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27 November 2020

# Principal's Message

## Leadership Habit

### Habit 2 - Begin with the End in Mind:



I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my family and contribute our family's mission and vision, and look for ways to be a good citizen.

As we prepare to end the year, we are also planning great things for 2021. We are putting in place exciting things that our students will enjoy, as well as organise our strategic planning to improve our educational programs and delivery for the future.

#### Technology Hub

We will be creating a Tech Hub with 40 computers and a mobile Interactive Whiteboard to improve our students' access to technology and enhance the digital learning curriculum. We are very excited about purchasing these resources for our students!

#### • Class Parties - Safety Reminder

A gentle reminder that with our COVID-19 safety plan, no food can be brought from home for class parties.

Similar to Terms 2 and 3, in Term 4 students cannot bring food or items from home to share with other children as we cannot guarantee they are sterilised.

This means students cannot bring lolly bags or toys to share with other for birthdays or end of year class parties.

#### • Semester 2 Reports

All classes are in the process of completing PAT assessments for Reading, Writing, Maths and Science. These online assessments will support an in-depth evaluation of our students' learning throughout the year and they will support the assessments in the Semester 2 Student Reports. Semester 2 reports will be distributed to parents in Week 9. Parents will be able to organise meetings with teachers if they need individual feedback on the reports.

#### Year 6 Gift

Our Year 6 students haven't been able to organise any fundraisers this year, however our school will purchase on behalf of Year 6 their annual gift to their fellow students. The 2020 gift to our school will be new playground markings.

These will include colourful rainbow snakes, number lines and other fun hopscotch, maths and literacy games for children to enjoy and play with. These playground activities will also support outdoor learning opportunities for all classes – particularly in the areas of English and Maths.

## Presentation Day – Tuesday 8th December

Our 2020 School Presentation Day will be held on Tuesday 8th of December in the school hall with our students.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 safety guidelines and space requirements needed for social distancing when 30 or more adults are involved, parents will not be allowed on-site.

However, we will be filming the event and we will send out the zoom link on the day for parents to watch.

## Year 6 Farewell Dinner – Wednesday 9th December

The Year 6 Graduation Dinner will be held in our school hall on Wednesday 9 December (5:30 to 7:30pm).

All students will need to be dropped off and collected by a parent from the main school gate, located beside the school hall.

As mentioned above, due to current Covid-19 safety guidelines, parents will not be able to be on-site.

#### Strategic Improvement Plan

Our Executive team have begun drafting our 2021-2024 strategic improvement plan and will begin staff consultation during our School Development Days.

We will also invite our Year 6 students and Student Representative Council to contribute to the strategic improvement plan.

Once our first draft is complete, we will be inviting our P&C Executive and interested parents to take part in the consultation and review process.

Compulsory School Attendance Guidelines

The Department's Compulsory School guidelines are included in the link below. The guidelines include expectations for daily attendance, punctuality and gaining principal permission for travel leave outside of the school holidays.

For part-day exemptions, these need Director approval and can only be endorsed in blocks of 5 weeks. Please read through the advice so that you are aware of the policy requirements.

Please click on the link below to access the guidelines.

https://schoolsequella.det.nsw.edu.au/file/51561b22-712a-4e 98-9873-6a14eae6cac1/1/english-compulsory-school-attenda nce-parent-brochure.pdf



#### Reminder - School Development Days for Term 4

A gentle reminder that the last day of school for our students will be Wednesday 16th December, as our School Development Days for Term 4 will be held on the 17th and 18th December with staff.

Our Term 1, 2021 School Development Days will be held on the 27th and 28th January.

School will return on Friday 29th January for Years 1-6 students.

Kindergarten will commence on Wednesday 3rd February, 2021.

Preschool will commence on designated days from Monday 1st February – starting times will be advised.

## Warmly

Shanti Clements Principal

## **STAGE UPDATES**

# Assistant Principal's Message – Stages 2 & 3

5H have thoroughly enjoyed using the new school oval for our sport this term.

We have been developing the knowledge and understanding of the abilities and skills required to participate successfully in different sports. 5H students have specifically been applying movement skills to the sport of League Tag, where they have been learning how to throw a football, tag opponents, work as a team and refine their different movement skills.

They have been working hard to improve their skills with increased confidence and consistency.





Mrs S Curran & Mr R Blood Assistant Principals

# Assistant Principal's Message – Early Stage 1 & Stage 1

Stage 1 have been learning how to write informative texts for English. They have been studying a real life Monarch Butterfly lifecycle as part of their learning process.









**1G** have been learning how to make fractions of quantities using concrete materials during Maths lessons. Ms Gatt is so proud of you!





**1G** practiced performing a traditional Indian dance as part of their Past and Present Family Histories lessons.



**1N** looked at the differences between autobiographies and biographies. Students had a blast writing about their friends, families and themselves in different formats. Mr Nunan is very proud of everyone's great biography writing efforts.



1/2A have been busy bees this week.

In English, we created story maps and then used these to write our own versions of Lost and Found.







In Mathematics, we have been using arrays to solve multiplication and division calculations.







As always, the children have been dedicated to their learning and their work has been wonderful! Keep up the hard work 1/2A!

2R have been working very hard over the past weeks.

We have been studying how to make our writing more interesting by using similes, onomatopoeia and alliterations.



In Mathematics, students have been using split strategy when solving subtraction problems.

They also enjoyed using concrete materials to make arrays and solve multiplication problems.





Great work 2R, Mrs Radhakrishnan is very proud of you!

Mrs K Gardiner
Assistant Principal

## Preschool

## Celebrating world children's day!



On Friday 20th November, we celebrated world children's day. We learned that this special day is dedicated to children all over the world no matter which culture we all come from.

We made a big banner using our hand prints and drew our ideas and representation of our own identity. We watched a UNICEF video for children's day and discussed how we all are special and unique no matter which country we all come from.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0QjODq1jE4Y

It has been hot and as a result we have had lots of water activities such as watering our gardens, water in the sand, water tunnels and water painting.





Mrs G Condello
Preschool Educator

# Assistant Principal's Message – Support

## Fractions in 3/6C

Students in 3/6C are learning about fractions with hands-on manipulatives and activities to develop a conceptual understanding of the topic.





#### Reviews

During Week 8, our support unit teachers, Mrs Gardiner and our school counsellor Mrs A Wilson, have enjoyed meeting with families for the Support Review Meetings.

We appreciate parents and caregivers using our School Interview System to book in times to discuss your child's progress and Individual Educational Plans.

Mrs K Gardiner
Assistant Principal

## **SCIENCE**

Our wonderful term of scientific learning continues!

This term SHWPS students have investigated Earth and its surface. All stages were given an opportunity to learn more about Earth and its resources. Students synthesised their knowledge to propose and explain actions that can be taken to conserve Earth's resources, including decisions they can make in their everyday lives.

Kindergarten identified different types of weather and they discussed climate-dependent behaviours. Stage 1 students expanded their understanding of solid waste management to include the idea of 3RC: reduce, reuse, recycle and compost.

Mrs Gupta is really impressed with the effort and initiative the enthusiastic SHWPS learners have demonstrated during investigations. Through hands-on activities, Stage 2 students explore five different forms of erosion: chemical, water, wind, glacier and temperature. They stimulated years of erosion and weathering effects by using some general materials around the school. Stage 2 is furthering this by discussing the reasons for erosion and weathering using manmade and natural structures as examples.







The imaginative Stage 3 scientists have also been busy. They furthered their design and thinking skills by creating shake tables to test the ability of buildings to withstand various types of seismic waves generated by earthquakes. They also applied their knowledge to create and design a prototype that could prevent or detect natural disasters, such as, volcanic eruptions, floods, tsunami and bushfires.









A huge well done to all students for their dedication and a thank-you to the SHWPS community for their continued support!

## REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLES

With the hot weather now returning, please ensure your child has a refillable water bottle each day so they can stay hydrated during our summer weather.



Additionally, a frozen popper in the lunch box will defrost by lunchtime and be refreshing for your child to drink.

## **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

#### Term 4 2020 ends

Wednesday 16th December for ALL students P-6.



Term 1 2021 will commence as follows:

Wednesday January 27 and Thursday January 28 are Staff Development Days - NO STUDENTS

Friday January 29 – Students in Years 1 to 6 return Monday February 3 – Kindergarten Students begin

# **LOST PROPERTY**



Please have your children come and check the Lost Property box near the canteen for anything you may have missing.

Anything not claimed by the end of Week 9 will be donated to charities.

# **NOT RETURNING IN 2021**

#### **STUDENTS NOT RETURNING IN 2021**

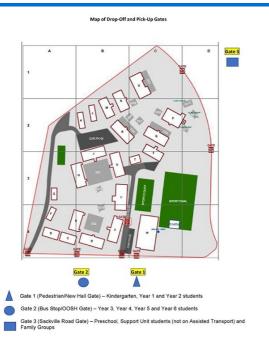
As the end of year is fast approaching - it would be appreciated if you would advise the office if your child <u>is not returning</u> to Seven Hills West in

This will assist us in organising classes in 2021.

There is  $\underline{no\ need}$  to advise us if your child is  $\underline{currently\ in\ Year\ 6}$  and heading off to high school next year.



# Map of Drop-Off and PickUp Gates



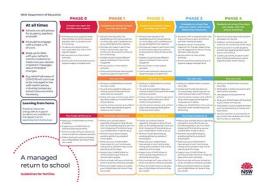
## **OOSH PICK UP/DROP GATE**

### SEVEN HILLS WEST OOSH

Parents who are dropping off or collecting students from OOSH please remember to use Gate 2 entrance.

Please **DO NOT USE** driveway gate.

# Managed return to school for families guidelines



# We're all in this together



# Everyone Stay Safe

Stay updated via:

Facebook

Schoolzine

Seven Hills West website





# Super Kids Breakfast Club

## Super Kids Breakfast Club is currently closed.

We will keep you updated with re-opening times.

# **Important Reminders**

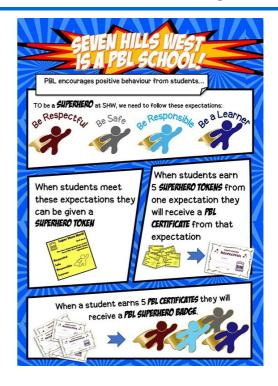
#### **ALLERGY ALERT**

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.



# **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 <u>not to be used</u> 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.

Additionally – our supplies for Years 3-6 have also depleted (shorts/skorts/shirts/underwear).

Any donations of clothing (not jumpers) for students K-6 would be greatly appreciated.

We thank you for your support in this matter.

#### SHWPS Administration Office

## **Birthday Cakes**

Until further notice – birthday cakes/lolly bags/party bags (including party favours bags) and ANY shared foods ARE NOT permitted.

We will keep you updated with when this can begin again.

## Calendar

# TERM 4 - 2020

8	Monday 30 CANTEEN CLOSED	DECEMBER Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4  CANTEEN CLOSED
9	Monday 7  CANIEEN CLOSED	Tuesday 8 Presentation Day Assembly Reports home	Wednesday 9 Year & Farewell dinner	Thursday 10	Friday 11  CANTEEN CLOSED
10	Monday 14  CANTEEN CLOSED	Tuesday 15	Wednesday 16 Year 6 Tunnel LAST DAY TERM 4	Thursday 17 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	Friday 18 STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
	Monday 21	Tuesday 22	Wednesday 23	Thursday 24	Friday 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
	Monday 28	Tuesday 29	Wednesday 30	Thursday31	JANUARY 2021 Friday 1 NEWYEARS DAY

TERM 1 - 2021

	JANUARY Monday 25	Tuesday 26 AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOUDYA	Wednesday 27	Thursday 28	Friday 29
			Staff Development Day	Staff Development Day	YRS 1-6 START KINDY BEST START
2	FEBRUARY Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5
	EMU preschool – refer starting date	EMU preschool – refer starting date	ALL EMU's attend	WOMAT preschool – refer starting date	womat preschool refer starting date
	KINDY BEST START	KINDY BEST START	ALL KINDY START		
	SWIM CARNIVAL - Yrs 3-6 7.45am-12pm				
3	Monday 8  ALL EMU's  Mon/Tue/Wed	Tuesday 9	Wednesday 10	Thursday 11  ALL WOMBAT's Thurs/Fri	Friday 12

# **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



As 2020 draws to a close I would just like to say thank you to all, for your patience and understanding in what was a very trying year.



Our canteen after all these years will be closing its doors for the last time on Wednesday 16th December, 2020.



All going well 2021 will bring an outside caterer to do the children's lunches.

Hope you all have a happy holiday.

# **Uniform Shop & Canteen**

# IMPORTANT CHANGES TO SEVEN HILLS WEST CANTEEN HOURS

The canteen is now **CLOSED ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS.** 

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the canteen will operate AS NORMAL.

Due to only being open 3 days per week, there will be **NO CREDIT** given and there will be LIMITED FOOD CHOICES.

Please ask your children to check the canteen noticeboard for any menu changes.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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.

#### ORDERING FROM THE CANTEEN

Students will be permitted to order from the canteen, following social distancing procedures.

They will line up on the yellow X crosses to safely order and purchase.

Students are to order lunches themselves, parents are not permitted at the canteen.

Please assist by having correct money for canteen orders, where possible.

### SALE OF SCHOOL HATS FROM CANTEEN

# SCHOOL HATS NOW AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE FROM CANTEEN

School hats will now also be available for purchase from the Canteen.

Should your child require a hat, please send the correct money, with your child, to the canteen to make the purchase.

Alternatively, you can still place an order through the Uniform Shop, which will be filled on a Monday only – and given to your child to take home.

\$10.00



\$15.00



### **Uniform Shop**

#### Our Uniform Shop is open for pre-orders only.

Completed uniform orders, with cash payment, to be sent to the office, and orders will be filled and distributed to students on a Monday.

Parents are not permitted to come to the uniform shop until further notice.

# UNIFORM SHOP NEW HOURS

# Uniform Shop will be open

## EVERY MONDAY

8.30am to 9.30am

Completed uniform orders, with cash payment, to be sent to the office, and we will fill the orders on a Monday morning and distribute to the student.

Parents are not permitted to come to the uniform shop until further notice.



#### 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.