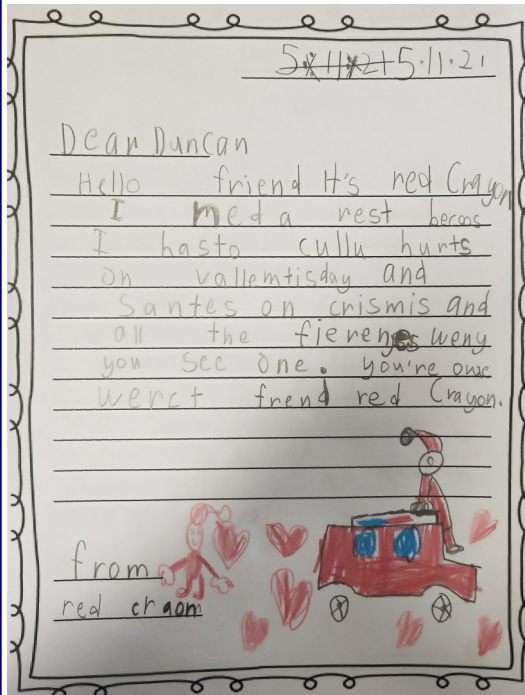
Miss Biviano

Scholastic Book Fair Co-ordinator

## What has been happening in 1/KW

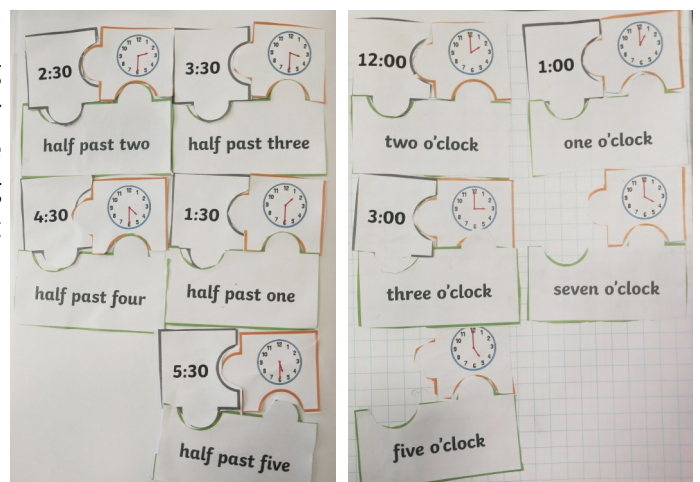
We have now been back at school for 3 weeks and the students in 1/KW have been working hard. After settling quickly, we were straight back to our learning and extremely happy to be back together.

In literacy we have looked at 3 books, investigating vocabulary, wondering and discussing together about what happened in the stories. We have enjoyed reading Stickman by Julia Donaldson, A Year On Our Farm by Penny Matthews and Andrew MacLean and The Day The Crayons Quit by Olivia Jeffers. We enjoyed The Day the Crayons quit so much, we decided to write our own letters to Duncan.



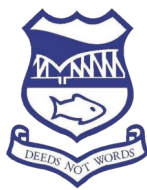
We have continued to work hard on our fine motor skills with our directed drawing time continuing to be a popular time of the day. This week's final directed drawing and colouring was also inspired by our reading of The Day the Crayons Quit, with some wonderfully imaginative colouring.

For maths we have been focusing on time, exploring analogue and digital clocks and learning to read o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, with lots of learning inside and outside the classroom. Year One have also been stretching their brains and using jump strategy to add 2 digit numbers together.



It was wonderful to be able to welcome Footsteps back onsite. 1/KW have some amazing dancers and they were impressive with how much of our dance they can already remember.

# Brooklyn Public School Public Speaking Competition 2021



Preparation for this year's Public Speaking Competition will begin from Monday 8 November (Week 6), with all Brooklyn PS students to prepare a speech over two weeks on the topic outlined below.

Public speaking in front of an audience is considered a huge accomplishment and needs to be encouraged and recognised. Every student will be encouraged to participate at the class level.

The marking rubric provides a guide on the elements of a successful speech. This will be used by teachers when students present their speeches to their class the week commencing Monday 22 November (Week 8). One student from each grade K-6 will be selected as the grade finalist.

**The seven grade finalists (one from each year) will present their speeches to the whole school on Monday 29 November (Week 9).**

Each class teacher will also award two Merit Certificates to students for outstanding effort or performance from their class. Good luck everybody!

## Theme for 2021: **Friendship**

Some possible interpretations may include:

- My best friend
- Playing with my friends
- Characteristics I look for in friends
- True friends
- How to be a friend
- Friendship means give and take
- The funniest day with friends
- International friendships
- Who needs friends?
- A friendship put to the test
- Friends are fun
- Can countries be friends?

### **Timing:**

**Kindergarten:** 1-2 minutes

**Years 1 and 2:** 1-2 minutes

**Years 3 and 4:** 2-3 minutes

**Years 5 and 6:** 3-4 minutes

***Paul Kelly Teacher 432L, Public Speaking Competition Coordinator***



# P&C Announcement



## TRIVIA NIGHT 2021 IS COMING!

We are excited to announce that tickets will go on sale for the 2021 **Brooklyn Public School P&C's 90's Trivia Night!**

Forget COVID, forget the Noughties and escape for 1 night to all that was good in the 90s!

Bid on Bling Auction items and Da Bomb raffles.

**When: Saturday 11th December 2021**

**Time: 3.00pm - 8pm**

**Where: Dangar Island Bowling Club**

Be there or Talk to the Hand!

**Major Sponsor Riverfront Real Estate**

***Tickets will be on sale via the trybooking website later this week..... more information to follow !***

Please contact the P&C on [bps.pandc.association@gmail.com](mailto:bps.pandc.association@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**Brooklyn P&C Association**

## Join us on facebook

**@BrooklynPublicSchoolPandCAssociation**

**Stay up dated with all things you need to know about school happenings**

Our **little** school by the river is extremely well supported by local businesses, the community and of course the parents and teachers. Because of this continued support, **Brooklyn Public School** is able to offer it's students the same opportunities (**and more**) that are offered at any larger school.

**STAYING CONNECTED IS ALL WE CAN DO.**

Email: [bps.pandc.association@gmail.com](mailto:bps.pandc.association@gmail.com)

Be a P&C member for \$2.00

Join online @: <https://brooklyn-pc-association.square.site/>

**Parents and Citizens Association**

Supporting our school is supporting our kids.



### \* NUT MINIMISATION \*

Please support our young students who live with life-threatening allergies to nuts by refraining from sending your child to school with nut-based food products like Nutella or Peanut Butter.