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23 October 2019

# Principal's Message

## Learning with Ms Becker

Welcome back to Term Four!

## Holiday Happenings

I can't believe how fast the year is going. I was once told that time actually doesn't fly and that it stays the same pace it always has so I have to ask myself, what is different? I believe the difference is engagement.

When we are excited and involved in so many things in our lives, we don't seem to have time to clock watch. This makes the day seem to go faster, years fly by, and also our children to grow!

Over the last holidays, I noticed significantly the changes in Oscar and Archie which gave me the harsh reality that if we don't stop to check in with our families, they grow within the blink of an eye.

Over the holidays I spent time with them running around our river and also just having good uninterrupted conversations with them that enabled us to really connect about their world and how they feel about it. I strongly encourage you to do that too.

### Cricket

This term our students will be involved in a free 4 week cricket program to complement our teaching of Physical Education. This will be at no cost to families as it will be funded through the governments Sporting Schools initiative.

The program will be delivered by 2 trained cricket coaches and our wonderful teachers. Throughout the program the students will take part in various cricket skill based activities that will include catching, throwing, bowling, batting and running.

If you have any concerns or do not wish for your child to participate please contact the school via the office.

Who knows, we may have an emerging Alyssa Healey or Mikaylah Hinkley in our school!

### Kindergarten Orientation

Our Kindergarten 2020 preparation has begun this week with our Information night kicking things off.

The orientation sessions will be as fun and engaging as usual where we get the chance to meet our future Seven Hills West Superheroes and also to see how much they already know from their early years learning.

If you know of any little superhero out there who is ready for Kindy, please invite them to come up and see us!







#### 2020 Planning

Our enrolments are key to the success of our school and the staff we can have. At this stage, we are looking like we will be able to sustain the structures of this year.

To begin planning for your child's learning journey in 2020, we would love to know your intentions for next year. Additionally, if there any areas where you would like clarification and or support in this, please make an appointment with your child's teacher.

We consider many elements and factors when organising classes so I am less inclined to make adjustments once this work has been set in place.

#### Year 6 Events

As we prepare for the last 9 weeks of our Year 6 student's primary school career, we are engaging in lots of planning to make it the best finish possible for them.

This year we have been able to purchase Graduation gowns for them and want to have a graduation ceremony for our graduating preschoolers and Year 6 students together!

We will send out a calendar of events of all of these events so you can be able to as much as you possibly can. Also, if you would like to help out with anything, please see Mrs Jade-Pierce to let her know.

### **P&C Meeting**

Our P&C met this week and we had a great meeting as usual. I cannot stress to you all enough the importance of this group within our school and value their input and contributions. I am aware that accessing this during school hours is problematic for some working families and would love to know how we can include the voices of working families as well in our planning and decision making.

If you would like to contribute or respond to the general business etc, you could provide correspondence in via email or letter to the P&C secretary. This way we can enable you access and participation that can be followed up on.

Please note that this forum is for general school business and specific issues relating to your child still need to come through your child's classroom teacher.

#### Dance2Bfit

We have begun our Dance2BFit sessions and I dropped in on Stage 3 learning to dance to my old favourite, Thriller! Every single student was moving and grooving and at one point, I thought I was actually watching the film clip to the song as they were that good!

Ask your children to share their new moves with you, who knows, you may be asked to dance with them at our next Halloween Disco or Year 6 Farewell!

#### Preschool

In our Preschool we welcome Mrs Rout back this term to support Preschool transition programs and work with the children in Preschool.

The children have all come back excited and ready to learn through play and practice calling Miss Raffen - Mrs McIntyre! Over the holidays, Miss Raffen got married and we are excited about practicing her new name, Mrs McIntyre. Congratulations Erin, you are a beautiful bride!



### Support

Ms Jenkins, our relieving Support Assistant Principal has shown how much she is enjoying 4-6A and working with the students. They are excited about their learning and are visiting me regularly to show off how clever they are.



If you would like to catch up with Ms Jenkins, please ensure you book your review meetings and share in the progress of your children.

#### L3

Our L3 training is going from strength the strength. All of the teachers have been training and networking with other teachers to be their best. At the end of the year, the regional trainers will be working with the teachers to plan and transition our students into their next learning phase.

### Lane Clark

Lane Clark works with our teachers throughout the year to build their pedagogy in inquiry learning. She returns this Friday for the progress check with teachers who are in their initial year of learning, and also to provide advice about how well we have been working on our inquiry units both in class and as whole school.

We are currently working on an inquiry about ways to rid our school of the pesky crows in a safe and friendly way. The students are learning their geography outcomes using this purposeful learning process.



## Celebrations - Diwali and World Teachers Day

It is such a busy and exciting time in our school, at the moment. We are also planning our Diwali celebrations next week as well and would love to have our community support in creating chalk paintings around our school. We are hoping to display lights above the entrances to each classroom to welcome the light into our school.

World Teachers Day in our school, is celebrated on October 25. I would appreciate it if your child could make a card for their teacher thanking them for their efforts and hard work. Teaching is such a rewarding profession and comes with the understanding that teaching your children are their focus in their spare time as well as their work time.

I would like to thank them for their contributions to our students, our school and to each other.

Kind regards, Ms Kylie Becker

# **Enrol for Kindy 2020**

#### **ENROL FOR KINDERGARTEN 2020**

If you have a child, or know of someone in the area (a neighbor, friend etc) who has a child turning 5 in 2020 (born **BEFORE 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2015**) – please come to the office to collect an enrolment form.

Original birth certificate (or passport and visa), Immunisation Statement from Medicare and proof of residence (ie rates/bank statement/lease etc) are also required for us to copy.



# Expression of interest – Preschool 2020

# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRESCHOOL 2020

If you have a child, or know of someone in the area (a neighbor, friend etc) who has a child turning 4 in 2020 (born **BEFORE 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2016**) – please phone, or come to the office, to place the child's name on our waiting list.

Expressions of interest are then considered by a Placement Panel during Term 3, and should you be successful, you will be contacted by the school to come and collect an enrolment form.



# **Important Reminders**

#### **ALLERGY ALERT**

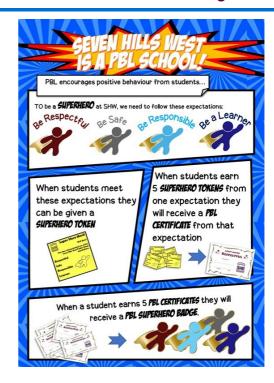
In the interests of the health and safety of all our students please ensure that your child does not bring anything to school for recess or lunch which contains nut and/or egg products. This will include peanut butter or Nutella spread on sandwiches, peanut butter dippers, snack packs with nuts and nut muesli bars.

Your understanding and support in this very important health issue are greatly appreciated.

#### **SCHOOL HOURS**

Children ARE NOT to be at school BEFORE 8.30am each morning and must be collected at 3.00pm each afternoon. Should your child need to be at school EARLIER than 8.30am or need to be collected LATER than 3.00pm, it is necessary for you to arrange for your child to be taken to **Out of Hours School Care** that is located on our premises. This is run by Wesley Out of School Hours Care and their contact number is 9626 1260.

# **Positive Behaviour for Learning**



# **Health and Safety Matters**

As well as keeping our staff and students safe on school grounds we aim to maintain a safe environment for parents. If you have a slip, trip or fall or any other issue related to parent safety in the school grounds please notify the office as soon as possible so we can endeavour to identify and resolve any hazards.

It is also a request that dogs not be brought onto the school site without prior permission. Companion dogs are always welcome as required, however pets in the school can cause stress to students and animals.

### Staff Car Park

A reminder to parents/caregivers. The Staff car park IS NOT a 'walk through' area or parking for area for parents.

Safety is of the utmost importance to our students and it would be appreciated if you would cooperate in regard to safety in our car park.

### **Student Toilets**

Just a friendly reminder that student toilets are **not to be used** by parents. If parents have a younger child that requires toileting assistance, please see the office staff to access the toilets located beside the new school hall.

Student toilets are to be used by **students** of Seven Hills West PS.

## **Changes of Clothes**

Children in Kindergarten to Year 2, can, on occasion, have an 'accident' by forgetting to go to the toilet at break time, or not advising the teacher that they need to go to the toilet.

This then results in children 'wetting' themselves and coming to the office for a spare change of clothes.

Our supplies are now depleted – so we ask that each parent with children in Kindergarten to Year 2 supply a change of clothing in their child's bag in case of emergencies.

We thank you for your support in this matter.

#### SHWPS Administration Office

### **Birthday Cakes**

We welcome small individual cakes or the like if your child wishes to share his/her birthday with the class.

Candles <u>ARE NOT</u> permitted and teachers are <u>UNABLE</u> to cut cakes.

## Calendar

#### TERM 4 2019

	Monday 21"	Tuesday 22nd	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 25th
2	P-6 Assembly 2pm Kindergarten Orientation Evening = 6-7pm	Kindergarten & Preschool Orientation 9am-11am		Dance28fit – Stage 2&3	PSSA
3	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 29th	Wednesday 30h Kindergarten & Preschool Orlentation 9 am- 11 am	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> Halloween Disco P-2 3.30-4 30pm 3-6 4.45-5.45pm Dance28fit – Stage 28.3	NOVEMBER Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> PSSA
4	Monday 4th P-6 Assembly 2pm	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 7th Dance28fit - Stage 2&3 Kindergarten & Preschool Orienfallion 9am- 11am	Friday 8th PSSA
5	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 13 <sup>h</sup>	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Dance28fit - Stage 2&3	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> PSSA
6	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Superhero Assembly P-6 2pm	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> P&C Meeting – 9.15am	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> Dance28fit – Stage 2&3	PSSA  Yrs 2-6 Assembly 11.20am-1.20pm Vote for School Captains & Leaders
7	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 27h	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> Dance28fit – Stage 2&3	Friday 29th Yrs 2-6 Assembly 11.20am-1.20pm Vote for Sports Captains

Dates and activities are subject to change. Please review newsletter, our Facebook page and/or our school website, for any changes.

# **Notes and Payments**

Please be advised that all school notes and written communication are now placed on our website for your easy access. Families that have requested multiple copies will now need to access the website. We are encouraging the use of technology @ SHWPS!

### **Important**

It would be appreciated, if when completing permission notes, you could include the child's FULL NAME (Given Name and Surname) AND CLASS, in order for the office to correctly identify the student who is participating in the special activity.

## Sending money to school

If paying by cash or cheque, payment envelopes are available to allow office staff to quickly record details for our students.

A reminder: A permission note must be completed for every student in the family for all activities. Please note the office does not carry change. Please provide the correct money with your payments. We encourage families to pay using our POP – Payment online system via our school website.

## Collection of Money and Permission Notes

To ensure that students' needs are met on excursions, extra curricula activities and for visiting performances, it is necessary to have procedures in place regarding payments and permission notes. These procedures allow teachers to:

- Ensure that the correct number of teachers are allocated to an activity or excursion
- Buses are ordered for the right number of students
- Book correct numbers for all activities on excursions
- Organise supervision for students not involved in these activities
- Cancel activities if numbers are too low, within a reasonable timeframe.

It will also allow the office staff to have correct numbers, permission notes and money organised before the day of the activity or excursion.

These procedures include any area where money is paid to the school e.g. Excursions, visiting performances, sporting events, book club etc.

For this to be implemented correctly all money must be paid to front office by the DUE DATE, there will be no exceptions.

Permission notes, fully completed with child's name and class, must be given to the front office once you have made your payment online, or at the same time as money is presented.

In cases of financial hardship, the school *may* be able to assist by contributing a part payment.

Please contact the office for more information.

## **Attendance**

Student attendance records will be closely monitored. If your child is absent, it is important that a note/certificate explaining their absence is given to the classroom teacher when your child returns to school. Parents/Carers will be given a letter if an explanation is not provided for the student's absence and this must be completed and returned to the classroom teacher so that the student's attendance records will be updated accordingly.

### **Student Absences**

The Department of Education deems that all students must attend school every day. Families are also advised that holidays should be taken during school holiday periods.

If your child is absent from school please notify the school in writing by either sending an email to the school email or sending a note to the class teacher explaining the absence.

If your child is sick for one day, you DO NOT need to ring the school but can send a note to school with your child on the following day.

Absences are recorded in the class roll and this roll is admissible as evidence in a court of law.

- Partial absences are also recorded in the roll, where a child arrives late to school or leaves school early.
- If a student is late to school, a parent should escort them to the office so they can give the reason for the late arrival.
- Students, who are constantly late to school, miss the morning lesson introduction and this can lead to gaps in learning.

Please endeavour to maximize your child's attendance at school to ensure that they have the best start possible, every day!

If you are intending to take leave for more than three days, and you know in advance, it is important that this be discussed with the school as an application for leave may be required. If your child is absent for longer than three days it is important that you contact the school to let them know the reason for the absence.

# Working with Children Check

We have received clarification from the department of education in regards to the requirements for parents and carers doing voluntary work with students in any NSW school.

We have been advised that a WWCC certificate is not required.

Any parent or carer doing voluntary work with students at Seven Hills West P.S will need to

- Complete Appendix 5 form (obtain from front office)
- 100 points of ID

Please ensure you visit the School office complete the above requirements prior to commencing volunteering duties.

Thank you for following this process to keep all of our children safe.

## P & C News

## **P&C Meeting**

Thank you to all parents who attended our meeting Tuesday 15th October.

Discussions were held as to events coming up, this being the last term of 2019.

Our next meeting will be held on <u>TUESDAY 19th NOVEMBER</u>, <u>2019 AT 9.15AM</u>.

Please come along and join us.

## **Uniform Shop & Canteen**

These facilities provide an essential service to the school. They are run by the P&C and require volunteers. If you have some spare time and would like to be involved with our uniform shop or canteen, please come and see us at the canteen.

#### Canteen

Parents, please note that the canteen only holds a SMALL amount of change. Kindly, **DO NOT bring \$50 and \$100** when ordering, as we only hold a coin float and cannot accommodate you with change.

## **Uniform Shop**

Opening Hours

Every Tuesday during school term 8.30am – 9.30am

#### P & C Committee

# **Community News**











## **Facebook**

## **Important**



Please note, SHWPS Facebook page is for informing parents of up-coming events/changes in dates/event cancellations and also showcasing photos of students and their events.

DO NOT use this forum to request appointments/interviews with teachers or ask about upcoming events. Should you need to contact a teacher or have a question, please ring the school on 9622 2136 to assist you with your enquiries.

Thanks.