

Brookvale PUBLIC SCHOOL

AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILD

Together we provide a respectful and happy environment that promotes high expectations for all.

2020 – TERM 4 – WEEK 1

Communication

Each term three newsletters are published and uploaded to the SchoolEnews app.

Week 1 – The term calendar, assembly dates and a report from the Principal.

Weeks 5 and 10 – Updated calendar, reports from all classes, library news, sport news, award recipient names, community news and advertisements.

Incidental news items and reminders will be posted as they occur on SchoolEnews.

TERM 4 2020

We will update the school calendar as the term progresses aligned with point in time guidelines. Please be aware that these are proposed dates but due to the current circumstances, changes or cancellations could occur. We will let you know via the school app if this happens.

Monday 12 October	Term 4 resumes-full Summer uniform
19-23 October	Book Week- Curious Creatures, Wild Minds
Thursday 22 October	Book Week Dress Up Day
Friday 30 October	World Teacher's Day
9-13 November	NAIDOC week
Wednesday 18 November	Year 5 Opportunity Class 2021 Placement Test

From the Principal- Mrs Jane Stanley

Welcome back to Term 4

It was so lovely to welcome everyone back on Monday morning to Term 4. Refreshed and energised, everyone looked superb in their full summer uniform and incredibly eager to get back into the swing of things. Although they so quickly become a memory, I hope everyone treasured the special times spent with loved ones over the Spring holiday break. We extend a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this term and I know that you will love being part of the BPS community.

Term 4 is always a busy, but exciting term with many highly anticipated activities. While this term may look a little different to normal, we will continue to do our best to provide high quality and engaging experiences for our students aligned with current health advice. This will mean that many of our activities will be modified or may not be able to go ahead to ensure the health and safety of our school community. We will continue to provide updates as they are received. We will provide further details in the week 5 newsletter regarding Presentation Day and what that will look like this year.

One of the recent updates that we are most excited about is that Kindergarten Orientation sessions for students can go ahead with modifications.

School Planning for 2021

During Term 4 we begin planning for 2021 and accurate data regarding student numbers is important. Amongst others, this allows us to plan for staffing, classroom allocations and class formations. If your family is moving and changing schools for 2021 please let us know at the office as soon as possible. Likewise, if you have a child starting in Kindergarten 2021 and they are not yet enrolled, please contact the office ASAP to complete the enrolment process.

Kindergarten Orientation

Our Kindergarten team have been working hard planning for Kindergarten orientation. We are so excited that recent guidelines released by the DOE and NSW Health allow for our Kindergarten 2021 students (only) to come on site for orientations. If you have a child starting in Kindergarten next year we will be sending out email communication with all of the details regarding the COVID safe delivery of Kindergarten Information and Orientation sessions.

We will be running three Orientation sessions and encourage students to attend ALL sessions.

Friday 6 November 9.30-10.45am: Scavenger Hunt

Friday 13 November 9.30-10.45: Class session

Friday 20 November 9.30-10.45: Class session

For our parents/ carers, we will be holding a choice of two Kindergarten Information Sessions to be held via Zoom on Tuesday 3 November and Wednesday 4 November from 6-7pm.

Detailed information on both the Kindergarten Information and Orientation Sessions, including COVID safe drop off and pick up arrangements for the Orientation sessions will be emailed out to parents/carers soon.

Year 5 Opportunity Class Placement Test for 2021

The NSW Health Advice received on 14 August meant that the Opportunity Class Placement Test has been rescheduled to Wednesday 18 November 2020 for those students who have previously applied.

Only those students whose parents have received a confirmation email from the High Performing Students Team are eligible to sit the test on the day. The application portal will not be re-opened for new applications.

Current advice from NSW Health means that we could no longer use high schools as test centres. Students attending NSW public schools will be tested at their own schools with teaching staff administering the test.

Selective High School Applications for 2022

Selective High School applications for 2022 are now open for students in Year 5 this year. 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.

Applications for selective high school placement are considered mainly on the basis of the Selective High School Placement Test results and school assessment scores. The Selective High School Placement Test will be held on Thursday 11 March 2021.

If you would like to have your child considered for Year 7 selective high school entry in 2022, you need to apply on the internet using a valid email address (not the student's email address).

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available in late September 2020 at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-7>.

The application website opens at that link on 13 October 2020 and closes on 16 November 2020. You must apply before the closing date. If you intend on applying for your child can you please refer to the email sent home on Tuesday and complete the letter of intention to apply and return to school before the closing date.

World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is just around the corner! It is an opportunity to remember and acknowledge our teachers and say thank you for the significant contributions they make in our classrooms and communities. Celebrated in more than 100 countries worldwide, World Teachers' Day was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 1994 to recognise the significant role that teachers play in society. World Teachers' Day is held internationally on 5 October and celebrated in Australia on Friday 30 October.

On behalf of our school community, THANK YOU to all of our wonderful teachers for everything you do! We are fortunate to have such a wonderful team of dedicated teachers working together at Brookvale Public School to provide engaging, challenging and relevant learning and experiences for our students. I am always impressed with the positive relationships our teachers have with their students, knowing each child's strengths, areas of interest and the individualised support they give each student to help them reach their personal goals and aspirations. Our teachers are committed to continually improving their practise and are always willing to go above and beyond to support and help our students.

Our teachers have three loves: love of learning, love of learners, and the love of bringing the first two loves together.

Congratulations Miss Britton

Our warmest congratulations goes to Miss Kelsey Britton who was successful in gaining a permanent position at Stewart House commencing Term 1 2021. We thank Miss Britton for her wonderful contribution to our school community and know that she will be a treasured member of staff at Stewart House. We will miss her wonderful teaching and know that she will stay in touch.

Term 4 Staffing Update

Mrs Murphy Haste, our fabulous Teacher Librarian will be on leave from Week 3 - Week 10 inclusive this term. Library teaching and learning programs as well as borrowing will continue with Mrs Catriona Walker, one of our highly respected and experienced casual teachers will be taking care of the Library during this time.

Tell Them From Me Parent Survey

Thank you for the amazing response Partners in Learning parent survey, another part of the Tell Them From Me suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. We had a very high level of participation with 107 responses in total. Our next steps will be to form a focus groups of staff and parent representatives to analyse and synthesise the results to share with our community. This process will support our school to work closely with our community to set and prioritise goals aimed at improving their students learning, growth and well-being as we evaluate our current school plan and move towards the development of our new Strategic Improvement Plan for 2021-2024. We will be emailing out further information and an expression of interest Google form to parents if they are interested in participating in this focus group over the coming weeks.

Tell Them From Me Student Survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many other public schools in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

You may remember that our students also participated in a *Tell Them From Me* student survey in Term 1 this year. Asking students to complete the survey twice in one year allows us to identify trends in student responses as well as track engagement and motivation across the school year.

The 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. More than 6,300 schools in Australia and around the world have used *Tell Them From Me* to survey 5.4 million students. Capturing the voices of our students will help improve how we do things at our school.

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

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 21 and 23 October. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Tuesday 20 October**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>. The consent form and FAQs are available in 23 languages.

This snapshot will support with our new Strategic Improvement Planning for 2021-2024.



2021 School Travel Applications

To assist with any enquiries schools may receive about student travel applications, we have provided some information below. We have also attached an information sheet on School Travel for 2021 if you wish to share this in your school newsletter.

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened on Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now [apply](#) online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should [re-apply or update their details](#).

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.

Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the commencement of the new school year from their nominated operator, this may be distributed via the school or sent direct to their address. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students/Parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

Covid-19 Information for Parents and Carers

Thank you for your continued support during school drop off and pick arrangements. These seem to be all working smoothly. Please remember when waiting at the school gates for pick up to maintain appropriate physical distancing in accordance with NSW Health COVID 19 restrictions.

The Department regularly updates their website to reflect the current health advice and to ensure the community is informed of the expectations on school sites for students, staff and the community. The information can also be accessed using the link below.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families#School1>

The Department of Education also continues to provide enhanced cleaning in all schools, including our school.

I look forward to sharing in the learning journeys of our students this term and watching their continued growth.

Warm regards,
Jane Stanley
Principal

P&C Association



BROOKVALE PUBLIC SCHOOL
P&C ASSOCIATION



Term 4 Update

Fundraising Update

A huge thanks to everyone that voted in the Bolsta BIG UP Challenge for September. We are happy to announce that we WON the \$1000 for the month.

This \$1000 is a great help in a challenging time where we haven't been able to provide our yearly fundraisers.

This will be put towards the adventure playground we are fundraising for.

Up and Coming Meeting Dates

27th October @7:30pm
8th December @7:30pm



All P&C Meetings for 2020 are being held via Zoom

Please RSVP via Facebook for details

"...a forum in which parents can develop their partnership with the school and articulate their aspirations for their children's education.."