

Cnr Lucas Rd & Sackville St Seven Hills NSW 2147

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23 June 2021

LEADERSHIP HABIT FOR THE FORTNIGHT

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.



Principal's Message

HEAL COUNTRY - NAIDOC WEEK 2021

NAIDOC Week 2021 will be held from Sunday 4th July to Sunday 11tth July.

The NAIDOC 2021 theme – Heal Country! – calls for all of us to continue to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.

Each year NAIDOC week grows in stature and depth of celebrations at community, state and national level. It is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the rich history, diverse cultures and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest continuing cultures on the planet.

This week, we invited an Aboriginal artist to meet our students and teach them cultural songs and dances.



Communication Guide

Recently, I have had a few parents ask me what the school procedures are if they'd like to approach teachers about a concern or queries. Our Community Communication Policy, which was designed to promote harmonious community relationships and effective school management of student issues, gives some great hints for parents to use. It recommends that:

- 1. When a concern or query arises, parents communicate with the classroom teacher in the first instance by phone, letter, email or in person.
- 2. Parents must refer all school-related matters back to the school, and <u>under no circumstances</u> are they to approach a child <u>or contact other parents</u> directly about such issues.
- 3. Because of the difficulties of arranging interviews for teachers in a timetabled teaching day, parents are requested to seek a mutually convenient meeting time with the staff member involved to discuss concerns. It is recommended that parents contact the school office and suggest 2 or 3 different times in which they are available to meet with the teacher.
- 4. If the matter remains unresolved, parents should advise the teacher that they would like a further meeting on the matter.
- If the matter needs further resolution, the assistance of a member of the School's Leadership Team will be sought.

- 6. Parents are urged to regularly seek information from the established channels of communication:
 - The Seven Hills West Public School website and SchoolZine messages
 - The School Newsletter which is sent home every fortnight during the year.
 - Parent/Teacher Evenings (Term 1 and, on request, Term 4).

If a parent has concerns about their child or school matters, we recommend use of the above Communication guidelines to assist the resolution of queries.

Student Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews

We hope that you enjoyed reading through your child's School Report last week. This week our teachers have conducted parent-teacher interviews before and after school. Please make an appointment if you have not already done so via the School Interviews platform.

Thank you to our teachers for their dedication and hard work in providing quality reports and doing their best to meet with all class parents.

Think Lab - Maker Space Grant

This week, Seven Hills West Public School learned that we had been successful in applying for a \$25,000 grant to design a Think Lab and Maker Space for our students. By creating a Maker Space Think Lab, our children will have the opportunity to build their digital literacy and STEM knowledge, skills and understanding while being encouraged to work collaboratively with others to invent, design, construct, make and solve problems.

Teachers at Seven Hills West are committed to creating a learning environment that is highly engaging and gets students excited about learning every day. We want our students to be strong critical thinkers and problem solvers in math, science and transdisciplinary curriculum. We need to provide opportunities for them to enhance their learning through collaborative design-thinking project-based learning. We are very excited about this wonderful opportunity, which has been generously donated by Schools Plus Australia.

School Development Day reminder

The last day of school for Term 2 is Friday 25th June. Please note that the Term 3 School Development day for Seven Hills West Public School is scheduled on Monday 12th July. The focus of this professional learning day will be coaching and mentoring staff on The Leader in Me program and collaborative programming for Term 3.

Please note that the first day of Term 3 for students will be Tuesday 13th July.

Happy Holidays

Thank you to our wonderful students and teachers for a fantastic Term 2. It has been a stimulating and exciting 3

months of learning and I am especially thankful to all our staff for their dedication and hard work.

I would also like to personally thank our Executive Team for their amazing support during Term 2. Their enthusiasm in supporting our school initiatives has been incredible. Thank you on behalf of our students, parents, and staff.

Wishing you all a happy and safe holiday!

Warmly Shanti Clements Principal

Check out the Seven Hills West Public School Website below:

https://sevenhillw-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/



For all up-to-date newsletters, policies, calendar events and class information, please regularly visit the school website (hosted by NSW Department of Education).

We also upload the school newsletter each fortnight and send it to parents via the SchoolZine service.

Automated Pedestrian Gate 1

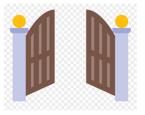
Our new automated pedestrian gate at Gate 1 is now in operation.

Please be aware that Gate 1 will be open from 8am to 9.30am and 2.30pm to 3.30pm daily.

Should you need to enter the school at other times during the day – please press the buzzer – wait for the Admin office to respond – then wait until the gate opens before entering.

Please DO NOT push or pull on the gate.

You will also need to press the buzzer when exiting and wait for the Admin office to respond – again, please wait until the gate opens before exiting.



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.



Deputy Principal's Message

All our children really enjoyed Majeda and her performance and bringing her cultural background of being a Torres Strait Islander to our school.





On Monday, Miss Roche and I attended Kimberwalli, where we discussed the partnership agreement with local schools.

Kimberwalli is a facility that offers opportunities for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students which offers holiday activities, as set out in the flyer below.



Mrs K Gardiner
Deputy Principal

STAGE UPDATES

Preschool

At Preschool we have loved playing small group board games. This is helping to build the Emu's and the Wombat's language, sharing, turn taking and number skills. We are learning to work with our peers as we play different small group games.

We have loved to play "spot it as we search the cards to fins two pictures that are the same.





We are also loving to play different number games -the ELLA cake dominoes and the Rummykub game. For the dominoes we had to count the candles so that we could match the same pictures together. The children are learning to count from one to six. We have also been matching the Rummykub tiles checking each number, colour and animal match.

At the end of each game we are all great at helping to pack the game away. The games are helping to build our skills of working in a small group. Are there any board games you like to play at home with your family? Maybe you like Uno, or Snap. Please share your favourite games vis Storypark.

Miss Natalie Roche and Mrs Sharon North Early Childhood Teacher

Early Stage 1

Over the last few weeks, Kindergarten have been learning about Australia and the important places within the country.

In Geography and Art, they have been looking at places that are special to the Indigenous community. In the last few weeks, the students have been making a paper mache globe based around what they have learned!

Mrs A Vlahopoulos - KV Class Teacher

Stage 1

This fortnight 1N continued to explore the concept of cultural diversity through the persuasive text.

We looked at the book 'Same, Same but Different' to highlight how people can experience physical, emotional and social differences on a surface level, while still all being human beings who deserve equality and respect.

1N illustrated this concept by creating two-sided faces.



Well done 1N!

Mr D Nunan - Class Teacher

Stage 2 and 3

5C CLASS NEWS

During Week 9, 5C had the opportunity to go on their first excursion to Seven Hills High School. We participated in the Premier's Sporting Challenge 'Learn to Lead' day. This involved Year 10 students organising and running various sporting activities for us to participate in.



Throughout the day we did soccer, initiative games, basketball, touch football and slide hockey. Most people reported to me that their favourite activity of the day was slide hockey but that may have been because their coaches gave them lollies at the end.



It was great to see our students show great sportsmanship and teamwork. All of the high school coaches and teachers reported to me that our students were very respectful and responsible.





Support Unit

Throughout Term 2, K-6A have been working very hard to improve their writing skills through writing recounts.

Students have enthusiastically been bringing the recount plan sheet based on what happened over the weekend to write their Weekend Recount in class.

We have been using the who, what, when, where and why structure to give information and details about the weekend.





All members of K-6A agree that weekly recount practise has helped us cherish unforgettable memories.

Mrs M Arora - K-6A Teacher

SPORTS REPORT

PSSA

Our PSSA Netball and Soccer teams have been doing amazing over the last few weeks. They have been training each week and competing on Friday's in the Seven Hills PSSA.

Last week's results:

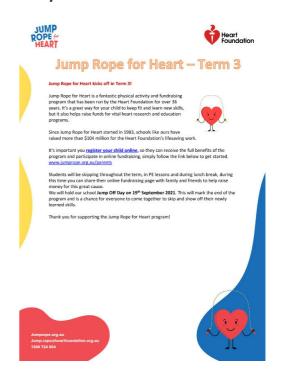
Junior Netball vs. Caddies Creek	2 - 14	Loss
Senior Netball vs. Caddies Creek	16 - 2	Win
Junior Soccer vs. Bert Oldfield	11-1	Win
Senior Soccer vs. Bert Oldfield	2-2	Draw

SEVEN HILLS WEST ATHLETIC CARNIVAL



We will be holding our school Athletics Carnival in Week 1 of Term 3. It will be on Friday 16th July at Cornucopia Reserve in Glenwood. Students will travel by bus to and from the venue. A permission note has been sent home with more information. At this stage, parents will be able to attend providing there is no changes in COVID restrictions.

Miss Cole - Sports Coordinator



LIBRARY NEWS

Project Based Learning: pathway to success in the 21st century



All SHWPS learners continued their project-based inquiry learning during library

lessons. While researching about other cultures, such as the cultures of Argentina, Australia, India, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, and the United Kingdom, students compared these with Australian culture. Through this cultural exploration, students became more globally aware citizens, and they also showed an appreciation for the world and multiculturalism. Well done to all SHWPS students for their hard work throughout Term 2.





Premier's Reading Challenge Continued...



Congratulations to all students who have already completed their Premier's Reading challenge!

If you are still working on you challenge, please continue to keep reading and exploring fantastical worlds. Remember that there are lots of exciting titles available at the SHWPS school library.

All students are encouraged to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge which runs from March 1st to August 20th. K-2 students must read 30 books and 3-6 students must read 20 books in their challenge level. Remember that all level-specific PRC books will count towards your challenge, and you



are allowed to include five books of your own choosing as well! Students are able to record their reading through the PRC logbook available via the PRC student experience website.

2021 Mayoral Creative Writing Competition and Prizes

The 2021 Mayoral Creative Writing Prize is open to adults and children aged 8 years and above, who live in Blacktown city.

Categories and Theme for Mayoral writing competition

Entries can be either poetry or short stories. They will be judged in the following age categories, 8 - 11 years, 12 - 14 years, 15 - 17 years and adult (18+).

The theme for this year is

"The only way is...."

Last date of submission

Entries close midnight, Sunday 3 October 2021. Winners will be announced at the presentation ceremony.

Entries can only be submitted online after 30 June 2021 by going to the link below:

http://www.westwords.com.au/

Prizes

Winners aged 17 or younger will receive \$100 if located in Blacktown City local area. Adult winners will receive \$200.

Age	Categories	Prize
8 -11 years	Poetry	\$100
	Short Story	\$100
12-14 years	Poetry	\$100
	Short Story	\$100
15-17 years	Poetry	\$100
	Short Story	\$100
Adult	Poetry	\$200
	Short Story	\$200

All students 8 years old or older are encouraged to participate in this wonderful creative writing competition. Information related to creative writing is provided to all students via Google classroom and further guidance and assistance is available in the library during Thursday Lunch time. Please come along - keen to hear from our budding writers.

Thanks Mrs Gupta

P & C News

We the members of the P&C would like more participation from the parents.

Fundraising is the core activity for P&C Association to help our school to get additional resources to benefit our children and school community. If parents have any fundraising tips or ideas you would like to share, kindly let us know either by becoming a member or contacting us via the school email – sevenhillw-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

We would also like input from the parents if we can have more participation by changing the day and the time for the P&C meeting. Kindly let us know by emailing on the above given email address.

For more information on what P&C does please feel free to ask any of this year's committee members. We are more than happy to answer your question.

Uniform Shop

Uniform Shop

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

NEW DAY FOR UNIFORM SHOP

As from Term 2 – the Uniform Shop will be open on TUESDAYS 8.30am to 9.30am.

UNIFORM SHOP NEW HOURS

Uniform Shop will be open

EVERY TUESDAY

8.30am to 9.30am

Alternatively, completed uniform orders, with cash payment, can be sent to the office, and we will fill the orders on a Tuesday morning and distribute to the student.



P & C Committee



Register for our FlexiSchools Canteen

We can confirm that our online FlexiSchools canteen will be running full-time (5 days a week). An arrangement has been made with Blacktown Subway to provide our online canteen meals and we have received very positive feedback from parents about the healthy menu and quality of the food. Please note that Subway are following the NSW guidelines for Healthy Canteens, which supports nutritious and healthy foods for our students.

To register for our online FlexiSchools Canteen, please follow these instructions:

Set up your account

 Download the FlexiSchools App. Download the app from the **App Store** or from Google Play. Note: for iPhone and iPad please select 'Allow' notification

2. Register

Open the FlexiSchools App and click 'Like to register?', enter your email address and click 'Register'. You will be sent a registration email. Follow the instructions in the registration email to finish setting up your account. Once your account is set up, login to the FlexiSchools App, select the Profile icon on the grey navigation bar, select Student and 'Add a student', search for their school name, select their year level and class and enter their details.

3. Top Up Your Account

To make ordering fast and simple, you can set up automatic top ups.

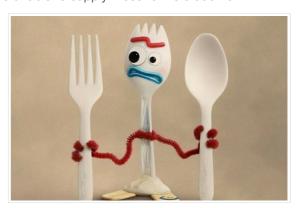
Order

Place your order
 In the FlexiSchools App, swipe up and down to find the service category you are interested in, swipe left and right to find the service you are interested in and select the green 'Order' button.

- 2. Make your selection Select the items you wish to order.
- Make payment
 Select your payment option and complete payment to place your order.

If you get stuck on anything, call FlexiSchools on 1300 361 769.

Please be mindful – if sending food with students that requires a spoon or fork – kindly ensure you send utensils with your child. We are unable to supply these to the students.



Calendar

TERM 2 - 2021



TERM 3 - 2021



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

REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure your child has a refillable water bottle each day so they can stay hydrated during the school day.



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

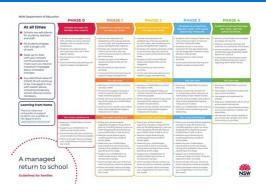
OOSH PICK UP/DROP GATE

SEVEN HILLS WEST OOSH

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

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



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.

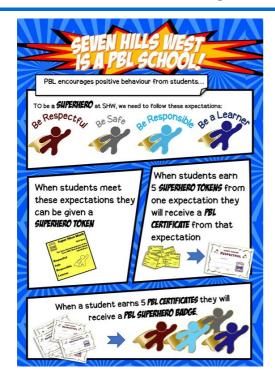
Your understanding and support in this very important health issue are greatly appreciated.

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 <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.

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.

PRESCHOOL 2022



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRESCHOOL 2022

If you have a child, or know of someone in the area (a neighbor, friend etc) who has a child turning 4 in 2022 (born **BEFORE 31ST JULY 2018**) – please phone our office on 9622 2136, 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 an collect an expansion of the school to come and collect an expansion of the school to collect and collect an expansion of the school to collect and collect



Community News



parent, carer and community member mental health education sessions

headspace National is hosting free mental health education sessions across identified regions in NSW, on ways to support a young person when they are concerned about their

The sessions aim to:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health and the warning signs for suicide and self-harm
- Strengthen understanding and skills in how to cope and where to find help
- Build awareness of local services and various support and referral services available
- Build relationships between local area mental health services, local schools, headspace centers and other community.

Type the below URL in a web browser to locat sessions in your community: https://bit.ly/2Nm5cRh

Need more information? Please email headspaceSchools@headspace.org.au

Proudly funded by the NSW Government and delivered by headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation Ltd.



dspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded





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.