



SCHOOL NEWS



Term 4 - Week 8
22nd November 2021

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It is hard to believe we are coming towards the end of another school year. Term 4 is always a busy and productive time and this year is no different with many exciting activities still planned. With Presentation Day and other end-of-year events on the calendar, we will ensure all health guidelines are followed, providing a safe environment for your children.



An extra special time for an extra special group of students! We were lucky to have Mr John McQueen from **Cascade Environmental Education Centre** run an incursion for 4/5/6 last week. We had lots of fun orienteering and using compass coordinates to find set locations, although some of us ended up in strange other places! We also learnt about sustainable energy, exploring circuits using solar panels. We then had to put our understanding of renewable energy into practice, to design and make our own wind turbines. Blake and Riley's design was the most successful with an output of 52.8 milliamps. Miss Miles then ran special activities for the rest of the week, where we did art using nature, trivia about recycling, team building, cooking, sports and Win it in a Minute challenges. Despite not being able to go on camp we all had an awesome week.



Thank you to our school leaders who capably led our **Remembrance Day** commemoration. Every year we take the time to stop and pay our respect to all Australian defence force, especially those who lost their lives in war and conflict. Staff also placed a wreath at the cenotaph on behalf of the school.



2021 has been a year filled with opportunities and challenges. Students, parents and staff have been reflecting on the year and writing a **Shout Out** to recognise someone who has helped them in 2021. Well done to all involved.



YEC would like to thank all students who were busy re-using, re-cycling and re-purposing plastic bottles. Congratulations Elijah, Amira and Chaz for their successful entries. Look out for the next YEC challenge. **REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE**

Last Thursday Mrs Robertson and Miss Morris visited our school to have a chat with our Year 6 students heading to Macksville High School next year as part of their **transition** activities. They discussed their interests and talked about any concerns they have about starting high school. Year 6 will attend their chosen high schools on Friday 26th November for the state orientation day. As part of the Year 7 transition program they will get to meet some of the teachers and sample various subjects. It is a great opportunity for them to get a feel of what high school will be like for next year. No doubt they will have a great day and inspire them for high school next year.

School photos will be taken this Thursday 25th October. Parents can assist by returning photo envelopes (which were handed out last week) and ensuring your child is dressed in full school uniform. **GIRLS:** blue school shirt and maroon check shorts or maroon check tunic. **BOYS:** blue school shirt and grey shorts. Students may wear their black school shoes with either white or blue socks. If the weather is cool, maroon school jumpers may also be worn.

All teachers are in the process of finalising student **reports** which will be handed out in Week 11. This is the culmination of class work and assessment tasks from Term 3 and 4. As you can imagine it is a process which requires thorough knowledge of student strengths, weaknesses and interests. I most certainly appreciate the dedication and professionalism of our staff. Please Note: if you require an additional report, to be sent to a parent not residing at the family home, please contact the office to advise mailing details.

We appreciate parents and carers co-operation with the current **COVID guidelines** keeping everyone safe. A reminder if you need to enter school grounds for any reason, please follow Department of Education policy: QR code in and report to the School Office to show your double vaccination status.

Thanks for your continued support.

Tanya M Worling

Merit Awards



Nimiah, Isiah, Kayden, Tallow, Jai, Tahla



Win Bin

Angel, Liam, Kobie

FISH Award

Be There

Sonny, Kyla, Jyerell



Take Home Reading Reward System

50 Nights: Charlie H, Nimiah, Elijah, Kyla, Amira

75 Nights: Xavier J, Kyla, Amira, Riley L

100 Nights: Isylah; **175 Nights:** Tayla

250 Nights: Liam, Olivia, Jessica D



YEC - Recycling Plastic Bottle Challenge



For the past few weeks students were invited to take up the challenge to re-cycle and re-purpose plastic bottles. YEC are hoping students might like to try re-cycling and re-purposing aluminium cans this time. We would love you to join this initiative. Good Luck!

REDUCE, REUSE, REPURPOSE, RECYCLE

Year 6 Farewell

SAVE the DATE

The Year 6 Farewell evening will be held on Monday, 13th December.
Please save the date!

Yr 4/5/6 students will receive a special invitation for the **Yr 6 Farewell** to be held on Monday 13th Dec for Yr 4/5 students and Yr 6 students and Yr 6 parents. Please note: COVID guidelines apply.

During December we will be carrying out a **library stocktake** and request that all families please check at home for any overdue library books from school and return them as soon as possible.

Messages

2022 KINDERGARTEN

Our **Kinder Orientation** students had their **Graduation** today, celebrating what they have achieved over the last 4 weeks. Check out our school website for information on each of our Kinder Orientation sessions. Workshop packs were also provided for parents and caregivers, outlining current educational practices in the early years of school. These have included learning about School Life, Literacy and Numeracy, Best Start and Healthy Lunchboxes. These are important opportunities for the school and our parent body to work together to build strong relationships that support successful student learning and wellbeing. The partnerships between home and school are so important for our Stronger Smarter students. We look forward to seeing all the Kinder Orientation students back next year, ready to start their learning adventure in 2022.

Presentation Day

Thank you to our wider community, yet again, for the donations supporting our Presentation Awards. It is wonderful that our school attracts support like this when it comes to recognising student achievements.

As we near the end of the year we have a few final traditional events that we celebrate. This year, due to COVID guidelines many of these will look a little different. On Thursday 9th December we will celebrate the achievements of students at our **Presentation Day**. COVID restrictions mean we have to keep cohorts separate and we are unable to invite parents to attend. We will create a digital copy of the event and make it available through Class DoJo and our website.

Please visit our school website for school news.

<http://www.stuartspt-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

DATES TO REMEMBER



Please keep up to date with the current COVID safe guidelines.

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

Week 8

22nd Nov

-Kinder Orientation 9.45-11am
+ Graduation package

25th Nov

-School Photos

26th Nov

-Yr 7 MHS Transition

-Virtual Assembly K/1 item

We will post our virtual assembly online

Upcoming

6th Dec

-STARS Waterslide

9th Dec

-Presentation Day
(COVID Guidelines apply)

13th Dec

-Yr 6 Farewell
(COVID Guidelines apply)

14th Dec

-Reports handed out

16th Dec

-Last day Term 4 for students

17th Dec

-Staff Development Day

K/1 Term 4



Teachers are often asked by parents and carers how best to support their child's learning at home. There are many, simple ways to develop a life-long love of learning in your child as well as reinforce their understanding. Here are some tips from the classroom.

A love of reading - did you know that reading to your child even up to the age of 13 develops language skills, key concentration skills and experts estimate that a child who is read to will be exposed to an estimated 1.4 million more words in childhood?

K/1 play a variety of maths games, which allow them to see maths in action in meaningful situations. Maths games encourage motivation, computation strategies, increase learning and cater to different levels. Fun for all the family!

LEARNING Corner

What works best: Use of data to inform practice

NSW public schools are committed to ensuring that how we teach your child is based on what we know makes the biggest difference to their learning. An initiative of our new School Improvement Plan is to unpack, explore and implement the elements contained in the report called 'What works best: 2020 update'. During professional learning in staff meetings and on Staff Development Days, our staff are working together on the eight evidence-based practices that teachers can use in their classrooms to support improved student learning. The focus is currently on the use of data to inform practice. Students learn best when teachers use data to confirm where students are up to in their learning and to plan what to teach next. Data is any form of information that helps teachers to do this. Data can come from a range of places, including class quizzes, student answers to teacher questions, samples of students' work and formal exams.

Parent Information

A School Focus on Attendance Matters

Teacher quality is the single most important in-school factor influencing student achievement (Hattie, 2009). However, the relationship between teacher quality and student achievement is mediated by the amount of time students spend in the classroom. Irrespective of the reasons for absences, non-attendance affects student outcomes.

Attendance at school is essential to assist students to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

Encouraging regular attendance is a core school responsibility.

When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Parents and carers can help foster positive attendance habits by:



- helping their child learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- ensuring their child arrives on time from the start of the school day, ready to participate in learning
- reducing disruption to learning where possible, by planning any necessary appointments outside of school time
- promptly communicating any absence to the school (within 7 days of the first day of any absence)
- working with the school to encourage and support regular attendance