



Newsletter - Week 3 Term 2 2022

From the Principal

Welcome back to school for Term 2. I hope you enjoyed the holiday break. Term 2 is jam packed with fabulous learning experiences which I know your children will enjoy. Your child's learning is our core business. If you have any concerns, please reach out to your class teacher. It is always best to address issues early and before they get too big. The best learning happens when the school and the family work together. Let's have a great term.

NAPLAN

Our year 3 and 5 students have come to the end of their NAPLAN testing period. They have been encouraged to approach the test with confidence (they have been taught everything they needed to do well), with a growth mindset (there were questions which stretched their thinking), with focus (the tests were long and needed great concentration) and with grit (I asked them to do their best work).

Thank you for supporting your child by ensuring they had a good night's sleep before each test and a good healthy breakfast, talked positively about the test and arrived at school punctually, as these tests are always scheduled in the mornings. We also appreciated that any appointments were made outside the test times.

COVID 19 RULES and RESTRICTIONS

With close contact rules now changed, we are expecting improved student and staff attendance. Please keep your children home still, if they have any symptoms.

Staff are still required to wear masks at present and we have plenty of child size masks if you prefer your child wears one while inside.

We did our first face to face assembly last Thursday and went outside under the COLA, to keep everyone safe. The students enjoyed being all together again.

We will let you know when large indoor gatherings are allowed again.

We are hoping that restrictions will be further eased in the coming weeks. At the moment, we still have relatively low but steady numbers of cases daily.

BUILDING WORKS

Thank you for making the adjustments necessary due to the building works currently happening. The loss of Casuarina gate entrance has made other entrances busier but I really appreciate all parents are doing to be punctual and keep our students safe. You will notice fencing up on our rear lawn now in readiness for the new building.

FAREWELL

At the end of last term, one of our Leaders, Melissa McDonald won the Deputy Principal position at Riverdale Primary School. Mel has worked at PGPS as a teacher and a leader since 2016. Most recently she has led our Mathematics Improvement work. We will miss Mel but wish her all the best in her new position.



CONGRATULATIONS

I am happy to let you know that we have two new Leadership Positions at our school - Literacy and Maths Coordinators. Congratulations to Bekk Resili (Literacy) and Arsh Sekhon (Mathematics), who have won these positions.

PRE-SERVICE TEACHERS

We welcome 6 first year pre-service teachers to our school this term. Hosting pre-service teachers is a really important job which we are committed to at PGPS. We believe we have great teachers who have so much knowledge and experience to share.

Please help us welcome: Hayley Druce in Room 22, Anthony Hassen in Room 29, Sharron Miller-Green in Room 21, Jackson Penrose in Room 34, Elise Ranaldo in Room 26 and Jessica Whelan in Room 33.

STUDENT FREE DAY FRIDAY

This Friday, staff will be moderating student work samples. This is important work we are undertaking to ensure teachers are confident and consistent in assigning grades. We also look closely at learning tasks being set for students to ensure they are open ended and challenging enough to ensure students are reaching their full potential. Support staff will be doing the Berry St Education training. We really appreciate these opportunities to work together on some new learning and also deep reflection.

VACCINATION CENTRE

An email was sent to all families this week, letting you know that our school has been selected as a community vaccination centre. Families can follow the links below to make bookings. Please note, for children being vaccinated, a parent must attend with them.

First dose: Friday 10 June & Saturday 11 June

Second dose: Friday 12 August & Saturday 13 August

The clinic will be open from 12.00pm to 5.00pm on Friday [for students and their families](#) and 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday [for the general community](#).

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

Thank you to all our amazing volunteers for working together with us to support our students. We truly appreciate the time and effort you give to our community.

Rachel McLennan

DIARY DATES

The remaining Assemblies will be held on Thursdays of weeks 4, 6, 8 at 9:00am

Friday 20th May
Pupil Free Day

Wednesday 25th May
National Simultaneous Story Time 11am

Friday 27th May to Friday 3rd June
National Reconciliation Week

Friday 10th June
School Photos

Monday 13th June
Public Holiday

Wednesday 6th July
Casual Day with gold coin donation

Friday 8th July
Last day of term with early dismissal at 2:00pm

Year 6 High School Forms

Now is the time for families to consider their choice of secondary school for next year. The Year 6/7 transition process has commenced and 'Starting Secondary School for 2023' information booklets were sent home on Monday 9th May along with a 'Registration of Interest' information sheet, which was also sent as an email. Each form is unique to your child, so families need to click on the link and complete the form no later than **Friday 27th May (end of week 4)**. If you have any questions about this process please contact the school.

Wheelienet

Last week during PE lessons we had the Novita Wheelienet Program incursion, where students were able to participate in wheelchair games and challenges, as well as gain an insight and greater awareness of the issues and challenges facing people living with disability.

On Monday 9th of May I did Wheelie Net with my class during our PE lesson. The warmup was sitting in a wheel chair and racing up and down the basketball court, which was so much fun. We used our hands to spin the wheels. I went so fast and won the race. Next we went backwards and it was hard. Michael from Novita showed us how to dribble and shoot a basketball, it was a bit difficult, but it was fun. At the end of the lesson we had to pack up the basketballs still in the wheel chairs. Thank you Mrs Ryan for organising Wheelie Net. We all loved it.

Conna - Year 5 Room 34A

We got in the hall and Michael explained what disability means. He was born with spina bifida so he was in an axle wheelchair. Then we hopped into the wheelchairs and before we rode off he told us that to turn left we had to pull the left wheel and to turn right we had to turn the right wheel. Then we rode off to have a warm up. After that he told us that we were playing 'gang up' and Ava, Annabelle and Thawn Pi were it. It was fun!

Then we went onto a line by the wall and we had a race. Marcus won the first race but then we did it backwards and I won. We lined up and Michael set up some cones in a zigzag pattern and we had to dodge around the cones in our wheelchairs. On the second lap we had to go backwards. I nailed it! We had lots of fun and I felt sad at the end because it was the end, and I think the wheelchairs had fun too!

Spencer Year 2 Room 11

On Wednesday we went to our PE lesson in the hall and there was a man named Michael and he told us all we needed to know and what it was like to be in a wheelchair. After that we got onto the wheelchairs and went for a ride so that we were comfortable in them.

Then we had to line up along the white line and he told us when we heard the whistle we had to try to roll to the other side and back going forwards. Then we had to go backwards! But everyone was happy. After that we had to line up in a straight line and try to go around the purple cones. That was a little bit hard, but after that we had to go backwards! That was super dooper hard!

But sadly it was over. We had to put away our borrowed wheelchairs and said goodbye to Michael.

Anna Year 2 Room 11

At Wheelienet we played tag and even if we touched the person's wheelchair they were still 'it'. We were chasing people in our wheelchairs and we had races. We also had to race backwards. It was a bit tricky but we just had to turn our head and look behind. Michael also

made an obstacle course for us and then he changed it to make it even harder. It was such fun.

Anthony - Year 1 Room 19



We had to sit in a wheelchair and the man's name was Michael. We had to line up in our wheelchair and we had a race. We had to use our hands to make the wheels go and we went really fast. That was my favourite part.

Adalynn - Reception Room 5

We listened to Michael and we had to do what he said. We had to be careful so we didn't crash into each other. Michael can't use his legs to run but he can play basketball using his wheelchair. He can bounce the ball next to his chair and then throw a goal. It was fun sitting in the wheelchair and we even had a race. It was the best time!

Muhammad Reception Room 3



RAA Street Smart Program

During PE lessons this week the students have been participating in the RAA Street Smart program. This free program was offered as a community service and was facilitated by an RAA-trained, qualified teacher who delivered interactive, age-appropriate presentations with a focus on pedestrian, passenger and wheeled safety, aligning to the Australian Curriculum. By learning about road safety in primary school, students can start developing the skills and knowledge that will make them safer in the road environment.

During our PE lesson on Tuesday we had a lady from the RAA come and talk to us about road safety, mainly about pedestrians. We learnt that when crossing the road we should look for a 'cross walk' and to use it if one is nearby as it is safer to cross the road this way. She also told us that we should tell our parents that this is the safest way to go across. We also learnt that it is safer for us to step back from the curb a bit if we are waiting to cross, particularly if we are wearing dark clothes as the cars might not be able to see us. When we wear black or dark clothes we should always be a bit more careful near the road.

We should never run across the road because we might fall over and the cars might see us. Another thing we shouldn't do is walk onto the road from behind a bus or large truck or even between two parked cars, as the traffic can't see us properly. It is unsafe to go across the road while looking at your phone because you might not be concentrating on the traffic. It is also dangerous to bounce a ball when crossing the road in case the ball is dropped and the person chases it, maybe running into oncoming traffic. Another important safety message was if you are a passenger in a car, it is safest to get out of the car next to the curb so that you don't open your door into the traffic.

We watched some videos and there was also a mat on the floor which looked like a road crossing and some people volunteered to pretend to cross the road. The lady also played noises that sounded like traffic to make us aware that we need to listen as well watch for traffic. We should always look to the right, then to the left, back to the right to check the corner and back to the left to check that corner for traffic.

We certainly learnt a lot in our session and it was interesting.

Pranay Room 34B

It's important to hold hands with mum and dad when I cross the road to be safe. We have to cross the road at the lights and look for the cars and look where we are going. We need to use our ears to listen to where the cars are. If I have a phone in my hand I give it to my mum to hold. My brother Lucca is a crossing monitor at our school. He looks for the traffic and presses the button to help the people cross the road safely.

Nathan Room 7



School Crossing Monitors

Thank you to our first groups of School Crossing Monitors for Term 2 for their positive approach and enthusiasm.

Week 1 & 2:

Room 21: Mary, Mahdi, Sarah

Room 22: Theo, Harsehaj

Room 25: Kaylee, Eliana, Matilda, Quintrell, Eva

Week 3 & 4

Room 34A: Rebecca, Isaac, Lucca, Sarvak, Lachlan, David, Marliza, Kaleigh, Conna, Elina, Carley, Bella



Lucca from Room 34A on duty at the school crossing

We're taking it in our stride on Thursday 19th May

It's that time of year again when our school seriously starts talking about walking!

Walk Safely to School Day asks that we all consider our transport habits and try to incorporate more walking as part of a healthy, active way to get around. Although walking all the way to school isn't realistic for many of us, it's quite easy to figure out how you can build a walk into your family's daily routine.

You can teach your child the healthy habit of walking more by:

- walking with them the whole way to school
- if they get the bus or train, walk past your usual stop and get on at the next stop
- if you have to drive, park the car a few blocks away from the school and walk the rest of the way

Regular exercise like walking with your child not only helps them (and you!) beat chronic problems like obesity, heart disease, behavioural and mental health issues and diabetes, it also gives you a great opportunity to teach your child safe ways to behave around roads and traffic.

Remember, **Active Kids are Healthy Kids**, so get planning your own *Walk Safely to School Day* journey for Thursday 19th May 2022.

For more information visit www.walk.com.au

Raelene White - Wellbeing Leader

Assembly Awards

Term 2 Week 2: Room 3: Eve **4:** Arya **5:** Arij **7:** Nathan **8:** Jhye **9:** Tiffany **10:** Ryder **12:** Eknor **19:** Daniel **21:** Sneha **22:** Ella-Rose **23:** Harry **24:** Oleand **25:** Matilda **27:** Caterine **28:** Isabelle **29:** Anna **30:** Emma **32:** Advaita **34A:** Sanskriti **34B:** Ella

Health/PE (Mr C) Room 23

Health/PE (Ms Ryan) Room 8

Music/Drama (Ms Thompson) Room 7

Arts (Mr Luke) Room 27

Visual Arts (Ms Dimitropoulos) Room 10

Auslan (Mrs Neilson and Ms Shephard) Room 7

Secondary Schools Tours

As part of the Year 6/7 transition process for 2023 the following school is announcing their tours:

OLSH - Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College

Book a College tour for your daughter for either Tuesday 31st May or Tuesday 28th June. Various scholarships are available. Applications for 2023 are now open at

Ols.catholic.edu.au



School of Languages - Year 7 students

Will your child be starting high school in 2023?

Do they want to study a language, continuing or new, not offered at their zoned or chosen school?

School of Languages offers lessons in 22 different languages to Year 7 students at Government, Catholic and Independent schools.

Contact us now to discuss your child's language learning.



**Study with School
of Languages**

Year 7 2023

**Join the 2000
students who study
a language with us
each week**

**All secondary
lessons are held
weekdays, after
hours**

**Explore our
website to find out
more**

[www.schooloflanguages.
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