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#### 16 December 2020

# Principal's Message

#### Leadership Habit

#### Habit 3 – Put First Things First

I spend my time on things that are most important. This means that I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and follow my plan. I am disciplined and organised.



This is our final newsletter for 2020 ... and a very special one as not only do I say 'goodbye' to our students who are heading onto the school holidays, but I also farewell our Year 6 students.

Our students are a wonderful group of young people who enjoy learning and taking on new challenges. I am immensely proud to be their principal and to support them in their future successes. Thank you to each and every child at SHWPS for striving and doing their best all year. I would like each and every one of you to know how much I appreciate and value your contribution to our school.

For those of you who will be ending your association with SHWPS at the end of the year, I extend to you my best wishes for the future. If your child is leaving Seven Hills West PS prior to graduating from Year 6, we certainly wish that they were remaining with the school and we are sorry that they will not benefit from the excellent variety of challenging academic, social, cultural and physical programs on offer.

To our graduating Year 6 students, you are now in the final days of 7 years of Primary School education. The excitement

of High School is just around the corner & the transition will present you with many exciting challenges and situations which I hope you accept and involve yourself fully in high school life. As I stated at the Year 6 Farewell Dinner on Wednesday night, you are a special group to me as your support helped guide me during my first year at Seven Hills West PS. I know your care, compassion and level of citizenship will prepare you well for the next phase in your education.

#### **Presentation Day**

2020 has been a wonderful year for Seven Hills West PS, with our children excelling in varied fields of student endeavour. I would like to congratulate every child who received an award on Tuesday's Presentation day ceremony, but I also want to say 'well done' to every child – whether they received an award on no. If you have done your best throughout the year, then you are a winner and should be very proud of yourself.

Thank you to our students, parents, staff, Admin and Executive team for a wonderful 2020. Despite the challenges of COVID-19 we didn't just 'survive', instead we thrived to create an exciting year of learning together.

# Please click on the link below to view our Presentation Assembly

https://drive.google.com/u/0/uc?id=1ZbKdrhl3MUDkpWeYs8 DSh6\_C76sSeAUu&export=download

#### School Leadership 2021

Every year, students from Year 2 to 5 vote for the student-elected leadership positions. Last week, 13 students in Year 5 students nominated themselves for one of 10 student-elected leadership positions and presented their 'election' speeches to the school. These positions are: School Captain, School Leaders - Vice Captain, and House Captains.

I congratulate all students who have been elected in these positions. However, I would also like to reassure parents that all Year 6 students in 2021 will have an opportunity to take on leadership roles and responsibilities as part of the introduction

of The Leader in Me program. This teaches students that leadership roles cover a range of diversity and skills ... and will give everyone a positive experience of school leadership next year.

Congratulations to our 2021 Leadership Team!

#### **School Captains**

Ashishe Rajaram & Monisha Khanom

#### School Leaders (Vice Captains)

Isaac Lal & Taylah Young

#### Sport House Leaders

Koalas - Beren Kilinc & Shreea Karki Kookaburras - Doaa Adam & Esoufa Saibou Kangaroos - Chelsea Major & Eknoor Bindra

#### **Opportunity Class Placement Test**

The Opportunity Class Placement Test was conducted on Wednesday 18 November 2020 in **1068** primary schools and test centres across NSW.

We expect to release the results to parents and schools in **mid-January 2021**, which may have implications for your staffing and class structures.

To ensure that most vacancies are filled by the start of Term 1, 2021, parents who are offered placement on behalf of their children will have just **one week** to respond to their offers.

By Monday 25 January 2021, all primary schools will be provided with an update of students from their schools who have accepted offers to schools with opportunity classes.

#### COVID-safe summer packs for students

As we come closer to the end of the school year, we'd like to extend our thanks to you, our parent community, for demonstrating so much resilience and patience towards the circumstances we faced together. We strived together to get the best outcomes for our students despite the pandemic and you have stayed by our side the entire time. Thank you again.

Here are some quick tips to help you and your families stay COVID-safe during the school holidays:

- Encourage your children to use their packs whenever they leave the house
- Meet outdoors whenever possible and wear sunscreen
- Meet in small groups
- Encourage good hand hygiene practices and remind your children to cough and sneeze into their elbow
- Keep up-to-date with the latest health information by monitoring the NSW Government website

#### Thank You

Many elements combine to make Seven Hills West the excellent school that it is, namely our wonderful teachers, students and parents.

Firstly, a highly professional and dedicated staff team work together to provide a nurturing and quality teaching environment where all students are encouraged to achieve their personal best in all that they do. Thank you to every staff member for their wonderful commitment to the children at Seven Hills West Public School. I would also like to acknowledge the support of my Executive Team in 2020: Katie Gardiner, Sherie Curran, Rob Blood, Alison Bruce, Regina Kennedy and Nicole Neylan. They have guided their teams with vision, generosity and commitment. I would also like to personally thank each and every teacher, SASS and SLSO staff member at our school. Our school has thrived in 2020 because of your amazing talents and dedication.

Our school is so very fortunate to enjoy outstanding levels of P&C support. Schools can operate without parental help; however, they do not operate as efficiently nor effectively without this help. So, may I offer special thanks to Ros Scanlon (P&C President), Sarah Brown (Canteen Coordinator), Judy Whitford (Canteen Volunteer) and Melissa Milne (Uniform Shop coordinator) for their ongoing support of our P&C projects, our school canteen and Uniform Shop. Thank you, also, to Rahul Guha for your generous donation of 25 computers.

It is a wonderful feeling when parents, students and staff work together to create a quality teaching environment that enables our children to obtain the best possible education. This is certainly the situation at Seven Hills West.

As we say goodbye to 2020, I would to acknowledge the contributions of several staff who are taking on new opportunities in 2021. Farewell to Amelia Wilson, Amber Craig, Lottie Aggar, Jisna Saji, Leisa Tindaglia, Peta Hanley, Nicole Kiddle, Akshi Gupta and Jennifer Johnston. We with you the most wonderful adventures to come! Thank you for the great job you did to support our students and school during 2020.

From all of us at Seven Hills West Public School, be safe and enjoy the school holidays. For those who celebrate Christmas, I wish you a very Merry Christmas. May you all also have a Happy New Year!

Best wishes

#### Warmly

Shanti Clements Principal

# Preschool

What a fun and fast term it has been. We have sent home your child's portfolio and library bags. The children have made you a gift to say thank you for all you do to get them to Preschool. We have been engaging in Christmas art, craft, songs and games. Our end of year fun day was celebrated with water play and water fun games. Although the weather went cooler, the children still participated in the water games and activities. My favourite was throwing a wet sponge at the photo of a teacher!

They also had fun running around the sprinklers with Mrs. North in her swim suit and making snow.



Mrs G Condello Preschool Educator

# Science with Mrs Gupta

What a great term of scientific learning! Mrs Gupta is really impressed with the enthusiastic SHWPS scientists who participated in various science activities, exploring principles and reasoning behind scientific phenomena as well as applying innovative and design thinking processes to build detection systems, model of the Earth, wind vanes, rock cycle and many more...Well done for your efforts!

Kindergarten had the opportunity to gain an understanding of the layers of the Earth by building clay models. They simulated day, night and changes in weather using these clay models, and explained reasons for these natural occurrences. Students also learnt the difference between global, prevailing, and local winds by building wind vanes.



Stage 1 students had the opportunity to explore methods of conserving Earth's resources. In their learning journey, they processed used or abandoned materials to create new products. Students were very curious to understand the importance of renewable energy and how humans have been harnessing wind energy for thousands of years. They built their own wind-powered devices which convert kinetic wind energy into other, more useful forms of energy.



Stage 2 students gained an understanding of weathering and erosion of the Earth's surface They understood how fossils are revealed through weathering and erosion processes and learnt about the rock cycle and formations of various landforms. Students also investigated how humans have been changing the Earth's surface for thousands of years and explored human activities, such as, building dams, through research and experiments. In these experiments, students understood that water acts as a force on the dams. They identified different types of dams and their advantages and disadvantages.



Stage 3 students investigated changes on the Earth's surface caused by natural disasters and explored how these may be mitigated. To gain an understanding of various natural disasters, they distinguished between the three movements of tectonic plates. To use their attained knowledge, they also created and designed prototypes of a prevention or detection system to alert people of a potential disaster in order to help them plan for and manage its effects.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Thank you to Coles Kings Langley, Woolworths Kings Langley and Kmart Blacktown for their generous donations towards our Year 6 Farewell.



We were able to decorate the school hall and provide the students with delicious soft drinks and a yummy lolly buffet.



# **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** Friday January 29 – **Tuesday February 2 – Best Start – refer your interview times booked in** Wednesday February 3 – **Kindergarten Students begin** 

# NOT RETURNING IN 2021

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

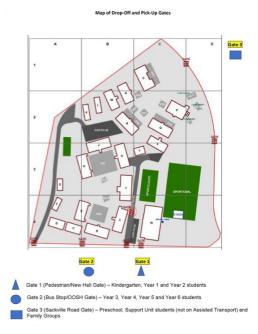
As the end of year is fast approaching - it would be appreciated if you would advise the office if your child <u>is not returning</u> to Seven Hills West in 2021.

This will assist us in organising classes in 2021.

There is <u>no need</u> to advise us if your child is <u>currently in Year 6</u> 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



# **KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2021**



# Super Kids Breakfast Club

# Super Kids Breakfast Club is currently closed.

We will keep you updated with re-opening times.

# **Important Reminders**

#### ALLERGY ALERT

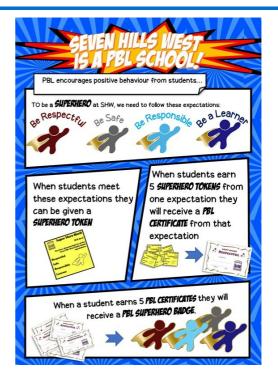
In the interests of the health and safety of all our students please ensure that your child does not bring anything to school for recess or lunch which contains nut and/or egg products. This will include peanut butter or Nutella spread on sandwiches, peanut butter dippers, snack packs with nuts and nut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

# **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.

# Calendar

#### 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.

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.

# **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

TERM 1 - 2021 nning Sheet for Term 1 ~ 2021 taff Develo RS 1.4 START KINDY BEST START ALL EMU's attend WOMAT prescho ALL KINDY START UNDY BEST STAR Wednerday 10 Thursday 11 Friday 12 Day My First Day WOMBAT & KINDERGART

ect to change. Please review newsletter, our Facebook page and/or our school



TERM 4 - 2020

• 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.

When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is	This means that th best your child ca achieve is
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishin Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishin Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishin Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

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

# CANTEEN

Unfortunately, we need to advise that our school canteen will be closed next year.

We thank the volunteers and workers who have helped in the canteen over the years.



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

# **Uniform Shop**

#### **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

# 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.

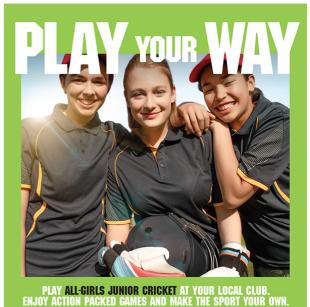
Parents are not permitted to come to the uniform shop until further notice.



P & C Committee

# **Community News**





Seven Hills Toongabbie RSL CC

Thunder Girls Cricket League Registrations are now open! Parramatta Under 13 (Junior Cricket 1) Summer Competition Saturday's 2pm, 30th Jan 2021 – 20th Mar 2021! 8 Week Comp! Cost - \$100, Use your Active Kids Voucher and play for FREE! Register/Enquire at Playcricket.com.au and search for "Seven Hills"

**JOIN THE FUN AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB** REGISTER AT PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU





SEVEN HILLS WEST IS ON FACEBOOK!	
Stay connected and up-to-date with news and upcoming eve at Seven Hills West Public School.	nts
Step 1: Log into your personal Facebook account.	
Step 2: Search 'Seven Hills West Public School'	
Step 3: Click on 'Pages'	
Seven Hills West Public School	
🔀 Contact Us 💿 \cdots	
Step 4: Like 🜓	
Please also visit our website <u>www.sevenhillw-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/</u> for more information, notes and notices.	ı
Con Lucca Road and Sachaille Street. Seven Hills NSW 2147 Telephone: 5422 2186 Facimille: 5431 6437 Enrali: <u>iscenhillur-puchoolPidet.now.edu.ou</u> A Preod PBC, School (Austre abasius for Lanna)	

**Seven Hills West Public School** Respectful, Safe, Responsible Learn

HILLSWESTPS

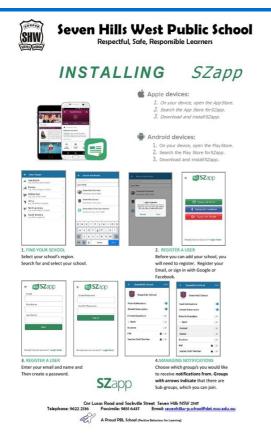
#### http://www.ndis.gov.au

https://bit.ly/PlanManagementExpo

Wednesday 16 December 2020, 10:00am - 2:00pm

#### **Schoolzine**

Join: When:



#### Important

SHW)



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.